

## Table of Contents

AKC News 2 President's Letter • 3 Updates • 7 Times Past • 8 Dog People • 42 Secretary's Pages

### Breed Columns

#### Toys

- Toy Group
- 9 Affenpinschers
- 10 Brussels Griffons
- 10 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels
- 11 Chihuahuas
- 12 Chinese Cresteds
- 12 English Toy Spaniels
- 13 Havanese
- 14 Italian Greyhounds
- 14 Japanese Chin
- 15 Maltese
- 15 Papillons
- 16 Pekingese
- 16 Pomeranians
- 17 Pugs
- 18 Shih Tzu
- 18 Silky Terriers
- 19 Toy Fox Terriers

#### Non-Sporting

- 20 Boston Terriers
- 20 Bulldogs
- 21 Chow Chows
- 21 Dalmatians
- 22 Finnish Spitz
- 22 French Bulldogs
- 23 Keeshonden
- 23 Lhasa Apsos
- 24 Löwchen
- 25 Poodles
- 26 Schipperkes
- 26 Shiba Inu
- 27 Tibetan Spaniels
- 27 Tibetan Terriers

#### Herding

- 28 Australian Cattle Dogs
- 29 Australian Shepherds
- 29 Bearded Collies
- 30 Belgian Malinois
- 31 Belgian Sheepdogs
- 32 Belgian Tervuren
- 32 Border Collies
- 33 Bouviers des Flandres
- 33 Briards
- 34 Canaan Dogs
- 35 Cardigan Welsh Corgis
- 35 Collies
- 36 Entlebucher Mountain Dogs
- 36 German Shepherd Dogs
- 37 Icelandic Sheepdogs
- 38 Norwegian Buhunds
- 39 Old English Sheepdogs
- 39 Pembroke Welsh Corgis
- 40 Polish Lowland Sheepdogs
- 40 Pyrenean Shepherds
- 41 Swedish Vallhunds

\* Links to AKC Parent Clubs appear following Secretary's Pages \*

#### BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

Sporting and Working  
January, April, July,  
and October

Hound and Terrier  
February, May, August,  
and November

Toy, Non-Sporting,  
and Herding  
March, June, September,  
and December

**H**elp us celebrate a decade of AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Days (RDOD)! Last year, AKC clubs and dog organizations hosted more than 630 events across the country. This year, let's reach for 700!

There are many ways to become part of this milestone year during September, whether it's a day-long festival or an information table at a dog park. You can register your event, find suggestions, and download promotional materials at [akc.org/rdod](http://akc.org/rdod). If you are one of the first 500 clubs to register by August 3, you'll receive a brand-new kit full of giveaways. One exciting new aspect of the kit is the "My Dog Can Do That" guide, complete with ideas to lure the media to your event.



"My Dog Can Do That" encourages pet owners to take the first steps in AKC agility and rally with help from trainers. This fun and casual activity lets people discover AKC dog sports and learn about the events from friendly dog-savvy experts.

We encourage your club to host a "My Dog Can Do That" activity at your RDOD. Set up basic agility obstacles or rally signs and enlist club members to take attendees through the courses. Afterward, encourage these attendees to enroll in a club training class, enter your next trial, or join AKC Canine Partners.

Remember: The media loves dogs! Invite local TV newscasters or weather anchors to come down and try "My Dog Can Do That" with their dogs.

Can't hold a dedicated event? Consider our "RDO Day in the Classroom" activity kit for Canine Ambassadors. Educating children about responsibility around dogs is a great way to kick off the school year in September. For more information on helping us celebrate in this way, visit [akc.org/rdod](http://akc.org/rdod).

Don't forget to register by August 3. To keep track of the latest RDOD updates, visit [facebook.com/americankenelclub](https://facebook.com/americankenelclub) or contact Club Communications Manager Stephanie Smith ([communications@akc.org](mailto:communications@akc.org); 212-696-8228).

Sincerely,

Dennis B. Sprung  
President and CEO

EDITED BY BUD BOCCONE

## Fighting the Dog Wars

*AKC helps fanciers educate public and sway lawmakers*

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA—On May 31, AKC staff and 10 different dog breeds met with legislators and state employees at “Canines at the Capitol” at the North Carolina Legislative Complex.

“Canines at the Capitol” was hosted by the AKC Government Relations department. Its aim was to educate citizens and lawmakers about the AKC as a local resource for dog expertise and to promote the value of responsible AKC dog owners and breeders.

The state dog of North Carolina, the Plott, was represented by Ch./CWSG/CSG County Line Krueger (Freddie), an AKC Coonhound World Show Champion and Supreme Bench Champion, who posed for photos with lawmakers alongside his owner, Christina Officer.

State workers also got to meet nine of Freddie’s friends, including AKC champions, therapy dogs, family pets, and a multi-titled mixed-breed who competes in AKC events through AKC Canine Partners. Volunteer handlers from the Thomasville Rescue Squad K-9 unit discussed services performed by their search-and-rescue and human-remains detection dogs. The unit is a recipient of grants from AKC Companion Animal Recovery.

While the dogs remained cool under tents, AKC staff distributed educational materials and answered questions on topics that included identifying the best breed for the family, Canine Good Citizen, dog training, and AKC events.

“I would like to thank all the participants for the tremendous efforts they put into making ‘Canines at the Capitol’ such a success. We had an excellent turnout,” Director of Government Relations Sheila Goffe says.



### From Sea to Shining Sea

AKC legislative action isn’t confined to its home turf in Raleigh and New York. Year-round, the Government Relations department tracks the progress of dog-related bills in state legislatures coast to coast. As of this writing, Government Relations staff is tracking more than 1,350 state bills. These include measures concerning the breeding, sale, and ownership of dogs, and covering such issues as homeowner’s insurance, debarking, quotas, spay/neuter requirements, and other issues that affect the rights of responsible owners and breeders.

The AKC has scored several victories this year in statehouses from Vermont to Hawaii. Government Relations works with local AKC clubs and federations to influence lawmakers to stop bills and repeal ordinances that are unfair to dogs and their owners. The department posts legislative alerts,

contacts legislators, and provides expertise, talking points, and literature for local opposition.

Among the year’s victories so far have been the repeal or defeat of “pit bull” laws in several states, the defeat of four separate anti-breeder measures in Hawaii, and dog-ownership restrictions in Iowa, West Virginia, and Louisiana.

### Stay Informed

For the latest information on state and federal bills tracked by the AKC, and for the full rundown of the year’s legislative successes, visit the Government Relations pages at [akc.org](http://akc.org). The legislation-tracking page is updated every weekday and provides the latest bill text, status, and AKC legislative alerts. Contact: 919-816-3720; [doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org)

AKC FILE PHOTOS

# Extravaganza!

New event to combine obedience, agility, rally in 2013

TULSA, OKLAHOMA—Beginning in 2013, the AKC will gather the nation's swiftest, smartest, and most obedient dogs for the Companion Events Extravaganza, a multi-day event that will feature championship events for obedience and agility, and a new national competition for rally.



The National Obedience Championship (formerly, the National Obedience Invitational) will be held in March at Tulsa, in conjunction with the National Agility Championship. A new AKC Rally National Competition will be held on the Friday of that weekend. After 2013, the combined Extravaganza will rotate locations around the country.

Vice President of Companion and Performance Events Doug Ljungren says, "Thanks to the vision of retired Companion Events AVP Curt Curtis and his staff, this new Companion Events

Extravaganza will allow us to showcase the best competitors in the country, rotate venues, and teach responsible dog ownership to the public through demonstrations, seminars, and other companion dog-related activities."

The 2012 National Obedience Invitational and National Juniors Obedience Competition will be held, as usual, in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in December.

Beginning in December 2013, a new obedience competition, the AKC Obedience Classic, will be held in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship and AKC Agility Invitational. The new competition will crown the top dogs for the year in the Novice, Open, and Utility classes.

## CAR Awards \$258,000 in K-9 Grants

The AKC Companion Animal Recovery Canine Support and Relief Fund recently awarded more than 100 grants in 40 states, mostly to K-9 search-and-rescue teams. The grants total \$258,000.

AKC CAR supports the crucial role K-9 volunteers play during natural disasters and other emergencies, when the unique talents of a dog and his handler can often mean the difference between life and death for the missing.

"Since 2002, AKC CAR has supported the lifesaving work of hundreds of search-and-rescue groups," Companion Animal Recovery CEO Tom Sharp says. "Many of these organizations are staffed by volunteers and rely on grants and other similar funding to function. We're very proud that the Fund leads the charge in providing grants to these deserving organizations."

The AKC created the Support and Relief Fund to honor the work of search-and-rescue workers who served in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks. It's a permanent charitable fund that has donated more than \$3 million to K-9 teams and to organizations supporting companion-animal relief during natural disasters.

For the roster of 2012 grant recipients, visit [akccar.org](http://akccar.org).



## New Scholarship Announced

The AKC Humane Fund is pleased to announce the creation of the John Spurling O.B.E. Scholarship Celebrating the Human-Canine Bond. Five scholarships will be awarded annually to full-time students enrolled in courses of study that advance responsible pet ownership. The scholarship is named in honor of John Spurling, O.B.E., chairman of PetPartners, Inc., provider of the AKC Pet Healthcare Plan.

For more information and scholarship applications, visit [akchumanefund.org](http://akchumanefund.org).

LEFT: COLLIE/MARY BLOOM; TOP RIGHT: ALL-AMERICAN DOG/MARY BLOOM; BOTTOM RIGHT: LABRADOR RETRIEVER/LISA-CROFF-ELLIOTT ©AKC

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

# Sign Up for a Rendezvous with Destiny

Outside the Johnson County Courthouse in Warrensburg, Missouri, stands a statue dedicated to a foxhound named Old Drum. It commemorates a famous trial held there in 1870. Old Drum was shot and killed when he wandered onto a neighboring farm. His owner's only recourse was to sue the neighbor.

A young attorney—George Vest, who later became a United States senator—was retained by the owner. Vest's closing argument at the trial was just 400 words, eloquently in support of the value of a dog. It included this thought:

*“The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his dog. He is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens.”*

Shortly after he spoke, the jury found for his client and awarded the maximum allowable damages of \$50, a lot of money back then. In addition, Vest's speech established the phrase “Man's best friend is his dog.”

We all know firsthand the devotion Vest spoke about—it is a large part of what makes us ardent supporters of dogs. But today there are forces at work that do not look at dogs like we do. And there are those who think breeding should be controlled to the point of extinction.

## Starting Now

I believe the greatest characteristic we possess is our unyielding dedication to the preservation of each of our unique breeds. It is through a combination of our responsible breeders committing to a never-ending quest to produce dogs true to type and healthy in body, mind, and spirit, coupled with all of you personally

committing to always do what is best for dogs, that has allowed people associated with the AKC to claim the mantle of the dog's defender from Senator Vest for the last 128 years.

When we come together like this, we always have much to discuss—some about our sport, some about business, and some about our governance. All of those are good and valid topics that require discussion and will only serve to strengthen our organization. I believe there is no unsolvable problem if we face it wisely, creatively, and courageously.

But we know our calling is for much more than the job of simply overseeing our business: It is most importantly, the responsibility we each embrace to, and for, the dogs. By recognizing that, we can together establish a beachhead of cooperation to create new initiatives that grow ownership of purebred dogs, grow our ranks of participants and supporters, and grow our voice in all things pertinent to the preservation of our breeds.

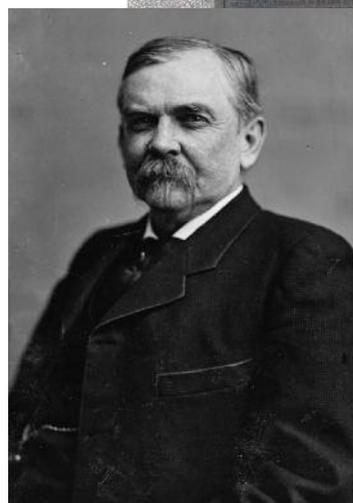
We must act quickly and with great purpose to accomplish all of that. And we must start right now.

## “You Will Hear Us”

We are faced with many challenges, but none is more immediate than the proposed federal regulation of our responsible fancier-breeders. Undoubtedly you have heard about the proposed rule



Top: Old Drum, at the Johnson County Courthouse—“constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens.”



Left: George Graham Vest—128 years later, AKC takes up his mantle of “dog's defender.”

changes to the Animal Welfare Act, which regulates the selling of puppies in the United States. Currently fancier-breeders, like you and me, are exempt. But the new regulations would treat each of us like a large-scale business.

What does that mean for you? Breeders who maintain more than four

females biologically capable of having puppies, and who sell a puppy to just one person at a distance, would now be regulated as commercial breeders under USDA regulations. Think of the impact that would have on the preservation of our low-number breeds.

Our AKC Government Relations team met with the USDA on our behalf to get clarification regarding the language in the proposed rule that we will use to help shape our comments. We have identified dozens of critical issues that must be addressed by the USDA before they act.

There are strong forces supporting these onerous regulations. This makes it more imperative that we create not a new balance of power, but a new understanding that the public wants the breed of dog they want, and those dedicated AKC fancier-breeders must be afforded the protection to not only survive, but prosper. Without our fancier-breeders it will only be a matter of time before our breeds, preserved for hundreds of years, will become extinct. While that might be perceived as an unintended consequence of overzealous government regulation, I believe it is a quite intended consequence sought by groups that challenge dog ownership every day.

Because we are the AKC, the USDA will pay careful attention to our comments. But we can maximize their attention through our individual support. Each of you can help achieve that. We have the opportunity now to unite our forces and clearly communicate a single, positive message for change. We have created a petition in support of the comments on the proposed regulations we will be submitting to the USDA and placed it on the AKC website. I ask that all of you join in and sign the petition. And then I ask that each of you circulate the link to every person you can think of to rally support for a most necessary outcome.

As Ronald Reagan said, you and I have a rendezvous with destiny. I believe it will be the one we make and not the one some others make for us. The most important single characteristic that defines a great organization is the desire to succeed that overwhelms all obstacles. I know we have that desire.

To those who believe we cannot come together and accomplish that, I say: "You don't know us."

To those who doubt our voice, I say: "You will hear us."

And to those who love dogs as much as the jurors in Old Drum's case, I say: "You must join us."

Sincerely,

Alan Kalter  
Chairman



## SIGN PETITION NOW!

The "Join With the AKC to Protect Responsible Small Breeders" petition is a response to proposed USDA regulations that would create harsh and unintended consequences for responsible small and hobby breeders.

The AKC urges you to sign the petition before **July 16**, the closing date of the public-comment period to the Animal Care Division of the USDA's Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service. The petition, along with the AKC's comments on the proposed rule change, will be sent to the USDA.

Sign at [akc.org/petition/](http://akc.org/petition/).

# AKC Weekly Winners Gallery<sup>SM</sup> E-MAIL

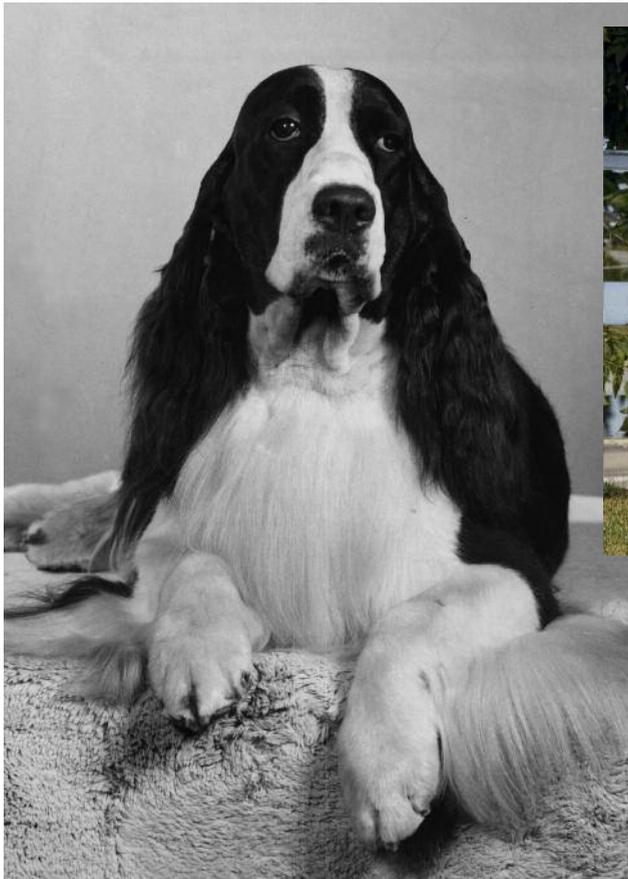
*Your Best Value in  
Show Dog Publicity!*



- E-mailed to over **100,000 Fanciers**
- Archive web posting for an **entire year**
- Shared with over **80,000** of AKC's Facebook followers
- And more!

Sending your dog's photo to more fanciers than any other show dog publication—  
all for only **\$395**

To learn more, visit  
[akc.org/weeklywinnersgallery](http://akc.org/weeklywinnersgallery)  
or contact **Rebecca Mercer**  
at **212-696-8259** or  
[winshot@akc.org](mailto:winshot@akc.org)



Left: *His Majesty*—ring royalty and mighty sire *Aristocrat*

Right: 1983—*Gasow* protégé *Kellie Fitzgerald* with *Ch. Salilyn's Dynasty*

# Remembering Salilyn

**F**orty-five summers ago *Ch. Salilyn Aristocrat* was running roughshod over the competition, on his way to 45 all-breed Bests for 1967. A top performer in the show ring, yes, but *Aristocrat* reserved his finest performances for more intimate settings: He sired 188 champions (an all-time record for a dog of any breed), among them 12 BIS winners.

Most breeders would consider *Aristocrat* the apex of their art. But *Julia Gasow* wasn't most breeders. For her, *Aristocrat* was but one milestone on the glory road. Decade after decade, with stunning regularity, *Gasow* turned out world-class English Springer Spaniels under the *Salilyn* banner.

The Michigan-based *Gasow's* unprecedented run began in the early 1940s, with *Sir Lancelot of Salilyn*. It ended in 2000, with *Ch. Salilyn 'n Erin's Shameless's Westminster* win, a few months after *Gasow's* death at age 94. In between came such legends as the *Aristocrat* son *Ch. Chinoe's Adamant James* (47 BIS in 1971; back-to-back Westminster BIS, '71 and '72) and *Aristocrat* descendent *Ch. Salilyn's Condor* (69 BIS in 1992).

*Gasow* attended her first show in Detroit in 1936. "It was love at first sight, when I saw three English Springers on the bench," *Gasow* said. "But I knew nothing about breeding and did everything wrong." She rectified that by spending the next 64 years doing everything right.

Was *Gasow*, as some claim, the greatest breeder of all time? *Dizzy Dean* once bragged, "If I wasn't the greatest pitcher ever, I was amongst 'em." Let it be *Gasow's* epitaph. If she wasn't the greatest ever, she was certainly amongst 'em.



1976: *Ch. Salilyn's Prophet, CDX*, one of *Aristocrat's* 188 champion get



*Boccone*

# Jorge and Susie Olivera

*The Godsols, the Clarks, the Forsyths, the Bivinses: Husband-and-wife teams have been part of the sport of dogs for almost as long as dogs have. Among today's most familiar power couples are AKC Registered Handlers Jorge and Susie Olivera, who can be seen this weekend stacking winners at a dog show near you.*

## Breed Columns Index

## Toy Group

- 9 Affenpinschers
- 10 Brussels Griffons
- 10 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels
- 11 Chihuahuas
- 12 Chinese Cresteds
- 12 English Toy Spaniels
- 13 Havanese
- 14 Italian Greyhounds
- 14 Japanese Chin
- 15 Maltese
- 15 Papillons
- 16 Pekingese
- 16 Pomeranians
- 17 Pugs
- 18 Shih Tzu
- 18 Silky Terriers
- 19 Toy Fox Terriers

## Non-Sporting Group

- 20 Boston Terriers
- 20 Bulldogs
- 21 Chow Chows
- 21 Dalmatians
- 22 Finnish Spitz
- 22 French Bulldogs
- 23 Keeshonden
- 23 Lhasa Apsos
- 24 Löwchen
- 25 Poodles
- 26 Schipperkes
- 26 Shiba Inu
- 27 Tibetan Spaniels
- 27 Tibetan Terriers

## Herding Group

- 28 Australian Cattle Dogs
- 29 Australian Shepherds
- 29 Bearded Collies
- 30 Belgian Malinois
- 31 Belgian Sheepdogs
- 32 Belgian Tervuren
- 32 Border Collies
- 33 Bouviers des Flandres
- 33 Briards
- 34 Canaan Dogs
- 35 Cardigan Welsh Corgis
- 35 Collies
- 36 Entlebucher Mountain Dogs
- 36 German Shepherd Dogs
- 37 Icelandic Sheepdogs
- 38 Norwegian Buhunds
- 39 Old English Sheepdogs
- 39 Pembroke Welsh Corgis
- 40 Polish Lowland Sheepdogs
- 40 Pyrenean Shepherds
- 41 Swedish Vallhunds

## ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by a breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's history, function, and possible health issues. A national parent club comprises dedicated breeders and fanciers, and it represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to the fancy in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year.

*Information and opinions expressed in the breed columns represent the views of their authors, not necessarily those of the breed's parent club or the AKC.*

toys

## Affenpinschers

Our guest columnist is Affenpinscher Club of America member Linda E. Pollack. Linda wrote an earlier article that was published in our breed column. Her Affen is a pet.

## Take One Affen and Call Me in the Morning

To say I was a germophobe is an understatement. I may not have taken germophobia to the extremes of the character Jack Nicholson played in *As Good as it Gets*, or the one Tony Shalhoub played in *Monk*, but I was close. This close:

*Me:* We're getting a dog!

*Friend:* (silence)

*Me:* We're not waiting for Alan to retire. We're getting a dog—now!

*Friend:* Are you sure you want to do that?

*Me:* Yes!

*Friend:* But don't you think ... I mean ... do you think that's a good idea?

*Me:* Alan keeps saying he doesn't know if he's ever going to retire, so what are we supposed to do—wait until he's 80?

*Friend:* But what about ... you know ... *they shed?*

*Me:* We'll get one that doesn't shed!

*Friend:* But what about ... *germs?*

*Me:* Our dog won't have germs.

*Friend:* They all have germs.

*Me:* Ours won't.

*Friend:* But what about the poop? You will have to pick up the poop. Have you thought about that?

*Me:* I'll use a plastic bag like everyone else. It's not a big deal. It's going to be a small dog, so the poop isn't going to be that big, anyway.

*Friend:* I really think you should think about this some more.

I did think—long and hard. I researched the small breeds that didn't shed, but I couldn't connect with one. I moved on to low-shedders. I didn't mind vacuuming more if it meant a better fit personality-wise.

I'd read that when choosing a dog, one should aim for personality and temperament rather than looks. Excellent advice, but I wanted the dog to be cute, too. I wanted everything—a small, cute, smart dog who didn't shed a lot and had an amusing personality.

When I read that Affens are clean, I knew I'd found the perfect breed. It didn't hurt that Affens were also adorable.

So off we flew to a wonderful breeder, and there we were, surrounded by these enchanting creatures. Then, without warning, one of them pooped. I studied it, trying not to look strange doing so since my husband and I were being evaluated.

*Me:* Excuse me, but would you say that's the usual size?

*Breeder* (scooping it up without missing a beat): Yes. More or less.

It was certainly bigger than that of my friend's Maltese, but I felt I could manage. How difficult could it be?

I was quickly put to the test when we eventually got our very own Affen, with whom I'd fallen instantly in love. One

evening soon after her arrival, which also happened to be the very last night my husband had to prepare a grant, our angel looked to be in distress.

*Me (screaming):* What's wrong with Chloe?

*Husband:* She's just trying to go to the bathroom.

*Me (still screaming):* But she's not going. Nothing is coming out! Something is wrong. Maybe she has a blockage! We must take her to the emergency vet immediately!

Which we did. On the way, Chloe's blockage loosened all over me in my husband's new car.

I did not care. Chloe was all right. That was the only thing that mattered.

A few weeks ago my sister-in-law watched as Chloe, who just turned three, licked my chin.

*Sister-in-law:* I never thought I'd see the day ... —L.P

Thank you, Linda! —*Nancy Baybutt*; siennagoldaffens@comcast.net; *Affenpinscher Club of America website*: affenpinscher.org

## Brussels Griffons Choosing a Class

Sitting ringside at a recent show, two spectators were trying to figure out why certain dogs went into the ring when they did, and why some went back in. As should happen, a nearby exhibitor undertook to educate them about the various classes that a dog might be entered in and explained the progression through Winners class to Best of Breed. This certainly enhanced the experience of the spectators, who could then talk about the classes between themselves and ask intelligent questions of their impromptu mentor, including the reasons for entering a dog in the chosen class.

What class does your dog belong in? In some instances the choice is clear, as the dog is only eligible for one. For example, a foreign-born adult dog with major points being handled professionally can only go into the Open class, and chances are that's where the pro handler wants him to be. But for many

exhibitors, especially the breeder-owner-handler, a dog may be eligible for as many as six classes. What to do?

It may depend, in part, on the venue. At the ABGA national specialty, the Bred-by class is extremely popular, and rightfully so. We are all so proud of the quality animals we breed, and many use the Bred-by class to show off the results of our breeding programs.

Entering my dog in the Bred-by class always evokes a memory from my early days in the ring. I proudly entered a nice but barely trained puppy in the Bred-by class, as did my traveling companion. At that time it was, sadly, unusual to find a Griffon who showed with spirit and confidence, and I had been advised (wrongly, as it turned out) not to worry about her playful ring behavior, as long as she was having fun.

Well, after our girls hopped, skipped, and jumped around the ring, and ribbons were distributed, the judge took my friend and me to task.

This grande dame of judges was appalled that we would put such ill-behaved specimens in the Bred-by class, where we should be proudly showing off our breeding—and training. I never forgot that one.

So now, until they are experienced in the ring and have exhibited reliable ring presence, I use the puppy classes, or even the 12–18 Months class, no matter how much I'd like that award for finishing in Bred-by. And entering BBE can come back and bite you when, for whatever reason, you find you cannot show your dog on a certain day, but neither can anyone else. (Once the breeder-owner handles the dog to a blue ribbon in Bred-by, anyone can take it into Winners and beyond, a fact that is often forgotten.)

Consider the size of your dog. It may not be wise to put your early-maturing or leggy puppy in the 6–9 puppy class where he stands a head above the others, but neither is it a good idea to put that puppy in Open. Now the often-denigrated Novice and American-bred classes become more attractive. Long thought to be the place for “fillers,”

these classes offer a sensible option for just such a situation, as does the new Amateur Owner-Handler class if applicable. All are terribly underutilized. Consider that a blue ribbon in one of these classes gets your dog into the Winners class—where perhaps, after his class warm-up, he really shines, and you go home with purple! —*Anne K. Catterson*; annecatt@gmail.com; *American Brussels Griffon Association website*: brussels-griffon.info

## Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

### *Viva la Revolución!*

The recent debacle at Crufts 2012 should be a wake-up call for all of us who enjoy the sport of purebred dogs. Not only are the 15 “high-profile” breeds suffering the arrows of the animal-rights supporters, but we must also not be too complacent to imagine that Cavaliers may not be next on the hit list.

Indeed, the British Veterinary Association has launched a syringomyelia initiative at Crufts, informing Cavalier owners and breeders about the condition and urging screening across the U.K.

While we may applaud this call for screening as prudent and timely, we must realize that if the MRI, requiring anesthesia, was not the only accurate screening tool available to us right now, Cavaliers would be “on the list” and subject to radiographic interpretations carried out by ... what skilled specialists? The same ones who shone a flashlight in a Peke's eye and declared that it had an ulcer? Will Cavaliers be required to bring radiographs with them to championship shows?

No one who watched the cheap exploitation of the Cavalier on *Pedigree Dogs Exposed* should doubt that “we” may be next to join the infamous 15.

I applaud all those in the U.K. show-breeder community who are trying to fight the Kennel Club's alliances with the AR contingent. Let us have no doubt that they *are* allied, as witnessed by the words of the KC's secretary, who

declared:

“We are determined to ensure that the show ring is a positive force for change and that we help to move breeds forward by only rewarding the healthiest examples of a breed. ... The veterinary checks were introduced to ensure that dogs with exaggerated features do not win prizes.”

Logical words, right?

On the face of it, such a philosophy might make sense, if it did not give free rein for spurious definitions of what constitutes “exaggerated features”—the flat face of the Peke, the haws of a Clumber ... or the prominent large eyes of the Cavalier?

The inherent deception of words like these is that they disguise the very real motivations of the speakers. Of course, who wouldn't want dogs to be healthy? We can all get behind that, can't we?

However, when we have non-specialist veterinarians at dog shows overturning the good opinions of some of the most respected conformation judges, every one of them a breeder himself, we have lost the heart and soul of the sport. It has fallen away.

Breed judging then becomes dependent on the sanction of non-breeders and judges—medical people who may or may not know what they are talking about when they make their pronouncements.

And who is to say what their alliances are outside of their medical profession? Are they animal-rightists themselves? Do we get to “vet” the vets?

As I write these words, I have just read a statement from one of the vets who disqualified dogs at Crufts. Alison Skipper wrote in *Dog World*:

“... [A] breed can have very moderate conformation and be plagued by serious inherited disease issues, such as the Cavalier, or it can be relatively healthy in terms of invisible problems and yet have clear issues with some aspect of its body structure. This high-profile breed scheme is a hugely important step towards reducing the problems associated with extreme conformation.”

I leave it to you to interpret these words as you may, but it seems to me there is a thinly veiled agenda at work: the zealot's clear call to act the hero and punish those breeds that fail to measure up to their ideals. We need to recognize that the Cavalier may be a target of such an agenda in the future.

For all of us here in the United States who love purebred dogs and dog shows, the 2012 Crufts initiatives must be recognized and rebelled against if we do not want to see them accorded validity at Westminster, or Santa Barbara, or your local specialty show.

We must speak up against “dangerous dog” legislation, fight for the right to dock and crop, and above all support our AKC Canine Legislation Support Fund, the NAIA, and our parent clubs.

The anti-dog groups are as clever as can be in their chipping away at the rights and freedoms that we enjoy in this country. We must not be lulled into the deep sleep from which we cannot awake. And that means *all* of us—whether or not we own a breed directly affected by a particular proposal. *Viva la revolución!* —Stephanie Abraham;  
landmarks.properties@snet.net;  
*American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club website: ackcsc.org*

## Chihuahuas Success: As Much Preparation as Motivation

What motivates you? What makes you wake up at 4 A.M. to show your dog?

The motivation to show can be a mixed bag. It can include love for your breed, enjoyment of fellowship with those who love dogs, desire to be the best, and much more. Many people are driven by a strong competitive streak. Some may simply aspire to finish a dog to a championship. For others it can be a burning desire to succeed, predicated on a fear of failure.

Are successes because of luck, fate, or destiny? Make your own luck! Keep your ears and eyes open, and your mouth closed. Luck is applying lessons

you've learned, even when it would be more convenient to do otherwise.

Everyone encounters obstacles as well as opportunities. Sometimes one leads to the other, and we need to recognize the difference. Simply put, good luck is the ability to learn from bad luck.

*Fate* and *destiny* both refer to a pre-determined course of events. They can be distinguished in that fate is defined as “inevitable,” while destiny is used with regard to the finality of events as they have worked themselves out, determined at least in part by our own actions. Therefore, although fate is unalterable, we are in charge of our own destiny.

To be successful, we must look at our dog—not just in the face but at his body and structure, including both front and rear assembly.

We need to acknowledge where he falls short and be objective about what our eyes see. We should not overlook faults and health defects in our dog. Unless quickly diagnosed and addressed, the presence of defects can lead to the demise of a successful breeding program. The Chihuahua Club of America has a list of health testing suggested for our breed.

We need to read and reread our standard and come to understand it. Developing an “eye” for a good dog is the ability to view a dog as one piece and to recognize balance, quality, and correctness in any breed.

If you find you are unable to truly grasp what your standard means, seek a successful person to be your mentor.

To help in the development of your eye, sit next to the designated mentors at shows and ask about what you're seeing in the ring.

To be successful, we must truly be objective about to what we choose to reproduce or put in the show ring. As breeders, we must always strive to improve the next generation.

If a problem is discovered in a breeding program, we must be prepared to adjust our plans, even to the point of starting over with new foundation stock.

What sacrifices are you ready to make on your road to happiness? Dreams do find direction. Make yours come true. —*Virginia (Jenny) Hauber; wynjynchis@yahoo.com; Chihuahua Club of America website: chihuahuaclubofamerica.com*

## Chinese Cresteds

### When a Dog Eats Like a Bird

Just when you think you have seen everything ...

After 40-plus years of raising show dogs, and growing up with pet dogs before that, you pretty much think that you have experience with anything that might happen.

Not necessarily.

I went into the dog room to feed my Chinese Cresteds a couple of weeks ago and noticed a very strange substance in the pan underneath one of my boy's crates.

"What the heck?" I thought. "That doesn't look familiar."

I pulled the pan out so I could get a better look and found—could it be?—birdseed!

The birdfeeder has been in the backyard for months, and none of the dogs has bothered it nor the birds that eat there. Now, obviously, this little man had decided that if it was good enough for the feathered ones, it was good enough for him.

As I assessed his condition, I became somewhat alarmed. In his three years, this boy had never been sick. Always a really good eater (put down the dish and get your hand out of the way good), he has eaten lots of not-really-recommended substances before, with no ill effects. But this time, he didn't look good. Head down, shivering a little, he had a hang-dog look.

I checked my watch. Of course, this happened at 6:30 P.M. on a Saturday. I could call my vet at home, but I hate to do that if it's not a true emergency.

I decided that before making that call I would check the Internet for information. The Internet knows everything, right? But what to look for?

Finally, I typed DOG EATING BIRD-

SEED into the search bar.

Imagine my surprise when a whole list of things came up. Apparently, my dog was not the first one to eat birdseed.

As I read through the information, it seemed this problem was fairly common. Wow. This was new to me.

One comment that caught my eye read, "If a dog eats birdseed, it won't do him any real harm unless the seed was in the bird at the time." *Ha ha*. I was in no mood for a joke, but still I felt a little better seeing people write that most likely this wasn't going to kill him. I decided to watch him until the next morning and see.

Over the next few hours, that dog threw up what must have been at least two-and-a-half to three pounds of seed. He wasn't looking any worse, but he sure didn't look any better.

By the next morning (after very little sleep for either of us), he still looked pretty bad. I called my vet the minute he opened, and he assured me that my dog should be fine as soon as he got rid of all the birdseed.

Well, that should be fairly soon, I thought, since it was erupting from both ends now. How much could be left?

Finally, I went through the medicine cupboard and found some Reglan. I thought that a small dose might help—the dog, that is. I gave it to him (I'd given it before at my vet's instruction and know the proper dosage), and then I realized that I could use some coffee.

By the time I got the coffee made and came back to check, he was sleeping comfortably. (Yes, I was sure to check that he was breathing OK.) I took my coffee and went outside and moved the birdfeeder into the gazebo, out of the dogs' reach.

I don't know whether the Reglan actually helped or my dog was just empty at that point, but from then on he started feeling better, and by the next morning he was back to his normal self.

Maybe you have experienced this before, but for me, this was a new one.

Leave it to a Chinese Crested to find new ways to keep us guessing. —*Sue Klinckhardt-Gardner; Tamoshire@Qnet.com; American Chinese Crested Club website: chinese-crestedclub.info*

## English Toy Spaniels Clicker Challenge

How many times have you wished your dog would just behave a little better?

If only they would gait better or stand on the table a little better. Maybe you are working in agility, but your dog is fearful of the teeter-totter, and you wonder if you can ever get past that last hurdle.

If you are not already doing so, I challenge you to try a bit of clicker training. Yes, it does take a little work to get a feel for it. But once you do, it's amazing how things will just start to "click" into place.

Let's get started. Most places that sell dog supplies can get you a clicker, but a pen that you can click will work as well. Alternately you can use a key word, such as "yes," in place of a clicker. For beginners, however, I feel that use of the clicker, if possible, is a little cleaner.

Next you need a good quantity of small and delicious treats. Little bits of meat or cheese work well, but anything your dog covets will do.

First we must "load" the clicker. This means we are attaching a meaning to the sound for the dog. They must understand that click means a treat is following. (Think of Pavlov's dogs.) Also beware that some dogs are initially afraid of the sound. If this is the case, I will put the clicker in my pocket to soften the sound.

At first, simply click and then give your dog a treat immediately afterward. Do this until you can click while the dog is turned away from you and it results in him whipping his head around in anticipation of the treat. At this point we are ready to train a behavior.

Let us try walking on a lead. The

great thing about this is that there is no pressure on the dog, so you can work until they lose interest in your treats. I usually do about 10 repetitions.

Make sure you have a hungry dog. I start out by putting the lead on the dog and standing a step or two away from him. I immediately click and treat for any interaction and wait to see if he offers it again.

I repeat this several times. If the dog just stays still, I wait until he gets bored, or in some extreme cases I may hold out the treat.

Now here is the tricky part. When I am about 90-percent sure my dog will move toward me, I will start to ask for a stronger behavior. I will withhold the click and see what the dog does. They have been getting rewarded every time for one step—now I want two.

I like to see a little frustration from the dog. If the dog quits, you are asking too much and need to back up and reward the smallest interaction. If the dog is still interested, I click after the second interaction.

It becomes like a dance we do with our dog, with our always trying to push for closer approximations to the end behavior without losing his interest.

Go ahead; I challenge you to give it a try. It can open up a new world for you both! —*Janelle Smedley*;  
Jsmeds@cheqnet.net; *English Toy Spaniel Club of America website: etsca.org*

## Havanese

This month's guest columnist is Lu Wyland, who is a longtime member of the Havanese Club of America, a member of the parent club's health committee, and a founder of Havanese Rescue, Inc., an independent 501(c)3 organization rescuing and rehoming Havanese.

## Gifts of the Older Dog

Old dogs have a grace that I think some people miss. Those that do see it often get sad, watching their dogs age, walking further down the road, knowing that it's only a matter of time before their dog rounds the bend and moves

out of our sight.

I'm in a peculiar place. I see my aging dog, now blind in both eyes and her cognitive abilities fading quickly.

This week she stumbled as she walked up the ramp in the kitchen that leads to our outdoor kennel attached to our house. I was there when it happened. She fell only onto the kitchen floor, but had she been a few steps further up the ramp, she would have fallen into the stairwell, where I'm sure she would have been hurt. I have to make plans now about how to keep her safe when I'm not here to supervise her.

So I watch Tansy age, and I feel sadness knowing that we have much less time left together than we've shared so far. But I feel incredibly fortunate, too. I get to watch my old dog get older. I didn't get to do that with my first two dogs, having lost both of them at far too young an age.

I feel Tansy has lived well with us. She got cheated the first half-decade or so of her life, before she came to us, but since then she's soaked up the good life with my daughter and me. She used to take great pleasure in looking down "her" alley at the end of the sidewalk. She was my little gray sentinel for many years. Now she sits there and listens, since she's unable to see. It's still her favorite spot in the yard.

She took joy in learning to walk in and out of the raspberry bushes. Blind in one eye when she came home, that due to an injury in the puppy mill she came from, where her eye was ripped open by the wood and wire caging, Tansy had no depth perception, and it affected her movement. She'd had so little time in the world without wire around her, she didn't know how to maneuver.

But she figured it out. In and out of the raspberry bushes, then looking to me as if to say, "Look! I did it!" Her tail wagged like a pom-pom in her self-delight. She learned too how to jump onto furniture, sleep on the bed, and appreciate ear-rubs and chest scratches.

It took Tansy three years to learn how to respond to the command *sit*.

Now it's firmly set in her brain just like her housetraining. Tell her *sit*, and she plants her arthritic hips on the ground, her nose pointing upward for the treat she assumes will follow. That's the other thing she learned: Treats follow. They were there before she learned to sit; they'll be there if she forgets again.

I know I'll lose Tansy one day, probably this year. She gets lost in my bedroom and can't find her way out some mornings. She walks up to the fence in our yard and can't figure out how to walk away, turning and bumping into it or her sisters or brother around her repeatedly, like one of those wind-up toys that change direction every time they run into an obstacle.

Because of her unsure footing on the ramp, and her refusal to do stairs since she went completely blind, I often carry Tansy outside and inside again as well. It takes more time, but that's something that's a gift. We give it to each other. Carrying her reminds me of it. *How lucky can one be to have a dog long enough in life that they need to be carried sometimes?*

I didn't get to watch my first two dogs' coats change color with age. I didn't watch their eyes grow cloudy, or their ability to chew kibble wane as more teeth were lost to age. They left without spending even a decade on this earth, Mira only half a decade.

And so I look at Tansy's aging, and unlike the people who weep that their dogs grow old, I am grateful for the opportunity for this passage. And for the old dogs who come to rescue, I wonder whatever has possessed their humans that they pass these gifts along to someone else—sometimes not even looking back. They've gone mad, or maybe they never had their sanity.

If you have an old dog or a growing-older dog, I hope you're able to rejoice in the time you've got, watching him wake up a little more slowly than he used to, or seeing her step in the yard or living-room grow a little more uncertain.

That slower pace, the body that's softer and less muscular, the hearing or

sight that isn't what it once was, are a gift we don't all get to share. Sometimes we lose the opportunity without any choice in the matter. For those who throw it away, I am both sorry and astonished.

I breathe in the smell of Tansy's dear old head and listen to her sigh as I rub her chest. We are closer now than we probably were in the past. She's the last of my original pack that led my friends to refer to evening meals at our house as a "three-dog night."

I've promised not to keep her longer than she is comfortable and happy. I gauge her life in part now by her willingness to eat. She still enjoys her treats and gets more soft food than kibble these days, partly because she often forgets what she's doing if something takes a long time to chew.

*Bon appétit, Tansy, bon appétit!* —L.W.

Thank you, Lu, for this lovely contribution. —Joan Ambrose; joanjam-brose@yahoo.com; *Havanese Club of America website: havanese.org*

## Italian Greyhounds Fussy Eaters

Many IG people have a problem with dogs who are fussy eaters. Over the years I have had a few myself, and I have come to the conclusion that, although many possible health problems could enter into the picture, there are two main causes for this situation.

The first is that some IGs suffer from some form of digestive problem, such as (most commonly) irritable-bowel syndrome.

The second and more prevalent cause is that the condition is enabled by a loving, overly solicitous owner.

Assuming that the dog in question has been examined by a veterinarian and physical causes for the eating disorder have been eliminated, let's talk about the solicitous owner.

For starters, I know of no healthy dog who has voluntarily starved itself to death. Unfortunately, since IGs don't carry much body fat, poor eaters quickly begin to look skeletal. The

worse this becomes, the more the caring owner will enable the condition, usually by feeding the dog anything and everything it wants. Often this means table food, for which IGs can very meaningfully beg. Those pleading, soulful eyes and insistent paws are difficult to ignore.

The scenario for creating a fussy eater usually starts with giving some tasty table scraps. Next, the dog turns his royal nose up at his dish of dog food. Subsequently, the owner buys a different dog food—but that, too, is sniffed and left untouched.

More dog foods follow, running the gamut from kibble to canned to premium packaged. When that doesn't work, the owner may try feeding raw or home cooked food or both. The dog will eat a little of each but has already acquired the habit of waiting to see if something better is in the offing.

Often the owner, in a panic, will ask for help from Internet forums and receive a huge variety of suggestions, most of which will be tried, one after another or even several at once.

The results are the same. Each new food seems to be the answer—briefly. Sometimes the desperate owner will allow the dog to eat human food from the table—anything to get the increasingly skinny IG to put on some weight.

If a show career has begun, things are even worse, including hand-feeding meals bit by bit, then making "meatballs" and stuffing them down the dog's throat. Some dogs actually learn to enjoy the whole process of being "stuffed."

Another cause of dogs not eating is the practice of free-feeding—leaving food down at all times so the IGs can eat whenever they want. If there are multiple dogs, this usually results in some overweight ones and some that are too thin. This breed just doesn't do well with free feeding.

On the other hand, when fed only at certain times during the day, most dogs will learn quickly that the food is there to be eaten immediately and if it isn't, it will be picked up and put away. It may

sound hard and cold, but when feeding IGs, it's best to keep the method simple and regimented. What isn't consumed in 15 minutes is picked up, and there is no more food until the next scheduled feeding time.

It's much easier to not create a monster than to cure one. —Lilian S. Barber; iggylil@earthlink.net *Italian Greyhound Club of America: italiangreyhound.org*

## Japanese Chin An In-Depth View of the Standard CONTINUED

The third sentence in the "General Appearance" section of the standard for the Japanese Chin reads, *The plumed tail is carried over the back, curving to either side.* In the section "Neck, Topline, Body," the standard further says, *The tail is set on high, carried arched up over the back and flowing to either side of the body.*

These two statements seem fairly clear, but to a breeder they are crucial to understand, as any deviation from the standard ruins the whole appearance of the dog and then his breed type.

A poorly set tail gives a Japanese Chin a totally different outline. Too low gives the outline of a longer-bodied dog, while too tight can give the appearance of no loin at all or a high topline.

So what is meant by *set on high*? In canine terminology, it means the tail is high in that if it were docked, the base of the tail would point up—not out straight, and not pointing low.

A Japanese Chin's tail is his pride and joy. It helps him to show himself off as it flows when he gaits. It is a beautiful sight when his tail is up and over the hip, with the tail-fringe flowing behind him. It is a decoration, plain and simple.

The Japanese Chin's tail is not used as are the tails of some working or sporting breeds—he does not use it to point birds, nor as a rudder when he swims, nor to balance as he runs, nor does he use his tail for insulation to keep his nose warm when he is curled up in a snow-drift, as an Arctic breed does.

For this breed, the tail's sole purpose is as adornment and a barometer of his feelings. If timid, he will drop it low, or drag it, and anyone can tell that he is not happy; if happy, his tail is up and over and can be quivering, which seems to be his way of wagging.

He also uses it as all dogs do, as a way to communicate to us and other dogs.

The Japanese Chin's tail should not curl up like that of a Pug, nor come up and point straight toward the head like that of a Pomeranian or Pekingese, nor even stand straight up pointing to the sky, and it should certainly not be dragged behind so as to make him look unhappy.

The Papillion and the Japanese Chin have the same type and carriage of tail, which is up and over the topline, sweeping either side of the hip. It does not matter which side the tail falls, left or right. It doesn't count against him when it is not on the show side. For a judge to see that mental picture of the sweeping tail up and over, one only has to turn the dog to the opposite side so the full beauty of the Japanese Chin can be seen.

The tail and its carriage and set are very important to the overall look and outline of a Japanese Chin, as this gives him a unique outline and type in the dog world. —*Carla Jo Ryan*; *carlaryan@bellsouth.net*; *Japanese Chin Club of America website: japanesechinonline.org*

## Maltese Summer Travel With Your Dog

With the summer months upon us, traveling with your Maltese is so easy, as they are very portable. As with your kids, your dogs should have their own luggage as well.

First and foremost, your dog should always travel in a crate when in the car. No matter how much you enjoy having him on your lap, if (God forbid) you have an accident, his crate is like his seatbelt. If the doors should open during a crash, he has a better way of surviving instead of getting lost or hit

by a car. The crate also prevents him getting loose out of the car by accident when you stop for gas or pit stops.

When you are in the motel and go out, leave him in the crate so that if a maid or other hotel staff comes in the room he will not get loose. Also, if he should happen to get nervous while you are gone, it will prevent him from going to the bathroom in the room or tearing up something that isn't yours.

Don't forget to pack in his bag his food and any medications that he is on. It is also good to carry something for if his tummy gets upset. (Bottled water should be taken to help prevent this.)

Small containers of food always work best. If you use a canned food, don't forget the can-opener.

Pack a few extra towels in case he needs a little refreshing instead of using the motel towels. It is also recommended to take his brush, comb, rubber bands, and anything that would be needed to groom him.

Also a flea-and-tick spray should be available, as in the summer months other dogs might have left these little bugs for your dog to pick up during your travels.

When you are in the hotel room, make sure and check for any pills or pins left on the floor from a previous guest. The room should be thoroughly checked for anything that could harm your dog when he is loose in the room.

I also recommend taking a duplicate key for your car, so that if you stop anywhere, you can keep the air conditioning going by locking the car with the second key. Never leave your dog in a car with the windows up, and even with them cracked a little bit—it gets too hot for your baby.

It is also recommended to make sure that your lodging accepts dogs. The La Quinta and Drury Inn chains are very dog friendly. Some higher-end inns and hotels that cater to dogs even offer dog snacks, dog dinners, dog walkers, and doggy babysitting.

If you are flying, be sure to make reservations for your dog to ride in the cabin as well.

Also be sure to get him used to being inside an airline carrier before you go. Familiarity with being in the carrier keeps them from crying or wanting to get out.

Do not abuse the privilege of being able to bring your dog aboard. Follow all the rules, and leave your dog in the carrier for the duration of the flight.

Have a great summer, and enjoy it with your pooch as well! —*Daryl Martin*; *daryldmartin@sbcglobal.net*; *American Maltese Association website: americanmaltese.org*

## Papillons Papillon Temperament

Papillons are lively, gay, expressive, and affectionate little creatures. They are “people dogs” who possess a sweet, endearing temperament and make ideal companions. They are wonderful little ambassadors of the canine world with their beauty, elegance, grace, and exceptional intelligence.

In this diminutive body is one of the smartest of all dogs, with cognitive skills that enable them to solve problems, work as service dogs to the handicapped, and excel in competitive sports—obedience, agility, rally, flyball, and even tracking—just to name a few of their many talents. They often learn their routines so well that they anticipate your next command.

This can be frustrating, especially when you're competing in obedience events. You may even have to spell things out or use code words because your Papillon is smarter than the average 2-year-old.

They anticipate when you will hang up the phone just when they hear the simple phrase “all right.” For them, it's their cue to bark, because they're telling you they want to go out!

As a Papillon owner, you also have to be prepared for a dog with a lot of personality. Yes, they are fun to be with, if you like to be active and to have a shadow following you 24/7. They want to be with you, so you need to keep them busy, since most will not be satis-

fied left relegated to the backyard to play alone. You will either find them sitting and waiting for you at the door or, if they are the demanding type, jumping up and down and barking commands to let them come in!

Yes, they will rule you if you let them, and if they are left to their own devices without reprimanding. They need gentle and consistent training to curtail any bad habits. It is equally important to praise them for their cleverness and for being the wonderful, brilliant little creatures they are.

Because they are smart, they will learn quickly. Clicker training works well, and you can imprint their good behavior with a click and treat.

Never feed into a Papillon being possessive or allow one to show his teeth or even growl. If not nipped in the bud, this type of behavior would be detrimental to your relationship with your dog.

A Papillon needs to have a leader whom he can look up to and respect, otherwise he might try to rule you. It would be quite atypical of a Papillon to go the extreme, to be overly possessive or show aggression, or worst yet, become a fear-biter. Any such negative behavior is not the norm of this breed and must be corrected immediately.

Initially, Papillons can be cautious in new situations. However, they should quickly recover from any hesitancy and be outgoing and confident, especially if they have been well socialized and raised in a loving environment. They will not be afraid to meet new people, other dogs, or explore strange places, different surroundings and meet new challenges.

Paps don't think they are small, and they appear fearless around larger dogs. You can never be too careful, as they are apt to challenge a bigger dog.

Sighthounds pose another problem, because they instinctively see with their peripheral vision. To a sighthound, a Papillon's quick movement and his furry body and big ears may make him appear rabbitlike, and not like another dog. —Roseann Fucillo;

cilloette@yahoo.com; *Papillon Club of America website: papillonclub.org*

## Pekingese The Frosting on the Cake

What is meant by “the frosting on the cake,” aside from its literal meaning? The term may be used to describe any finishing touch, something that is not inherent to that which is beneath it, but rather, an enhancement—usually visual.

So, for the purposes of this article, consider the abundant coat of the Pekingese, as well as that of other coated breeds, to be “the frosting on the cake.”

If one were to see a beautifully frosted and decorated cake, the logical assumption would be that a delectable dessert is under the frosting. But think a bit further: It could be entirely possible to frost a cardboard box, or a metal container ... the possibilities are endless. The *appearance* would be identical to the real cake, but getting past the frosting would disclose very different realities.

Over time, I have been told by a number of judges that they considered the Pekingese to be one of the most difficult breeds to judge, if not *the* most difficult breed, because the Peke is unique. Of course, there are some similarities to other breeds, but nothing is really close. If judges, who presumably are educated about the breeds they judge, find this breed difficult to evaluate, even when going over them thoroughly in the show ring, how much more difficult must it be for the casual observer to do so.

Yet, all this being recognized, too many admirers of this delightful breed often are mesmerized by the abundant, exquisitely groomed coat of the show Pekingese, seeing nothing else.

If one is simply observing, enjoying the visual representation, so be it. *However*, if the observer is seeking a dog to show or a dog for breeding, a disastrous mistake could be in the making. If the clear vision of the person observing is clouded by seeing only the coat, and

buying/breeding decisions are made with such a mindset, the long-term ramifications are mind-boggling.

How often do we see breeders and exhibitors running to breed to dogs they have seen only in costly ads, which sometimes are not reflective of the dogs' true appearance and quality? Do national rankings and advertisements alone mean that a dog is *the* special one who will enhance a breeding program?

Look beyond appearance. If possible, see the prospective stud dog or addition to your own dog family in person; weigh his strengths and weaknesses, evaluate how closely he meets the breed standard, and when appropriate, see what he has produced.

Bottom line? Be sure you know what's beneath “the frosting on the cake.” —*Jacqueline Ragland; jaling60@hotmail.com; Pekingese Club of America website: thepekingeseclubofamerica.com*

## Pomeranians Tail Tales

A Pomeranian has a magnificent, huge-coated, plumelike tail that curls beautifully, smack up and over the top of the back. It is a definite characteristic of the breed and is noted in every situation as just that: a characteristic of the breed.

We hear breeders refer to the tail often, in comments noting a “low tail-set,” a “crook at the end of the tail,” a tail that hangs on one side or the other rather than centered—stuff like that, all quite true, and all quite important. That lovely tail sort of completes the Pomeranian, especially in the ring.

Pet owners usually don't place too much importance on the tail, but sometimes they will get a bit concerned that the tail of their little one has a little crook or “fishhook” on the end. *No problem* with that! If we dig into coat on many Poms we will find that little crook, and it normally does not affect the dog at all. In my opinion, it is not a problem breeders need to concern themselves with.

Recently, we had a perfectly adorable

little girl puppy, magnificently bred, cute as heck, oozing quality from every hair—a definite little show prospect! She was an “only child,” and we had raised her in a baby bed right beside our bed, and we gave her perhaps even more attention that we give to other “kids.” We did *not*, however, try to lead-train her at an early age. We normally try to do this at around 8–12 weeks of age, and it usually works beautifully. They may balk for a few minutes, but then they decide this is great fun, and once they learn that the lead is their “friend,” they do not forget that and can be trusted to behave nicely on the lead in the ring.

Boy, did we make a mistake with that spoiled baby! My resident gentleman is usually the one to do lead training, and he was confident—almost cocky—about preparing her for a career. Guess what? At slightly past 6 months, training began, and although she had a fine tail-set, when on the lead she dropped that little tail and was determined to never put it up.

We were astonished! We tried tricks, offering special treats if she would give it a try. *No way!* We took her for special “socializing” to a couple of dog shows, hoping she would get the idea. After much work, trickery, sweating, and worrying, we had pretty much given up, blaming ourselves for not starting sooner with her.

I’m not wishing to bore you with tales of this one little bratty Pom, only to emphasize the importance of the tail being *up, flat*, on top of the back—almost becoming a part of the coat itself.

Over many years, we have observed on occasion a Pom who drops the tail and reflects a common, ordinary “pet” look. Sometimes an outstanding dog does this—perhaps because he’s not feeling well, a loud noise has startled him, or a judge or someone else approached in a sudden manner, causing him to be frightened. The result can be a disaster.

Visualize if you can, a wild animal, the fox, who, in a remote way, resem-

bles a Pom. Remember, our standard doesn’t say “foxlike face,” but refers to a “fox-like expression.” But now let’s look at a *real* fox—truly lovely creatures, with beautiful coat, an alert, wily animal with a stealthy countenance. A fox’s tail is huge-coated, but it hangs *down*, or at least out, from the body—which is not ugly for a fox, but decidedly ugly for a Pomeranian.

On occasion, an outstanding, well-known, winning Pomeranian will be shown who the judges have seen and admired and have given big wins to, but something happens (who knows what), and this same, marvelous dog appears in the ring with his tail down between his legs. Obviously, this dog cannot be considered for an award *on that day*.

Bummer! We have heard judges say, “That little dog is perfect in every way but just wasn’t himself today.” When we consider that the dog is outstanding, actually has a fine tail-set but just isn’t quite “on” that day, what is the judge to do? Sadly, in this situation the judge *must* penalize the dog.

Till next time, smile a lot and mean it! —*Olga Baker; jeribeth1@gmail.com; American Pomeranian Club website: americanpomeranianclub.org*

## Pugs AKC Owner-Handler Series: Let the Games Begin!

By now I hope that most of you have heard about the new AKC Owner-Handler series. If not, please go to [akc.org/ohs/index.cfm](http://akc.org/ohs/index.cfm) in order to learn more about this promising new program. It offers a great incentive to get all of us owner-handlers back into the Best of Breed ring.

Every year we see more and more Pug specials in the ring being shown by well-known professional handlers, often with the added benefit of extensive advertising campaigns. In talking to fellow exhibitors, I find that as this trend has escalated, many who used to show specials have decided to finish their class dogs, maybe go for their Grand Championship, and then stop.

While in the past I have handled and

ranked my specials myself, I have to admit that in the last few years I have gone over to the “dark side,” and an excellent professional is showing my current special. However, I am still trying to show my champions to their Grand Championship, and it makes me realize that I have missed showing in Best of Breed. For that reason I am very excited about this new program.

News of the Owner-Handler Series program intrigued me as soon as it was announced, and from the start I wanted to support it. In order to do so and to learn more, I entered the first show to offer it: the Rose City Classic cluster in Portland, Oregon, in January. This was no small commitment, since I live in Connecticut.

I loaded my little bitch, Chloe, into her Sherpa bag, and in spite of worries about the weather, we were off on our cross-country trek.

What fun we had, too. First of all, there were a lot of specials entered over the weekend, and quite a few of them were owner-handled. I have to think that this new competition contributed to their coming out. The Rose City Classic is a big cluster, with over 3,000 dogs entered over the weekend. For that reason we did have several highly ranked specials, shown by well-known professional handlers. There was a general feeling that they would be slugging it out for Best of Breed. However, we owner-handlers had our own goal: to win O-H Best of Breed in order to go on to the O-H Toy Group, and maybe even Best in Show.

Chloe and I were fortunate to win Owner-Handler Best of Breed, so we were on to the group later in the day.

As we lined up for the group, I was immediately struck by the fact that this was going to be a full group! So often the Puppy, Bred-by, and Veteran groups are small, with only a few staying to compete. That was not the case with the Owner-Handler group. In addition, we had some really good dogs in the ring, and I was thrilled that Chloe was awarded a Group 4.

I hope this program becomes a huge

success. I applaud the AKC for recognizing that the owner-handlers are the backbone of our sport and that we represent an underappreciated market when it comes to growth. I hope that more clubs will offer the series at their shows. I think it will boost their entries. Most of all, I hope the series will attract discouraged owner-handlers back to the Best of Breed ring.

By offering a show at the end of the year for the highest-ranked owner-handled dogs in each breed, we have a goal of our own: qualifying for that show. In this endeavor we now have an even playing field, and just maybe more of our nice finished champions will be seen in the Best of Breed ring again. —  
*By Ashley B. L. Fischer;*

Ashley54@optonline.net; *Pug Dog Club of America website: pugs.org*

## Shih Tzu Breed Health Survey Now Online

The new ASTC health survey has been posted on the website of the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals ([offa.org/surveys/survey\\_shihtzu.html](http://offa.org/surveys/survey_shihtzu.html)). This service, including a statistical analysis of the results, is offered to parent clubs by the OFA to provide the “big picture” about the health of a breed. No names are required, and no e-mail addresses are collected.

We ask that our readers take the survey for all Shih Tzu they have owned over the past 20 years, living or dead, and ask their Shih Tzu-owning friends to do the same. The facts about these animals will provide a statistical picture of the overall health of our breed and help the ASTC Charitable Trust make funding decisions for future health research projects.

Thus far, a majority of those filling out the survey own one to three Shih Tzu and have been involved in the breed for at least 10 years. Most of them either breed and show dogs or purchased their dog from a breeder who shows. They characterize the overall health of our breed as good to excellent. The major concerns appear

to be allergies (seasonal inhalant allergies and licking or chewing of paws or nails); skin disorders (yeast infections, hot spots, and sebaceous cysts); and various eye disorders, including old-age cataracts.

A huge thank-you is due the ASTC Health/Research Committee and the directors of the ASTC Charitable Trust for preparing this survey. For more information about the Trust and the research funded by the ASTC, go to [americanshihtzuclub.org](http://americanshihtzuclub.org).

*Winners of AKC Good Sportsmanship medals.* Thanks are also due the ASTC members who were awarded the AKC Good Sportsmanship medal in 2011 and 2012. They were the first individuals to be so honored by the ASTC.

The 2011 winner, Tammarie Larson, joined the ASTC in 1986. She has long been active in all aspects of the dog world, serving on the ASTC board and various committees and helping host two successful national specialties in Minnesota. In December 2009, she agreed to take on the enormous task of putting out the club magazine, the *Shih Tzu Bulletin*. She continued this work with grace, courage, and fortitude while fighting a debilitating battle with malignant melanoma.

The 2012 winner, Loree Levy-Schwartz, joined the ASTC in 1995 and has long served as rescue chair for both the ASTC and Golden Gate Shih Tzu Fanciers. Although she has volunteered in many other capacities whenever asked, rescue is her passion. With the help of her veterinarian husband and a dedicated group of volunteers, she normally rescues, treats, socializes, and rehomes between 150 and 200 dogs per year, most of them Shih Tzu. This has included a number of large-scale rescues that most people are unable to handle. At the same time, she tries to persuade people to buy puppies only from a reputable breeder after due thought. Loree sees the dark side of our sport and culture, and she manages to bring light and life to Shih Tzu through her rescue programs.

Both honorees have taken on work

that we all hope someone will do but are not able (or willing) to do ourselves. They do what they do, often at great personal cost and with little thanks or recognition, for the love of our breed—a good definition of outstanding sportsmanship. —*Jo Ann White;*  
[joawhite@juno.com](mailto:joawhite@juno.com); *American Shih Tzu Club website: americanshihtzuclub.org*

## Silky Terriers Training for Earthdog Events

What events can you do with your dog? There are a number of events in which the Silky Terrier is eligible to compete. These include earthdog, agility, conformation, flyball, rally, tracking, and obedience. I have tried most of the events I have listed, and I thought maybe we should go over how to train a Silky for each.

This time we will go over a training method for earthdog events. The following is the method I have used. I suspect others may train differently, but my kennel club has training for any breed eligible for this type of competition. I have found it quite fun and entertaining.

Earthdog is one of the events where you are not competing against another team of dog and handler; rather, each dog competes against the clock. The other event teams are rooting for you, as you are for them.

I have tried training a couple of my dogs in earthdog. Some train more easily than others; some do not like it at all. You need to start by finding what aptitude your dog has. One of mine let me know she was interested when she took a mouse away from a cat who was attempting to bring it in the house.

To start, it is easier to train your first time with someone who is experienced in this activity—even someone with another breed.

The way I was instructed on how to start is to place a couple of mice or rats in a small wire cage that will fit inside a tunnel made from wood, about 12 inches square. It is a three-sided box, with the open area on the ground. The starting tunnel should only be a couple

of feet long. The rodent cage goes at one end; you hold your dog at the opposite end and let him get the scent of the rodents, who are at the opposite end.

As the dog becomes interested, you allow him to enter the tunnel and walk to the rodents. Do not rush him. If he will not go into the tunnel, you can put the rodent cage on the ground near him and let him become interested in them. Take this step very slowly—you cannot force your dog's interest. Make sure he is interested before pushing him along.

There will be an occasional terrier who will not be interested. You are better to start with a dog who is interested, especially for your first dog.

As the dog goes readily into the tunnel and to the rodents and barks at them, you encourage that. The dogs must "work" the rats, which means they have to dig or bark for a certain amount of time during the trial. Once your dog goes into the tunnel toward the rats, you can extend the length of the tunnel. Do not hurry him.

After your dog is willing to go into a tunnel of four or five feet long to the rats, then you add a turn. Same thing: Let him work at his own speed.

Once this is successful, then add another turn, until he can do the pattern without difficulty. At that point you need to cover the tunnel with a tarp to exclude light, as the dog will need to be able to work in the dark. You'll also need to change the turns around—right turns, left turns. You do not want him to memorize your tunnel.

When your dog is dependable, start moving further from the entrance of the tunnel, and use a word that he understands to mean he is to go into the tunnel and find the rats. I use "tunnel"—you could use "find," "rats," "go find the rat," or whatever you feel comfortable with.

When your dog is at this point and is dependable, you can try burying at least the entrance of the tunnel. You'll also need to move further from the entrance. During an earthdog trial you

cannot cross the start line; you must send your dog.

The first title is Junior Earthdog. Once successful at that, you can begin Senior Earthdog, then Master Earthdog. Many trials also have Intro to Earthdog, an untitled event for beginners. At most trials you can enter Intro and Junior on the same day.

We do have Silky Terriers with titles in all three, so you can do it. Try! Try new events with your dog. —*Vicki Bratton; Tumbelle@nwi.net; Silky Terrier Club of America website: silkyterrier-clubofamerica.org*

## Toy Fox Terriers How to Keep Your Toy Fox Terrier Safe

**P**roviding a safe environment for your Toy Fox Terrier can be a challenge in your home, yard, and car, on walks, and at dog classes or shows. Their terrier temperament and size can get them into trouble.

In the house, try to keep them off the furniture. Especially with puppies, a fall or jump risks a concussion, broken bones, or internal injuries that may be fatal. Recliner chairs are another danger. I know of a man who got up quickly from his chair and accidentally crushed his puppy under the den-like area beneath it. Watch puppies at all times, and when you can't, put them in a crate or ex-pen so they can't fall down stairs, get stuck in a small place, or shoot out the door. Puppies take great joy in cutting teeth on electrical cords that could shock them (adults like chewing on cords too sometimes). They also may consume plants or household chemicals that could poison them, or they may try to eat other things not meant for dogs. Monitor their activities closely until they earn their freedom around the house—and don't step on them!

Outside, check the fence for openings they can squeeze through or dig under. They can't tolerate cold, so in chilly weather, put a coat on them and limit the time out there.

If you're thinking of leaving a TFT

outside alone, think again. As people invade the habitats of wild animals, those animals adapt, and your puppy or adult TFT looks like a meal to them. There have been numerous reports on TV and the Internet about hawks, owls, or eagles attacking small dogs—even carrying them away. Some owners were able to fight them off, and others were too late. Also posing a threat are foxes, raccoons, coyotes, and other larger predators, depending on your location.

Be vigilant and firm with toddlers or immature older kids when they want to hold or play with your puppy or adult TFT. If your dog is dropped, this could result in serious or fatal injury. Sometimes untrained children move too quickly or squeeze too hard; even a well-socialized dog may bite because of fear or pain.

Going for a ride in the car? A quick stop could throw your dog off the seat, or a curious puppy may end up under the gas or brake pedal. Place your puppy in a crate, and secure the crate. Of course, never leave your TFT alone in the car in warm or cold weather, for obvious reasons. Aside from risk of hot or cold temperatures, someone may steal your dog.

If you are on a crowded city street, carry your TFT so that he doesn't get stepped on. Be careful of meeting strange dogs as you walk. TFTs are clueless about their size and may get an attitude that invites an attack. Play with a larger dog, even a gentle one, is risky, so use good judgment when allowing your dog to socialize with other canines. Know the breed and temperament of the dogs who share your training class, since some are instinctively more apt to grab a tiny dog than others. At shows, carry your TFT to the ring. Larger dogs have been known to unexpectedly attack small dogs at shows, injuring or killing them.

Enjoy your TFT, but use common sense about breed safety. Remember their limitations, because in their minds, they have none. —*Beverly E. Stanley; beverlystanley6@gmail.com; American Toy Fox Terrier Club website: atfc.com*

## Boston Terriers Don't Sell Puppies Too Young

It's best for a puppy to not go to a new home until he is at least 3 months old. Not waiting until a pup is old enough to ensure that he's had a good start in socialization and that he is basically healthy and developing soundly in body structure and temperament could result in devastating repercussions later. Bringing a pup home too early—or, for the breeder, placing a pup too early—can sometimes backfire.

Responsible breeders should only breed healthy specimens and aim to produce a better Boston than the parents. Some people believe that if they breed a mediocre bitch to a top-winning male, it will correct all her defects, but it won't. A top-winning dog may never produce a pup as good as he is if his pedigree is like a tossed salad—a mixture of all types of Boston lines that leaves an “open pedigree” of many varied traits. Instead, breed to a proven stud dog who is line-bred.

Some show people overlook the good quality of a Boston Terrier puppy because of it not having a full-white collar. Marking is only 5 points in the standard, and a full-white collar is nice, but it is not a requirement for the breed. Know your standard, and if you're new at breeding dogs, rely on a mentor to help you decide what to keep or sell. In 2011, a female Boston with a half-white collar on the show side went Best in Show at an all-breed show. The breeder and owner had known she was a great bitch when she was a pup, so was not sold as a pet. Ch. Grant's Royal Command II didn't have a full-white collar, but he sired 49 champions (*Who's Who of Boston Terriers*, 1983 edition).

At 3 months, health testing and other evaluations can help in the making of better decisions. Not all animals make show dogs, but all can enjoy life with a good family. Tell the new owner about all faults as well as the good things, and you will have a client forever. It is bet-

ter to sell a puppy for less money than to misrepresent.

Animals don't ask to be born, and if you decide to have a planned breeding, it's your moral responsibility to find the best homes possible for all the pups who result. When you look at yourself in a mirror each day, like what you see, because when everything is said and done, that's what counts.

New owners don't understand all the work that goes into preparing a pup for a new home. After the mother has weaned the pup, then it's time for him to learn to eat solid food, which can upset his little stomach. Puppies are taken from their mothers and are paper and crate trained. When alone the for first few nights, a pup can be loud, and this can be misery for the new owner who doesn't understand that this is part of the puppy-training process. If the training during this stage is not handled properly, it can result in a crying, frightened youngster who will never like being in a crate. It's important the crate be large enough to be a comfortable, safe place for sleeping and relaxation.

The breeder needs to worm and vaccinate each pup before it goes to a new home, so if there is diarrhea or a bad reaction it can be corrected. Getting used to noise, riding in a car, and socializing with new people and places can cause a lot of distress for a new baby.

It takes patience and experience to raise a puppy who will be happy and well adjusted in his new world. A pup going too early and quickly to a new home is usually a bad idea for everyone. If a breeder wants to sell a pup too early, for both the pup and the new owner it's going to be an experience to remember. —*Patricia S. Johnson*; patsgrooming@aol.com; *Boston Terrier Club of America website*: bostonterrierclubofamerica.org

## Bulldogs Breeder Responsibilities

The Long Island Bulldog Club and the Bulldog Club of America Division One specialties held during

Westminster weekend last February were a great success. Our gratitude to Peter Festa, Fran Curnow, show secretary Earle McCloe, and those working behind the scenes for making it all happen.

At the shows I had an opportunity to speak with BCA president Harold McDermott. I predict that we in the club can look forward to a productive, challenging, and of course enjoyable time ahead.

The subject of how to pick out a puppy came up among some people at ringside. I thought about the question and listened to the dialogue that followed it.

There is an old expression, “A man is known by the company he keeps.” I translate that to mean in this case that the most important thing for a serious breeder to look for is the quality of the *entire litter*. The strength or weakness of a kennel is revealed by the quality of the litters it produces, and not by the excellence of one or two pups. It is the litter as a whole that gives a clue as to the reproductive potential of its members.

We must always keep in mind that the responsibility of the serious breeder is multifold—the breeder is keeper of the past, ensures the breed's well being in the present, and holds its hope for the future. The breeder is breeding dogs who hopefully can compete in the winner's circle as well as produce healthy pets who possess true Bulldog type and good temperament.

I have been asked, “Is it possible to produce winners in your first litter?” The answer is yes, but always remember that the goal is to produce winners in the succeeding generations.

We must never forget the huge responsibility it is to breed dogs and get it right.

Before closing, let me take a moment to say how lucky we are to have such a wonderful breed periodical, *The Bulldogger*, edited by Ray Knudson. We extend our appreciation to Ray and his staff for giving us a publication we can all be proud of. Thank you, Ray, for doing a great job for the Bulldog Club

of America. —*Amelia Averill*;  
BoatswainA@aol.com; *Bulldog Club of America website*:  
bulldogclubofamerica.org

## Chow Chows Summer Safety

The Chow Chow is one of several breeds with very low heat tolerance. Even though your Chow may enjoy lying in the sunshine from time to time, they must always have access to fresh water and shade. If the daily temperature is above 80 degrees, you should consider providing a temperature-controlled environment for your Chow Chow. Many have been lost to heatstroke that could have been prevented.

Excellent ventilation and air circulation are crucial when dogs are confined to pens, crates, or kennels. Solid walls interfere with air circulation, while chain-link fencing, screens, or mesh fabric allow air movement. Trees and shade covers help reduce heat, and fans that circulate air are very helpful in controlling the temperature. Cool mats and ice-beds can be great for a Chow Chow who is not a “chewer.”

Time, temperature, and humidity are key factors affecting the response of our dogs to the heat. Never leave your dog in a closed vehicle, even with the windows slightly open, as temperatures can quickly soar.

Long walks and heavy exercise during the heat of the day are to be avoided. Walks should be taken early in the morning or late in the evening. Walking on grass is far cooler than walking on asphalt or cement.

Some symptoms of heat stress are rapid panting; gulping for air; loud or heavy, irregular panting; very high body temperature (over 103 degrees); excessive drooling; vomiting, dizziness, or confusion; listlessness or weakness; dry mouth and nose; and anxiety.

Should your Chow Chow exhibit any of these symptoms, you must take immediate action. First, immediately move him out of the heat and away from the sun. Begin cooling your dog

by pouring cool, *not cold*, water on his legs and foot-pads and placing cool, wet rags or washcloths on his body—especially on the foot pads, around the head, and in the groin area. *Do not* use ice or very cold water! Extreme cold can cause the blood vessels to constrict, preventing the body’s core from cooling and actually causing the internal temperature to rise further. In addition, overcooling can cause hypothermia and associated problems. Offer your dog cool water, but do not force water into your dog’s mouth.

When the body temperature reaches 103 degrees, stop cooling. Call or visit your vet right away—even if your dog seems better. Internal damage might not be obvious to the naked eye, so an exam is necessary.

Remember that the Chow Chow is considered to be an Arctic breed, and even if smooth-coated or trimmed for the summer they are seriously affected by heat. We want our dogs to live long and healthy lives, and we should always avoid conditions that are hazardous for them—as well as know what to do should the need arise. —*Love Banghart*; lkendr4300@aol.com; *Chow Chow Club, Inc., website*: chowclub.org

## Dalmatians A Tale of Two Tales

*It was the best of times; it was the worst of times ...*

Whoops—that’s another tale! But Dickens deals with duality in his classic, and maybe we should pay more attention to him and deal with it, too.

Those of us who have participated in our sport for longer than 20 years are a generation of dog people who have seen great changes happen over the years. Technology offers us instant communication, as well as the ability to google any issue to which we need an answer.

We have also seen a significant downside to these changes. Economic challenges are a reality. With this in mind, although we are facing health issues head-on by addressing deafness, hypothyroidism, HD, and eye maladies,

which undoubtedly makes for better and healthier puppies, there is little market for pups, so we don’t breed. *Best of times; worst of times.*

(There is no doubt that puppy sales are booming in some parts of the country, as well as for some high-profile breeders who employ masterful marketing techniques, but that is certainly not the case nationwide.)

So what the heck happened? During the Disney years, we could sell puppies into outstanding, qualified homes with no trouble, despite the competition of the backyard breeders trying to make that vacation money off a litter of randomly bred puppies and advertising in the local *Thrifty Nickel*. We got our message out, and it hit home: Buy from a breeder who health-tests.

We also drove home the notion that Dalmatians weren’t for everyone—but were we so aggressive with that message that what people actually heard was Dalmatians aren’t for *anyone*? Rescue organizations filled to capacity. A great many breeders stopped breeding for a while, to avoid having four or five puppies from a litter still hanging around and eating (and pooping) for four or five months. We couldn’t give them away. We never relaxed our strict qualifications for the kinds of homes we wanted for our dogs.

The commentators announcing the televised shows told the public that Dalmatians were “not well suited for families with young children.” Where did they get that poppycock? The parent club sent revised breed descriptions to the powers that be in these organizations, and we see that the Westminster announcers changed their copy to reflect our suggestions. Good for them!

The shortage of puppies being bred is affecting the entries we see around the country. A major is an elusive commodity indeed. Many specialty clubs are finding it hard to survive, for as entry numbers dwindle and expenses continue to climb, entry fees are raised so as to cover the costs of putting on the event, leaving exhibitors even more intimidated by the financial burden of

participating in the sport. It's truly a vicious circle if ever there was one.

It is forecast that fuel prices will reach an all-time high this summer. If so, this could continue the downward spiral for our sport, further challenge the pocketbooks of the purebred-dog-buying public, and force us all to make the hard decisions—not only with respect to breeding and placing puppies, but also to whether we can justify the expenses of showing dogs at all.

It's starting to feel like the worst of times is outweighing the best of times. —Sharon Boyd; Cotndale@aol.com; *Dalmatian Club of America website: thedca.org*

## Finnish Spitz

### Learning New Things About the Breed

After having had the Finnish Spitz for 32 years, and having been to Finland nine times to study the breed in its homeland, I thought I had a pretty good understanding of it. However, experiences resulting from the tragedy discussed in the March issue have given me a new appreciation for the breed's intelligence and perception.

In addition to breeding and exhibiting the Finnish Spitz, I participate in a national-level effort to save from extinction breeds of turkeys that have graced the barnyards of America through the years.

Before the fire, I had more than a hundred birds of various ages, representing three color-patterns. Many turkeys were burned during the fire, and in addition the fire either had destroyed or made virtually unusable most of the pens in which I kept the birds. This situation made it easy for turkeys to escape and thus made them vulnerable to lurking predators. So, as a quick solution, I removed all birds from one pen and fixed the pen for a Finnish Spitz. It was my hope that the presence of the dog would keep the predators away.

When the pen was ready, I introduced Pallo, a 6-year-old bitch, to her new temporary home among the bird

pens. For the first two days, she looked at me as though she thought I was punishing her for something she didn't know she had done. Shortly, however, things changed, and she became the keeper of birds.

Early on her third morning with the birds, at about coyote visiting-time, she sounded the alarm. I raced quietly to the bird pens, expecting to find that a coyote had caught a turkey that had escaped its pen. Indeed, turkeys were outside the pens, and Pallo had sounded the alarm to let me know that the turkeys were in the wrong place.

Late that afternoon, Pallo again sounded the alarm: Turkeys were flying out of their pen and up onto some vines to roost. Pallo was insisting that I come and do something with these unruly birds.

On another early-morning response to a Pallo distress call, I found that a red turkey had flown over into the pen where I kept some dark-color turkeys. I assumed that Pallo had noted the difference in color and, thus, knew that the red turkey was in the wrong place.

However, I later learned that it was not just that she recognized the color differences but that she also recognized the birds as individuals.

On the morning that I learned this I had responded to her alarm but upon arrival was unable to see anything wrong. When I did nothing, she continued to bark, while looking at one bird in a pen of dark-colored turkeys. I then counted and realized that she was telling me that a turkey who did not belong was in that pen. Even though the turkeys were the same color and looked alike to me, she knew exactly which turkey was in the wrong place.

Similar experiences continued.

Day after day, Pallo has kept me informed about the misbehavior of the turkeys. Could it be that these insights exhibited by her are akin to the herding instinct that some fanciers have detected in the breed? —Dr. Tom T.

*Walker; tommarg@onr.com; Finnish Spitz Club of America website: finnish-spitzclub.org*

## French Bulldogs

### What Are Sweepstakes For?

Over the years the FBDCA has wrestled with the question of who should be able to show a dog in sweepstakes. Should anyone at all be allowed to take a dog in the ring, or should it be restricted just to the owner or co-owner? Some clubs allow the former, some the latter, and others—probably most—fall somewhere in between. The French Bull Dog Club of America has tried to decide what we think the *purpose* of a sweepstakes is, because we think that this must be the first step in setting some reasonable guidelines for the event.

Some clubs feel that the purpose of the event is to showcase puppies and veterans at their very best. For those dogs whose owners are less experienced, that means having them shown by a handler. And that means for this type of event, the sweepstakes competition is in essence a duplication of the puppy and veteran classes in the regular show—with the same dogs and same handlers, only without points. The clubs that see sweepstakes in this light tend not to have any restrictions on who may show a dog in the event.

Other clubs think that the primary purpose of sweepstakes is to provide a venue that encourages owners and breeders to have fun and to show off the puppies and veterans that they own and/or bred. They feel that there is a whole other group of classes—the regular classes—where anyone, whether professional or amateur, can show these same dogs to compete for the points.

Many clubs that restrict sweepstakes handling to the owner or co-owner may also allow a dog's breeder to show. Some clubs with this type of handling restriction, including the FBDCA, also allow immediate family members of the owner to show the dog. Most clubs, including our own, define immediate family as *husband, wife, mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter, or legal domestic partner*. Stepchildren and legal wards are included in this definition, but grandchildren and in-laws are not. For

these clubs, anyone who has shown a dog in return for payment is considered a professional handler and may not show in sweepstakes unless she or he owns or bred the dog. It is hoped that no one adds a handler as a dog's co-owner just so that he may show the dog in sweeps.

Exhibitors who may have some disability or physical challenge are encouraged to show their own dogs, and every effort should be made to accommodate and assist these exhibitors in this. If an exhibitor needs some sort of assistive device (such as a cane, walker, wheelchair, or electric cart), he can be placed in the lineup where a slower gaiting speed will not be a problem. He can be assisted in getting the dog on and off the table. By training the dog to stand before the event, he will not have to squat and bend to stack it, if that type of movement is a problem.

If the owner with a physical challenge does not have an immediate family member or the dog's breeder at the show and does not want to show or is unable to show the dog, even with special considerations and assistance to help compensate for any physical problems, then the dog should not be entered in the event.

About the only thing that seems certain is that no matter what the policy is, someone will be displeased by it. —*Jan Grebe; greebeez@aol.com; French Bull Dog Club of America website: frenchbulldogclub.org*

## Keeshonden

### The Meaning of Double Coat

Think of reaching into your closet on cold, rainy, sleeting winter day. You want something warm, but a wool sweater won't do the job; if it gets wet and soggy, you'll get a chill. Just a raincoat? No. It may keep you dry, but it won't be warm enough.

*Aha!* The London Fog with the weatherproof outer coat and the flannel zip-liner! *That* is a double coat.

The first double-coated dog was undoubtedly the progenitor of all dogs: the wolf. Wolves have coats that are

perfectly suited for all weather, with a soft, warm undercoat for insulation in warm or cold weather, and a harsh outer coat that separates the hair and repels rain and moisture.

Wolves had an advantage, however; those with incorrect soft, open coats did not survive to pass along that less-desirable trait.

In today's Northern breeds, like the Keeshond, breeders are looking for many things. They want dogs with typical temperament, good movement, correct markings, nice expression, et cetera, et cetera. They are also breeding dogs with longer coats and more flashy coats—but not necessarily coats with correct texture.

When you run your hands through the coat of Keeshond, the guard hairs or outer coat should feel different from the undercoat. It should feel harsher and have more texture. One way to check for this is to run your hand along the back of the dog, and the guard hair should be slightly harsh in texture. Also, remember that a Keeshond coat that has not been excessively trimmed has free-flowing ends. If the coat appears solid, like that of a standard Poodle, it is incorrect. If the outer coat is as soft as the undercoat, it is incorrect.

If you are ever judging outdoors and it begins to drizzle or rain, you will have a perfect opportunity to observe how different coats behave in inclement weather. In damp or rainy weather, correct coats will remain standing out from the body, and the dog will look, in a word, magnificent. Just as your Lands' End squall jacket laughs at the weather, so does the correct double coat. But in your outdoor entry on a rainy day, some of the dogs will have coats that will absorb the water, and their coats will droop and separate. The dogs will get wet and chilled easily because they do not have coats that are protecting them from the weather.

Breeders with experience in puppy evaluation can observe correct coat texture in puppies even as young as 8 weeks. Such breeders note that some

puppies have coats that are extra soft, and some will have guard hair that is slightly wavy. Some puppies will have a lot of coat, but it will be wooly, with less guard hair than the others. All of these are signs that these puppies may not mature into adults with correct coat texture.

Coat texture can change with age and will usually get harsher until the dog is about 3 years old.

There is a more important feature of the open or cottony coat that is critical for the companion dog, and that is maintenance. An open, cottony coat is very difficult to maintain. Some breeders may think such a coat looks better in the show ring and can be trimmed and carved into desired shapes, but it is a nightmare to brush. This coat tangles and mats easily, and because the coat is not separated with harsh guard hair, it is very difficult to brush. This feature is very undesirable for pet owners, who have the majority of our dogs.

Judges need to be aware of this important feature of the Keeshond standard, and breeders need to keep in mind breeding for correct texture when making breeding decisions. Correct double-coat texture, with a soft undercoat and harsh outer coat, is a key feature of Northern breeds in general and Keeshonden in particular. On that rainy, sleeting, snowy day, both you and your dog will be more comfortable in a proper double coat! —*Deborah Lynch; dlnpoconsult@gmail.com; Keeshond Club of America website: keeshond.org*

## Lhasa Apsos

### Jack in the Box

Jack the Lhasa Apso has had two lives. One started in a whelping box, the other in a cardboard box.

We know little about Jack's first life; we don't know his original name, birth date, or where he came from, only that it was destined to a cruel and unpleasant end. Jack's second life, however, is bright and secure, with a happy future cemented by the love of a teenage girl named Laura.

Jack found Laura when she, her

mother, and her siblings were in Kansas visiting the site of the Little House on the Prairie, known from the Laura Ingalls Wilder books.

When they arrived at their campground, a little tan bundle ran up to Laura. While he ran between them and their cabin, taking time only to chew his rump, they noticed he was filthy, matted, weak, and starving. They felt sad for the little dog and thought he was a Pekingese mix.

The proprietor of the campground said the little dog had been dumped there quite a while ago. Laura's family offered to take him to a local shelter, but since it was a weekend the shelter was closed. They decided to keep him for the night and had the proprietor call a local vet, so they could get the dog some flea and allergy medicine.

The next day the family put him in a box and headed for the vet. On the way they named him Jack, in honor of the dog in the stories of Laura Ingalls Wilder.

The vet said Jack's allergies were severe and that taking him to their home in the Northwest could improve his life. They also began to recognize that Jack might be a Lhasa Apso and wondered how anyone could dump such a cute dog. The vet said that sadly, it happens all the time, and Jack had no future at the campground. The next thing they knew, they were headed home with Jack in the box.

Sixteen ticks later and another vet-stop in Colorado, and Jack seemed to improve. By the time they reached home, they had received four offers from people willing to adopt Jack.

When Laura's dad called to check in, he received the unexpected news of the dog. He wanted to find Jack a new home, but Laura was already attached to the little fellow. She had been trying to decide between getting a horse or dog for 4-H, and she felt that this dog was a gift who couldn't be denied.

Laura worked on her dad as only a daughter can, and Laura and Jack joined the 4-H dog program in March 2011. By August, the pair had won the

county's Grand Champion in Rally award and placed high enough to make the state fair team—along with others who had been showing for years in both 4-H and AKC events.

At the state 4-H fair, Jack won the obedience blue for the tri-county area and reached the championship round. But would the high-spirited dog not known for obedience comply with all the distractions?

When they entered the ring, it was clearly Jack's day. He loved the attention and followed Laura perfectly, winning the Champion of Champions ribbon.

Laura decided to show Jack in AKC Junior Showmanship events. They won their first three shows in Novice and are now competing in Open.

Laura says she loves to show Lhasa Apsos. The love she and Jack share shines through everything she does.

Every dog should have a Laura, and every breed should have newcomers who will look after its welfare like she does. —*Cassandra de la Rosa*; dlrcas@msn.com; *American Lhasa Apso Club website*: lhasaapso.org

## Löwchen What's With the Haircut?

Let's think about it. What is one of the most defining attributes of the Löwchen? What is the one thing that exemplifies both the breed's form and function? What is so ever so lovely about the breed—whether at home, in the conformation ring, or over a jump in obedience or agility?

If you guessed "hair," you've got it right!

Although the exact origin of our breed is open to conjecture, one widely accepted school of thought is that historically the Löwchen is closely related to other Mediterranean breeds of the Bichon family, which includes the Bichon Frise, Maltese, Havanese, Bolognese, and Coton de Tulear.

So what makes the Löwchen stand out from this hairy crowd? If you guessed the resemblance to a lion, you've got it right again!

Löwchen are required by the breed standard to be in a specific lion trim in the conformation ring. (In other venues, anything goes!) As recorded in artwork circa 1520, the origin of the breed's characteristic clip dates back many centuries. The presumed intent was to make this little dog resemble a lion. According to legend, if a knight died in battle, he was depicted on his tomb with a lion at his feet. If he died of natural causes, he was depicted with a Löwchen at his feet. Obviously, Löwchen have always been regarded as little lions.

OK, so that covers *form*. What about function? Did you know that the shaved hindquarters of the Löwchen are 11 degrees warmer than the coated mane? Imagine the comfort of that in a cold, dank castle! Throughout the ages, Löwchen have been known as canine "hot-water bottles" or "bedwarmers," and both are very apt descriptions. They love to snuggle up close to you, sharing their warmth. Pardon the pun, but that's pretty cool!

Our standard is very specific about the traditional clip. Please remember, this is a dog whose coated parts are not to be sculpted, trimmed, or touched with anything other than a brush or comb. That is a large part of their physical charm—they are supposed to look like an unmade bed, and they do it very, very well. No need for a straight part along the back, no need for top-knots, no need for trimming or neatening—shoot, no trimming, period, other than with clippers to set in the pattern. And the pattern even takes care of "sanitary" issues—those pre-Renaissance folk sure knew what they were doing! These unique grooming requirements are part of what set the Löwchen apart from their Mediterranean cousins. They go a long way in defining a Löwchen.

So what is with the haircut? Easy answer! It's form, function, and tradition, all rolled into one. In a nutshell, think *lion*: large, rough mane, leading to a proudly carried head; clean, clipped forelegs that enhance agility and

freedom of movement; paws shaved, but topped with an elegant bracelet of hair. The beautiful forequarter is balanced aft with a smooth, rounded, muscular rear that is finished off with a tuft of hair on a tail that arches gracefully up and over the back, signaling the ability to take on the world.

Now that's a haircut that screams *L-ö-w-c-h-e-n!* It makes sense now, doesn't it?

*Life with a little lion.* So what's next in our study of the Löwchen? Well, we've looked at their history, and we've explored their form and function, but what we haven't talked about is what it is like to live with these little lion dogs. Just what is it about them that has made them such terrific companions over the ages?

While it's impossible to list all of their assets, four words that immediately leap to mind in describing the Löwchen are *fun, loving, agile, and loyal.* Brief words they may be, but each speaks volumes when it comes to describing life with the breed:

*F-U-N*—Full of energy, Understanding, Nonjudgmental.

*L-O-V-I-N-G*—Love with a capital "L," Over the top in showing their love, Very into you, Indiscriminate in their love, Never any hard feelings, Good to go!

*A-G-I-L-E*—Aces over the hurdles, Got the best time, Into the tunnel, Love every minute of it, Each and every time!

*L-O-V-A-L*—Love (need I mention it again?), Off the wall in their devotion, Young at heart, regardless of age, Always there for you, for a good, long, Laughter-filled life!

Does one word in these descriptions especially jump out at you? If you're thinking *love*, you'd be right! Löwchen simply thrive on love, much more so than any other breed I've had in my life. This is not a breed to be shuffled off into crates or kept in a kennel, much less (do not even think about it!) kept as an outdoor dog. Their job, their desire, their whole purpose in life, quite simply, is to be with you and your family.

However, I don't mean to infer that they are "clingy," as they most certainly are not. You don't have to dote on a Löwchen; they are adaptable to the nth degree. Work all day? No problem. They'll wait patiently for your return. Don't feel like a long walk when you get home? No problem, just give them a short "potty opportunity," then watch and laugh as they take laps around your dining-room table. Didn't get home on time for dinner? Again, no big deal. Löwchen are more than happy to eat at any time whatsoever—they don't hold grudges or pitch fits. Never forget, however: Even though the Löwchen will stick with you come H-E-double-toothpicks or high water, they are only truly happy when they are close to you to share your love. (There's that magic word again!)

This works out quite nicely, because with the love of a Löwchen, you are good to go as well. Regardless of what you want a dog for, whether conformation, obedience, performance, service, therapy, or simple, sweet companionship, a Löwchen can fit the bill.

Just to prove the point, in our next column Rhonda Croxton, co-editor of the Löwchen Club of America's *Headlions*, will give us a better look at the versatility and joy found in her multi-Löwchen household. So stay tuned! —*Dana Read*; otakalhasas@aol.com; *Löwchen Club of America website*: thelowchenclubofamerica.org

## Poodles Mentoring Juniors: The Future of the Sport

Part of the mission of the American Kennel Club is a commitment to promoting and advancing the sport of purebred dogs. The AKC Junior Showmanship program is just one example of the organization's commitment to fulfilling this portion of its mission. Juniors are important to the future of the sport of dogs, and the more they learn the more valuable they become to their breed.

With these thoughts in mind, in

addition to the participation of juniors at various multibreed events, parent clubs need to step up to the plate and help educate and mentor our juniors so they do become responsible "gatekeepers" of their breed of choice. With this in mind, the Poodle Club of America is in the process of developing a program to serve this purpose.

This seminar will endeavor to mentor our juniors by involving them in all aspects of our breed. Beginning with the PCA National Retriever Hunting Test and PCA working tests, which will let the juniors see the Poodle in action so as to better understand their breed, juniors will observe and be mentored by participants. The seminar will continue with various demonstrations including (but not limited to) grooming, handling, and training. There will be discussions led by professional handlers, breeders, and AKC judges; hands-on participation of the care and conditioning of the Poodle; and information on the various health issues that a junior should be aware of while maintaining their dog for exhibition.

All of this will culminate with a fun-match competition that will include judges' critiques, ribbons, and a Certificate of Completion. Also in the future, various awards and scholarships will be announced so that juniors will be rewarded for their participation in our breed, combined with good grades and their individual successes.

The Poodle Club of America wants to provide young people ages 9 to 18 the opportunity to develop an understanding of the breed, learn handling skills, develop and learn good sportsmanship, and of course learn about all aspects of dog shows, including conformation, obedience, agility, and performance.

"The logic of this program is that by starting with the youth, we can bring into existence a community of informed owners, breeders, exhibitors, and overall guardians of the breed."

With all this in mind, I would like to end this article with a quote from the AKC's brief history of Junior

Showmanship:

“While the Junior Showmanship program itself has gone through changes, the concept and reasons for its implementation have remained the same: to encourage participation in the sport by young purebred dog enthusiasts; to teach good sportsmanship, win or lose; and to educate the next generation of the fancy. So the next time you find yourself at a show with a few moments to spare, stop by the Junior Showmanship ring to witness the AKC’s commitment to its mission statement and the future of our sport.”

—Mary Ellen Fishler;

megcamelot@aol.com; *Poodle Club of America website:*  
poodleclubofamerica.org

## Schipperkes

### It Takes Time

When I started out in Schipperkes, I had the advantage of already having been involved in the sport of purebred dogs for a number of years with other breeds, and also as a junior handler. I knew I wanted a top-quality bitch, and fortunately I was able to find a breeder who was willing to take a chance on me. (In retrospect, I might not have taken a chance on me!)

Ultimately it paid off, as I was able to put some very nice wins on that bitch, and she went on to produce a Hall of Fame son. More importantly, my first Schip was the catalyst who began a life-long friendship and working relationship.

My point in this is: Breeding and exhibiting good Schipperkes takes time. In today’s world of immediate gratification, it’s sometimes hard to convince novices to the sport of this aspect or outlook.

It’s not always easy to get a breeder to part with a super-nice puppy, and then the breeder has to encourage the novice not only to properly train and socialize the dog, but also to be patient and show the dog *when he is ready*.

Some Schips are very “bloomy” and go out and take points from the puppy classes, while some are not truly com-

petitive until age 3 or older. When the animal is honestly not ready, be it physically or mentally, the novice can be easily discouraged when losing in the ring.

Being able to locate a breeder who is willing to sell and subsequently support show dogs is a prized commodity. Oh, you can find many a breeder willing to sell a pup who is “show quality”—or as I prefer to think of it, “show potential”—but will they really dedicate time and energy into mentoring you?

That said, when you do find a mentor, try not to require too much of her time and energy! Practice patience and perseverance. Work always on improving your training, grooming, and handling skills.

*“You plant, then you cultivate, then you harvest. Plant, cultivate, harvest. In today’s world everyone wants to go directly from plant to harvest,”* says author Jeff Olson.

Your first or second dog might not be a top winner. Your first litter may not produce a boatload of champions. Your first obedience dog is perhaps not a High in Trial winner. Remember that slow and steady is what wins the race. Breeding and competing with your canine is a blend of art, science, and some plain old luck.

As we all move forward into the future, for our breed and this sport, “how will your Schipperke garden grow”? —Virginia Larioza; raffineeskips@cac.net; *Schipperke Club of America website:* schipperkeclub-usa.org/schipperke

## Shiba Inu

### Red and White

What is red and white, extremely cunning, and has fur all over? Wrong—not a fox!

It’s a Shiba Inu, with a beautiful red coat, but at times caught wearing the black and tan ensemble or the sesame shawl. Yes, the Shiba Inu, disguised as a family pet or show dog, but holding the heart of a lion with the shrewdness, cunning, and flexibility of his creature cousin, the Fox, who incidentally has never heard the phrase, “Oh, how

cute—it looks like a Shiba Inu!”

An owner leaves a sleeping Shiba on the couch and a package of unopened cookies on the kitchen table. Upon returning home, the cookies are gone! The empty package is on the floor, and the Shiba is still sleeping on the couch. The owner spots a cookie hidden in the corner on the kitchen floor; another is found peeking out from under the couch, and two or three are snuggled in the corners of the waterbed. There are four behind the toilet bowl, and three in the dog’s toy box, plus several under the dog’s bed. Even more are in the basket with the dirty laundry.

After some searching, all cookies but one are accounted for. The Shiba, feigning sleep, is actually watching; her half-open eyes give her away.

A nervous new Shiba mom is moved to a more private spot with her new litter. Upon leaving the room, the owner is followed by said new mom—complete with a puppy in her mouth—as she moves them back to the original place of birth.

A taco salad is set on the end table, in the protection of a husband who is watching a football game in the same room. When returning—and I must add, looking forward to enjoying the salad—the Shiba owner gazes into the shell and mutters, *Where’s the beef?* Only tomatoes, lettuce, and onions remain. The husband is still intently watching the game, totally oblivious.

The Shiba sits quietly nearby, licking the sour cream from her lips.

A Shiba owner discovers the kitchen chair moved from the table to the side of the counter, and food missing. She moves the chair back to the table, puts more food on the kitchen counter, and secretly watches as the Shiba pushes the chair back to the counter to use it as a step to get back up to the goodies.

Five Shibas contently sleeping outside on the deck within the fenced yard are left alone for 20 minutes. When the owner arrives home, the Shibas are gone! There is a tiny hole under the fence large enough for a rat to sneak

through—and obviously five Shibas.

After two hours of searching, calling, and tears, the owner comes home to find all five Shibas waiting for her on the front porch, wondering where “she” has been!

You crawl into bed with your Shibas nestled at your feet. You wake mid-sleep and want to move but can't. The Shibas grumble at you, notifying you to hold still. You could make them get down, but you don't, because they love you and you love them. You gently get out of bed, use the bathroom, and return to find your pillow now draped with a furry body!

You climb back in bed and use a different pillow. —*Patricia Doescher*; hi\_jinx@itis.com; *National Shiba Club of America website*: shibas.org

## Tibetan Spaniels

### 'Tis the Season

By the time you read this, I will have returned from my annual pilgrimage to the Tibetan Spaniel national specialty. Spoiled after the last two nationals being within a day's drive, I'm thinking about an almost three-day trip to Tulsa.

I'm doing my best to plan for the things I can control and trying not worry about the things I can't control, like when bitches come in season. Have you noticed that the dates of your national specialty show seem to directly correlate to the time your bitches come into season? I have.

My journey to the national in Dallas in 2009 started with three bitches—none of whom was in season—and two dogs. Meeting up with friends outside of Knoxville, I added to my vehicle the bitch whom I had sent to them for a breeding. Within a half-hour of crating her, the two boys let me know the time was right and ripe. Granted, they were of an age where their behavior equals that of a teenage boy—it was Day 16, and she had been gone since Day One—but from Knoxville to Memphis, they sang, they screamed, they cried, and they snarled at each other and otherwise carried on.

When we stopped for the night, I discovered that I was now blessed with a second girl in season, and the boys were on a fasting diet. The bitch who had been sent to be bred finally decided to consent to a breeding, but once in *flagrante delicto* she was quite vocal about expressing her opinion on the subject for the entire 17-minute tie. (On the plus side was that both she and her intended were entered in the show, we were one breeding up from the three AIs of their prior mating, and the hotel management must have been deaf.)

When I unlocked my van the following morning, the overwhelming odor of pheromones wafted into the air of an already humid July morning. *Wonderful, just wonderful*—it's going to be such a fun drive to Dallas, in hundred-degree weather in a van that reeks.

I load into the van the two in-season girls, followed by the two who weren't ... wait, what's that on my shirt? Oh, joy, now I have *three* girls in season, two boys out of their minds with desire, blood on my clothes, and a van that smells like dead fish.

By the following day, all four girls were in season, and every male dog that walked down the hallway in the hotel stopped to at least sniff the door of my room. A few did more than sniff. doG save me!

Salvation arrived: A show site allowed dogs to be left in the building overnight and with enough space for indoor ex-pens, as Tibbie bitches put boys to shame about engaging in the proverbial “contest” when in season. It's the only breed I know of where little-girl puppies lift their leg before the boys do.

This year, just four entries—two dogs, two bitches. Yes, one of them is the girl who started the domino effect in 2009, now a veteran. She's spayed—which is a story for another day—and the other is her granddaughter.

I only hope that apple stays on the tree. —*Dianne Tyree*; di24kk9s@wexfordgold.com; *Tibetan Spaniel Club of*

*America website*: tsca.ws

## Tibetan Terriers

### Drop That Brush!

My first-grade photograph reflects a time and place in history, but very little about the uniqueness of the child in the photo.

The 1960s was a time for beehive hairdos, rattail combs, and hairpieces. My mother succumbed to the trends of the time, replicating these hairstyles on her three young daughters on picture day. My hair had been rolled, teased, and piled atop my small head. My expression is frozen, as a Mona Lisa smile is all that can be mustered under such hardship.

I thought of this personal experience recently as I observed TT breed judging at a large show. Judges, breeders, exhibitors all have been informed, repeatedly, that the TT should be shown as naturally as possible, without any scissoring or sculpting of the coat. Several judges seem to be heeding the directives of the TTCA, with the result that more exhibitors are, on a continuum, showing dogs with less scissoring, less ironing, less sculpting, just overall less *styling*.

I would like to propose, however, that there is something else we can do to advance natural presentation of the TT. Disarm! Everyone, please, drop the brush! What does it communicate to the first-time onlooker of TTs when exhibitors are obsessively brushing down their dogs' sides, rear, tails, and heads?

Does this fidgeting with coats suggest a powerfully built mountain dog, possessing great athleticism and agility?

Or does it depict that this is a dog who must be restricted from contact with the real world for fear his hair might get mussed?

I watched as exhibitors nervously brushed TTs on the table, brushing them again as they placed the dog back down on the floor, the brush-assault reappearing to quell any stray hairs on the down and back. In the final lineup of stacked TTs, the continued brushing

mania interfered with otherwise wonderful standing pictures.

I will readily admit I have been guilty of obsessive brushing. Over time, and ever so stealthily, *the brush* crept into my presentation.

After clumsily dropping the brush in the ring on several occasions, however, I began to rethink it all. I realized I had bought into a pseudo culture. Have you ever attended a lecture, intent on the professor's lesson, when you realized you were the only one listening? Everyone else has their head down, frantically taking notes. It takes a bit of fortitude to trust your own judgment.

Compulsive note-taking may not lead to fullest comprehension. Likewise, bringing a brush into the ring may not be the optimal way to show a TT.

Let us have confidence and trust in the multifarious traits of the ancient TT and allow them to be more than dogs possessing profuse double coats.

Why not create a ring culture that also reveals the breed as a tough athlete, a discerning companion, a dog with a distinct, flat-footed gait, capable of navigating a harsh landscape?

Let the nuanced essence of our TT be presented, and let the fussiness over coats die out like the 1960s beehive.

My second-grade picture shows a smiling girl, hair hurriedly smoothed back with a hairclip, who had donned an outfit of her own choosing. A natural, relaxed expression is captured in this photo. Her innate personality is not burdened by any unnatural hairstyle of the day.

Let's emancipate ourselves and our TTs from the pseudo grooming-culture in the show ring.

Ditch the brush. I dare you. —*Andrea Reiman*; [andrea.reiman@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.reiman@gmail.com); *Tibetan Terrier Club of America website*: [ttca-online.org](http://ttca-online.org)

## Australian Cattle Dogs

### Separation Anxiety: *Wait*—There's a Solution

Destructive chewing, excessive barking, inappropriate house-soiling, and other undesirable behaviors exhibited by puppies and dogs who are left for long periods of time unattended and free to roam their territory seem to be growing problems for a number of today's dog owners. It has always been common for some new owners to have problems during initial socialization. However, what is being reported seems to be excessive for the situations.

While dogs share many characteristics with people, they also have a great variety of responses that are genetically different. Dogs have been bred over thousands of years to work as companions, partners, and guardians to man. They have not been encouraged to develop private or independent lives, because doing so would be counter-productive to their role as helpers to man.

Dogs literally live to serve and work with man. In this role, they have been given a profound ability to empathize with man and to remain patient and ready to interact whenever the occasion arises. If dogs did not have this capacity to wait without fretting, they would not be as happy or as efficient as they are. When a dog has nothing to do, he

can do it very peacefully and for extended periods of time. They have an extremely well developed tolerance for waiting. Most also have a very high tolerance for changes in temperature, and many have very high pain thresholds that allow them to endure, without discomfort, events that would be really unpleasant for many people.

They have been bred to live within a pack structure giving way to the dominant leader, allowing strangers into their territory on command, adapting to the social needs of their particular pack, and maintaining the territory in a safe and sanitary manner. They suffer, however, when pack members leave them alone and wondering about when or even if they are ever coming back.

Dogs adjust to crates with the greatest of ease, as crates mimic the dens that they remember from primeval times. Dogs can very easily experience sensory overload when surrounded by too many noises and physical situations that they do not understand. The crate gives them a neutral zone of safety that allows them to rest even in the most stressful of situations. Early crate training gives the dog a security blanket to fall back on when things get difficult or confusing in the future. Crate training is the foundation for avoiding anxiety separation by giving the human pack members a way to communicate to the dog that while you must leave, you will

be coming back.

When starting training, all meals should be in the crate for the first few weeks. Anytime you put the puppy or dog in the crate to rest, give him a little toy or milk-bone treat for company. This bonds the puppy to the crate and makes traveling with him to shows or on vacations much easier in the future. Always give him a positive command (such as *wait*) when you put him in. *Wait* will eventually come to communicate to the dog that you are leaving him for now, but you will return for him eventually.

Start with really short separations at the beginning, and gradually make them longer as training progresses.

The *wait* command is a very important word for your dog to know. As training progresses, it will allow you to leave your dog in a strange place when you tell him *wait* because he knows that the word means you are coming back for him.

Keep the command simple. *Wait* is a great security blanket for the dog, and it keeps you from upsetting the dog with loads of verbalization that mean nothing to him and are frequently the key to unlock unwanted behavior. Secure dogs are rarely destructive dogs. —*Dr. Mary Belle Adelman*; [maryba@toast.net](mailto:maryba@toast.net); *United States Australian Shepherd Association website*: [australianshepherds.org](http://australianshepherds.org)

## herding Australian Shepherds

### Obedience Aussies

Bob Amen has taken three Australian Shepherds to their Obedience Trial Championships (OTCH), has qualified eight times for the National Obedience Invationals, serves as a respected and popular obedience judge, and currently sits on the AKC board of directors, in addition to being a former director on the USASA board.

I recently spoke with Bob about the qualities that make Aussies such formidable obedience competitors, and also about the factors to consider in choosing and training the right obedience Aussie.

Bob normally counsels people to look for their Aussie in the area where they live, but he was far from his Connecticut home, visiting his daughter at SMU in Dallas, when he first started talking to breeders about getting an Aussie. Nonetheless, he had done a lot of research on this and other breeds, and, just as importantly, he had watched the breed trialing in herding, tracking, and agility. He knew what he wanted.

He smiles and says, "I was looking for something with an energy level just a little below the Border Collie—I was just beginning at this time." And so he purchased his first Aussie in Texas.

"They think and understand what you want to do, and they don't try to react to what you might want to do, before you even know what you want to do. They are a good all-around thinking breed." This means fewer mistakes in the ring, because Aussies don't generally over-anticipate.

They also don't follow orders blindly. Bob tells the story of competing one day with his Aussie Sara, giving her the *go out* command when he really meant *retrieve!* Sara gave it a quick, careful thought and, overriding Bob's command, decided on the retrieve, saving the day.

Bob feels the best way to find a good Aussie obedience prospect is to start with the breeders directory on the USASA website ([australianshepherds.org](http://australianshepherds.org)).

"Start with breeders in your region.

Also go to competitions and find breeders who have bred dogs titled in companion events."

He continues: "Breeders know their bloodlines. They know the strengths and weaknesses in those lines and can tell you how their dogs have done in competition."

He stresses the importance of making sure the prospective new puppy or dog has good conformation: "Remember, the dog will be doing jumps for eight or nine years." Finally, he adds, "Choose a puppy with no fear, with confidence in its surroundings, and confidence in you."

Training is critical, and it is usually a pleasure with Aussies. "They really try—especially with positive reinforcement—and they don't fall apart with corrections. They always stay bright, stay positive, and repetition doesn't bother them," Bob observes. "Aussies are very forgiving." He recommends finding a good training club because it will provide structure and instruction, plus the support and socialization offered by fellow owners and their dogs.

Obedience training and trialing have the benefits of helping in other areas. Bob points out that the discipline can be invaluable in preparing a dog for agility specifically, but it is helpful for other forms of competitions as well. On a more everyday level, he laughs, "It's good for around the house—the sit-stay, 'no jump,' the dog walking *with* you, not the dog walking *you*."

Bob ends with another Sara story, telling how he would walk with her to Starbucks and leave her tied in front while he went inside to get coffee. Invariably people would stop and gather around her, talking to her and petting her. Sara was always polite, always friendly.

"She would never move!" says Bob, proudly.

Naturally. She was a well-trained obedience Aussie! —*Stevens Parr*; [stevens.parr@gmail.com](mailto:stevens.parr@gmail.com); *United States Australian Shepherd Association website*: [australianshepherds.org](http://australianshepherds.org)

## Bearded Collies

### How Do They Know?

*Treat time!* Friday has endured her grooming session with customary good nature, and I head for the fridge to get her a reward. The dishwasher's rhythmic thumping and sloshing merrily masks the air conditioner's contented hum as I open the fridge door. I gently lift out the slice of baked liver in its plastic sandwich bag.

But before the fridge door has closed, there's the unmistakable padding of Beardie paws in the hallway, and an instant later several sets of eager eyes are optimistically focused on me and the liver in my hand. How do they know? Crispin was three rooms away, sleeping on my bed, and Glynnis was in the bathroom two rooms distant, snoozing in the tub.

Even if they heard the fridge door open over the noise of the dishwasher, it's not like I don't open it a dozen or more times a day. After all, it's where I keep my stash of chocolate. But somehow they always know when I've extracted liver. But how do they know?

It's essentially the same scenario when it comes to dog biscuits. Those treats are kept in a small walk-in cupboard off the kitchen that also houses such items as tea bags, rice, canned goods, and baking needs. Taking any of those mundane items out of the cupboard doesn't even rate the twitch of a furry ear. When I reach in to extract a biscuit, however, I might as well take out a handful, because the troops will come trotting in from near and far faster than you can say Milk Bone. How do they know?

Then there's Brett. He always comes when called—as long as I have a piece of the aforementioned liver. I don't have to wave it at him or even let him see it. He just seems to know whether I have it or not. No liver, no Brett. How does he know?

Crispin is the self-styled boss of the premises, but he's a benevolent dictator. A scowl and a low growl is all he uses to show his displeasure. He has a quirk where Gigi, the Briard, is concerned, however. If he's outside and she goes

out, he waits for her at the door and as she exits, he gives a loud *Woof!* in her face. It's as if he's letting her know she's only allowed outdoors by the grace of his generous nature—and don't you forget it!

The catch is that my house has a front door and a back door. And Gigi can leave by either one. But whichever one she chooses, that's where Crispin will be waiting. How does he know?

Some years ago, my mom noticed their Beardie always parked herself by the front door about five minutes or so before my dad came home from work. Since dad didn't always come home at the same time, she wondered how Cocoa (a chocolate-brown, of course) knew when to await his arrival. Dad ventured she might know the sound of his car and, as an experiment, he turned off the engine a block away and coasted down the street.

Didn't matter. Cocoa was still waiting at the door five minutes before his arrival. So another night, he parked one street over and walked home—only to be greeted by Cocoa, who had been patiently waiting for him. On another occasion he rode home with a co-worker who dropped him off. And Cocoa had been sitting at the door waiting for him. How did she know?

Are Beardies into mind reading? Or are they just so tuned in to us that they pick up on subtle hints of which we're unaware?

OK, I'll let you in on a secret: At an obedience trial, I called my Beardie on the recall exercise, and she didn't move, just sat there, staring at me. Instantly closing my eyes, I pictured her getting up and trotting to me. When I opened my eyes, she was on her way in, just as pictured. Do you suppose an obedience judge would consider the mental message a "second signal"? —*Alice Bixler; alicejb@att.net; Bearded Collie Club of America website: bcca.us*

## Belgian Malinois Amazing Mals

**M**alinois are really amazing animals. They are not only phenomenally

versatile but phenomenally resilient. Time after time I've heard stories of Malinois rescued from environments one might assume would permanently alter their personalities or destroy their ability to relate to humans, only to have the dogs make a full recovery of the breed's wonderful intelligence and zest for life. The very sad cases where this is not true are only more heartbreaking as a result.

I started out to write this column about my adventures racing my Malinois Callie last winter. Callie is a rescue Mal who has been trained step-by-step with my racing Whippet, Remy. Last February we were racing Remy at a Greyhound practice track in Florida and they let Callie have a run, and she absolutely blew away everyone who was watching. (If you search YouTube for "Callie runs on a Greyhound track," you can see her.)

In the "Aren't they amazing?" category, I also wanted to say that Carolyn Kaiser (mentioned in my March 2011 column) has managed to put yet another Triple Championship (show, agility, and herding) on a Malinois—her bitch Cash.

I got sidetracked by some dramatic Mal rescue stories, however.

American Belgian Malinois Club Rescue, on whom the rain really never stops falling, recently experienced a complete downpour, with two groups of dogs being called the "Tennessee Six-Pack" and the "Tennessee Five."

Tracey Dellibove, the rescue coordinator for Kentucky and Tennessee, got a call on Tuesday, February 7, from an animal-rescue group in Nashville. A woman in Liberty, Tennessee, had contacted them wanting to surrender 14 dogs. Apparently the dogs had been kept by her husband, who had left her (leaving the dogs behind), and she was unable to care for them. There were some Beagles, Beagle-mixes, terriers, a Malamute-mix, and six Malinois. The Malinois were two adult males, two adult females, and two puppies about 3 months old.

Tracey knew that coordinating such a rescue effort from Virginia would be no easy task, but she was up for the challenge. The next day she contacted the owner, and by Thursday she had sent her

surrender paperwork and asked Jan Saylor of ABMC Rescue to evaluate the dogs and take pictures.

Jan reported that the dogs were severely emaciated and dehydrated. They were living outdoors in a mud-filled pen with virtually no shelter. The only water was in a rusty bucket, too high for the puppies to reach. Such food as they had was thrown on the ground.

Realizing she had to act quickly, by Friday Tracey had volunteers lined up to get the dogs, and by Saturday she had them at the Graham Animal Clinic in Hendersonville. The adults, although severely underweight and infested with parasites, gave evidence of being friendly and well socialized in spite of all they had endured, but the puppies were almost feral and completely shut down and nonresponsive.

Once they were stabilized, the adults were neutered, and within two weeks all were moved to foster homes.

Transporting six dogs around the country was itself a huge logistical task. The female puppy, Liberty, was flown to her foster home courtesy of Pilots 'n Paws. One of the fosters, Terre Hall, drove through the night, leaving Florida at 1 A.M. on Saturday to get Justice, the male puppy.

One of the rescuers told Tracey, "It's bad ... really bad. These are the worst conditions I've seen in a long, long time ... I'm so thankful that you *and ABMC Rescue* stepped in when you did. These dogs would not have survived *two* more days out here."

And just in case Malinois rescue didn't have enough on its plate already, a few months earlier, in Tennessee, a Malinois dam was hit and killed by a car while her puppies were with her. The owner took the five puppies to a shelter, and the shelter contacted rescue. The puppies were then fostered by Ellen Pauly in South Carolina and have since found homes.

All of this activity is in just one state, in just a few months' time.

Malinois Rescue is covering all the costs for these dogs. You can help by going to [malinoisrescue.org](http://malinoisrescue.org) and making a donation.

While foster homes and money are always high-priority items, you can also help Malinois rescue in many other ways, including volunteer transport.

And, of course, you can also always adopt one of these amazing animals “forever.” —Nancy Bennett; nancyb@ignet.com; *American Belgian Malinois Club website:* malinoisclub.com/abmc

## Belgian Sheepdogs

We begin with a continuation of our guest column on shipping your dog from BSCA president Susan Hoffman, begun in the March issue.

### Shipping Puppies PART TWO

Living in Juneau, Alaska, has its own unique set of challenges. The only way in or out of here is by boat or plane. It takes two and a half days by boat to reach Seattle. As for air travel, there is only one airline that flies into this city, and unless the puppy buyer lives near Seattle, in most cases the pup will have to change planes before reaching his final destination. Depending upon the situation, he may also change airline carriers and have to stay overnight in Seattle. For obvious reasons you want to avoid plane changes, and try pick the most direct route with the shortest amount of time the pup will be in the air.

In cases where the puppy has to change planes using the same carrier, there is a required four-hour layover between flights. The company will move the puppy for you, and the cost of shipping is one price.

For cases where you need to use two separate air companies, check to see if they will move the puppy or if you will need a courier to do this. If there isn't a connection until the following morning, the puppy will have to spend the night at a kennel that does business with the airline, or else someone you know can pick the puppy up and return him to the airport the next day.

In cases where the pup will spend the night at a kennel, the cost to fly will remain the same, but you will also have to pay for the kennel stay. Keep in mind

that if the puppy stays at a kennel facility, he will have to meet all the vaccination requirements (such as for bordetella and rabies). If you plan to have someone you know pick the pup up for the night and return the next day, plan to pay for both legs of the trip. At the time you make reservations, make sure you book both legs.

If you feel that you are not good at doing the research to find the best flights for your puppies, a good resource is Atwood's Pet Transport. Lee Atwood has been making arrangements for transporting dogs for many years and knows the best flights and connections. For information, visit the website at [animalsanywhere.com](http://animalsanywhere.com).

For me, whether the flight is short or long, I am a wreck!—until I hear that the puppy has arrived safely and is in the arms of his new owner.

Flying a puppy as excess baggage, where the puppy is in the cargo hold, has similar requirements to flying a puppy as cargo. Really the only difference here is that the puppy is accompanied by their human and is checked through the airport terminal instead of cargo. The puppy's kennel will have to be inspected by TSA, and the puppy himself may be inspected before boarding the aircraft.

When flying with a dog, when I walk onto the aircraft I let the agent in the front cabin know where I sit and that I am traveling with my pet. I ask them to let me know when the dog has been boarded. Most airlines today have you fill out a voucher that is returned to you once the dog has been loaded. I also make sure to reserve a window seat on the right-hand side of the plane so I can watch the dog being boarded. Generally pets are the last to go onto the plane, and they should be the first to be taken off.

When you are changing planes and you have a long wait between flights, you can ask to pick up your dog to take for a potty break. Most airlines require that you have the dog back to them two hours prior to take off. Make sure that you carry a lead that is easily accessible.

Flying a puppy in cabin in a soft carrier presents a different set of problems.

Make sure that you know the dimensions of the pet carrier and that it will fit under the seat. Belgian puppies at 8 weeks may already be too big to fly in the cabin in the required dimensions of the soft carrier. If you run into a problem, make sure you have a Plan B to go with.

Your puppy will have to remain in the bag throughout the entire trip. Make sure to line the carrier with pee pads. On long trips I pack a portable fan that I can set facing the puppy on the floor of the aircraft. Make sure to carry extra water and handy wipes. If you have a plane change, you can take your puppy into a “family” bathroom at the airport and put a pee pad down on the floor. If you are lucky, your puppy will sleep through most of the flight.

Pet Airways ([petairways.com](http://petairways.com)) is a new pet carrier that breeders have had success with in flying their puppies. All dogs fly in the cabin, and there is an agent on board to check on them.

I have not flown any puppies into Canada, but I have heard that there are new regulations and fees to pay. A good resource for information is the Canadian Food Inspection Agency—Importing Domestic Dogs, found on the web at [inspection.gc.ca/english/animal/imp/petani/canine.shtml](http://inspection.gc.ca/english/animal/imp/petani/canine.shtml).

Flying a dog to Europe? Check out this site: [pettravel.com/passports\\_USDA\\_certification.cfm](http://pettravel.com/passports_USDA_certification.cfm). —S.H.

Thank you, Susan, for this excellent information.

#### *Tips on Conditioning Your Dog*

As I went to the gym for a weekly training session, I thought about my preparations for competing with my Belgian Sheepdog this season. We expect our dogs to be ready to do anything (play Frisbee, run around in the backyard, or go for a jog) at the drop of a hat, but just like us, they need to be in top physical condition to take part in performance events. For example, no one would go out and enter a marathon without putting together a plan to build up to the actual race, and the same should apply to our beloved pets.

There are many ways to get your dog in top condition. Your vet, trainer, or even a fellow competitor can provide valuable information, as well as the AKC Canine Health Resource Center.

It is important to put together a plan and also to start your plan well in advance of your competition or goal date. For example, I started my conditioning program in late March, plan to peak in midsummer, and then will taper down and give my dog a full two weeks off before the final competition so she is well rested. Every person and every dog is different.

It is also important to know your dog and to notice any indicators or changes in their everyday habits and demeanor. You can put together a calendar or just keep notes to track what you have done and note any differences in time, distance or even weight changes. If you are a techie, you can even track your training program on your mobile device.

After several weeks, you will find that you are walking further or at an increased pace just by working out regularly. Hydration is also important for both you and your dog. Make sure there is plenty of clean fresh water after a workout or your daily routine. There are many resources online, but it is wise to remember to start slowly and build up to any new exercise you plan for yourself or your dog. It is also fun to include family members or children in the program.

For older dogs or dogs who are recovering from surgery or injury, there are many ways to help improve canine condition. Therapies now available include laser therapy, strength and conditioning programs, therapeutic exercises, aquatic therapy, and therapy-ball exercise programs. There are also fitness and weight-management programs for our pets who have added a few extra pounds over the years. Extra weight is a burden to joints and muscles, so it is important to try to maintain a healthy weight in our dogs, no matter what their age.

Happy Summer, and remember to have a great time with your dog, smile, and always have extra pats and praise for our beloved canine partners! —*Andrae*

*Kipin Acerra; gmfarm8858@yahoo.com; Belgian Sheepdog Club of America website: bsca.info*

## Belgian Tervuren A “Puppy Fact-Sheet” for New Owners

Recently I was corresponding with a friend about toys and treats for her active 1-year-old Terv boy. I suggested a couple of durable toys that I have had luck with, and I also told her that she could use apples (without the core) or carrots as toys as well as treats.

She commented, “That’s a great idea. I never thought of letting him play with an apple, but since he enjoys grapes he will probably like them too.”

I quickly sent her a link describing the dangers of dogs ingesting grapes and raisins, and for good measure I mentioned onions and chocolate as other foods that must be avoided.

She replied, “Thanks for setting me straight. I knew about the chocolate and the onions, but did not know anything about grapes!”

Her reply got me thinking about the various sources of information that dog owners rely on. There are the “old wives’ tales” that have been around forever and have questionable origin and accuracy. There are excellent books about dogs and puppies, but a book contains lots of information, and the dangers of adverse foods can easily get overlooked because of the sheer volume of facts presented. The Internet has some good facts, but a person would need to be asking the question already in order to perform a search. I thought about trips to the veterinarian as sources of advice, but realized that during my own puppy visits, the vet primarily provides information about vaccines and parasites; I have never been presented with a list of “don’ts.”

Then it came to me: I had seen a valuable format for communication long ago that could be suitable to educate new dog owners.

When my son was an infant and going to the pediatrician regularly for exams and vaccinations, the doctor had a fact-sheet that was handed out each visit. It

was a sheet of paper with text written in plain, simple language that described the current stage my son was in—including information such as what milestones I should expect to see and what foods were safe to introduce. These little fact-sheets were a great help—there was just enough important information on each so that it was easy to read and retain, and it provided talking points for the next appointment.

What if breeders and veterinarians presented a similar fact-sheet? Since most pups complete their initial vaccines and then return to the vet a year later for a rabies booster, giving out a puppy fact-sheet at or before the initial vet visit would be appreciated. The sheet could include a timetable for the vaccines and list possible reactions, details on what to expect during teething, and a brief list of “do’s and don’ts” for the new family member. The “don’ts” could include things like excessive exercise (such as jogging), household hazards (such as toilet chemicals), and a list of toxic foods.

The “do’s” could include a short list of areas to puppy-proof (stairs, electrical cords, and pools) and a list of tasty, acceptable treats. A brief inventory of canine first-aid supplies to have on hand during puppyhood (like Benadryl) would be valuable as well.

Ideally the fact-sheet would be just one page in length. Anything much longer would have less of an impact on the new owner. One page should contain just enough information for the owner to read and retain, and the sheet would be a conversation-starter for the puppy owner and veterinarian.

Perhaps this column will give some creative veterinarians and also breeders a good idea to implement in the future. —*Kate Bouffard; tervline@aol.com; American Belgian Tervuren Club website: abtc.org*

## Border Collies State of Mind

Having your dog in the right state of mind is a concept I learned about when herding with my Border Collies. The correct state of mind when

herding is relaxed, thoughtful, confident, and cooperative. This mindset is also valuable for any other activity. Your dog isn't going to perform at his best if he's tense, overstimulated, or over-reactive. The wrong state of mind will overpower a dog's strongest work ethic and desire to please, because a dog whose head is wrong simply can't do the task correctly, no matter how much he wants to.

The weird obsessions and quirks that many Border Collies have can lead them into the wrong state of mind. Examples include becoming overstimulated while watching other dogs retrieve; being hyper-aware of other people, dogs, or the environment; overreacting to barking and clapping; and so on. Any dog can be affected by these things, but Border Collies are often affected more so than other breeds.

Ideally your dog is in the correct state of mind during training. The more this becomes a habit, the easier it is for him to get into that mindset and stay in it. Work to consistently get him there so he's always practicing his skills in that state. It should become a habit that carries over to competition.

Something that helps me with my Border Collies is to manage the situation. Managing the situation means that I don't put my dogs in a situation they can't cope with. If my dog gets overstimulated by watching other dogs run and retrieve, I don't sit with him at ring-side during an Open class. That's just asking for trouble, since my dog would quickly get to the wrong state of mind. Eventually he would do that when in that environment, even before watching dogs retrieve. It's much better to expose him gradually to stimulating environments and remove him while his mindset is still correct.

Focusing on what I want my dog to do is also helpful. If he's thinking about a task, then he's not filling his head with obsessions. I find it most helpful to coach my Border Collie when the environment is tempting his mind to go down the wrong path. Rather than mainly rewarding correct work, instead reward thoughtful, relaxed, and correct

attitude and effort, and you will find that the work will become what you want because your dog is in the right state of mind. —Terri Clingerman; [tacdogs315@gmail.com](mailto:tacdogs315@gmail.com); *Border Collie Society of America website: bordercolliesociety.com*

## Bouvier des Flandres Considering a Bouvier

A gentleman sent me an e-mail saying that he and his wife are interested in adding a Bouvier to their household. Their research had led him to the conclusion, "There is no more magnificent breed than the Bouvier."

He asks, "Does the Bouvier possess the nurturing, gentle temperament necessary to interact with two energetic and much smaller siblings [his Yorkshire Terriers]?" He also seeks my opinion on "the behavioral differences of the male vs. female, and which you feel would be a better fit for our situation."

These questions were easy enough—so why did it take me a few weeks to reply? Because though the answer is short, paragraphs of explanation are required.

The reply is, "It depends!" It depends on the individual puppy, based on the breeder's sire and dam selection and their method of raising puppies. It depends on the way the fear periods are handled and the puppy's socialization opportunities. Does the breeder have a focus on one or more aspects of the breed's traditional work? How strong is the prey-drive of the individuals in the pedigree? What is your experience?

Years in the breed prove the adage that Bouviers belong to one person, and everyone else belongs to them. They will defer to that person but treat every other family member and pet as their responsibility.

Bouvier handle that responsibility in their own way. One male played with a cockatoo as a young dog. When he joined my household, he adopted the neighbor's cat. This dog would lie down to let small children greet him. He had an innate gentleness that he passed on to his son, who played an active role in rais-

ing puppies—not only did he fill in for the bitch, he would wake me if a puppy squeaked during the night. He would lead weaned puppies to their meals, ensuring everyone had their share (including him). I have heard similar reports from fellow Bouvier owners.

Some Bouvier bitches are devoted to each other. Others have held a grudge against a fellow bitch that lasted until the day one of them drew her last breath. Some bitches are tougher than their brothers. The only bitch in a litter of four tortured her brothers dragging them by their ears and knocking them into line. Their relief was visible when she napped. In her new home with an elderly Dalmatian, however, even she had the makings of a natural caretaker and therapy dog. Watching over the old dog, she would rouse the family when her charge needed attention.

We have been loved and cared for by both males and bitches of the breed. So how do I answer? I say it really does depend, and this is a good start. You're in the right direction by asking these questions. Ask more questions. Take your time, and meet the breeder and the dam and sire who will produce the puppy to watch over those Yorkies. Continue the socialization and training that will permit the puppy to realize his or her individual magnificence.

Plan to attend this year's national specialty in Huron, Michigan, on October 14–21. More information is available at [www.bouvier.org](http://www.bouvier.org). —Jeannette Nieder; American Bouvier des Flandres Club website: [bouvier.org](http://bouvier.org)

## Briards The Art of Critiquing

If you've bred and shown some outstanding dogs, are an old-timer in the breed, or are a judge or a handler well-known to the breed, there's a good chance that one day someone will ask you to critique their dog.

Your first problem will be to determine whether they truly want an honest appraisal or have already made up their mind about the dog and just want you to confirm their opinion. The differ-

ence can best be decided by intuition or a study of their body language.

In either case, tact is the order of the day. Even if you believe their dog is the worst example of the breed ever to grace the earth, please remember the owner probably loves him. Be kind. (You can also save yourself a lot of embarrassment if that dog happens to go Best of Breed the following day after you've said he definitely isn't show quality.)

You may want to ask why the person wants a critique of the dog. Are they just curious? Did they buy him as a show prospect? Did someone suggest he had show potential? Or did they watch Westminster on TV and decide that dog shows looked like fun? The answer could give you a clue on how to proceed.

If the dog happens to be a good example or even exceptional in your opinion, by all means tell the owner, but don't go overboard with praise.

If the owner is thinking of showing, you don't want to dash her hopes if her pride and joy loses to a better dog or if on his first outings in the ring he just doesn't happen to be the judge's preference. Untold numbers of new exhibitors have gone into their first show with unrealistic high hopes and then lost and never gone near a show ring again.

Suggest show-handling classes to an aspiring exhibitor with a good dog. To a newcomer, conformation looks like nothing more than snapping a lead on your dog and jogging around a ring.

If only it were that easy! An inept exhibitor can make even a good dog look bad.

For every show-potential dog, there are a dozen or more who can't make the grade. The critic must walk a tightrope between being honest and being tactful when faced with a dog who will never measure up. You don't want the owner to waste money on entry fees and face continual disappointment, but neither do you want her to think her dog is totally worthless.

One approach is to balance out criticism with kind comments. One such assessment might go something like this: "Your dog has a good width of skull, but

two different-colored eyes like this are considered a fault. The lips have complete pigmentation, which is preferred, but the bite is undershot, and the standard calls for a scissors bite. There's a nice width of chest, however the topline is roached, which is incorrect."

And so on. There will be some who will only hear the complimentary comments. Make certain they realize the faults are serious enough to squash any chances of a championship.

Fortunately, there are so many venues available today that a dog's worth isn't just measured by his conformation. Once can say, "What an outgoing personality! I bet she'd be a great therapy dog." Or: "The way he keeps his attention focused on you is just terrific. He'd probably do well in rally or obedience."

However, be kind to the dog. If he's poorly constructed, don't suggest something like agility or lure coursing. You don't want to see the poor canine crippled.

There was a time when folks would say, "If he doesn't make it in conformation, you can always try obedience." No longer. Performance people want healthy, well-constructed canines who can stand up to the rigors of running, jumping and climbing, not conformation castoffs.

So the art of critiquing is to be honest while being kind.

One of my favorite stories concerns a longtime British breeder who had been approached by someone who asked her to critique her dog, which was definitely not a winner.

Turning aside, she quietly said to her companion, "You can always find something nice to say. If nothing else, you can always comment on his lovely temperament."

Turning back to the owner and her dog, she began to go over him, at which point he growled and snapped at her. Her companion grinned. So much for the "lovely temperament" line.

But the regal lady merely smiled, and remarked, "My, isn't he clean!" —*Alice Bixler*; [alicejb@att.net](mailto:alicejb@att.net); *Briard Club of America website*: [briardclubofamerica.org/bca](http://briardclubofamerica.org/bca)

## Canaan Dogs The Value of Support

The Canaan Dog community recently lost a valued member with the passing of Roy Dodson. A quiet presence at ringside, Roy was always willing to work. He was not a breeder—his wife, Donna, occupies that role—nor exhibitor, though on occasion he could be seen in the ring with one of their dogs. Rather, Roy was one of the unsung heroes of the breed and the parent club—the support crew.

The support crew in any breed is made up of family members, friends, and fanciers who have some interest in helping whenever and wherever assistance is needed to the exhibitor, breeder, or parent club. Many of these support members can often be seen holding dogs at ringside, carrying grooming equipment or crates, cleaning up after dogs, or, most importantly, cheering for their favorites during the judging and congratulating or commiserating afterwards.

These volunteers are often taken for granted, rarely acknowledged, but are the behind-the-scenes glue that keep things running.

First-time exhibitors of the breed usually have family members, friends, or their dog's breeder as their core of support, and in the small Canaan Dog community that quickly expands to include other owners and exhibitors. With a limited parent-club membership, many members do double or triple duty, but it is not uncommon at a club event to hear an exhibitor's friend or family member jump in and offer assistance if he or she sees a need. The attitude of "let someone else do it" does exist, as it does in most clubs, but it is found less in clubs like the Canaan Dog Club of America, where the community is tight-knit and has a strong sense of support.

People like Roy Dodson, who are always visible at shows and club events with a word of encouragement, smile, or helping hand, are valued treasures for any owner, breeder, exhibitor, and club.

These support crews are the backbone of the sport—as much a part of it as the judges, exhibitors, and events themselves. It is not unusual that a support-crew member eventually ends up with a Canaan Dog, often a show prospect, and “acquires” his or her own support crew.

So the next time a friend or family member comes to watch you at a show or helps the club in any way, no matter how small, thank them for their support.

The Canaan Dog Club of America’s national specialty will be held in Greenville, South Carolina, from July 25–30. For further information, contact show chair Nancy Ben-Dror at [nancybd@onthetopdogschoo.com](mailto:nancybd@onthetopdogschoo.com). —Denise A. Gordon; [desertstarcanaans@yahoo.com](mailto:desertstarcanaans@yahoo.com); Canaan Dog Club of America website: [cdca.org](http://cdca.org)

## Cardigan Welsh Corgis CyberCardi

Social media is going to the dogs—**S**or, more accurately, the dogs are going to social media. And the technological revolution is here to stay.

Once upon a time, reputable breeders spent hours on the telephone speaking with prospective puppy buyers, hoping to find that good, loving home. Nowadays, reputable breeders can use the Internet and social media. And prospective buyers can as well, narrowing down their potential breed-contacts by visiting kennel websites and seeing photos and pedigrees of the parents and often pictures of the litter from which they hope to acquire a puppy. E-mail has made it much easier for breeders and prospective buyers to discuss breed-related details as well as to share information about the litter itself.

Cardigans in particular are reaping huge benefits from social media. For example, breeders are able to post thorough information about the physical and temperament differences between Cardis and Pembros. We can share videos of the parents of our litters as well as of the darling babies. We can explain about the Cardigan’s tail and about the brindle and blue merle colors

that don’t exist in Pembros. We can reach a significantly wider audience than earlier breeders could, when newspapers were the only venue in which to advertise their puppies.

Now there are smartphones that can take both still photos and videos from ringside and show a puppy, a bitch due to be bred, or a sire-to-be in show-ring action. Breed newcomers can see how a correct Cardigan moves, and so can prospective and provisional judges. No longer must one stand at ringside and later try to remember what one saw—now one can make a photographic or videographic record of it.

As do many parent clubs, the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America uses a PowerPoint presentation in judges’ seminars. No more are breed mentors limited to using transparencies for overhead projectors or printouts of the illustrated standard as the only reference. One may now watch the PowerPoint presentation and then look at the living dogs brought in for the hands-on portion. The presentation also offers a background on the origins of Cardigans in Wales, and it includes photos of the terrain that the hardy Cardigan faced in his job of driving cattle out to pasture and bringing them back.

The Cardigan has always been the lesser known of the two Corgis. Back in the day, when asked by others what kind of dog was on the end of the lead, the owner had to sum up briefly what the Cardi was and how it differed from Pems. Now the Cardi breeder can still sum up briefly—but she can also hand over a business card containing the address of a website where the interested person may then go for more detailed information. The same may be done at dog shows, when it’s often difficult to provide the details about the breed that prospective buyers should learn.

Facebook has proven to be a true uniter in the global interest in Cardigans. In this online community breeders from all over the world “meet” other breeders and host lively discussions about their dogs and the breed itself, thereby

expanding breed knowledge exponentially.

The Cardigan is no longer so rare a breed because of the technological and social media revolution. It’s up to breeders to use the technology wisely in presenting our breed to the world. —Jennifer Roberson; [Jennifer@cheysuli.com](mailto:Jennifer@cheysuli.com); Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America website: [cardigancorgis.com](http://cardigancorgis.com)

## Collies

### The Hunt for the Perfect Stud Dog

**I**t should be easier now than ever to pick a stud dog. The Internet, kennel websites, and advancements in genetic screening put abundant information at our fingertips.

The truth is, however, despite all the advice and resources available, we approach the search from our unique experience, focus, bias, and emotions.

From planning our first litter to 20 years later, the process will evolve based on our experience. For example, when I started out, I knew the first-generation parents behind my bitch; every other ancestor on the pedigree was just a name. Now, I can easily know five or six generations personally, and each of the names on the pedigree elicits a mental picture for me.

This kind of knowledge about the dogs in one’s pedigrees is valuable, and the best way to get it is by attending specialties, especially our national, and by “kennel-hopping.” The benefit is awareness of the virtues and faults of the individuals who preceded the parents—without such awareness, we might find ourselves saying, “Where did *that* come from?”

Everyone has a focus, regardless of how long they’ve been breeding. That focus may change completely over time or become more nuanced. The more focused you are on one thing, the more likely you are to succeed at that. Add two or three more goals, and it all becomes much more challenging.

The type of competition you’re interested in can influence the prioritization of characteristics you look for. If you are

breeding for performance, structure and movement are imperative—so a high priority.

It should be emphasized that we are selecting individuals according to the standard, and ideally all in the same dog. Our emphasis will naturally be influenced by our goals, however. Biases—we all have them, right or wrong, and they affect our decisions. This is where the interpretation of our standard comes in. What is “big coat” to some is “extreme” to others; some have a very particular size eye they will tolerate, while others have a health concern they won’t compromise on. While we strive to “have it all,” nature rarely puts the perfect dog in one package.

One of my biases is drive. I seek for my dogs to have the drive needed to achieve the highest levels of agility and herding, and I try not to compromise on that point.

Often our search for the ideal has nothing to do with anything but a visceral feeling that this is the right one. I think these breedings work because the intuitive process has already been “fed” by evaluation, a firm vision, and awareness of the goal.

We can’t know every dog firsthand, so we rely on photos, videos, and friends to fill us in. All are good sources yet they can be misleading or even misrepresent the dog, either positively or negatively. If we saw the dog on a bad day or our friends are critical of anything outside their line, it can kill enthusiasm for something different.

It’s difficult to evaluate our own bitches objectively or to admit a breeding simply didn’t work. Perhaps we missed pieces of the puzzle, weren’t totally honest about our evaluations, or the good genes just didn’t align how we thought they would. The trick is to become aware of all these factors and become a thinker, weigh all the pros and cons, and evaluate for ourselves. This often requires careful listening. Overly positive comments, thoughtless negativity, or lack of comment can sometimes be just as telling as direct information.

Finally, develop an eye for a great

dog—not just in our backyard or the big winners—and aim high. —*Marianne Sullivan*; millknock@embarqmail.com; *Collie Club of America website*: col-lieclubofamerica.org

## Entlebucher Mountain Dogs

### 2012 Breed Health Survey

The health of a breed is always a top priority for a parent club, and since the National Entlebucher Mountain Dog Association (NEMDA) was founded in 1998 by a group of breeders with a desire to monitor and preserve the health of the breed’s North American population, it has remained a top-level interest.

As Entle owners and breeders, we owe the devotion and vigilance of the Swiss and other European breed commissions a huge debt of gratitude for their focus on excellence in all aspects of Entlebucher husbandry. The Entlebucher enjoys overall excellent health and remains active and vigorous his entire lifespan. I have always considered it a blessing, tinted with deep sadness, when my 14-plus Entle who was hiking and playing fetch just the day before looks up at me with soft, deep-chocolate eyes and seems to say, “I’m thinking I will just stay in my bed today, and probably tomorrow.” What a sweet ending to a long, happy, healthy, and active life.

In 2002, the NEMDA sent out the club’s first Entlebucher Health Survey. This survey is an extensive eight-page document that asks in detail about Entlebucher well-being, from nose to tail! Entle owners are great “team players,” and of the 857 surveys we sent out, we got a high percentage back. The results were compiled by our friends at the White Shepherd Club and sent to the late Dr. George Padgett at Michigan State University. Dr. Padgett analyzed and compiled the results, comparing them with results for other breeds of similar size and purpose. His findings showed the Entlebucher listed far below the comparable breeds in the incidence of both genetic and congenital health issues.

Ten years have flown, and we are preparing to send out our second comprehensive Entlebucher Health Survey. As breeders and owners we have learned a lot in the past 10 years, both from the data in our personal breeding programs and from the stats shared in our open health and genetic database, so we are anxiously looking forward to the 2012 survey results. Our BCOE breeders are required to contact each of their past puppy owners and report on any health issue as part of the annual report to the NEMDA Breed Committee.

Since the NEMDA’s inception, we have considered the owners and breeders who report health issues to be our heroes. A very open communication exists throughout the Entle community.

The only ongoing concern for the pessimistic has been that the Entlebucher is healthy enough so that our Health and Genetic Database has remained “disappointingly meager.” A pleasant problem, in my book!

Currently we keep careful watch on ectopic ureters, dubbed EUS (Entlebucher urinary syndrome) by the research team led by Dr. John Kruger at Michigan State University. We also keep watch on hip, elbow, patella, and eye health through the OFA and CERF databases. And while we see occasional incidence of what Dr. Padgett called “canine issues but not breed-specific issues,” our Entles thankfully remain healthy, happy, and ever playful and devoted. —*Jan Vincent*; bvincent@xmision.com; *National Entlebucher Mountain Dog Association website*: nemda.org

## German Shepherd Dogs

Our guest columnist on this very important topic is Morton Goldfarb, MD, FACS.

### Bloat: Diagnosis and Treatment

We are fortunate to have a great deal of information on bloat, and I will summarize as concisely as possible what we as caretakers must do to diagnose and treat this condition.

The diagnosis is easy when you know the signs and symptoms, which include:

- the dog is trying to vomit but unable to do so
- restlessness and marked discomfort
- the dog is panting with his head held low and drooling profusely
- abdominal distension
- a pinging sound is made when you tap on the distended abdomen

After you have confirmed the diagnosis, immediately call the vet and tell them you are on your way with a bloat patient.

If you are not within a short drive to the vet, you must act promptly, or disaster will ensue.

Emergency treatment by you involves decompression of the stomach *before* it twists on its axis. If it twists, this is now a *volvulus*, and the blood supply to the stomach is cut off and the tissue of the stomach dies and death follows if not corrected quickly.

Emergency treatment involves two methods of decompression:

*First method: insertion of a gastric tube*

The technique is to take a 5- to 6-foot length of plastic tubing (with a half-inch inside diameter and 3/8-inch outside diameter, and whose edges you have smoothed and rounded by melting with the flame from a cigarette lighter) and inserting it through the mouth into the stomach.

As well as this tubing you will need either a roll of adhesive tape or a block of wood with a 3/4-inch hole drilled in it to put in the dog's mouth. *You will need this item to hold the mouth open when you pass the tube, or you will not be successful!* You must secure the roll of tape or the block of wood in the dog's mouth with a piece of cord or tape, as he will fight having the tube inserted.

Measure from the tip of the dog's nose to the last rib, as this is the distance to the stomach.

Having lubricated the tube with K-Y or similar lubricating gel, gently and gradually pass the tube into the opening in the roll of tape or block of wood that has the hole.

Let the dog swallow slowly as you

slowly pass the tube to the measured point on the tube that you have marked as the distance to the stomach. The trachea (breathing tube) lies toward the dog's abdomen, and the esophagus (swallowing tube) lies toward the back.

The dog will cough violently if the tube enters the trachea (breathing tube).

You will pass two resistance points—the first is the opening into the esophagus, and the second is the opening into the stomach, which hopefully has not twisted, and if it has you will not be able to pass the tube! *Do not force the tube—by doing so you can perforate the esophagus or stomach.*

*Once in the stomach, a rush of air should ensue, or liquid should come out.*

Hold the tube low to allow gravity to work. If nothing comes out, blow into the tube with your mouth. You might be able to obtain from your vet a large VIM syringe that can be used to aspirate the stomach contents via the tube that is inserted.

*Second method: insertion of a trocar*

The other method is insertion of a trocar (a 16- or 18-gauge needle) into the distended stomach, with the aim of providing an outlet for the trapped air. This is done on the dog's left side, behind the last rib.

To locate the proper site, tap the distended area, and it should ping like an overly inflated ball.

Once located, prep the site with alcohol and then insert the needle, until again you hear air come out. This will give some relief and hopefully prevent the strangulation of blood supply to the stomach.

After either method, rush the dog to the emergency vet for further treatment—IV fluids and antibiotics and probable surgery.

You should have on hand a "bloat kit," which should include the following:

- 5- to 6-foot length of plastic tubing—with a half-inch inside diameter and 5/8-inch outside diameter, and which you have smoothed and rounded the edges of by melting with the flame from a cigarette lighter
- roll of adhesive (surgical) tape or a

block of wood with a 3/4-inch hole drilled into it—to allow the tube to be inserted through while keeping the dog's mouth open

- cord, fabric strip, or tap to wrap around the dog's muzzle to hold all in place
- lubricant gel to ease the insertion of the tube (K-Y gel or similar)
- prepping solution, such as a rubbing alcohol or Betadine pad or liquid.
- 16- or 18-gauge needle
- *A fast car to get to the vet!*

I am sure everyone knows the high incidence of death associated with this problem and realizes that speed of diagnosis and treatment is crucial to survival. —M.G.

Thank you, Dr. Goldfarb, for this vital information. —*Helen Gleason; helengleasonus@yahoo.com; German Shepherd Dog Club of America website: gsdca.org*

## Icelandic Sheepdogs

Contributors of this month's breed column are Dutch Icelandic Sheepdog Association members Bernard Vortman, MD, Ph.D.; Louwke Mandema, BSB; and Wilma Roem, DSB.

## Coat Color with Genetic Background of the Icelandic Sheepdog

All coat colors in dogs are derived from three basic colors: black, red, and white. If the alleles for dilution on the I-locus are present, red becomes yellow; if on the B-locus both mutations *b/b* are present, black becomes brown.

All these colors will only be visible if the Em allele on the E-locus is present. Em is also responsible for presence of a black mask. If both *e* mutations are present on the E-locus (*e/e*), the dog will have a cream color and no mask!

So, if we want to define the color of our ISD, we have to use the colors black, brown, red, yellow, cream, and white.

Special attention must be paid to white. Cells (melanocytes) in the skin produce the color pigments, and in areas without pigment, the coat will be

white. The S-locus is responsible for the production of pigment, and mutations of the S allele can result in various designs of white. The mutations of S are (in sequence of dominance): *si* (Irish spotting), *sp* (piebald spotting) and *sw*. The existence of *sw* hasn't been proven; it would result in almost completely white dogs with only a spot of color on the head and a couple on the body (like the Jack Russell terrier).

Not all white markings are genetically determined. Early on in the development of an animal, the melanocytes have to migrate from the central part (the back) of the body across the whole skin. It is possible that they do not reach the most distant areas, so these might stay unpigmented, and thus white.

Think about the tip of the tail, the feet, the middle line of the chin, the neck, the belly, and the muzzle (where there may be a line of white). This so-called "peripheral white" has a tendency to disappear during maturation. It is not wise to mention this white when defining the coat color.

"Irish spotting" refers to a dog who has more white than only the peripheral white. The dog can have a white collar, a white neck and/or belly, and more white on the head, tail, and legs. In this case the name of the coat color is extended with "and white."

Finally, the piebald dog can demonstrate several patterns, but he is predominantly white, with colored areas scattered over the body. Parts of the back are also white.

Irish spotting is dominant over piebald, so *si/sp* looks like Irish spotting, but the dog is carrying the allele for piebald.

Naming the colors of a pup can be difficult because the colors can change when growing up. However, it is possible to give a couple of guidelines:

If you are not sure whether the color is red or yellow, look at the area behind the ear. There you can see the final color quite well and early on.

If the pup is black and you wonder whether it will get tan (red or yellow),

look underneath the base of the tail. Or, if there is white at a leg, look at the boundary between black and white.

For detailed information, see *theicelandicsheepdog.com*. There you will also find an overview with nine steps to correctly define the color of the pup. —B.V., L.M., & W.R.

Thank you to our guest contributors for providing this information. —  
Donna R. McDermott, MPPA;  
eyjahunda@gmail.com; *Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America website: icelanddogs.com*

## Norwegian Buhunds Tips on Organizing a National Specialty

This year, our national specialty is going to be held on October 13, in conjunction with the Palisades Kennel Club in Augusta, New Jersey. We are especially excited to have a Norwegian judge, Mr. Christen Lang, judge our specialty and give a breeder-education seminar. We feel that this is an excellent chance for all of us, exhibitors and breeders, to learn about our breed in Norway and how our breeding stock compares with that of Europe.

In preparing for this specialty, there have been a lot of conversations about what we should do differently and what worked well last year. Scattered throughout these conversations, we've become aware of several tips for organizing national specialties that might be useful to other small clubs such as ours. (I would like to thank Lisa Donnelly, specialty chair, for sharing several of these tips.)

1. *Start planning as early as possible.* Try to have the location set two or even three years ahead of time. This gives you enough time to recruit volunteers and get things organized. Most specialty clubs have everything settled two to three years in advance.

2. *Organize, organize, organize!* Keep careful notes and make lists of everything you can think of—including conformation classes being offered, sweepstakes, veterans, Best Puppy, Best Puppy

in Sweeps, Best in Sweeps, obedience, agility, and herding. Next to each class write in the prizes being offered for that class—the ribbons, trophies, and so on. If you have donors or sponsors of prizes, keep a list of their names.

3. *Don't be too shy to ask for help.* You need as many volunteer helpers as possible, especially if your club is a small national club like ours.

Recruit as many helpers as you can—club members as well as non-club members, spouses, children, friends, neighbors, and so on. Many club members are willing to help but are hesitant to put themselves forward until asked.

4. *Delegate, delegate, delegate!* Don't try to do everything yourself. Assign tasks to your volunteer helpers. You will need people to help with exhibitors' luncheon, exhibitors' hospitality, judges' hospitality, trophies and ribbons at the show, and so on.

5. *Have more than one person help with each item.* Make sure that you have a backup in case something happens (and something will happen).

6. *Make sure that you have the latest editions of the AKC rulebooks.* There are some different rules for specialties.

7. *You will have to contact the AKC for various issues connected with the specialty.* Always write down the name of the person you spoke with, and always try to speak with the same person. This prevents confusion and your having to repeat steps.

8. *If you need to collect money for anything (such as a dinner or special activity), say you need it a week before you really do.* People are busy and forget and will call a day after it was supposed to be in and ask if they can still sign up.

9. *Try to organize a dinner or other event after the specialty for everyone to get together and celebrate.*

Above all, a specialty is a time to renew old friendships and make new ones. I look forward to seeing everyone and their Buhunds in October! —  
Jasmine Tata; Jtata2@yahoo.com;  
Norwegian Buhund Club of America website: buhund.org

herding **Old English Sheepdogs**

Regular readers of this column may be surprised to not see Marilyn O’Cuilinn’s byline at its end. She has decided to step down as the GAZETTE breed columnist, and the board of directors of the Old English Sheepdog Club of America (OESCA) has selected me to replace her. I’m Joe Schlitt. I’ve been involved with the breed since 1968—breeding, showing in conformation, doing herding trials, and as a licensed breed judge.

My guest columnist this time is Chris Pesche ([oes@sti.net](mailto:oes@sti.net)). Chris has been involved with the breed since the late 1980s. She shows actively in conformation and is a former OESCA board member.

**Zero Tolerance for Tails**

I am deeply concerned about the future of the Old English Sheepdog in light of the anti-docking/anti-cropping legislation that threatens the historical and structural integrity of this breed. I am especially concerned when I read on various international chat lists how OES breeders in countries where docking is prohibited write openly about “re-designing”—my word—the OES to accommodate the tail, which was never a part of the breed standard in any country before the docking ban.

In my opinion, all members of OESCA have an ethical obligation to preserve the Old English Sheepdog as described in the breed’s American standard, which, when writing about the tail, simply states, *tail docked close to the body, when not naturally bob tailed*.

Pure and simple, *tail docked!* Presence of a tail is not a DQ—there’s no need for a DQ, because docked is docked is docked.

It is the responsibility of all members of OESCA to bring to the conformation ring in the United States only those animals who meet the American standard—that is, *tail, docked*. It is the responsibility of those judging in the United States to judge to the American standard, which is *tail docked*, regardless of the merits of an

exhibit in the ring with a tail.

It is my hope that OES breeders and owners in countries that ban docking will unite to repeal the laws in their respective countries which in the long term, if they remain, will destroy the very integrity of the breed. I find it beyond ironic that breeders in these countries still refer to the Old English Sheepdog as the “Bobtail.”

That being said, it is the responsibility of each and every member of the OESCA to exhibit only OES who meet the American standard, which is *tail docked*. The tail of an imports, if the exhibit is truly exceptional, can be docked.

I will go one step further here and strongly suggest that it is the responsibility of the parent club, in this case OESCA, to enforce compliance with the American OES breed standard to the extent of disciplinary action against individual OESCA members who show a tailed OES in the American conformation ring. —C.P.

Chris, thanks for those thought-provoking words.

In the next breed column I expect to have a second guest contribution, from a longtime OES breeder in Australia describing the impact that the tail-docking ban has had on the breed since being instituted there eight years ago. —*Joe Schlitt*; [wylecotejs@earthlink.net](mailto:wylecotejs@earthlink.net); *Old English Sheepdog Club of America website*: [oldenglishsheepdogclubofamerica.org](http://oldenglishsheepdogclubofamerica.org)

**Pembroke Welsh Corgis****Treasure Troves**

I met Harriet Tucker (of Tuckaway) in 1982 when she had Pembroke Welsh Corgis. She later moved on to Cardigans, but we have remained friends ever since.

Last spring, Harriet gave me some of her most cherished Pembroke items. Following Harriet’s death last fall after a brief illness, her Corgi memorabilia was passed on to a mutual friend who, in turn, passed the remaining Pembroke items on to me. One box contained

pins and statues and other similar items. The other box was full of books.

The first book to catch my eye was the 1970–71 red-leatherette binder that was the very first *Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America Handbook*. I leafed through the black and white photos as memories flooded back to the first time I paged through that first handbook. My first Pembroke’s sire and litter sister have pages in that book, and I remembered how excited I was to show them to the breeder of my first show Pembroke. Later handbooks were spiral bound and eventually were published as books.

The PWCCA handbooks have been in full color since 2006. The 2009 and 2010 editions won Maxwell Awards of Excellence from the Dog Writers Association of America, but the 1970 edition set the format for all its successors, with articles, complete specialty results, the membership roster, statistics, lists of committees, officers, and board members, and the Honor Roll of Titleholders, which features a photo and three-generation pedigree of each dog.

This book will go to a silent auction, with the proceeds going to rescue, as Harriet would have wanted.

Next was *The Pembrokeshire Corgi Handbook*, by Clifford Hubbard, a 1957 reprint of the 1951 book that he says was the first book to be solely devoted to the Pembroke. The frontispiece is a full-color photo of two of then-Princess Elizabeth’s Pembrokes. Hubbard includes an extensive chapter on the origin of the breed, tracing it back to its Viking roots. There are many photos of the early English Pembrokes, along with discussions of important dogs. Other chapters give advice on breeding, whelping, and showing, and the chapter on the breed standard is in itself quite interesting.

The rest of the box contained a treasure trove: the 1959 to 1980 editions of *The Welsh Corgi League Handbook*. The League handbooks are the English counterpart of the PWCCA handbooks. The 1959 edition

was the 13th. Its first article is a recounting of the formation of the Welsh Corgi League from 1938 through 1959, written by Thelma Gray. There are articles on conditioning for the show ring, articles on beginning obedience training, and personal accounts of living with the breed. The League handbooks always contain extensive advertisements from members, show results, club reports, articles, photos of overseas champion dogs, and the Portrait Gallery, containing photos and pedigrees of every Challenge Certificate winner for the year. The Hubbard book and the League handbooks will be cherished additions to my bookshelves.

Two more elderly friends have told me that I will eventually be receiving their Pembroke memorabilia. That makes me wonder to whom I will leave my own Pembroke treasures.

We invite you to attend our annual treasure trove, the 2012 national specialty to be held in Portland, Oregon, September 21–29. Details can be found at [pwcca.org](http://pwcca.org). —Lynda McKee; TifflynLDM@aol.com; *Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America website*: [pembrokecorgi.org](http://pembrokecorgi.org)

## Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

### PRA Research Project

A Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine team is searching for the genetic defect that causes PRA in PONs, with the aim of developing a test to distinguish those who are affected, or carrier, or unaffected.

The condition is progressive, ending in blindness. It attacks the light-gathering cells in the back of the eye, which then deteriorate.

In 1911, PRA was found in Gordon Setters in Europe. Since then, it has surfaced in over 100 breeds worldwide. While certain characteristics of the condition are universal, others are breed specific. This is what makes finding the involved genes so challenging.

The retina, located inside the back of

the eye, is made up of two kinds of photoreceptor cells. These two types of cells, rods and cones, convert the light entering through the lens into signals that eventually reach the brain as vision. The rods perceive low-light signals; the cones perceive bright light and color.

Deteriorating vision initially becomes apparent as “night blindness,” with the rods being affected first. Eventually the cones atrophy as well. As the condition progresses, the dog’s pupils appear more dilated, and its eyes seem to reflect more light—a condition called “eye shine.” Cataracts can arise.

Age of onset and rate of progression vary from breed to breed. It tends to affect some breeds as very young puppies; with others, like PONs, it occurs in middle age, so that affected dogs can seem normal for many years. This can lead to situations where affected dogs might be used for breeding before the condition is known. This makes the value of a reliable genetic test obvious.

The first instance of an American PON who raised a red flag by having the condition came from a 4-year-old in 1999. The mode of inheritance in PONs is believed to be autosomal recessive, which means both parents must pass on the disease gene (*p*) for a dog to be affected—the notation for an affected dog being *pp*. A carrier (with the gene pair *Pp*) has received the defective gene from one of its parents but will have normal vision. A normal dog (*PP*) has no inherited PRA genes from either parent.

A reliable genetic test opens up the boundaries of safe matings. A normal-to-normal breeding (*PP* x *PP*) results in a 100-percent chance of offspring being normal. With normal-to-carrier (*PP* x *Pp*), the chances are 50 percent normal, 50 percent carriers. Breeding normal to affected (*PP* x *pp*) will produce all carriers. None of these pairings will result in affected puppies.

The MSU study is headed by Dr. Simon Petersen-Jones, whose previous success with PRA research identified the defective gene in Cardigan Welsh

Corgis. For the study, he needs blood samples from at least 10 affected dogs, along with samples from their parents (the carriers) and siblings. For comparison, he also needs either blood or cheek-swab DNA from unaffected PONs at least 8 years old who have had a negative CERF or eye exam within the last year. There is no charge for submitting samples.

Once the samples are assembled, Dr. Petersen-Jones will assist the American Polish Lowland Sheepdog Club (APONC) in applying for a matching grant from the AKC Canine Health Foundation. For further information, contact APONC health committee chair Susan Stekoll (720-434-1440; [aponcwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:aponcwebmaster@gmail.com)) or Kristi Aybar, BS, LVT (517-432-9902; [eyeresearch@cvm.msu.edu](mailto:eyeresearch@cvm.msu.edu)). —Louise Cohen; [cachetpons@comcast.net](mailto:cachetpons@comcast.net); *American Polish Lowland Sheepdog Club website*: [aponc.org](http://aponc.org)

## Pyrenean Shepherds

### Pyr Sheps Leap to Top of World Agility

By now, most agility addicts who compete in AKC events know that Californian Ashley Deacon and his Pyrenean Shepherd NAC/MACH3 Luka de La Brise, XF, are world champions in the medium-dog category, winning individual gold last fall at the 2011 FCI Agility World Championship in Liévin, France.

What many may not realize is that Pyrenean Shepherds swept all four top slots at the event, flying over the obstacles only one-hundredths of a second apart. Coming in second were Thomas Raczka, of France, and his dog Curly; Silvia Trkman and Simply the Best de Loub, from Slovenia, took third place; and Olga Kwicien-Manniewski, of Poland, won fourth place with her dog Extreme Braveheart.

The times for the four lively little herders, in order of placement, were 66.10, 66.13, 66.19, and 66.82 seconds! They were separated by less than a second. Those scores reflect the

results of two runs, one each on standard agility and jumpers courses.

The Pyr Sheps were some of the strongest dogs in their height category, Deacon notes. “But for all four of them to come in so closely together in time was quite amazing,” he says. “All four are owned by very talented and dedicated dog trainers, so in that sense it was not a surprise.”

Deacon grew up in the north of England. When he decided to add a dog to his adult life, his childhood experiences with chasing down the family Jack Russell Terrier when he regularly escaped from home led Deacon to look for a well-behaved dog “that didn’t continually seek to run away.”

He liked the rustic appearance and small size of the Pyrenean Shepherd, and in the fall of 2002, puppy Luka arrived in San Francisco.

They started with obedience training. “She was not a very confident or outgoing puppy, but she loved the training routine, and this helped her grow in confidence,” he says.

“When we started out in agility, the main hurdle we needed to overcome was my incompetence and lack of knowledge, which when combined with Luka not being too confident made for slow progress.” Clicker training helped, he adds.

Apparently slow initial progress didn’t daunt this superlative team: Luka is twice an AKC National Agility Champion and twice an AKC Invitational Champion. She and Deacon have been on the world team three times and won silver in the team category in 2009. They also have numerous national and world championships in the United States Dog Agility Association.

Deacon’s attachment to the breed has resulted in a canine addition to his training routine. Luka’s 3-year-old housemate, La Brise Durendal D’Ash, also known as Dash, qualified for the AKC National Championship and is working toward his MACH.

“I got another Pyr Shep because I

love the breed ... and I felt that I’d like to train another Pyr Shep in agility with a more solid knowledge of the sport,” Deacon says.

He notes that Dash is a lot more outgoing and confident than Luka. The youngster’s focus on his work has been improving, and recently he’s been giving the accomplished Luka a run for her money. —*Kathleen Monje; cognitivdog@epud.net; Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America website: pyrshpclub.com*

## Swedish Vallhunds

I am lucky enough to work for a veterinary clinic where we do physical rehab therapy, and I regularly discuss my dog sports with the highly-trained people I work with.

For this column I interviewed Stephanie Ortel, licensed veterinary technician, certified canine rehabilitation practitioner, and certified veterinary pain practitioner.

### Fitness

I am an avid agility competitor, and I often see people making what could be risky choices about how they manage their dogs (and this applies to any active dog sport). An all-too-typical scenario is: Someone runs and grabs their dog out of the crate right before they’re due to run, dashes to the in gate with no warm-up, runs the dog (this can mean 30–60 seconds or more of all-out physical effort, with sharp turns, jumps, weaves, and other challenging activities), and then immediately returns the dog to its crate.

According to Stephanie, a safer way to do things starts with a brisk, five-minute warm-up walk. Even while you are waiting your turn to run, you can keep your dog’s large muscle groups warm (and keep your dog’s focus) by doing simple sit-to-stand exercises (ask for a sit, ask for a stand, repeat). And do not forget to cool the dog down afterward with a good five-minute walk.

Try not to let your dog be a “week-end warrior” who spends all week

napping on the couch and then trials on weekends. If you must stretch your dog manually (it is controversial whether or not stretching helps or harms), it is now recommended that you only stretch *after* exercise, since stretching cold muscles is not beneficial and can even cause injury.

Attending a regular weekly class with your dog is good, but regular daily exercise is vital. Having multiple dogs can mean that they become each other’s “personal trainers” and can keep each other quite fit, but regular controlled exercise like walking (not just running after a ball or Frisbee!) and swimming is indispensable for the performance dog.

You can also help protect your dog’s back and overall musculoskeletal system by employing some core-strengthening exercises—a “sit pretty” (or “sit up and beg”) posture is excellent for this. You can then progress to having the dog stand up on his hind legs and then sit down again—“doggie squats” are excellent for core strength and balance.

Another exercise that is easy to do is weight shifting. Have the dog stand with her front feet up on a stair or small table, and gently push her from side to side to shift her weight. Yoga balls or eggs are also excellent devices for helping a dog get into shape and stay in shape. The dog must work on balance while standing on the ball, and you can ask for sits, downs, stands, and even spins and “sit pretty.”

Ball-work can be strenuous, and it is best if not employed immediately before a trial. Remember to keep your dog *lean*—even strictly breed-ring dogs should be trim! A healthy, lean body weight is leaner than many people think; you should be able to easily feel ribs, and a few vertebrae in the lower back. Lean dogs live longer and healthier lives as a general rule.

I hope this has given you some food for thought. Have fun! —*Amanda Lowery; amanda@alkemi.org; Swedish Vallhund Club of America website: swedishvallhund.com*



## AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB®

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617  
260 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016

NC Customer Call Center .....(919) 233-9767

NY Tel .....(212) 696-8200

Fax .....(212) 696-8299

Web Site .....http://www.akc.org

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Kalter, Chairman

Dr. Robert D. Smith, Vice Chairman

Class of 2013

LEE ARNOLD

CARL C. ASHBY, III

ALAN KALTER

DR. ROBERT D. SMITH

Class of 2014

DR. CHARLES GARVIN

DR. WILLIAM R. NEWMAN

PATRICIA SCULLY

Class of 2015

ROBERT A. AMEN

DR. CARMEN L. BATTAGLIA

STEVEN D. GLADSTONE, ESQ.

Class of 2016

PATRICIA M. CRUZ

WILLIAM J. FEENEY

THOMAS S. POWERS, ESQ.

DENNIS B. SPRUNG, Ex Officio

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

DENNIS B. SPRUNG

President

Chief Executive Officer

JAMES P. CROWLEY

Executive Secretary

JOHN J. LYONS

Chief Operating Officer

JAMES T. STEVENS

Chief Financial Officer

### VICE PRESIDENTS

LISA GONZALEZ

Marketing & Communications

DOUG LJUNGEN

Companion & Performance Events

DAVID ROBERTS

Registrations & Customer Services

### GENERAL COUNSEL

MARGARET H. POINDEXTER

### ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENTS

GINA DINARDO

Assistant Executive Secretary

MARK DUNN

Registration Development

KEITH FRAZIER

Audit & Control

MARI-BETH O'NEILL

Customer Service

VICKIE LANE REES

Human Resources

DAPHNA STRAUS

Business Development

### APPEALS TRIALS BOARD

RALPH DEL DEO — CHAIR

BARBARA W. MIENER

PAUL WEICK

### TRIAL BOARDS

#### NORTHEAST

DANIEL SMYTH — Chair

ROBERT HARTINGER

BERNARD SCHWARTZ

ALTERNATES

CHARLES FOLEY

RITA BIDDLE

#### NORTHWEST

LAURIE RAYMOND — Chair

DR. KLAUS ANSELM

DR. ROBERT MYALL

ALTERNATES

MEDORA HARPER

THERESA DOWELL

#### SOUTHEAST

DONALD BOOXBAUM — Chair

DR. J. DONALD JONES

JAMES WHITE

ALTERNATES

EDMUND SLEDZIK

POLLY SMITH

#### SOUTHWEST

WILLIAM BERGUM

EDD BIVIN

ALTERNATES

JAMES DOK

BETTY-ANNE STENMARK

#### PERFORMANCE

DAVID HOPKINS — Chair

TIM CARWILE

JOHN RUSSELL

ALTERNATES

DAVID BAGALEY

WILLIAM DALEY

### MISSION STATEMENT:

The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

### Attention Delegates

#### Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh, in Raleigh, North Carolina, on June 12, 2012, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Delegates Forum.

### Delegates Credentials

**Susanne E. B. Burgess**, Waddell, AZ, English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association

**Larry E. Hansen, Jr.**, Surprise, AZ, Kachina Kennel Club

**Brytt Boyle Hasslinger**, Four Seasons, MO, Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

**Sanda J. Launey**, Cypress, TX, Basset Hound Club of America

**Caryl Myers**, Jacksonville, FL, Jacksonville Dog Fanciers Association

**Douglas Rapport**, Leesburg, VA, Irish Terrier Club of America

**Geraldine Werk**, Valencia, CA, Hollywood Dog Obedience Club

### Notice

As a result of a Trial Board determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Mr. Barry Elliott (Springfield, IL)

### Notice

Mr. Ken Kennedy (Escondido, CA) Action was taken by the Keeshond Club of Southern California for conduct in connection with its March 10, 2012 event. Mr. Kennedy was charged with failure to control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a public reprimand and a \$200 fine.

### Notice

Mr. Mark Baldwin (Mansfield, MO) Action was taken by the Heart of America

Kennel Club, Inc. for conduct in connection with its March 17, 2012 event. Mr. Baldwin was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a one month suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$300 fine, effective March 17, 2012.

### Notice

Mr. Tom "T.W." Johns (Madison, AL) Action was taken by the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America for conduct in connection with its March 3, 2012 event. Mr. Johns was charged with abusive or foul language/verbal altercation. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a public reprimand and a \$100 fine.

### Notice

Mrs. Nancy Baggott (Coupeville, WA) Action was taken by the Seattle Kennel Club, Inc. for conduct in connection with its March 11, 2012 event. Mrs. Baggott was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a public reprimand and a \$100 fine.

### Notice

Mrs. Elinor Posey (Scottsboro, AL) Action was taken by the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America for conduct in connection with its March 3, 2012 event. Mrs. Posey was charged with disruptive behavior at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a public reprimand and a \$100 fine.

### Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for ten years and imposed a \$2000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy:

Effective May 7, 2012

Mrs. Carolyn Burnham (Raleigh, NC) Multiple Breeds  
Mrs. Barbara Woodworth (Raleigh, NC) Multiple Breeds

**JUDGES**

As a result of the October 2010 Board Meeting, publication notice in the Gazette was combined into one notice, therefore the judging approval process continues to include an opportunity for the fancy to respond to each permit judge.

Letters concerning judges and permit judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received by AKC concerning their qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and JS judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations at (919) 816-3593 or email, [judgingops@akc.org](mailto:judgingops@akc.org).

**PERMIT JUDGES**

The following persons have been approved on a Permit basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. *They may now accept assignments* and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

**NEW BREED JUDGES**

**Ms. Jennie D. Behles (34185) NM**  
(505) 866-9418  
[jennie@jdbehles.com](mailto:jennie@jdbehles.com)  
Basenjis

**Mrs. Diane Collings (94897) CA**  
(415) 897-3905  
[dianecollings@verizon.net](mailto:dianecollings@verizon.net)  
Great Danes, Mastiffs, JS

**Mrs. Ardith M. Dahlstrom (94767) CA**  
(707) 768-3911  
[royaloaks@suddenlink.net](mailto:royaloaks@suddenlink.net)  
Border Terriers, Dalmatians, JS

**Ms. Deborah Gallegos (93737) TX**  
(210) 656-5996  
[debbiegalegos1@satx.rr.com](mailto:debbiegalegos1@satx.rr.com)  
Rottweilers

**Mr. John J. Glenn (94877) CA**  
(209) 931-5330  
[jwildwest@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwildwest@sbcglobal.net)  
American Staffordshire Terriers

**Mrs. Dianne R. Graham (94823) VA**  
(540) 731-8655  
[diagramdachshunds@gmail.com](mailto:diagramdachshunds@gmail.com)  
Dachshunds, JS-Limited

**Ms. Maureen E. Hill-Hauch (94939) VA**  
(540) 787-8337  
[maureenhauch@aol.com](mailto:maureenhauch@aol.com)  
American Staffordshire Terriers

**Dr. Cynthia A Skiba (94781) MI**  
(989) 662-9868  
[epochlab@aol.com](mailto:epochlab@aol.com)  
Labrador Retrievers

**APPROVED BREED JUDGES**

**Ms. Deborah Barrett (53586) AL**  
(205) 733-8367  
[dbearett@gmail.com](mailto:dbearett@gmail.com)  
Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers

**Ms. Kathi Brown (55262) MA**  
(978) 897-4717  
[kmbrownsience@verizon.net](mailto:kmbrownsience@verizon.net)  
American Staffordshire Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

**Ms. Pullet DeLong (6997) CA**  
(510) 881-8230  
[polekesilios@comcast.net](mailto:polekesilios@comcast.net)  
Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli

**Mr. Robert Eisele (7354) NY**  
(631) 277-2201  
[bobeisele@aol.com](mailto:bobeisele@aol.com)  
Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Irish Setters, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Cane Corsos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Mastiffs, Saint Bernards, Standard Schnauzers

**Ms. Barbara A. Finch (7567) NC**  
(828) 693-8353  
[tuckamore@bellsouth.net](mailto:tuckamore@bellsouth.net)  
Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Leonbergers

**Ms. Donna Greenamyer (65731) CA**  
(760) 868-1755  
[dgreenamyer@yahoo.com](mailto:dgreenamyer@yahoo.com)  
Pomeranians

**Ms. Shelley S. Hennessy (6224) OH**  
(419) 473-8817  
[chaparraldogs@yahoo.com](mailto:chaparraldogs@yahoo.com)  
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, English Toy Spaniels), Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Irish Red & White Setters, Dalmatians

**Mrs. Pat Putman (34310) WA**  
(509) 884-8258  
[patputman@charter.net](mailto:patputman@charter.net)  
Rottweilers, Tibetan Mastiffs, Chihuahuas, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Tervuren, Border Collies, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

**Mr. Danny D. Seymour (6346) MD**  
(410) 798-7728  
[tapestryhall@aol.com](mailto:tapestryhall@aol.com)  
Golden Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, English Cocker Spaniels

**Mrs. Lawrence J. (Janet) Sinclair (7418) WA**  
(509) 922-8173  
[lj\\_sinclair@msn.com](mailto:lj_sinclair@msn.com)  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Poodles, Schipperkes, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli)

**Mrs. Christie C. Smith (22596) OR**  
(503) 639-8403  
[xtiesmith@comcast.net](mailto:xtiesmith@comcast.net)  
Bichons Frises, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Poodles, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu

**Mr. Luis F. Sosa (45668) LA**  
(985) 845-4562  
[sosaphoto@charter.net](mailto:sosaphoto@charter.net)  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Xoloitzcuintli), Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Great Danes, Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Rottweilers

**Mr. Robin L. Stansell (5580) NC**  
 (919) 359-1150  
 rocyn@embarqmail.com  
 Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Chinook, Doberman Pinschers, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs

**Mr. Henri B. Tuthill (6584) MD**  
 (240) 366-8096  
 tuthillhb@mail.nih.gov  
 Flat Coated Retrievers, English Setters

**Ms. Maryann Wilson (81790) CA**  
 (951) 265-2305  
 daneridge1@verizon.net  
 Boxers

**PERMIT ASSIGNMENTS COMPLETED**

The following persons have **completed** their Permit Judging assignments in the breeds listed, and their names have been added to the list of regular **approved** judges.

**NEW BREED JUDGES**

**Ms. Brenda L. Abraham (92948) OR**  
 (503) 956-9581  
 shademtngsp@gmail.com  
 German Shorthaired Pointers

**Mrs. Susan E. Foster (93152) MA**  
 (978) 683-0356  
 daybreakgold@verizon.net  
 Golden Retrievers

**Mrs. Agi M. Hejja (92456) VA**  
 (804) 556-6937  
 ahejja@mac.com  
 Leonbergers

**Mr. William Spencer Pinegar (90756) OK**  
 (918) 279-1122  
 spinegar1@cox.net  
 Bulldogs

**Mrs. Frances T. Roush (90935) TX**  
 (682) 518-9830  
 jroush@flash.net  
 Dachshunds

**Ms. Julie E. Turner-Hayes (91710) MO**  
 (573) 774-6563  
 julre1978@yahoo.com  
 Cocker Spaniels

**APPROVED BREED JUDGES**

**Mrs. Lorraine W. Bisso (6094) LA**  
 (504) 833-1780  
 regel@bellsouth.net  
 Dachshunds, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Skye Terriers

**Mr. Irving Bonios (2842) CA**  
 (323) 650-6754  
 ibonbest@yahoo.com  
 Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, Havanese, Maltese, Pekingese, Poodles, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers

**Mr. Wayne H. Brower (7316) MO**  
 (816) 331-4082  
 bullies\_beanies@hotmail.com  
 Dalmatians

**Mrs. Susan St. John Brown (5229) OH**  
 (513) 218-7742  
 susanstjohnbrown@aol.com  
 Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli), Boxers

**Ms. Christine Erickson (22529) AZ**  
 (480) 892-4115  
 chris.erickson@cox.net  
 Balance of Terrier Group (Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Russell Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers)

**Ms. Marie Ann Falconer (51642) MA**  
 (413) 433-6474  
 mylaine10@aol.com  
 Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Newfoundlands, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Shiba Inu, Belgian Tervuren

**Mr. Dennis Laturie (30902) MI**  
 (906) 355-2761  
 lattdia@tm.net  
 Labrador Retrievers, English Setters

**Ms. Karolynne M. McAteer (2767) NC**  
 (914) 772-7873  
 karolynnem@gmail.com  
 Irish Red & White Setters, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners

**Ms. Elizabeth "Lani" McKennon (5892) CA**  
 (818) 636-2151  
 lanimck@earthlink.net  
 Pugs, Bichons Frises, Chinese Shar-Pei, Poodles, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels

**Mr. Dennis Morgan (5462) WA**  
 (360) 757-6568  
 ringsideboxers@comcast.net  
 Newfoundlands

**Ms. Carolyn Rennie (31469) AZ**  
 (520) 850-2293  
 cjhrennie@aol.com  
 Salukis, Doberman Pinschers

**Mrs. Meghen Riese-Bassel (39151) GA**  
 (770) 646-6566  
 welshspringers@earthlink.net  
 Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, Field Spaniels

**Mrs. Janice K. Schreiber (17450) WA**  
 (253) 846-7999  
 ashenafea@msn.com  
 Cocker Spaniels, Beagles

**Dr. Dale D. Simmons (2068) OR**  
 (503) 590-9963  
 d.d.simmons@frontier.com  
 French Bulldogs, Poodles

**Mrs. Anne Marie Taylor (7522) MI**  
 (810) 919-9692  
 toraakitaa@aol.com  
 Bernese Mountain Dogs, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs

**Mr. James E. Taylor (7633) MI**  
 (810) 750-6524  
 toraakitaa@aol.com  
 Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs

**Mr. Merle Taylor (17377) IL**  
 (217) 262-3266  
 jbrwk1@prairieinet.net  
 Australian Cattle Dogs, Bearded  
 Collies, Belgian Malinois, Belgian  
 Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren,  
 Entlebucher Mountain Dogs,  
 Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian  
 Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs,  
 Pulik

**APPROVED BREED ADJUNCT JUDGES**

**Ms. Betty Ann Hale (6828) OH**  
 (937) 652-4564  
 hale@velocys.com  
 Cane Corsos

**Mrs. Murrel Purkhiser (7496) TX**  
 (210) 497-0759  
 murrel@me.com  
 Finnish Lapphunds

**Mrs. Christie C. Smith (22596) OR**  
 (503) 639-8403  
 xtiesmith@comcast.net  
 Cane Corsos, Leonbergers

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES**

**Ms. Vicki E. Allenbrand (91374) GA**  
 (678) 429-4609  
 blackjackdogs@earthlink.net

**Ms. Nancy K. Boyle (23874) NY**  
 (518) 265-6308  
 info@heybern.com

**Ms. Connie Gard (76654) AZ**  
 (520) 241-0784  
 conniegd@aol.com

**Mr. Michael C. Kennedy (81613) NC**  
 (919) 656-0290  
 mkennedyue@gmail.com

**Ms. Jane Pepperling (61262) IA**  
 (319) 464-2646  
 pepperling@cfu.com

**BEST IN SHOW**

The following person, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which she was **approved**, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

**Ms. Nancy Bodine (3209) VA**  
 (804) 492-4824  
 shahtani1@juno.com

**REINSTATED JUDGE**

The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.

**Mr. Robert Paust (27933) MO**  
 (717) 779-8695  
 rpaust@yahoo.com

Terrier Group (Airedale Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Russell Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West Highland White Terriers), Afghan Hounds, Basset Hounds, Borzois, Greyhounds, Harriers, Salukis, Whippets, JS-Limited

**RESIGNED JUDGES**

Ms Shirley A. Meger  
 Mrs. Pamela Winters

**EMERITUS JUDGE**

Mr. Keith R. Haygood

**DECEASED JUDGE**

Dr. Harry Smith

**PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES**

The following persons have been approved as a judge on a Provisional basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. They may now accept assignments.

**Donna Blews-Pappas 47791 (MA)**  
 413-204-1107  
 wdpap01@comcast.net  
 Obedience - Open

**William Craig 81590 (MA)**  
 413-743-1579  
 hawkdogud@gmail.com  
 Obedience - Open

**Karen Frese 94747 (PA)**  
 717-599-5856  
 jkfrese@comcast.net  
 Rally - All

**Doris Viguers 82516 (MA)**  
 413-648-9437  
 dviguers@nmschool.org  
 Tracking Dog Excellent

**Nancy Ward 95171 (TX)**  
 713-898-4113  
 newpointgsp@peoplepc.com  
 Rally - All

**PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES COMPLETED**

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.

**Dee Dee Anderson 50143 (CA)**  
 209-727-5321  
 dd@ddsdogtraining.com  
 Obedience - Open

**Linda Ferrullo 46066 (NY)**  
 845-561-7004  
 sixbichons@juno.com  
 Obedience - Open

**Tony Hinson 92682 (NC)**  
 704-795-9511  
 samboomer@ctc.net  
 Tracking Dog

**Hazel Olbrich 90368 (CA)**  
 510-531-2476  
 H\_olbrich@sbcglobal.net  
 Obedience - Novice

**Jack Sappenfield 6902 (NC)**  
 919-598-5318  
 wymars@msn.com  
 Tracking Dog Excellent

**Moke Strassberg 48168 (HI)**  
 808-488-1134  
 mokesplace@hawaii.rr.com  
 Obedience - Open

**REINSTATED JUDGE**

The Judging eligibility of the following persons have been reinstated.

**Curt Curtis 5317 (OR)**  
 503-588-1466  
 Ccurtis894@aol.com  
 Obedience/Rally/Tracking Classes

**Karla Curtis 3157 (OR)**  
 503-588-1466  
 Kcurtis337@aol.com  
 Obedience/Rally/Tracking Classes

**Application for Breed-Specific Registered Name Prefix**

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club. Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary:  
**E-ROSEWOOD** – Labrador Retrievers – Virginia M. & Ronald F. Erickson  
**EDELMARKE** – German Shorthaired Pointers – Lisa M. Hauck-Gaede  
**JAZZIN** – Golden Retrievers & Clumber Spaniels – Collette Jaynes  
**WINDYCANYON** – Labrador Retrievers – Anne M. Swindeman

SILHOUETTE – Doberman Pinschers – Joyce A. Cates  
 ABOUT TIME – Cane Corso - Laura A. Essenmacher  
 BLUE PANDA – Old English Sheepdogs – Dianne. S. McKee-Rowland & Lita E. Long  
 PATTEN GOLD – Golden Retrievers – Greg D.Vick  
 OASIS – Mastiffs – Teresa M. McMahan  
 MIKAJE – Borzois – Karen J. & Kevin J. Miller  
 DIAMANTE – Briards – Laurie C. Senti

VACA VALLEY – American Staffordshire Terriers – Genoa Brown  
 MAP ROCK – Labrador Retrievers – Casey A. & Natalie K. Johnson  
 LZL – Labrador Retrievers – Laurel C. & Rory A. Perram  
 TENACITY – Miniature American Shepherds & Australian Shepherds – Carol Carlson  
 RIOT – Boston Terriers – Elizabeth Johnson  
 LOBUFF – Labrador Retrievers – Lisa Weiss

**Registered Name Prefixes Granted**

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

SPICEWOOD – Mastiffs – Gina M. Moore  
 HIGHTIDE – Australian Shepherds – Jillayne C. Karras  
 RYBA – Australian Terriers – Susan B. Bachman & Teresa A. Schreeder  
 BUCK MOUNTAIN – Australian Shepherds – Holly I & Bob M. VanDuys  
 IMAGINE – French Bulldogs – Carol S. Johnson  
 SOKOLDALU – Vizslas – Carla M. Slabaugh  
 DREAMLAND – Australian Shepherds – Kasey J. Mora  
 LITTLE HUNTER'S – German Shorthaired Pointers – Jami Moore  
 DAMARHOFF – Staffordshire Bull Terriers & Rottweilers – Mark Darwish  
 HEAVENLY ANGELS – Shih Tzu – Tresa L. Horrocks  
 TEMPLE GATE – Pugs – Sarah Woodworth  
 TILER – Miniature Pinschers – Jonathan DeBelen  
 KOBYS – Bulldogs – Wendy M. & Steven J. Kobrzycki  
 LUNAVALLEY – Australian Shepherds – Laura S. Richardson

DUCKFLAT – Labrador Retrievers – Chris J. Hoffman  
 LIBERTY RUN – Entlebucher Mountain Dogs – Anna Wallace  
 WILLOWWOOD – Cavalier King Charles – Susan J. Tomsich  
 HEAVENSENT – Bullmastiffs – Cheryl & Paul Peavey

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 May 7 – 8, 2012**

The Board convened on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present except for Dr. Garvin, Mr. Gladstone, and Dr. Battaglia. Dr. Garvin participated via teleconference. Also present were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary. Copies of the April 2012 minutes were made available to all Directors. The Board reviewed the minutes of the April 9-10, 2012 meeting. Upon a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Dr. Smith, the February 2012 Board minutes were unanimously adopted

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT  
 Scheduling Number of Board Meetings**

The Board discussed the scheduling of Board meetings held annually. The Bylaws require that the Board meet eight (8) times a year. The Board discussed shifting the dates of four of its meetings so that they would be held in conjunction with the Delegates meetings in March, June, Sept and December. Four times a year a stand-alone two-day meeting will be held. This will maintain the current schedule of 8 meetings and 15 meeting days.

The current schedule with four weeks between most meetings, and eight or nine weeks between meetings with an intervening Delegate Meeting, is not efficient and often gives staff only a matter of a few days to carry out actions from one meeting and to prepare for the next. The new schedule will more evenly space the meetings to allow more preparation time and more time to evaluate the progress of prior actions, enabling the Board to be more effective and efficient.

Following a motion by Dr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Cruz, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Battaglia) to schedule four free-standing Board meetings each year

with four additional meetings scheduled in connection with Delegate Meetings, effective with the July 2012 Board meeting.

The 2012-2013 schedule is as follows:

**BOARD MEETING DATES  
 2012**

July 9-10.....(Monday-Tuesday)  
 August.....No Board Meeting  
 September 11-12...(Tuesday-Wednesday)  
 October 22-23.....(Monday-Tuesday)  
 November.....No Board Meeting  
 December 12.....(Wednesday)

**2013**

January.....No Board Meeting  
 February 7-8.....(Thursday-Friday)  
 March 12-13.....(Tuesday Wednesday)  
 April 22-23.....(Monday-Tuesday)  
 May.....No Board Meeting  
 June 11-12.....(Tuesday-Wednesday)  
 July 22-23.....(Monday-Tuesday)  
 August.....No Board Meeting  
 September 10-11...(Tuesday-Wednesday)  
 October 28-29.....(Monday-Tuesday)  
*May reconsider when Meet the Breeds dates are known*  
 November.....No Board Meeting  
 December 11.....(Wednesday)

**The Content of Board Meetings**

The Board discussed the manner in which the regular meetings will be conducted. Staff proposals are distributed to the Board in advance. At the meeting the staff will not make a formal presentation on its proposals, but the Board will ask any questions it wishes on the detailed written presentations.

The second day of each Board meeting will be devoted to Board initiated subjects. The topics will be determined in advance, with staff supplying any applicable information requested by the Board.

There was also discussion on having more items being made part of the Consent Agenda, which is approved with one vote. The Board does have the option of removing an item from the Consent Agenda at the meeting if there are any questions or objections.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
 Board Action Items**

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previous Action items assigned to the staff.

**EVENTS AND ENTRIES UPDATE**

Mr. Sprung reported that for the first three months of 2012 aggregate Entries were up by 9.21% and Events were up by 10.65%, compared to the first three months of the previous year. This increase was broad based, in 10 out of the 11 sport types, led by Agility, Conformation, Obedience and Field Trials.

**LEGAL REPORT**

Margaret Poindexter, General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. She presented a status report on pending litigation and other activities during the month of April, 2012.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Following discussion, there was a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Dr. Newman, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Garvin, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Battaglia) to approve the following Consent Agenda Items:

**Delegates**

The following Delegates were approved:  
Katie Campbell, Seattle, WA  
To represent Basenji Club of America

Dr. J. Charles Garvin, Marion, OH  
To represent Dalmatian Club of America

Lynn Garvin, Marion, OH  
To represent Marion Ohio Kennel Club

Pamela Helmer, Cordova, MD  
To represent Talbot Kennel Club

Don James, Washougal, WA  
To represent Leonberger Club of America

**Rules Applying to Dog Shows**

**Housekeeping Items**

The Board VOTED to change the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 5, Sections 6-8 to make the sections consistent with Chapter 6, Section 8 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This will be read to the Delegates at the June 2012 meeting for a VOTE at the September 2012 meeting.

**SECTION 6.** All prizes offered in a premium list of a show must be

offered to be awarded in a regular procedure of judging and in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter to the owner and/or breeder of the dog, but any prizes or trophies not listed in the premium list may be awarded with the permission of the Event Committee and the reason for the exception included in the show report.

**SECTION 7.** Prizes may be offered in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter at a show for the following placings:

First, Second, Third, Fourth in the Puppy, Twelve-to-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur Owner Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred or Open Classes, or in any division of these designated in the Classification.

First, Second, Third, Fourth in any additional class which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 13, and in the Miscellaneous Class (at all-breed shows only).

Winners, Reserve Winners, Best of Winners, Select, Best of Breed or Variety, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety.

At all-breed shows only: First, Second, Third, Fourth in a Group Class and for Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show, Best Brace in Show and Best Team in Show.

**SECTION 8.** At any specialty show, prizes may also be offered in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter for: Best in Puppy Classes, Best in Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes, Best in Novice Classes, Best in Amateur Owner Handler, Best in Bred-by-Exhibitor Classes, Best in American-bred Classes, Best in Open Classes, Best in any additional classes which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 13, in which the sexes are divided. (In breeds in which there are varieties, a prize may be offered for Best in any of the above classes within the variety.)

In shows held by breed Specialty clubs, awards for Best in Puppy, Twelve-to-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur Owner Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred, and Open

Classes, Best in any additional classes which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 13, in which the sexes are divided, may also be awarded on a three-time win basis provided permanent possession goes to the owner and/or breeder winning the award three times, not necessarily with the same dog, provided such prizes are offered by the show-giving specialty club itself or through it for competition at its shows.

**Foundation Stock Services Guidelines**

The Board VOTED to approve revisions to the Guidelines for the Approval of a Breed for Regular Status

**Dogue de Bordeaux Stud Book**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America to keep the Stud Book for the breed open until August 21, 2017.

**AKC to Recognize Three North American Flyball Association Titles**

The Board VOTED to record three titles earned in North American Flyball Association (NAFA) events. If requested by the owner, AKC will record the suffix titles of Flyball Champion (FDCh), Flyball Master (FM), and the ONYX title. Dogs must be registered or listed with the AKC. This is effective July 1, 2012.

**National Walking Gun Dog Championship For Pointing Breed Trials**

The Board VOTED to approve an annual AKC Pointing Breed National Walking Gun Dog Championship event. The purpose is to acknowledge and encourage the trend that is occurring in Pointing Breed field trials toward more foot handled Gun Dog stakes. The winner of this event would be awarded the prefix title "AKC National Walking Gun Dog Champion of 20\_\_." (NWGDC).

**Use of Blank Guns in Pointing Breed Field Trials and Hunting Tests**

The Board VOTED to change Procedure 1-G of Standard Procedures in the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds and Chapter 3, Section 7. Blank Guns, in the Regulations for AKC Hunting Tests for Pointing Breeds (changes underlined below).

**Procedure 1**

**1- G Blank Guns.** In any stake, except in puppy or derby stakes, a

blank cartridge must be fired by the handler over any dog on point after the game has been flushed. Handlers should be aware of the potentially harmful impact the repeated discharge of a blank gun can have on the hearing of people, dogs and horses. The following Regulations apply to the use of blank guns/ammunition. Blank pistols used to fire a blank cartridge must have a solid barrel incapable of discharging live ammunition. All calibers up to .32 are acceptable. Blank pistols that fire shotgun 209 primers are also acceptable. .22 caliber "acorn" crimps shall not be used. For .22 caliber blanks produced for other purposes (not specifically for blank pistols), handlers should be guided by the recommendation of the manufacturer with regard to the safety of their use in blank pistols. .410 gauge shotguns with blank shells may be permitted if specified in the premium list. No shotgun larger than .410 gauge is allowed. Shotguns must be fired skyward and away from the direction of the gallery and judges.

**CHAPTER 3**

**Section 7. Blank Guns.** Only blank pistols may be used by handlers in Pointing Breed Hunting Tests. Blank pistols used to fire a blank cartridge must have a solid barrel incapable of discharging live ammunition. Handlers should be aware of the potentially harmful impact the repeated discharge of a blank pistol can have on the hearing of people, dogs and horses. The following Regulations apply to the use of blank guns/ammunition. .22 caliber (6mm) blanks are preferred but all calibers up to .32 are acceptable. Blank pistols that fire shotgun 209 primers are also acceptable. .22 caliber "acorn" crimps may be used. For .22 caliber blanks produced for other purposes (not specifically for blank pistols), handlers should be guided by the recommendation of the manufacturer with regard to the safety of their use in blank pistols.

Promiscuous firing of guns or blank pistols on the grounds is prohibited. Handlers in Hunting Tests shall fire

one blank and no more for each flush of one or more birds provided the bird is not being shot at by official gunners.

Handlers should not hold the blank pistol against their body when firing as there is a discharge of gases which may burn or otherwise harm.

The handler must shoot within the time that would be required to kill a bird at natural shotgun range. Any deliberate delay in shooting must be severely penalized.

These changes place an upper limit on the caliber of blank guns that are allowed at Pointing Breed field events, address the uses of new types of ammunition, and caution handlers on the potentially harmful impact that firing a blank gun can have on the hearing of humans, dogs and horses. This is effective June 1, 2012.

**Yorkshire Terriers Eligible to Participate in AKC Earthdog Events**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, to amend the Earthdog regulations to permit eligibility for the Yorkshire Terrier to compete in AKC Earthdog events. This is effective August 1, 2012.

**Revisions to Earthdog Test Regulations**

The Board VOTED to change Chapter 3, Section 3 of the Regulations for Earthdog Tests for Small Terriers and Dachshunds to allow a dog that has earned a qualifying score at the Senior level to continue to enter the Junior level, allowing an owner to enter which ever level they desire. This effective September 1, 2012.

**Spaniel Hunting Tests "Advanced" Titles**

The Board VOTED to amend Regulations for AKC Hunting Test for Spaniels Chapter 2, Section 1, and to create three new sections in Chapter 2 - Chapter 2, Section 2A, Chapter 2, Section 3A, and Chapter 2, Section 4A, to add an Advanced Title to each of the three existing levels of Spaniel Hunting Tests - Junior Hunter Advanced, Senior Hunter Advanced and Master Hunter Advanced. This is effective July 1, 2012.

**Peruvian Inca Orchid Eligible to Participate in AKC Lure Coursing Events**

The Board VOTED to grant the Peruvian Inca Orchid eligibility to compete in AKC Lure Coursing events. This is effective September 1, 2012

**Pointing Breed Grand Field Champion**

**Title**

The Board VOTED to amend the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds Chapter 14, to create two new Pointing Breed Field Trial titles - the Grand Field Champion and the Grand Amateur Field Champion. Points toward these titles must be earned in one hour stakes. A dog must have previously earned its Field Champion or Amateur Field Champion title before it can earn points toward the Grand titles. This is effective January 1, 2014.

**Pointing Breed Field Trials - Roading a Dog Behind the Gallery**

The Board VOTED to amend the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds Procedure 6 Running and Handling - to allow "roading" at Pointing Breed Field Trials that are longer than three days. "Roading" will be allowed at the host club's discretion and under conditions specified in the Pointing Breed Field Trial Standard Procedures. This is effective June 1, 2012.

**Parent Club Performance Event - Belgian Sheepdog Drafting Titles and Schutzhund Titles**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Belgian Sheepdog Club of America (BSDCA). Drafting titles earned by Belgian Sheepdogs in tests held by the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America (BMDCA) and Schutzhund titles earned in American Working Malinois Association (AWMA) events will be acknowledged by the AKC. AKC will record four drafting titles, Novice Draft Dog (NDD), Draft Dog (DD), Novice Brace Draft Dog (NBDD), Brace Draft Dog (BDD) and four Schutzhund titles - BN, IPO1, IPO2, IPO3. AKC will acknowledge titles earned back to January 1, 2000. This is effective June 1, 2012.

**Allow Companion Events Clubs to Offer Lower Entry Fees for Juniors**

The Board VOTED to change the Agility, Obedience, Rally and Tracking Regulations, to allow clubs at their discretion the right to offer a lower entry fee for dogs entered in AKC Companion Events that are handled by a Junior Handler. This is effective for events applied for after January 1, 2013.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

James Stevens, AKC's Chief Financial Officer, gave the financial report.

Total revenues of \$4.7 million in the month of April 2012 were \$448,000 or 11% higher than the prior year. Total monthly operating expenses of over \$4.4 million were 3.7% above 2011. This resulted in an operating surplus of \$217,000 for the month. This was an improvement from last April's monthly operating deficit of \$72,000. Our investments produced a gain of \$205,000 in the month of April.

### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Dr. Battaglia joined the meeting during the Executive Secretary's Report section. Michael Liosis, AKC staff participated in this portion of the meeting and Mari-Beth O'Neill, and Sheila Goffe, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

### **Proposed Amendment to ARTICLE III: Objects of the Club of the AKC Bylaws**

There was a discussion on a proposal from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to add the phrase "to advance canine health and well-being," to the Objects of the organization, which are listed in ARTICLE III of the AKC Bylaws. This will be considered further at the July 2012, meeting.

### **Proposed Amendment to Chapter 2, Section 3 Rules Applying to Dog Shows**

The Board discussed a proposed change to the amendment to Chapter 2, Section 3 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* that is to be read in June and voted on at the September 2012 meeting. The amendment is proposed by the Suffolk County Kennel Club. The Board will recommend that an amendment to the Suffolk County Kennel Club's proposal be made at the June meeting. The Board did not approve the amendment as presented.

The Suffolk County Kennel Club required that it go forward for a vote under the provisions of ARTICLE XX, SECTION 3 b) of the AKC Bylaws. The amendment reads as follows with the additions underlined:

#### **CHAPTER 2**

**SECTION 3.** Each member club or association not a specialty club which shall hold a show within their territory at least once in every two consecutive calendar years shall have the sole show privilege in the city, town or district which has been

assigned to it as its show territory. Clubs that have not held a show in their territory within two consecutive calendar years will be granted the exclusive privilege of their territory one year after the next date they hold a show in their territory.

The Board approved the first insertion, which would enable clubs to utilize a site in a territory after the club assigned that territory has not held a show in that territory for two consecutive years.

The Board does not recommend approval of the proposed new last sentence, and would only recommend approval of the proposal if it is deleted. With this provision, a club could return to its original territory to hold a show, after an absence of several years, re-establish its exclusivity, thereby forcing out clubs that may have been holding shows there for an extended period in the interim.

With this last sentence deleted, the original club could return to its assigned territory, (whether or not another club held shows there) but only re-establish exclusivity if no other club has held shows at a site in the territory. Otherwise the territory would be considered open and any club could be considered for approval to hold shows within it, with no club having exclusive show-giving rights within the territory.

When this proposal is voted on at the September 2012 meeting, the Board recommends that it be amended by deleting the last sentence.

### **Club Household Membership Requirements**

At the request of the Board of Directors staff presented a memo regarding Club household membership requirements. Staff will develop a Fact Sheet for all club officers that offers suggestions covering a range of topics that are important for the successful running of a club.

### **Re-appointment of AKC PAC Board Members**

There was a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Scully, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Garvin, Mr. Gladstone) to re-appoint Carl Ashby, Dr. Anthony DiNardo, and Dr. William Newman to the AKC PAC Board.

### **Appointment of Trial Boards**

The Board reviewed a staff recommended restructuring of AKC Trials Boards and the assigning of cases.

This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

### **Process for Making Technical or Routine Changes to Regulations**

The Board reviewed a staff recommendation that will allow technical or routine changes to Regulations or Standard Procedures to be placed immediately in the Consent section of the Board Book without having to first appear as a yellow memo. This process will expedite the movement of these recommendations through the AKC approval process. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

### **Review Limited Registration**

Based on a request from the Board, Staff presented its review of, and recommendations on, the Limited Registration option and the insights it has gained into the use and expectations of Limited Registration from the breeder and dog owner perspectives.

There was a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Amen, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Gavin) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the usual prior notice requirement.

Following a motion by Mr. Amen, seconded by Mr. Ashby, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Garvin) to not propose any change to the rules regarding Limited Registration.

### **Norwich Terrier Club of America Request**

Mr. Crowley reported on a proposal submitted on behalf of the Norwich Terrier Club of America to have AKC use the Mars Wisdom Test to resolve cases involving a determination of whether a specific dog is a pure bred specimen of a particular breed. Staff is researching the matter and it will be considered at the July 2012 meeting.

### **New Breed for Foundation Stock Service – French Spaniel**

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a request for the French Spaniel to be accepted into the FSS program.

### **New Breed for Foundation Stock Service – Tornjak**

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a request for the Tornjak to be accepted into the FSS program.

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to

discuss sensitive business matters. Nothing was reported out of this session.

**JUDGING OPERATIONS**

Tim Thomas, AKC staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by video conference.

**Junior Showmanship Judging**

**Applicant Qualifications**

There was a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Powers, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Garvin, Mr. Gladstone) to approve changes to the criteria used for Junior Showmanship Judging applicants to define minimum acceptable requirements for All-Breed and Limited Junior Showmanship applicants. The application for Junior Showmanship will be revised with the following requirements for Junior Showmanship Applicants:

*Junior Showmanship All-Breed applicants must meet THREE of the following requirements and pass an Open Book Exam to be eligible to apply. Junior Showmanship Limited applicants must meet TWO of the following requirements and pass an Open Book Exam to be eligible to apply:*

- Applicant has Judged Junior Showmanship at least 3 times at AKC All Breed Sanctioned Matches
- Applicant is the Parent of a current or former Junior Showmanship handler.
- Applicant is currently or was previously a Professional Handler.
- Applicant attended a seminar on judging of Junior Showmanship in the last 24 months sponsored by the AKC Judging Operations Department. \*\*
- Taught All-Breed Handling classes

**\*\*Attendance at a Junior Showmanship Seminar may count as two of the requirements.**

*Junior Showmanship Applicants that meet the criteria to apply will be required to submit a \$25 non-refundable processing fee and be interviewed by an Executive Field Representative prior to being considered by the Judges Review Committee for approval. Applicants will be expected to describe during their interview an understanding of Judging Regulations as related to Junior Showmanship classes. All-Breed Junior Showmanship applicants will be expected to indicate knowledge of breed-specific presentation and examination for various breeds during their interview.*

*Knowledge of breed-specific presentation in various breeds will be required for applicants previously approved for Junior Showmanship-Limited status requesting All-Breed Junior Showmanship status, as well as Conformation Judges currently applying for breeds and All-Breed Junior Showmanship. Applicants who are unsuccessful in confirming this knowledge during their interview may not be approved for All-Breed Junior Showmanship and an interviewer may recommend amending the applicant's request to Junior Showmanship – Limited Status.*

**Michael Heflin**

The Board considered a request from Michael Heflin for the reinstatement of his judging privileges. Mr. Heflin had his judging privileges suspended for life, and he was fined \$1,000 April 10, 2010. It was VOTED to deny the request.

**Requests for Reinstatements**

The Board considered a fee that would be required when a request for reinstatement of AKC privileges was submitted. Such a fee is provided for in ARTICLE XV, SECTION 7, of the AKC Bylaws. There was a consensus that the fee should be the monetary penalty imposed with the suspension. Following a motion by Dr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Arnold, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Garvin, Mr. Gladstone) to adopt the following policy:

The fee necessary for AKC Board action on an application for reinstatement or restoration of privileges is to be paid prior to the Board entertaining any such application and the fee is to be the fine set in connection with the suspension or the withholding of privileges. Payment of the required fee would not guarantee a favorable outcome on the request for reinstatement or restoration of privileges.

Further, the payment of the required fee would not guarantee a favorable outcome on the request for reinstatement or restoration of privileges.

**CONFORMATION**

Bobby Birdsong, Alan Slay and Bri Tesarz, AKC staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Grooming Space**

The Board discussed the subject of reserved grooming space, and reviewed communications received on the subject. There was a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Mr. Powers, and it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Ashby, Mr. Powers, Mr. Arnold, Ms. Scully, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Amen, Dr. Newman, Mr. Feeny; opposed: Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Cruz; abstaining: Dr. Smith; absent: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Garvin) to adopt the following Board policy concerning grooming space at AKC Conformation Events:

*All clubs are required to set aside an area that is reserved for grooming that is reasonable in size for the entry of the show. At least 50% of this space must be available for exhibitors including "Day-of-event" exhibitors and be designated as unpaid grooming space. This space must be in a reasonable/convenient location preferably in the main grooming area. The clubs will still have the right to have paid reserved grooming areas.*

The effective date will be January 1, 2013.

**CLUBS**

**Delegates for Publication**

Geraldine Werk, Valencia, CA  
To represent Hollywood Dog Obedience Club  
Currently represented by Jan Wolf

**COMPLIANCE**

Margaret Poindexter participated in this portion of the meeting while Jack Norton, AKC staff, participated via video conference.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

**(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)**

**IT Presentation**

Consultants from the accounting firm of Grant Thornton, presented an analysis of AKC's IT operations and discussed their recommendation to reduce some of these costs prospectively. Based on this analysis, management will be making a report to the Board with recommendations in July.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Ashby gave an update on fundraising efforts on behalf of the AKC PAC and

the AKC Legislative Support Fund. An effort was being made to have member licensed clubs encourage their members to support both.

Dr. Battaglia raised the subject of a possible Triathlon title for dogs competing in multiple types of AKC events. This is a scheduled Action Item to be discussed at the July 2012 Board Meeting.

Dr. Smith suggested that Parent Clubs be reminded of their prerogatives under the new judging approval procedures. A Parent Club may recommend that a member of the club be approved as a judge of their breed. To participate the club must have been recognized by AKC for ten years, the applicant must have 20 years in the breed and have been a member of the Parent Club for at least 10 years. Parent Clubs may also invite someone who is not an AKC-approved judge to judge its specialty shows.

Mr. Arnold reported that Dr. Newman had been unanimously elected to the AKC Canine Health Foundation Board.

Meeting adjourned on Monday May 7, 2012 at 5:10 pm

---

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday May 8, 2012 at 8:00 am. All Directors were present except for Dr. Garvin and Mr. Gladstone. Dr. Garvin participated via teleconference. Also present were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

The Board considered multiple suggestions of topics for an in-depth discussion on the second day of the July 2012 Board meeting.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 11:15 am.

Adjourned  
Attest:

---

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary

# Parent Club Links



American  
Water Spaniel



Boykin Spaniel



Brittany



Chesapeake Bay  
Retriever



Clumber  
Spaniel



Cocker Spaniel



Curly-Coated  
Retriever



English Cocker  
Spaniel



English Setter



English Springer  
Spaniel



Field Spaniel



Flat-Coated  
Retriever



German Shorthaired  
Pointer



German  
Wirehaired Pointer



Golden  
Retriever



Gordon Setter



Irish Red &  
White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water  
Spaniel



Labrador  
Retriever



Nova Scotia Duck  
Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone  
Italiano



Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer  
Spaniel



Wirehaired  
Pointing Griffon



Afghan Hound



American English  
Coonhound



American  
Foxhound



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan  
Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick  
Coonhound



Borzoi



Dachshund



English  
Foxhound



Greyhound



Harrier



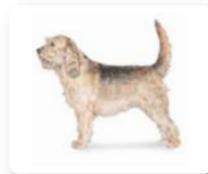
Ibizan Hound



Irish  
Wolfhound



Norwegian  
Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset  
Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Redbone  
Coonhound



Rhodesian  
Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish  
Deerhound



Whippet

# Parent Club Links

Working



Akita



Alaskan  
Malamute



Anatolian  
Shepherd Dog



Bernese  
Mountain Dog



Black Russian  
Terrier



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Doberman  
Pinscher



Dogue de  
Bordeaux



German  
Pinscher



Giant  
Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss  
Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan  
Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese  
Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard  
Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

# Parent Club Links

Terrier



Airedale  
Terrier



American  
Staffordshire Terrier



Australian  
Terrier



Bedlington  
Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie  
Dinmont Terrier



Fox Terrier  
(Smooth)



Glen of Imaal  
Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue  
Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull  
Terrier



Miniature  
Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich  
Terrier



Parson Russell  
Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Soft Coated  
Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire  
Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland  
White Terrier



Wire Fox  
Terrier

# Parent Club Links

Toy



Affenpinscher



Brussels  
Griffon



Cavalier King  
Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese  
Crested



English Toy  
Spaniel



Havanese



Italian  
Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester  
Terrier (Toy)



Miniature  
Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

# Parent Club Links

Non-Sporting



American  
Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese  
Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian  
Lundehund



Poodle  
(Miniature)



Schipperke



Poodle  
(Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan  
Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli



Australian  
Cattle Dog



Australian  
Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian  
Malinois



Belgian  
Sheepdog



Belgian  
Tervuren



Border Collie



Bouvier des  
Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh  
Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher  
Mountain Dog



Finnish  
Lapphund



German  
Shepherd Dog



Icelandic  
Sheepdog



Norwegian  
Buhund



Old English  
Sheepdog



Pembroke  
Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland  
Sheepdog



Puli



Pyrenean  
Shepherd



Shetland  
Sheepdog



Swedish  
Vallhund



# AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

**The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.**

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/handlers/>

To view the AKC Registered Handlers Membership list, click here:

[www.akc.org/handlers/states/allstates.cfm](http://www.akc.org/handlers/states/allstates.cfm)

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics:

[http://www.akc.org/handlers/jr\\_clinics.cfm](http://www.akc.org/handlers/jr_clinics.cfm)

[http://www.akc.org/handlers/adult\\_clinics.cfm](http://www.akc.org/handlers/adult_clinics.cfm)