# Breed Columns

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

## Non-Sporting
- 20 American Eskimo Dogs
- 20 Boston Terriers
- 21 Bulldogs
- 21 Chinese Shar-Pei
- 22 Chow Chow
- 23 Dalmatians
- 23 Finnish Spitz
- 24 French Bulldogs
- 25 Keeshonden
- 25 Lhasa Apso
- 26 Löwchen
- 26 Shiba Inu
- 27 Tibetan Spaniels
- 27 Tibetan Terriers

## Herding
- 28 Australian Cattle Dogs
- 29 Bearded Collies
- 30 Beaucerons
- 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 German Shepherd Dogs
- 36 Icelandic Sheepdogs
- 37 Norwegian Buhunds
- 37 Old English Sheepdogs
- 38 Pembroke Welsh Corgis
- 39 Polish Lowland Sheepdogs
- 39 Pulik
- 40 Pyrenean Shepherds
- 40 Swedish Vallhunds

* Links to AKC Parent Clubs appear following Secretary’s Pages *

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**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
This month marks the eleventh anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. Upon experiencing this tragedy during our delegate meeting, staff knew we had to jump into action to assist the search-and-rescue dogs seeking survivors at the sites.

As a result of public pleas for much-needed supplies and through our resourcefulness and cooperation of fanciers, we were able to purchase and transport a portable X-ray machine, gloves, aprons, and cases of film to New York directly after the attacks. Lieutenant Dan Donadio, chief of the NYPD K-9 unit, escorted us to Ground Zero with police sirens wailing, where veterinarians from the Suffolk County SPCA were waiting to assemble the machine. What we saw there that day was a true example of the American spirit.

In the following months, we created and implemented the DOGNY public-art and fund-raising project, so we would be ready to assist search-and-rescue teams as a result of any future attacks on America. Chaired by Ronald Menaker, Karen LeFrak, and myself, and managed by Daphna Straus, the project placed 111 painted German Shepherd Dog sculptures throughout New York City. Many of the sculptures were later auctioned at Sotheby’s, and a book and DOGNY stuffed animal were also created.

In total, the DOGNY project raised over $3.5 million, which became the seed money for the AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund. The Fund has since awarded millions in SAR grants nationwide.

We are marking the anniversary of 9/11 this year by introducing new titles for urban search-and-rescue dogs. The initial titles will be awarded to dogs that are FEMA and state deployable.

The first title was awarded at the 2012 September 11 delegate meeting to Mountaineer Kennel Club delegate Beckie Stanevich and her English Springer Spaniel, Juno. On the same day, three surviving 9/11 search-and-rescue dogs were awarded American Kennel Club titles at the Penn Vet Working Dog Center, which celebrated the grand opening of its training center.

The American Kennel Club and AKC Companion Animal Recovery are pleased to continue honoring the dogs that do so much for our nation. More information about the work of the Canine Support and Relief Fund is at akccar.org.

Sincerely,

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO
NEW YORK—For the good of all petkind, cats and dogs will set aside their differences over the weekend of October 20 and 21, when an expected 40,000 visitors will converge on the Javits Convention Center for the fourth annual New York AKC Meet the Breeds® exposition.

AKC parent clubs will host booths devoted to 160 breeds of dog, and the International Cat Association, the world’s largest genetic registry of purebred cats, will showcase 50 cat breeds. This year the exposition space has expanded to 160,000 square feet, to accommodate more breed booths, vendors, demonstrations, and activities. AKC Meet the Breeds is the world’s largest event of its kind.

Tickets are on sale now at MeetTheBreeds.com.

PUTTIN’ ON THE BLOG

To enhance enjoyment of the big event, the AKC has created a Meet the Breeds blog at meetthebreeds.wordpress.com/. The blog features breed profiles, photo slideshows, videos, instant updates, and reader comments.

“The AKC is excited to launch a forum where people can get a sneak peak of AKC Meet the Breeds,” AKC Assistant Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo says. “Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about some of the breeds they’ll meet at the event and watch videos of the demos they’ll see, like cats and dogs racing against the clock in agility competitions.”

The blog also gives those outside the New York tri-state area the chance to be a part of it all. DiNardo says, “They might not be able to be at the Javits Center for the event, but they can get an exciting virtual experience.”

Meet the Breeds Sponsors
Presenting Sponsor: PetPartners, Inc. The Hartford; Pet Brands; Purina ProPlan; Motel 6; Bayer’s K-9 Advantix II; Citibank; Felidae; Sturdi Products; Oreck; Pets Add Life (PAL); Harry & David; BH Pet Gear; BowTie, Inc.; TimberTech; PetFood.com; 1 800 petsupplies; ShowSight; Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Baker Institute for Animal Health

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At the June Delegates Meeting, we spoke of proposed new regulations in the Animal Welfare Act and the onerous impact on AKC fancy breeders, like you and me. We were determined to act quickly and with great purpose.

And we did.

AKC Government Relations developed comprehensive, compassionate, and convincing comments requiring a rethink of the USDA proposal. Thousands of you took action and offered constructive comments, also. And the petition we started, advocating for the AKC position, ignited the passionate support of over 70,000 people. We made our voice heard strongly and undeniably. The quest for equitable regulations will continue for some time. This was just the beginning of a long journey, one we are prepared for and committed to for as long as it takes.

The Dog-friendly Skies

Earlier this year I was travelling to New York for an AKC board meeting with these anti-breeder actions on my mind. I was approached by a flight attendant shortly after boarding the plane. She had noticed my AKC Breeder of Merit pin and asked if I was a dog breeder. I responded yes and steeled myself for what she might say next. I was truly unprepared for it.

She said, “Thank you.”

She explained that a dog has always been an important part of her life, her children’s lives, and now her grandchildren’s lives. Each a purebred dog, albeit several different breeds, and each acquired from a breeder.

She understood that it was breeders who made possible the lifelong joy her dogs brought her. She just wanted me to know my role as a breeder was appreciated and worthwhile.

Unfortunately, every day we are confronted by those who see breeders very differently—those who work, law by restrictive law, to take our rights away. Every day we fight to protect those rights from the extremists who would see breeding restricted to the point of elimination.

We Will Not Stand By

The American Kennel Club believes in your rights as responsible owners and breeders. We stand up for your rights wherever and whenever necessary. We will not stand by and let breeders be bullied into hiding.

To ensure that will not happen, we need more than a strong argument about what we are against; we need to be just as strong about what it is we are for.

This month we have the perfect opportunity, with hundreds of our clubs participating in the 10th annual AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day by hosting free community events that reach dog lovers, potential pet owners, voters, and legislators.

We welcome AKC clubs, CGC evaluators, rescue groups, dog trainers, vet clinics, and all dog-loving groups who have joined us in making this the biggest month-long celebration yet. Last year, more than 630 organizations hosted events reaching millions through extensive media coverage. Dog lovers also posted thousands of “Acts of Responsible Dog Ownership” on our Facebook and Twitter pages to help us celebrate “Virtual AKC RDO Days.” This year, follow us to get AKC RDO Days updates and participate in our virtual celebration.

President Kennedy had an inspiring thought that I believe applies to us: “One person can make a difference, and every person should try.”

We not only have that responsibility for individual activism, but also a requirement for collective action. By doing both, we will shape our own future and ensure our rights as responsible dog owners and breeders.

Together, we will continue to stand up for what we believe.

SAR Delegate Honored

At the September Delegate Meeting, English Springer Spaniel Pride ’n Joy’s Juno-Lupa and Beckie Stanevich, AKC delegate from the Mountaineer Kennel Club (pictured with Alan Kalter), were recognized as the first dog and handler to receive the AKC Urban Search and Rescue (SAR) title. The FEMA-certified team deploys to federal disaster sites.

The ceremony was held on the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks.

More on this and other Delegate Meeting news in the next GAZETTE.
Michael Szabo has joined the AKC field staff as an executive field representative. Szabo is relocating to the Chicago area and will join the field staff on October 1. He will cover shows in the Midwest.

“Michael brings a broad background as a breeder, valuable expertise as an AKC-registered handler, and extensive hands-on experience in AKC events as a superintendent,” says Patricia Proctor, who heads the conformation field staff. “The American Kennel Club is proud to welcome him.”

Szabo began his ring career in 1984. He has bred Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Akitas, Beagles, and Pointers. During a 23-year professional-handling career, he had many specialty winners and all-breed Best in Show dogs.

Szabo is a founding member of the Fulton County Ohio Kennel Club, and he has been a member of the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States for over 25 years.

The AKC and Eukanuba Dog Foods have introduced the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Honor Roll.

To celebrate the new AKC/Eukanuba National Championship show format that goes into effect this December, all dogs who achieve the established qualifying criteria will be welcomed into this prestigious program.

Honor Roll dogs will be entitled to the following:
* A commemorative pin acknowledging them as a 2012 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship honoree. This pin is exclusively for dogs who have qualified and are competing at the event.
* A personalized certificate of achievement.
* Special honor-roll designation in the show catalog.
* A free photograph of the honoree in the online catalog archived at the AKC website.
* A special discount for pre- or post-show advertising in the AKC Weekly Winners Gallery that will feature the honorees and AKC/Eukanuba winners.

The qualifying period ends on October 10. For eligibility criteria, visit the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship pages at akc.org.

The AKC will celebrate its flagship Responsible Dog Ownership Day on Saturday, September 22, at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds. Events will include Meet the Breeds, a discount microchip clinic, dog-sport demonstrations, and CGC testing.
CHF to Purina: Thanks a Million

The AKC Canine Health Foundation reports that the Nestlé Purina PetCare Company’s contributions to the foundation for 2012 will total more than $1 million. Nestlé Purina’s commitment to the AKC/CHF, going back 17 years, consists of corporate financial support, financial support through their Purina Parent Club Partnership Program, and a shared commitment to provide reliable information to pet owners worldwide.

“Since 1997, Nestlé Purina has contributed more than $8.5 million dollars to the foundation,” says Terry Warren, the AKC/CHF’s chief executive officer. “These funds have furthered canine health research in such fields as oncology, cardiology, and endocrinology, and have helped us further our educational outreach: providing reliable, cutting-edge information to pet owners worldwide.”

In the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program, Purina Pro Club members designate a breed of dog and submit weight circles (similar to proofs of purchase) from qualifying Purina-brand dog foods. An annual donation based on the value of the submitted weight circles is made to AKC/CHF Donor Advised Funds for canine-health research.

Since 2003 this program has raised more than $2 million for breed-specific studies of such health issues as cataracts in northern breeds and heart disease in Norfolk Terriers.

Dog Days of Autumn

ST. LOUIS—Throughout the year, the AKC Museum of the Dog holds special days to honor a single breed. Here are a few upcoming breed-specific dates at the museum to keep in mind.

October 6 is “Saluki Day!,” hosted by the Saluki Club of America. Among the oldest domesticated breeds, the Saluki’s grace, speed, and beauty have inspired artists for millennia.

On October 14, the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Greater St. Louis will hold its annual fun match. Museum visitors are encouraged to root for their favorites.

Metro St. Louis Pug Rescue hosts the Toy Group’s social event of the season: the annual “Pug Party,” on October 21.

Information: visit museumofthedog.org.
“Until the Last Stone Is Turned”

Following the theme of this issue’s “President’s Letter,” we present excerpts from a GAZETTE interview with NYPD K-9 chief Lieutenant Dan Donadio. The date is September 28, 2001. Donadio’s dogs and handlers are still plodding through the smoldering rubble of the World Trade Center.

How are you and your dogs doing?
Good. A little tired—we’re working 12-hour tours—but we’re doing good. A couple of dogs have minor injuries, and the officers are bruised up, but nothing serious.

How is your mission currently defined?
We’re looking for survivors. We want to find someone alive. I will have dogs there until the last stone is turned.

[A few days after this conversation, the search-and-rescue mission shifted to search and recovery.]

Has all this sunk in yet?
After 20 years on the job, you think you’ve seen it all. But the smoke and the fire—it was a horror movie. Unreal. Chilling. But we’ve been so busy that, no, I don’t think it has really sunk in. When I’m driving to work, alone in my car, it’ll hit me. I still can’t bring myself to look over to the Manhattan skyline where the Twin Towers were.

But you know when we get most emotional? Trying to respond to the support we’re getting from all over the world. You open these letters from the kids, and from the dog lovers, and they just make you want to cry, to the point where you have to stop reading. We have them all tacked up here on the wall. Just yesterday, before I went out to the site, I was opening these packages from kids in Texas, with little treats and letters from the dogs.

Do the kids say that they want to grow up to be cops and firefighters?
Sure. But I remind them that you don’t have to wear a uniform to be a hero. There were a lot of civilian heroes out there, especially in those first few days. We lost so many firemen and cops, but we also lost a lot of fathers and mothers and sons and daughters. This is a story with thousands of heroes.

Donadio retired from the NYPD in 2006.
“All too frequently we find people demanding respect. Respect can never be demanded. And those who demand it are the very people who are least worthy of it.”—A.B.

Andrew Brace
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.

Affenpinschers

Our guest columnist for this issue is Jude Daley, of South Hampton, New Hampshire, an Affenpinscher breeder-owner-handler since 2001. Jude is president of the Affenpinscher Club of America and just chaired the committee that produced the first Affenpinscher Illustrated Standard. She can be reached at affens@gmail.com.

Where, Oh, Where Has Our Little Dog Gone?

Standing ringside recently, watching the Affens go ’round and ’round, I realized that the dogs were kinda big. Really big. Actually, they were huge.

The standard calls for a height range of 9½ to 11½ inches. It used to state that a height of 10½ inches was the ideal—something all breeders should aim for.

We are now seeing many large Affens in the ring. It’s easy to breed big dogs—or, more correctly, larger toy dogs.

Nature does not like a small dog. We Affen breeders know that, and every now and then we are fooled by Mother Nature with a lovely puppy who grows up to be an “Affen Pony”!

In over 11 years, only once have I seen a judge withhold a ribbon for an oversized Affen. Could it be because we have no disqualifications in our breed, making it difficult for judges to insist on “toeing the line” as to size? Could it be because most all of the Affen judging population rarely get to see an Affen—and then when they do, they are overwhelmed by the entry (even if it’s just one) and are understandably hesitant to penalize the entrant by withholding the ribbon? Or could it be because “big is better,” and the big ones zoom around faster and are oh-so-flashy?

Here’s my take on this phenomenon of big Affens: They are invaders! Not to cast any aspersions on Affens from overseas, but seriously, all the “foreign” Affens (imports, as their owners are proud to announce) seem to all have two things in common: They tend to be large, and they zoom around the rings. It might remind you of how a German Shepherd Dog is shown. Someone explained to me that at shows in Europe, Affens are required to run around with larger dogs such as Giant Schnauzers and the like. In that situation, of course they have to move out and zoom; of course they have to have some stature and a big presence. I get that.

In the U.S., however, we show only with other toys. Not until Best in Show do we come up against anything larger. That should not deter any group-winner Affens, though. Look at the BIS lineup at Westminster this year. I seriously doubt that Peke and his handler ever in their show career attempted a “zoom around the ring,” let alone try to look big!

The Affenpinscher standard has already been altered to accommodate the breed growing larger—by one full inch. Enough! Breed to the standard, and I’m willing to bet anything that
within a few short years, folks from away will be knocking our doors down for something a bit smaller, something that gait’s with that famous jaunty little strut, something that looks more like an Affenpinscher than an Affen Pony.

In order to help out the poor judges who are caught in the middle, I am seriously looking for a tailor who will alter my show pants just a bit. I want to walk into the ring with my wonderfully square, 10½-inch bitch and proudly stand next to her while wearing a pair of custom-made pants that have an aplique of a ruler, with the inches clearly marked in red in easy-to-read, large print. When the huge Affen Pony prances in, I’ll stand next to it so that judges will clearly see I’m standing next to a 13-inch (or more) Pony. I can only hope that no one will laugh as I gait my dog appropriately around the ring—with my measurement-marked pants not even billowing, because I’m not zooming.

My point: Read the standard. Understand the standard. Breed to the standard. Buy potential show quality according to the standard. Judge according to the standard. —J.D.

Thank you, Jude. —Nancy Baybutt, siennagoldaffens@comcast.com; Affenpinscher Club of America website: affenpinscher.org

**Brussels Griffons**

**Attitude and Ring Presence**

When I first became involved with Brussels Griffons, lack of attitude was more common than not. To find a Griffon who would gait in the ring with his tail up was rare, even at our national specialty. I once heard a judge proclaim, as she gaited a Winners Bitch class, “I’m giving it to the first one who gets her tail up.” And that’s what she did.

Over the years, breeders and owners have learned the importance of breeding for temperament, and they’ve also learned how to socialize a puppy so as to instill confidence without creating a bad citizen. Nowadays, Griffs with poor attitude are in the minority rather than the majority, but there are exceptions. It is so frustrating to have an otherwise lovely dog show poorly because he hates to show and lacks confidence.

Good ring attitude starts in the whelping box, or even before. The dam has a major influence on the behavior of her pups, so choosing a brood bitch with the proper temperament is the first step. Socialization begins almost immediately after birth with daily handling. Even early nail-clipping contributes to dogs having happy attitude later. Griffs are unforgiving and hold a grudge; wrestling with one the day before a show to do nails will create a sullen creature whose sole purpose now is to make you look bad in the ring—something they’re very good at. Weekly nail-clipping from early on gets them used to the process. (It also keeps them from injuring the eyes of their playmates.)

We all know the basics of socializing—we take them to the mall, the park, the dog show, and the kids’ soccer games. We introduce them to many foods, many beds, many surfaces, and many people. But what happens if, despite your efforts, or because you acquired a poorly socialized puppy, you still have issues with attitude? And if you purchased a soft Griff, you didn’t do your homework. But that’s another column.

Following are two processes that have worked in the past for me and for others. First, take your Griff to watch group judging or another noisy event—but don’t put him on your lap. Put him on a chair next to you. This teaches him that he can be safe in strange surroundings with you, without having to be glued to your hip. Reach over and pet or scratch him with a “Good dog!” on occasion, but only when he is relaxed and quiet. (It may take a few groups for him to relax, but you’ve got a total of seven to accomplish your goal!)

Another process that works as a quick fix on the day with well-trained dog who just isn’t quite sure of himself is to have a friend hold him away from the ring, and away from you, until it’s just time to show. Then the “holder” can bring him to the ring and hand him over just as your class is called. Often the dog is so happy to be reunited with his person that he forgets to be worried about where you’re taking him. A little “kootchy-coo” around the ring also helps.

What does not help is encouraging your Griff to bark at passing dogs and/or people. This only produces a nuisance dog—who often continues undesirable behavior in the ring. It also puts the dog at risk from a bigger, crankier dog who doesn’t like his attitude. —Anne K. Catterson, anneatti@gmail.com; American Brussels Griffon Association website: brussels-griffon.info

**Cavalier King Charles Spaniels**

**The Hair of the Dog!**

The official standard for Cavaliers is quite clear in describing the breed’s correct coat quality and characteristics:

*Of moderate length, silky, free from curl. Slight wave permissible. Feathering on ears, chest, legs and tail should be long, and the feathering on the feet is a feature of the breed. No trimming of the dog is permitted.*

However, questions constantly arise among breeders and exhibitors concerning some of these essential features.

“Moderate length” is a sticking point. What may be “moderate” to me may be profuse or sparse to the other person. In the ring we see dogs with coat like a bush, so heavy that it distorts the outline of the animal. And in the same ring we might see a dog with very little coat, so as to almost render the two looking as if they are hardly the same breed.

Complicate this by the fact that some dogs are, at any given season of the year, “in” or “out” of coat, and you see why there is confusion among many.

The ideal Cavalier coat is just enough to make him somewhat glamorous, but not so much as to distort his proportions and structure. His coat...
should not drip to the ground. We should always be aware that there is a dog under that hair, and enough of him should be visible so that we can tell at a glance what his proportions are, where his tail-set lies, and how much neck and leg he has. Yes, we feel with our hands to corroborate what our eyes have seen—but we should not have to use our hands as the only way to detect what we want to know.

Jeanie Montford, well-known breeder from Australia, perhaps said it best recently in an e-mail:

“I love long coats too, but some have so much you cannot see the outline of the actual dog, its topline, etc., and have hair growing in every direction. I have judged some of these in recent years! Yes, show people generally work on the coats to present them straight and smooth, but quite often the poor pet owner who might have a brother or sister or relation of that super show dog will have trouble coping with their pet’s overly profuse coat. Friends of mine have a grooming shop, and I see lots of pets (not necessarily neutered ones) in there matted up and needing to be clipped off. There are certainly some Cavaliers who are not ‘easy care’ or ‘low maintenance’!”

It is also important to note that the Cavalier has no undercoat—the breed has a single coat only, unlike double-coated breeds such as the Lhasa Apso and the German Shepherd. Sometimes there is some fluff underneath—usually dead hair that combs out easily. Or maybe it is the incorrect coat of a Cavalier who is wanting in that aspect—but it is never “double.”

The correct coat lies mostly flat, with a silky feel to the touch. In the show/pet dog, exhibitors coax those stray wavy hairs flat, but in the pet dog who is not so pampered, you will usually see a slight wave, especially over the hip area. I have always thought it adds to the “natural” look so desired in the breed, and the wave varies quite a bit from dog to dog.

It is just another example of how subjective it sometimes is to interpret what seem to be fairly straightforward words from our breed standards. In the meantime, Cavalier breeders are very pleased to have dogs requiring no trimming whatsoever while showing off their natural good looks. —Stephanie Abraham, landmarks.properties@snet.net; American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club website: ackcs.org

Chihuahuas Elements of Type

“Are all those dogs the same breed?” When walking into the Chihuahua show ring, you’ll see a variety of dogs who are so visually different, it’s no wonder judges are having a hard time choosing the best dog of the day.

Because interpretation of the standard leaves a lot of leeway to the individual breeder, we must breed for type. By doing so, we would see less variance in our dogs.

Coat, head, movement, silhouette, and character are some of the elements of type as described in our breed standard.

On these points:

Coat “should be of a soft texture, either flat or slightly wavy, with undercoat preferred.” Today it appears that the long-coated Chihuahua is “preferred” to have a very full and heavy coat, straying from the original intent of the standard. One dog will have a full, heavy coat, while the dog next to him may have a flat or slightly wavy coat. This tends to confuse judges and ringside alike. Sometimes the dog of better conformation, soundness, and type is overlooked for a luscious coat.

Head is defined as having a “well-rounded, ‘apple dome’ skull with a saucy expression.” To some, the head is the all to end all, while to others it simply sits at the top of the neck. The correct head highlights the dog, and the expression projects the essence of what we look for in our Chihuahuas. It’s the first impression and the final brushstroke in painting the picture of a Chihuahua.

Movement is to be swift, with firm, sturdy action and good reach in front equal to the drive from the rear. From the rear, the hocks remain parallel to each other and the footfall of the rear legs follows directly behind that of the forelegs. There is no hackney gait or high lifting mentioned in our standard.

Many believe that a toy dog cannot move like a sporting dog. Over the years, quality breeders have made huge improvements in the structure of their dogs, and indeed, a Chihuahua can and does move with grace and ease around the ring. This correct movement denotes correct conformation, yet it goes unrewarded at times for a pretty face in a fur coat.

Silhouette is the physicality of the breed. It is everything that is required by the breed standard. An accomplished groomer can hide a multitude of sins, creating an illusion. A correct outline should denote correctness in parts, so it is important to be sure that what we are looking at is real.

Character is the sum total of the dog’s mental and physical characteristics. It’s the immediate impression of the dog at first sight. It is expressed in not only what the dog looks like but also in how it conducts itself. Breeders need to develop an ability to recognize the ideal Chihuahua character in order to establish a vision of excellence for the breed.

“The pendulum of type swings to and fro, but those remaining true to the standard triumph in the end.” — Virginia (Jenny) Hauber, wynjynchis@yahoo.com; Chihuahua Club of America website: chihuahuclubofamerica.com

Chinese Cresteds

“Any Color or Combination of Colors”

I recently arrived at a show with a young Chinese Crested I’d entered. Since she was new to the show ring, I arrived early, planning to give her some time to acclimate to the new environment.

She was sitting on her grooming table when another exhibitor came over to see her and bring an offer of
“help.” Since my girl was a light color—kind of a pearl gray—this person offered to “fix” my bitch’s color before I showed her.

At first I was confused. As the understanding hit me that she was offering to let me use a product to darken my bitch’s color, I was outraged on a couple of levels. I think I declined her offer politely, but I wish I had collected my thoughts well enough at the time to say what I will write now. I hope she reads this. I may send her a copy.

Our standard allows “any color or combination of colors.” One of the delightful things about Chinese Cresteds, to my way of thinking, is the rainbow of colors we have in our breed. We see colors from white all the way through black, with spots or patterns, and in shades of brown, red, and occasionally blue and lavender—in any combination. There should be no preference.

Being an old-fashioned, law-abiding citizen, my first outrage was because it’s just not right to alter the color of your dog; it’s against the rules. Now, I realize that in today’s world, a lot of people wouldn’t give that a second thought, but I do. But I stop at stop signs, too.

The other part of my outrage should concern everyone. If we promote only dark-colored dogs, we will eventually lose the other colors. Judges will assume (and some already do) that the dark dogs are superior and should be put up. I have had students in seminars ask me about “other colors,” saying, “But they’re not as good as the dark ones, are they? Wouldn’t you rather have a darker one?”

Structure is what I hope they will judge—and movement and breed type. Puppy-seekers frequently call and specify that they want a dark-colored dog with white furnishings, like the one they saw at the dog show or on television. We really must do our best to dispel this myth that the darker, the better. Just as with people, all the colors are beautiful. Color is really the icing on the cake or dog in this case. And strawberry is just as yummy as vanilla or chocolate or butterscotch. —Sue Klinkhardt-Gardner, Tamoshire@Qnet.com; American Chinese Crested Club website: chinesecrestedclub.info

**English Toy Spaniels**

**Judging From Outside the Ring: Find the Positive**

It is often said that a good judge will never fault-judge. They should instead be assessing the positive attributes of the exhibits brought to them in the show ring.

I agree with this as well and wonder why we do not hold ourselves to the same standards outside of the ring. How many times have you listened to spectators and other exhibitors make disparaging remarks about the quality of dogs being presented?

Perhaps you are guilty of this personally. I have found myself falling into this negative way of thinking, and I plan to hold myself to a higher standard in the future. As far as I can tell, there is nothing beneficial in this behavior for anyone in the sport.

Why does anyone find themselves in this situation? I think there are a number of reasons. People are poor losers, have a grudge against the owner of a particular dog, or maybe want to appear as if they are well educated about their breed’s important qualities.

It would benefit the entire fancy if each one of us looked for these negative traits in ourselves and pledged to rise above our petty behaviors.

I am not saying we must love everything about every dog we see. A dog may not be a type that you appreciate, but someone saw something there and felt he was worthy of being shown. It is not for anyone else other than the judge in the ring to decide if the dog is worthy of being shown.

Our breed’s standard has no disqualifications, except for missing testicles, and only a few stated faults. It was written specifically to help us look for the positive and prized traits that make the English Toy Spaniel a unique treasure.

If I think about it, there is not one exhibit I have ever seen who did not have positive qualities. Perhaps a dog has a poor topline but a beautiful expression that you can admire. Maybe her head is not your cup of tea, but she has soundness and lovely movement. Sometimes the things that might strike me are the wonderful temperament and lovely way of showing themselves. All of these positive traits are things that our breed needs, so it behooves us to notice when they appear.

Even if you do not have good feelings about a dog’s owner, remember the pride you feel about your own dogs, and know that they have the same feelings. You do not have to include these dogs in your breeding program, but you can still appreciate the qualities they possess.

Take the pledge with me to refrain from negative talk outside the ring. Find the positive in every exhibit you see, and find out how it might open your eyes to new possibilities. I am not proposing we turn a blind eye to the faults in the dogs around us. Instead I would like to see a balance—notice the faults, but praise the virtues.

Above all, show respect for others, and as our mothers always told us, “Treat others the way you would like to be treated.” —Janelle Smedley; Jsmeds@cheqnet.net; English Toy Spaniel Club of America website: englishtoyspanielclubofamerica.org

**Havanese**

**“Purebred” and “Well Bred”**

Does it seem like there is no awareness of quality these days among prospective owners? We all hear: “I don’t care about show dogs.” “I am not going to show; I just want a pet.”

We should respond by saying, “You should care! A good purebred puppy will look and act like the breed you chose.”

When people choose a breed, they usually do so by looking at pictures of show dogs, going to a dog show, or seeing a dog show on television. Do they think every dog of that chosen breed will look and act the same?
We who are involved in the sport know that the point of dog shows is evaluation of breeding stock. We know it takes a breeder time, money, and effort to show dogs to a championship. The dogs a breeder puts in the ring represent the best of her line. Breeders show their dogs to obtain outside confirmation of their dogs’ quality before breeding. It isn’t for vanity or just a beauty contest. How do we get that across?

Our show dogs are the core individuals who must carry on and improve our historic breeds against assaults from “animal-rights” groups and government regulation.

Havanese breeders health-test their dogs before breeding them, including having BAER, tests for hearing, CERF for cataracts, cardiac certification, OFA certification of patellas, hips, and elbows, LCP, and full blood panels to check liver and other functions. Our club gives awards in addition to CHIC to reward dogs who pass these tests.

Anyone who is lucky enough to get a purebred Havanese from a fine breeder should absolutely care about the “show dogs” in the pedigree and a healthy, happy, and beautiful representation of her breed. Simple behaviors such as bite inhibition are much more easily learned by a puppy from its canine family than from a human instructor. In fact when a puppy is taken away too soon, some things can never be properly assimilated.

In my personal experience during 46 years of living with Italian Greyhounds, I’ve found that several of my closest bonds have been with dogs who were acquired at a later age. A good example is PePa, my current show dog.

PePa was obtained from my Brazilian breeder-friend Elias P. Duarte Jr. at 6 months of age. PePa had been trained with commands given in Portuguese, a language with which I am not at all familiar and the pronunciation of which is quite difficult. I asked Elias to teach me a few words, particularly the ones for stand and stay, which I started to use with PePa.

Somehow, PePa did understand what I wanted her to do, and even our first show weekend together less than two weeks after she had arrived was very successful—although I got the distinct impression that she was quietly laughing at me when I told her parada or parou.

Mispoken words and humor aside, PePa fit into our routine within days of her arrival. She bonded with me almost immediately, following me everywhere, and she started her second morning in our house doing exactly what the other dogs did. She chose her own spots on the sofa and in bed and quickly learned the proper place to go to relieve herself. She also bonded right away with Diva, the closest resident IG to her age, to the extent that we started referring to PePa and Diva as “the twins.”

There are many bonuses to acquiring an older puppy or young adult. Often these are already trained, especially if they are destined for the show ring. PePa, for instance, arrived accustomed to riding quietly in a crate while traveling in a car and content to be confined to an exercise pen when necessary.

Probably one of the biggest advantages over a very young baby is that an older one is much less likely to have
separation anxiety, a difficult-to-manage characteristic common in many breeds, especially the more affectionate ones—which, of course, includes the IG. —Lillian S. Barber, iggylil@earthlink.net; Italian Greyhound Club of America website: italiangreyhound.org

**Maltese**

**“A Jaunty, Smooth Flowing Gait”**

Whenever I sit down to write my column, it involves a thinking process as I consider what is important for the people in our breed to be informed about. Sometimes I ponder and ponder, What should I write about?

This month, it’s a piece of cake. At the moment we have a big problem in our breed with movement! Breeders, judges, and exhibitors, look at your dogs: Can they go around the ring without any “hippity-hop”? Can they keep a straight topline? Do they flick their tail a number of times? Do they cross their front legs and try to cut the ring?

These are all indications of something wrong with their structure. Perhaps too many breeders are just breeding for pretty faces, good coats, and small size? Our breed is losing the soundness it had to begin with.

As I always say in my AKC judges’ education seminar, a Maltese should flow around the ring, and if you can imagine a plate on the dog’s back not falling off or tipping, that would mean all the parts are put together correctly.

Our standard says the Maltese moves with a jaunty, smooth flowing gait. Since the Maltese has a cute temperament, he sometimes tries to be naughty, and the jaunty description refers mostly to his temperament. However, smooth flowing creates a picture that many of the dogs shown today do not reflect. They should glide around the ring with their coat flowing. If the head is bobbing up and down, that is not flowing. If the appearance of the side movement every 10 steps looks like the dog has a flat tire, this is totally incorrect—something is wrong with their rear-end assembly, either hips or patellas.

I am not certain if some of the behavior is due to the dog not having enough time “just being a dog” or practicing on the lead. If so, it is a shame for our exhibitors and breeders. I also am hesitant to say that many new breeders have no concept of soundness. This is very sad for the future of our breed. They are a toy breed, yes, but they need to be able to play with their owners and kids, and they need to be able to get around well.

When you have class dogs or puppies at a show, sometimes besides being naughty they just are not as adjusted to showing in the ring. This should not be penalized that much. Generally, it’s because the dogs are not as well trained. However, they still should have a smooth gait when they gait for most of the time. When it comes time for Best of Breed competition with seasoned, campaigned specials, there must be a continuous flow to the gait!

Breeders and exhibitors, please be aware of soundness when breeding or showing your dogs, Judges, please do not award big wins to Maltese who are not sound! Don’t let Photoshopped ads mold your opinions.—Daryl Martin, daryldmartin@sbglobal.net; American Maltese Association website: americanmaltese.org

**Miniature Pinschers**

**The Versatile Min Pin**

Did you know the Miniature Pinscher is not a small version of the Doberman Pinscher? In fact the breed was developed long before that breed was created by Herr Dobermann in the 1800s. The Miniature Pinscher originated when folks wanted a small dog who could keep their homes (not as well insulated and chemically protected as ours today) rid of small vermin, and who could play with the children as well.

Did you know Miniature Pinschers can be trained as small and quick hunting dogs? Roger and Ronna Roberts, of Erie, Pennsylvania, have a black-and-rust Min Pin who helps Roger hunt pheasant. The Min Pin, Robbie, is right there when Roger shoots and then takes off to help find the birds. The breed is quick and strong enough for hunting rabbits, too.

Did you know that Miniature Pinschers can be trained as Canine Good Citizens and are perfect for therapy work? Joanne Wilds took her dog Chaz into nursing homes, and the laughter and smiles that ensued were heartwarming to witness. Folks who had been huddled in their rooms came out for a pet and to hold and hug the little dog. Chaz took it all in stride and provided mental and emotional comfort to many people who needed to feel that unconditional love and to love in return.

Did you know Miniature Pinschers are so smart and clever that they’re great at obedience? Holly Boyd and her little boy Buzz are diligently working on their rally titles. When you watch the team in the ring, they are almost magical—albeit a bit funny. Here’s this lovely woman working her way through the signs (and there are lots of them to read and know), and her red old man is walking right beside her, and every once in a while he looks up as if to say, “Poor Mom! She just keeps messing up my work!”

Did you know Miniature Pinschers are great trucking dogs? Larry and his dog Sammy, and Lee and his dog Bebe, travel all over the beautiful United States in their big rigs. The dogs have their own crates, beds, and equipment bags. They protect their “mobile home” with a vengeance. Even the Department of Transportation inspectors are wary when coming up to the trucks with a barking Miniature Pinscher in it. It is better to travel with a friend with you, and the Min Pin adds protection, says Lee.

Did you know Miniature Pinschers are great at agility? Doralyn Wheatley and her dog Tessa run their trials with strength and speed. It takes a lot to work a Miniature Pinscher off-lead and trust he or she will make the marks. Doralyn and Tessa have the most amaz-
ing relationship and understanding. To watch them fly through their paces is a wonder!

Miniature Pinschers are versatile dogs and can adapt to just about any situation you put them in. Those of us who are breeders and trainers know it is important to socialize this smart, tough, entertaining breed early and always treat them with respect. The Miniature Pinscher is a talented and intelligent partner in any endeavor!

**Breed news.** A young conformation contender has surpassed breed win records that have stood for the last 35 years. GCh. Marlex Classic Red Glare (Classie) has just accumulated 45 AKC all-breed Bests in Show, to tie the record held by Ch. Jay-Mac’s Impossible Dream (Impy). Congratulations to her owners Leah Monte and Armando Angelbello. Classie is handled by Armando and was bred by Carole Ann Mohr-Rio. —Kim Byrd, kisakennel.com; Miniature Pinscher Club of America website: Minpin.org

**Papillons**

**Conditioning a Papillon for Conformation PART ONE**

It is certainly gratifying to hear people make positive remarks about your Papillon. It is even more rewarding, however, when comments such as “He’s in beautiful condition” come from judges. It indicates that you’ve achieved recognition validating all your hard work and dedication in preparing your dog for the show ring.

**Conditioning** consists of many components: nutrition, exercise, socialization, handling techniques, and grooming. Following genetics, conditioning is the next-strongest influence in successfully presenting a Papillon in conformation.

Conditioning starts from the inside, with proper nutrition. For health and safety issues, a Papillon should eat a well-balanced diet of top-quality commercial food that does not contain pre-mixed, synthetic vitamins from foreign sources. There is an art to finding just the right, healthy diet that is specifically designed for our high-energy toys. It should consist of nutritionally balanced whole foods made from wholesome ingredients, yet it must be palatable for picky eaters, easily digestible so as to produce healthy stools, and above all, safe for consumption.

Exercise, such as walking your Papillon, is one element to good conditioning that should not be overlooked. A brisk walk for one hour a day at least five times a week can accomplish a lot with a small dog. It will help to strengthen bones and ligaments, build muscle tone, improve gait, and subsequently improve his chance of success in the show ring. If targeted to specific areas, exercise can even help improve weak rears and fronts. Walking up stairs and hills will help strengthen rear muscles, while going down stairs and hills will help to strengthen weak fronts. Walking together is a win-win situation, where you will bond with your dog while both of you benefit from the exercise.

Socialization is vital in making a successful show career and in enhancing the quality of life for both you and your Papillon. It begins at birth, with the puppy’s associations with his environment. If a Papillon is well socialized with other dogs and people and was able to handle adventurous places at a young age, he will be better prepared for new situations when he competes in the show ring. In my experience, exposing a puppy to loud noises, TV and radio, and people giving him treats will help condition him and alleviate subsequent fears of the unknown.

The benefits from attending handling classes are twofold. They are an excellent way for your Papillon to socialize and practice in conformation showing. It will help him become more accustomed to strangers, large dogs, and loud noises while learning how to gait at the right pace and stack for examination. Meanwhile, you will be getting tips from the instructor on how to present your Papillon to his best advantage. Not all Papillons are perfect, and you may need instruction on handling techniques to accentuate your dog’s good attributes and camouflage his faults. Practicing the correct gait for his individual needs helps you develop good timing to be in sync with him. Some willful dogs need more control than others and will move better when you walk slightly ahead of them, not giving them too much lead, while others with strong fronts and excellent conformation should go out at the end of a lead to show their beautiful outline and side gait. —Roseann Fucillo, cillotte@yahoo.com; Papillon Club of America website: papillonclub.org

**Pekingese**

Our guest columnist is Pamela Winters, of Draco Pekingese in Vista, California (pamela.winters1@cox.net).

**The Study of the Pekingese PART ONE**

Our Pacific Coast Pekingese Club members have been studying the breed’s standard bit by bit, and we have come to wrapping up some of the final points (coat, color, gait, and temperament). I am not going into detail on these qualities, as they can be written about but never understood until actually seen. Rather I will make a few observations, with the idea that we can eventually all get together off and on and ask questions and continue learning about the breed.

And let me remind you: Don’t just ask one or two people. Each person has an individual preference of what they like and don’t like in the breed, and it is not only not necessarily right or wrong, but may simply be one of the many correct “looks.” You need to develop the “type” you prefer, and only immersion in the breed will help you do this. Go to shows. Visit breeders. Read everything you can, and use old issues of *The Orient Express* to study pictures of the Pekes advertised, so you can train your eye to see what is considered a correct look. And start picking out qualities you like or don’t like, and dis-
BREED COLUMNS

cuss these with experienced breeders to see what they feel about those qualities.

Never stop with one opinion or discussion; talk to a few more exhibitors to broaden your view of what is or is not correct and pleasing to you and others.

The standard says that all colors and markings should be given equal merit. Back in the 1950s the standard said that a black mask was preferable. More than 50 years later, we are still fighting that stigma: Judges can’t seem to see around a self or partial mask most of the time. And particolors struggle for their rights to win.

You can’t help it, however. Think of your own preferences. Personally, I like a black dog but don’t have any desire to own a white one. Why? I don’t know. I just feel that way. But if I saw a superior white dog in the ring and were judging, I would reward it rather than a lesser dog of a color I prefer.

Coat texture is important, and again you need to feel a correct coat to ever know what is being described. Poor texture is obvious on those whose coats are huge and soft and cottony all over, resembling cotton candy. That soft coat will forever tangle and mat and ends up being controlled only by shaving it off.

A properly textured Pekingese coat requires less grooming effort than a coat that is too soft. Strangely enough, when I groomed professionally, I saw soft, cottonlike coats on other breeds such as Schnauzers, Bichons, Poodles, and so on, and these coats were nearly impossible to groom into the look that the breed called for. After struggling to keep their dogs’ coats unmatted (and usually losing the battle), most pet owners opted for a simple “puppy cut” that brought the body hair down to about ½ inch or less all over. My take on this eventually was that this soft and undesirable coat seems to be something the breeds all want to revert to and has to be guarded against when breeding dogs. Beware of poor coat texture in the Pekingese breed, and help keep the breed true toward the standard.

Much has been written and discussed on the proper Pekingese gait. Quite frankly, over the years, I have come to believe that not even most Pekingese breeders know what a correct “Pekingese roll” really looks like. I certainly can’t describe it so that you will understand what I think I believe is the correct roll. If you actually see it, however, you will probably know it is what has been described in the standard. The simplest approach for a novice wanting to discern if the Pekingese is gaiting correctly is to watch its topline as someone walks the dog in a “show” pattern. Bouncing of the back is not correct. The topline should move pretty much smoothly along (much like all breeds who are gaiting well), without up-and-down movement that is visibly detectible. —P.W.

Thank you, Pamela. This study of the breed will conclude in the December issue. —Jacqueline Ragland, jaling60@hotmail.com; Pekingese Club of America website: thepekingeseclubofamerica.com

Pomeranians

WE are happy to share once again the information below that first appeared in the breed column in 2009.

The Thrill of Saving Baby Puppies

As dedicated dog breeders, we sometimes experience birth incidents that frighten us, drain us, or break our hearts because of rotten circumstances—but they can also delight us with sweet circumstances! It may sound a little dramatic, but I want to share some of my whelping experiences with readers. Much of this may be familiar to you, but perhaps some of it may help you in some way or teach you a bit of what older folks have learned.

Incredibly, and so happily, the unresponsive baby may suddenly gasp, wiggle a little, cry out, and you have become a miracle-maker. It feels so wonderful.

Here is the other side of the story; in my own experience, this situation has sometimes been successful, and other
times a heartbreaking failure. I recall a couple of times, however, when I have sadly given up and then suddenly and unexpectedly, after the little, “lifeless” puppy has been laid aside as totally gone, it makes a feeble little gasp. You are seeing a miracle, and with lots more hard rubbing, the little guy begins breathing! Don’t expect this to always be the case, but it can happen.

Once when we had a dam in the vet’s office for a cesarian, a single baby was very lifeless. The vet used all methods to revive him, but still there were no signs of life. She handed him to me, and I worked vigorously, while seemingly unnecessarily. Then a tiny squeak sounded, and the vet complimented me with a remark to her staff, “Well, if anyone might have a chance, Mrs. Baker would be the one.”

This all may seem elementary, and chances are you’ve been through these things. I’m certainly not a magical expert, just a little experienced. Again, I hope all this doesn’t come across as something that I feel that the style is tending towards dogs who lack that correct? Pugs racing around the ring with big side gait and perhaps old-fashioned rather than in style—and winning. We are losing our pigment by breeding all these pale, pale fawn dogs. He was so right. We are seeing white nails, and light ears and muzzles that are then “enhanced” in order to make them black. The darker fawn is no longer in fashion, but we need some of these dogs in our breeding programs in order to preserve pigment. Yet how often have we seen a very light-colored Pug of lesser quality put up over a structurally correct sound dog who is on the dark side? Too often, and so what happens? People don’t show the darker dogs or use them in their breeding programs.

Movement is another issue. Nobody hates seeing a dog plod around the ring more than I do—in fact I am guilty of having specialed a Pug who flew around the ring like a setter, and I admit that I had a blast doing so. But is that correct? Pugs racing around the ring with big side gait are impressive and fun to watch. However, when they are run around the ring at warp speed, they lose that characteristic roll that is such an important aspect of our breed type.

To conclude, I may be idealistic, but I would love to see the pendulum swing back to exhibitors showing what is correct and perhaps old-fashioned rather than what is in style—and winning. We have to remember that a big factor in what is winning is about so much more
Shih Tzu
“Cut-Downs” Are an Educational Tool

This year, for the first time, the American Shih Tzu Club offered “cut-down” sweepstakes classes at our national specialty. Most Shih Tzu are cut down once their show careers are over. We therefore thought, particularly since 2012 was a West Coast specialty, that such classes would give attendees an opportunity to see dogs from other areas they had not seen while they were in the ring.

Most welcomed this opportunity, and breeders were gracious enough to enter a number of their dogs. We used our regular puppy sweepstakes judge to judge the “cut-down” sweeps, so we did not have to hire another judge. Classes were offered for dogs and bitches, non-champion and AKC champion, and neutered dogs and spayed bitches were eligible to participate. All dogs entered had to be 12 months of age or older on the day of the show and shown with a trimmed coat (“Schnauzer” trim or less). The hair on ears and tail could be left long.

The winner was an 8-year-old champion bitch who is the “house mouse” of Greg and Tammarie Larson. She obviously enjoyed her return to stardom as much as the audience admired how well she had held up even after having several litters of puppies.

Most appreciative of the class, perhaps, were those attending the ASTC Judges’ Education Seminar, presented by judges’ education chair Kristi Trivilino.

The prospective Shih Tzu judges, seated at ringside with ASTC mentors, were able to watch coated and groomed Shih Tzu placed on a ringside table close up, before they were presented to the judges and gaited. They had this same opportunity with the “cut-downs,” allowing them to better understand how elaborate topknots and a well-trimmed curtain of hair can change a dog’s appearance and sometimes disguise what is underneath.

We found the same to be true when we used cut-down Shih Tzu as many of our demonstration dogs at the Breeder Education Seminar at the 2010 specialty in St. Louis.

If you missed this seminar, four articles based on it can be found on the ASTC website at americanshihtzucub.org, under “Breeder Education”/articles. They are useful for judges and breeders alike. The ASTC education committee plans to present a similar seminar at the next national specialty, which we hope to put onto a DVD.

If you are going to produce or put up a coated dog who conforms to the breed standard, you need to form a mental picture of what is under all that hair, both stacked and moving. Remember, good grooming is not a genetic trait!

The 2013 ASTC national specialty, which will include agility trials, obedience, and rally, will be held in Annapolis, Maryland, the week of April 29 to May 4. The Shih Tzu fanciers of Greater Baltimore, under the leadership of show chair Lorraine de Salvo, will be the host club, guaranteeing a fun time. Two local specialties will also be held that week. More information will be posted on the ASTC website.

Mark the dates on your calendar, and join us to see old and make new friends and learn more about our breed. We hope to see all of you there! —Jo Ann White, joawhite@juno.com; American Shih Tzu Club website: americanshihtzucub.org

Silky Terriers
Defining the Breed

Not long ago, I was sitting ringside with an all-breed judge, and we got talking about form versus function and the “look” of individual breeds. The judge asked me my breed, and when I said “Silky Terrier,” he asked what I believed to be the individual hallmarks of the breed and how I could identify it from a distance.

We were discussing our opinions when, suddenly, he pointed to a dog and asked what breed I thought it was. To me it was obviously a Silky Terrier. He asked why I thought so, and if it could be any other breed. He was adamant that outline is what defines a breed. I agree that it’s certainly a starting point.

So, what does the outline of a Silky show? It should show a toy dog with light bone but substance, and a body that is low-set and longer than tall. Generally, a Silky is 8 to 10 inches at the shoulder, with proportionate weight. Length is measured from the point of the shoulder to the point of the rear. Height is measured at the shoulder. The tail and ears are carried erect. The ears are set high, pointed, and mobile (active). The neck is moderate in length, and is neither long nor short. The back should be level; a roach or dip is a serious fault. The gait is lively, with good reach and drive. Adults should have body coat that is long, but not reaching the ground.

Upon closer inspection, the Silky’s head is shown to be wedge-shaped, and he has a strong, keen terrier expression. The eyes and eyeliner are dark; the backskull is flat. The nose is dark. The Silky has a tight cat foot with short, black nails and black pads. He should have a scissors bite and may appear to have large teeth. (The standard does not address the size of the teeth.) Silkys should have full dentition, although we generally do not count teeth in the breed.

There is much confusion regarding...
Toys

BREED COLUMNS

Yorkshire Terriers
Breeding Strategies

The majority of serious breeders use some type of linebreeding strategy in their breeding program. Linebreeding is the mating of individuals who are closely related to a common ancestor but are generally not very closely related to each other. So, if someone tells you his dog is linebred, you should want to know the ancestor in the pedigree who is the most common to the sire and the dam.

The object of linebreeding is to accumulate the genetic makeup of one outstanding ancestor. In several generations, this dog’s genes can become more important than either the sire or the dam of a puppy. Since a puppy receives 50 percent of its inheritance from each parent, 25 percent from each grandparent, and 12.5 percent from each great-grandparent, it is easy to see the influence of the common dog on both the sire and dam’s pedigrees.

With successful linebreeding, you can develop a line of dogs that are able to produce the outstanding traits of the dog whom they are linebred on. It takes time to do this, as well as quite a bit of breeding and careful selection for those traits. It is sad that in these times people tend to have fewer dogs and breed fewer litters, for as a result we really have few true lines left.

Outbreeding is not really a plan; it’s a lack of a plan, unless you have an inbred or linebred bitch and you wish to outcross her to a particular line that possesses traits you are trying to improve upon.

If you notice, I said outbreeding and outcrossing; they are not the same. You

Toy Fox Terriers
AKC Kennel Inspections

Earlier this year, the AKC enhanced the guidelines for kennel inspections by issuing revisions to its “Care and Conditions of Dogs” policy. The requirements now include that the breeder provide daily positive human interaction with the dogs, sufficient staff in proportion to the number of dogs kept, an emergency preparedness plan, and the provision that any euthanasia that is done shall be carried out humanely.

Anyone who has observed the effect that gross undersocialization has on puppies and dogs, the effects of floods and hurricanes on breeding facilities, and the torturous methods of euthanasia that are sometimes used knows that the new criteria are essential to help ensure that each dog be given at least a modest quality of life.

Out of the dozens of dog registries that exist, the AKC is the only one that inspects dogs or kennels. Except for the governmental authorities, the AKC inspectors may be the only people who may ever inspect how a breeder keeps her dogs and her records. Whatever else may be said about the practices of large commercial-breeding operations that produce AKC dogs, it is undisputable that the AKC regulations do raise the bar, at least to some degree, above state, local, and/or federal requirements for the health and integrity of dogs living in such environments.

The AKC conducts over 5,000 inspections annually, employing over a dozen inspectors throughout the U.S (foreign kennels are not subject to inspection). Since 2007, the AKC conducts random inspections of breeders who register four to six litters annually. Breeders who register seven to 24 litters are generally inspected every 18 months. Those registering 25 or more litters annually are inspected annually. Documented complaints can also result in an inspection of any size breeder.

Breeders who do not pass an inspection will be re-inspected, generally within 45 days. During those 45 days the breeders are generally “frozen” from any sales or breeding activity—which affects any dogs they co-own, not just the ones in their kennel. After 45 days, if the problems are not alleviated, the AKC Management Discipline Committee may recommend fines or suspensions, although the AKC policy is generally not to discipline a breeder who is making clear efforts to achieve compliance.

During an inspection, you can expect the inspector to look at everything from breeding records and record of the disposition of your puppies to your physical kennel area and the apparent health of your dogs. He also may take DNA samples from your dogs to assure accuracy in your recordkeeping.

If you are scheduled for an inspection, do your homework and review the regulations applicable to recordkeeping, and be sure your dogs’ living areas meet the requirements. Make sure your dogs are all properly identified with a microchip or other acceptable method and that they are healthy, clean, and ready for inspection. Finally, see the inspection not as a potentially punitive measure, but rather as an opportunity to learn from the inspector how you might improve on the systems you have in place for your recordkeeping and care of your dogs. —Lisa Curry, lcurry@gmail.com; American Toy Fox Terrier Club website: atftc.com

Silkys with light-blue body color usually do not have dark tan, although it is possible. The topknot is fawn or silver, with fawn most common. A Silky may start life with a silver topknot that later turns fawn. The topknot should not have black hairs mixed in but should be a clear color.

If all these things are as they should be, you should be looking at a Silky Terrier.—Vicki Bratton, Tumbelle@nw.net; Silky Terrier Club of America website: silkyterriercubofamerica.org

The object of linebreeding is to outcross her to a particular line that improves upon.

If you notice, I said outbreeding and outcrossing; they are not the same. You
BREEDING TOYS

I’m not saying that breeding a good dog to a good dog won’t produce a good dog. But the current trend of breeding to the top winner and then breeding to the new top winner next time will ultimately give you absolutely nothing you can count on in your own breeding program.

If you are doing this, you are outcrossing. Unfortunately, you will have introduced a lot of unknown qualities into your gene pool—both good and bad, seen and unseen—with each of these “here and there” breedings. If you come up with a fault or a health problem down the line, you won’t even know where it came from! In other words, you don’t have a line. And nobody’s going to be knocking on your door for a stud service or a show puppy.

I don’t usually encourage inbreeding, but I have done it, and it can work; it can work faster than linebreeding. It is a way to find out if you have any genetic unsoundness in your line. If you inbreed, however, you’ve got to be very strict with yourself in your evaluation of the puppies. Any fault you have, you’re locking it in, just as you are locking in the good traits. Inbreeding is hard to do with toy breeds, as you don’t have enough puppies in each litter from which to choose.

My advice to beginners is to start with a good bitch, preferably from a breeder who has enough dogs so that you will be able to return your bitch there for breeding. Or breed your first bitch to a male owned by a breeder who has more than one stud of the same line so you can take her back there, and later breed her daughter there as well.

If you intend to begin a breeding program, you must begin a plan for it even before you get that first dog.

— Janet Jackson, steppinup@dc.rr.com; Yorkshire Terrier Club of America website: ytea.org

American Eskimo Dogs

Breeding a Balanced American Eskimo Dog

The American Eskimo Dog comes in three sizes: toy (9 inches to and including 12 inches), miniature (over 12 inches to and including 15 inches), and standard (over 15 inches to and including 19 inches). There is no differentiation in height between males and females.

Ideally, breeding should consist of mating toys to toys, miniatures to miniatures, and standards to standards. It is only with consistent breeding practices that the three sizes can be reproduced effectively and balance can be maintained.

Over the last few years, there has been talk of some prospective owners inquiring about “mini-toy” and “mini-standard” American Eskimo Dogs. I must stress that in over 20 years of breeding these magnificent animals, I have yet to see a “mini-toy” or a “mini-standard.” These terms are incorrect and should not be used.

In recent years, some American Eskimo Dogs are lower on leg, resulting in a lack of balance. Short-legged, long-backed dogs are incorrect. Some suffer from short upper arms, lack of shoulder layback, and/or incorrect rear angulation. All of these faults contribute to the inability of an American Eskimo Dog to move correctly, regardless of size.

American Eskimo Dogs were originally bred as multipurpose, working farm dogs. The ability to trot all day is still very important. The American Eskimo Dog should trot, not pace. His back should be level, and he should have adequate reach and drive for his size. The American Eskimo Dog is very agile and has been accepted by the AKC to compete in herding trials, and proper balance, structure, movement, and stamina are important when herding.

This trend toward breeding more “middle of the road” dogs, as I have heard them described, is happening because some breeders feel that smaller-size dogs win more in the ring or are more desirable pets. However, breeding to the smaller end of the standard in any size will usually result in a lack of balance.

Judges should take all sizes into consideration. All three sizes are shown together, except in certain circumstances. When judging the American Eskimo Dog, a judge should give no preference to size. For instance, if a judge has all toys and one standard in the class, or vice versa, he should judge them all according to the breed standard. He should not feel that the standard among the toys or the toy among the standards is the “odd man out”; he should award the dog who on the day best conforms to the breed standard.

It is true that with three sizes in the same ring, at times judges will see diversity in the American Eskimo Dog. However, if they will keep the breed standard and the word balance in mind, they can and will find the best dog.

I will close with one more point, which I stress in my judges’ seminars: The American Eskimo Dog was not bred to be a circus dog, and the word cute is not in the breed standard.

— Debbie Mitchell, Eskie18@earthlink.net; American Eskimo Dog Club of America website: aedka.org

Boston Terriers

AKC Breeder of Merit Goals

The AKC has a wonderful, relatively new program, the Breeder of Merit program, to recognize the accomplishments of elite dog breeders. To earn privilege of membership, there is a detailed application form that has certain strict qualifications. Many Boston Terrier breeders wear the
Beautiful silver Breeder of Merit pin with pride, while others have a goal for the achievement one day. To understand more about this program, visit akc.org/breederofmerit.

Each Breeder of Merit has a special responsibility—that which comes when people are singled out as role models. A newcomer is dazzled by being in the presence of a knowledgeable Boston Terrier breeder who they feel can mentor them. It’s very important to not forget where you started and to share knowledge.

Louis L. Vine, DVM, has been an inspiration to me and many dog fanciers, leaving a legacy of knowledge by his example and writing. Many notable people like Dr. Vine, who wrote at least 30 books as well as being a great veterinarian, have touched our hearts and driven us to breed better dogs. If you wear the Breeder of Merit pin, be proud that the AKC has an appreciation for our hard work and achievement in dogs.

With this special award you can go further to achieve recognition for breeders of registered dogs. Get involved in your community by being on the Health Advisory Animal Control committee. It is an appointed, seated position of your county health department. Most counties welcome knowledgeable dog breeders to help serve.

The goal of the county advisory committee I was on for nine years was to provide input and advice to the animal control staff and the state board of health. This function may include assisting in planning programs, developing ways the animal and humane community can assist animal services to accomplish animal-welfare and control objectives, and advising the animal services director on policies and operation division.

People on these committees help pass legislation that affect responsible dog breeders. This is the foundation that starts many of the good and bad regulations.

Some employees with animal-control and pet-adoption organizations, as well as emotional, confused pet owners, don’t understand the goals and practices of dedicated, responsible breeders of purebred dogs. Media coverage about hoarders and puppy mills make the public want to put anyone who raises puppies into the same category, and we need to change their minds. Being a “Breeder of Merit” on a county board will let people know your standards are high.

Lead by your example. Breed only to improve the Boston Terrier. The founders of our breed considered breeding dogs a creative art. Soundness and movement played a large role in producing winners. Ch. Emperor’s Ace (A-524074) won Best of Breed at Westminster in 1944 and 1946 and first in the Non-Sporting Group. In 1920 the Boston Terrier ranked number one in registrations. (For reference, see The Complete Boston, by William W. Denlinger.)

The early breeders didn’t know about frozen semen in those days, but they knew a better dog had to be produced or the bloodline died. I think we need to go back and read some of the old Boston Terrier books and learn why the breed won in the group at Madison Square Garden back then, and now our last group placement was in 1982.

The American Kennel Club recognizes dedicated dog fanciers to help others want to achieve a better healthier dog. The Breeder of Merit idea was genius! —Patricia S. Johnson, patgrooming@aol.com; Boston Terrier Club of America website: bostonterrierclubofamerica.org

**Bulldogs**

**Breed News**

It is with sincere regret that I report to you the passing of a longtime Bulldogger and supporter of the breed. Dr. Saul Schor passed away recently. He was a tireless worker for the Bulldog Club of America, working on many committees—including being the Gazettemonth columninst, in which role he preceded me. He and his wife, Edythe, were inducted into the Bulldog Club of America Hall of Fame in honor of their dedicated service for the Bulldog Club of America and for Bulldogs. Our sympathy is sent to his family and many friends. His passing leaves a void that will not be easily filled.

**About breeding.** Every so often the subject of inbreeding comes up—that is, the breeding of closely related dogs. It is important to note that inbreeding itself does not cause faults. It is of paramount importance to have a working knowledge of the dogs involved and of their pedigrees.

The animals used for inbreeding must be chosen carefully. If a fault or problem arises from such a breeding, it is because the dogs bred or their ancestors carry the genetic factor for that problem. One can say that the breeding of closely related animals is a way that the qualities—which are good or bad—in a line can be brought to the forefront.

It is important to remember that inbreeding does not cause faults. A quality cannot come out that is not present genetically in the dogs used for breeding.

The only way we can improve is to have the right genes present in the animals bred, and then to try to duplicate them in the line in order to fix them. This accomplishment is not an easy road to undertake. It takes time and patience and a passion for what you do. The road is long and hard but worth the effort.

Robert Newcomb, our AKC delegate, judged the World Bulldog Club Federation show in Austria in May, and he also gave a talk on Bulldog gait. — Amelia Averill, boatswainA@aol.com; Bulldog Club of America website: bulldogclubofamerica.org

**Chinese Shar-Pei**

Our guest columnist this month is Alice Fix.

**The Vanishing Local Club**

It seems that more and more the local clubs are vanishing, and it is a real
dilemma as to what the parent club can do to prevent it and help the local clubs stay viable. In 1993 the local breed club presidents formed their own group within the parent club to discuss the issues facing the local clubs. Our group is named the CSPCA Presidents’ Alliance.

When we met that first year, we had over 35 local breed clubs. Today that number has dropped to 21, with several of those on the verge of closing.

Currently we have a Yahoo group that we use for discussing issues and finding solutions to the problems facing local clubs. Following are some of the ideas that this group has gathered regarding promoting the local clubs, gaining new members, fund-raising, and so on.

One company that offers a good fund-raiser is the Current catalog (currentcatalog.com/club). Your club members can bring the catalog to work and sell Christmas items to co-workers who would purchase the items anyway, and the club receives 50 percent of sales. (Online sales can also be set up.) Just make sure that if you do Christmas-related fund-raiser, do it in early fall, before all the schools start having their fund-raisers.

“Soup in a Jar” sales are another good way to raise money. For these, “soup jar” recipes are found on the Internet. You put the soup ingredients in each jar in layers, close the jar, secure a cut-out piece of colored cotton cloth over the top with a nice ribbon, and you have a great gift. We have also sold spice mixes this way, and mixes for dips, Mexican hot chocolate, spiced nuts, and salad dressings.

Wrapping-paper sales are another type of fund-raiser. A company that offers especially nice paper is Innsbrook. With each fund-raising idea, you will need to clarify what percentage of proceeds will go to your organization.

Another idea is selling dog-related jewelry. Several companies that can be found online make these items and offer them to approved organizations as fund-raisers.

Selling handmade note cards and stationery with artwork or photos of your breed is another way to raise money. Local paper-specialty stores have note card-size boxes with clear plastic lids that allow you to package cards in a professional manner.

In order to keep members, clubs have to offer value in return for their membership dues. If you don’t give them a newsletter, speakers at meetings, fun parties combined with meetings, and whatever else might be of interest to the members, then most won’t renew. It is very important that you give them a need or reason to renew their membership in the local club.

Most local clubs have members with varying interests. Some join just to learn more about the breed. Others join to find out how to get involved in showing, still others join to help out with rescue, and so on. A lot of local club members are just pet owners, and you need to offer them a reason to stay involved in your club. You can assign them jobs at the fund-raisers, and maybe have them help in transporting rescue dogs. If your local club is geared strictly towards dog shows and showing, you will lose members who can be valuable to your club.

Some of our clubs give a free year of club membership to each family who adopts a rescue dog. This has two benefits: It gives the local club the opportunity to educate the people who have taken a rescue dog, and it gives you more club members. If you offer incentives to keep the rescue people interested in your club, the next year they will be dues-paying members. It is a win-win situation.

Newsletters are a great way to give club members something in exchange for their dues. Newsletters need to be informative and educational. There needs to be a balance between fun and interesting articles about dogs in general and things that pertain to your breed. Usually club members want ideas from fixing problem behaviors with their dogs, how to solve health issues, fun photos, news of other club members, newest research findings, and things of general interest.

The best advice that I can offer a local club is to look and see which ones of your local clubs is doing well and continuing to gain members and earning enough money to keep it going. Seek out the members from those clubs and ask how they are doing it, because whatever they are doing must be working. Seeking advice and input from people who have been successful at something you would like to do is the very best counsel that I can give you—whether it is with regard to making your club better, or anything else in life you would like to do. —A.F.

Thank you, Alice.

After 21 years as your columns editor, this will be my last submission on behalf of the Chinese Shar-Pei. I no longer share my life with Shar-Pei, and because of other demands I find that I also no longer keep up with the activities of our breed. I want to especially thank Alice Fix (and all other contributors) for keeping these columns current with our club activities. —Jo Ann Redditt, orientpubl@aol.com; Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America website: cspca.com

Chow Chows
Protecting the Chow Chow

A few of the important purposes of the Chow Chow Club, Inc., as defined in the club by-laws, are to “encourage and promote quality in the breeding of purebred Chow Chows to the standard of the breed, to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection, and to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed.”

In order to have enough devoted workers to accomplish these goals, we must continue to attract new club members and engage the existing members in breed-specific activities.

The members of the club have worked for over a century to meet these objectives. One of the important elements in meeting our goals is to educate the club members and the
Dalmatians
National in Tulsa

It seems there are quite a few parent clubs who hold their national specialties during the early spring months of April and May, and the Dalmatian Club of America is no exception. Held in Tulsa this year, at the beautiful Renaissance Hotel, the show carried a Native American theme, with T-shirts, magnets, coffee mugs, and just about anything else you can think of upon which a logo could be printed selling like hotcakes. Show co-chairs Lori Finlayson and Deby Harber did a superb job of bringing this show off and making sure everyone went home happy.

Fantastic raffle items graced the tables, and members and guests enjoyed the bidding. One such gem was a pencil drawing of a photograph taken of Marge Sullivan, longtime Oklahoma Dal breeder and long since passed away, driving a coach with a loyal Dal trotting beside it—doing what Dals do. What a truly beautiful piece it was, and congratulations to the lucky winner, Janie Norris of Houston. Marge and Bob Sullivan were instrumental in developing an interest in our breed in Oklahoma, particularly in obedience, in the 1960s and ’70s. Many area breeders who can now point to their many conformation champions got their start and were mentored by the Sullivans.

The Betty Garvin Memorial Lecture Series, presented by the Dalmatian Club of America Foundation (DCAF), was another well-attended educational opportunity. Dr. Kirk Esmond of the Josey Ranch Pet Hospital in Dallas spoke on reproductive problems and solutions and focused on a relatively new and highly successful technique called transcervical insemination. Many longtime breeders claimed to come away with knowledge they never had before despite extensive experience.

The always popular and unique Dalmatian Club of America Road Trial kicked off the week at the beautiful Zink Ranch, with six teams competing, all of whom qualified for their respective titles. As the only true trotting breed in the AKC rolls, the Dalmatian loves to show off his coaching skills in this competition. The 12-mile trek qualifiers received the Road Dog title, and the 25-mile contestants qualified for Road Dog Excellent titles.

The DCAF-sponsored gala was held just prior to the wonderful Top 20 competition, where exhibitors and guests alike dressed up in their finest for a very special evening. An “Art Show at the Dog Show” silent auction benefited DCAF and featured original, one-of-a-kind artwork done by DCA members and friends.

As the week came to a close, the Best of Breed competition caused goose-bumps to be plentiful at ringside as 75 beautiful champions commanded the ring. The culmination of an exciting and fun-filled week of competition is always bittersweet, as old friends say goodbye and new friends vow to keep in touch.

The awards banquet on Wednesday night finalized the event, with a duet group vocalizing popular country and western tunes and attendees continuing the auction action and competing in a “wine pull.” Awards were presented to members who excelled in their various disciplines, and four new lifetime members were inducted. Charlie Garvin, Meg Hennessey, Sheila Wymore, and Sharon Boyd will be added to the rolls of the now 20 lifetime members awarded this distinction in the 100-year history of the club.

All in all, it was yet another highly enjoyable national specialty, with Mother Nature doing her part to make it so. —Sharon Boyd; Coindale@aol.com;
Dalmatian Club of America website: thedca.org

Finnish Spitz

Please allow me to present this month’s guest columnist, Anita Thomas (act4@commspeed.net), a fellow Finnish Spitz fancier who has worked with her dogs in herding. I have invited her to share her insights into the breed’s herding instincts.

A Herding Dog?
She is definitely a herding dog. Those words began the comment section of Button’s herding-instincts evaluation, back in 1987. She tested as a loose-eyed...
driver, with a forceful bark, sufficient power for the stock, and an ability to keep the stock grouped.

That was putting it mildly. The sheep were Barbs—a feisty, aggressive breed, not in the mood to take orders from a small dog.

But take them they did. What struck me was how calmly Button kept the sheep in line. A mere flick of her chin sent challengers meekly back to the group.

Since then I’ve had the opportunity to test four of my Finnish Spitz and train two of them more extensively. By large they have shared Button’s herding traits. Like the rest of their kindred Finns, though, each has their own, creative way to handle a situation.

Ruby would tame a recalcitrant ewe with a play-bow instead of a chin-flick, puzzling the sheep into compliance. Ricky took the opposite tack, calming the sheep by backing off and easing his pressure.

Two things impressed me about working with these dogs. The first was how clearly they understood the difference between prey and herding species. There was no fine line between their predatory and controlling instincts. That line was wide as a turpentine.

The second was how attuned they became to the sheep. This is a good attribute when working with other animals, for obvious reasons. Finnish Spitz take it a step further.

One day our task was to separate ewes from lambs for weaning. Sorting them into separate pens was easy; convincing the ewes to mosey off toward greener pastures was not. They began bawling. The lambs bawled back. Ricky sized up the situation, said something like, This is wrong, mothers belong with their babies, and refused to move the ewes. I brought in Ruby. She, too, refused.

Leave it to the Finnish Spitz to add a moral dimension to herding.

This gave me much to think about. The main reason I was herding my dogs was to learn more about them as individuals, and as a breed. I couldn’t have had two more perfect teachers; they were like night and day, covering a full breed-behavioral spectrum.

Ricky was very concerned about our partnership. He would often look back at me while working, to see if we were on the same page. Ruby cared more about maintaining her extremely free spirit. Teaching her skills that required more careful thought was difficult.

Fortunately, Ricky brought a solid work ethic to the job. He eschewed just-for-drill exercises—boring, boring. He wanted real work. So when Ruby needed further education, Ricky took over, occasionally forcing me entirely out of the picture.

This work ethic and sense for purpose showed up when the chips were down. Picture a fastidious dog, who hates even getting his feet wet, slogging through elbow-deep, muddy puddles because some sheep needed moving to safer quarters. That would be Ricky.

His shining moment, though, came the day a ewe lay flailing on the ground with bloat. She needed to stay on her feet, moving as much as possible, while her body begged to collapse. Her prospects were grim. Ricky kept her standing by barking nonstop for an hour and a half. She recovered, and survived. Nobody taught him anything about that. He simply saw what needed to be done and made sure it happened.

If the test of a good herding dog is whether or not the dog makes a difference in livestock management, I’d say the Finnish Spitz can pass with flying colors. —A.T.

Thank you, Anita. —Tom Walker; tommanq@gmail.com; Finnish Spitz Club of America website: finnishspitzclub.org

French Bulldogs
Starting a Local French Bulldog Club

In early 2009 Walt Bebout, recently retired from his position as AKC director of Canine Legislation, returned to Kansas City and contacted me to ask whether there were enough Frenchie people in this area to form a local French Bulldog club. I told him I thought there were, so we called an organizational meeting to be held at the upcoming Sunflower KC show, and Walt put together a “how-to” manual of what we needed to do and when we needed to do it. This was a helpful summary of the AKC publication “How to Form an AKC-Affiliated Dog Club,” plus invaluable tips gleaned from Walt’s experience.

Eleven people showed up for that first organizational meeting on May 16, 2009, and we passed out handouts with Walt’s outline and suggested timetable for club formation. We decided to call our club the Heartland French Bulldog Club, centered in Kansas City. Walt contacted the AKC and got the name and location approved, with a requirement that 51 percent of the members live within 75 miles of Kansas City.

Next it was decided that until we elected officers, Walt would act as “Convener,” and I would be “Scribe,” to keep notes and written records of our activities. One of the founding members offered to let us hold our meetings at his business—a Ferrari repair shop (upscale surroundings indeed for a dog club). We decided to hold our first club meeting in June 2009, and in the interim worked on a constitution and bylaws, based on the AKC template.

At that June meeting, we discussed and edited the proposed constitution and bylaws, considered some logo designs, and set the first Wednesday of each month for our meetings. We also wrote a membership application and a code of ethics, scheduled the January 2010 meeting as our first annual meeting, and decided to hold an election for a board at the end of the year, with Walt and me continuing in the roles of Convener and Scribe until that time. We planned a fun match for August, and a Meet the Breed event in September. We were off to a flying start!

At the July meeting we adopted our constitution and bylaws, approved a logo, arranged for a club banner to be produced with the logo embroidered...
on it, started work on a club website, and planned for our fun match and Meet the Breed event.

The fun match and Meet the Breed were great successes, and we applied for AKC Sanctioned status so that we could begin holding the needed “B” and “A” matches. A holiday party was scheduled, and after just three months we were on the fast track to club formation.

Then, suddenly and without warning, tragedy struck.

Walt Bebout, who had initiated the process and was guiding us through it, was killed in a wreck while on his way to judge Best in Show in Salina, Kansas, on September 11, 2009. It was a wrenching blow for those who knew him and for our new club still in its infancy.

At our next monthly meeting, we decided that we should honor Walt’s memory by continuing on the path he set for us. We held matches, educational and Meet the Breed activities, and at this writing await word from AKC on our application for license status. —Jan Grebe, grebeec@aol.com; French Bull Dog Club of America website: frenchbulldogclub.org

Keeshonden
Reaching Out About Our Breed

As we move toward year’s end, we are planning for the show year ahead. I am thinking about club activities and the astonishing array of volunteers necessary to plan and produce the many programs of both parent clubs and all-breed clubs—monthly meetings, conference calls, committee activities, recordkeeping and statistics, trophies, catalogs, health committee reports, and fundraising, to name only a few.

Now more than ever, we need to develop and maintain outreach that keeps our dogs in front of the public. While we want puppies only to go to appropriate homes, we also have the responsibility to let people know about the many strengths and advantages of our breed as a family companion.

The AKC Meet the Breeds events have become very popular all across the country, and they are an ideal way for club members and dogs to interact with the public in a relaxed setting. Good information is provided, and no one is rushing off to show a dog. A booth and an accompanying informational brochure have been designed for Keeshond clubs participating in Meet the Breeds events. Clubs are invited to contact the KCA for materials.

This is not the only activity that will promote our dogs to the public. In looking back over the years, we note that placing the breed in national publications and media and attending special events were common ways to bring the Keeshond to the public. In the early days, the 1930s to 1950s, there was much excitement when Kees would appear in Life magazine or even on a television program. Then in the 1960s, because of a fear of overbreeding, a lid was put on all breed-promoting activities. In an effort to protect the Keeshond from exploitation, we just huddled together and stopped singing its praises as an ideal family dog, lest someone run off on impulse to a pet store demanding “one of those adorable Keeshond puppies.”

Times have changed, and decades of silence about our breed have finally caught up with us. The most common question we get when out with our dogs is “What kind of dog is that?”

In looking at the budgets and volunteer hours of many, if not most, parent clubs, we find that the majority of activities and expenditures are focused inward on club-member programs, awards, and shows. Very few resources are directed to public education and development of breed awareness.

Today we need to use every venue available to us—print and electronic media, the Internet, social networking, Meet the Breeds, and other tools—to tell the story of our breed. This gets back to volunteers and to recruiting not only new owners for our breed, but also new breeders and club members who will carry on the work of the future.

As guardians of our breed, it is our most important responsibility and the way to ensure a healthy future for our dogs. —Deborah A. Lynch, dlnpcon- sult@gmail.com; Keeshond Club of America website: keeshond.org

Lhasa Apsos
Through a Different Lens

We’ve all heard the critical appraisal of dogs others are showing, and most of us have been guilty of it at one point or another in our show careers. In an era of declines in breed numbers, show entries, breeders, and serious exhibitors, it might be helpful to take a peek through a different lens.

Police and attorneys will tell you that three people can witness the same accident and each will detail a different description of what happened. Two reviewers will critique a performance, and reading their reviews leaves one uncertain that they were at the same event. Let’s consider how a breeder, competitor, judge, and spectator might view the same hypothetical dog named Lhasa.

The breeder: Lhasa is the only puppy from his sire and dam, and both are important in my breeding program. I really don’t like his head, which is broader than I prefer, and the eye is a bit round, but he has a good bite with straight teeth. His balance is ideal, with good length of neck but not extreme. Coat texture is acceptable. I’m thrilled with his excellent shoulders, a trait I have been trying to improve in my line. His rear is average, like his sire’s, but I can get by with it for now and improve it later. He has great temperament and is fun to show.

The competition: Lhasa is a respectable dog, but he lacks correct head type. His movement is bouncy, not smooth, and his rear lacks proper drive. He appears to have good shoulders, but I’m not so sure about that rear. I like his color but the coat texture looks a bit soft. To my eye, I’d like more neck to balance him out properly. He is presented well, has a good attitude, and won’t give you an
non-sporting

advantage by making mistakes in the ring.

The judge: I like this breed but it’s hard to judge because there are so many differing opinions on what is correct. I like to find a quality dog with proper breed type, then decide whether I can forgive its faults. Lhasa presents a very nice picture when standing. He is moderate in size, has a great silhouette, heavy coat, a level topline and is in good condition. His head is mediocre, but he has a better bite than most in this breed, which is refreshing. He’s a flashy showman with good head carriage. His rear demonstrates a fault that I am finding often enough that it could represent a problem for the breed as a whole.

The spectator: What a cute dog! He has a very pretty face, and all that hair is amazing! They must brush him every time, so he really must like being a show dog. I love how he prances around the ring and takes his treats. My cousin rescued a part-Lhasa that looked like this, and he wasn’t as friendly. I want to watch my little balls of fluff (well, at least on the front half of their bodies they’re fluffy) chase down and catch those Frisbees. Amidst the sea of Border Collies and Australian Shepherds in any given disc-dog competition, our Löwchen always stand out from the crowd and draw lots of positive attention for this endangered breed.

Would you believe Löwchen can herd? While at a large show with my two Löwchen and older Puli, we saw signs for herding instinct evaluations, so we entered the Puli and gave him a shot at doing what he was bred to do. Unfortunately, all the years of us telling him not to herd the cats, children, geese, and horses had all backfired, because he just stood there among the sheep looking back at us as if to say, “I know you’re gonna stop me if I go for it.”

As our oldest Löwchen was watching the Puli among the sheep, it was clear that he wanted a turn. We thought “what the heck” and sent him in with the sheep. Much to our surprise (and an even greater surprise to the evaluators), our Löwchen started running after the sheep and keeping them all together when one would try to break away! It was one of the most astonishing things I’ve ever seen—and somehow I think the sheep must have agreed.

Having made the case for the breed as extremely versatile sports dogs, I should note that many of my friends have Löwchen who would prefer nothing more than reclining in their laps and watching TV every night. As with any breed, there is variation in temperament and energy level. Overall, however, Löwchen are lively little dogs who are wonderful companions and bring enthusiasm and comedy with them wherever they go.

Here’s hoping my home will never be without at least one Löwchen from this day forward!” —R.C.

Thank you, Rhonda, for a terrific look at the versatility of our wonderful breed. Next time, we explore “crazy antics!” —Dana Read, otakalhasas@aol.com; Löwchen Club of America website: thelowchenclubofamerica.org

Shiba Inu

This month’s column is from Mary Engstrom (mengstr@comcast.net), member of the parent club’s Gazette columnist committee.

Rehabilitation

It started simply enough. A moment of excitement and a joyful jump off the bed onto the hardwood floor, and Koshou, my 11-year-old AKC #1 Preferred Agility Shiba, 2011, was refusing to put any weight on his left foreleg.

We started treatment conservatively with ice and anti-inflammatory medication. When he still could not bear weight the next morning, however, we headed straight for our vet. An extended period of rest, a failed attempt at getting Koshou to tolerate a chiropractor, and several medications later, we had some improvement, but clearly something was still wrong. Was it time to retire my star?

Not giving up, I made an appointment with a reputable veterinary rehab center. We all know if there is anything
touchier than a Shiba about its feet, it’s a scared and worried Shiba with a sore foot! Dr. Laurie had three tools she needed that day to work with my nervous Shiba: compassion, tolerance, and peanut butter. A little screaming, a lot of wiggling, and some barking when she reached out to him were eventually followed by friendly kisses, especially after the frozen peanut-butter cups. Although she never forced him, she never backed down, and Koshou decided that dignified tolerance was his best course of action.

Koshou is still receiving chiropractic adjustments and laser therapy on a weekly basis, and I continue to see more improvement—both in his tolerance of the treatment, and in the results. Lately there is no perceptible abnormality in his gait, and he shows no hesitation to use the stairs. He will often initiate chasing games with my other Shiba.

In hindsight, I believe the allergy medication Koshou was taking for an extended time was most likely masking chronic pain he may have had earlier. In essence, we had an acute injury on top of a chronic problem. When his left front was injured too badly to bear weight, he compensated by overutilizing the rear.

Signs pointed out by his veterinarian for example were that Koshou was standing with his rear legs almost straight down under his hips, rather than the natural angling back as when a dog is stacked in the show ring. (I guess you conformation people stand them that way for a reason!) I recalled I had seen that odd stance before many times over the past year. Similarly, when holding a treat over his head, Koshou would angle his head to the side, rather than tilting his head straight back to take it. Once I began thinking about how Koshou does things now versus one year ago, I also realized his “getting up from a nap” stretches had become abbreviated as well.

A bit of important advice for anyone with an injured dog is to have the whole dog evaluated, not just the apparent injury site. Koshou’s rehabilitation has been extended because I unknowingly didn’t take that step soon enough. I’d also suggest watching your dog for a change in his pattern of normal activity. A dog who gets surly and lacks energy my not just be getting old but may be injured.

As Koshou and I look forward to returning to the agility ring—we are very close to our PACH title—we hope our story helps others who might be facing a similar problem. —M.E.

Thank you, Mary. —Patricia Doescher; hi_jinx@chorus.net; National Shiba Club of America website: shibas.org

Tibetan Spaniels
How to Make Your Dentist Rich While Breeding Dogs (or Why I Now Have Only Small Dogs)

As I’m facing surgery for my second replacement part, I’m reminded of one of the reasons I switched to a small breed: self-preservation.

Within a year of getting into the sport of dogs, I had a spare part removed from my left knee. After that I could never kneel, which is the normal body posture for handling the breeding of large dogs. In those situations I would sit on the floor instead, with the bitch standing over my leg, and that way I was able handle breedings by myself. (My husband has done a breeding’ but wants no part of breeding’.)

My mentor once told me, “If you own a stud dog, you better be able to cover the bitches when they need to be bred. It is your responsibility to get the job done.”

So I devised a method that worked for me and trained my dog, and thanks to the biddable nature of my then-breed, it worked. From his initiation into manhood, he had been taught to mount and dismount the bitch on command, with “Get the girl” and “Off the girl”—simple, easy and effective.

Since it had been sometime since he had a ‘date,” he was very eager to get down to business. Acting like a youngster rather than an experienced, 9-year-old stud dog, he tried to breed her right leg, then her left leg, and lastly her head. Not helping matters was the fact that the bitch was nearly as big as he was, and a little high on leg, and not overly enamored with his advances. After another futile attempt to breed her right leg, I called a time out.

He was still frantic to breed her, but I managed to get him to drink a little water and calm himself, and as soon as his mind seemed back for a moment I told him, “Get the girl!”

Seventy-two pounds of muscle and flying fur jumped straight up in the air by the time Get was out of my mouth. As I said the girl, I felt his occupant make contact with my mouth and saw blood and my tooth on my shirt—but blood and pain be damned, she was tied! So there I sat for his normal 20–25-minute tie … as my lips swelled to proportions that a Hollywood starlet would envy, but with a gapped-tooth mouth that would only earn a role in a remake of The Beverly Hillbillies.

When I called my dentist’s office and said it was an emergency, telling them I’d broken a tooth, they willingly got me in that day. When I arrived at the office, their first question was how I managed to break off a capped tooth at the root, to which I replied, “It happened during sex with dogs.”

The whelped a litter of 10 puppies 61 days from that breeding. That was her first and only breeding, as on our second try she was less than enthusiastic, and his interest had waned as well. That was fine by me; I had no desire to repeat the performance of the previous day.

That was his final breeding, and he never earned enough in stud fees to cover the cost of a dental implant to replace that tooth. —Dianne Tyree, Di24kk9r@wexfordgold.com; Tibetan Spaniel Club of America website: tscaw.us

Tibetan Terriers
Pride and Prejudice

By definition a prejudice is a principle that its owner does not
intend to examine. Which does not prove it is wrong. And what a comforting thing it is.” —from The Spectator Bird, by Wallace Stegner.

My husband once commented while listening to the color commentary of a televised dog show that he was amazed that vermin had not been eradicated from the earth, judging from the narrator’s statements about how many of the dogs were used to go to ground to kill rodents. I had to admit he had a point...that there are often a few embellishments in breed standards.

At the risk of incurring the wrath of my fellow TT lovers, I’d like to examine a statement in our breed standard that may be supported more by romantic notions than by tangible evidence. I confess I’ve always had nagging doubt about the following: “The feet are large, flat, and round in shape producing a snowshoe effect that provides traction.” Maybe it’s because of my origin from the “Show Me” state, but I’ve longed to bring an inkpad to my origin from the “Show Me” state, statement with concrete statistics.

It is the description of “large” that is bothersome. Several notable judges have commented to me during photo time or chatting after a show that they felt TTs were losing their large feet. “Large” compared to what? TTs definitely have larger feet than Shelties or Shiba Inu. I think they even have larger feet than some Border Collies. But I’ve checked the feet of many Cocker Spaniels, and they have as large, if not larger feet than many TTs.

Large feet seem highly correlated to size of bone. The TTs I’ve observed with the largest feet are also well-boned. Shelties are lighter boned than TTs, which would explain their smaller feet though their height is approximate to a TT. The profuse hair around the paws also creates a Yeti illusion of an oversized foot on a TT. Might the sentence be more accurate had foot size been aligned with the statement about the TT being a dog “of powerful build?” And is it then the loss of a “powerful build” in some TTs that is the true culprit behind the oft-missing large feet? (Gasp!)

And about “round” in shape...the front paws are indeed round in shape (though I’ve seen more than a few TTs that have oval-shaped front paws), but the rear feet and pads are of different form and function (that’s another topic). Any dog fancier could be shown pictures of front and rear feet and correctly identify which end of the dog they were attached to. However, there is no distinction made between front and rear feet in the breed standard.

The key word flat is sandwiched between large and round, and it is the meat of that text. Flat is the real take-home message about TT feet. To evaluate that trait, place a palm directly down on the front foot, where the hand will flatten out over that same, archless foot. This is different than putting a palm over a Poodle foot, where the arch will notch the palm upward.

A European judge once stated that she could tell which TTs in a class were flat-footed by the way they moved around the ring. This impressed me, because it revealed a keen mind intent on studying the forensics to establish purported facts. Might we all be as willing to scrutinize our preconceptions. —Andrea Reiman, andrea.reiman@gmail.com; Tibetan Terrier Club of America website: ttca-online.org

Australian Cattle Dogs

Training your Australian Cattle Dog to be a good companion is a good way to not only develop your skills with dog training, but also to help you get yourself in better shape.

It is essential that your dog be in top physical condition in order to be able to execute all of your commands and perform the many duties you may require of him over his life—which you hope to help make both long and enjoyable. To accomplish this, you will find it very helpful if you are also in as good a physical condition as you can maintain.

Since most of us are extremely busy with all manner of ongoing activities, it becomes increasingly difficult to both stay in shape and make time to keep our pets in good condition. Therefore it is in the best interest of conserving time and making the most of what we have available to try combining our regular dog training with an ongoing physical fitness program.

We all agree that to learn anything, you have to do it for a sufficient number of times for your brain and body to “get it.” We know that it takes somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 repeats for most dog learning to set. This is not an absolute figure, but it does give some baseline for setting up a training program. Since there are 365 days in a year, it is fairly easy to see that if you do something at least once a day, in a year you or your dog would have learned that exercise fairly well. If you do it more than once a day, you will reach your goal a little quicker. However, life being what it is, there will be days you will skip training due to circumstances beyond your control. As a result, this program is set up to produce some interesting results in one year.

Since, we would hope, you and your dog will be together upward of 10 to 15 years, if you follow this program you will have some amazing communication skills develop between you, and your dog will be able to do many things that will amaze and reward you over a long period of time.

The major ingredients and pieces of equipment you will need for this pro-
Bearded Collies
Making Sense of Scents

What an amazing coincidence!” Kathy bubbled. “I just had to call and tell you.”

Kathy’s mail was delivered through a slot in her front door, and the stack was usually ignored by Higgins, her Beardie. But on this particular day, Kathy had walked in to find Higgins had taken just one envelope out of the pile and was relaxing on the sofa with his chin on that lone piece of mail.

The “amazing” part to Kathy was that the letter was from me. I had bred Higgins. A coincidence, we agreed …

Until the next time I wrote Kathy a note. (This was obviously before the days of e-mail.) Once again, she returned home to find that Higgins had extracted my letter from the rest and was guarding it on the sofa again.

I began to wonder. Could my scent have lingered on those letters, through the machinations of Canada Post and the U.S. Postal Service while on their way from Toronto to Buffalo? And would Higgins actually remember my scent if that was the case?

The thoughts brought a stream of questions flowing over the rocks in my head. Do dogs recognize people by scent more than by sight? If so, how long do they remember that scent? Does a person’s scent change over the years—not only because of superficial things like perfume and shampoo, but because of medications, or sickness, or just age? Or do people have a basic scent that stays with them all their lives?

In the years since, I believe some of those questions have been answered.

I’m looking forward to seeing Maddy this weekend. A pup of my breeding, I sold her to the Brookers some 13 years ago. I get to see her two times a year at our twice-yearly Beardie Bounces. Each time, she greets me like a wealthy relative, welcoming me with squeaks and wiggles and kisses after a quick sniff to be sure it’s really me. It’s become a ritual.

Six months isn’t such a long time, but it was much longer in Trudy’s case. As a pup, she went to live with a couple in Chicago. We met up again when she was two. She had finished her AKC championship and had a number of points on her Canadian championship. The owners brought her to our area for some shows, and I had the privilege of handling her to her final points for her Canadian championship.

Then I didn’t see her again for five or six years. We met at a specialty, and I asked the folks if they had brought Trudy along. Yes, they said, she was in the motor home, and they opened the door. Trudy came out, trotted right past me without even a glance and then suddenly stopped.

It was like one of those Oh my gosh! moments. Then she turned and bounded into my arms, licking my face and wagging her whole body. It was pretty evident I was someone she knew and liked.

The three aforementioned Beardies were pups I had bred so they really only had about eight weeks to get to know me before going to new homes. Six, if you consider they were incommunicado for the first couple of weeks due to eyes and ears not being operational. And they weren’t individuals who received all of my attention but just one pup out of a litter. So it seems rather remarkable they’d remember me. Perhaps that’s why Skipper’s story is all the more remarkable.

Allan, an Old English Sheepdog breeder and exhibitor, approached me at a show about seeking a Beardie for his parents. They were especially fond of shaggy dogs but felt that grooming of the OES was too labor intensive for them, so they had debated and decided on a Beardie for their next pet.

After sharing information with him on our bouncing buddies, I let Allan know when I had a litter. Together we picked out a pup for his parents, and since they lived quite a distance away, he delivered it to them.

They phoned from time to time and occasionally wrote to tell me how Skipper was getting along. Allan gave me updates when we met at shows.

The years passed, and Allan married an OES breeder and exhibitor who lived near me.

Then one day I got a phone call. Allan’s parents were visiting and had brought Skipper, now 12 years old, with them.

Did I want to see him? You bet! The family was outside in front of the house when I arrived, and Skipper...
Beaucerons
Harmony and Balance

This year the Beauceron Club of America will hold its national specialty in Dixon, California, on October 26. The show will be judged by Carolyn Herbel.

As the Beauceron breed becomes more established and known in the country, this event takes on a greater importance each passing year as different breeding programs from the United States and other countries are represented.

The Beauceron is a formidable working shepherd, known for his endurance and stamina. Today’s standard still stresses the essence of an animal “exhibiting the strength, endurance, and agility required of the herding dog.”

The correct Beauceron is not a heavy, oversized dog. He does not have to be to tend his flock and perform efficiently. He is a balanced dog with good proportions. He is a harmonious dog un tarnished by the following common extremes: The Beauceron is not bulky and coarse, yet he is not leggy and snippy.

Years ago, an eminent French judge—and breeder—invited to an American Rare Breed Association show in Washington, D.C. was confronted with a choice between these two different types. He favored the lighter dog for his Best of Breed, explaining to me, “The Beauceron is a shepherd, not a molossus; the lighter dog is closer to the archetype of a shepherd.”

This harmony and balance mentioned in the standard are reflected in the correct proportions of a well-built Beauceron. They are very specific and relate closely to the height of the dog. Thus, the length of the body should be slightly superior to the height at the withers by ¾ inches, while the chest equals the height plus ¼ to ½ inches, and the length of the head equals two-fifths the height of the dog.

A beautiful head carries the type. In the Beauceron the head is dictated by exact proportions, all aiming at achieving this harmonious look. The muzzle, the skull’s length, and its width must all equal half of the total length of the head. The ears also contribute to the balance of the head; their height (for the cropped ears) and their length (for the natural ears) equal the length of the muzzle.

A Beauceron presented to the judge in the show ring must be “exhibited in the natural condition, with no trimming.” Whiskers, ears, or underbelly cannot be shaved, and the undercoat cannot be thinned out. Doing so is tampering with one of the important elements a shepherd: his protective coat perfectly suited for his work outdoors.

Indeed, the Beauceron, often referred to as “the country gentleman,” is an elegant and athletic animal exempt of coarseness. He is the epitome of balance and harmony. —Claudia Batson, American Beauceron Club website: beauc.org

Belgian Malinois

Our guest columnist this month is Kris Jacobson, who has written an absolutely fascinating account of truffle hunting with Ilsa, her Malinois.

Truffle Hunting

My name is Kris Jacobson. I was first introduced to the Belgian Malinois breed in 2001 while I was a police officer. When I was assigned to the K-9 division in my agency, I was fortunate to be paired with a Malinois named Fryda, and I immediately fell in love with her. Fryda taught me how wonderful and special this breed can be. My time with her opened a whole new world for me, and I’ve been involved with these amazing dogs ever since.

I currently have two Malinois: an older male rescue named Duke, and Ilsa, a 4-year-old female. I’ve had Ilsa since she was 3 months old, and she has been my constant and loyal companion since.

As Ilsa matured, it was evident that she was an extremely fast, athletic, driven and intelligent dog. We started to compete in various sports—disc dog, lure coursing, dock diving, and canine nose work.

Canine nose work is a fairly new and growing sport that has its origins in the working narcotics and bomb-sniffing dogs in law enforcement. The idea is to train dogs to discern and successfully search for three distinct odors (birch, anise, and clove) in several different physical settings. Competitive trials consist of three basic search areas; vehicles, building interiors, and exterior searches. There are three levels or titles a team can achieve: Nose Work 1, 2, or 3. Each level is harder than the previous, with more “hides” and added scent distractions designed to confuse the dog or handler.

Ilsa and I competed in our first K-9 nose work trial in March 2012, and we were awarded our Nose Work 1 title, CNW1.

In mid-December of 2011, by acci-
herding

BREED COLUMNS

I became aware that the forests surrounding my home in western Oregon are rich with wild truffles. These truffles are commonly known as Oregon Whites, Tuber oregonense, and Oregon Blacks, Luecangium carthusianum. They grow underground in stands of Douglas fir trees. These fir forests blanket the Pacific Northwest and dominate the area in which I live. The harvest season for these truffles falls mostly between the months of October and June.

Truffles are fungus that fruit underground. Since they are underground, they have developed a unique way of reproducing. They can’t simply drop spores and have them scatter about like a mushroom; instead, as they mature and ripen, they become wonderfully and intoxicatingly aromatic. This aroma attracts small rodents and entices them to eat this delicious bit of fungus. Once consumed, the truffle spores are then easily spread by the scat of these animals.

Humans are just as attracted to the aroma of a good truffle, and it’s that very aroma that intoxicates the senses and makes these earthy delights so sought after in the culinary world.

Pigs were once the animal of choice to use in locating and harvesting truffles in Europe. However, pigs, like humans and rodents, are also strongly attracted to the truffle aroma, and some simply can’t avoid eating the delicacies that their snouts unearth, so using dogs has become the preferred way to hunt and harvest these dirt-covered gems.

Dogs can be trained to use their superior sense of smell and then point out exactly where only the ripe truffles are. This is the only responsible and sustainable manner in which to harvest truffles. Reckless and blind raking of the areas where truffles are only suspected to be growing can permanently ruin the fragile ground in which they grow. Raking also unearths the unripe as well as ripe truffles, while a properly trained dog can locate only the choice, ripe ones, leaving the unripe ones in the ground, undisturbed. They can be harvested later, when they too are ripe and luscious.

More and more dogs in Oregon are being trained to scent and locate truffles. These dogs will prove to be the salvation of our young and growing industry. I can personally attest to the heady and intoxicating aroma of a superbly ripe, dog-harvested winter white truffle, and very few things on earth can compare. For more information, visit www.oregontruffles.org.

After discovering that the region where I lived was filled with the bounty of these beautiful truffles, I knew I wanted to train Ilsa to hunt for them. We signed up for the Oregon Truffle Festival in late January 2012. The festival takes place in Eugene, Oregon, every year and has been instrumental in encouraging the training of truffle dogs. The event includes seminars on truffle-dog training.

During our time with the excellent dog trainers on hand, and with our background in nosework, Ilsa and I enjoyed truffle-hunting success after just one day of introducing her to the scent of a white truffle.

Our annual season for the Oregon winter white truffle has ended, but we are now finding the spring white truffles. Ilsa and I will continue to hone our truffle-hunting skills. We are very excited to be a part of this new and growing domestic truffle industry by harvesting these gems in a sustainable and responsible manner. Using Ilsa’s nose, we are ensuring that these amazing truffles will continue to be available to chefs and discerning diners throughout the United States and Europe. —K.J.

Thanks Kris.

Personally, here in the East, I’m waiting for someone to start the sport of lobster hunting. (I sit on the beach, and the dog brings me lobsters.)

If you’d like to contribute to the wonderful work done by Malinois Rescue, or you think there might be a place in your home for one of these deserving dogs, please visit www.malinoisrescue.org. —Nancy Bennett, nancybh@gnet.com; American Belgian Malinois Club website: malinoisclub.com

Belgian Sheepdogs
Old Proverbs: Eggs and Baskets

I have spent many hours planning and training in my head during the last few months while I was preparing for the national specialty. As all the different scenarios danced around in my head, and the national was getting closer—morphing from a longtime dream and goal to a reality—an old proverb came to mind: “Don’t put all your eggs in one basket.”

I wondered where this expression originated. One of the earliest appearances I found was from Cervantes, who wrote in Don Quixote (1605), “‘Tis the part of a wise man to keep himself today for tomorrow, and not venture all his eggs in one basket.”

Next I pondered how the expression can apply to the world of dogs. Whether you have a conformation dog, a competition dog, or a family pet, it is a good idea to have multiple goals or ideas in raising or training your dog. For example, if your sole focus is herding, but the available trainers and sheep to train with are hours away, and you work full-time and have busy weekends, then you might be disappointed when you cannot fulfill your goals and dreams. Additionally, if you live in an area where herding competitions are few or are scheduled at the same time as other commitments, then you may be frustrated in trying to be successful in this activity. And sometimes life just gets in the way.

While the better approach is to have more than one basket, this leaves further challenges: How to divide your eggs, and how many to put in each basket?

There are many lessons that can be learned from this simple proverb. Flexibility is one that comes to mind right away. If you want to compete in obedience, then perhaps you can look into doing rally also. If the entries are full for an obedience trial, there may still be room in the rally trial at the same location, or maybe your dog is better suited for rally. If you have a conformation dog and need one more

AKC GAZETTE ● 31 ● SEPTEMBER 2012
Belgian Tervuren
Fond Farewell and Wish List

All good things must come to an end, and I have decided it is time to retire as the Belgian Tervuren columnist. I have thoroughly enjoyed writing the column; I have covered a wide variety of topics and was happy to emphasize the attributes of this very special breed. A new columnist will bring a fresh perspective and some new insights; look for the introduction of the new columnist in the March issue.

For my final column I have made a wish list of things I believe will help our breed moving forward. The following represents solely my own opinion.

Wish List

• Wishing all the current health studies future success in helping to eliminate the ailments being researched.
• Wishing ABTC Rescue continued success in helping those Tervs in need. Kudos to the responsible breeders who have kept the need for rescue to minimal levels, and to those members who fill the gap.
• Wishing that more Terv exhibitors would watch other breeds, and occasionally stay for the groups and BIS. There is a wealth of knowledge to be gained by observing how other breeds are gaited and handled; especially the other herding breeds.
• Wishing that all Terv fanciers would attend the national every few years to keep updated with what is happening in our own breed.
• Wishing that our Terv specialty clubs hire breeder-judges to arbitrate their specialties. These folks have dedicated years to studying this breed and should be utilized for their in-depth knowledge. Since exhibitors can show under nonbreeder judges at all the other all-breed shows, I wish that the specialties would be special and hire breeder-judges.
• Wishing that the Belgian Tervuren will continue to be shown as a natural breed without excess grooming, and definitely without excess trimming. There is a disturbing trend afoot to blow out the coat so that the undercoat shows (open coat), and to attempt to sculpt the coat, noticeably the underline. Please keep this a “wash and wear” breed, with the correct coat length and texture! The breed standard is clear on this issue.
• Finally, wishing that more attention will be paid to the breed standard. The AKC standard corresponds closely with the standard of the country of origin, Belgium. There is much disparity of type here in the U.S., and we should strive together toward a more homogeneous ideal. Every Terv fancier should have a mental picture of the correct head and expression and—especially—the ideal silhouette. Judges must apply the words square, elegant, and well-balanced to discern the type that is desirable, and they must value these qualities when they see them. —Kate Bouffard, tervline@aol.com; American Belgian Tervuren Club website: abtc.org

Border Collies

It’s been a pleasure and a privilege to write this column for the past several years. However, it’s time to pass the baton to someone else who can give a fresh perspective on Border Collies. I think you’ll really enjoy hearing from Mary Fish Arango. She brings a wealth of experience, and here is an introduction, in her own words. —Terri Clingerman

The Changing of the Guard

Greetings from the Central Coast of California, where the weather is favorable for training dogs year-round, and we’re spoiled by season after season of agility trials every weekend. I am a high school math teacher, a professional photographer, and a freelance writer, taking over this column from Terri Clingerman after her years of service.

I currently have three Border Collies, each involved in therapy-dog work, agility, obedience, and recreational herding. I have been a dog fanatic since childhood days of poring over colored plates in the Encyclopedia Britannica in a white-carpeted living room in Connecticut. There was no Internet, and the library and encyclopedias fueled my fascination. The librarian became my dear friend, with books about dogs stacked on a shelf for me in anticipation of my next visit. I was insatiable on the topic.

There is an exquisite anecdote in Donald McCaig’s Nop’s Trials in which an indigent woman stumbles upon a disheveled but dignified Border Collie tied to a dumpster in an alley—stolen, lost, abandoned. The dog makes warm eye contact, and in his company, the woman is treated as if she is more important than her appearance, and she discovers her own profound courage. Her one day with this dog is not like the hundred other days that preceded it.

The several-page description has stayed with me for years, bubbling to the surface when something reminds me that the company we keep draws us into interactions that potentially change us. That company is an important part of who we are and who we wish to be.

Most Border Collie owners have an evolution of their lives involving dogs. Their very first Border Collie started their education in the breed, or another dog led them eventually to Border Collies. Each Border Collie in the progression led to new insights, new skills,
and new discoveries. Each dog had lessons to teach and people to introduce. Each subsequent dog further refined life with dogs. Owners discover obedience training, outlets for their dog’s energy, and like-minded friends who make wonderful company at dog events. They become experts on hip scores, genetics, health testing, and the different levels of competition in a wide array of activities. They might discover photography, writing, and community service—all from life with their dogs.

Our dogs have the potential to make us better people than we knew we were. If you are looking for a Border Collie, choose wisely as a way of introducing yourself to a new world. Network and find mentors. If you already own one (or more), be a thoughtful steward for the breed in honor of the enthusiasts who may follow, absorbing every detail as they blaze a new path and have new adventures. —Mary Fish Arango, Mary_Arango@catc.org; Border Collie Society of America website: bordercolliesociety.com

Bouviers des Flandres
Animals’ Contribution to Child Development

Many of us grew up with animals, if not in the sport. Playing with and caring for our dogs, we could not have known the social significance of our activities. Dr. Gail F. Melson devotes her career to researching that aspect of childhood. She is a professor of developmental studies in the Department of Child Development and Family Studies at Purdue University. She has co-authored four books and over 50 articles and book chapters on the significance of animals to children’s development. Her latest book is Why the Wild Things Are: Animals in the Lives of Children. Melson’s work is centered on the biophilia hypothesis. American biologist and proponent of sociobiology, Edward O. Wilson coined the term biophilia to describe what he believes is humanity’s innate affinity for the natural world.

Melson’s work finds the attachment to pets to be the basis of nurturance in children. This is especially relevant to boys who are not interested in babies. Boys as young as 5 years old will take the view that “taking care of babies is a mommy thing—I am a guy.” The presence of a pet, however, offers a gender-neutral training ground for nurturance and increases empathy and self-esteem.

Children naturally incorporate animals into their lives with what Melson calls “animals of the imagination.” Animals are the most common dream theme. They are prevalent in play, especially in animal stories. In 19th-century books animals were often used to grab children’s attention; for example, to teach the alphabet. Modern use of animals can be found in advertising images, such as in campaigns using ducks, geckos, and bears.

Animals play a part in cognitive, social, emotional, and moral development. Rough-and-tumble play as well as caregiving are valuable in learning to regulate emotions. Pets are always available and nonjudgmental and have no expectations. Their friendly presence induces relaxation. Melson found that the children she studied reported a strong emotional investment in their pets, saying that they liked their pet as much as or more than a good friend.

Interaction with pets does not require a high level of verbal and social skills, although it can help improve a child’s decoding of nonverbal communication. Observing a pet’s behavior and cues can be valuable in helping a child learn to “read” people.

A child’s behavioral investment with pets does not decrease as the child gets older. Social supports such as relationship with a pet reduce stress, and an animal can give the emotional closeness, social integration, reassurance of worth, and an affirmation that one is loved. These benefits continue through life.

Melson notes that several universities and colleges have programs where students can visit with dogs to relieve stress and relax. This program even merited a reference on the NPR show “Wait, Wait, Don’t Tell Me!” The joke was that the dog visits were not providing students with stress reduction, as expected—instead, students would procrastinate and then pull “all-nighters” to play with the dog before it had to be returned. —Jeannette Nieder, air-drie@myfairpoint.net; American Bouvier des Flandres Club website: bouvier.org

Briards
Don’t Shoot!—Not Yet, Anyway!

You’ve got a winner. Great! How about a photo to record this momentous event? But first, perhaps a few hints are in order to make sure the photo is the best it can be.

As the handler (judges can read this too), it’s important to remember that 99 percent of the photographer’s attention is devoted to making your dog look his best. The other one percent is tuned to the walkie-talkie calling for a photographer to Ring Six. You? Well, you’re on your own. You could be looking cross-eyed, and the photographer will only note that your dog’s left rear paw needs to be pulled back just a tad.

Sure, the important thing is that your Briard looks fabulous—but on the other hand, you don’t want to look like a Frankenstein reject, do you?

So before the photographer shows up, give yourself a quick once-over. Hair combed? Make-up refreshed? Buttons buttoned? Zippers zipped? Collar where it’s supposed to be? No bulging pockets in your jacket? No ripped hems or hanging threads? Most of all, if you’ve gained a bit of weight or the cleaner shrunk your jacket (ah, that’s it!) and there are gaps between buttons, do yourself a favor and leave the jacket unbuttoned. Better to look casual than in too-tight clothing.

Okay, now you’re ready for the photo. While getting your dog in position, take a second or two to get yourself into a flattering pose. Why should your Briard be the only one who looks good?
Possibly the very worst thing you can do to yourself is to stand facing the camera squarely head-on. That position is guaranteed to make you look wide as a whale. It should only be used by people who can hide behind a broomstick. Instead, just take a quarter-turn to the right or left, and you’ll be in a three-quarter view to the camera. You’ll immediately look slimmer. It also helps if you remember to suck in your tummy. What the camera doesn’t see, it can’t photograph, and a three-quarter view shows less of you to the camera.

Now, shift almost all your weight to the foot farthest from the camera, and you’ll get a better line to your hips and thighs. You can do just about anything with the weightless leg, within reason and the bounds of propriety, and it’ll still look OK.

Which brings us to the dreaded “legs-beneath-the-dog” syndrome. If your Briard is tall enough and the coat is just the length to let your legs show beneath it, be very observant if your dog is posed on a stand with some sort of décor. In one unforgettable photo, part of the display consisted of two cactus plants that just happened to be positioned in front of the handler. It looked as though she had green and prickly legs. This would be OK for the Incredible Hulk, but otherwise it was less than attractive.

Check out what’s in front of you. Slacks or long skirts make a nice background for your dog. Short skirts can sometimes present the distracting view of two pink posts protruding from your dog’s tummy. Dark stockings are less noticeable than light.

Hands and arms are no problem. One hand will be controlling the lead (and don’t forget to gather the lead up so it’s not dangling and distracting). If you don’t have a job for the other arm and hand, let it hang naturally, slightly away from your body. Please don’t bend it at the elbow and hold your forearm behind your back. It’s hard to say why some folks do this. Maybe they don’t know what else to do with it. But it makes you appear as though you’re either going to break into a very formal bow or scratch your back. Besides that, it adds the appearance of extra width to your waistline. Not a good idea.

Where should you look when the photo is being taken? Annie Rogers Clark made a point of always looking at the dog, thereby directing the viewer’s eyes to the dog. And that’s OK if you don’t have the makings of a double chin. But if that’s the case, hold your head up and stretch your neck. A slight turn of the head will tighten up the skin of the neck.

Remember, the photographer throws squeaky-toys for the dog to watch, not you. One exhibitor couldn’t seem to resist watching the squeaky fly through the air. Consequently, he and his dog were both looking in the same direction, like mirror images. Only the exhibitor’s ears didn’t go up.

As for expression? Hey, you’ve got the best dog in the world, and he’s a winner—so smile! —Alice Bixler, alexjb@att.net, Briard Club of America website: briardclubofamerica.org

Canaan Dogs
“Dueling” Canaan Dogs

Some exhibitors feel that training a Canaan Dog solely for the breed ring is stimulating enough, while others concentrate on a performance venue as their training goal. Then there are those for whom the term “crazy” would be justifiably applicable, as these hardy folk train for both breed and performance—and not just a single event for the latter. These are the dual or multi-ring Canaan Dog advocates who can be seen hurrying from the breed ring to an obedience, rally, and/or agility ring, or vice-versa, within a single day’s show.

As mentioned in previous columns, Canaan Dogs are highly intelligent and just as highly independent. Training can be rapidly accomplished. However, it can be a challenge at the same time. The advantage of training for multiple events keeps the dog mentally stimulated and less likely to “shut down” due to boredom.

Whether training for single or multiple venues, the first step is simple basic obedience. Not only does this reinforce the “alpha” role that the owner/handler must exhibit when working with a Canaan Dog, it is also essential for the show ring. A dog who cannot hold a stand for exam in the breed or obedience ring or maintain a stay at the agility start-line or in the herding arena is less likely to place or even qualify for that event.

The myth that you can’t simultaneously train a dog for different events is just that, a myth—especially with Canaan Dogs. This breed is very adaptable, and by the simple use of a different type of collar for each event, Canaans are smart enough to know what is asked of them when they step into any ring.

Most multi-event Canaan exhibitors use body language in addition to different collar types to assist their dogs. An example of such is when coming to a halt in front of the breed judge, the handler will turn his or her body slightly towards or in front of the dog to signify that the dog is to come to a standing stop rather than an automatic “obedience sit.” Training the multi-event Canaan with hand signals and/or different commands for the same action in different situations is also beneficial. The standard stay obedience command can become pose in the breed ring, wait at the agility start, and hold in the herding arena.

One factor in training for multiple events that is not often mentioned is the condition of both dog and exhibitor, both mentally and physically. At national specialties, it is not uncommon for a Canaan Dog team to show in the breed ring, exhibit in the rally and/or obedience rings, run two or more agility courses, and herd sheep during an instinct test—all within a space of several days. Canaans tend to be tightly bonded with their owners, so having someone else who is more physically fit run a dog through an agility course or herding trial does not always succeed as it can with more biddable breeds.
Though not yet fully prevalent, the Canaan Dog exhibitor community is starting to expand in the world of dual and multi-ring experiences. It is through these not-so-crazy, but adventurous folk that the “can-do” attitude is displayed when showcasing this versatile breed. —Denise A. Gordon, desertstarwann@yahoo.com; Canaan Dog Club of America website: cdca.org

Cardigan Welsh Corgis
Back to the Future!

With the advent of the new online format for the Gazette comes more change. After many years, Jennifer Roberson has passed the responsibility for the breed column to us, Cynthia Smith and Jeff Welch. Many thanks to Jennifer for all her past efforts!

We have had Cardigans since the late 1970s and became smitten with the breed like so many others. Breeding under the prefix Cymbrogi (Welsh for “companions of the heart”), we enjoy competing in conformation, participating in Corgi rescue, writing on health issues, and researching the fascinating history of the Cardigan breed. We live on a small tree farm and wildlife refuge in rural North Carolina and are members of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America.

To begin our tenure as breed columnists, we wanted to take you back to the earliest days of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi in America. The breed was first recognized by the AKC in the early part of the last century, and two seminal articles from W Lloyd Thomas were published in the October and November 1935 issues of the AKC Gazette.

As it has been almost impossible to find legible copies of the original, the AKC has graciously retrieved these articles for the fancy. A huge thank-you goes out to AKC Librarian/Archivist Craig Savino and Breed Columns Editor Arlis Paddock for their help in retrieving these unique documents!

Excerpted below, the full October 1935 article is currently available for download and printing at the CWCCA website (cardiganorgis.com/AKCGazette.asp), giving anyone interested in the breed full access to a unique view of early Cardigan history.

In merging history with the new online format, we truly hope to bring you “Back to the Future”!

Excerpted from the October 1935 Gazette:

What the Modern Corgi Ows to Its Cardigan Ancestors, by W Lloyd-Thomas.

The road which leads back to the true facts relating to the early history of the corgi is one which yearly becomes more difficult for the newcomer to tread. Soon, alas, the direct route will be forever closed. Time continues to take its remorseless toll of those fine old hillmen who, in their boyhood days, knew the corgi as it was before modern progress and invention between them had brought the breed to the verge of annihilation.

While those who remain are now so aged that with hardly an exception their memories have grown clouded. Soon these will have passed on, taking with them the last of our direct links with early corgi history; for it is a history which cannot be found in books but must be sought laboriously among the dogs themselves, the rugged hills which so long were their only home, and the human inhabitants of those hills.

For the full article, please visit the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America website at cardiganorgis.com/AKCGazette.asp.

—Cynthia Smith and Jeff Welch, CymbrogiCorgians@msn.com; Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America website: cardiganorgis.com

Collies
Inspiration

We all need inspiration from time to time. Regardless of our type of involvement with dogs, inspiration is a source of problem-solving and opens doors. Inspiration takes us to new levels of awareness and thinking. It touches our intuitive side and can change our previously held attitudes. Our same way of thinking about things can unwittingly keep us in the old ruts—ruts we sometimes don’t even know we are in!

As a dog breeder and exhibitor, I’m always thinking about how to get to the next level myself. We can all think of examples of fellow enthusiasts stuck in the same cycles, unaware of their entrenched thinking. We puzzle over their dearth of insight or success. Perhaps they lack the benefit of inspiration. If we always talk to the same people, with the same mindsets, and always look at the same dogs, in our backyard or in our own family, where does the challenge to our thinking, and subsequently growth, come from?

As a photography teacher I was always brainstorming ways to push my students to a new level. I wanted to challenge them to stretch their ability and their way of seeing, to ask, “What if?”—“What if I take this picture from a different angle, from up top, or down below?”

I once had a student who decided to take pictures while he was falling down, so he would throw himself onto the ground and press the shutter at the same time. Crazy, I know. Yet he came up with some fantastically original images.

Inspiration asks us to think differently and more deeply about subjects. From a simple question we can reject the stock explanations and decide for ourselves what works and what doesn’t. If we let the question inspire us, we can approach the subject from an angle we either never thought of or could learn from.

Inspiration can come from a conversation with people who challenge our thinking. It can come from reading, beyond dog-themed books … It can come from expanding our interests. Two that have contributed immeasurably to my own growth are photography and writing. Both of these arts force me to think about a broad range of topics and delve beyond the surface.

A great source of inspiration for me this year was our national specialty. I was fortunate to be able to attend all
the venues: herding, agility, obedience, and conformation. Each aspect gave me something new to think about and add to my repertoire as a breeder. I saw several breeder faces new to herding and am certain the experience added to their insights about breeding.

Without inspiration, what is lost? How do we arrive at decisions? What holds us back? What prevents us from doing better? How do some people become so successful, while others are satisfied with mediocrity? Lack of inspiration, sister to inspiration, resigns us to being observers rather than active participants—whether because of fear or complacency. We lose the ability to think for ourselves or take risks. Negative trends in our breed that become the norm require objective observation. When we look in a fresh way we are able to ask, what has changed? Is it for the better?

Inspiration comes from new ideas, but it also comes from that old benchmark, our written standard. Inspiration is the key, unlocking our ability to learn, see, and improve. —Marianne Sullivan, millknock@embarqmail.com; Collie Club of America website: colliclubofamerica.org

German Shepherd Dogs
Dental Care

We all are aware of what the breed standard says about correct dentition, and we all keep tabs on our dogs’ teeth. Dogs have 28 “baby” teeth that start to show up at between 3 and 6 weeks of age. These begin to shed at about 4 months and are gradually replaced with 42 “adult” teeth by about 6 months, with the molars coming in last.

During this period, the rates of growth of the mandible (lower jaw) and the maxilla (upper jaw) may vary. Because of this the puppy’s bite may be scissors one week and level the next. However, generally there will be a scissors bite at around 6 months. The tightness of this bite may vary from fractionally overshot, which usually corrects as the puppy gets older, to a very tight scissors bite that may go level as the dog ages.

It is important during this stage to make sure that the baby teeth come out when the adult teeth start to emerge. (The order of replacement is incisors first, then canines, and finally premolars.) Occasionally the roots of a baby tooth will not reabsorb, causing the tooth to remain, and the retained baby tooth will crowd the incoming adult tooth and cause a malocclusion.

This period is a good time to start conditioning your youngster to having his mouth handled and examined. This is good training not only for future showing but for day-to-day occurrences such as being given medication, having his teeth cleaned, having his mouth examined for injuries, or having a favorite toy taken away. Start by just holding his muzzle lightly and letting him get used to the pressure of your fingers. Gradually start lifting the lip and checking the bite. Praise him enthusiastically or give him a small treat. With patience and gentle hands, you can eventually teach him to open his mouth fully for an examination. Judges and your vet will appreciate the time you have spent on this simple issue.

One of the most important aspects of any discussion of canine dentition is proper dental care. Dogs are not generally prone to developing cavities, but they can develop gum problems if they are fed soft foods, which may leave particles in the gums at the base of the teeth. This can lead to infection, gum recession, and bad breath. Dogs also tend to develop tartar (plaque) on their teeth, especially on the upper canines and premolars. Brushing the teeth weekly and scaling them when tartar starts to appear will help to prevent gum disease and the tooth loss of more severe cases. Playing with hard-plastic toys and gnawing on nylon chews will also help to keep the teeth clean.

Last but not least, when you enter the show ring with that “special” dog, you want to present him to the judge in the most positive manner. If you are willing to spend extra money for the best food, shampoos for that spectacular show coat, and a grinder to keep those toenails just right, then do the same for Ch. Fido’s teeth. With just a little time and training, your dog can have that winning smile. —Helen Gleason, helen gleasonus@yahoo.com; German Shepherd Dog Club of America website: gsdca.org

Icelandic Sheepdogs
Bark to the Basics

As more Sheepdogs enter the conformation rings, judges are recognizing a need to concentrate on type. Judges ask what to do when there is not an ISD in the ring who looks like the breed standard. Our response is: Help us set correct ISD type in the U.S. by focusing on type and general impression as described in the standard.

Therefore, ISDs who remind one of another breed—be it Buhund (square, oval eyes, one or two colors, very tight tail), Lundehund (smaller breed, with yellow to yellow-brown eyes and thin boned), or Lapphund (larger breed, ears can be tipped), Border Collie (larger breed, ears set well apart, oval blue eye or lighter-brown eye OK, can be black and white, and so on)—should not be rewarded in the conformation ring.

If the outline of the ISD is not correct, if the dog is not rectangular, if you cannot see the dog surviving in the harsh clime of Iceland during the winter, moving gracefully over lava fields, independently bringing in sheep during a blizzard, climbing steep, rocky mountains with ease, and is not athletic, fit, and muscled while demonstrating a happy, lively, and confident expression, it is not a good example of the breed. Certainly any dog demonstrating aggression in the ring or biting a handler should be removed from the ring. That said, the ISD is a barking breed and can use voice when in the ring.

When asked what specific traits cause judges concern, they report severe cow-hocking; “pig” or double-curved tails; dogs lacking a thick, double coat; “Collie” heads; dogs with round
BREED COLUMNS

and sometimes bulging eyes; dogs that lack pigment on the nose and around the eyes; dogs with tails that do not touch the back when moving; and dogs with fine bones and/or lacking muscle. Incorrect heads is a serious issue. While the ISD is not a head breed, having a typical ISD expression is paramount.

There is a reason for the standard’s call for specific attributes. For example, yellow or yellowish eyes completely change the expression of the ISD. Dogs with tails that are so tightly wound that they cannot come loose are unable to cover their noses in a winter storm. Conversely, tails that don’t touch the back when moving paint a picture other than Spitz. (When resting, the tail can come down.)

Regarding color:

“If black is the predominant color, the color is described as tricolored. ... [The] standard defines black dogs as tricolored with traditional white markings and tan markings.” —breed expert and FCI judge Hans-Ake Sperne.

“All white, merle, roan, ticking, blue, or brindle colors are not acceptable.” —breed expert and FCI judge Guðrún Ragnars Guðjohnsen.

A return to the most basic ideas rather than a focus on breed details will be a great help. Sperne notes:

“Type and general impression as described in the breed standard always comes first and thereafter, details.” The standard says, “The Icelandic Sheepdog is a Nordic herding Spitz, slightly under medium sized with prick ears and a curled tail. Seen from the side the dog is rectangular. The expression is gentle, intelligent and happy. ...”

Please help us in this regard.

Judges’ education disks are available from isaabod@gmail.com. —Donna R. McDermott, MPPA, eyjahunda@gmail.com; Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America website: icelanddogs.com

**Norwegian Buhunds**

We thank once again the two owner-handlers who share their experiences and advice in the column below, reprised here to educate interested fanciers who may not have seen its first appearance in this publication in December 2009.

**Showing the Norwegian Buhund**

What does it take to show a Norwegian Buhund to his championship? Are there certain qualities that make a Buhund easy or difficult to show?

To answer these questions, I interviewed two owner-handlers who have each shown two Norwegian Buhunds to their AKC championships: Mrs. Brenda Solomon, of ArcticRidge Kennels, in Nunn, Colorado, and Ms. Vali Eberhardt, of Sammamish, Washington. Both owners were nice enough to share their experiences.

What qualities make for a good conformation Buhund? Good temperament and movement are crucial. Eberhardt believes in “a proud and happy Buhund who struts confidently with head and tail held high.” She adds, “Of course, there should not be any major physical faults, but attitude can make up for flaws. When a dog is nervous, timid or aggressive, it shows, and the judge can sense that.”

Solomon agrees. “You should have good temperament,” she says, “because it is my hope that your Buhund is and will always be a pet before anything else.” She adds that movement is also very important. “In a conformation dog, movement is what is going to allow for a herding dog to compete and get noticed in the group ring.”

**Old English Sheepdogs**

This column provides a follow-up to the one in June and assesses the effect that the tail-docking ban has had on OES in Australia. Our guest columnist is Denise Humphries (humphriesd@bigpond.com), a well-known observer of the dog scene in Australia. She has written numerous articles for the canine press, is a licensed multigroup judge, and for many years has bred and showed OES, including the first U.S.-breed dogs imported to Australia.

The Old English Sheepdog and the Australian Ban on Tail Docking

After decades of lobbying, in 2002 the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Australian Veterinary Association persuaded the Australian federal government to agree
BREED COLUMNS

To a nationally coordinated ban on the nontherapeutic tail-docking of dogs. For the dog world, this was an unexpected move, as each of the eight states and territories in Australia is responsible for its own animal-welfare legislation, and the eight had not been able to agree on a ban. In 2004 the docking ban rolled in throughout Australia.

Penalties for violations vary by state. As an example, Victoria has penalties of $14,000 or 12 months imprisonment for docking a dog's tail, and a penalty of $2,340 for exhibiting a docked dog if it was born in Victoria after December 2007.

Many members of the dog world did not actively fight a ban on tail docking, especially fanciers with undocked breeds. Breeds that were previously docked must now be shown with tails unless born prior to the ban or imported from a country where docking is still legal.

The Old English Sheepdog has a limited gene pool, with very few breeders in Australia, and the impact of the ban has been dramatic. In 2002, 153 OES puppies were registered nationally, but this fell to 72 in 2006, with a slight recovery to 92 in 2011, when one breeder produced three litters—after not having litters for three years. Post-ban, some fanciers discontinued breeding, while others reluctantly resigned themselves to their dogs having tails, although a few OES breeders had favored a ban.

The Australian National Kennel Council simply added to the standard the “Interim Description” of the tail used in the U.K.:

Docked: Previously completely docked.
Undocked: Natural carriage. Well feathered with abundant, hard-textured coat. Can be naturally bobtail.

In Australia, OES are not shown as heavily trimmed on the hindquarters as they are in the U.S., and on the stack the tail is not too obvious. However, on the move the traditional outline of the dog is considerably altered. The term “natural carriage” is ambiguous; tail carriage varies greatly in the breed, as must be expected, as this has never been selectively bred for. When judging OES in Australia, both docked and dogs with tails must be given equal consideration. Breed characteristics and correct type and soundness are not reduced by the presence of a tail. However, since the ban, an undocked OES has not finished number one or number two in the country, won BIS at an OES national specialty, or won BIS at an all-breed championship show.

Some exhibitors are now importing their show dogs from countries where docking is legal, such as New Zealand and the U.S. This trend has also had an effect on the number of litters bred in Australia.

Judy Chapman, of Cobbitty Kennels, in South Australia, has campaigned her bitches in New Zealand, bred them there, and imported their docked progeny to Australia. Her Australian-born litters are not docked. Judy has encountered a few judges who have commented they will not judge a tailless dog, perhaps presuming that it must be illegally docked.

The number-one OES in Australia for the past six years is a legally docked U.K. import owned by Chris, Sue, and Jason Moore of Perfu Kennels, in Victoria, who also campaign tailed OES. They believe it is only recently that Australian judges have become more accepting of tails, but the bias against tails is still found with judges from countries where docking is legal. They are concerned that a tail creates hygiene problems for pet owners and leads to welfare issues.

The deciding factor in the argument to ban docking in Australia was the weight of opinion about negative effects of docking argued by “men of science”—that is, veterinarians. Those defending continued docking were viewed as merely using passion for their breeds as arguments. It was an emotional argument, and it proved impossible to convince the public, media, or politicians that “chopping off” a dog’s tail was not cruel.

With changing community expectations about “unnecessary” surgical procedures on animals, the politicians made an astute decision, and it is almost certain the legislation will never be repealed. The Australian dog world fought a long battle but tended to believe a ban would not happen. A lesson learned too late was to never underestimate the perseverance of opponents to tail docking. —D.H.

Denise, thanks for the Australian perspective and the stern warning. —Joe Schlitt, wylecotejs@earthlink.net; Old English Sheepdog Club of America website: oldenglishsheepdogclubofamerica.org

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

“Just a Pet”

A t the time I am writing this, I have a new litter of puppies. I regularly field puppy inquiries and questions about the breed. It’s easy to discuss the breed and refer inquiries on to others when I myself have nothing available. I now find myself in the position of screening those inquiries in addition to referring them on to others who might have a Pembroke just right for that family.

In the course of talking with those who say they’re seeking “just a pet,” I’ve learned more than a few things through the years. First, when they say “just a pet” they generally mean that is all they want: a Pembroke who will be a beloved member of the family and who will only ever be a pet. I always mention the various events and activities open to the breed, and occasionally someone will actually venture into obedience or agility with their Pembroke at their side. I have often found that if they have already contacted some breeders and I start to mention canine activities, they will become more adamant in wanting “just a pet” and not wanting to show or breed.

Next, I have found that inquirers tend to be better educated about the breed than when I had my first litter 24 years ago. They are more likely to ask about health screenings, temperament, and genetic tests. They generally are aware that our breed sheds, but many
BREED COLUMNS

Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

APONC’s 25th Anniversary

In the fall of this year, The American Polski Owczarek Nizinny Club will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Those of us not blessed with a triple-jointed Slavic tongue know the club by its acronym, APONC, and call the breed Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, or PONs.

Although the PON is an old breed much regarded for its outstanding working ability in its native country and reputed to be important in the development of the Bearded Collie in Scotland, it gained little attention from dog fanciers until the turn of the last century.

At that time, Poles became interested in their native pure breeds of livestock. During the 1920s and ’30s, PONs were bred and exhibited, and the breed was mentioned prominently in a research paper published by the Working Dogs Society. World War II ended the progress, however, and few dogs survived the devastation.

By 1948 the Polish Kennel Club was founded and there were efforts to re-establish the breed. It took until well into the 1950s before a Polish kennel officially registered a litter of PONs, and there was not an accepted standard until 1959—the same year that FCI granted the breed recognition.

The American connection was another 20 years away, coming by way of a prominent Bearded Collie breeder who imported a pair of dogs in 1979. Three years later, Betty and Kaz Augustowski purchased their first PON from her. They devoted great energy to their chosen breed. More dogs were imported, litters were born in the U.S., and others took up the cause.

By 1987, the Augustowskis and six of those friends started the APONC. A year later, the club’s official publication, The Herder, printed a roster of 58 members and 10 breeders from all parts of the country. Carrying breed standards with them, these intrepid fanciers logged many miles going to rare-breed shows.

The APONC gained recognition by the Polish Kennel Club, the States Kennel Club, and then the AKC. PONs entered the AKC’s Miscellaneous Class in 1999, and the breed competed for the first time for championship points in August, 2001.

For a 500-year-old breed, that’s a lot of recent history.

In the last quarter-century, our American dogs have participated in performance as well as conformation events. They have won the highest recognition in both U.S. and international competition—even returning to their native Poland to do so.

Our national specialty will be held in Florida this coming November. It should be a great party! —Louise Cohen, cachetpons@comcast.net; American Polish Lowland Sheepdog Club website: aponc.org

Pulik

Helping the New Puli Owner

Recently I was involved in a conversation with an experienced breeder as she was mentoring a newcomer to her breed (not Pulis). She was throwing out ideas for the “newbie” that would help her become a knowledgeable dog fancier. That made me realize that it would be great to have a list of such ideas to hand out to my puppy buyers in addition to the usual training, grooming, and feeding handouts I usually give them. That realization evolved into the following list.

Learn all you can about Pulis. There are chat lists on the Internet that offer lots of free help and ideas. There are very few books on the breed still in print, but there are some occasionally to be found on Amazon.com or Ebay.

Learn all you can about other breeds. The more you learn about dogs in general, the better you will understand your own breed.

Ask lots of questions. You will get conflicting opinions—that’s good! Sort through them and decide what makes sense in relation to the breed standard.

Study your breed standard with your Pul in front of you. When the standard talks about proportions, get out the ruler. Where it mentions shoulder angle, feel your dog’s shoulder blade.

Ask a breeder or judge to show you how to examine your dog’s conformation. What...
are the judges feeling for when they “go over” your dog on the table? How do they determine angles and proportions under all that coat?

Watch your dog and other Puli performing in herding events. After thoroughly studying the standard, watch the dogs in motion, and see why they have to have that structure to allow them to make those quick, tight turns and be able to gallop or trot efficiently when necessary.

Join the Puli Club of America. Where else will you find fellow Puli enthusiasts?

Attend the national specialty show; sign up for the members’ education seminar, and ask if you can sit in on the judges’ education seminar. Listen and learn.

Join a regional Puli club if there is one in your area.

Join your local all-breed club and/or obedience club. Other experienced dog people offer a wealth of information and support, as well as camaraderie. You will discover new friends with common interests.

The best advice, though, is to establish and maintain a good working relationship with your dog’s breeder. A responsible breeder will be there for you throughout your dog’s life and be willing to answer all your questions.

Puppy buyers should feel like they can contact their breeder at any time if they have any problems or concerns. Experienced breeders need to be there to mentor newcomers and help them through the early stages of dog ownership. The future of our sport rests on the shoulders of these newcomers, and we must do all we can to encourage them. — Sherry Gibson, gibsons@blomand.net; Puli Club of America website: puliclub.org

Pyrenean Shepherds
A Little Herder Takes on a Predator

Out in Montana, not too far from Yellowstone National Park, one Pyrenean Shepherd owner had a heart-stopping experience last spring.

When Maggie and her husband returned home from dinner one evening, she took Josie, the Pyr Shep, and her Border Collie housemate for their routine trip outdoors. The Border Collie headed through the door first and immediately burst into frantic this-is-big-trouble alarm barking.

As Maggie stepped out the door, this is what she saw: Less than 15 feet away, a huge wolf had pinned a desperate, very pregnant elk against the side of the house.

“I looked at the wolf, and the wolf looked at me,” Maggie said.

And at just that point, 24-pound Josie dashed from behind her owner and ran at the wolf, barking furiously.

Horrified, Maggie—who always goes outside with her dogs precisely to protect them from coyotes and the area’s wolf pack—watched as her little dog chased the wolf for about 75 yards.

“She was running as fast as she could go, a flat-out Pyr Shep gallop, and he was just loping along,” she said.

The 120-elk herd that the cow belonged to had been watching the struggle from a couple of hundred yards away, standing on either side of a pasture fence. When the wolf reached the fence and started up the fenceline, the elk herd converged on him from both sides and finished chasing him off, Maggie said.

“She’s a trouper; she’ll do anything,” Maggie said. Pyr Sheps can be suspicious of strangers, but Josie likes everybody, especially if they have treats, she said. “She’s a lovely dog.”

Kathleen Monje lives in Oregon with Pyrenean Shepherd and Great Pyrenees dogs. She can be reached at cognitivedog@epud.net. —Kathleen Monje, cognitivedog@epud.net; Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America website: pyr-shepclub.com

Swedish Vallhunds

Regarding the Swedish Vallhund’s coat, the breed’s AKC standard says:

Medium length hair, harsh; topcoat close and tight. Undercoat is soft and dense. Hair is short on the head and the foreparts of the legs and slightly longer on neck, chest and back parts of the hind legs. Dogs are to be shown in an untrimmed, natural state. Faults include wooly, curly, or open coats. Fluffy coats (longer hair on body and furnishings, with ear fringes) are a serious fault.

This is a double-coated breed, which means that a correct coat contains two distinct types of hair: the topcoat, which is made up of longer, hard, harsh hairs; and the undercoat, which is soft with a slight wave (this characteristic gives it loft, which is what allows the coat to trap air and insulate the dog’s skin).

A correct Vallhund coat cannot easily be “fluffed” with a blow dryer, as a general rule; the topcoat should be hard...
and tight enough to prevent this. The topcoat hairs sit closely together to protect the undercoat (and therefore the dog’s skin) from the elements, and the individual hairs are rigid and not easily bent or indented. You should be able to run your hand against the direction of hair-growth and see an obvious change in color, lifting the hard, darker, sable topcoat to expose the soft, lighter-colored undercoat. In a correct coat, the topcoat should almost “snap” back into position after you remove your hand.

A clean Swedish Vallhund coat can feel quite smooth when stroked with the direction of hair growth, but the individual hairs will feel quite hard. You can hold a piece of the coat between your fingers and rub to get a good sense of the harshness. An “open coat” is usually a faulty topcoat, which lacks the correct rigidity and/or length and/or density and thereby allows the undercoat to be exposed.

“Medium length” can encompass a reasonable range of correct coat lengths in this breed. The density of the coat can vary widely, and can be directly affected by climate. Dogs in warmer climates and in summer tend to have much less undercoat and sometimes even shorter topcoats, whereas dogs in colder climates and in winter have very thick and dense undercoats. When a Vallhund is blowing his undercoat, you really get a good sense of just how much coat is on these little dogs! In a working farm breed, a correct coat is vital to protect the dog from the elements; a correct coat sheds water easily, the undercoat stays fluffy and nearly dry, and the dog stays comfortable.

This truly is a “wash-and-wear” breed; most of the time, they just need a good bath and brush. Blow-drying can help the coat look neater, faster, and it can also help to prevent the “wrinkle” many tailed or longer-bob-tailed dogs can get in the coat over the croup (which can fool the eye into thinking the dog is high in the rear), but in my experience, a correct Vallhund coat will generally sort itself out in a few days even if it initially air-dries looking funny.

While we should definitely show clean, brushed dogs, we should keep in mind that the standard calls for the Swedish Vallhund to be shown in an “untrimmed, natural state.” — Amanda Lowery, amanda@alkemi.org; Swedish Vallhund Club of America website: swedishvallhund.com
Attention Delegates
Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Rosen Center Hotel, Orlando, FL, on Friday December 14, 2012, immediately following the 8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m. Delegates Forum.

Delegates Credentials

John Barnes, Marietta, GA, American Maltese Association
Barbara Jane Gates, Utica, MI, English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association
Richard E. Grant, Foster, RI, Providence County Kennel Club
Richard Rohrbacher, Sparta, NJ, Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America
Carla Jo Ryan, Snow Camp, NC, Japanese Chin Club of America
Kenneth M. Saenz, Felton, PA, Chihuahua Club of America
Zane Smith, Boerne, TX, Hawaiian Kennel Club
Cindy Stansell, Clayton, NC, Finnish Spitz Club of America
Constance D. Townsend, Farmington, MN, Kuvas Club of America
Letisha Wubble, Mohnton, PA, Affenpinscher Club of America

Notice

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individuals stand 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. Dustin Smith (Barnwell, SC)
Mr. Dewayne Padgett (Orangeburg, SC)
Mrs. Eva Meltzer (Bowman, GA)
Mr. Larry Stein (Mount Holly, NJ)

Notice

Mr. Harry Snow (Rome, NY) Action was taken by the Sandy Creek Beagle Club for conduct in connection with its June 3, 2012, event. Mr. Harry Snow was charged with verbal abuse (inappropriate, abusive, or foul language) directly personally to a judge. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report, found it in order and set the penalty at a two month event suspension and a $100 fine, effective June 3, 2012. (Beagle)

Notice

Mr. Donavon Thompson (Ajo, AZ) Action was taken by the Pontiac Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its May 24, 2012, event. Mr. Donavon Thompson was charged with making an inappropriate comment regarding a person’s religion. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report and found it in order. The AKC Board of Directors set the penalty at six month event suspension and a $500 fine, effective June 26, 2012. (Briard)

Notice

The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from AKC privileges for six months and imposed a $500 fine, for August 13, 2012, for non-compliance with AKC’s record keeping and dog identification requirements. (Pekingese)

Notice

The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from AKC privileges for ten years and imposed a $2000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, pure-
bred 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 July 9, 2012
Mrs. Glenda Curtis (Akron, OH)
Cairn Terrier
Mrs. Danielle Tschappat (Akron, OH)
Cairn Terrier

Effective August 13, 2012
Mrs. Melissa Lyles (Richburg, SC)
Multiple Breeds
Mr. Daniel Hoffman (Eagle River, AK) Multiple Breeds
Mr. Lester Mendez (Eagle River, AK) Multiple Breeds

Notice
Reprimands and Fines
Notification of reprimands and/or fines imposed on clubs for late submission of applications.
Chapter 2, Section 4 & 9.

Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc. $100.00
Sierra-Tuolumne Kennel Club (2 events x $150.00) $300.00
Kennen Club of Salinas (2 events x $100.00) $200.00
Great Dane Club of Milwaukee, Inc. $190.00
Northern Nevada Shetland Sheepdog Club $90.00
Camino Real Siberian Husky Club...........................................................................$150.00
Simi Valley Kennel Club $150.00
Memphis Toy Dog Club $100.00
Memphis Kennel Club (2 events x $120.00) $240.00
Great Dane Club of Western New York (2 events x $130.00) $260.00
Sanoyed Club of Washington State $150.00

Notification of reprimands and fines imposed on clubs for late submission of judges’ panel, Rules Appyling to Dog Shows Chapter 4, Section 1. Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc. $110.00
Sierra-Tuolumne Kennel Club (2 events x $150.00) $300.00
Kennen Club of Salinas (2 events x $100.00) $200.00
Great Dane Club of Milwaukee, Inc. $190.00
Northern Nevada Shetland Sheepdog Club $90.00
Camino Real Siberian Husky Club $150.00
Simi Valley Kennel Club $150.00
Memphis Toy Dog Club $100.00
Memphis Kennel Club (2 events x $120.00) $240.00
Great Dane Club of Western New York (2 events x $130.00) $260.00
Sanoyed Club of Washington State $150.00

Conformation 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.

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

Mrs. Lisa A. Farmer (95249) GA
(770) 891-8820
lisafarmer@charter.net
Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Laura Hyatt (94919) MI
(269) 646-2119
hyatt@beanstalk.net
Borzoi

Mr. Patrick D. Jones (95071) MT
(406) 256-0107
ravindal@bresnan.net
Dalmatians

Mrs. Tammy Price (95005) OH
(937) 392-9066
tammyprice@centurylink.net
American Staffordshire Terriers

Ms. Debra Rudert (94847) PA
(610) 248-2394
debmayjay@yahoo.com
Brittanys, JS

Approved Breed Judges

Ms. Marie Ann Falconer (51642) MA
(413) 433-6474
mylaone10@aol.com
Akitas, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Bulldogs, Poodles, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Bouviers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Dr. Steven D. Herman (6305) FL
(813) 973-3153
sherman@wearethehope.org
Afghan Hounds

Mr. Jason Hoke (92952) WI
(646) 241-5800
jasonhoke@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Chihuahuas, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Italian Greyhounds, Japanese Chin, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Poodles, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers), German Shorthaired Pointers, English Cocker Spaniels, Beagles, Dachshunds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Welsh Terriers, Boston Terriers, Lhasa Apso

Mr. Ronald Lukins (56312) CA
(805) 482-9689
ron.lukins@verizon.net
Beagles, Bloodhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Dr. Anne Midgarden (91140) OH
(419) 302-8191
telieborzoi@nktelco.net
Scottish Deerhounds, Whippets
Mr. Ken J. Murray (44568) IL
(847) 526–2027
bspwd2@aol.com
Working Group (Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Chinook, Doberman Pinschers, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinchers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Newfoundland, Portuguese Water Dogs, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Peri D. Norman (15142) CA
(310) 417–5357
periandbob@aol.com
Boxers, Doberman Pinchers, Samoyeds

Ms. Pamela B. Peat (5894) AZ
(480) 473–4776
pampeat@cox.net
Cesky Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers

Mrs. Donnelle Richards (16762) CA
(408) 848–3336
donnellerichards@verizon.net
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli), Alaskan Malamutes, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

Mr. Eric J. Ringle (6564) FL
(954) 717–4133
eringle@msn.com

Mrs. Francine W. Schwartz (3092) IL
(847) 680–1722
keytra@comcast.net
American Staffordshire Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Scottish Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Dr. Dale D. Simmons (2068) OR
(503) 590–9963
d.d.simmons@frontier.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen)

Ms. Sharol C. Canace Wey (6668) PA
(610) 869–3984
bantryway@aol.com
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Gordon Setters, American Water Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Weimaraners

Ms. Mary J. Williams (5272)
(360) 891–6904
heway6203@gmail.com
Havanese, Maltese, Miniature Pinchers, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Pugs, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES
Mr. Kainoa Clark (95261) UT
(801) 513–4611
kainoacladark@yahoo.com
Miss Alexzandra Leigh Erb (95251)
(503) 352–5084
erbellz@live.com
Ms. Demery M. L. Paladichuk (95295) WA
(206) 794–2730
paladid2@students.wwu.edu

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
Miss Stacey S. Gann (92738) MO
(660) 886–5370
sag14bca@myturbonet.com
Bulldogs

Mrs. P. Jane Gray (91560) IN
(765) 896–9275
owlwatch@comcast.net
Whippets, Great Danes

Mr. Philip J. Gray (91558) IN
(765) 896–9275
owlwatch@comcast.net
Whippets, Great Danes

Mrs. Betsy Harvey (93361) CA
(805) 525–4980
bgh4980@earthlink.net
Scottish Terriers

Mr. Thomas Nuss (93619) NJ
(856) 404–3028
nusstj@comcast.net
Saint Bernards

Ms. Kathy Ryan (93221) MA
(781) 801–8517
sunaireshelties@msn.com
Collies, Shetland Sheepdogs

APPROVED BREED JUDGES
Mr. Deric D. Aube (40744) MI
(810) 343–0790
zbee4@aol.com
Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets

Mrs. Catherine Bell (6465) TN
(865) 690–6667
cbell0189@aol.com
Poodles

Ms. Karen A. Billings (7550) MA
(781) 449–2452
vonbruka@aol.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinchers, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Newfoundland, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds, Boston Terriers

Ms. Diane K. Burvree (91546) MO
(816) 452–6875
qazara1@yahoo.com
French Bulldogs, Poodles

Ms. Marge B. Calltharp (17384) CT
(860) 873–2572
marbo@portone.com
Keeshonden, Tibetan Spaniels

Approved Breed Judges

Mr. Eric J. Ringle (6564) FL
(954) 717–4133
eringle@msn.com

Mrs. Francine W. Schwartz (3092) IL
(847) 680–1722
keytra@comcast.net
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d.d.simmons@frontier.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen)

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kainoacladark@yahoo.com
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erbellz@live.com
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owlwatch@comcast.net
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owlwatch@comcast.net
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bgh4980@earthlink.net
Scottish Terriers

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nusstj@comcast.net
Saint Bernards

Ms. Kathy Ryan (93221) MA
(781) 801–8517
sunaireshelties@msn.com
Collies, Shetland Sheepdogs

Approved Breed Judges

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zbee4@aol.com
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cbell0189@aol.com
Poodles

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vonbruka@aol.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinchers, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Newfoundland, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds, Boston Terriers

Ms. Diane K. Burvree (91546) MO
(816) 452–6875
qazara1@yahoo.com
French Bulldogs, Poodles

Ms. Marge B. Calltharp (17384) CT
(860) 873–2572
marbo@portone.com
Keeshonden, Tibetan Spaniels
Mr. Dana Cline (7276) IL  
(815) 637-6968  
daneman23@yahoo.com  
Brussels Griffons, Chihuahuas,  
Havanese, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Old English Shepherds,  
Pyrenean Shepherds

Ms. Patricia Lynn Gallagher (19487)  
TX  
(713) 201-8000  
plynnngallagher@aol.com  
Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Parson Russell Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Ms. Cindy C. Lane (65098) TX  
(361) 579-6302  
glane146@yahoo.com  
English Cocker Spaniels

Mrs. Janice M. Leonard (6497) CO  
(303) 755-2897  
leoalair63@msn.com  
Beaucenons, Belgian Shepherds,  
Belgian Tervuren, Briards, Canaan Dogs, German Shepherd Dogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Puli, Swedish Vallhunds

Ms. Audrey Lycan (5788) GA  
(678) 432-4932  
winterway@bellsouth.net  
Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds,  
Pugs, Shetland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Sharon R. Lyons (5113) NY  
(845) 635-3529  
lyonserin@aol.com  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group  
(American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds, Poodles, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli),  
Afghan Hounds, Dachshunds

Mrs. Molly Martin (6650) AL  
(334) 271-2778  
mollydmartin@gmail.com  
Weimaraners, Brussels Griffons,  
Chihuahuas, Maltese, Papillons,  
Pekingese, Pomeranians

Mr. Neil T. McDevitt (91600) OH  
(937) 371-8249  
nmcdevitt1@woh.rr.com  
Whippets

Ms. Betty Nelson (39858) TX  
(903) 684-3091  
avalonkennel@aol.com  
French Bulldogs

Ms. Anne D. O’Reilly (6930) PA  
(717) 334-0303  
adorbasset@msn.com  
Black and Tan Coonhounds, Borzois,  
Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds,  
Norwegian Elkhounds, Petit Basset Griffons Vendeens

Mr. Del Richards (16761) CA  
(408) 848-3336  
delrichards@verizon.net  
German Shorthaired Pointers,  
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers,  
Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels,  
English Springer Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Vizslas
Ms. Nikki Riggsbee (5983) FL
(813) 654-3412
nriggsbee@aol.com
Chow Chows, Shiba Inu

Ms. Jan Schirmer (17236) AZ
(480) 610-9313
sunteckel@cox.net
Beagles

Dr. Gary L. Sparschu (6370) TX
(361) 949-1943
glspar@sbcglobal.net
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Newfoundland, Rottweilers, Affenpinschers, Chihuahuas, Papillons, Pomeranians, Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Sherry L. Swanson (7517) CA
(925) 833-9257
shoyulhasa@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Japanese Chin, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Toy Fox Terriers), Boston Terriers

Ms. Deborah Thornton (18837) VA
(434) 286-9504
cypressbaydt@gmail.com
American Foxhounds, Beagles, Bloodhounds, Harriers, Redbone Coonhounds, Scottish Deerhounds

Ms. Nitsa A. Trayler (41819) CA
(209) 833-3697
nitsa@yourbesttraineddog.com
Afghan Hounds, JS

Mrs. Patricia Ulloa (5721) CA
(626) 915-4456
patriciaulloa22@aol.com
German Shorthaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Irish Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners

Mrs. Wendy G. Willhauck (6103) MA
(508) 339-9242
frostfield@aol.com
Chihuahuas, Miniature Pinschers, Pomeranians, Poodles, Pugs, Keeshonden, Shiba Inu

Ms. Pamela F. Winter (27662) CA
(714) 685-8677
winstargd@earthlink.net
Giant Schnauzers, Portuguese Water Dogs, Rottweilers, Standard Schnauzers

ADJUNCT JUDGE
Ms. Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine (6913) MI
(734) 662-0849
foxa6r36@msn.com
Leonbergers

BEST IN SHOW
The following persons, having successfully completed the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they are approved, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Mr. Peter A. Gaeta (90490) NC
(917) 209-1937
pgaeta88@yahoo.com

Ms. Elizabeth “Beth” Sweigart (59413) PA
(717) 445-6627
greenfield1183@aol.com

Mr. Bruce E. Voran (5610) AZ
(928) 476-3972
bjvoran@gmail.com

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE
Mrs. Doris Elaine Werdermann

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGE
Mr. Wayne Kompare

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES
Mr. Jay Beyda
Mr. J. Ray Johnson
Mr. Richard H. Nachman

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.

Dee Dee Anderson 50143 (CA)
209-727-5321
dd@ddsdogtraining.com
Obedience - Utility

Laurie Beck 91764 (OR)
503-925-9571
jtbb99@aol.com
Rally - All

Kristin Brooks 94733 (TN)
404-788-5716
kebrook8617@yahoo.com
Obedience - Novice

Linda Ferrullo 46066 (NY)
845-561-7004
sixbichons@juno.com
Obedience - Utility

Aimee Kincaid 91226 (FL)
407-760-4119
aimee333@att.net
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.

Russell Hornfisher 65706 (TN)
734-673-8366
Hornfisher@aol.com
Obedience - Utility
CORRECTION:
RESIGNED OBEDIENCE JUDGE
Noreen C. Cartwright #0817 (OR)
Active in Conformation

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:
COUNTRY-SIDE – Golden Retrievers & Labrador Retrievers – Bernadette M. Petersen
ANAMACARA – Irish Setters – Tamara D. Jackson
NATELSONG – Chihuahuas - Michelle L. Natelborg
CARLA-JOHAUS – Rottweilers – Carla Jo Gloger
EBB’NE – Boxers – Sylvia I. Soules
IRONGATE – Australian Shepherds – Paula M. & Dewayne C. Thetford
JAMBOLOU – Doberman Pinschers – Andrea L. Smeltzer
HOLLOW CREEK – Boykin Spaniels – Patricia L. Watts
C-MAKS – Cocker Spaniels – April Moore
WHITE WAVE – Poodles – Jennifer A. Satur
CAMPO – Cane Corso – Richard Hudgens
FENDANE – Great Danes – Kathleen J. Fennell
MONTWOOD – Doberman Pinschers – Angela E. Monteleon
WYLDWOOD – English Springer Spaniels – Kim D. & Greg J. Mitchell
PENDRAGON – Shiba Inu – Lori B. Pendergast
GLENFORREST – Labrador Retrievers – Cynthia D. Abbott
ARBROATH – West Highland White Terriers – John Low, MD & William J. Matthews, MD
SNOW COUNTRY – Akitas – Melissa M. Losh
SILVERSMITH – Weimaraners – Elena Smith Lamberson
BLISSFIELD – Labrador Retrievers – Jolene K. Holtz
SASSAFRAS – Vizslas – Richard W. & Melina W. Black
TRILOGY – French Bulldogs – Susan Cooper
DEPHAL – German Shepherd Dogs – Denise Black-Hollister
ROSE RIDGE – Collies – Mary J. Smith
RON-DEL – Yorkshire Terriers – Carol L. Lackey
PIKESPEAK – Bloodhounds & Beagles – Elissa Befus
CAN-RIVER – Chihuahuas – Kristie Davis
ESSGERMANY – English Springer Spaniels – Petra Neumueller
STONE HAVEN – Labrador Retrievers – Dorothy Cavallo
XTREME – Akitas – Hollis Zane
SOUTHERN FARMS – Golden Retrievers – Randy Watson
GRANITEHILL – Labrador Retrievers – Susan M. Gardner
LUMINARY – Poodles – Victoria L. Law
LAGNIAPPE – Vizslas – Elizabeth Chandler & Glen Saucier
ESPIRITU – Xoloitzcuintli – Traci L. Johnson & Lynda Hylton

Registered Name Prefixes Granted
The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:
E-ROSEWOOD – Labrador Retrievers – Virginia M. & Ronald F. Erickson
EDELMARKE – German Shorthaired Pointers – Lisa M. Hauck-Gaede
JAZZIN – Golden Retrievers & Cumber Spaniels – Collette Jaynes
WINDY CANYON – Labrador Retrievers – Anne M. Swindeman
SILHOUETTE – Doberman Pinschers – Joyce A. Cates
ABOUT TIME – Cane Corso – Laura A. Essennacher
BLUE PANDA – Old English Sheepdogs – Dianne. S. Mckee-Rowland & Lita E. Long
PATTEN GOLD – Golden Retrievers – Greg D. Vick
OASIS – Mastiffs – Teresa M. McMahen
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 E. Weiss
WOODENSHOES – French Bulldogs – Kathi Untch
DRIFTWOOD – Cairn Terriers – Howard O. & Carol A. Dutra
JUMP-N-JIVE – Labrador Retrievers – Karin A. & James M. Bowler
STUBBY ACRES – Cardigan Welsh Corgis – Lauren A. Simermeyer, DVM
EPIC – Cane Corso – Heather L. & John W. King
SPOTLIGHT – Australian Shepherds & Cardigan Welsh Corgis – Sherry Green
HEARTSPOT – Dalmatians – Cathy Sadler
SILVER LINING – Mastiffs – Maureen K. McGuire
VOM MITTELWEST – German Shepherd Dogs – Julie Martinez & Tessa Martinez
SILVERCREEK – Chesapeake Bay Retrievers – Joanne C. Silver
ISLAND PRIDE – Mastiffs – Kelly D. Fong
SPECIAL-T – Yorkshire Terriers – Mary E. Fontenot
BATTLEFIELD – Alaskan Malamutes – Sandra J. & James Pistolesi
BENDIGO – Australian Cattle Dogs – Cathie L. Brown
WILLOW WOOD – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Susan J. Tomsich
KRISCOT – Scottish Terriers – Helen E. Krisko
JETSTAR – Schipperkes & Chihuahuas
SINGING SANDS – Bernese Mountain Dogs – Andrea Carlson, DVM
LCTI – German Shepherd Dogs – Jennifer R. & Michael R. Grigsby
COUNTRY CHARM – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Samantha J. Walter
GERMELHAUS – German Shepherd Dogs – Mello Dee L. Middleton
Parent Club Links

Sporting

- 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
Parent Club Links

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
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

Integrity.
Commitment.
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“the care and well being of the dogs is of prime importance.”

AKC Registered Handlers Current Membership Roster

Jason Bailey
Barbara Beissel
Doug Betler
Adam Bernardin
Jamie Donelson-Bernardin
* Amy Booth
Phillip Booth
* Heather Bremmer
* Stephen Cabral
Kim Calvaca
Sue Cappmore
Amanda Carlson
Douglas Carlson
Carlos Carrizo
Tracy Lynn Carroll
R.C. Carusi
Kelley Catterson
Paul Catterson
Kevin Chestnut
* Marianne “Tuni” Clafin
Dave Clendenon
Juliet Clendenon
Page Conrad
Gretchen Conradt
Timothy Conradt
Larry Cornelius
Tom Davis
Geoff Dawson
Gwen DeMilia
Carissa DeMilia-Shimpeno
Mark Desrosiers

Pam Desrosiers
James Dickson
* Diane Engelding
C.J. Favre
Nina Fetter
Kaki Fisher
Guy Fisher
Robert Fisher
Paul Flores
Karen Galipeault
* Lisa Gallizzo
* Rindi Gaudet
Andrew Green
Sara Gregware
* Kassandra Hamaker
Dee Hanna
James Harbert
Tina Harbert
Tara Krieger Hartman
Shane Hooper
Jeanne Henderson
Cynthia Huckfeldt
Frank Jewett
Maureen Jewett
Bergit Kabel
Erin Karst
Laura King
Scott Kipp
Susan Kipp
Ernesto Lara
Angela Lloyd

* Karen Mammano
Sam Mammano
* Bryan Martin
Nancy Martin
Coleen McGee
Corinne Miklos
Lisa Miller
Kathryn Mines
Roslyn Mintz
Moe Miyagawa
Tammy Miyagawa
Leesa Molina
Lori Mowery
Frank Murphy
Pat Murray
Krista Musil
Christine Nethery
Mary Norton-Augustus
Lynda O’Connor-Schneider
Jorge Olivera
Susie Olivera

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Betty Jo Patterson
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* John Wilcox
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* Also AKC Junior Showmanship Judges.

www.akc.org/handlers
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919 816-3590