

akc gazette

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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

We hope that your club will save a date this September to host an AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day event. Any size "Day" is welcome, from a table set-up at a local pet store to a day-long festival.

Many clubs include AKC CAR microchip clinics, Canine Good Citizen® testing, dog-sport demos, kids' areas, and more in their RDO Days.

Sign up your event at akc.org/rdod. For the first 600 clubs that register, we'll have kits full of materials that you can pass out at your event to help educate visitors how to find a responsible breeder, why responsible dog ownership matters in a community, and much more.

Clubs that host an event in September are eligible for the AKC Community Achievement Award. Holding a RDO Day also counts as a Major Activity on the Eligibility Requirements to Hold Future Dog Shows.

The flagship event will once again be held in Raleigh, North Carolina, on September 21. We hope that those of you in the Raleigh area will join us for CGC testing, dog sport demonstrations, breed parades, low-cost microchipping and local vendors. Many new and unusual breeds will be available for the public to meet.

If you're a Canine Ambassador, think about classroom or community group visits that you may be able to schedule before school lets out for the summer. We provide our Canine Ambassadors with coloring books, bookmarks, and safety information to ensure a great lesson about responsible dog ownership.

If you are interested in making visits to kids with your dog but aren't already a Canine Ambassador, you can learn more about the program and how to become one here.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest updates and deadlines about AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Days.

We welcome any suggestions for the 2013 AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Days program from our clubs. Please contact the Communications department at communications@akc.org with your ideas and comments, and we'll see you in September!

Sincerely,



Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO



Responsible Dog Ownership Days give our beautiful breeds the opportunity to meet their adoring public.

We'd love to hear from you about what you think about our organization and our staff. Please write to us at feedback@akc.org

AKC/Eukanuba Judges Announced

Alderman, DiNardo top all-star panel to convene at Orlando

Mrs. Barbara Alderman will judge Best in Show, and Dr. Anthony DiNardo will preside in the Best Bred-by-Exhibitor ring, at this year's AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

The AKC's signature event returns to the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, December 14 and 15. The Brevard, Central Florida, and Space Coast kennel-club shows will precede the AENC at the same site, December 11 to 13.

Barbara Alderman, of Moon Township, Pennsylvania, began in the sport with a pet Afghan Hound in 1959. Her years as a breeder-owner-handler yielded the youngest Afghan champion of the day, and top all-breed and specialty Best in Show winners. Alderman, who enjoyed a distinguished career as an AKC-licensed handler, is now an all-breed judge filling her fifth AKC/Eukanuba assignment. She has been a member of the Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association since 1959 and belongs to the Fort Lauderdale Dog Club.

Dr. Anthony DiNardo, of West Hartford, Connecticut, has maintained a limited breeding program but has bred or owned 12 different Best in Show-winning Doberman Pinschers, winners of the Doberman Pinscher Club of America Top 20, and the national specialty. DiNardo is the founder and president of the Connecticut River Working Group Association, the first AKC working-dog member club. He is the president of the Doberman Pinscher Club of America, and a member of the First Company Governor's Foot Guard.

See the AENC pages at akc.org for group- and breed-judging assignments, and check periodically for updates.



Late Breaking: Board Class of 2017 Elected

NEW YORK—At the annual meeting of the American Kennel Club, held on March 12, the AKC delegate body elected the Board of Directors Class of 2017:

Lee Arnold, delegate from the Southern Colorado Kennel Club;

Carl C. Ashby III, delegate from the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club;

Alan Kalter, delegate from the American Bullmastiff Association; and

Harvey Wooding, delegate from the Westminster Kennel Club.

At a meeting of the AKC Board of Directors convened after the Delegate Meeting, the directors elected Alan Kalter chairman of the board and Dr. William R. Newman vice chairman of the board.

For more information on the newly elected Class of 2017, see the release posted on the homepage at akc.org.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In August, I introduced the concept of “relentless positive action” as a driving force in delivering new programs, new events, and new outreach. That philosophy most certainly drives our best breeders in their determined quest for constant improvement in their lines, and subsequently, their breeds. Like those breeders, the American Kennel Club is on a determined quest for improvement—in events, and subsequently, our sport.

To paraphrase the late Ed Koch, How are we doing?

What's Working

The Grand Champion title was launched May 12, 2010. Behind it was an understanding that many owners wanted to continue to show after putting a “Ch.” on their dog, but they did not want to actively campaign for a national ranking.

We believed the Grand Champion title would offer those exhibitors a meaningful reason to continue showing, and therefore help boost show entries. In the year before the launch, Best of Breed accounted for almost 374,000 entries. In the first full year of Grand Champion competition (2011), BOB entries increased by almost 78,000. Last year, BOB accounted for almost 476,000 entries, an increase of 102,000 over the base year.

The only explanation for the increase is the Grand Champion program; there is no doubting the positive effect the title is having on entries and the finances of our clubs. We believe the National Owner-Handler Series will continue to build Best of Breed entries.

The 4–6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition—providing opportunities for training, socialization, and an introduction to conformation—became an approved, sanctioned event on July 3, 2012. There were 96 Beginner Puppy events last year, with a total entry of 2,171 puppies. The 4–6 Month Competition is an excellent public-outreach program, and I encourage every club to consider offering this event.

The Beginner Novice optional titling

class, a popular combination of basic obedience and rally, seems to be having a positive impact on obedience entries, which were up almost 7,300 in 2012. Not only are Beginner Novice classes up, but all obedience regular and optional classes report growth.

The Coursing Ability Test (CAT), a fun and healthy event modeled after lure coursing, and open to all adult dogs, is attracting a following. While lure coursing did not exhibit growth in 2012, the CAT program added more than 6,000 entries.

Agility continues to grow. We believe Time 2 Beat Agility, a “hybrid” titling class, is helping to fuel that growth. Last year agility, our second-largest sport, increased entries by more than 117,000.

AKC Canine Partners is bringing new exhibitors and dog lovers into the AKC orbit. Last year, these owners and their dogs, many from 4-H clubs, entered our events more than 40,000 times.

What Are We Working On?

The 2012 conformation-entry statistics reveal two interesting trends.

The number of new dogs being exhibited has remained basically constant at 41 percent of total dogs exhibited.

It appears, however, owners might be waiting until their dogs are more competitive before beginning to show—most likely a result of the nation's economic state. Creating additional opportunities to show young dogs is a priority for us. Fortunately we are vetting a unique concept conceived by an active breeder-exhibitor-judge, and it appears to hold significant promise for the future.

This month in Tulsa, Oklahoma, we host the first-ever AKC Rally National Competition, in conjunction with the Obedience and Agility National Championships. The event will help bring recognition to dogs and handlers who train for and enjoy the sport of rally.

“AKC My Dog Can Do That!” has proven to be extremely successful in



Coursing Ability Test: part of “what’s working.”

bringing new dogs and exhibitors to agility and rally. About half the participants are conformation people interested in learning about a new sport, and half are people who had never been to a dog show. We are developing a program to make it easier for clubs to activate this program locally.

Beginner Puppy and “My Dog Can Do That!” are perfect examples of using the AKC-registrant database to benefit clubs, owners, and their dogs. We will continue to find ways to use this powerful tool in support of our clubs and their events.

Our ongoing success in events depends on the ability to innovate new programs. AKC staff is committed to doing just that. While not every program will be a hit, the spirit of “relentless positive action” requires that we stay open to new ideas and are willing to risk the occasional failure. Our success also depends on a bit of relentless positive communication.

Now that you know some of our success stories, let's all help spread the word. As in all sports, momentum is part of the game.

Your comments and suggestion are most welcome at atk@akc.org.

Sincerely,

Alan Kalter
Chairman

American Kennel Clips >>>

Walker Named Social Media AVP

The AKC has hired Christopher Walker as assistant vice president of Social Media Outreach and Communications. He will



oversee the expansion of AKC digital-marketing efforts.

Most recently, Walker was manager of digital marketing at SRS Software, where he was responsible for all aspects of digital marketing, branding, and promotion of SRS electronic health records and medical-technology software and products. His digital

strategies greatly increased the company's online leads and web traffic. Previously, he held digital-marketing jobs at DimensionU, Krush21/EMI Music Entertainment, and Sony Music Entertainment.

Walker grew up in England and Ireland, where his grandfather raised and bred Golden Retrievers. He received a business and marketing degree from Staffordshire University. Walker and his wife, Christie, live in Manhattan.

Agility Re-tires Old Obstacle

After an AKC Agility department review of the safety concerns posed by the tire-jump obstacle, the board of directors has approved the regulation allowing the use of a breakaway tire in AKC trials.

During a six-month period beginning March 1, clubs may use either the standard solid tire or the breakaway tire. Starting September 4, clubs will be required to use the breakaway tire.

It is recommended that during the optional-use period clubs note in their premium if the breakaway tire will be used at a trial.

During the optional-use period, if the tire breaks open it will not be judged as a mandatory elimination "F." Starting September 4 a broken-open tire will be judged as an "F" which will result in a non-qualifying score.

For more information, and to see the new equipment in use, see the video at the AKC YouTube channel.



The solid, one-piece agility tire is being phased out.

Goodman Honored

Congratulations to longtime AKC board member Walter F. Goodman, who received the Anne Rogers Clark Hall of Fame Award during the Show Dogs of the Year dinner, at New York's Grand Hyatt Hotel on February 9.

The annual award honors a fancier "who embodies the very best qualities of the show-dog sport and who has made a lifetime of contributions to the dog fancy." Goodman, who joins such recent Hall of Fame inductees as Edd Bivin and Wendell Sammet, last served on the AKC board in 2011.



Hall of Famer Walter F. Goodman, flanked by former AKC Chairman David Merriam and AKC President Dennis Sprung

Legislation Tool Time

The AKC has put out the latest addition to the online AKC Government Relations Toolbox, a flier titled "How a Bill Becomes a Law." This resource describes how a typical bill advances from introduction through enactment.

By understanding the legislative process, concerned dog owners will be better empowered to communicate with their elected representatives about measures they support and to effectively oppose laws that would restrict the rights of responsible dog owners and breeders.

To download the flier and other Toolbox items, visit the akc.org Government Relations pages.

TOP LEFT: KATE MCCOY/CAK; RIGHT: SUSSEX SPANIEL/DIANE LEWIS FOR AKC; BOTTOM: COURTESY DENNIS SPRUNG

How Much

Is that Doggie?

(Hint: If you have to ask, you probably can't afford it.)

NEW YORK—Among the 214 lots on view at Westminster weekend's Barkfest at Bonhams brunch and auction preview, no painting elicited more *oohs* and *ahs* than Edward Robert Smythe's *Favorite Hounds*, the property E. Walter Greene Esq, Master of the Suffolk Hounds.

The fanciers who gathered to benefit the AKC Humane Fund at the elegant Bonhams gallery on Sunday morning, February 10, proved to be sound judges of canine art: Three days later, at the Dogs in Show & Field sale, the 35-by-52-inch object of their delight sold for \$116,500—tops in the auction and a record price for Smythe.

"Attendees were the most powerful players in the auction," the Bonhams press office reports, "although eager online bidders participated with notable vigor, and the two groups regularly engaged in bidding wars."

Smythe's 1870 masterpiece depicts a pack of foxhounds at rest in a stable. "The special thing about *Favourite Hounds* is the attention paid to each hound,"

Sam Travers, a Bonhams 19th-century art expert, says. "Their individual characteristics are depicted in such detail and in such a variety of poses displaying the incredible skill of this fine Suffolk [England] artist."



Smythe: Favourite Hounds, \$116,500

Rule Britannia

Smythe's fellow British painters of the Victorian and Edwardian eras accounted for most of the big-ticket sales: John Emms's *Beagles—Father of the Pack* went for \$68,500, Maud Earl's *Borzoi Heads* and Thomas Blinks's *At Their Master's Call* each brought \$27,500, and William Henry Trood's dainty 12-by-14-inch *Wait 'Til the Clouds Roll By*, featured in the January GAZETTE, sold for \$68,500—more than double its pre-sale low estimate.

"Bonhams has changed the market for Trood, having set several records in the last two years," Bonhams Director of Fine Art Alan Fausel says. "This is certainly a record price for a Trood of this size."

Among American artists, Edmund Henry

Earl: Borzoi Heads, \$27,500

Osthaus (1858–1928) was most popular with bidders. His *Two Pointers in a Landscape* sold for \$40,000 and *Two Pointers in a Field* for \$21,250, both above their pre-sale high estimates.

It was an excellent year for Dogs in Show & Field, the only auction dedicated solely to dog-related art. It is perhaps an indication that the art market, and the U.S. economy generally, are finally rebounding after years of cautious spending. Bonhams's head of 19th-century paintings Charles O'Brien says, "We're very pleased with all the prices realized, which saw the strongest bidding this annual sale has ever seen. We had solid interest in a wide variety of breeds which was reflected in the excellent results."

View the complete auction results at bonhams.com.



Osthaus: Two Pointers in a Landscape, \$40,000

COURTESY BONHAMS



times past

“When You Think of Elkhounds ...”



2013 marks the Norwegian Elkhound's 100th year in the AKC Stud Book. We observe the anniversary with an appreciation of Patricia Craige Trotter, the breed's godmother in America. She is saluted here with excerpts from books by three of dogdom's most distinguished writers.

When you think of Norwegian Elkhounds, you think of Patricia Craige. The teacher from Monterey has bred more than 100 champions, even though she rarely keeps more than 17 Elkhounds at her Vin-Melca kennel.

Pat has long been a fancier. “When I was 13, I was given a 16-hour-old orphan pup,” she recalled. “Every four hours I bottle-fed her. Three years later I showed her to a championship and a CD obedience degree, getting both the same weekend.”

Pat is one of the most accomplished handlers on the scene and could give many a professional a lesson. She and her Elkhounds make a striking picture as they speed around a

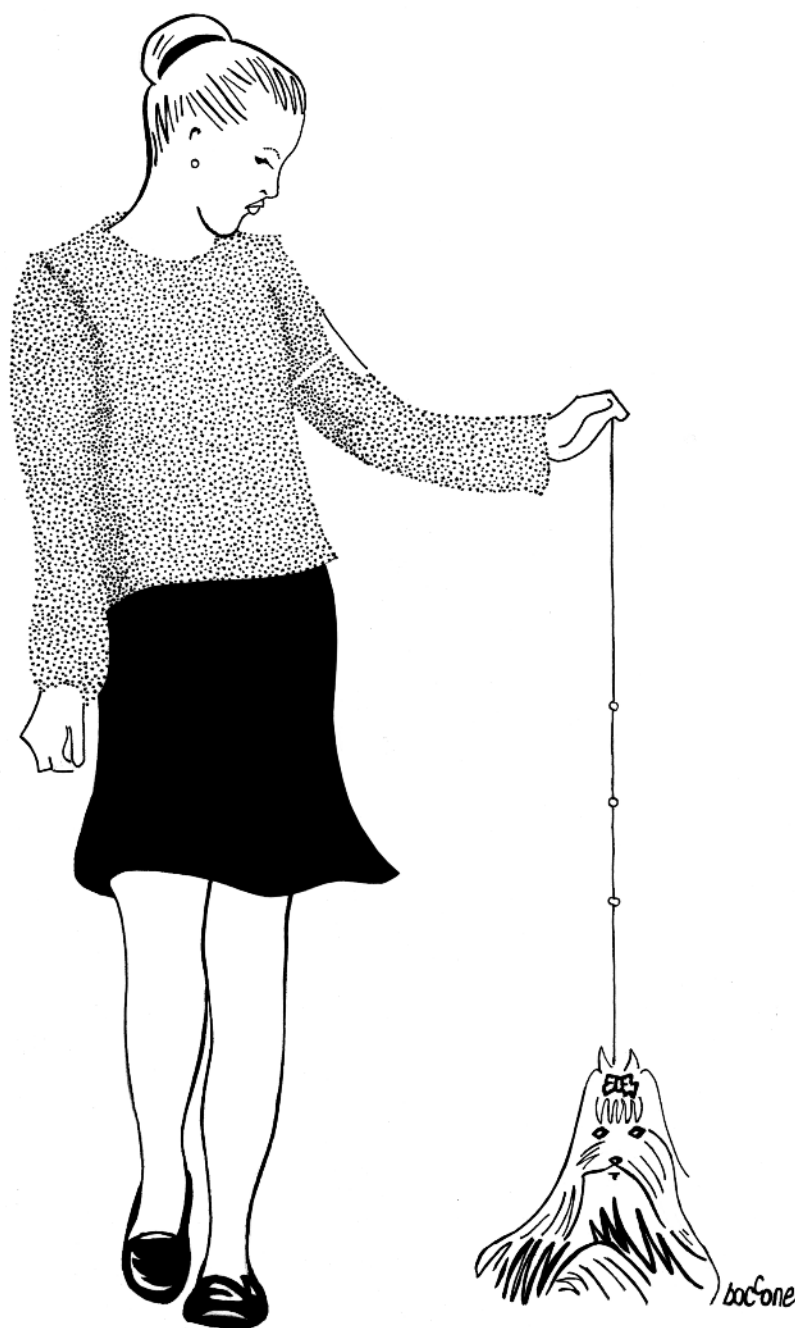
ring. —Walter Fletcher, *My Times With Dogs*, 1979

Patricia Craige Trotter set a record in 1995 that has been unequaled. ... She won the Hound Group at Westminster for the 10th time. She also competed for Best in Show at the Garden and lost for the 10th time.

In her book *Born to Win*, Mrs. Trotter says that her memories of the dogs to which her Elkhounds lost “embrace their breeders, their owners, their handlers, and their personal characters, as well as their contributions to the world of dogs.” She was privileged over the years, she says, to have been in the “very best of company.” —William Stifel, *The Dog Show*, 2001

Vin-Melca champions placed among the top ten hounds twenty-nine times between 1968 and 2003. Not surprisingly, the only two breeders ever to be inducted into dogdom's own Hall of Fame—an honor usually reserved for judges, handlers, and club officials—were Julia Gasow in 1986 and Patricia Trotter in 1990. —Bo Bengtson, *Best in Show*, 2008

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Emma Echols

As a 16-year-old at the 2011 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, Echols won Best Junior, and with it the chance to represent America in the Crufts international juniors ring. After her trip to England she said, "I hope one day, when I'm older, I'll be able to return to Crufts." Well, today she's older—exactly one year older. And after taking a second straight AENC Best Junior, she was again in Birmingham this month to take her place among the world's best in her age group.

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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 and function. A national parent club comprises dedicated breeders and fanciers, and it represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to the fancy in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year.

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

toys

Affenpinschers

A Wonderful Win, But ...

Congratulations to Banana Joe and his supporting team! He won a well-deserved Best in Show at the 2013 Westminster Kennel Club show. Banana Joe is a super representative for our little "monkey dogs."

The AKC recognized Affenpinschers back in 1936. That was 77 years ago, but Affens still remain the rarest of the toy breeds. Banana Joe's win has brought newfound attention to our Affens, however—and it is scary!

Think back to the rise in popularity of Cocker Spaniels after My Own Brucie's back-to-back Best in Show wins at Westminster in 1940–41. Or Dals, after the hit Disney movie *101 Dalmatians*—or more recently, Brussels Griffons, after the Jack Nicholson movie *As Good as It Gets*.

As breeders and owners of Affens, we must double our guard so that this sudden fame does not encourage backyard and irresponsible breeders who might see the opportunity to raise and sell Affens only for financial gain.

We must tighten our contracts. Before selling an intact Affen, be sure to thoroughly research the buyer. Has someone reliable visited the person's home? Does the prospective owner intend to exhibit in AKC events? Should we call to double-check the writer of a letter of reference?

As chair of breeder referral for the Affenpinscher Club of America, in just the two weeks after Westminster I

received over 40 inquiries for an Affen. The usual number of inquiries is maybe two a week. (I said I was scared!)

When alarm signals are there—such as when the caller says they want to buy both a male and a female, or that they're looking to buy more than one puppy—not a chance, in my book.

Vigilance will be required to avoid the exploitation of our little guys. Let's work together to keep our Affens out of the wrong hands.

—Nancy Baybutt,
siennagoldaffens@comcast.net

Affenpinscher Club of America website: affenpinscher.org

Brussels Griffons

On the Fringes of Rescue

Each breed has its own rescue group, some more active than others. The Brussels Griffon is fortunate to have two such groups that are tremendously active and dedicated: The National Brussels Griffon Association, and the American Brussels Griffon Rescue Alliance.

The organizations are alerted to a needy Griffon in several ways. Rescue coordinators for both organizations routinely surf the Internet in search of shelters posting Griffs. Many shelters have contact information for the organizations or local representatives and notify them directly when they take in a Griff. Occasionally owners contact the organization because they can no longer keep their beloved pet.

Whatever the situation, the response

is similar: Find someone to pull the dog from the shelter (sometimes ASAP, if it's a kill shelter), find a foster home, and review the applicants to find a permanent placement possibility.

Find someone to pull the dog—in the Southern California area, that is most often me. Recently I pulled Stretch, so named by my husband because he weighed 22 pounds and was as tall as a Basenji. He was super sweet, with separation-anxiety issues. Then came Coco, a bit smaller at a chubby 17 pounds. He was already in a foster home, but the home could not keep him because he was “food aggressive,” and the foster mom was afraid he would hurt her senior citizen Griff. (We never saw food aggression while he was here; of course, as 99 percent of those reading this article probably do, I feed my each of my dogs in their own private spaces.)

The last I pulled had no name, although he eventually became Sir James. He was a filthy, matted mess. Shelters, at least the ones I've dealt with, do no bathing, grooming, or trimming. Some do administer DHAPP and bordetella vaccines, but that's it. Sir James left here the same day he came, thanks to prompt arrangements by the ABGRA, after three hours of trimming, bathing, dematting, and a trip to my vet.

From here they go to a foster home. There they are evaluated for behavioral issues, socialized, trained, and housebroken if needed.

Every rescue organization seems to have trouble finding foster homes. Potential foster homes generally receive a visit from a rescue coordinator to be sure they have a suitable situation. The foster time allows the dog to be evaluated and screened for potential placement issues: Does he get along with other dogs? Cats? How is he with children? Is he housebroken? Can he be left alone?

While the dog is being fostered, the rescue coordinator reviews applicants for permanent placement. Neither of the two national Griffon rescue groups will ship a dog.

Stretch went from my house, to a foster home, to a new owner—who returned him to the foster home, then decided she wanted him after all, then returned him again. (Can you say “ditz”?) He is now in a lovely permanent home.

Coco was fostered in the home of the rescue coordinator (she wears a few hats). Sir James was another Griff whose arranged foster home decided she could not have him—because she “couldn't deal with two male dogs.” (She already had an adopted rescue.)

The point is that the rescue coordinators work very hard to get these poor Griffs into permanent situations. These workers are undaunted and persevere to the end. My hat is off to them!

—Anne K. Catterson,

annecatt@gmail.com

American Brussels Griffon

Association: brussels-griffon.info

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

This heartfelt tribute to a Cavalier, a beautiful Blenheim dog whose life was well lived, moved many of us when we read it on an Internet list. It captures the very essence of Cavalier temperament and *joie de vivre*. Written by Glenda Schroeder, of Virginia, I want to share it with anyone who has ever truly loved a dog.

Remembering Berkeley

Today I said goodbye to my Berkeley, Ch. Shenandoah Danzig (Ch. Elvenhome Keep Going x Shenandoah Georgie Girl). He was 13. We shared many firsts together. He was my first Cavalier, my first champion, and my first show dog.

He was the first dog I showed at Westminster and at a national, and my only heart-and-soul dog; he was truly a blessing.

He taught me the true meaning of love and compassion, and it is because of him that I now have friends around the world, as well as many friends here in the U.S. and in Virginia. He is the reason I now have his sons and grand-

son at my feet, and I see him in them every day.

He thought ice cubes were filet mignon steaks and would patiently wait at the freezer door until I indulged him. Every day with him was a delight—he did not know the meaning of “down-time.” He was always ready for a game of ball, rain or shine. No matter how short a time I might have been gone, he was always waiting at the door, tail wagging, jumping up as if to ask, “Where ya been?”

He was the best Cavalier and dog I could have the privilege to care for and to be loved by, and he will always be my number-one Cavalier.

He was diagnosed with a mitral valve murmur at age 9 and went on meds at age 11. He had a full and wonderful day yesterday, but this morning he was not well and woke me up at 4 A.M. Although he ate his breakfast, he spent most of the day on my lap, getting weaker as the day went on, so I called my vet early this afternoon and held his head as he went to sleep one last time.

I know my dad was there to greet him with a pocketful of endless dog treats.

R.I.P. Berk, forever in my heart. — G.S.

Thank you very much for sharing this with us, Glenda.

—Stephanie Abraham,

landmarks.properties@snet.net

American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club website: ackcsc.org

Chihuahuas

Our guest contributor for this issue is Justin Ward, chair of the Chihuahua Club of America's health committee.

Chiari-like Malformations and Syringomyelia in Chihuahuas

At the national specialty this year, the Chihuahua Club of America welcomed guest speaker Dr. Michael Podell, DVM, DACVIM (Neurology), to share his views on the subject of syringomyelia.

Dr. Podell began by cautioning dog owners against relying on online research, due to so much misinformation on the Internet. He then went on to describe the process of chiari-like malformations (CM) and their relation to syringomyelia (SM).

CM can occur in breeds with a rounded skull. It is essentially a malformation at the back of the skull that can cause restriction of the opening at the base of the skull that is reserved for the spinal cord.

There is a circulation system for the fluid inside the brain. The fluid normally flows to the base of the skull and travels down through the opening into the spinal cord. The presence of CM, however, can block the flow from the skull. When this occurs, fluid pressure builds up inside the skull. The fluid may then only pass down into the spinal cord in a jetlike fashion, which can cause a bulge of fluid (called a *syrinx*) to form inside the spinal cord. The presence of the syrinx in the spinal cord is called *syringomyelia*.

Symptoms of SM often occur in the adult dog. Symptoms vary, but they may include sensitivity of the neck, causing an urge to scratch the neck and shoulders. Often dogs will scratch the air near the neck, followed by intense pain around the neck and shoulder region, causing the dog to scream or yelp when touched. As the disease progresses, the dog may exhibit lameness and may progress to the point of paralysis.

It is important to remember that other disorders may present with similar symptoms. At this time the only way to diagnose CM and SM is with an MRI scan.

What does this mean for Chihuahuas?

Dr. Podell explained that they rarely see a Chihuahua for suspected SM symptoms. The diagnosis is usually made when a Chihuahua has an MRI done for another issue and the CM/SM is found at that time.

Many Chihuahuas seem to be asymptomatic, meaning they may have CM and possibly SM where symptoms are never present, living a long and

healthy life.

He went on to say that we should be mindful of these diseases. Breeders should be aware of SM symptoms so that they may perform scans on dogs presenting neurological signs. Do not use symptomatic dogs in a breeding program, and definitely do not line-breed on symptomatic dogs.

As time progresses and more Chihuahuas are scanned, we will have more information on how to proceed. The CCA Health Committee will be working on guidelines to be published next year.

A video of this speaker was made, and purchasing details will be on the CCA website during the coming year.

—Virginia Hauber,
wynjinchihuahuas.com

Chihuahua Club of America website:
Chihuahuacclubofamerica.com

Chinese Cresteds A Chinese Crested at Sea

Even after all these years with Chinese Cresteds, once in a while one of them does something that still just amazes me. Read this little story and be amazed too.

Derien Jastrzebski was raised with dogs. Born into a family that included Scottish Deerhounds, dogs were as much a part of her life as the humans. As she grew up, she learned to groom and to show in Junior Showmanship. When she graduated from high school, her senior picture was taken with her dog at her side.

Never one to settle for the ordinary, Derien applied and was accepted to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. This was the beginning of a career that put her into a world where dogs are not usually a part. Today, Derien is a Reserve Naval Officer who works for the Military Sealift Command.

Even though Derien loves her job, the many months out at sea meant being away from any dogs at home. The pain of not having a doggy companion was so great that Derien began to question her choice of careers.

And then something incredible happened. The captain of the USNS *Grapple*, the ship on which Derien had become permanent, had a cat on board the ship. The cat, already very old, became ill and had to be put to sleep. Derien began to think, "If a cat can live on a ship, why not a small dog?"

After a lot of thought, Derien approached the captain with her idea. Much to her surprise, the captain was very enthusiastic about it, and together they set about locating the perfect little dog and getting all the necessary paperwork.

The dog had to be small enough to be carried up the ladder wells, agile enough to live on a constantly moving surface, and mentally stable enough to adapt to life on a ship.

Derien's father had a powderpuff Chinese Crested, and Derien had always been impressed with the little dog's outgoing personality, so she contacted the breeder and found Raeli, a female powderpuff. Derien and the crew of the *Grapple* had to wait several months for their little girl to be old enough to leave home and for Derien to get back to land to pick Raeli up.

Raeli has fit right in with the life on a Navy ship. She has her own little Navy uniform and her own personal life jacket. Sweet and well behaved, she is the darling of the crew—especially the captain.

She has her own passport and, when the seas are rough, has better sea legs than most of the crew. But before you get the idea that life is just one big pleasure cruise for Raeli, she has responsibilities. She is the chief morale officer (aka the ship's mascot) and is charged with passing out wet kisses and a sympathetic ear to sailors who are away from home and missing their families, both human and canine.

Hats off to Raeli—possibly the only Chinese Crested serving her country in the military.

—Sue Klinckhardt-Gardner,
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American Chinese Crested Club
website: acc.chinese Crested Club.info

English Toy Spaniels Owner Responsibility

My local humane society has been working with several dogs from a pet-hoarding situation. While assisting some of their handlers, I realized that these rescued dogs require the same things that our show dogs require. English Toy Spaniels have a tendency toward sensitivity to sight, sound, and touch, and this leads to some of our dogs not reaching their full potential in the show ring.

You may be asking what in the world this has to do with abused and neglected dogs, as surely our dogs are pampered and adored. The similarity lies in the fact that both groups of dogs are insecure, and our responsibility is to bring out the best in either group. For discussion's sake I will call both groups "sensitive."

There are two ways in which we need to take this responsibility very seriously. The first area concerns our expectations for the sensitive dog. For the victims of abuse I find the handlers feel a lot of sympathy and seem to tiptoe around in order to spare any further distress. I can say from experience that a worried English Toy Spaniel can elicit the same feelings when they decide something is not to their liking. Our job as handlers to both dogs is to challenge them just before the point of shutting down.

One challenge that many sensitive dogs share is the approach of a stranger. We cannot avoid this challenge if we want the dogs to advance in either life skills or show careers. What we can do is find the point each dog can manage, and push them on from there.

In my classes we work on a sit-for-exam. Maybe the dog can only manage a person six feet away before they resort to flight. If that is the case, we start there and work our way toward the dog with a sideways approach. If this is accepted, we narrow it to five feet ten inches, and then repeat. There will be failure, but we can return to the point of success and make smaller

encroachments. We cannot be afraid of failure, but at the same time we must be responsible for our dogs' welfare.

This leads me to the second area where our responsibility lies for sensitive dogs. The opposite problem a handler can encounter is not being sensitive enough to a dog's point of "shutting down." It is our responsibility to protect the sensitive dog from encounters that are beyond his abilities. I tell my students they must be an advocate for their dogs, and this may mean blocking the advance of well-meaning strangers. Most people have a deep-seated desire to share their dogs with others, but unfortunately this can lead to misguided attempts to socialize a dog beyond his limitations.

We all want a happy and well-adjusted dog to share in our lives and activities. When dealing with a sensitive dog, a certain amount of owner responsibility is imperative for the maximum amount of success. Patience is not only a virtue but also a necessity when working with these dogs.

Maybe after you train your English Toy, you can head to your local humane society and pay it forward!

—Janelle Smedley, jsmeds@cheqnet.net
English Toy Spaniel Club of America
website: englishtoyspanielclubofamerica.org

Havanese

Our guest columnist is Nancy Gardner, newsletter editor for the Havanese Club of America.

Putting Together a Club-Members Newsletter

Our club magazine, *Havanese Hotline*, provides Havanese fanciers with stories of interest, ads, and show coverage of specialties and our national. This magazine is designed for the membership as well as non-members. It is a quality publication, with color ads and editorial pages. Unfortunately, unforeseen delays do happen when there are so many different factors involved in making a magazine.

Our club recognized the need for an additional, simpler publication that

would get club information to our members in a timely manner. Our solution was to go with a quarterly, black-and-white newsletter with no ads and conveying only specific club news, to be mailed first-class to club members only. The board of directors decided that this newsletter would include the approved minutes, reports of committee chairs, new member applications, financials, and special announcements. This newsletter is a very prompt and cost-effective way to get this information out to the membership.

This type of newsletter is easy to put together if you set some ground rules. First and foremost, the deadline date *must* be adhered to if the newsletter is to get a reputation of providing up-to-date information.

Create a folder on the computer for every quarterly newsletter. This way all the minutes, reports, and financials are in one place, easy to find, and ready to assemble.

About one week before the printing date, start putting all the information into a newsletter format. You may want to do a test run when you receive files from people to make sure you can open, copy, and paste the material into your newsletter page.

To make the newsletter nice-looking and easy to read, don't use a font size any smaller than a 10 points, and 12 point is better. A tip I found useful long ago was to experiment with the font types available in your program. Just changing a font and/or font size can make a big difference in terms of using more or less space on the page.

Another thing I've learned over the years is that articles are easier to read if the text is formatted in two or three columns instead of all on one big page. If the way the page looks is hard for you to read, just assume it will be more difficult for others. Another tip is to use lines (or "rules") between articles, especially if you are tight on space—or you can italicize every other paragraph to eliminate a space.

To help the committee chairs, send a reminder about two weeks before the

printing date.

Once all the information is gathered and assembled into a newsletter, it is sent to the club board for approval, corrections, and additions a few days before the deadline. It's unusual to *not* have any changes, so don't take it personally. Another set of eyes is always better than one!

We use an online service called Click to Mail to mail the newsletter for us. There may be other online companies that work better for your club's particular needs; this one currently works well for us. If you do not have a newsletter publishing-type program, Click to Mail has a template to get you started. With a click of the button, I am able to send the newsletter PDF file and upload a current list of member addresses. It is then out of my hands. Within one business day the newsletter is printed and snail-mailed First Class to our members. Members receive their printed newsletter within a week of the deadline date.

Pretty simple. —N.G.

Thank you, Nancy!

—Joan Ambrose,

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Havanese Club of America website:
havanese.org

Italian Greyhounds

It's been a while since I've written something for the would-be or very new IG fancier, so here it is.

Italian Greyhound Basics

The Italian Greyhound may be a miniature Greyhound in general appearance, but he has his own breed standard that points out specific differences between him and his much larger cousin.

Often, while walking one of my IGs, I've encountered people who think my dog is a Whippet, a Greyhound puppy or, occasionally, something really off the wall, like a Weimaraner. Frequently the comment is, "Oh, it's a mini Greyhound!" I always take the time to explain the correct terminology and that yes, he looks like a miniature

Greyhound. According to the standard, he is supposed to look like that.

The exact statement, in the standard's first paragraph under "Description," reads, "The Italian Greyhound is very similar to the Greyhound, but much smaller and more slender in all proportions and of ideal elegance and grace." During a brief encounter, I'm not likely to go into the fact that there are other specific differences besides size. The IG is *not* just a miniature version of his big cousin.

I don't want to bore the casual reader with a treatise on the differences between the IG and the Greyhound. Those who are interested in all the details should read the actual standards for both breeds.

One major difference is the variation in movement between the two. The big Greyhound is bred for speed and efficiency in running. The Italian Greyhound, although a swift short-distance sprinter, ideally has an attractive, high-stepping trot that makes his movement unique. This is not a hackney gait, which is an extreme lift without free forward motion nor drive in the rear. The IG has—or should have—lift and reach in front and strong propulsion from behind. All this comes from a rather complex combination of relative bone length, muscle, angulation, overall construction, and temperament. The IG who has all of this is an eye-stopper.

The difference in temperament is not explained in the standards for these breeds. The large Greyhound is often popularly called a "couch potato." He is very laid back and quiet indoors, while the IG's size allows him to maintain a high level of energy, even in the smallest apartment.

I sometimes receive inquiries from people about a "miniature Italian Greyhound." I have to fight the temptation to say, "There's no such thing!" Such a reference is pretty much the same as a "teacup Poodle" or "teacup Chihuahua"—or "teacup" anything else. It is meant to refer to a tiny specimen of that particular breed, but there

is no such official name for *any* breed. There actually *are* people who want the minuscule end of the scale—an IG weighing less than seven pounds and standing 12 inches or less. A dog in that size range would be smaller than the "13 to 15 inches at the shoulder" ideal specified in the standard. This would be a dog too refined and delicate to deal with the real-life situations most dogs face. That may be all right with people who understand the special needs of a tiny dog with very fine bone, but for the average pet home a slightly larger, sturdier IG is a much better choice.

—Lilian S. Barber,

iggylil@earthlink.net

Italian Greyhound Club of America
website: italiangreyhound.org

Maltese

2013 Maltese National Specialty

Come join us April 30–May 3 for a sunny, great time in the heart of Disney, at the American Maltese Association national specialty. Our host hotel is the International Palms Resort, at 6515 International Drive in Orlando, Florida.

The location is only 20 minutes from the Orlando International Airport. Resort guests can enjoy pedestrian access to most popular shopping, dining, and entertainment venues. Of course we will have our popular "Maltese Shopping Mall" right in the host hotel.

Of course on Tuesday the fun begins, with the "White Excitement" party!

Besides our usual sweepstakes judging and regular breed judging, there will also be a seminar on pet grooming for our non-show people who enjoy their wonderful dogs. For prospective judges of the breed, the parent club's seminar will be held on Thursday night, May 2. For further information concerning that, please contact me at darylmartin@sbcglobal.net.

For further information concerning the show, contact Chris Pearson, crisandramal@aol.com. The event secretary is Susan Gordon,

gordonsetters@earthlink.net.

Please check for all particulars of this Maltese week of the year on the American Maltese Association's website, americanmaltese.org.

Good luck to all the participants!

Wishing all a great spring.

—Daryl Martin, daryldmartin@sbc-global.net

American Maltese Association website: americanmaltese.org.

Miniature Pinschers “Pet” or “Show” Puppy— What’s the Difference?

“What’s the difference between a pet puppy and a show puppy?” Those of us who breed get that question from prospective owners every time we have a litter.

Some people think there must be something “wrong” with a puppy whom we’ve labeled a pet. Some think there are difficult requirements that come with having a show puppy as a pet, and then others think that the price they pay is too much for them to be bothered with working toward an AKC championship.

A show puppy and a pet puppy are *not* different; both will be part of their family for their whole lives. *No difference*—that’s the full fact.

When you come to the house to see the breeder’s puppies, they are so cute and playing and jumping in their playroom. All of them rush to you for snuggling, and maybe a little puppy-nibble to say hi.

You select a puppy, and your breeder says, “This is a show puppy.” What does that mean?

Congratulations! You have selected a little four-legged baby Miniature Pinscher who will love you his whole life. However, there are some things you will need to know before agreeing to living with a show puppy:

- Socializing is very important.
- Feeding good-quality food is a must.
- Sufficient exercise and play are required.
- Grooming is imperative.

- The pup’s training is different.

What, you ask, is the difference between the pups? The differences may not seem to be much, but your breeder has studied the litter for weeks to see which little ones come closest to the written standard. For example, their toplines (backs) must be level, their feet “catlike,” neck arched, and their toenails black...the breeder carefully analyzes the pup’s eyes, where the tail is set, how his little bones are aligned, and how he moves going away from you, coming back to you, and around in a circle. The ones that are labeled “show puppies” will go on to compete in the show ring.

It’s exciting to see your little one in the ring and showing off, but sometimes he will have to leave you for the weekend to go to shows. If you are not willing to let your Miniature Pinscher travel, maybe your breeder will agree to meet you at the show ring each day.

It might take six months to a year for your Miniature Pinscher to complete an AKC championship, depending on the number of competitors and the points that can be won. You can discuss with your breeder the point requirements for the AKC championship so you understand how the system works.

Continue to talk with your breeder as your puppy grows up. Competition may begin at 6 months of age. However, this period of competition lasts only a short time in your Miniature Pinscher’s life. The rest of the time spent together with you is much longer than the time spent in competition. One your dog has earned all the points for his title, you will receive his AKC championship certificate and all the ribbons won. By participating in dog events you will meet other competitors and learn about showing dogs, and you will see how much fun the camaraderie with other Miniature Pinscher owners can be.

Or perhaps you select a puppy, and your breeder says, “This is a pet puppy.” What does that mean?

Congratulations again! You have been selected by a little four-legged

baby Miniature Pinscher who will love you his whole life as a companion. Your puppy is really no different than the show puppy except that he may have long toes, a soft topline, round eyes, or an odd marking in his coat. These things don’t affect the enjoyment of having a Miniature Pinscher; your breeder simply has to be very selective when deciding who to show or not to show. A show puppy represents years of work in studying pedigrees and matching a stud dog and a dam to continue quality, healthy Miniature Pinschers for the future.

Congratulations to BIS/BISS GCh. Marlex Classic Red Glare (Classie) for winning Best of Breed and placing second in the Toy Group at the Westminster Kennel Club show! Classie continues to increase her record of the most Best in Show wins by a female, with a total of 64 Bests in Show to date.

—Kim Byrd, kimbyrd90@gmail.com

Miniature Pinscher Club of America website: minpin.org

Papillons Papillons and Our Well-Being

Scientists have proven that being around pets can reduce stress, lower high blood pressure, and even extend lives. Merely petting a dog causes a chain reaction of neurotransmitters in our heads, making us feel good. When spending just a few minutes with a dog, we feel less anxious and less stressed. Our bodies actually go through physical changes that can make a noticeable difference in our mood. The level of cortisol, a hormone associated with stress, is decreased, while the production of serotonin, a chemical associated with well-being, is increased. This correlation of stress-reducing factors is the equivalent of saving wear and tear on your body, possibly even extending life.

In an article, Mayo Clinic oncologist Dr. Edward Creagan attests that animals have healing powers. He explains that when you pet a dog, you experience a

surge of hormones that produce feelings of peace and serenity. One hormone he refers to is oxytocin, the presence of which helps increase our ability to heal and grow new cells. This not only is beneficial but also may be one of the main reasons why dogs became “man’s best friend.”

More and more, psychological and speech-pathology therapists are utilizing dogs as facilitators in their practices. Similarly, therapy dogs are improving the quality of lives in senior centers.

Many Papillons are very successful as certified therapy dogs because these little dogs are nonthreatening, put people at ease, have calming effects, and allow people to be more willing to open up and talk, which is a first step for healing.

Even watching my own Papillons experience the world as they do provides me with a feeling of serenity. Some perform their yoga-like daily stretch routines, while others wait patiently at the door to take the world head-on and start their day. My little yoga followers stretch their legs out in front, lowering their heads to the ground, and extend their hind legs to stretch their spines. It amazes me to see how they limber up and get ready for their exercise just like any well-disciplined athlete.

Observing my Papillons going about their normal routines indeed fills my heart. Observing their behavior can turn a bad day into a delightful experience. Their enthusiasm is often so infectious that by just spending time with them will leave me feeling happy and less preoccupied with my own problems.

The extent of their intelligence is certainly quite astounding. It intrigues me to see their deep concentration and purposeful expressions when observing how they use their keen senses to track a female or look for a long-lost buried treasure in the yard. It makes me think that one day they just might find gold, seeing the odds of how often they dig up the ground!

It has also been proven that dogs can

be great conversation-starters, making it easier to form friendships and positive relationships that in turn have a huge impact on maintaining good health and promoting a healthy mind.

For many pet lovers, the most effective and beneficial way to relax is not by indulging in a glass of wine but rather by spending time with our pets. And for me, it’s the quality time I spend with my beloved Papillons.

To many of us, our dogs not only give us a sense of purpose, but they complete our family.

—Roseann Fucillo,

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Papillon Club of America website:
papillonclub.org

Pekingese

So that newer readers may benefit from the advice it offers, we are sharing again the column below that originally ran in this publication seven years ago.

Show and Tell

Does the phrase “show and tell” apply only for kindergarten or elementary school? No—it can apply for showing your dog. *Show* your dog, and *tell* everyone who is watching about your dog—and you!

We’ve all been told since childhood that first impressions are very important. Well, this most certainly applies in the show ring as well. Put yourself in the judge’s shoes: When the dogs first enter the ring, the judge gets a cursory overall picture of each dog and handler.

The dog is the subject, the handler is the artist. “Artist?” you may ask. Yes! The presentation of a dog in the show ring is artistry, and how you fine-tune it can be a determining factor between the winner and the second-best.

The artist painting a picture has prepared for the final result long before brush is ever applied to canvas: Training, tools, the proper subject, and a proper environment all come into play. Apply this analogy to the exhibition of your dog. Where do you begin?

Begin with the promising puppy. In

order to grow and blossom into a show dog of whom you will be justifiably proud, your puppy must have the best of everything: the best food, the best exercise, the best socialization, the best conditioning, and the best *love*.

Consistency is all-important; if you are only sporadic in the care of your young hopeful, you won’t reach the heights.

Opinions vary widely about which foods are the best for dogs. Each dog is an individual, and further, there are individual requirements even within specific breeds. Find what works best for your dog, and don’t take the easiest road.

Radiant health comes from the inside out, and will be reflected in your dog’s happiness, stamina, coat condition, and so on. I do believe in supplementation, because (as with humans) I don’t think it’s possible to achieve maximum nutrition with foods alone. Over many years, I’ve proven the difference.

Proper exercise is fundamental to the dog’s growth and development. Toy dogs require less exercise than larger breeds, of course, but they should not be allowed to be couch potatoes. Exercise produces correct muscle development and healthy functioning of the heart, lungs, and all internal bodily functions.

In our overly busy, stressful lives, it’s sometimes difficult to adequately socialize puppies. I’ve found, though, that *regularly* taking puppies out to unfamiliar places where they will see many different people, even for a few minutes at a time, makes a world of difference. (How many times have I heard “He walks just fine at home”?) When the puppy is old enough, take him with you to a show well before you plan to show him, just to introduce him to the specialized atmosphere. The environment of a dog show is different from any other place—even handling classes are not the same.

The coat of the Pekingese puppy requires more conditioning than that of breeds with less hair. Often I’ve seen people wondering why their puppy has

adequate coat but with marked “day-light” underneath, giving him an awkward appearance. This can be avoided by a daily light misting of all the ends of the coat, thus preventing breakage. Spray your puppy lightly with a good moisturizing conditioner before grooming, then give the tips of the coat and the ear fringes a final spritz. You may not need to groom daily, but *do* moisturize the tips of the coat every day. Also, keep your puppy clean—dirt breaks coat faster than anything else! Be sure to wash his face daily, giving special attention to the wrinkle and the eyes.

Love results in that special bonding between you and your dog. Even though Pekingese can be the exception, being frustratingly stubborn at times, the dog who knows he’s loved usually will do almost anything to please his special person. Love for your puppy can be reflected in your training procedures, even as you help him learn the difference between playtime and show time. It is important, though, to use a different tone of voice and manifest a somewhat different persona when training. It helps to remember that dogs are pack animals—yes, even our tiny guys—and you are the “alpha dog.” They look to us for guidance, and such guidance must be very clear.

My first Peke was not a show dog (big surprise!), so I took her to obedience training. The trainer was wonderful, and I still use many of the wonderful methods I learned from her. Among other things, she told her class that one of the biggest mistakes owners make in training dogs is to *ask* them to do something, rather than *telling* them. A dog who clearly understands what is required of him is a happier dog. Praise your little guy to the heights when he learns well; this is his greatest reward.

You’ve now done all your homework, and it’s *show and tell* time! Your dog is ready; now let’s prepare *you* for the show ring. First, choose your ring apparel wisely. Remember, you’re the frame for the picture, and *first impressions do matter*. Select colors that

enhance your dog, and solid colors are better than wild prints. Conduct yourself as a professional. Be courteous to your fellow exhibitors, and follow the judge’s instructions to the letter. You want to be remembered favorably. There will be another day!

Show your dog and tell the world who you are.

—Jacqueline Ragland, Jaling60@hotmail.com

Pekingese Club of America website: thepekingeseclubofamerica.com

Pugs

The Year-End Push, Sportsmanship, and “Those Rankings”

Like so many people who are campaigning a special, recently I found myself in that final push of the year as we planned our last shows in the attempt to maximize where our dogs would end up in the rankings.

There are the different systems in which people yearn to excel, including the AKC breed and all-breed systems, the Grand Champion program, and the Owner-Handler series. Then there are the dog-publications rankings, “Dog Show Poop” rankings, Purina rankings, parent-club rankings—and I don’t know how many more. At the end of the year dogs were being flown all over the country, sometimes hitting different clusters on the same weekend. Some of us were staying close to home, in search of all-breed standings, group standings, and breed standings.

For better or worse, we are a country obsessed with statistics, and that feeds into how we compete. Sometimes it isn’t pretty, either. Near the end of the year, the maneuvering in the Pug ring became frantic, bordering on being laughable—except that sportsmanship suffered in a few cases. Dogs were flown from the West Coast to the East Coast, while East Coast dogs ventured out West. Dogs were withdrawn in order to deny a competitor breed points, while somewhere else numbers were inflated in order to try and build points. Some dogs were double- and

triple-entered, while others just entered one show and took their chances.

Since all this activity was done in the quest for those higher rankings, it engendered some excellent conversation about the importance of the rankings and the behavior they seem to inspire. First of all, in their pursuit we tend to lose sight of the original purpose of dog shows: the evaluation of breeding stock.

Shows began with breeders showing their dogs so that other breeders could see those specimens of the breed and decide which ones might benefit their breeding program. With this purpose of dog shows in mind, then a logical conclusion would be that the number-one dog should be the best dog in terms of structure and breed type—right?

Of course the answer is “not necessarily.” (I’m not even getting into the discussion regarding professional handlers, advertising, financial backers, and how they affect the results; I am just talking about the dogs.)

One day a friend from another breed was watching a big class of Pug specials. She said, “They are all so different. How does the judge make a decision?” Exactly! In this case, there were many lovely dogs in the ring, three of them Best in Show dogs. Was one more outstanding than the other? Were the Best in Show dogs necessarily better than the dogs who had not even won a group yet? No! As a matter of fact, the dog who won the breed that day was owner handled and not one of the “big three.” Each dog in that ring would have been able to contribute something valuable to a breeding program, depending on what a breeder was looking for.

So why does the competition get so heated at the end of the year? Why do some people get so caught up in rankings that they lose sight of the purpose of showing their dogs? Why does it cause some to behave so poorly at times toward fellow exhibitors—people with whom they supposedly share a love of our breed?

Some say we should do away with

those rankings altogether. While I can see their point, that shouldn't be the solution. We should be able to have fun with our specials, have fun with those rankings, and still have respect for our breed. When we disrespect each other in the quest for those almighty numerical placements, we lose sight of our goal of improving our breed, and in truth we disrespect this breed that we all love so much.

Now we have started a new year of competition, and my most heartfelt wish is that we can keep the competition and rankings in perspective and enjoy our Pugs.

—Ashley Fischer, *ashley54@optonline.net*

Pug Dog Club of America website: *pugs.org*

Shih Tzu Bringing Up Puppy

The American Shih Tzu Club recommends that Shih Tzu puppies not go to their new homes before the age of 12 weeks. During this time, they learn many valuable lessons from their dam, their littermates, and their breeder.

As the breeder you should gently handle your puppies briefly from birth to get them used to human contact. Here are tips on more things you can do to get them off to the very best start:

- Provide stimuli that encourage adventure and exploration, including such things as tunnels, platforms, and tug toys.
- Gradually expose puppies to normal household noises such as vacuum cleaners, dishwashers, televisions, and so on.
- Shy puppies should get extra attention to keep them from being overshadowed by more dominant ones—such one-on-one time should be a “party,” complete with treats and toys.
- Crate-training can start with just a few seconds in a wire crate with a bed and toys and goodies in it, encouraging puppies to see the crate as an extension of their territory. As they mature, they can learn to stay quietly in a crate by

themselves for longer and longer periods. This is a good way to avoid later separation anxiety.

- Begin paper training early; puppies naturally want to be clean, and they learn best when praised for going in the proper place.
- Stack puppies on a ringside table for a few seconds several times a day. This comes in handy later for pets as well as show dogs, as they will be accustomed to being on a table when they must be groomed or visit the vet.
- With a coated breed, start grooming early. Use small toenail clippers to trim nails beginning at 3 weeks. Trim the hair between the pads of the feet and around the anus with small, blunt-tipped scissors. Regularly comb the face and clean the eyes.

Encourage each puppy to lie on his side while being brushed. Do not make grooming a battle of the wills. It should be a pleasant time, approached in small steps with much soothing and encouragement (and even some belly-tickling to make the “ordeal” more fun). Often a puppy will be more amenable if he is tired!

- Regular baths, followed by blow-drying, are part of training. Be careful not to get soap in the eyes or water in the ears.

- Begin lead-training in a safe area outside on a light show lead. With a friend's help, you can begin by encouraging your puppy to follow an adult dog walking on a lead. This is part of his learning about the outside world.

- Some breeders encourage new owners to visit for puppy playtime so they do not leave for their new homes with complete strangers. In any case, puppies should meet a variety of people.

- Be in touch with new owners about the equipment you recommend for their new arrival, the food you are using, and Internet links to places where they can obtain needed items. Providing a copy of the contract you want them to sign ahead of time can avoid surprises on the day your well-prepared puppy begins his new life.

A special thank-you to David

Ritchkoff for many of the tips in this column.

—Jo Ann White, *joawhite@juno.com*
American Shih Tzu Club website: *americanshihtzuclub.org*

Toy Fox Terriers Between Love and Mercy: When to Let Go

Tootsie was my first Toy Fox Terrier, a tricolor with a heart-shaped spot on her side—surely a good sign, I thought, as I chose her from the litter. Incredibly intelligent, she mastered all the usual tricks at an early age and quickly progressed through advanced obedience, including hand signals, at 4-H obedience classes. She was a precious member of our family, not just a pet, and we were inseparable. As my childhood friend, she was the best.

I liked to get away to read by sitting up in our backyard peach tree. Tootsie was there too, springing to the first branches and climbing up to perch next to me. My sister often teased me about this, as sisters will. I had mischievously taught Tootsie to leap up and bump people, as they bent over, with her four feet. One day I spied my sister picking flowers. I waited patiently, strategically aimed Tootsie at her posterior as she bent down, and launched my little canine missile with a command of “Get her!” Tootsie hit the target squarely, and my sister rolled down a little hill. It was worth all the punishment I got for that.

Several dogs in the neighborhood became ill with an unknown infection. Vaccines didn't prevent it, and medications didn't cure it. My neighbor's beloved Poodle died, as well as another friend's retriever-mix. Then Tootsie got it. Similar to distemper, the virus progressed quickly. I was determined to save her, however, and pleaded to take her to the vet. It was in vain though; he couldn't help her.

In my desperation to keep her alive, I hand-fed her, gave her water with an eyedropper, kept her warm, and bargained with God about how good I would be if she survived.

She improved for several days, then

she suddenly worsened. As I cradled her, she moaned and shivered in pain. My mother told me gently and kindly that if I truly loved her, I would let her go. I sobbed and resisted, but in my heart I knew she was right. My father drove us to the vet as I held my little dog close. When the vet administered the drug, Tootsie raised her head and looked at me, as if to say goodbye, and then she was free. Through my own tears, for the first time ever, I saw my father crying too.

This conflict between love and mercy

prepared me for a greater loss. Our second son, Matthew, was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer at 19 years of age. It overwhelmed him within months, despite having the best care.

Although there was no hope of survival, the doctors wanted to place him on life support and treat him with radiation. They promised it would extend his life a couple more weeks. The experience of Tootsie's death helped us to overcome that natural temptation to hold on. Her short life showed us that when there is no hope, and treatment

becomes more of a burden than a benefit, mercy is love.

We let our son go to where I believe a little dog with a heart-shaped spot greeted him.

Good girl, Tootsie!

—Beverly E. Stanley, *beverlystanley6@gmail.com*

American Toy Fox Terrier Club website: *atftc.com*

American Eskimo Dogs

Breeding for 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.

In a perfect world, breeding should consist of 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 by new people coming into the breed inquiring about “mini-toys” and “mini-standards.” I must stress that after 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.

It should be noted that in recent years, the American Eskimo Dog has begun to lose length of leg, resulting in a lack of balance. This results in short-legged, long-backed dogs who are incorrect. Some suffer from short upper arms and lack of shoulder layback, and/or incorrect rear angulation. All of these faults contribute to the inability of an American Eskimo Dog to move cor-

rectly, 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 the breed's balance, structure, movement, and stamina are important when herding.

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

Judges should take all sizes into consideration. All three sizes of the breed 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 that day best conforms to the breed standard.

It is true that with three sizes in the same ring, at times judges will see diver-

sity 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 the following two points, both of 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 American Eskimo Dog breed standard.

—Debbie Mitchell, *Eskie18@earthlink.net*

American Eskimo Dog Club of America website: *aedca.org*

Bichons Frises

Naturally Rearing Bichons—Think Before You Treat for Fleas, Ticks, and Heartworms

In recent years our veterinarians, through the pharmaceutical companies, have conditioned us to believe that if we are proper dog parents, we must treat our dogs automatically and regularly against fleas, ticks, and heartworms.

Think about it: When's the last time you saw a flea, tick, or mosquito in North Dakota in midwinter? Ask further, how do these substances repel or kill these pests?

Pesticides, regardless of their advertised safety to pets, are not completely free of effects on our animals' bodies, especially the small body of a 15-pound pooch. Granted, most of the time our pets will tolerate these substances with

no obvious side effects, but what is the harm in at least minimizing exposure?

Unfortunately, there's really no 100-percent effective way to deal with fleas, ticks, or mosquitoes completely naturally, so at Bella Bichons, when needed, we do utilize the prescribed treatments. However, following are some of the ways we recommend making exceptions to the rules the vets and manufacturers recommend.

- *Fleas and ticks.* If you live in an environment where fleas and/or ticks aren't commonly present, don't treat for them. If the pests are only prevalent in the warmer months, treat only at those times of the year. You are usually safe from the first hard freeze till the temps start to rise in the late spring. (Naturally, if you take your dogs to shows in different parts of the country where infestations are common, you will need to remember to adjust accordingly.)

- *Heartworms.* Our modern veterinary practices have projected upon us a great fear of the dreaded heartworm—and rightly so, as if left untreated, heartworm infection is as damaging and life threatening as we are lead to believe. However, the same poison that is used to treat against heartworm monthly—ivermectin—is used to treat a mild case of heartworms, so we think this warrants limited use of the drug. In place of doing monthly treatments, consider having your vet check for the parasite by doing blood work a month or two after the mosquitoes have gone inside for the winter. If the parasite is caught early on, damage is unlikely, and you've exposed your dog to a lot less of a potentially toxic substance. During the mosquito season, bring your dogs during at the more prevalent times the insects are about. And naturally, if you've never seen a mosquito in your area, think about it before giving your dog the chemical.

A great, totally natural substance you can treat your yard with during the summer months to repel any of these unwanted critters is Mosquito Barrier, which is available online at [mosquitobar-](http://mosquitobarrier.com)

rier.com. And should you have an interest but need more information or ideas about how to limit your pet's exposure to potentially harmful pests, I've found Jessica Westleigh at theholisticbeing.com to be a tremendous resource.

Finally, remember the healthier your pet, the less likely you will encounter any side effects from the pests or treatments.

—Stephanie Uva,
bellabichons@gmail.com

Bichon Frise Club of America website: bichon.org

Boston Terriers Reactions to Products and the Environment

So many things in our environment can affect a dog's health. People spraying their yards with herbicides, pesticides, and fungicides can make a healthy animal very sick.

One of the worst things for pets is owners not being sufficiently educated about the safe use of monthly flea-control and heartworm-preventive medications. It seems the main goal is to kill the fleas at any cost and prevent heartworms. Some people seem to feel that if one flea product is good two, is better. However, mixing these together could cause death. Consult a professional always.

We read about all the shots that are produced to protect against everything, but why not ask a veterinarian before considering? To save gas and money on an extra trip to the veterinarian, we pressure doctors to give all the shots plus flea control at one time.

Reactions to products or the environment can cause Bostons to have itchy skin, eyes tearing, or hair loss and to just feel bad. Everyone should go to the website of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA.org) and see reports of pets' reactions to new products, as well as information about dog foods that are being recalled. It may surprise you to visit your local grocery or pet-supply store and see that some recalled items are still on the shelves.

Because of reactions and sensitivities many females don't come into season,

breedings don't take, puppies aren't as lively at birth, and other problems arise. One of the best things that ever happened to me was when one day I learned it is a state law in North Carolina that anyone who gets paid to groom dogs and applies pesticides to animals must have a "K" pesticide license.

The state departments of agriculture and the FDA are there to help us. It's a hard job passing laws and investigating improper use of products. In North Carolina, you can send to the department of agriculture samples of dog food that you feel may be contaminated, and they will test it and send you the results at no cost. If something is dangerous, they have the power to remove it from being sold. It's important to save the bag of food in question and the receipt from where it was bought.

If you feel a product may have made your Boston sick, call and talk to someone knowledgeable who can give factual information. Virginia Flynn, DVM, with over 50 years breeding Boston Terriers and owning a hospital, says to always mix two different dog foods together; if something is wrong with one, the dog won't eat it when there is a choice. Don't be the first to try a new dog product. Instead, wait a while to see if others are having any side effects.

Dog owners sometime feel one person can't make a difference, but this isn't so. I had a product used as a dog wormer taken off the shelf in a drug store. The ingredient was used in heartworm medication. If this medication were used to worm a dog who hadn't been tested for heartworms, the dog could die. The investigator came down to the drug store, it was taken off the shelves, and I could sleep better at night knowing the system does work.

The Boston Terrier is a brachycephalic breed who has large eyes and is sensitive to many allergies. Before using products with or around your Bostons, read, do some research, and consult professionals.

—Patricia S. Johnson,

patsgrooming@aol.com

Boston Terrier Club of America
website: *bostonterrierclubofamerica.org*

Bulldogs Enjoy the Hobby

The curtain has fallen on this year's well-run national, thanks to the efforts of show chair Link Newcomb and the show committee, who all worked hard to make this a successful event. They succeeded. Next year the national will be in Chattanooga. Sam Stedings is the show chair, and he and his committee are working very hard to make it a memorable experience for everyone. For more information, visit the Bulldog Club of America website, *bulldogclubofamerica.org*.

There are so many new faces in dogs today. They remind me of myself when I began this journey so many years ago. It is so important to always keep in mind that this is a *hobby*. A hobby means a diversion. It is important to enjoy your participation in the sport and to not let yourself be agitated with pettiness.

We hear about the betterment of the breed repeatedly. Certainly, the dogs do not care if they are improved or not. It takes the committed individual who works to improve his dogs and the breed. All serious breeders are on a quest to breed the perfect dog and thus improve the breed. You will be disappointed many times, but do not be discouraged. There is no better feeling than breeding that very good dog. The love for your dogs and for your hobby will keep you going. Never lose sight of the fact that this is a hobby and you should have fun being involved. Sometimes we have to stop ourselves from being kennel blind and not seeing the quality in other's dogs. This is a hobby based on competition, and competition can be a good motivator for improvement.

Breeding and showing dogs requires a lot of perseverance. It takes time and hard work to breed winners. Always remember that there is no shortcut to knowledge. There are a few of the

lucky ones who come up with that big winner right away. However, they find that the next litter did not give them such magical results. They have to go back and try again.

The serious breeder has a responsibility to breed for both conformation and temperament. He will present his stock to the public with integrity and a willingness to help the sincere person. He will deal with his competitors with honesty and a sportsmanlike attitude.

Keep your focus on the sport, enjoy your involvement in it, and cherish the time you have had with the dogs and the friends you have made because of them.

—Amelia Averill,
BoatswainA@aol.com

Bulldog Club of America website:
bulldogclubofamerica.org.

Chinese Shar-Pei National Specialty Locations: The Great Debate

For every breed club, the crowning achievement of the year is a well-attended and well-run national-specialty show. The national entails considerable investments of time and money by various parties. The parent club invests money in things such as banquet deposits and meeting-space rental; the attendees invest money on entries, travel, lodging, and meals. Perhaps most important, the volunteers planning the national specialty invest time in planning for and then working the event.

In conversations with representatives of other breed clubs, I have learned that in all dog clubs, members have definite opinions on where the national show should be held and how events should be scheduled.

The Chinese Shar-Pei Club has conducted regular surveys of its membership regarding the national specialty location. Following is a brief description of the survey process and results.

Years ago, the national specialty rotated from Eastern to Central to Western locations, in three-year cycles. This worked very well when the

national specialty had large entry numbers (over 500 dogs) and affiliated clubs in each region provided competing bids to host the national show. Since show-site negotiations are foreign to most of us, a packet was developed that outlined criteria and "must-haves" to look for in potential show sites. By design, the parent club worked to provide all members an opportunity to attend the national show in a "reasonably close" location on at least every third year.

One downside of this rotation was that eventually, bids from affiliated clubs became scarce; often, no bids were received! Another problem encountered with the regional rotation was that the national specialty shows held on either coast generally had much lower entry numbers. While the shows in the outer regions did not necessarily lose money for the club, they did not offer as many club members the opportunity to attend because of the extreme driving distances involved.

A club survey was conducted, and it was decided to rotate the national show more often to the Central region, which many members indicated they were more likely to attend. Thus, a repeating rotation of Western–Central–Eastern–Central went into effect.

Even as the overall entries decreased, the largest entries were still found at events in the Midwest. In addition, Midwest hotels generally offered the best prices on site rental and room rates. By comparison, it was more difficult to obtain favorable bids from hotels near either coast.

Last year a survey was developed after a constructive, if sometimes heated discussion took place on the club e-mail list. The survey asked for preferences regarding the wants and needs expressed by national-specialty attendees. Some of these choices included the preferred rotation, the necessity of a nearby airport, the necessity of RV services, the desired price range for rooms, and the length and schedule of events. Members suggested some interesting potential rotations, designating up

to eight different regions and sub-regions! Others felt that booking a specific Midwestern site for up to three years would be best. The pros for staying in one site for several years include the ability to negotiate more favorable contracts and the idea that by staying in one site, many details (storage, equipment rental, and so on) are predetermined.

The most recent survey was sent to members via e-mail. The survey was also printed in the club publication and on the website. Despite numerous reminders, however, only a modest number of surveys were returned.

To no one's surprise, the results indicated no clear-cut voice of the membership. Members were almost evenly divided between wanting to (1) continue the rotations to all regions, (2) have rotations with more frequent Midwestern stops, and (3) find a permanent Midwestern location. A good percentage of members wanted a shorter, economical national show, while a similar number desired a weeklong schedule at a location that doubled as their annual vacation. The members (mostly from the coasts) who flew their dogs to most shows understandably placed a high premium on airport logistics. Likewise, those who like to attend nationals in their RV found the RV accommodations to be most important. (While the number of RV attendees in our club is small, they traditionally bring a large number of entries.)

At this point, the dates of the national show have not been addressed! Several years ago the national show dates were moved from the late spring to the late fall to allow for improved weather and flight options. Many members also felt that our dogs were collectively in better coat in the fall than in the late spring dates.

While the recent survey did not provide clear-cut answers to the show committee and club officials, it did serve to highlight the wide variety of valid opinions held by the membership. The discussion and survey also helped members become more aware of the serious decision-making and considerable work

that go into preparations for the national show.

—Grace Fritz, fritzgm77@gmail.com

Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America
website: cspca.com

Chow Chows

Chow Chow Club National Specialty 2013

The 2013 CCCI national specialty will be hosted by the Chow Chow Fanciers of Atlanta, at the Purina Event Center in Gray Summit, Missouri, on April 30–May 1. The host hotel will be the Holiday Inn Six Flags, I-44 at Six Flags Road, Exit 261, in Eureka, Missouri. (The number is 800-782-8108; mention the Chow Chow Club group to receive special rates of \$99 per night/\$150 for a one-bedroom suite.)

In addition to hosting the national specialty, the Chow Chow Fanciers of Atlanta is holding two regional-specialty shows on Thursday, May 2, and Friday, May 3. Following the two regional specialties, the Gateway Cluster will be hosting two all-breed shows on Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5.

All of these shows will be at the Purina Event Center. Please make your plans and reservations to attend our largest, most exciting Chow Chow event of the year. For additional information, please visit the Chow Chow Club, Inc., website at chowclub.org.

The very experienced judges, both longtime members, breeders, and exhibitors, will be Kim Bowden, judging the puppy and veteran sweepstakes, and respected judge Carmen Blankenship, judging our regular and non-regular classes.

Mary Wuest (MWuest1@cinci.rr.com), the Chow Chow Club's judges' education chair, has an excellent educational program planned for aspiring judges, with ringside mentoring on the next two days. Please contact Mary to reserve your materials.

The 2013 show committee has a great educational seminar for members and guests. Dr. Carmen Battaglia will be presenting his famous seminar on breeding and structure on Monday, April 29.

The annual membership meeting of the Chow Chow Club, Inc., will be held on Sunday evening.

The following schedule will provide attendees with an action-filled week of opportunities to learn about our wonderful breed:

• Tuesday, April 30

Sweepstakes
4–6 month Puppy Attraction
Dog and bitch classes
Dinner and auction

• Wednesday, May 1:

Obedience and rally
Best of Breed competition
Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, and Brace classes
Parade of Titleholders
Awards banquet

• Thursday, May 2

Chow Chow Fanciers of Atlanta regional specialty (Judge: Peggy Hauck*)

• Friday May 3

Chow Chow Fanciers of Atlanta regional specialty (Judge: Bill Buell*)

*Pending AKC approval

The show superintendent is Onofrio Dog Shows (onofrio.com).

This is truly going to be a terrific event, and we hope to see you there!

—Love Banghart,

Lkendr4300@aol.com

Chow Chow Club, Inc., website:
chowclub.org

Dalmatians

Responsibility

A conversation with a fellow breeder today got me thinking and asking myself a big question: *What is a "breeder," anyway?*

Literally, a breeder is anyone who puts a male and female dog together with the intent of producing offspring.

That certainly describes me. But do I have more responsibility than that definition suggests? Of course I do.

Backyard breeders across the country

are defined by this description, but whereas the backyard breeder's responsibilities end (or so he feels) when the last puppy leaves the bed of his pickup truck parked in front of the Walmart, the true dog breeder's job just begins.

However, have we as reputable breeders promoted the backyard breeder's business by screening our buyers so strictly that when the caller fails our criteria, he goes straight to the guy with the ad in the paper and has a puppy before the sun goes down? Well, yes, in some degree we have. The puppy neither has shots nor health testing, nor does its parents, but John Q. isn't too worried about those annoying details.

This, of course, is a real problem we face as responsible breeders—but what do we do about it? We can't just sell our puppies to anyone who saw the movie and thinks these dogs can actually talk. Strict qualifying of potential buyers might mean that sometimes we are left with 4-month-old puppies with no homes available. A real breeder answers this situation with, "Well, so be it." And that's the reason real breeders want to have some homes on the books before the breeding ever takes place.

The need for educating the public continues. Some backyard breeders are still alive and well despite our best efforts to educate John Q. that our puppies are healthier and better socialized and that we provide "service after the sale."

So now what? In the shelters are Dalmatians who were dumped because the buyer had no idea that they were so active, or that they shed so much. (Yes, they called the guy they bought the dog from, but he said he didn't want it back, or he said he only did one litter to make his female a better pet, or his phone number has been changed ... you pick the excuse.)

My fellow-breeder friend above e-mailed me a video of a dog who was being put to sleep because the owner didn't give the dog heartworm preventative, and the dog, a lovely purebred specimen, had such severe complications that she could only be sent to the angels. The owner didn't want to spend the money

for the heartworm treatment so little Maria, a retired champion, ended up in rescue and paid the ultimate price for the people around her being irresponsible. Strangers lovingly held her in their arms as she slipped peacefully away. I could barely see the footage for the tears.

Dog breeding done the right way is not for the faint of heart.

—Sharon Boyd, Cotndale@aol.com

Dalmatian Club of America website: thedca.org

Finnish Spitz A Sad Goodbye

It is with a deep sense of sadness that I write this column. At my request, it is my last as breed columnist.

As most readers know, on Labor Day weekend 2011, my house was one of the more than 1,700 that burned in the fires in Bastrop, Texas. In addition to losing one bitch and the dog that I had planned to special beginning in 2012, I lost all records of a 32-year breeding program of the Finnish Spitz; all pictures from three decades of my Finnish Spitz being shown in Mexico, Canada, the United States, and several European countries; all pictures of the ancestors of 11 imported from Finland as breeding stock; the library of Finnish Spitz materials collected during nine trips to Finland to study the breed and to select breeding stock; the many hours of video that I had taped in Finland in hunting with the breed; the many hours of video that friends had taped in hunting with the breed in the United States; all writings that I had done about the breed over 32 years; my 32-year file of publications and records of the Finnish Spitz Club of America; and all notes and records from the many seminars on the breed that I had conducted beginning in 1984, when the breed began being shown in Miscellaneous class.

In writing about the breed and in preparing materials for seminars and other oral presentations, I have attempted to be factual and descriptive. That meant, of course, that I depended heavily upon my collection of information about the breed to check and re-

check my presentation of it. In attempting, after the burnout, to write about the breed, I found it extremely frustrating to have no backup sources.

It has been a pleasure for me to serve the Finnish Spitz Club of America as breed columnist. I have attempted, through my writings and through the writings of guest columnists whom I invited to share their thinking about various aspects of the Finnish Spitz, to present the numerous talents of a breed that many people in the United States think of as being a dog that only trees grouse in Finland and is only a conformation show dog in the United States.

I had planned to continue that presentation. However, as I attempted to write without resource materials, I reluctantly came to the decision to request that I not be reappointed.

In saying goodbye, I am happy to introduce the new breed columnist, Ms. Anita Thomas. Anita has owned Finnish Spitz since 1973, has been showing for more than 20 years, has been breeding for 15 years, and has done training in various criteria, including obedience, therapy work, and herding. She has served previously as breed columnist and was my guest columnist for the September 2012 issue.

I welcome Ms. Thomas and look forward to her columns beginning in June.

—Dr. Tom T. Walker,

tommarg@gmail.com

Finnish Spitz Club of America website: finnishspitzclub.org

French Bulldogs Singing the Blues—Even Louder

For the September 2002 issue I wrote a breed column titled "Singing the Blues." It described color in our breed standard, which today lists the following disqualifications: *Solid black, mouse, liver, black and tan, black and white, and white with black.*

Black means black without a trace of brindle. (Note: "Mouse" refers to the bluish-gray color produced by the recessive "blue dilution" gene that modifies the pigment in the hair and

skin, producing a bluish coat color and slatey nose, lips, and eye-rims.)

The column continued:

“Recently, blue Frenchies have become a hot topic and a major bone of contention here and abroad. Although some people find blue Frenchies attractive, neither they nor their offspring should be sold for show or for breeding, as they all carry a disqualifying genetic fault.”

It concluded by saying:

“Breeders outside the U.S. who import American dogs are becoming very concerned about the introduction of the recessive ‘blue’ gene into their countries. People who are looking for a Frenchie to breed should educate themselves about the relatives of any pup whom they are considering, so as to avoid introducing this undesirable gene into their lines.”

Sadly, a decade later, the situation has deteriorated, as unscrupulous breeders are now breeding and promoting not just blue but several other colors that are disqualifications. These shady breeders call these colors “rare” and ask for and get exorbitant prices for them.

We now see countless ads in various venues—but especially on the Internet—not just for “rare Blue Frenchies” but also for other faddish disqualifying colors such as black-and-tan, liver (“chocolate”), and worst of all, merle. Pet buyers who are uneducated in breed standards and their importance are unwittingly buying these dogs.

A reputable and responsible Frenchie breeder should only breed dogs conforming to his or her country’s standard for the French Bulldog. The irresponsible breeders who breed for and advertise rare colors are intentionally spreading unacceptable color genes through the gene pool and causing problems for reputable breeders whose main concern is to produce quality puppies that conform to our standard. They are motivated by greed, since by calling their disqualified colors “rare,” they are able to sell the dogs for very inflated prices.

In the U.K., the Kennel Club has a new policy that they will no longer

accept the registration of any puppies for any breed that are produced as a result of mating two merle parents. In addition, following a request by the two French Bulldog clubs in England, the Kennel Club has agreed not to register any merle French Bulldogs.

In the U.S. we do not have that option. We must try to educate the public to buy only Frenchies with coat colors as allowed by our breed standard. Seeking and buying dogs with disqualifying colors only hurts the breed, because demand drives the market; if there is no demand for blue, chocolate, black and tan, merle, or other “rare”-colored French Bulldogs, there will be no reason to breed these colors.

Don’t financially reward unscrupulous people who are breeding Frenchies not accepted by our breed standard.

—Jan Grebe, greebeez@aol.com

French Bull Dog Club of America
website: frenchbulldogclub.org

Keeshonden The Name Game

We have all had the experience of choosing a kennel name, naming new puppies, and trying to figure out how to do all of this without sounding ... well, what is the word? *Silly*. Yes, that would be it!

Most of us make the mistake of trying to overdo it on our first puppy. It might go something like this: A handsome Golden Retriever puppy of 10 weeks is christened *Sir Lancelot of Blarney Hill von Blinksalot*. Too many names, too long, too grand—and yes, too silly.

Selecting a kennel name is daunting enough. Kennel names are necessary simply to distinguish your puppies, and their litters, from others in the breed. Because a dog’s name needs to be added to it, a kennel name should not be long—but it should be distinctive and easy to remember. (The AKC has rules for kennel names, should you ever want to register yours. It is best to look up these rules before you begin your quest for the right one.)

Some excellent kennel names come

to mind. *Wistonia*, the Keeshond kennel name of breeders Nan and Fred Greenwood, was elegant, short, easy to remember, and famous all over the world. It was always paired with a single dog name beginning with a W—as in Ch. Wrocky of Wistonia. This method created many elegant names, and alliteration reigned, but all the W’s made it hard to keep track of individual dogs and their relationships. *Ruttikay* was simply the last name of famous Keeshond breeder Virginia Ruttikay. This kennel name, also famous, has been passed along to its now third owner.

Some kennel names are combinations of their owners’ names, like the famous German Shepherd kennel Fran-Jo, while others refer to the owners’ other interests or their geographic location.

The next task is to decide what method you will use in naming your litters. A friend of mine used the alphabet method—she named each litter in sequence, starting with the letter A. While it does not seem inspired, it does have the advantage of keeping you organized and always knowing how many litters you have bred. It also allows others to readily identify your littermates in the most consistent way.

The second common method is to use themes. This can be tricky because unless it is very simple, the theme may be hard to for others to identify. For example, you could name the puppies after the characters in a series of plays, but unless people know that play, they will not be able to identify littermates.

In some breeds simplicity is carried to an extreme. I am thinking of terriers, where you might find a well-known show dog named, Tug, Bounce, or Ruffly. In this case, without a kennel name you can simply run out of names.

Now you have the puppy, and the kennel name. What comes next is you will need inspiration for the pup’s individual name. If the breeder has given you a theme or a letter to use, you are in luck. At least your parameters have been set.

We recently had a litter where the theme was famous racehorses. My family has racehorses, and so we have spent many happy evenings puzzling out names. The tradition here is that you try to use something from the sire and dam—which is another popular way to go. So, if the stallion is Tapit and the mare is Ginger Lady, the resulting foal is what else but Fred Astaire! At any rate our puppy buyers had a wonderful time doing their research and coming up with special names for their puppies. The Jockey Club publishes a list of names that have been taken, and that too can be a great source of names and ideas.

Your hobby can also supply you with a great resource of names. Do you like NASCAR? There are a lot of ideas for names there that could apply to your new litter. Do you love movies? Themes and names abound in the movie world.

There are also great resources online for your research, and some sites that specialize in dog names:

- 2,000 Dog Names (petrix.com/dog-names)—This site organizes the names in alphabetical order

- Lovingyourpet.co.uk (lovingyourpet.co.uk/pet-names/dog-names)—This site organizes names by gender and many other categories.

The Internet is an excellent resource for creatively exploring themes and name ideas.

Here are some words of caution in general. As a breeder you most likely want to register the puppy yourself, or at least have the final approval if the buyer is involved in naming the puppy. Naming the puppy is a fun part of being a new dog owner, but remember that there is always a possibility that you may someday get that puppy back—and also a possibility that the puppy may grow into a star. Do you really want to show and campaign a dog with a name something like “Sir Poofingbear of Elm Creek”? (Don’t laugh—it happened, and he was a good stud dog, too!)

If you want your dog’s name to be special, you might want to avoid Dexter and Luna, the top two rising dog names on the list, and also Bella and Max, the

most common dog names in the U.S. for females and males, respectively.

Length of name is another consideration. The longer the name, the harder it is to remember. Even though the AKC now allows you to purchase extra letters to lengthen the registered name, don’t be tempted. The puppy will be weighed down by a name that no one will remember. They will remember only that the name is long and confusing.

Finally, don’t name your puppy after another famous dog in your breed, for instance a dog who is in the breed’s Hall of Fame or one who is currently on his way toward such stature—use neither the call name nor the registered name. Take the time to check the records. You may not be familiar with the names of prominent dogs of the past, but the old-timers are, and they will not appreciate having those names used.

If a dog you are thinking of emulating with your name is the sire or grandsire or other relative of your puppy, consult with the breeder before you do this.

Every puppy is unique and deserves his own special registered name and call name. Don’t be lazy; take the time and effort to give your new puppy a unique and special name. That puppy deserves it. You will have fun, and your puppy and his name will be memorable.

—Debbie Lynch,
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Keeshond Club of America website:
keeshond.org

Lhasa Apsos Hoarders: Redefining Rescue

Each year, 250,000 animals suffer as a result of hoarding, according to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA). Animal-rescue organizations handle rehabilitation and rehoming, but neglected or abused pets are not necessarily those most in need. Sometimes it is the owner who needs the most help.

I once knew such a person. Many of us knew something was wrong, but either we did not know what to do, or our efforts failed.

Within the purebred-dog community,

as in the world at large, can exist a small number of these individuals who need specialized help. Now and then one might hear rumors of a person who might be “out of control” in terms of number of dogs. Suspicion usually exceeds facts, but there may be concern that the number of dogs well exceeds the person’s financial or physical resources.

Clues may hint at what’s going on in their homes, such as any dogs having a distinct odor, even though they have been groomed; the owner having the same odor; or equipment that hasn’t been cleaned for much too long. Friends may lack proof but be certain that things have progressed beyond poor housekeeping to something much worse.

Unlike breeding for profit, this kind of situation, according to experts, is not the result of greed, bad judgment, poor planning, or callous disregard for the welfare of the dogs. Rather, in these cases the people who are in over their heads love their dogs passionately. They suffer from a condition that has only recently been defined: hoarding disorder.

According to the ADAA, “animal hoarding refers to the compulsive need to collect and own animals for the sake of caring for them that results in accidental or unintentional neglect or abuse.”

Virtually all hoarders are out of touch with reality regarding the level of deterioration in their habitation and the health of their animals, refusing to acknowledge that anything is wrong. The disorder is delusional, which explains the apparent blindness of hoarders to the realities of their situation.

Trying to confront hoarders with all of their mistakes and the terrible state of their animals and home will make them defensive and allow them to reaffirm their reasons for being a hoarder. Often furious and horrified by the hoarder’s behavior, family and friends need expert guidance in order for them to be helpful rather than create fruitless confrontation that further alienates the hoarder.

Local laws, the AKC, and most dog clubs have minimum acceptable standards of care, with penalties for those who fail to adhere. Nevertheless, those

most needing help can remain out of reach—either they don't meet the criteria for inspections, or friends and family are in denial or ignorant about the severity of the problem or are at a loss as to what to do.

More importantly, the ways we usually deal with those who don't meet standards—contracts for corrective action, future inspections, and sanctions—are inadequate and ineffective for hoarders. Well-meaning interventions by clubs and individuals are doomed to failure without professional guidance and help. Even legal intervention is not a guaranteed fix, as 100 percent of hoarders relapse without treatment.

These people need help. I urge the AKC, parent clubs, a dedicated non-profit, or a combination of these groups to commission a task force to develop a professional intervention protocol to deal with suspected hoarders. We can't wait until another person is found deceased in her home along with dead and neglected dogs to take meaningful action on this issue.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,

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America Lhasa Apso Club website:

lhasaapso.org

Löwchen Racing to Concord!

Since Löwchen have an absolute penchant for speed, the venue of the Löwchen Club of America's 2012 national at Concord, North Carolina (home of the famous Charlotte Motor Speedway) was an obvious choice. And the festivities did indeed speed by quickly, with fun being had by all!

Thursday featured performance Löwchen, where a combined total of 11 "little lions" showed in obedience, rally, and agility. That evening the LCA had a meet-and-greet party at the host hotel, where everyone could reconnect with old friends and get revved-up about possible wins to come. Karen Douglas and Lisa Brown put together a terrific spread of beverages and snacks, and they ran a raffle for a one-of-a-kind bag sporting the event's "Racing

to Concord" logo.

On Friday were showcased not only performance but conformation competition, as well as the LCA regional specialty. The big winners were Ch. Desusa's Cat's Meow, in Veterans Sweepstakes; Musicbox Upon a Star, in Puppy Sweepstakes; and GCh. Windsor Bihar Chasing Rainbows, for Best of Breed and Group I. On Friday afternoon, the LCA hosted a judges' education seminar that was very well attended. JEC chair Susa Williams had several Löwchen available for "hands-on" after her presentation.

That evening featured a performance seminar organized by Barbara Cecil that focused on getting started in rally, tracking, and agility. Karen and Lisa again provided tasty snacks for all attending. Many Löwchen joined the fun, and their owners came out very enthusiastic about participating in performance events with their dogs.

Saturday was the big day for conformation, as it was the day of 2012 LCA national specialty. The sweepstakes winners were the same as on Friday, and the Best of Breed winner was GCh. Laser Kiji No Way No How, who later went on to win a Group III.

On Saturday evening was the LCA banquet at the host hotel, featuring Carolina barbecue with all the fixin's. After the meal, breed judges Ron Rella and Nancy Hafner made brief comments, and both were very enthusiastic about the dogs presented to them. We next awarded our three big LCA trophies: the Harrington Award, for breed winner, to Wade Koistinen and Ronnie Crowder; the Kramer Award, for breeder of the year, to Donna Jones; and the Carol Strong Award, for puppy breeders of the year, to Wade Koistinen and Ronnie Crowder. We finished the night with our silent and live auctions, which both raised lots of money for the club.

Sunday was "getaway day" for many club members, though the LCA did have a supported conformation entry, with GCh. Laser Kiji No Way No How again winning and later earning a Group II placement. As during previous

days, several Löwchen also participated in agility and rally.

After a very busy, fun-filled four days of agility, obedience, rally, and conformation, the theme of "Racing to Concord" proved to be just the ticket (but not a speeding ticket!) for a great 2012 national.

A very special thank-you to show chair Don Roback for not only this terrific article but for chairing such a great National!

—Dana Read, otakalhasas@aol.com

Löwchen Club of America website:
thelowchenclubofamerica.org

Poodles Reaching Out Through New Technology

I am a creature of habit. I have always been adverse to change. (I am still mourning the loss of the red-bordered, black-and-white *Poodle Review*—and now I just wish it still was published.) Even though I consider myself young at heart, in terms of modern technology I am a dinosaur. I grieve the loss of hard copies of the AKC GAZETTE and our own Poodle Club of America newsletter. For some of us, conquering the world of computers, iPads, and smartphones is daunting. (I have embraced my Kindle, though, and it has become an addiction.) In order to not become extinct and remain viable, in the spirit of growth and the future, incorporating technology into our parent club and its affiliates is a necessity.

It has been reported that 42 percent of the United States population has a Facebook page. Social-media websites like Facebook, LinkedIn, MySpace, and YouTube boast a combined total network of over 500 million user profiles. Incorporating new technology into our club and its affiliates is an effective way of reaching our existing members and a new youthful generation. This is imperative for the future of our sport.

The Poodle Club of America has an active website and Facebook page. These forms of media are the fastest and most effective way to get the word out about

events, education, member information, and so on. Publicity generated from these media outlets plays an important role in attracting an increased number of entries and spectators. The Poodle Club of America encourages its affiliate clubs to set up and take advantage of the benefits of websites and social media. In the modern-day tech era, there is no reason to not use these resources as aids in the exchange of information.

The AKC website (akc.org) has tutorials available to help clubs set up their own profiles on Facebook and Twitter, and the AKC Communications department (communications@akc.org) has a wealth of sample press releases, media alerts, pitch letters, and additional materials that clubs can use as templates to let the public know what exciting work your club is doing and what your members are involved in within the sport of purebred dogs.

If you have not yet visited the Poodle Club of America's website (poodleclubofamerica.org) or Facebook page (facebook.com/pages/Poodle-Club-of-America), please take the time. There is a tremendous amount of information available, including details about our upcoming national in April and all of its events and seminars, and our exciting regional in September.

With all of this said, and in the spirit of advancing into the modern tech era, this is one dinosaur fighting her way out of the tar pits and hoping you and your clubs will do the same.

—Mary Ellen Fishler,
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Poodle Club of America website:
poodleclubofamerica.org

Schipperkes

Schipperkes in the City

Breeders sometimes hesitate to sell a puppy or a dog to someone who lives in a city, yet Schipperkes make great city dogs. The urban environment excites the breed's sense of curiosity and adventure.

First, there is the intriguing array of odors on the street. Every lamppost and fire hydrant carries a message that only

other dogs can decode. Piles of trash, though not pretty to look at, offer enticing aromas as well, while the sidewalk harbors other smells that keep a Schipperke's nose to the ground, as if tracking.

I've had Schipperkes in New York City since the early 1990s, and I'm truly surprised that I don't see more of our breed in this town. Every section of the city has parks or dog runs where a Schipperke can get exercise—on lead, of course. Even a walk around the block is an adventure, likely to include looking into store windows, meeting other dogs, and seeing the ever-changing flow of people, some of whom might stop and ask to pet the dog or offer a treat.

With so many different kinds of people and dogs on the street, it's easy to socialize a Schipperke. Though the sounds of fire engines, ambulances, garbage trucks, and motorcycles might frighten a puppy or young dog at first, canines adjust quickly, and once acclimated they pay no more attention to these noises than do people.

New York offers an endless choice of veterinarians and specialty animal hospitals, and I'm sure other cities do as well. Here, most neighborhoods have at least one veterinary office, and some vets even make house calls. Alternative treatments such as acupuncture and laser therapy are available, as well as specialty shops offering holistic supplements and premium foods. The ASPCA, Bide-a-Wee, and the Humane Society of New York maintain clinics here, as do other, smaller organizations, offering low-cost services to pet owners.

Schipperkes are easy to transport around town by taxi, subway, or bus. On public transportation, they must ride in a carrier, but in a cab the owner's lap suffices. Most taxis will take a small dog.

For people who work outside the home, dog-walking services abound. Additionally, dog day-care centers offer supervised playtime with other well-socialized dogs, as well as the opportunity to just hang out until the dog is picked up by the owner. Most people factor these costs into their household budgets.

I have found that a 30- to 40-minute walk in the morning to sniff and greet other dogs, followed by two other short walks for "pottying," provide enough activity for my Schips. They also blow off steam in the apartment by chasing each other from room to room.

Of course, city living with a Schipperke or any dog has its drawbacks. An owner can't just "let the dog out." When the weather is bad, walks pose a challenge. Luckily, Schipperkes shake off the rain and are small enough to carry past salt-strewn sidewalks and over snowdrifts in winter.

Since Schipperkes are not yappy dogs, they make good neighbors. If training is needed, the city offers hundreds of choices, from puppy kindergarten to obedience training as well as private instruction.

A Schipperke who goes to a home in a city is truly a lucky dog. From pigeons, to squirrels, to sidewalk cafes, there's always something to pique the dog's interest.

—Melanie Coronetz,
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Schipperke Club of America website:
schipperkeclub-usa.org

Shiba Inu

As new columnist for the Shiba Inu, I'd like to introduce myself. My husband, Dennis, and I have been "in dogs" for over 45 years, beginning with Siberian and then Alaskan Huskies and 25 years of sled-dog racing. This blended easily into a downsizing with Shibas that began 25 years ago. I am a freelance writer and have been published in the AKC GAZETTE as well as numerous agricultural and horticultural publications.

Keeping a Shiba Safe

The following note is of the sort that a breeder never wishes to receive:

"It is with a heavy heart that we are writing you to let you know that Neko passed away on Sunday evening, August 26. She was hit by a car trying to cross Highway 89 and was killed instantly. We were playing ball in the water at

the beach on the lake, as she liked to splash around and dunk for the ball. As we were playing she ran up to the bushes to pee, and before I could call her to leash her, she kept on going, eventually into the street, where the nightmare happened. It was very weird and unusual for her to do that. We are so distraught and in shock. She was our precious girl, and life kind of sucks right now without her. She was accustomed to be off-leash in safe environments when we were playing with her, and she was very obedient when we called her. Under no circumstances did we ever have her off-leash when it was not safe, ever. Please understand that I would protect her at all times, and this time went terribly wrong.”

Contrary to her guilt-laced entreaty, the owner did not “protect her at all times.” Right now, I can think of four off-lead Shibas who were killed by a car or ran off, never to return. There are probably more. The ages ranged from 3 months to 12 years, and every owner thought the dog was under control. This does not include those Shibas who escaped from the owner’s home and slipped a collar or were lost and found alive.

This can happen with any breed of dog, but the Arctic/Spitz breeds have a high prey-drive, and their wanderlust is notorious. When something catches their interest, their primitive little survivor’s brains switch to a different frequency, and the human is no longer relevant. They follow their senses into a dimension that does not include anyone, and no amount of pleading, cajoling or obedience training can permeate it.

In hopes that somehow everyone can avoid the horrible guilt and sadness of an “I told you so” moment, this is a plea to the Shiba owners, some of whom may allow their dogs off-lead thinking they have control and it is safe. It is just playing Russian roulette with the dog’s life.

—Jacey Holden, jholden@jps.net

National Shiba Club of America
website: shibas.org

Tibetan Terriers Lessons in Losing

As the 2013 dog show season begins to hit full stride, it may be useful to turn to Pete Sampras for sage advice on success in competitive sport. In *A Champion’s Mind: Lessons from a Life in Tennis*, Sampras reveals that before he could win consistently, he had to learn how to lose. Sampras realized early in his career that learning to lose was key in his record-breaking 14 Grand Slam win titles and his six-year reign as the world’s number-one tennis player.

How can losing enrich the skill of showing a dog to his championship title and beyond? Relative to more populous breeds, the culture in the average Tibetan Terrier show ring is an intimate affair that offers opportunities to develop camaraderie with competitors. The impression of losing can be immediate and personal with smaller breed entries. This is good news! An astute exhibitor may sooner comprehend the rich lessons in losing, being unable to attribute losses to large numbers in the ring.

I propose that there are five phases of “losing lessons” that a successful TT exhibitor experiences in the sport of AKC conformation.

Learning to Lose in Five Phases

1. Crapshoot as Sport

Dog shows are perceived as random experiences. Wins create addictions every bit as great as gambling. Losing is attributed to professional handlers, bad judges, dog show politics, or any number of perceived injustices. That’s not to say these factors do not exist; it is just that focusing on them will deter you from readily learning all you can about how to lose.

2. Why?

You may begin to query from a trusted breeder, fellow exhibitor, or even the judge an appraisal of “What just happened out there?” If the student is ready, the teacher (of losing) may appear. This launches a productive phase of reading everything available on canine structure, form, and

movement, rereading the breed standard, and acquiring a keen desire to go over as many actual TTs as possible. Endless observation of dogs being judged at shows is becoming an enjoyable pastime. An eye for a dog and recognition of essential aspects of breed type are the visible green shoots of losing.

3. An Evolving Work Ethic

The newfound ability to identify good dogs being smartly presented creates a desire to better handle your dog. All that reading, studying, and observing has changed your perceptions—with positive result. A dispassionate objectivity has displaced prior emotional reactions to judging in the breed ring. This objectivity creates psychic space to now recognize imperfections in your own presentation of your dog. That sweet humility is the basis for a wellspring of knowledge. Not only can you more accurately evaluate your own dog, but also that understanding is synthesized, improving the actual presentation of same dog.

4. Who Won?

It is now obvious there are tangible variables within the control of every dog show exhibitor. There is great satisfaction derived in the work and art of critiquing, training, conditioning, handling, and grooming of your dog and yourself. The sport of dog shows has been transformed into discovery of joy in the growing teamwork with your TT in a performance venue. Wins are nice, but they are mostly inconsequential compared to the rewards of this connection.

5. It’s All Good.

In learning how to lose, the real benefit is that there no longer is any fear in losing. No fear frees the mind to observe and learn new things. Winning may not have ever been the point after all. Paradoxically, your win percentage continues to rise.

—Andrea Reiman,
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Tibetan Terrier Club of America
website: TTCA-online.org

Australian Cattle Dogs

Training: The “Chain-Breaker” Signal to the Rescue

You are doing well with your dog in obedience training and are working on the recall and finish. Once he is coming in to you and sitting close, the next problem that crops up is how to get him to remain in the correct, straight sit position until told to finish.

Teaching him to hold eye contact until given the *finish* command is the first step in preventing him from going straight into the finish. However, sometimes the dog needs a little help in remembering to wait for the actual command before moving from the front to the finish.

The Optimum Placement Technique (OPT) program that I developed was designed to help dogs get things right and thus avoid unnecessary and often distressing correction. The “chain-breaker” is an all-purpose hand signal that tells the dog to wait for the *next* command in the learning sequence. In order to appreciate the need for this command, the handler must first recognize how the dog learns.

Dogs learn by “chaining”—connecting what they know to what they don’t know until they can perform the new action as smoothly as the original one. The best example of this “learning chain” is the recall.

The dog is placed on a sit-stay and the handler walks away, turns, and calls the dog. After a few repeats, the dog realizes that the turn has become paired with the recall, so he comes as soon as you call. This shows the dog is paying attention and learning what you want him to learn. Correcting the dog for coming on the turn is telling him he is wrong when he *knows* he is *right*. This sets up a chain of events that leads many dogs to become discouraged, lack self-confidence, and later fail when the exercises get more complicated—because for the dog, responding to the turn is *right*—it just isn’t the right you want.

However, if you can tell the dog that

he is right but that now you are making the game a little more complex, and that now he must *ignore* the first command (the turn) and wait for the second command, which is the verbal or signal recall, this will make sense to him. This does not upset or confuse the dog but will become a part of your team communication skills that you will use more frequently at each level of obedience.

The chain-breaker command is very simple, and the dog catches on more quickly than you would believe. It consists of holding the hands in front of the dog, palms facing the floor, and crossing the hands back and forth two or three times. Eventually, crossing them once will be enough to remind the dog.

Like many expressions and words in the English language, this command has several meanings, depending upon the context in which it is used. It can mean that the dog has done something you do not want, and then you show him what you do want. Or it can mean *What you did was wrong, but that’s OK—we can fix it*. Note the emphasis on *we*. This helps create a team working together to learn, rather than a master enforcing his will on the dog.

One point must be made here so no misunderstanding occurs. The handler is the alpha, but so is any good leader; it does *not* mean the handler should abuse the position. It might mean that at some point in time the dog will need a correction if he steps out of line, but that rarely occurs in the obedience section of dog training. It is most often relevant where social lines are crossed or the dog is exhibiting excessive aggression that refuses to come under control through normal training channels.

Once the dog is completely trained, and polishing for performance begins, sometimes a quick reminder is needed. Those should be kept to a minimum, however, as they more often than not, cause more problems than they fix.

Start using the chain-breaker to tell the dog when he is wrong—according to your standards or desires—and then show him what you really want him to

do. It may change his attitude dramatically.

For more information on the OPT program, you can visit my website, glendhenmere.com.

Good luck, and happy heeling! Keep the training fun, but under control. Let your dog rest at least 15 minutes after each session if possible, as this improves the learning time.

—Dr. Mary Belle Adelman,
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Australian Cattle Dog Club of America website: acdca.org

Bearded Collies

Jenny Osborne. Anyone who has been seriously involved with Beardies knows her name.

Truly a pioneer of the breed, she acquired her first Beardies when Mrs. G.O. Willison, the lady who achieved recognition for the breed in England, was forced to give up breeding back in 1963 due to ill health.

Two early champions, Ch. Bravo of Bothkennar and Ch. Blue Bonnie of Bothkennar, joined the Osborne family in Lancashire and formed the foundation for Osmart kennels, now known worldwide. (Incidentally, my own first Bearded, whom I got in 1969, was sired by an Osmart-bred dog and was litter brother to the famed Ch. Osmart Bonnie Blue Braid.)

Jenny was not only a noted breeder, dedicated mentor, and astute judge but was also an ambassador for the breed. The Bearded world lost one of its best-known personalities when she died last fall after a brief illness.

Jenny always seemed to have a twinkle in her eyes and was blessed with a droll British sense of humor. Those who knew her usually had their favorite Jenny story. Here are two of mine.

Mentoring a young lady ringside who was interested in judging, Jenny commented that judges were often asked by an owner to evaluate a dog outside of the ring. She pointed out that the owners were often people who

possessed pets and wondered if they might be of sufficient quality to show. She cautioned her to be honest, but not cruel—to be kind, no matter how bad an example of the breed the dog might be, reminding her that it was someone's beloved pet.

"You can always find something to compliment," she instructed. "When I'm stuck, I just tell them their dog has a lovely temperament."

As Jenny had predicted, a little while later they were approached by a lady requesting an evaluation of her dog, which happened to be a very pitiful example of the breed. To top it off, when Jenny reached out to go over him, the dog bared his teeth and snarled at her. "There goes the 'lovely temperament' line," thought her student, curious to hear what compliment Jenny could concoct.

Nonplussed, Jenny stepped back, smiled at the owner, and said, "My, isn't he clean!"

On one of her trips to the United States, Jenny judged a Beardie match on the West Coast. The owner of the top-winning Beardie at that time, a group-winning bitch, entered her under Jenny.

An attractive Beardie with an impressive, ground-devouring stride, she was overly large for a bitch. Jenny passed her by when handing out the ribbons.

The owner approached her and politely enquired, "You didn't like my girl?"

"She's too masculine for my taste," Jenny replied.

"Masculine?" the owner said in surprise. "I wouldn't call her masculine!"

"Right, then," Jenny snapped back with a smile. "Would you settle for lesbian?"

—Alice Bixler, alicejb@att.net

Bearded Collie Club of America
website: bcca.us

Beaucerons

Our guest columnist is Barbara Winslow.

Le Beauceron

Elegant, yet rustic; always the very

intelligent, straightforward, brave, and strong country gentleman—this is the Beauceron. It is a breed to be admired and respected. They are thinking dogs, problem-solvers, and they are tenders of sheep. The Beauceron (pronounced *bo-sair-own*) is not a dog for the faint of heart. They are opinionated and difficult. However, the person with whom this dog decides to share his life will never have a better friend, confidant, and protector.

Like all puppies, young Beaucerons are roly-poly balls of fun and creativity. An axiom that must be seriously considered when owning the breed is a *bored Beauceron is a bad Beauceron*. Whether it involves a walk in the park, an introduction to different sights (and sites) and sounds, or a fun game, keeping them interested has to be a part of their daily lives from early development till they make the dreaded trip over the Rainbow Bridge.

This is not an apartment dog. Beaucerons need, desire, and crave exercise, both mental and physical. They can be a family dog and live with cats or other dogs, but they must be introduced at a very young age. Just as with humans, some are more intelligent than others. The brighter they are, the more difficult they are to live with. Their creativity knows no bounds.

They are beautiful. The striking black-rust coloration of the majority and the harlequin version of a few demand you to look at them.

Cropped ears are still allowed in the United States but are not allowed in any European Union country since May 2004.

Historically, their ears were always cropped—the dogs were in the fields, protecting against predators, and floppy ears would be easily ripped. The cropped ear does give them an elegant look to complement their "powerful presence." A Beauceron will always be noticed.

While their physical development is relatively rapid, it takes around five years before full mental and temperamental maturity is reached. Socialization is cru-

cial from day one—not the haphazard kind, but a concerted effort to educate this dog, your companion, to as much of life as is possible.

Many Beaucerons are devotees of paper products—particularly if there is a food odor attached. Mine prefers paper towels and napkins. Some enjoy those cute stuffed toys with squeakers—but just till they are gutted and destroyed, and then boredom once again sets in.

In my house, there are only hard-rubber toys, and even those have a shortened life span. Most Beauceron owners find that "indestructible" dog toys are not.

And then there are personal clothing pieces, drywall, vitamins, and other chewed-on items that can be cause for regular phone calls to the National Poison Control Center. My personal philosophy is *I have to be two steps in front at all times, or I will always be two steps behind my brilliant Beauceron*. If you do not keep Beaucerons mentally entertained, they will entertain themselves, most often in a manner the owner does not find nearly as amusing as the dog does.

Many have outstanding noses, so tracking/trailing and search-and-rescue are great outlets for their energy and talents. Others excel at agility. They are usually bored with rote exercises like obedience and very quickly learn whatever it is you are trying to teach—ultimately with a slight Beauceron variation, because, after all, they know best. Of course, some dogs are exceptions.

These strong, brave, and dependable dogs have been around since the 1500s, tending sheep (often responsible for large flocks of 200–300) and moving them from field to field, being left alone with them to protect them from predators. Their intellect was and is the basis for their survival. They served as messenger dogs during both World Wars and were almost extirpated. They continue to herd and tend sheep, cattle, goats, and ducks.

They are working dogs *par excellence*, willing to do whatever is asked—as long as it's done with respect for them

and their intelligence. It would be a regrettable move on anyone's part to overcorrect this breed.

Most are intuitive, sensitive to their master's moods. They are devoted companions, dedicated generally to just one person, but receptive to others. They are aware of their role in your life: to protect, guard ... and make you laugh. And they do have a very dry sense of humor.

If you're having a bad day, the Beauceron will acknowledge that—not necessarily flamboyantly, but by staying quietly at your side or doing his best to make you smile.

They can be a family dog, live with cats or other dogs, or be quite happy alone, as long as the person with whom they share their life is willing to devote an enormous amount of time to learn, know, and love them.

Beaucerons are a complete, complex package. They require the utmost patience, understanding, and above all respect.

There is no other dog like them. They are not like a German Shepherd Dog, Doberman Pinscher, Border Collie, or any other working dog. They are very aware of who and what they are—their purpose, role, and responsibilities.

They cannot be ignored. They are demanding: "I am a Beauceron, pay attention to me and acknowledge my importance." This is apparent in their frank presentation, aloofness, and opinionated personality.

Are they a dog for everyone? Adamantly and decidedly, no. They are for those who have a huge amount of time to devote to them, to teach and learn with them, to respect and love them, and never, ever forget that this highly intelligent dog needs, wants, and must have a job.

They are worth every second of every minute of all the time you spend with them. But you must be willing to give it gladly. Because after all, they are Beaucerons. —B.W.

Thank you, Barbara.

—Carol Cossey, secretary, American

Beauceron Club, secretary@beauce.org

American Beauceron Club website: beauce.org

Belgian Malinois Weathering the Storms

You know what's sadder than having a folder on your desk marked "Hurricane Irene," which has details of damage to your house and property and the associated insurance claims? Having *two* different hurricane folders on your desk—one named "Irene," and one named "Sandy."

Readers of this column may remember that after Irene I recounted how water surrounded our house—coming up to within four feet of the front door—and I had to kayak our Malinois Callie to high ground so she could pee during the 24-hour period that we were an island.

That was actually pretty funny, if it's possible to find humor in a situation in which you are wondering whether the lake surrounding you is going to come pouring in your basement windows. Sandy, however, was a little scarier.

I live in Princeton, which is a good 25 miles inland, so I wasn't particularly worried about the monster high tides they were predicting along the shore.

On the other hand, we live in a flood zone (as witness the events of Irene), and I wasn't looking forward to a repetition of that experience.

However, notwithstanding my township's helpful letter placed in our mailbox the day before Sandy was due to hit suggesting that we evacuate (thus relieving them of any responsibility for actually helping us), I was able to go to the NOAA (National Administrative and Atmospheric Administration) website and determine that there was zero probability of real flooding in our area.

Once I learned that—unfortunately too late to return the 50 sandbags I had purchased at Home Depot the day before—I felt like things might not be so bad after all, especially with the second, huge backup generator I'd picked up at Home Depot while I was there.

We stayed glued to the Weather Channel website all day, and five min-

utes before the hurricane made landfall in South Jersey (at around 6 P.M.), the words *Devastation Imminent* appeared on the screen. It was commercial hype, no doubt—but unfortunately far more prophetic than they may have realized.

The barometric pressure began dropping precipitously, ultimately dropping lower than any ever recorded in New Jersey history.

As if on cue, the wind began to pick up. Whole trees were in motion as if they were tall grass bent over in the wind. If you opened an outside door, the sound was exactly like the "freight train" noise that they say you hear in a tornado. It became pitch dark outside. And then the power went out.

So of course, you know that this is the moment Callie is going to indicate that she has to go out to pee.

Now, a Malinois being kayaked to high ground to pee is sort of funny. Standing outside with a Malinois while whole limbs fly off of trees is not as amusing a prospect, however.

But what to do? Thinking, "I hope nobody dies in this, but if they do, better you than me," I pushed her out the back door. But of course there was no way she was going out into that by herself.

So we get the generator going and are almost enjoying the sense of being safe inside (and online) in the middle of a historic storm when Callie starts some serious pacing and whining. Oh, Lord: She really *has* to go.

I figure if I go out with her and I stand in the middle of the street as far away as possible from the massive oaks that dot the lawns in this area, maybe I won't get killed. (The roads are empty—even the police have announced that they will not go out in the storm.)

So we go out, Callie does her business, and we run back inside. Later on a neighbor (who told me that their family slept in the living room that night because they were afraid to be upstairs during the storm, given the proximity of trees to the house) told me that she looked out and thought she saw me but

couldn't believe that anyone would actually be out there.

Then we make some hot chocolate and start feeling pretty good about things for another half-hour, until suddenly we hear a giant "thump" and the house shakes. I open the front door and look out. The huge 80-foot oak in our front yard is lying in the street. Pretty much where I had just been.

That night at least 1,000 trees fell in our township—more than 100 had to be removed from the streets alone. A man who decided to go out during the height of the storm to inspect the damage to one tree was killed when another fell on him.

I mourned our mighty oak, but I was glad to be alive. And I can tell you this: The first spare minute I have, I'm paper-training that dog. Next hurricane, we're going to be ready!

As always, if you'd like to contribute to the wonderful work done by Malinois Rescue, or if you think there might be a place in your home for one of these deserving dogs, please visit malinoisrescue.org.

—Nancy Bennett, nancyb@ignet.com

American Belgian Malinois Club
website: malinoisclub.com

Belgian Sheepdogs To Leash or Not To Leash

On a recent trip abroad, there were dogs out on a walk through the city with their owner.

While this sounds wonderful, the dogs were not leashed and were free to wander wherever they chose. The dogs were mostly behind their owners and would walk along and stop to sniff, or perhaps to relieve themselves on the sidewalk.

Certainly, all the dogs that I saw were well behaved, as we did not witness any accidents—but is this responsible pet ownership?

We all have this wonderful image of Lassie or Rin Tin Tin saving the day and always being completely obedient, but in the real world, does your dog respond immediately to your requests or commands? Does your dog under-

stand what you are asking—and even more importantly, do they know when you "really mean it"?

When we train a dog, besides trying to make it fun, it is also very important to make it clear what the response is that we are expecting.

For example, when you ask your dog to sit, you tell him the command and then expect him to sit still until otherwise directed.

This is very clear. When you ask for a more complex behavior and add in something that arouses your dog, say while you are out for a walk and there are other dogs nearby that are an attraction to him, what happens when you say "sit"? Do you have to repeat the command over and over? Is your dog paying attention to you? If he is on lead, is he tugging, jumping, or pulling you toward the other dogs?

Now imagine that he is off lead. Does he have the restraint to stay with you and ignore the other dogs? More importantly, are you putting your dog in harm's way?

When you compete in almost every venue with your dog, even at the highest levels, the rules usually state that dogs enter and leave the ring on lead. These regulations are there for the safety and protection of every dog and owner, so it makes sense that the safety of our dogs should also apply in everyday situations. I have seen handlers lose their qualifying run in an event because they left the ring without their dog on lead.

It is easy to take the time to teach your dog to walk nicely on lead. Reward the behavior of walking nicely, and make it a game. One simple game that you can teach your dog when he is sitting next to or near you on lead is to touch your leg or hand on command. This keeps his focus on you and you alone. Your dog will then "understand" what is expected of him when he is on lead, and you and he will be safe. After all, we are the best "toy" for our dogs!

Remember, have fun, hug your dog, and smile!

—Andrae Kipin Acerra,

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Belgian Tervuren Bioethics

Tervs and writing have each been a major part of my life for more than 40 years, so being the new GAZETTE columnist representing the American Belgian Tervuren Club is exciting for me. Needless to say, for this first column I have been tossing many topics around, but I want to share one with my readers and see if it stimulates as much thought for you as it has for me: *bioethics*.

I know, I scratched my head at this term after stumbling upon its use with regard to dog ownership on NPR and in the *New York Times*. A fairly new "human" discipline (the term *bioethics* was coined in 1971), it relates to *life, death, cures, and comforts*. Ethics is "a philosophical discipline pertaining to notions of good and bad, right and wrong—our moral life in community"; bioethics is the application of ethics to the field of medicine and healthcare.

During the previous decade, narcotic analgesics were starting to be used regularly for pain control in animals. See where this is heading?

We are seeing pets live extraordinarily long lives. It is not unusual to hear of dogs living into their 20s and cats into their 30s. Reflections on life, death, comfort, care, pain, and cures certainly present themselves to pet owners.

Of course, I relate these thoughts to my own life and my own dogs. I currently have a 13-plus-year-old female Terv who I have always said is not aging gracefully. I have a friend with a 16-year-old female Terv, and another friend who euthanized her 10-year-old male who had stomach cancer.

For me, the discussion of *when* is a familiar topic. In the 40 years that I have owned Tervuren, I have never had one single dog die on its own. I have had to make the decision for each and every one. The oldest was 14-plus; the youngest was 9. Not a one was easy, and

none were easier than the one before.

Bioethics encompasses the difficult decisions we often must make for our dogs. *When is the right time to let them go? What is our responsibility? Does it lie with the veterinarians and scientists, or does it stop at our doorstep? Does "life and death" correlate with "care and pain"?*

With the forward roads of veterinary medicine, it is not out of the realm of possibility to spend \$15,000–25,000 on medical procedures for our dogs. These types of costs alone beg an entirely different set of questions. *Can you handle the cost and care-giving burdens that often accompany these procedures? Will the procedure improve your dog's quality of life, or just extend his pain? Are your good intentions creating an avoidable trauma to your dog? Are you doing these procedures because you can't face the inevitable?*

We owe our dogs basic veterinary care and love. There is no shame in euthanizing a dog you love if you are trying to prevent suffering. These are intensely personal, ethical decisions.

Common sense tells us we can't lever the pains of animals and people equally. Stakes are high. These are our dogs. Belgian Tervuren are a long-lived breed.

Pain treatment and palliative care have altered my outlook on senior dogs, but not my mindset—for me, the quality of life will always be the decision maker.

But friends, realize there is no right or wrong answer here, only the decision you make for your own beloved dog.

—Dana B. Mackonis,
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Border Collies

What Is Your Dog Fluent In?

As they live with us and our canine pack, our dogs develop fluencies. Only recently, my adult daughter pointed out that our oldest Border Collie, Jinx, hardly reacts when I come home at the end of the workday; she knows I will walk down the hall past the laundry room, change into jeans

and walking shoes, check my e-mail, and then take them all for a long walk.

I, of course, have not noticed, but Jinx stands up and starts wagging when she hears the bathroom door open. The youngest dog, pushy and insistent, thumps her tail against the laundry room wall, dancing, panting, and anticipating throughout the entire changing process.

A talented woman I know trains intense, high-energy rescue dogs to search for drugs or explosives and has fitted each of her key chains with a small length of tug-toy. When a set of keys is misplaced, after scanning every room and every pocket of every jacket for them she sends her dogs into a frenzy with "Search!" The dogs scour the house, competing with each other to find the lost keys.

Another friend keeps sheep at a nearby ranch, and her Border Collies bounce with excitement when herding equipment is loaded into the truck. I visit our local hospital with each of our dogs, and a ritual of exercise, bath, grooming, and the wearing of a special harness signals whose turn it will be to visit. Familiarity with the routine links the preparation to the exercise itself.

Our dogs develop fluencies from their environment—some of them from our carefully derived intentions and practice, and others by accident.

Our youngest Border Collie fervently protects our backyard from hawks and turkey vultures as they float above a canyon along the edge of our yard. Dogs up the street hear the engine of the UPS truck, miles away, and start running their fence line, barking madly at presumed intruders.

As an adolescent, our blue merle distinguished the particular toot of a water polo referee's whistle from the tweet of a soccer whistle, and he would make a speedy beeline across our boarding-school campus to the water polo game, where a grassy hillside of spectators were delighted to scruffle and hug him until I discovered him, peeking his blue eyes around someone's shoulder, like *Where's Waldo?* in a throng of people.

What fluencies do you want your Border Collie to have? Gaiting in the conformation ring? Finding a lamb in a ravine? Greeting the neighborhood children pleasantly? Executing a reverse-flow pivot seamlessly in competition? Curling up on the backseat of a sedan? Remaining calmly enclosed in an ex-pen despite distractions?

Be aware of your routines and the environment your dog inhabits while you are away for hours of the day. Be aware of the influences of the rest of your pack, the dogs in the neighboring yard, and the humans who spend lots of time with the dogs. Be as intentional as you can be, shaping behavior toward your desired goal and working to extinguish any behaviors that are undesirable. Work with experienced trainers, join clubs, and find people whose dogs you admire.

Healthy and helpful fluencies are developed and nurtured with intent and attention—and lack of guidance can leave a Border Collie to his own devices, resulting in habits of its own design.

—Mary Fish Arango,
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Bouvier des Flandres

Celebrating 50 years of the American Bouvier des Flandres Club

In 1988, our club historian was Cheryl Newman. At that time, Cheryl provided a timeline of the events leading to the AKC's acceptance of the American Bouvier des Flandres Club for the 25th-anniversary issue of the *Dirty Beards Quarterly*. This year we celebrate 50 years as a club, and I would like to share that history once again. The matter-of-fact report below hides the excitement and promise of the venture and the passion for the Bouvier that was shared by these pioneers. Following is the article from the fall 1988 issue of the *DBQ*.

"The idea for a national Bouvier des Flandres club had been around for a

while. But, like all good ideas, it needed the TLC of a few devotees to bring it about. On December 17, 1962, a letter from the committee that presented the necessary information for AKC approval was sent to Bouvier fanciers. The committee consisted of Carl B. May, Jr., chair; Edmee Bowles; John J. Elliott, Jr.; Edith Sturges O'Connor; and Fred Walsh. The letter announced 'a meeting at the Kennel Club of Philadelphia show on December 1, 1962, at which there were present seventeen Bouvier des Flandres breeders and owners, to discuss the formation of a Bouvier des Flandres Breed Club.' The vote was unanimous to request AKC permission to form the club. The next meeting was held during the Westminster KC show of 1963.

"The next letter, dated January 26, 1963, reported 76 surveys returned, with 117 (including husbands and wives) expressing interest. This number broke down into 12 breeders, 24 exhibitors, and 73 owners. Fifty-four volunteered to work for the club, 51 planned to attend meetings, and 55 planned to exhibit.

"This letter announced a draft of the bylaws and constitution. A membership application was enclosed. The plea for members to attend the February meeting was well received.

"Fifty-five of the club's 64 members attended the meeting at the Garden. On March 11, 1963, Joan L. Doane, our first elected secretary, reported that the necessary papers had been forwarded to the AKC. Included were the bylaws and the constitution of the new club. 'A club is only as strong as the willingness of the membership to participate' is as valid a statement today as it was 25 years ago [or 50 years ago now]. The 1963 officers and governors were Mrs. Thomas O'Connor, president; Miss Edmee Bowles, vice-president; Carl B. May, Jr., treasurer; Mrs. Joan Doane, secretary; and board members Mrs. John Elliott, Jr. (chair), Fred Walsh, James Neylon, Mrs. Virginia Bull, and Gerald Jacoby."

Next time: a recount of the accom-

plishments that led to the 50th-anniversary national specialty, to be held in Texas this October.

—Jeannette Nieder

American Bouvier des Flandres Club
website: bouvier.org

Briards Proofing Goofs

It was a fiery tower of flame. Or so it must have appeared to the English Springer Spaniel whose body language made it crystal clear he was having no parts of this frightening sight.

The incident took place many years ago at Canada's prestigious "Show of Shows," an annual event that pits the previous year's Best in Show victors against each other to determine the best of the best. Each dog is examined, moved, and scored by three separate judges.

So the Springer was no neophyte to the show world, being a multiple Best in Show winner. However, his ring experience was no help when he caught sight of the second judge—he cringed and did his best to back as far away as the leash would allow.

Since the event was formal, the stately woman was attired in a full-length sheath dress completely covered in red sequins that sparkled and flickered with each move of her body.

Obviously unnerved by the apparent towering inferno before him, the dog did his utmost to keep a safe distance, which unfortunately prevented him from scoring well under that judge.

As current fashions routinely feature sequins, rhinestones, and myriad other glittering items, seasoned show dogs of today are used to sparkling stuff and ignore it. They've inadvertently been proofed against such a distraction because they've been exposed to it so often and learned it's no threat.

Whether an exhibitor plans to participate in conformation, obedience, rally, agility, or any other dog sport, proofing the dog is an excellent idea. It starts with that all-important puppy socialization, exposing the youngster to as many different people, sights, and

sounds as possible. It's not enough for the pup to be exposed to a wide variety, however. The experiences should also be pleasant, or at least nonthreatening. Consider carrying a pocketful of small treats when walking your pup and supplying them to strangers to give to your youngster when they stop to admire him. The average pup will soon get the idea that strangers are treat givers and pretty nice people. The catch is that people come in all sizes, shapes, colors, and smells. They wear floppy hats, clunky jewelry, and flowing scarves. They carry canes, umbrellas, and shopping bags. They wear heady perfume or smoke odoriferous tobacco products.

Life is full of surprises. It's not always easy to predict what your pup may encounter, and especially in a show ring. One pup I considered well-socialized reacted in fright when approached by a judge with a back deformity.

While obedience exhibitors are likely to have more reasons to proof their dogs, conformation exhibitors still have their share of potential problems. How does your dog react to having another dog running around the ring behind him? And if your breed standard specifies height requirements, has your dog learned to accept the wicket? Is your dog likely to be intimidated by extremely tall or particularly ponderous judges? It happens.

Perhaps the best plan is to observe all the possible distractions at shows and trials, make a list, and present the situations in a pleasant way to your dog one by one. Don't overwhelm her! But there are certain things you can expect, such as a crate trolley with squeaky wheels (doesn't anyone ever oil those things?), metal chairs being dragged or dropped, cheering, and applause—the list goes on and on.

Then there are possible events such as a ring gate getting knocked over, or a dog who gets up on the long sit or down and wants to play (with your dog, of course).

In obedience especially, anything can happen. Proofing can truly test your

imagination.

There are also the circumstances that pretty much defy proofing—as if you could even imagine them happening—such as the time at one outdoor trial when a skydiver came out of the blue and parachuted to a picturesque landing only a few yards away from the obedience rings. Heck, dogs and handlers alike were distracted!

And then there was the afternoon when our boy, Dudley, broke the long down, his favorite exercise, when a large and bold grasshopper bounced across the ring, landed on his head, and crawled into his ear. I'm not sure how you'd proof for that. Or would you even want to?

—Alice Bixler, alicejb@att.net

Briard Club of America website:
briardclubofamerica.org

Canaan Dogs

Our guest columnist is Carrie Franz-Cabrera, who with her husband, Ken, has had Canaan Dogs for over 15 years, including Maccabee, the first Canaan Dog and one of the first dogs in the U.S. to earn the AKC's Therapy Dog (THD) title.

The only breeder of Canaans in Arizona, Carrie competes in both conformation and performance, including obedience, rally, and herding, and she is currently working with her dogs in tracking.

Living With a Senior Canaan Dog

Good genes, conscientious breeders, and devoted, savvy owners mean that a majority of the time living with a senior Canaan Dog means few, if any, concessions. Remaining spry and relatively healthy in his later years is one of a Canaan Dog's especially attractive traits.

To keep our 15-plus-year-old bitch as healthy and happy as possible, she gets several supplements: Yucca Intensive herbal extract drops (available through Azmira Holistic Animal Care), to deal with minor arthritis inflammation and pain; Cholidin (from MVP Laboratories, Inc.), a chewable dietary

supplement to improve cognitive function; and vitamin C and salmon oil. She is still very active, accompanying me on our daily two-mile walks at the pace set by the two younger dogs. A monthly professional massage along with stretching and an orthopedic bed are a couple of the perks that senior status affords her. We're pretty sure that the younger ones in our pack aspire to seniorhood just to share in these goodies!

Older Canaan Dogs can learn new tricks, earning titles well into their teen years.

Our senior Canaan Dog earned her Rally Novice title at 11, was herding sheep at 13, and continued to make therapy dog visits until she was 14. She continues to enjoy obedience class. Her obvious joy in getting out and about and being rewarded for a job well done hasn't diminished one bit.

We have recently started doing some nosework with her. Since her eyesight is starting to fail, she relies on her nose more in everyday life, so nosework is right up her alley.

As a general rule, most veterinarians consider a dog to be geriatric around 8 years of age. Don't tell that to a Canaan Dog! As a slower-maturing breed, with an average life span of 14 to 15 years, an 8-year-old Canaan Dog is barely approaching middle age. Many are still being shown at this age, and beyond—and winning!

Keeping an older Canaan Dog's mind engaged with learning new tricks and practicing old ones, keeping her physically fit with regular exercise, at a healthy weight and providing wellness vet checkups, along with a good set of genes from the breed's long history of natural selection will hopefully keep senior Canaan Dogs healthy, happy, and active long into their later teen years.

—C.F.-C.

Thanks, Carrie, for your perspective on living with our wonderful veterans!

—Denise A. Gordon, desertstarcanaans@yahoo.com

Canaan Dog Club of America, Inc.,
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Cardigan Welsh Corgis

This month's column is from Sandi Hutchins, of Sandwynne. Coming from a Corgi-loving family (her sister was former breed-columns contributor Norma Chandler), Sandi has spent considerable effort in preserving Cardigan history and now helps us take a look at breedings of the past.

The Age of Experimentation

To me, the most fascinating time in the history of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi must be the period of the breed's development from roughly 100 years ago until the early 1930s, when the breed achieved official recognition.

By the early 20th century, few pure-bred Cardigans remained in the Welsh mountains of Cardiganshire, where they had lived for centuries unknown and undisturbed. Unfortunately, the breed was disappearing, commonly mixed with other herding dogs in an effort to alter the herding type. These mixes had advantages as well as disadvantages, bringing in upright ears and a refinement of the head but also bringing in a longer leg and finer bone.

There were very few of the old-type Bronant Cardigans of the long, heavy, low-set style left when the Corgis, both Pembroke and Cardigan, began to interest the dog fanciers. It was these breeders, with few original dogs available for comparison, who ultimately led Cardigans through the challenges of the coming years and "the age of experimentation."

Pembrokes and Cardigans had already been bred together on occasion, and there had even been a few odd mixes with other small herding breeds. However, now there were more people involved, with many simply not knowing what to do with the breed. Some preferred a small dog, some preferred a straight leg, and the early judges were often just as confused. "Welsh Corgi" entries at these shows sometimes looked like a class for mixed breeds!

When the dogs were first exhibited

under championship rules in 1925, they were shown as Pembroke and Cardigan but in competition against one another.

This led to even more confusion. The small dogs with terrier fronts shown in the Clifford Hubbard book of 1952 did not look out of place in the ring of the 1920s.

Fortunately, a small group from Wales had continued breeding from local Bronant stock. This early Bronant group included Mr. Morgan Morgan (breeder of the well known Cassie), Mr. R. W. Jones, Mr. G. E. Owens, Mr. Thomas Griffiths, Dr. J. T. Lloyd of Tregaron (breeder of Bob Llwyd), and Mr. David Jones (owner of Mon). Mon is of special importance, as he was thought to be the last of the pure Bronant Cardigans.

In England, Ms. D. F. Wylie brought in Bronant dogs to breed under her Geler prefix. Later, Ms. D. M. Honey, and Dr. F. E. Fox acquired quality breeding stock and began producing Cardigans who would become foundations of the modern breed. This was the group that consistently exhibited the more “true to type” Cardigan at the shows.

Although many of the Cardigans of the time had Pembroke in their pedigrees as well as other crosses, the breed slowly began to take a new direction towards the beloved dog we know today, originally described as “long and low, with heavy bone and inward-sloping forelegs” by Mr. W. Lloyd Thomas in his writings.

This should be considered as a tribute to these devoted early breeders, and to the resilient Cardigan Welsh Corgi itself. —S.H.

Many thanks to our guest columnist, Sandi Hutchins!

Columnists Jeff Welsh and Cynthia Smith live on a small tree farm and wildlife refuge in rural North Carolina and are members of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America.

—Jeffrey Welch,
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Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America website: cardigancorgis.com

Collies

Following is the conclusion to my column on temperament begun in the December 2012 issue.

A New Look at Temperament, PART TWO

Three additional characteristics of temperament are:

- *Adaptability.* Can your dog adjust to changes in routine without becoming unduly stressed? Breeders can observe how puppies adapt to new surroundings in moves from whelping box to a larger area, and to the first time outdoors.

- *Distractibility.* When interacting one on one, does the dog fully engage in the activity?

- *Persistence.* Faced with an obstacle, does your Collie try to solve the problem—for example, go around a gate or climb over a barrier—or does he give up easily?

During temperament evaluation, besides specific test results, look for a relaxed, curious, and playful attitude as an indication of confidence. Dogs who are fearful or hesitant either did not have proper exposure to different environments before testing or have inherent less-desirable temperament traits.

Temperament and intelligence are two separate components, but one can certainly affect the expression of the other.

Surprisingly, researchers have only recently begun to study intelligence in dogs.

We know that dogs love to cooperate with humans. Dogs can make inferences and remember them for a long time. Research shows that at as early as 6 weeks, puppies understand human expression and gestures such as finger-pointing and looking at objects. Unlike our near relatives, the apes, when a human points, our dogs know where to look.

As we gain greater understanding of our dogs' intelligence, we have a new appreciation and respect for what they are capable of. Consider Chaser, the

Border Collie who can identify 1,000 individual toys by name and bring them when asked.

Temperament defines our breed as surely as head, coat, or type. Collies with proper temperament and intelligence make better show dogs, better family companions, and better performance dogs. Confident dogs with proper education and socialization can handle stress and enjoy cooperating with their human counterparts. They are fun to live with!

Intelligence is not accidental; researchers have proven that Border Collie breeders, for example, choose for the intelligence gene by selective breeding. Not only can you lose it if you don't use it, but you can lose it if you don't select for it!

However, when you select for intelligence, you then have certain responsibilities. Smart, intelligent dogs who have a strong desire to be with their humans are more in need of attention and activity.

A breeder might inadvertently select away from these traits if an individual is dissatisfied or a troublemaker due to boredom. The bright, active dog who can't tolerate kennel life is then sold and removed from the gene pool.

Breeders who have bred for intelligence understand that their dogs need more opportunities for activity, toys, and especially social interaction with humans. And the dogs need owners (and breeders) who accept the responsibility to train and engage with their dog.

We are all familiar with the sweet Collie couch-potato as the family dog. This type may perfectly suit inexperienced dog owners or those who simply want an undemanding family companion.

When breeders and prospective owners understand that Collies come with different temperaments, activity levels, and intelligence, then they have a better opportunity to match human expectations with their ideal Collie.

—Marianne Sullivan,
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Collie Club of America website: collielclubofamerica.org

German Shepherd Dogs

Our guest columnist for this issue is Morton Goldfarb, M.D., FACS.

Dr. Goldfarb is an AKC judge of German Shepherd Dogs and Junior Showmanship, a full SV (FCI) judge who has judged the breed in Germany many times, and owner of Beechbrook Kennel.

Judging the German Shepherd Dog

There are three aspects in judging the German Shepherd Dog: *temperament*, *stand picture*, and *motion*.

Temperament. The German Shepherd Dog Club of America has a very specific technique for temperament testing of the breed. The judge approaches the entry with the dog on a loose lead, and the dog must not show any signs of apprehension or fear but must be approachable.

Stand picture. The stand picture of the dog must represent what the standard implies within the specified parameters.

Motion is what is characteristic and typical of the breed.

The dog must have very strong secondary sex characteristics, with easy distinction between the sexes.

What is important encompasses proper structure, with proper body proportions of height to depth and length to height, as the dog is longer than tall—which is partially responsible for his gait characteristics.

The overline (topline) is comprised of *wither-back-croup*, with each in a ratio of 1:1:1. We describe a dog as “long” if the proportions are unequal, and this usually means that the middle piece is too long and the croup is too short (and is usually steep). It can also mean that the forehand is forward-placed, which usually is associated with a straight upper arm, with the shoulder blade in the neck area. A dog is “stretched” if the proportions are equal but slightly longer, which is desirable.

The croup should be approximately 23 to 27 degrees, which is the proper angle to allow the hindquarter to reach deeply under the body while in motion. Always judge the croup when the dog is in motion, as it is usually distorted by the stretched stand-pose that the handler promotes.

You judge starting at the tip of the nose, and encompassing the entire animal—head, neck, wither, back (which is the space between the wither and the croup, *not* the topline), croup. Then progress to the forehand and brisket, then the underline (which should be as long as possible, as the rib cage protects the internal organs), and then the hindquarter.

The forehand angulation should be approximately 90 degrees, with a long upper arm and a well-laid-back shoulder blade (scapula) of approximately equal lengths.

The hindquarter angulation approximates the forehand angulation when the dog is standing foursquare—but in the show-stance position, however, its angle increases to that of approximately 120 to 130 degrees, depending on handler positioning.

The tail is long and reaches at least to the hock joint.

When viewed from the front, the long bones must be straight, and the distance between the front feet should be approximately one paw-width if the dog is standing naturally.

The pasterns are approximately 25 degrees, and the feet are well arched and tight.

I will next go into a description of the movement that defines the German Shepherd.

First and foremost, the dog is balanced in motion and has an apparent *buoyancy* to his gait, which gives him the characteristic period of *suspension*.

In simple terms, we can think of the hindquarter as the engine, the vertebral column as the transmission, and the forehand as the steering mechanism.

The hindquarter, through its powerful musculature, drives the entire body upward and forward, and this thrust is

transmitted through the overline (the vertebral column) to the forehand. This allows the shoulder (the upper-arm muscles) to contract, which extends the front leg forward to receive the forward thrust from the hindquarter and catch the movement generated from the hindquarter.

The front foot should remain very close to the ground with extension to an imaginary line perpendicular to the tip of the nose when it then touches the ground. The front foot should not lift high (“padding”) and should not extend beyond where it ultimately touches the ground.

The gait is also characterized by single tracking, in that the feet touch the ground along an imaginary straight line running through the center of the body mass when the dog is trotting. This mechanism of motion compensates for the lateral thrust (rotation) that is generated when the rear leg on one side generates thrust as it contracts and then extends with a follow-through. This follow-through does not “kick out” as the leg extends.

The hind limb must reach well under the body to a “balance point” that is slightly behind the point where the wither joins the back.

The last bit of power is seen when the rear foot, as it passes beneath the pelvis, on its way to extension contracts. This is easily seen from the side view, as the foot and toes contract, and also from the rear of the dog moving away, as you will see the pads.

So the above is a very abbreviated discussion of anatomy and motion, with the purpose of a general introduction to what we—the German Shepherd fancy—consider the most versatile and greatest purebred dog.

In closing, several things must be mentioned:

- Judge each dog against the standard, not against the others being shown, and choose the closest to the standard.
- Do not fault-judge.
- The three natural gaits of the German Shepherd are the walk (pace), the slow to medium trot, and the gal-

lop. —M.G.

Thank you, Dr. Goldfarb.

—Helen Gleason,

helengleasonus@yahoo.com

German Shepherd Dog Club of America website: gsdca.org

Norwegian Buhunds Coursing Ability Tests

Kinzi and I are waiting for our turn. She is crated in the car, on the other side of the club building, as far away from the lure coursing field as possible. I am hoping that she does not catch a glimpse of the lure and go bonkers.

Soon Kinzi's name is called; only seven dogs are ahead of her. I go to get her from the car. She sniffs around and relieves herself, and we go around the building toward the gate to the field. So far, so good—she has not spotted the lure yet.

As we get within 100 yards of the gate, she suddenly spots the lure! Her whole body quivers. She gives her high-pitched, super-excited bark, and she tries to rush forward but is restrained by the lead. From that point on, she has only one thing in her mind: chasing the lure. She is not at all interested in her favorite treats or even her favorite toy—she just wants to chase the lure.

It is our turn to go in the gate. I hold Kinzi while the operator brings the lure back to the starting point. She has eyes only for the lure. She is shaking with excitement; she just wants me to let go so she can chase the lure.

When the huntmaster says, "Tally ho!" I release Kinzi, and off she runs after the lure—down one side of the field, twisting and turning after the lure, and back up the other side. The lure gives a final turn, comes back toward where I am standing, slows down, and stops. Kinzi pounces on it. I quickly go and get her and put on her leash. The judge gives a "thumbs up," and I get Kinzi's qualifying ribbon and the new title medallion given by the club. She has completed her CA (Coursing Ability) title, becoming the first

Buhund to do so.

Although lure coursing is a sport that was originally created for sighthounds, on February 24, 2011, the AKC introduced the Coursing Ability Test for all breeds—and I am thrilled that they did so. It is wonderful that my dogs can compete in a sport and get titles for something that they would give their right paws to do. We have participated in many AKC events, such as conformation, agility, obedience, and rally, but in no other event have I seen my Buhunds in such a state of excitement and so focused on what they are doing. I wish we had more CAT events around here, because we would participate in each and every one! It is so wonderful to see the sheer delight on their faces when they see the lure—and it is excellent exercise for them. Even though my dogs are in good physical condition and regularly go hiking with me, they do not often get the opportunity to run full-speed for 600 yards or more.

I think that any dog with a prey drive would enjoy this sport. After all, lure coursing is the ultimate game of chase!

—Jasmine Tata, Jtata2@yahoo.com

Norwegian Buhund Club of America website: buhund.org

Old English Sheepdogs AKC Herding Tests with Your Old English

Our column in the December issue covered herding instinct testing. Now we'll take a look at the AKC herding tests.

The entry level is Herding Tested (HT), followed by Pre-trial Tested (PT). These are tests, so participation is just Pass/Fail. These titles are earned with two qualifying runs under different judges.

Before you try herding you may still have concerns. Common questions are:

- "Won't herding ruin my dog's show coat?" No, in these herding events you work in a well-manicured arena, and

there will be nothing to catch the dog's coat. Your dog should not get any dirtier than he does showing at many fairgrounds.

- "What if I'm worried about being in with the sheep myself?" This isn't a problem. Anyone, including your herding instructor, can handle your dog.

- "Doesn't my dog need special conditioning to do this?" No. The maximum arena is 200 feet by 400 feet, and the dog should move the sheep at a slow trot, not stampede them. Any healthy, normally active dog should do fine.

The HT and PT requirements are detailed in the *AKC Herding Regulations*. The HT arena has a pylon at either end. The dog must demonstrate a controlled pause while the handler moves to the stock. Then the handler "sends the dog." The sheep are moved along the fence line from the first pylon to the second, where they are turned and moved back to the first pylon. Here they are turned again and moved back to the second pylon. At that point you recall your dog—exercise over.

The PT test is much the same, but with a more complex course. Here the dog picks up the sheep at one end and moves them through two gates at the other end. The sheep are then turned and moved back through the two gates to the starting point, where the dog holds the stock in place while the handler opens the gate and pens the sheep. There must also be a controlled pause at some point in the run.

In conclusion, consider these rhetorical questions.

- Have you ever spent eight hours driving to a show, and then another four hours prepping your dog? Then when you get in the ring, does your dog perform beautifully, but you still walk away without that purple ribbon, or maybe any ribbon at all?

- Have you ever arrived at a show to find that none of the OES exhibitors have set up together, and when they finally assemble ringside they hardly speak to one another? Then when

someone loses their class, do they mumble congratulations at the winner and leave before the remaining classes are even judged?

If you answered yes to any or all of these, try herding. The HT and PT levels are tests, not trials. There are no purple ribbons or placements. It's just you and your dog against those five wily ewes.

If you have a good run and you recall your dog within the 10-minute limit, people around the arena actually give you a round of applause. When the judge hands you that qualifying ribbon, other trialers shake your hand and say how nice it is to see an Old English working.

Finally, if your dog is "on," you often get your two qualifying runs and title in one weekend.

—Joe Schlitt, wylecotejs@earthlink.net

Old English Sheepdog Club of America website: oldenglishsheepdogclubofamerica.org

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Ringside Judging

Spectators at any dog event engage in Ringside judging. At conformation shows, we critique exhibitors, judges, and of course the Pembrokes. All judging, whether in or outside the rings, should follow the rules of the events, correct judging procedures, and in the conformation ring, the breed standard.

Sometimes we judge exhibitors on their attire and handling skills. Fashion goes through fads, but comfortable, safe footwear and hemlines that do not interfere with the Pembroke's movement, eyesight, or ears are always in style. Be aware of dangling jewelry and loose ties, scarves, and jackets.

Common handling mistakes include moving the dog at an incorrect speed and overstretching the dog on the table. Neither presents the dog to his best advantage.

Another frequent mistake is allowing the Pembroke to stand too close to the

handler, thereby throwing off the topline and giving an unnatural look to the neck. A mirror and a friend with a good eye can help you with your attire and your dog.

The judge is often evaluated on correct ring procedure as well as consistency in placements. An overall impression of the class is best done from across the ring so that overall balance and silhouette can be evaluated. Expression is to be judged with the dog on the floor, and that can be done while walking down the line as well as at the end of the movement patterns.

The first impression of the Pembroke on the table should be done from several feet away so that overall balance and silhouette and the parallel planes of the head can be seen.

Consistency of placements throughout the entry is always appreciated, since it allows spectators to determine the qualities the judge is emphasizing that day. Should the opinions of the ringside and the judge match, so much the better!

Outline and balance are best seen from across the ring. It can be difficult to find the right spot at ringside to evaluate the freedom of movement on the side as well as movement coming and going.

The standard reminds us that the Pembroke is a herding breed and should have the substance, structure, and movement to do the necessary jobs around the farm.

Cosmetic concerns such as depth of eye color, pigment of the nose and eye-rims, and the extent of any white markings are best seen up close, as can the equilateral triangle formed from the nose through the tips of the ears.

A heavy coat may make a dog look short in body or lacking in neck when he really is not.

Improper grooming may make a dog appear high in the rear.

A short rib cage might be seen from ringside, but it's best to remember that the judge's hands can feel what spectators cannot see.

Spectators cannot see the correct

scissors or acceptable level bite.

It can be hard to remember that judging is to be done "on the day," and that a puppy is expected to meet the same breed standard as an adult. Past show records should not come into play.

The catalog is best kept closed while engaged in ringside judging. Let your eyes and your thoughts focus totally on what appears in the ring before you.

—Lynda McKee, tifflynldm@aol.com

Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America website: pwcca.org

Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

New Dogs, Old Tricks

My grand champion, multi-group-placing, specialty Award of Merit-winning Polo has found a novel way to bring his conformation career to an abrupt and screeching halt, or at least put it on long-term hiatus. He apparently mistook his show-side hind foot for an all-day sucker, and by the time I was aware of his peculiar dietary habits, he had created the hot spot from hell.

Now, it's not easy building a show career in Michigan; he's the only resident male PON who's been exhibited in the entire state—either peninsula—in probably the last half-dozen-plus years. (All his winning occurred at least six hours and one time zone away. Maybe he just got tired of the commute.)

Off we went to see Dr. Oster-Wahl, whose go-to dermatologic diagnostic tool is a number-40 blade. As I wept, she buzzed merrily away. I left with a three-legged dog wearing an Elizabethan collar and a look of utter astonishment.

For several weeks after, I deluded myself into believing this was just a temporary setback and that the coat above the wound would soon cover the spot. Didn't happen.

If clothes make the man, then hair makes the PON. Lil' Fuzzy Foot and I needed a career change.

I have obedience-trained dogs in the

past. My first experience was with a Komondor. I was pregnant and outweighed him by maybe 10 pounds, but he had me on center of gravity. We didn't make it beyond an eight-week introductory class.

Then, five years later, there was the Briard. We competed in both conformation and obedience at the same shows, and we finished both titles. Next came the PBGB, and I waited until after the conformation championship to get the CD. She was also a certified therapy dog.

And now it's the PONs. With Shasta, it was conformation championship, then CGC. She was just not all that enthusiastic about the serious stuff.

So here we are in late winter. It's been a long winter. Significant snowstorms just keep clobbering us. I need some creative (please, no more treadmill) exercise. Ole' PoPo needs a job. Let's do obedience. After all, it's a family tradition!

After two sessions, lemme tell ya: It's not yer father's obedience class! Or the piece of cake I expected. They train with *bait*, for goodness sake.

We spent the first class largely getting the dogs' focus and attention. I kept tripping myself up, holding the bait in the wrong place with the wrong hand, and generally being a total klutz.

And I didn't even have the right kind of bait or bag to hold it. And the collar was wrong, although it was okay for all the other classes.

Polo was just as befuddled. Nobody had ever told him to sit. As far as he is concerned, that's a dirty word. Being a "show dog" cuts no ice with these hard-noses. This is not going to be easy. But the weather is improving, and we'll be able to go outside and practice this week. Things have got to be getting brighter.

The specialty is in mid-June in the Chicago area. There will be obedience and a chance to try some herding. It's only one time zone away. Who cares if he has hair?

Now if I can just convince him to sit, we'll be on to something.

Hope springs eternal . . .

—Louise Cohen, cachetpons@comcast.net

American Polish Lowland Sheepdog Club website: aponc.org

Pyrenean Shepherds Thank You for Consulting Our Standard in the Ring!

A few months ago a Pyrenean Shepherd fancier's friend, someone not too familiar with the breed, was giving her a hand by showing the fancier's young fawn-merle female in the conformation ring while the owner showed her champion.

The judge got perplexed as he went over the dog and asked the stand-in handler some questions regarding coat and eye color that she couldn't answer. Because the youngster is fawn with dark streaks on her body, spots on her ears, and one blue eye, the judge was uncertain where she fit in the standard—particularly with that blue eye, her owner explained later.

With his questions unanswered by the exhibitor, he called for the Pyrenean Shepherd breed standard, put his glasses on so he could read it, and went over it in the ring.

While the judge looked for answers, the dog remained on the examining table. She spent the lull checking out her environment and generally behaving quite well for a youngster, according to her proud owner.

Another exhibitor, someone fairly new to the breed ring, was handling her own young Pyrenean Shepherd at the show. She grew concerned about the young female waiting so long on the table, and she later asked on one of the breed's online lists whether judges frequently consult the standard in the ring.

The overwhelming response from those who show routinely: "It happens a lot!"

Some breeders estimated that, while the incidence of standard consultations in the ring has declined somewhat since the breed received full AKC recognition in January 2009, judges still

review the standard while they're working, as frequently as one-fifth to one-fourth of the time.

Breeders say that with only three years—or fewer—of judging the Pyrenean Shepherd under their belts, judges may find it a complicated breed whose individuals present a bewildering variety of coat colors, textures, and lengths. And, on top of the coloration and other coat issues, smooth-faced dogs and bitches can be a fair amount larger than rough-faced examples of the breed, which adds yet another factor to the task.

All these elements make judging Pyrenean Shepherds a real challenge, explains breeder Valerie Davis. She and other breeders are grateful when judges take the time to examine the standard.

"It's very complicated, much more involved than most breeds. It's not like judging a setter," Davis said.

In addition to all the variations above, this smallest of the French herding breeds also has different movement than many other kinds of dogs, adding yet one more unusual aspect to judging them, she said.

Breeder Patricia Princehouse agrees about the difficulties presented by Pyrenean Shepherd diversity:

"So often, judges are new to the breed," she said. "If it's not the first time they've judged them, it could be in the first five times. I tell people in judges' education that the standard is their friend. . . . We appreciate it so much when judges care enough to check the standard."

For a detailed look at the breed standard for these active little shepherds, please visit the national club's website, pyrshepclub.com.

—Kathleen Monje,
cognitivedog@epud.net

Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America
website: pyrshepclub.com



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

Attention Delegates

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh, in Raleigh, North Carolina, on June 11, 2013, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m. It will follow the 9:00 a.m. Delegates Forum.

Delegates Credentials

Robert Bergman, Centennial, CO, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club

Sharon K. Collins, Decatur, IL English Cocker Spaniel Club of America

Virginia Denninger, Rochester, NY, Genesee Valley Kennel

Jeffrey Drogin, New York, NY, Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club

Robert Edward Ekle, Columbia, MO, Columbia Missouri Kennel Club

Diane D. Fyfe, Pikesville, TN, East Tennessee Retriever Club

Judy A. Hart, Knoxville, TN, Tennessee Valley Kennel Club

C. Edward Lane, Newton, NC, Greater Hickory Kennel Club

Dr. William R. Newman, Bedford, PA, Golden Gate Kennel Club

Elizabeth Tilley-Poole, Dunnellon, FL, Pekingese Club of America

Jane Wilkinson, Springfield, MA, Holyoke Kennel Club

Notice

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Ernest Weir III (Argyle, NY)

Notice

Mrs. Constance Tedford (Wittmann, AZ) Action was taken by the Saint Bernard Club for conduct at its September 27, 2013, event. Ms. Tedford was charged with impairing a club's ability to maintain a site. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a three

month event suspension and a \$100 fine, effective September 27, 2012.

Mrs. Tedford appealed the decision to an AKC Trial Board. The Trial Board denied her appeal.

Notice

Mrs. Susan Kraus (Indianapolis, IN) Action was taken by the Central Indiana Shetland Sheepdog Club for conduct at its November 17, 2012, event. Mrs. Kraus was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty for her violation at a reprimand and \$200 fine.

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Mrs. Leslie Papa (Williamsville, NY) for signing transfer paperwork on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney form. (Bearded Collie, Chinese Crested)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mrs. Martha Davidson (Green Cove Springs, FL) from AKC registration privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, effective January 15, 2013, for having PIN numbers issued for the dog applications for an online litter, without the permission of the co-owner of the litter. (Great Dane)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mrs. Mary Brodersen (Kiron, IA) from all AKC privileges for fifteen years and imposed a \$3000 fine, effective February 11, 2013, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on her violation of the AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy. (Multiple Breeds)

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. Linda Clark (94461) OK

(918) 995-2561
lindaclarkjudge@aol.com
 Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Vizslas, Beagles, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Akita, Alaskan Malamutes, Bullmastiffs, Giant Schnauzers, Australian Cattle Dogs, Bouviers des Flandres, German Shepherd Dogs and Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mrs. Krista Hansen (95865) NY

(585) 535-7549
camlochcollies@aol.com
 Collies

Mr. Hector Hector (95831) FL

(954) 593-2324
h2enclave@aol.com
 Shetland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Meredith Hector (95832) FL

(786) 554-2113
meredith.hector@gmail.com
 Shetland Sheepdogs

Mr. Roland Joseph Masse (95843) NH

(603) 889-5823
navyman190@aol.com
 Norwegian Elkhounds

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Ms. Carolyn I. Alexander (6797) CA

(831) 455-2135
brigadoonbt@aol.com
 Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Japanese Chin, Maltese, Pomeranians, Poodles, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

Mr. Lewis W. Bayne (0106) NM

(575) 461-4128
lewisbayne50@gmail.com
 Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Pekingese, Silky Terriers)

Mr. Ian Copus (15605) CN

(778) 433-1084
copus@shaw.ca
 Border Collies

Mr. Edmund Dziuk (26469) MO

(573) 424-2809
eddiedziuk@aol.com
 Cocker Spaniels, Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Dachshunds, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Whippets

Mr. Peter J. Green (59239) PA

(717) 445-6627
greenfield1183@aol.com
 Balance of Herding Group (Australian Shepherds, Beaucerons, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Border Collies, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Collies, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, German Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Pyrenean Shepherds, Shetland Sheepdogs, Swedish Vallhunds), Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Ms. Carolyn A. Herbel (4112) OK

(580) 661-3299
chirho@pldi.net
 Akita, Anatolian Shepherds, Bullmastiffs, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs

Mrs. Anne Katona (4579) NV

(775) 376-8642
tyrellakbt@aol.com
 Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Dachshunds, Portuguese Podengo Pequeno, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Mrs. Nancy Liebes (5170) PA

(713) 254-8106
ragmop@earthlink.net
 American Staffordshire Terriers

Ms. Kathryn Madden (92226) NY

(516) 885-4860
madterv@aol.com
 Australian Shepherds, Border Collies, Collies

Ms. Deirdre Petrie (63937) PA

(610) 779-4852
deirdrepetrie@yahoo.com
 Greyhounds, Scottish Deerhounds

Col. Joe B. Purkhiser (1800) TX

(210) 497-0759
jpurk@me.com
 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Italian Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pugs

Mrs. Patricia A. Sosa (45766) LA

(985) 845-4562
bandog@charter.net
 Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, German Pinschers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Saint Bernards, Standard Schnauzers

Mr. Terry Stacy (6611) NC

(919) 542-6587
wtsdog@yahoo.com
 Akita, Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Bullmastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Rottweilers, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

Mr. Robert L. Vandiver (6691) SC

(864) 967-3581
rlvandiver@charter.net
 Balance of Herding Group (Briards, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs,

Norwegian Buhunds, Old English Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs)

ADJUNCT JUDGE

Ms. Stacy Faw (95797) IN
(317) 709-4025
brokenroadkennel@hotmail.com
Portuguese Podengo Pequeno

PERMIT ASSIGNMENTS COMPLETED

The following persons have **completed** their Permit Judging assignments in the breeds listed, and their names have been added to the list of regular **approved** judges.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Ms. Marilyn E. Currey (92106) FL
(352) 875-1103
candmcurrey@att.net
Chinese Shar-Pei

Ms. Cindy Huggins (92440) CA
(805) 331-3723
courtlor@comcast.net
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Ms. Jane Snider (94845) GA
(901) 674-4690
sniderjane@gmail.com
Beagles, Papillons

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Ms. Carole Beyerle (64912) CA
(661) 269-2131
excelsiorsalukis@hughes.net
Afghan Hounds, Borzois

Dr. Andrea Bradford M.D. (57438) GA
(770) 294-1214
tarabar@tds.net
Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Dachshunds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Rottweilers

Ms. Delores Burkholder (5355) IL
(815) 624-7357
dcburkholder9@msn.com
Brittany's, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, American Water Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Weimaraners

Mrs. Bernadette Cox (5062) WA
(253) 288-2007
kazak65@aol.com
Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Whippets

Ms. Pamela DeHetre (66060) GA
(770) 329-3044
pamdehetre@peoplepc.com
Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great Danes, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Chihuahuas, Poodles, Pugs

Mrs. Terry M. DePietro (4708) NJ
(732) 462-6816
jsunfarmskennel@gmail.com
Balance of Working Group (Anatolian Shepherds, Chinook)

Mrs. Marcia Feld (5891) IL
(847) 362-4237
mfeld@prodigy.net
Affenpinschers, Pekingese, Dalmatians

Mr. Dennis J. Gallant (6675) TN
(615) 384-1315
breawyn@webtv.net
Akita, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Newfoundlands

Mr. Wayne F. Harmon (18525) MN
(612) 374-4691
wfharmon@aol.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli), Miniature Pinschers, Pugs

Mr. Mark Francis Jaeger (6583) MI
(517) 351-0412
mark.jaeger@gmail.com
English Toy Spaniels, Papillons, Yorkshire Terriers

Mr. James W. Maloney (3854) IL
(815) 519-0130
jwmncjm@gmail.com
Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

Dr. Camille McArdle, D.V.M. (66682) MN
(651) 330-8715
camillemca@earthlink.net
Dachshunds, Whippets

Ms. Mary C. Murphy-East (36967) MN
(763) 291-2263
marmcmurph@aol.com
Border Collies, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Ms. Lori L. Nelson (32409) AZ
(480) 488-3801
wildfirewhippets@juno.com
Beagles, Dachshunds, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds, Italian Greyhounds

Mr. Richard (Rick) Orlowski (46191) MI
(734) 425-9574
rikorgsd@att.net
Australian Shepherds

Ms. Joanne (Jan) N. Paulk (7477) NM
(505) 820-6408
janpaulk@aol.com
Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Leonbergers, Newfoundlands, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards, Standard Schnauzers

Ms. Kelly D. Reimschuessel (66207) UT
(801) 361-8619
kileipoms@gmail.com
Miniature Pinschers

Mrs. Roberta (Bert) Rettick (82284) CA
(707) 763-4170
barcomm01@aol.com
Great Danes

Mr. Ken Roux (15654) IL
(815) 285-3647
kensbt@comcast.net
Bichons Frises, Dalmatians, Poodles

Mrs. Joan P. Scott (5302) DE
(302) 540-5432
wissfire@me.com
Balance of Working Group (Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Dogues de Bordeaux, Giant Schnauzers, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Mary Strom-Bernard (60138) OR
(503) 852-9555
snowwind@embarqmail.com
Scottish Deerhounds, Whippets

Mr. James E. Tomsic (7571) CO
(970) 240-9719
bitogold@tableworksusa.com
Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mr. Joe C. Walton (5144) NC
(919) 545-0078
jwalton30@nc.rr.com
Pointers, Labrador Retrievers, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Siberian Huskies

Mr. Rick Weyrich (16958) CA
(415) 702-5021
jrweyrich@yahoo.com
Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos

Mr. Howard M. Yost (4215) NC
(336) 722-0717
hyost@att.net
Havanese, Japanese Chin, Papillons,
Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Jeanne D. Zuver (5769) CA
(530) 926-1010
hjzuver@snowcrest.net
Shiba Inu, Australian Cattle Dogs,
Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Border
Collies, Bouviers des Flandres,
German Shepherd Dogs, Pulik,
Swedish Vallhunds

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE

Mr. Jon Titus Steele (55162) MI
(989) 860-9677
jonaauroral@gmail.com

BEST IN SHOW

The following person, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the First Variety Group for which they are **approved**, has been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Ms. Kathleen J. Ferris (47953) PA
(215) 680-1012
kajalene@verizon.net

Mr. Vernon Harvey (5575) MS
(662) 890-7694
harvey@oshvah.com

Mrs. Tammy K. Jackson (19114) MA
(413) 219-3895
tklago@aol.com

Mr. William Sahloff (28447) OH
(419) 826-7888
bsahloff@aol.com

Mrs. Inge Semenschin (27410) CA
(707) 425-5005
midnightpoodles@sbcglobal.net

Mrs. Anne Marie Taylor (7522) MI
(810) 919-9692
toraakitas@att.net

Mr. James E. Taylor (7633) MI
(810) 919-9692
toraakitas@att.net

Ms. Lee Whittier (18526) WA
(802) 369-0380
leepacnw@gmail.com

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mrs. Lucretia Dye
Mrs. Jane G. Kay

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.**

Ms. Lynda Kalinoski (42594) OH
(419) 381-1439
lynterv@bex.net
Obedience – Novice

Mrs. Connie Parrish (95297) GA
(478) 361-3477
Cmparrish6@gmail.com
Obedience – Novice

Mrs. Leslye Pinnell (95063) GA
(770) 338-8415
jetwillcom@gmail.com
Obedience – Novice

Ms. Kathy Sweet (92976) MI
(734) 660-1898
ksweetbrit@gmail.com
Obedience – Open

Ms. Lynda Moore (38343) CT
(203) 453-6251
Lyndashelkara@comcast.net
Obedience – Utility

Ms. Robin Botelho (95951) MA
(508) 990-7056
robinspoms@earthlink.net
Rally – All

Ms. Patricia Crawford (95091) TX
(940) 637-2670
pizzazzstrides@ntin.net
Rally – All

Ms. Elise Merkin (94837) GA
(770) 982-2453
shelties98@aol.com
Rally – All

PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/ RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES COMPLETED

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of **regular approved** judges

Ms. Ellen Beasley (93281) NC
(919) 663-2520
ellenebeasley@gmail.com
Obedience – Novice

Ms. Nancy Cheski (70979) KY
(502) 241-9127
hrdesign@live.com
Obedience – Open

Ms. Gina Grissom (43516) CA
(562) 869-5213
weimtrain@verizon.net
Obedience – Open

Ms. Bonnie Hornfisher (81331) MI
(734) 414-9450
hornfisher@comcast.net
Obedience – Open

Ms. Nancy Grimm (42091) AZ
(520) 241-3170
grimmy@greydayz.com
Obedience – Utility

Ms. Margot McKereghan (5942) CA
(925) 676-1625
Sting121093@sbcglobal.net
Obedience – Utility

Ms. Ginny Conway (7179) UK
(713) 628-6932
thesieve@btopenworld.com
Tracking – VST

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:
APACHERUN – American Staffordshire Terriers – Kathy J. Hoover & Bruce Hoover
ASHGATE US – West Highland White Terriers – Naomi M. Brown
CALIBRE'S – Vizslas – Jamie D. Walton
CONFIDANTS – Maltese – Cassie G. Day
DAYBREAK – German Wirehaired Pointers – Dawn E. Phillips
EPIC'S – Mastiffs – Lisa K. Armstrong
FURBERRI – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Brittani D. Williams
GROUSE RIDGE – English Springer Spaniels – Michael J. Brittnacher
HAMITUP – Bulldogs – Suzanne Glover & Rick Glover
HEDGEHOG HILL – German Shorthaired Pointers – Cheryl L. Thrall & Robert Kapitan
JAYBA – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Patricia A. Lander & Michelle B. Lander
LAMZ – Bedlington Terriers – Laurie W. Zembrzski & Gabrielle M. Gilbeau
LOEWENKIND – Great Danes – Nadine E. Fers-Hildenbrand
NAUTYDOG – German Shorthaired Pointers – Timothy J. Ricketts
NEW MOON – Neapolitan Mastiffs – Sherry J. Subler
NORTHSTAR'S – Bernese Mountain Dogs & Tibetan Mastiffs – Denise B.

Bosak

PAKAJACK – Russell Terriers – Connie

J. Mathewson & WA Mathewson

POPPLE RIVER – Labrador Retrievers
– Bernard V. Carey

POTOMAC FALLS – Labrador
Retrievers – Tom A. Jerman

RYLAND – Whippets – Angella M.
Martin

STONEWALL ROAD – Cairn Terriers
– Dennis M. Broderick

SUNROSE – Lhasa Apsos – Dorothy V.
Leslie

TARA OAKS – Boston Terriers – Stella
L. Jowers

TIMBERIDGE – Cavalier King Charles
Spaniels – Michael Spaeth

TRINITY COVE – Newfoundlands –
CeCe A. Guyatt & Bryson M. Guyatt

VICTOIRE – Bichon Frise – Vickie A.
Halstead

WHISPERINGWIND – Collies –
Kathleen P. Orndorff

Registered Name Prefixes Granted

The following applications for a
breed-specific Registered Name Prefix
have been granted:

HEAVEN SENT'S – Chinese Crested –
Traci L. Ingle & Stan M. Ingle

BLUANARCHIA – Neapolitan Mastiffs
– Tabitha L. Ames

CARA-MIA – Maltese – Judy M. Pondo

STERLINGHALL – Labrador

Retrievers – Penny L. Higginbottom

DIG'N – Lagotto Romagnolo – Robin
L. Moorehouse

SORELLA – Cavalier King Charles

Spaniels – Donna M. Savage & Susan
Savage Green

KELL'S – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels
– Michelle L. Alameda-Wilkinson

YUKI OOKAMI – Siberian Huskies &
Schipperkes – Amanda A. Matthew

TIERAH – Vizslas – Jill L. Brennan

HAV DEGRACE – Havanese –

Deborah S. Heydt & Edward E. Heydt

BRICRIU – Yorkshire Terriers – Jennifer
White

SHEROC – Poodles – Sheryl D. Pyle

TROPICALS – English Springer
Spaniels – Susan R. Schrank & Edward
L. Schrank

VKVARIAN – German Shepherd Dogs
& Labrador Retrievers – Patricia K.
Varian

MOONRIVER – Great Danes – T.

Lynn Adams

ZHEN'S – Chinese Crested – Carol L.
Clouse

OZELLELILY – Chinese Shar-Pei –

Anna M. Villarreal

GOLDBERRY – Labrador Retrievers &
French Bulldogs – Charles E. Tolkien &
Martha A. Tolkien

SLY DOG – Miniature Bull Terriers –
Wendy L. Becker

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FEBRUARY 7-8, 2013

The Board convened on Thursday,
February 7, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. All
Directors were present, as were the
Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating
Officer, and the Assistant Executive
Secretary.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, sec-
onded by Dr. Smith, the December 2012
Board minutes, copies of which were
made available to all Directors, were
unanimously adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were EXECUTIVE SESSIONS
during this meeting, with nothing
reported out at this time.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on, and without
objection, a Legal Outreach Committee
was appointed to open lines of commu-
nication with the legal community. The
committee is to be chaired by David
Hopkins, with members, William Feeney,
Martha Feltenstein, Barbara Penny,
Margaret Poindexter, and Sheila Goffe.
The committee is to report back to the
Board with goals and a business plan.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previ-
ous Action items assigned to the Staff.

Events and Entries Update

Mr. Sprung gave a 2012 year end event
status report. In 2012 Entries were up by
3.35% and Events were up by 2.07%,
compared to 2011. The number of
entries is the highest in AKC's history,
exceeding well over 3,000,000 with an
increase of more than 103,000 in 2012.

Open Shows

There was a discussion on the Open
Show. It was agreed that the current

structure of the Open Show was overly
restrictive, which is reflected in their very
limited success. The current Open Show
Regulations will be reviewed, looking to
make them more user-friendly for the
clubs, and less expensive to hold.

Public Outreach

There was a discussion on how to assist
clubs in reaching out to the public in
their areas. A suggestion was made to
explore the feasibility of developing an
online tool, which would enable a club
to solicit entries for its sanctioned events
from among registrants in its area. Staff
was directed to study this and to advise
the Board of the cost associated with
developing such a tool.

LEGAL REPORT

Margaret Poindexter, General Counsel,
participated in this portion of the meet-
ing. She presented a status report on
pending litigation and other activities for
the months of December, 2012 and
January 2013.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Daphna Strauss and Amy Chou, AKC
Staff, gave a presentation on possible
business opportunities. As this involves
sensitive business matters, details have not
been made public at this time.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mari-Beth O'Neill, AKC Staff, partici-
pated in this portion of the meeting.

Streamlining the Meeting Agenda

There was a discussion on how to
streamline the Board meeting agenda.
The focus was on items that could
possibly be delegated to Staff and those
which are pro forma which could be
included in the Consent section, where
several items are approved with no
discussion and one vote. This will
continue to be explored.

Club Event-giving Eligibility

There was discussion on the educational
requirements that clubs have to complete
in order to be eligible for AKC show
approval. Staff was directed to review the
current requirements to determine if
they are both doable and relevant. A
report with recommendations is to be
prepared for the Board.

December 2014 Delegate Meeting

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, sec-
onded by Mr. Powers, it was VOTED
(unanimously) to set the date for the

December/January Delegate meeting in 2014/15 to Friday, December 12, 2014, with the Delegate Committee meetings to be held on Thursday, December 11, 2014.

Proposed Chow Chow Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the Head and Color sections of the Chow Chow breed standard as submitted by the Chow Chow Club, Inc. The Board did have questions on terminology in the proposal, which will be discussed with the club prior to publication for comment.

Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Smith, it was VOTED (unanimously) to advance the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2014. The Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America was designated as the official AKC Parent Club for the breed.

Portuguese Podengo

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Smith, it was VOTED (unanimously) to advance the Portuguese Podengo to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2014. The American Portuguese Podengo Medio/Grande Club was designated as the official AKC Parent Club for the breed.

Delegate Meeting Mailings

The Board reviewed a request from David Hopkins as Chair of the Coordinating Committee to keep all clubs informed of contemplated Delegate actions. Mr. Hopkins requested that AKC consider sending all licensed clubs a notice about upcoming Delegate votes. Staff was directed to survey a sampling of clubs to determine if they in fact wished to receive such communications.

CONSENT

Following discussion, there was a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Scully, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent Items:

Delegates For Approval

The following Delegates were approved:
 Bob Busby, Mooresville, NC
 To represent Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club
 Annette M. Didier, Fort Wayne, IN
 To represent Northeastern Indiana Kennel Club

Don L. Hanson, Anacortes, WA

To represent American Lhasa Apso Club

Jane Harding, Chester, CT
 To represent Ox Ridge Kennel Club

Geraldine Jaitin, Centerport NY
 To represent Westbury Kennel Association

Karl H. Kreck, Greenwood, IN
 To represent Hoosier Kennel Club

Sylvia, K. Meisels, Thonotosassa, FL
 To represent Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club

Nicky Patterson, Wayland, MA
 To represent Middlesex County Kennel Club

Harold E. Perry, Keyport, NJ
 To represent Monmouth County Kennel Club

Virginia Rowland, Templeton, MA
 To represent Wachusett Kennel Club

Laura Gilbert Trainor, Vestal, NY
 To represent Susque-Nango Kennel Club

John Lyons Resolution

The Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, John J. Lyons joined the Staff of The American Kennel Club as Chief Operating Officer on March first, two thousand and four, serving in that capacity until January fifth, two thousand and thirteen; and,

WHEREAS, his prior involvement in the Sport of Purebred Dogs included experience as a breeder, exhibitor, multi-group judge, National and Regional Specialty and All-Breed Club Show Chairman, Parent Club President, and American Kennel Club Delegate; and,

WHEREAS, as Chief Operating Officer, he oversaw the activities of the American Kennel Club's Operation Center in Raleigh, North Carolina, including, but not limited to, Marketing and Communications, Registration, and Customer Service, Event and Judging Operations, and Sport Services; and,

WHEREAS, in two thousand and eight,

he coordinated the move of the American Kennel Club's Raleigh Operations to a newly constructed, state-of-the-art office building, enabling the organization to improve work flow and business processes; and,

WHEREAS, he served as Staff liaison to a number of Delegate Standing Committees, including the Coordinating, All-Breed Clubs, and Parent Clubs Committees; and,

WHEREAS, he chaired The American Kennel Club's Judges Review Committee, which handled the granting of Conformation judging status as well as the approval of additional breeds; and,

WHEREAS, he served on the Board of the AKC Companion Animal Recovery, from April thirteenth, two thousand and four until the present; and,

WHEREAS, his background in and knowledge of the Sport, his business and management skill, his outstanding leadership ability, and his innovative ideas, have served The American Kennel Club well as it faced many difficult challenges over the past several years; and,

WHEREAS, we are ever mindful of the great contributions he has made and continues to make to The American Kennel Club and to the Sport of Purebred Dogs; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this distinguished sportsman, businessman, leader, and friend; and,

NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club extend their most sincere best wishes for the years ahead and their deep appreciation for his dedicated service to the American Kennel Club.

Retirement of Registered Kennel Name – "Farmion"

The Board VOTED to approve the request for retirement of the kennel name "Farmion" for Portuguese Water Dogs, as submitted by the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America.



New Breed for Miscellaneous – American Hairless Terrier

The Board VOTED to designate the American Hairless Terrier Club of America as the Parent Club of the Breed, and to advance the American Hairless Terrier to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2014.

Proposed Komondor Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the Bite section of the Komondor breed standard as submitted by the Komondor Club of America. The Board VOTED to permit the Parent Club to ballot its membership on the proposed breed standard revisions, in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

New Breed for Miscellaneous - Norrbottenspets

The Board VOTED to designate the American Norrbottenspets Association as the official AKC Parent Club to represent the Norrbottenspets. The Board VOTED to advance the breed to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2014.

Proposed Yorkshire Terrier Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the Color, and Disqualifications sections of the Yorkshire Terrier breed standard as submitted by the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America. The Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit the Parent Club to ballot its membership on the proposed breed standard revisions, in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Tracking – Judges Handling Dogs Owned By Others in Non-Tracking Events

The Board VOTED to amend the *Tracking Regulations* – Tracking Judges Guidelines, to permit tracking judges to handle dogs that they do not own or co-own in non-tracking events. The revised policy reads (revision underlined):

Exhibiting Dogs Owned By Others.

Judges (including provisional) may not handle dogs that are not owned or co-owned by themselves or a family member in tracking tests. It is not proper for a judge to co-own a dog solely to permit the judge to handle the dog. Tracking judges may handle dogs not owned or co-owned by them in other types of events (non-tracking events).

Agility Regulations - Equipment - Use of Break-Away Tire

The Board VOTED to modify Chapter 3, Section 12, Chapter 5, Section 5, and Chapter 13, Section 17 of the Regulations for Agility Trials to provide for a change in the equipment used in the Agility Tire Jump. The tire jump will change from a solid tire to a break-away tire. This will be a safety enhancement for the sport. There will be a six-month trial period (March 1 – September 3) during which clubs may use either the solid tire or the break-away tire. Starting September 4, 2013, clubs will be required to use the break-away tire.

Changes underlined:

Chapter 3, Section 12

Section 12. Tire Jump. The Tire Jump consists of a tire (or a circular object that resembles a tire) suspended from a rectangular frame. The tire is constructed of two 180 degree segments that are connected at the top to allow for independent movement of each segment. The connection must be adjustable to allow for calibration/testing at the trial site by the Judge of record for the class. The setting for the connection is 16-20 pounds of horizontal force with 18 pounds preferred. The setting will be confirmed by using a calibrated scale (in foot pounds) attached to a tire side mounting point. With one side secured to the frame, the opposite side is pulled using the scale until the segments pull apart. When the tire is broken open it must stay open and not automatically reset. The inner diameter of the tire is 24 inches plus or minus an inch, and the wall is 3 to 8 inches thick. The tire must be connected to the frame at 3 points. There must be at least 7 inches between the outside of the tire and the sides of the frame, and the frame must be tall enough to accommodate the tire at the seven different jump heights, as specified for the Bar Jump. The uprights of the frame shall be secured to the base and the base must be weighted or secured properly to the running surface. The jump height is measured from the ground to the bottom of the tire opening. The tire shall not be displaceable off the frame. The tire shall have a minimum depth of 2 inches and must be made of

flexible material, such as rubber or plastic to allow some give if hit by the dog.

Preferred Class Requirement: The Tire shall be set at 4 inches lower than the Regular class jump height or as close as possible given the construction of the tire. In the 4" jump height the tire will be placed with the bottom edge on the ground.

Performance: Dogs must jump through the tire opening in the direction specified by the judge without breaking the tire segments apart or knocking the tire/frame over. The Tire's jump height will be set one jump height lower than the Bar Jump height, with the exception of the 4 inch jump height.

Chapter 5, Section 5

Section 5. Mandatory Elimination (NQ). The following individual faults call for Mandatory Elimination which shall be marked as an "F" on the scribe sheet resulting in a non-qualifying score (NQ). The dog/handler may continue their run except as may be noted elsewhere in these Regulations.

1. Handler or dog knocking down any obstacle or jump that is either presently being performed or will be performed. Handler jumps over, goes under, or steps on top of any obstacle. (If excessive the judge may excuse the handler for their own safety.)
2. Displacing the top bar(s) or panel of a jump or breaking apart the tire jump.

Chapter 13, Section 17

Section 17. Standard Faults.

Standard faults incurring a five (5) point penalty include:

1. A displaced bar, plank, or displaceable surface that the dog was to jump over.
2. Missed contact zones (including the upside of the A-Frame).
3. Seesaw fly-off.
4. Leaving the table prior to completion of the five (5) second count. (This penalty can be assessed one time only.) Dog must complete the table before going on.
5. Anticipation of the table count. (A

dog leaving between the word "One" and the word "Go".) Dog proceeds with remainder of the course.

6. Missed weave pole once entered correctly. (This penalty can be assessed on time only per set of weave poles.) However, missed poles must be re-attempted and completed.

7. Visible moving or stepping on top of the Broad Jump.

8. Tire jump broken apart.

Irish Setter Club of America National Gun Dog Championship

The Board VOTED to add a new Section 18A to Chapter 14 of *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds* to permit the Irish Setter Club of America to hold a National Gun Dog Championship field trial. This event is a walking trial. The dog winning this event will be granted the title NGDC. This change will be read at the March Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the June Delegate meeting.

Section 18A

National Championship Events

Section 18A. A National Gun Dog Championship for Irish Setters may be held not more than once in any calendar year. The event must exceed the AKC's minimum standards to qualify as a National Championship event. The event shall be for dogs over six (6) months of age. The stake must be held by the Parent Club which shall file an application for permission to run it under procedures approved in advance by the Performance Events Department. The ISCA may develop entry qualifications that exceed the AKC minimum standard. Dogs placing in this stake shall be credited with championship points in accord with the schedule for Field Championships and the winner shall be entitled to the designation "National Irish Setter Gun Dog Champion of 20 ____" (NGDC)

Lure Coursing – Single Stakes

The Board VOTED to amend Chapter IV, Section 11, and Chapter VIII, Section 5 of the Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials, to restrict entries of dogs that have been disqualified by a judge for being aggressive toward another dog

while in competition in a Lure Coursing Stake to only Single Stakes at Lure Coursing trials, unless and until the dog's eligibility has been reinstated. This change is effective April 1, 2013.

Changes underlined:

Chapter IV, Section 11

DISQUALIFIED BY JUDGE. A dog is not eligible to be entered in a licensed or member club Lure Coursing Trial in any stake except the Singles Stake if the dog has on one occasion been made subject to the following report: If a dog, while under judgment at a Lure Coursing Trial attacks another dog, and the judge is of the opinion that such attack was without reasonable cause, the judge shall identify the offending dog on the judging sheet and the name of the offending dogs shall be listed in the report of the Lure Coursing Trial sent to the American Kennel Club. The disqualified dog may not compete in any AKC lure coursing stake except the Singles Stake until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to The American Kennel Club, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog's eligibility has been reinstated.

Chapter VIII Section 5

SINGLES STAKE. A Singles Stake may be offered at a lure coursing trial at the option of the host club. If a Singles Stake is offered, it must appear on the event premium list. No points or passes counting toward AKC titles shall be awarded. All regulations pertaining to regular stakes shall apply unless modified by the Regulations specific to this stake. Singles Stakes shall be run as follows:

- (a) Open to all sighthound breeds approved to participate in AKC Lure Coursing trials.
- (b) Hounds with breed disqualifications are eligible to enter.
- (c) Hounds entered in the Single Stake shall not be allowed to enter the regular stakes (open, specials or veteran) at the same event.
- (d) Dogs that have been disqualified by a judge (see chapter IV, section 11) may enter Single Stakes. Note: Dogs that have been disqualified by an event committee are not eligible to participate in Single stakes. (See

chapter IV, section 12.)

(e) Order of running shall be determined by random draw.

(f) Each hound shall run the course alone.

Dachshund Field Trials – Mileage Conflict Policy

The Board VOTED to amend its mileage conflict policy for Dachshund Field Trials, as requested by the Dachshund Club of America. The minimum mileage conflict distance will be changed from 100 to 200 miles, effective immediately. Chapter 3, Section 2, of Dachshund Field Trial Rules will now read:

Section 2. Each member or licensed club or association which held a field trial(s) in any one year shall have first right to claim the corresponding dates for its trial(s) to be held in the succeeding year.

The AKC has established a policy that new trials or existing trials that have changed dates from the previous year will not be approved when they occur on the same dates as another trial and the distance between the events is less than 200 miles. Distance is based on a straight line measurement between locations. This policy may be waived in unusual situations as determined by the Performance Events Department or when the club hosting the "new" event obtains the agreement of the club hosting the original trial on an established date.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Mark Dunn, Michael Gainey, and Connie Pearcy, AKC Staff, gave reports to the Board on various Marketing initiatives. Updates were given on Registration and Canine Partners, Market research was presented on the desire for purebred dogs and recent PR campaigns were reviewed.

AKC Special Registry Services: Foreign Dogs

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit the registration of Foreign dogs in the AKC Stud Book, provided the dog is registered in its country of birth with a Foreign Registry Organization recognized by The

American Kennel Club and listed in Section IV of AKC's Special Services regulations. This removes the restriction that dogs must be physically on US soil prior to AKC registration.

AKC Special Registry Services

I. FOREIGN DOGS

A. Eligibility

Foreign dogs may be eligible for registration in the AKC Stud Book, provided:

1. The dog is of a breed eligible for individual registration in the AKC Stud Book.
2. The dog was registered in country of birth with a Foreign Registry Organization listed in Section IV of this pamphlet.
3. The AKC application form is accompanied by a legible photocopy of the complete official three-generation pedigree of the Certificate of Registration from the Foreign Registry Organization. The dog must have an unrestricted registration. Do not send originals.
4. The AKC application and the foreign registration must reflect identical ownership.
5. The dog has been positively and permanently identified (microchip, DNA or tattoo) prior to being registered.
6. Photographs required for all dogs

CONFORMATION

Bobby Birdsong, Alan Slay, and Bri Tesarz, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 3, Section 16 – Reserve Best in Show

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to amend Chapter 3, Section 16 of *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* to clarify that Reserve Best in Show is to be awarded before Best in Show.

A majority of the Board believed that this was a simple clarification of judging procedure, handled expeditiously with an italicized explanation rather than a Rule change. This explanation will also be included in the Judging Guidelines. Staff was directed to contact the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee for their input on this recommendation.

Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 4, Section 2 – Electronic Premium Lists

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to amend Chapter 4, Section 2 of *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* to allow for the sending of premium list electronically to reduce expenses on postage and printing.

CHAPTER 4, SECTION 2.

Premium list and entry forms must be sent to prospective exhibitors at least FIVE WEEKS prior to the closing date for entries of show if sent by bulk mail, or at least FOUR WEEKS if sent by First Class Mail or electronically. Four copies of the premium list must be sent to The American Kennel Club at time of distribution.

This proposed Rule change will be considered further at a future meeting.

Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 5, Section 2 – Dates on Ribbons

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to amend Chapter 5, Section 2 of *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* to remove the requirement that conformation award ribbons have the date and city/town of the event printed on them. This will allow clubs to save money and to avoid wastage by purchasing ribbons in bulk.

The Board saw the advantages of un-awarded rosettes or ribbons, which could be used for subsequent club events. This particularly applied to class placements ribbons and rosettes. However, the Board also believes that certain awards, e.g. Best-in-Show, Reserve Best in Show, and Group Placements are keepsakes often kept displayed by exhibitors, and that in those instances dates and locations are important. The Board recommended that the date and location continue to be required for these ribbons or rosettes. Staff was directed to obtain the input of the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee on this possible modification to the proposed amendments.

Conformation Entry Analysis

Based on a Board request, Staff presented an analysis of the number of unique dogs and number of new dogs in conformation competition for the 2011 and 2012

calendar years.

It was noted that entries were up for some clubs and down for others. There was discussion on how clubs which had been successful in increasing entries could best share how they did it with other clubs.

The Use of an Asterisk

There was discussion on the possible use of an asterisk to designate Provisional judges in premium lists.

There was a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Garvin, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to include an asterisk with the name of every provisional judge in the premium list judging program and catalog, effective July 1, 2013. The status would be determined as of the date the judging panel is approved.

Meeting adjourned on Thursday February 7, 2013 at 5:30 pm

Meeting reconvened on Friday February 8, 2013 at 8:00 am.

All Directors were present as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

CLUBS

Michael Liosis, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Kennel Club of Texarkana

Staff presented information to the Board pending litigation among the members of the Kennel Club of Texarkana

Pekingese Club of America

Staff presented a report and eight recommendations resulting from a complaint filed against the Pekingese Club of America for alleged bylaw non-compliance. This matter, which was thoroughly investigated by Staff, related to the club's last two annual elections, was discussed. The Board also reviewed the apparent trouble the club had in paying the facility rental for its last specialty show. Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Garvin, it was VOTED (unanimously) to withhold approval on all future Pekingese Clubs of America events, unless and until the following conditions are fulfilled.

- 1) The four PCA directors who were not nominated pursuant to the bylaws and subsequently elected in the 2011

election (Class of 2016) vacate their positions;

2) The four petition candidates who were nominated in accordance with the bylaws and received the most votes in the 2012 election (Class of 2017) are seated;

3) Any board vacancies filled since the 2011 election are ratified by the constitutionally elected PCA board;

4) The 13 remaining PCA directors appoint one of their own to be AKC's contact person;

5) We are provided with a copy of the Treasurer's annual report for the last three years as presented to the members as required in Article III, Section 2d. Section 519 of New York State Not-For-Profit Corporation Law also applies;

6) An independent audit of the PCA's financial records be undertaken at the expense of the Pekingese Club of America, and a copy of the audited financial statement sent to AKC and also made available to all PCA members;

7) AKC monitors each constitutionally mandated step of the 2013 (Class of 2018) election to insure complete compliance;

8) Verification is received of the payment of all outstanding bills for the 2012 show. The original results from the show (November 16-17, 2012) have not been received. Faxed copies were received on December 18, 2012.

The club was also to be advised that the above action does not preclude The American Kennel Club from reviewing this matter pursuant to ARTICLE XII of the AKC Charter and Bylaws.

Electronic Club Membership Submission

Staff presented a status report on the electronic submission of club membership lists.

Live Streaming Video of AKC Licensed Events

Staff reviewed the current "Commercial Filming at Events Contractual and Operational Policies" as it relates to the live streaming of Dog Shows. Plans to help clubs promote this format to the general public were discussed.

Mr. Feeney left the meeting, having had to change his travel plans due to weather-related conditions.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Tim Thomas, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Visiting Judges Policy

There was a review of the policy governing the approval of Visiting Judges.

At the December 2012 Board Meeting, the following proposed amendment to the visiting judges policy was tabled.

Visiting judges who are invited to judge (breeds and) groups which contain breeds not registered in their country of origin, may apply for, take the test for and pay a \$25.00 fee for each breed. Upon successful completion of this process, such judges will be approved by the American Kennel Club to judge those breeds in the future.

Visiting judges who decline to apply under this process may continue to be approved for such breeds and groups as they were previously approvable under the terms, conditions, agreements and understanding under previous policy, provided that they judge breeds constituting at least 75% of the annual entries in that group, based on the previous year's count of entries.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Smith, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Feeney) to bring the proposal back for consideration at this meeting.

There was a motion by Dr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Scully to amend the proposal by removing the words "breeds and" from the second line of the second paragraph and to add the following new paragraph:

Judges from countries in which the AKC recognized registry registers all the breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club may judge all breeds and groups for which they approved by their home kennel club to award championship points (including CC's or CAC's).

This motion was VOTED and approved (affirmative: Dr. Smith, Ms. Scully, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Powers, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Gladstone; opposed: Mr. Kalter, Dr. Newman, Mr. Amen, Ms. Cruz; absent: Mr. Feeney).

There was a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, and it was VOTED (unanimously, absent Mr. Feeney) to change the 75% to 80% in the first paragraph.

The main motion, effective immediately, was then VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Smith, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Powers, Mr. Arnold, Ms. Scully, Mr. Ashby, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Kalter; opposed: Dr. Newman, Mr. Amen, Ms. Cruz; absent: Mr. Feeney).

Visiting judges who are invited to judge (breeds and) groups which contain breeds not registered in their country of origin, may apply for, take the test for and pay a \$25.00 fee for each breed. Upon successful completion of this process, such judges will be approved by the American Kennel Club to judge those breeds in the future.

Visiting judges who decline to apply under this process may continue to be approved for such groups as they were previously approvable under the terms, conditions, agreements and understanding under previous policy, provided that they judge breeds constituting at least 80% of the annual entries in that group at the time they are first approved for that group, based on the previous year's count of entries.

Judges from countries in which the AKC recognized registry registers all the breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club may judge all breeds and groups for which they approved by their home kennel club to award championship points (including CC's or CAC's).

Group Approval

Staff presented a report on Conformation Judges approved to judge at the Group level. Following the December 2012 meeting of the Board of Directors, Staff was instructed to explore options for allowing AKC judges to adjudicate the group without being approved for all the breeds within that group due to the Board's conclusion that the AKC currently is facing a shortage of multiple Group Judges.

This report was to include an analysis of the effect if judges were approved to judge a group based upon that individual being approved for breeds comprising

80% of the entries in that group. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Online Judges Directory

Based on a Board request Staff presented a report outlining the cost, timing to complete, and ROI of a policy whereby an asterisk(*) was indicated next to Judge/Delegates on the online judges directory. Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Newman, Mr. Amen, Ms. Scully; Mr. Ashby, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Smith, Mr. Powers; opposed: Ms. Cruz; absent: Mr. Feeney) to add an asterisk to the name of any Delegate on the Online Judges Directory as soon as the necessary programming has been completed.

Regular Status Requests

Staff presented a report on proposed policy change that would grant regular status to Permit judges who were not observed in their first 6 Permit Assignments.

There was a motion by Dr. Smith, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Feeney) to modify the requirements for a judge on permit status for breeds to advance to regular status. Effective immediately, if a judge on permit status is not observed on permit breeds by an AKC Field Representative after three assignments, the judge must do three additional assignments. However, if still not receiving an observation in any of three additional assignments, the judge, upon request, would be granted regular status in these breeds.

COMPANION/PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Pamela Manaton and Lisa Carroll, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Recognizing Titles Earned in the New Sport of Barn Hunt

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (affirmative: Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Scully, Dr. Newman, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Amen, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Smith, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers; opposed: Dr. Garvin; absent: Mr. Feeney) to approve a policy that allows AKC to recognize titles earned in the new sport of Barn Hunt as offered by the Barn Hunt Association. These will be suffix titles.

The owner of a dog that earns a Barn Hunt title must apply on a form developed by the Performance Events Department, supply a copy of their Barn Hunt Association title certificate and pay a nominal processing fee. The title will be placed on the dog's record and will appear on the dog's AKC pedigree. The dog must be registered or listed with the AKC.

This is effective for titles earned after April 1, 2013.

Obedience Regulations

The Board reviewed seven Staff recommended changes to the Obedience Regulations.

The seven recommendations are:

1. Modify the regulations pertaining to "judging times" to take into consideration the transition between classes.
2. Allow any AKC club with the interest and knowledge to become licensed to hold obedience.
3. Allow specialty clubs, after first accepting entries from their breed, the option of accepting entries from either breeds in their conformation group or all breeds.
4. Make the timing consistent for several types of judge/handler/dog training relationships that prohibit a dog/person from entering under a judge.
5. Allow transfers from the "A" to "B" class at the same level provided transfers between classes are allowed by the host club.
6. Allow a judge to accept two assignments over the course of a cluster.
7. Allow clubs to decide if the obedience trial secretary may enter their trial.

There was a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Feeney) to consider these amendments at this meeting, waiving the usual advance notice requirement.

Following a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Mr. Amen, and it was VOTED (affirmative: Ms. Scully, Mr. Amen, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Arnold, Ms. Cruz, Dr. Smith, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Powers, Dr. Newman; opposed: Dr. Gavin; absent: Mr. Feeney) the following amendment's new verbiage, underlined,

were adopted effective April 1, 2013.

Chapter 1

(Paragraph 2)

Section 1. Obedience Clubs.

A club may hold two all-breed obedience trials concurrently or consecutively, at the same site on the same day, or two all-breed obedience clubs may hold their obedience trials one following another, if the events are held on the same site on the same day. No judge will be assigned to judge for more than eight hours in one day if judging less than five classes, or for more than seven hours in one day if judging five or more classes. This limit includes rally and/or any breed judging assignments. The "A" and "B" classes of the same level are considered two classes. In situations where the club feels this regulation does not result in a reasonable outcome, the club must contact the judge to gain approval for additional judging time.

Section 2. Other Clubs Eligible to Hold Obedience Trials. In addition to obedience clubs, any AKC club may be granted permission to hold an obedience trial if, in the opinion of the AKC Board of Directors, it is qualified to do so, provided the club holds the event(s) for which it was originally formed at least once every two years..

Specialty and group clubs have three options to hold an obedience trial.

(1) These clubs may hold a trial exclusively for their own breed(s).

(2) If entries are limited, these clubs may accept entries of dogs of their own breed(s) first then accept entries from group breeds or all breeds until the entry limit specified in the premium list is reached.

(3) These clubs may hold their specialty or group obedience trial followed by an all-breed or group obedience trial, so long as the scheduled judging program for both events does not exceed eight hours of judging

(Paragraph 4)

Section 14. Dogs That May Not Compete.

No dog may be entered or shown under a judge at an obedience trial if the dog has been owned, sold, held under lease, or handled in the ring within 30 days prior to the date of the obedience trial by the judge or by any person residing in the same household as the judge. "Trained or instructed" applies equally to judges who train professionally or as amateurs and to judges who train individual dogs or train or instruct dogs in classes with or through their handlers (see "Glossary of Terms").

No exhibitor may show a dog under a judge at an obedience or rally trial if the exhibitor has participated in a training session taught by that judge within thirty (30) days prior to the date of the event.

No dog may be entered or shown under a judge at an obedience trial if the dog is owned or handled by any person who has regularly served as a trainer or instructor of that judge, either individually or through classes, within thirty (30) days; or if the dog has been regularly trained or instructed by the judge within thirty (30) days prior to the date of the obedience trial.

Section 16a. Transfers (formerly move-ups).

- The club will clearly state in its premium list whether transfers will or will not be allowed. If no statement is provided in the premium list the default is to allow transfers.

- After a dog earns a title, it may be transferred to another class in a future trial, even though the closing date for the trial has passed, provided the club offers transfers.

- A transfer (i.e., from an obedience class to an obedience class; or a rally class to a rally class) may be requested if, according to the owner's records the handler and dog are eligible and the dog has completed the requirements for the title after the closing date of the trial in which the advanced entry is to be made.

- Transfers between an "A" and "B" class at the same level are allowed provided the host club allows

transfers.

- The request for a transfer must be in writing and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial.

- Transfers may be approved provided the class and judge are available and the class has not reached its limit.

Assignment Limitations. A judge will not be approved to judge the same regular or optional titling classes at all-breed events within 30 days and 100 straight line miles of each other with the following exceptions:

- A judge may accept assignments to judge the same classes for two obedience trials that fall on the same day at the same site.

- A judge may accept assignments to judge the same classes at two obedience trials over the course of a cluster of no more than five (5) consecutive days at the same site or within a local geographical area as determined by the AKC.

There are no such restrictions on non-regular classes or tracking tests. Assignments to judge the same class or classes at two different breed specialty or group obedience trials are not considered to be a conflict. Breed specialty obedience assignments or group shows are not in conflict with assignments to judge the same class(es) at an all-breed obedience trial.

Section 14. Dogs That May Not Compete.

No dog under six months of age may compete. No dog belonging wholly or in part to a judge or superintendent, or any member of such a person's household may be entered in any obedience trial at which such person officiates or is scheduled to officiate. Nor may they handle or act as an agent for any dog entered at that obedience trial.

If allowed by the host club, the obedience trial secretary may enter dogs owned or co-owned by the secretary and may handle dogs in the obedience trial. The secretary's priority must be the handling of official secretary duties in a timely manner. If participation in the trial

interferes with these duties, other arrangements for handling dogs must be made.

Obedience Entries Update

Based on a Board request, Staff supplied a report on obedience entries by class. The analysis of this report shows gains across the entire spectrum of obedience classes for 2012 over 2011 and showed that 2012 was the fourth straight year of growth in the sport.

COMPLIANCE

Margaret Poindexter and Jack Norton AKC Staff participated in this section of the meeting, while Doug Ljungren, Bobby Birdsong, and Heather McManus, AKC Staff, were present for a portion of this section.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

FINANCE

Peter Farnsworth, Chief Financial Officer, participated in this portion of the meeting.

He reported on revenues and expenses, comparing 2012 and 2011, as well as the performance of AKC's investment funds. Mr. Farnsworth also provided a summary of the end-of-year preliminary figures for AKC, the AKC Humane Fund, AKC CAR, AKC CHF and the AKC Museum of the Dog.

It was VOTED to adjourn Friday, February 8, 2013 at 3:00 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary

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

Hound



Afghan Hound



American English
Coonhound



American
Foxhound



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan
Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick
Coonhound



Borzoi



Dachshund



English
Foxhound



Greyhound



Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish
Wolfhound



Norwegian
Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset
Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Redbone
Coonhound



Rhodesian
Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish
Deerhound



Whippet

Parent Club Links

Working



Akita



Alaskan
Malamute



Anatolian
Shepherd Dog



Bernese
Mountain Dog



Black Russian
Terrier



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Doberman
Pinscher



Dogue de
Bordeaux



German
Pinscher



Giant
Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss
Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan
Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese
Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard
Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

Parent Club Links

Terrier



Airedale
Terrier



American
Staffordshire Terrier



Australian
Terrier



Bedlington
Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie
Dinmont Terrier



Fox Terrier
(Smooth)



Glen of Imaal
Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue
Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull
Terrier



Miniature
Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich
Terrier



Parson Russell
Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Soft Coated
Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire
Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland
White Terrier



Wire Fox
Terrier

Parent Club Links

Toy



Affenpinscher



Brussels
Griffon



Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese
Crested



English Toy
Spaniel



Havanese



Italian
Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester
Terrier (Toy)



Miniature
Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

Parent Club Links

Non-Sporting



American
Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese
Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian
Lundehund



Poodle
(Miniature)



Schipperke



Poodle
(Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan
Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

Parent Club Links

Herding



Australian
Cattle Dog



Australian
Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian
Malinois



Belgian
Sheepdog



Belgian
Tervuren



Border Collie



Bouvier des
Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh
Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher
Mountain Dog



Finnish
Lapphund



German
Shepherd Dog



Icelandic
Sheepdog



Norwegian
Buhund



Old English
Sheepdog



Pembroke
Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland
Sheepdog



Puli



Pyrenean
Shepherd



Shetland
Sheepdog



Swedish
Vallhund



AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/handlers/>

To view the AKC Registered Handlers Membership list, click here:

www.akc.org/handlers/states/allstates.cfm

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics:

http://www.akc.org/handlers/jr_clinics.cfm

http://www.akc.org/handlers/adult_clinics.cfm