

# AKC JR. NEWS



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE AKC JUNIOR ORGANIZATION, VOL. 5, NO. 5 SUMMER 2002

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Once again we were thrilled with the Junior Scholarship Applicants, and this issue includes information about this year's recipients.

We are looking forward to the Classic in Orlando, Florida again this year with a limit class competition for Juniors. If you have qualified with five wins in the Open Class with competition, we request that you send your transcripts or equivalent information to the Judges Education Office to verify grade point averages. If you will not complete a semester prior to October 1, 2002 you can go ahead and request your school to send a transcript for semesters completed to date.

It is necessary to remind you about **Section 2 of the Regulations for Junior Showmanship, Amateur Status.**

*"An individual listed as an agent is not eligible to compete in Juniors, nor any person who distributes rate cards or otherwise advertises themselves as handling dogs for pay in the show ring, or accepts payment for handling dogs. Participation in Junior Showmanship is intended to encourage Juniors to learn how to care for and present different breeds. Part of the educational process could include apprenticeship or assisting professional handlers. Juniors may take their employers' dogs into the ring while still retaining amateur status."*

We have had to investigate the following types of allegations in reference to juniors acting as agents: as a result of their name being listed as an agent in the catalog, the junior exhibiting multiple dogs that they do not own at one event, juniors handing out business cards, and juniors' own comments about the string of dogs they are currently exhibiting. Please be cautious how others may perceive your actions when assisting other individuals in exhibiting their dogs.

Clubs in different areas of the country are going to be conducting regional events in 2003, and one to look forward to will be in conjunction with the Sunflower Cluster, held in Wichita, Kansas in April. Additional information follows in this issue.

More and more Parent Clubs are offering seminars for Juniors in conjunction with the National Specialties as well as developing additional ways to recognize Juniors participating with the breed. The Irish Setter Club of America has established a Junior Scholarship with the first recipients awarded at the 2002 Specialty in Lexington, Kentucky.

## A SUMMER AT AKC BY DANICA BURGE

In late April an announcement was posted on the American Kennel Club website announcing a new summer intern program. The news spread quickly through our different areas of the dog world; it was in Dog News and on other websites before the day was over. The heading read, "AKC Seeks "Best and Brightest" Young Fanciers for New Summer 2002 Internship Program". Some of the requirements to become an intern at AKC were; participation in some aspect of the fancy, high school graduate, enrollment in a two or four year accredited college and age requirement of 18 years or older.



**2002 AKC summer interns with  
Mari-Beth O'Neill & President, Al Cheauré**

At this point, E-mails, faxes and even snail mail began to stream in from around the country. The employees at the AKC were astounded at the overwhelming number of replies they received from students located all over the country.

By early May, things were starting to come together. Selectees had been narrowed down, interviews were starting to taper off and everyone was beginning to feel like loose ends were tying together. By mid May the final decisions had been made; there would be two interns in New York and six interns in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Working at the AKC headquarters in New York is Meghan Lyons from  
*continued on page 5*

**Stephanie Ahlbom**

**University of Delaware**

**Major: Psychology**

Stephanie says that her Chinese Crested, Zach has taught her more than any human. Through example Zach has taught her the importance of a positive attitude. "No, matter how many times we won or lost, his attitude would keep shining."

**Charlotte Elizabeth Anderson**

**University of Wisconsin-River Falls**

**Major: Animal Science**

**(Pre-Veterinary Medicine)**



Elizabeth's advice to juniors is to enjoy the years that they are in junior showmanship and to learn as much as they can. She also says, "Don't get caught up in the competition it will only cause you to miss out on a lot of fun."

**Lindsay Balder**

**Grand Valley State University**

**Major: Business Management**

Lindsay credits her mother for much of what she knows today and for the support that she has been given. Lindsay says, "She has always been there for me no matter what".



**Emily M. Bisso**

**Washington and**

**Lee University**

**Major: Undeclared**



Emily's advice to juniors today is to set both realistic and idealistic goals and

to use them as stepping-stones. She also says to apply the lessons learned in juniors to everyday life.



**Kathleen R. Burns**

**Wittenberg University**

**Major: Education**

In the future Kathleen plans to continue showing and later in life she hopes to breed, train and show her own dogs.

**Mary Lynn Butcher**

**Wittenberg University**

**Major: Education**

Mary says the most important thing that she learned from showing in junior handling was to have good sportsmanship.



**Sarah Byington**

**Colorado State University**

**Major: Zoology**

Sarah says one of the most important things about competing in juniors is the ability to develop meaningful friendships that are paramount in your future success in the sport.



**Tyler Ceglar**

**Mountain State**

**University**

**Major: Secondary Education**

Tyler says, "While winning is good, losing gracefully and with dignity is more important".



**Cassandra Clark**

**California State University, Monterey Bay**

**Major: International Management and Entrepreneurship**

Cassandra is planning on being a handler, then a judge but most of all being an owner handler.



**Wyatt Delfino**

**UC Davis**

**Major: Animal Science**

Wyatt credits his peers as being a big part of learning as a Junior, especially the ones that consistently beat him when he was first starting to show in Juniors.

**Anney Doucette**

**University of Florida**

**Major: Animal Science**

When Anney gets out of school she plans to get a Golden Retriever for breed and fieldwork. She would also like to continue her involvement with the Golden Retriever Club of America and local Golden rescue.



**Christine Englesman**

**College of DuPage**

**Major: Nursing**

In the future Christine plans to stay involved in the sport of purebred dogs by becoming a well known breeder and professional handler and maybe even a junior judge.



**Rindi Gaudet**

**St. Petersburg College**

**Major: Veterinary technician**

Rindi's future career goals are to be a professional handler and to run the Florida Animal blood bank.

**Lindsey Gaulke**  
**University of Washington**

**Major: Biology/  
 Pre-Med.**

Lindsey's advice to Junior handlers is "strive to achieve as far as you can go, and have fun-it's over before you know it!"



**Caitlyn Glick**  
**University of Alabama in Huntsville**  
**Pre-Veterinary Medicine**

Caitlyn says she learned by observing and asking questions of breeders, handlers and other juniors.



**Jenny Lee Gleib**  
**University of North Carolina at Wilmington**  
**Major: undeclared**

In the future Jenny plans to compete with purebred dogs in various events within the fancy. She also plans to continue teaching others about the fancy and to encourage their involvement in the fancy.



**Heather Grodi**  
**Temple University-Ambler**

**Major: Landscape Architecture**

Heather's advice to junior handlers today is to find the experts in your breed and gather all of the information that they have to offer.



**Rebecca Helmke**  
**Le Moyne College**

**Major: Political Science/Philosophy**

Rebecca enjoys giving back to the sport that has given her so much. She hopes to continue volunteering as much as possible.

**Susan Jacob**

**North Carolina-School of the Arts**

**Major: Film**

Susan plans to judge junior showmanship in the future and to continue her involvement with the Mayflower Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club.



**Julia Kinsey**  
**Walsh University**  
**Major: undeclared**

Julia's advice for Juniors today is to always have patience with your dog.

**Lisa M. Kleven**  
**University of Wisconsin-River Falls**  
**Major: Elementary-Middle School Education**

Lisa's future in purebred dogs is going to involve applying to be an all breed judge and continuing to show and breed purebred dogs.

**Lauren Kolb**  
**Cook College-Rutgers University**  
**Major: Animal Science/ Biotechnology**

Lauren's advice to Juniors today is to build strong relationships with their dogs because they will be there long after your Junior careers are over.

**Peter Kubacz**  
**Monmouth University**  
**Major: undeclared**

In the future Peter hopes to become a handler and a sporting dog judge.



**Melissa S. LaMere**  
**North Hennepin Community College**

**Major: undecided**

Melissa plans to stay active in obedience and herding and later on would like to apply for a judge's license.

**Brandon Riddell**  
**Lenk**  
**University of Notre Dame**  
**Major: Architecture**

Brandon plans to always be involved in dogs in one way or another, whether it is through his parent's Golden kennel or other competitions.



**Marion Mossman**  
**University of Hawaii at Manoa**  
**Major: Pre-Law**

Marion would like to become a professional handler someday so that he can have the opportunity to experience many breeds.



**Megan Moore**  
**State University of New York at Geneseo**  
**Major: undeclared**

Megan's advice to Junior handlers today is to take advantage of your time as a Junior handler and learn all you can.

**Holly Niece**  
**Arizona State University**

**Major: Biology**



In the future Holly wants to continue showing in the conformation ring, become a breeder and open her own kennel.

**Sarah Purdy**  
**Oregon State University**  
**Major: Anthropology**



Sarah says, "No matter where my career takes me I will always have a dog with me". She plans to continue breeding Keeshonds and improving the quality of dogs in whatever part of the world she is in.

**David Pittman**  
**University of the South**  
**Major: undeclared**

David says that he learned a lot from being a Junior handler such as how to deal with winning and losing, how to show and prepare dogs for the ring but most importantly he learned a lot about himself and competition.

**Carol Rappaport-Fish**  
**University of Nebraska**  
**Major: Continual Studies**  
**(emphasis on Social Studies)**

The advice that Carol gives is to enjoy the 8 years because in retrospect it all passed very quickly.

**Manuel Rodriquez**  
**University of Puerto Rico**  
**Major: Biology**

Manuel's advice to Juniors today is to work hard to achieve your goals.

**Eve Rivinus**  
**University of Oregon**  
**Major: Psychology**



In the future Eve wants to continue judging and wants to breed and show Beagles.

**Christopher Ryan**  
**University of Connecticut**  
**Major: Accounting**

Christopher's advice is to use Junior Showmanship as a learning experience that teaches you how to compete in the breed ring.

**Nicholas Urbanek**  
**Penn State University**  
**Major: Animal Science**

Nicholas sees himself being involved in the sport of purebred dogs as a breeder/ owner/ handler and judge. He also sees himself involved in many breed and all-breed clubs.



**Justin Ylanes**  
**Shenandoah University**  
**Major: Music Theater**

Justin plans to continue showing dogs even though showing will have to take a back seat while he finishes his education but he says he will always have a passion for it.

**Danielle Zezulinski**  
**Syracuse University**  
**Major: Communication Design**  
**and Anthropology**

Danielle says that she learned self-confidence from the Junior's ring because nothing says more about a person than their body language and actions upon entering a room or a situation and a successful Junior exhibits that.

## ANNOUNCEMENT: CENTRAL REGION TOP JR. HANDLER

The Sunflower Cluster Dog Shows will begin offering the Central Region Top Junior Handler Competition at the 2003 Cluster. The competition will be held on Saturday with regular juniors competition on Friday and Sunday. The final criteria on the competition are:

1. States considered to be in Central Region for this competition: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wyoming

2. Eligibility: Junior must reside in one of the Central Region states, Junior must have earned 2 first place Open class wins with competition present at shows within the Central Region states from the 2002 Closing Date (March 27, 2002) to the 2003 Closing Date (March 26, 2003). These wins may be at licensed or member Specialty Shows as well as All-Breed Shows. Wins at AKC sanctioned matches or Limited Junior Showmanship classes do not qualify.

3. Preliminary judging will be done during the day with 8 finalists to be judged at Group time. Tentatively we will have one judge for small dogs and one for large dogs (junior and senior handlers judged together) and then another judge for the finals.

4. Placements and awards will be:

- Top Junior, minimum \$1,000 scholarship and jacket screen-printed with "2003 Central Region Top Junior Handler"

- 3 Awards of Merit, minimum \$250 scholarship and jacket screen-printed with "2003 Central Region Top Junior Handler Award of Merit"

- 4 remaining finalists, Jacket screen-printed with "2003 Central Region Top Junior Handler Finalist"

5. Any junior who does not redeem the scholarship (to be used for a school of higher education of the junior's choice - not just a university/college) by the age of 25, will forfeit the scholarship. The money will be placed back in the fund for future competitions.

6. The junior must be at least ten (10) years of age at the time of the qualifying wins. A junior who will be 18 years old or older on the date of the Top Junior competition may still compete provided he or she was under 18 years of age on the date of the last win required to qualify.

7. The dog's eligibility must be consistent with the AKC Guidelines.

For more information contact Kathy Ewing at [kewing@worldnet.att.net](mailto:kewing@worldnet.att.net).

Pleasant Valley, NY. Meghan has been involved in showing, judging, a wide range of club activities and has competed in Junior Showmanship for six years. Meghan is working in the Publishing Department of the AKC Gazette. The second intern at the office in NY is Stephanie Sampalis, she is from Flushing, NY. Stephanie has been involved in training German Shepherd Dogs to serve on the Rhode Island police force and she has assisted with obedience class. Stephanie is working with the AKC archivist on historical research projects to catalog AKC publication information and club information.

Interning at the Operations headquarters in Raleigh, NC are Whitney Meeks, Phil Guidry, Heather Doscher, Stephanie Ahlbom, Laura Hendrick, and myself, Danica Burge. Whitney is from Fuquay, NC, and has been involved with dogs all her life and has worked for a couple of different handlers. Whitney's project is to assist in activating and populating a database for the Purchasing Department here at the AKC.

Phil Guidry from Cut Off, LA, has been involved in breeding, owning and handling. Phil also was a Junior handler. His project involves the research and planning further development of the internship program at the AKC. Heather Doscher from Moses Lake, WA has been involved in the sport of purebred dogs for eight years. Heather is designing a kit for clubs to use in order to promote AKC events to their communities. Next is Stephanie Ahlbom from West Chester, PA. Stephanie has shown a Golden Retriever in obedience and in agility and has shown a Chinese Crested in conformation and in Junior Showmanship. Stephanie is working in the Public Education department to develop and design an AKC web-based program for Canine ambassadors to use with middle school students.

The fifth intern is Laura Hendrick from Sterling, VA. Her family has been involved in dogs for fifteen years. She has shown at matches and is planning on getting a Pomeranian at the end of the internship. Laura is doing research for a new customized section of the AKC website, designed to meet the fanciers' needs. The last intern in NC is me, Danica Burge; I am from San Jose, CA. I have been involved in the

sport most of my life and I'm active in many breed clubs. I also showed in Juniors. I am working in Judges Education on a project to establish a relationship and a database of 4-H leaders.



On the first day, the interns showed up at their respective offices and were amazed by the welcoming response from the staff members at AKC. Their first day started with a board meeting, so that they could meet many of the AKC staff members and staff could in turn meet them. Then all the

interns were led on a tour of their respective AKC facilities and departments.

Through the duration of the internship, there have been many great experiences and opportunities for the interns to be part of. We have toured the MB-F show superintendent's headquarters, worked aside the staff members at the AKC, we have learned to be successful at our individual projects and have learned about the different programs that AKC has to offer. Overall this experience will be remembered by all the interns and hopefully experienced by many more young people in the summers to come.



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**M**any superintendents have brought to our attention that when Juniors are filling out forms such as "change of dog" or "entry corrections" the Juniors don't wait for the superintendents to look over the forms.

When Juniors fill out these forms they need to wait to make sure that everything is okay on the form and that writing on the form is legible so that all the information can be put into the computer correctly. Some advice to

Juniors: when filling out this correction form take a second and make sure everything is correct. This will cause you a lot less stress and the extra time will make the superintendents' job a lot easier.

# WHAT ARE JUNIORS TO DO? A JUDGE'S PERSPECTIVE

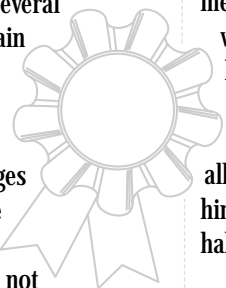
*Comments from three different judges.*

## **Judge #1:**

Following a judging assignment in Maine, a judge expressed great concern that the Juniors were not dressed appropriately for the inclement weather. The judge said that the Juniors did not have proper boots or shoes for the mud and that several did not have jackets or rain coats to wear.

## **Judge #2:**

Several Juniors judges have commented about the fact that Juniors in the novice and open classes do not follow directions they are given. One judge is quoted saying, "Perhaps the Juniors sometimes do not understand the directions they have been given, but Juniors are encouraged to clarify or ask if you are not certain rather than make an error."



## **Judge #3:**

Today, I probably had the most positive experience-judging Juniors to date. The classes were not big, there were some stars, and there were some new to the Jr. ring. Yet there was quality. I had some Jr's. that had robot dogs, and the usual ones that tried to stare me down, and some that even yes ma'am me to death. I found an Open Jr. (young man) who handled today's dog for the first time. He never stopped communicating with his dog. His hands were magical and he enjoyed what he was doing. He also allowed his dog to enjoy it with him. I gave him the class and then gave him Best Jr. He is half way to Westminster he told me.

There was a young lady, who was "yessing" me, and had a well-trained dog, which I placed fourth. I felt she didn't communicate much with her dog, yet her handling skills allowed her to place there. She just about grabbed the ribbon, and gave me a very sour look as I handed it to her. I

didn't let that get past, and asked her politely if there was problem, she replied no, and that was that.

I do have some questions. There was a show a ways back, where one young lady asked me if her staring at me helped or hindered her. I replied it hindered her. I have consistently told them their communication/interaction with their dogs is paramount.

Juniors have said that it's difficult because some judges like them to show their dog one way while others like it differently, and they just don't have a clue as to how to react. The guidelines state explicitly, interaction between handler and dog is what is judged. Why then does this continue to happen? These are the handlers of tomorrow. I certainly wouldn't want my dog handled by someone who doesn't care about it-that is just "showing" for whatever their reasons. In conclusion, I will restate that today was the BEST Junior judging experience I have had.

## **SPECIAL EVENT NOTICE . . .** **ANNUAL SUMMER K-9 EXPOSITION**



Enter the largest fun match of its kind and enjoy lots of four-legged fun. Once again the Oklahoma City Kennel Club will put on back to back B-OB matches to give a venue and sponsorship to Jack Onofrio Junior Achievement Challenge.

Last year there were 16 juniors competing for the top honors and the computer presented to the JAC winner.

The first and second place winners from each of the four classes each day are eligible to compete in the final round of judging. Three judges do the judging and it is done on a point system. Last year's judges were the winner from last year Brandi Grider, Tim James, president of Onofrio dog shows and a member from our two-day judging panel. This year it will be Robert Mason, an AKC licensed judge

and a member of Oklahoma Kennel Club.

The weekend includes many other activities such as round table talks, seminars, written test and hands-on training. You can also learn what it takes to do basic and advanced Obedience training for your dog from the pros.

The event will be held Saturday, August 3rd and Sunday August 4th 10am-4pm at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds Kitchens of America building.

**For more information contact: Georgia Harris at (405) 282-7783**

# ONE CHANCE OPPORTUNITY ... MANY LASTING MEMORIES

BY PAULA KROPIDLOWSKI

**M**y name is Paula and I'm 17 years old. I have been working with obedience dogs for the past nine years. I didn't always show in AKC, though.

My first four years were in 4-H dog project, where I exhibited twice a year at local fairs. I was not born into a "dog family". Our family has had a couple of mixed breeds around the house, but that's it. To this day, I am the only person in my family who has trained and showed dogs.

I was lucky, though, because I have attended dog shows since 1995. My 4-H instructor, Pat Nellesen, breeds Australian Shepherds and took me along with her so I could learn more about dog showing.

My big chance opportunity came in December of 1996, when Pat and my mom worked out a plan and surprised me with a blue merle puppy, named "Cindy," from her most recent litter. Pat helped me with registration papers and also signed as co-owner, just in case the Aussie didn't work out for me.

Well, it did work! Cindy has been great to train and willing to please. My first shows in the novice class were in late 1998 and I will be entering my first utility class on March 16 of this year. Cindy and I have earned our AKC/ASCA CD and AKC/ASCA CDX. Also, we have been nationally ranked in the United States Australian Shepherd Association (USASA) for novice (#3 from January to April 2000) and Open A (#1 from January to at least August 2001).

This year, I started training my second obedience dog, "Laser," who is a littermate to Cindy. Laser has been in numerous different homes, was refused by Aussie rescue because he is a fear biter, and was about to be put to sleep when Pat offered him to me. I agreed to give him a chance, and with patience, he has more motivation to work than

I ever will. His first show was at ASCA, where he got his CD in one weekend, and he has made his debut in AKC with a qualifying score. It's strange to be back in the novice ring with another dog, but the experience I've gained is helping a lot.

Before I go, I want to send out a huge THANK YOU to my mom, Shirley. I can't thank her enough for all the time, miles, and not to mention money, that she's given up so I can live out my new dream. I couldn't have done any of this without her saying, "Sure, give it a try." That phrase has gone a long way.

To Pat Nellesen. I've learned so much from her and have been on more road trips to shows with her than I have with my family. She saw something in me that I didn't, and it has done wonders. I only hope I can continue with dogs the way she has. Thank you so much, Pat.

I wish the best of luck to all who participate with dogs. Even though I turn 18 this April, I look forward to cheering on the juniors who will keep this program going.

Remember one chance opportunity is all it takes.

If I could offer any advice, I'd say...

Don't push a dog too fast. Patience is extremely important. I have seen dogs retire at a young age because they were trained too fast and begun to "Burn out".

Use stepping stones. Going to dog classes or 4-H is a great way to get started and learn the basics.

Learn from older exhibitors. Even just watching their footwork while they are in the ring will teach you something.

Ask questions. People will help, but you have to ask.

Most importantly...make it FUN! When your dog is not having a good time or enjoying the work, it won't perform the best it can. By making it fun, YOU will also enjoy it more, along with your dog.



## CYPRESS CREEK KENNEL CLUB OF TEXAS

### INTRODUCES A \$500 SCHOLARSHIP FOR BEST JUNIOR

The Cypress Creek Kennel Club of Texas will hold their first back-to-back shows the 9th and 10th of November 2002. To celebrate this event the club is recognizing Junior Handlers by offering a 500.00 scholarship each day to Junior chosen as Best Junior Handler. It is our belief that Junior Handlers play a significant role in the sport of purebred dogs. This scholarship award illustrates our commitment to supporting their endeavors in the ring and the classroom.

The Judges for the show will be Gay Dunlap and Anne Barlow.  
Jack Onofrio is the superintendent.



## ***Junior Scholarship Program***

The OFA, a non-profit foundation, is pleased to announce its new Junior Scholarship Program.



**Editor**

Mari-Beth O'Neill

**Production Editor**

Debra Bonnefond

**Designer**

Whistle Stop Press, Inc.

The program is designed to reward young dog enthusiasts who make a significant contribution to an area of canine health. It is open to juniors from 13 to 17 years of age. Initially, for the 2002 calendar year, the OFA is offering a single \$500 scholarship award. Based on the level of interest shown during the initial year, the number of scholarships and their amounts may increase.

The only official criterion for the scholarship is that the juniors make a significant contribution to some area of canine health. Further boundaries will not be placed around the criteria in order to encourage the juniors to be creative in their approach.

The recipient of the 2002 award will be selected by the OFA Board of Directors at their fall board meeting and will be announced at the December 2002 AKC Classic in Orlando. For younger award recipients, the scholarship funds will be placed in escrow until the junior is enrolled in a post high school educational program.

The application deadline is October 1, 2002. The application should include the following:

- Cover letter requesting consideration for the OFA Junior Scholarship
- Contact information including name, age, address, and phone number
- A summary of their project, what they gained from it, and how it contributed to an area of canine health
- Any other supporting documentation to illustrate the Junior's achievement

Questions regarding the program should be addressed to Eddie Dziuk at [edziuk@offa.org](mailto:edziuk@offa.org) or (800) 442-0418

Applications should be submitted to the following address:

Orthopedic Foundation for Animals  
Attn: Eddie Dziuk  
2300 East Nifong Blvd.  
Columbia, MO 65201

