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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VIDEOS

BREED COLUMNS

Toy Group

Brussels Griffons	Havanese	Papillons
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels	Italian Greyhounds	Pekingese
Chihuahuas	Maltese	Pomeranians
	Miniature Pinschers	Shih Tzu

Non-Sporting Group

Bichons Frises	Dalmatians	Schipperkes
Boston Terriers	French Bulldogs	Shiba Inu
Chinese Shar-Pei	Keeshonden	Tibetan Spaniels
Chow Chows	Lhasa Apsos	Tibetan Terriers

Herding Group

Bearded Collies	Briards	Norwegian Buhunds
Belgian Malinois	Canaan Dogs	Old English Sheepdogs
Belgian Sheepdogs	Cardigan Welsh Corgis	Pembroke Welsh Corgis
Belgian Tervuren	Collies	Pulik
Bouvier des Flandres	Finnish Lapphunds	Shetland Sheepdogs

BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

Sporting and Working Groups January, April, July, and October issues	Hound and Terrier Groups February, May, August, and November issues	Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding Groups March, June, September, and December issues
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UPDATES

SECRETARY'S PAGES

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

*



SLIDESHOW



TIMES PAST



FEATURE

2021 in Pictures

How to download or print the AKC GAZETTE: At the upper left of this screen, press either the download or print icon, and print the pages you need once the PDF of the issue downloads and is opened.



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Joy & Gratitude

it is truly the most wonderful time of the year. We cannot help but to be full of joy and gratitude. Over the course of 2021, we have managed to adjust and safely hold in-person events across each of our sports and are successfully finding creative ways to engage new dog owners. As we end this year, we are thankful to every breeder, exhibitor, judge, delegate, and AKC staff member for their work and perseverance to ensure that we could have a safe and productive year. We also have a deep gratitude to the Board for their ongoing confidence in our staff.

The [AKC National Championship](#) is upon us and will be held December 18 and 19 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. Now in its 21st year, with 5,051 entries, this show marks our second-highest entry total in the history of the National Championship. We are very fortunate to once again be able to hold the largest dog show in North America and crown America's National Champion, and we will do so with proper safety precautions in place.

We are also excited to host action-packed

companion and performance events that allow our dogs to shine brightly, including the AKC Obedience Classic, the AKC Agility Invitational, and the AKC Fast CAT Invitational. North America Diving Dogs (NADD) will also host their popular "Santa Splash." These events showcase some of the best canine athletes across our sports, and we cannot wait to see them demonstrate their expert training.

Our show will broadcast on ABC as a three-hour special on Sunday, January 2, 2022, at 2 P.M. ET (check your local listings). Hosted by AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo and noted sportscaster Carolyn Manno, the show will be a joy to watch. It is also a wonderful way to introduce new audiences to the AKC brand, our mission, and our sports.

As with previous years, we will have plenty of livestreams for you to enjoy. The National Championship groups and Best in Show, Best Bred-by-Exhibitor and BBE groups, NOHS groups and finals, Puppy and Junior Stakes groups and Best in Stakes, Junior Showmanship finals, agility, and obedience will each be livestreamed on [AKC.tv](#) and will



remain available on demand.

We look forward to seeing you and sharing this wonderful event with you in Orlando.

Have a safe holiday season and a prosperous new year!

The best to you and your loved ones,

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO

managing editor BUD BOCCONE
senior editor ARLISS PADDOCK

senior designer KATE MCCROARY
publications director RUSSELL BIANCA
senior graphic designer CHRIS ESPIRITU
archivist-librarian BRYNN WHITE

FREE
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SUBSCRIPTION

advertising & circulation administrator
VENUS RODRIGUEZ
venus.rodriguez@akc.org
212-696-8260

advertising representatives
JAMES G. ELLIOTT CO, INC
626 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 624-0900
www.jamesgelliott.com

Write to the editors gazette@akc.org

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Paul and Ringo with Martha in London, 1968

Diehard Beatles fan that I am, I'm planning to spend some of the long Christmas weekend watching Get Back, the six-hour Beatles documentary series. And, as a longtime AKC employee fully steeped in canine culture, I'm hoping the never-before-seen footage provides a glimpse of Paul McCartney's much-loved Old English Sheepdog, Martha. The rambunctious

sheepdog inspired the Beatles' 1968 song "Martha My Dear."

McCartney acquired Martha in 1966 from Ann Davis, the doyenne of England's bobtail breeders. Martha ruled the roost at McCartney's posh London townhouse, one of the all-time great bachelor pads, where she frolicked in the garden with such visitors as Bob Dylan, Jimi

Hendrix, Mick Jagger and, of course, John, George, and Ringo.

McCartney and his bandmates were famously unsentimental about most things. But with Martha, the dog McCartney yearned for but was refused as a child, he was free to be as sweet and silly as he wished without fear of judgment.

"I remember John being amazed to see me being so loving to an animal," McCartney wrote in his memoir. "I've never seen you like this before. I've since thought, you know, he wouldn't have. It's only when you're cuddling around with a dog that you're in the mode, and she was a very cuddly dog."

All of us at AKC Publications hope the holidays find you cuddling close to the "Martha" in your life, that special dog who reminds you that all you need is love (and kibble, and a good lint brush).—B.B.

On Our Cover:

Smooth and wirehaired Ibizan Hounds, by Meegan Pierotti-Tietje. It's one of many outstanding photos submitted this year by our parent-club breed columnists. For more, see this month's "Year in Pictures."



COURTESY TOM MURRAY USA/BEATLES "MAD DAY"

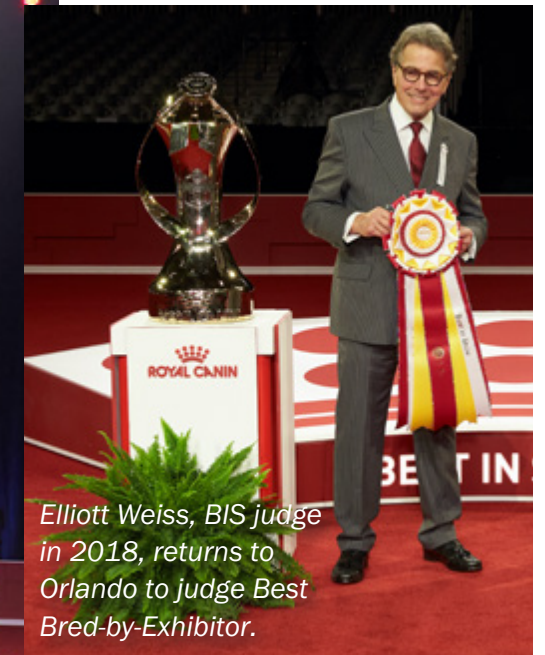
Give the gift of Membership



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It's National Championship Time!



Elliott Weiss, BIS judge in 2018, returns to Orlando to judge Best Bred-by-Exhibitor.

Dogs from 50 States, D.C., and 13 Countries Sit, Strut, and Soar for National Titles

ORLANDO, FLORIDA—An entry of 5,051 dogs will converge on the Orange County Convention Center on December 18 and 19 for the 21st running of the [AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin](#). The Best in Show dog will earn the title of National Champion, and the owner will receive a \$50,000 cash prize.

The multifaceted ANC will

also offer the AKC/Royal Canin National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes, AKC Agility Invitational, AKC Obedience Classic, AKC National Owner-Handled Series Finals, AKC Fast CAT Invitational, and Juniors events. With a combined entry of 8,540, the ANC is North America's largest dog show.

“We’re fortunate to be once again hosting these events

despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic,” AKC President Dennis Sprung says. “The AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin continues to attract top canine athletes from around the world, and we will uphold the tradition of this magnificent show in a safe manner. Thanks to the knowledgeable breeders, exhibitors, and judges who

make this a must-see event.” Dana Cline will judge Best in Show, and Elliott Weiss will judge Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show. Best in Stakes at the AKC/Royal Canin National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes will be judged by Cline, Weiss, and AKC Chairman Dr. Thomas Davies. Davies will also judge Best in Show in the AKC National Owner-Handled

Series Finals. An entry of 816 dogs will compete.

FOLLOW LIVE

Extensive show coverage will stream during the weekend at [AKC.tv](#); evening competitions begin live streaming at 4:30 P.M. The agility finals and NOHS group finals will also be streamed live. Download the AKC.tv app at the Apple Store and Google

By the Numbers

- 1,096** Bred-by-Exhibitor entries
- 676** Agility Invitational entries
- 248** AKC Obedience Classic entries
- 195** AKC breeds entered
- 142** juniors in competition
- 141** Golden Retrievers (largest entry)

Play. View also with Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, and Altice. Follow the show on AKC Facebook and Twitter.

DAVID WOO ©/AKC

UPDATES



Remembering Judi Daniels

The fancy mourns the passing of Judith V. “Judi” Daniels, who made history as the first woman to serve as president of the American Kennel Club.

Mrs. Daniels was born in Topeka, Kansas, and graduated magna cum laude from Kansas State University. She began in dogs in 1968 with a Staffordshire Bull Terrier and went on to become owner-handler of the first champion and first BIS in the breed. She was a founding member of the [Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club](#) and was instrumental in her breed achieving AKC recognition in 1975.

Mrs. Daniels owner-handled

36 Staffordshire champions under the Starzend banner. She was the first recipient of her parent club’s Dennis Springer Award for her important contributions to the breed.

Mrs. Daniels joined AKC staff in March 1994, was named executive vice president in July 1994 and, as an AKC board member, was elected president in 1996. She served as AKC delegate from the [KC of Pasadena](#) and, later, the [Mount Baker KC](#). A popular judge home and abroad, Mrs. Daniels was licensed for the Terrier, Non-Sporting, and Working groups.

Before joining the AKC,



Mrs. Daniels ran the Daniels Engraving Company, Inc. Her husband, William Daniels, has asked that memorial donations be made to Staffordshire Rescue (Treasurer Anita Zagraniczny) by PayPal Treasurer@sbta.com or by mail to 20959 Ela Road, Barrington, IL 60010.

Notice to Gazette Subscribers

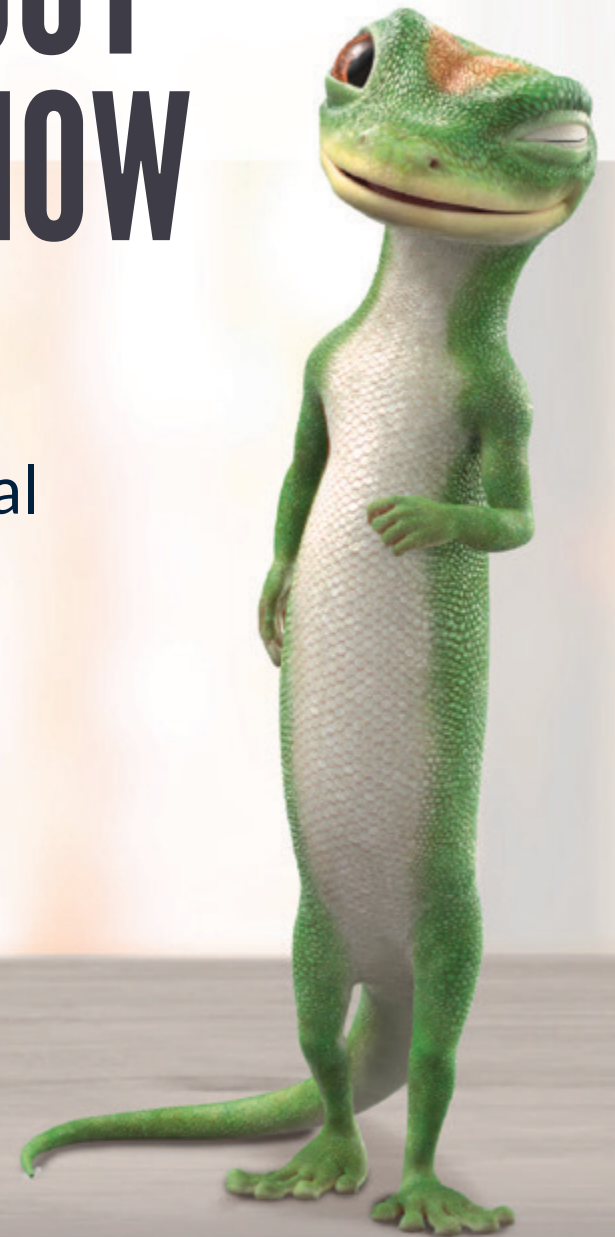
For the past few years, the AKC GAZETTE has published on or about the 15th of each month. Beginning with our January 2022 issue, we will publish on or about the first of each month. Check your inbox for the next issue on January 3.



AKC FILE PHOTOS

IT'S ALL ABOUT WHO YOU KNOW

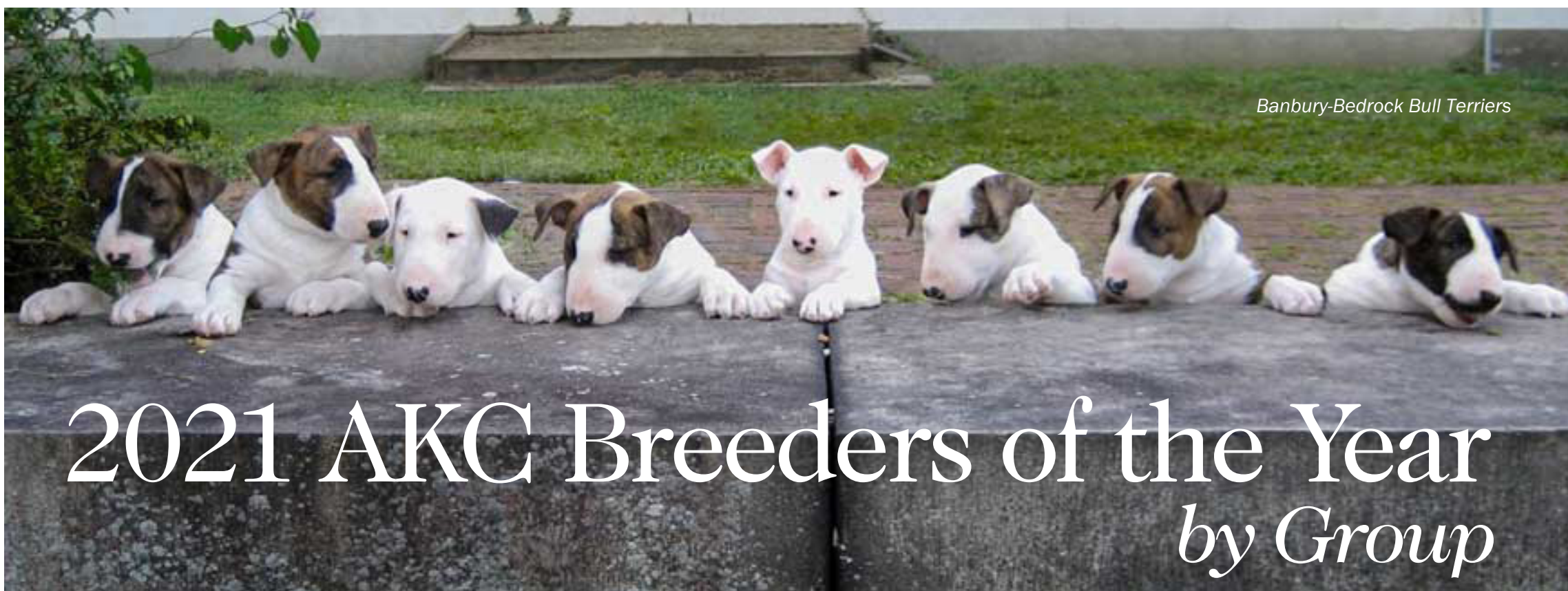
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Banbury-Bedrock Bull Terriers

2021 AKC Breeders of the Year by Group

Seven distinguished breeding programs, representing the AKC breed groups, have been honored with 2021 AKC Breeder of the Year by Group Awards. “It is our pleasure to honor this group of esteemed breeders,” AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung says. “These individuals have made important contributions to the sport and to the betterment of their breeds. They are committed to ensuring the healthy future of their

breed, and dogs bearing the honorees’ kennel names are a testament to their excellent and responsible breeding programs.”

From these seven finalists, one breeding program will be selected as 2021’s [AKC Breeder of the Year](#). The award will be announced during the livestream of the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin, on Sunday evening, December 19, on [AKC.tv](#).

A canine portraitist will be

commissioned to commemorate a prominent dog from the Breeder of the Year’s kennel, and their name will be added to the perpetual trophy. All group recipients will receive a medallion in recognition of their achievements.

HONOREES

Sporting Group Dyane Baldwin, Pond Hollow Chesapeake Bay Retrievers
Hound Group Susan LaCroix

Hamil, Quiet Creek Bloodhounds
Working Group Cathy and Mike Dugan, Aviator Portuguese Water Dogs

Terrier Group Mary Remer, Banbury-Bedrock Bull Terriers
Toy Group David Fitzpatrick, Pequest Pekingese

Non-Sporting Group Connie Wagner, Spotlight Dalmatians
Herding Group Guy and Thelma Mauldin, Kismet Shetland Sheepdogs

Löwchen Standard Revisions



The AKC Board of Directors, at its October 2021 meeting, approved Löwchen breed standard revisions brought forth by the parent club. The changes are effective January 1, 2022.

Judges assigned to Löwchen, or the Non-Sporting Group or Best in Show where the breed may be present at AKC conformation events held on or after January 1, 2022, are required to judge in accordance with the newly approved standard. The changes in the standard touch upon size, proportion and substance, head, coat, gait, and disqualifications.

Löwchen Revised Breed Standard

BULL TERRIERS: COURTESY OWNERS; LÖWCHEN: DAVID WOO ©AKC

CHF Awards 2022 Research Fellowships

RALEIGH— To encourage and support the next generation of canine-health researchers, the [AKC Canine Health Foundation](#) has awarded three Clinician-Scientist Fellowships for 2022.

The CHF Clinician-Scientist Fellowships were first given in 2013. Since then, more than 35 promising young scientists have received financial support to start their careers in canine-health research. Many have continued their careers in the field, improving our understanding of canine disease and contributing to the body of peer-reviewed publications supported by CHF funding.

2022 CHF FELLOWS

Sarvenaz Bagheri, DVM, Washington State University

Fellowship Mentor: Yael Merbl, BSc, DVM, DECVN
Bagheri will study effect of the antioxidant N-Acetylcysteine on dogs



A fellowship is sponsored in honor of Rumble by his owners and breeders.

with spinal cord injury. This fellowship is sponsored by owners Carolyn and Gary Koch, and breeders Kristy and Kevin Ratliff, in honor of Pug GCh.P Hill Country's Let's Get Ready to Rumble.

Rachel V. Brady, DVM, Colorado State University

Fellowship Mentors: Dawn Duval, Ph.D.; Steven Dow, DVM, Ph.D., DACVIM; and Douglas Thamm, VMD, DACVIM (Oncology)

Brady will study genetic alterations that drive diffuse large B cell lymphoma as well as tumor and immune

system interactions in osteosarcoma. This fellowship is sponsored by the [Orthopedic Foundation for Animals](#).

Lopamudra Kher, BVSc&AH, MVSc, MS, University of Florida

Fellowship Mentor: Domenico Santoro, DVM, MS, DrSc, Ph.D.
Dr. Kher will study the effect of signaling molecules associated with canine atopic dermatitis on *S. pseudointermedius* bacteria. This fellowship is sponsored in part by the [Westie Foundation of America](#).



The Westie Foundation sponsors atopic dermatitis research.

[More Information](#)



Dr. Thomas M. Davies, *Chairman*
Dominic Palleschi Carota, *Vice Chair &*
Dennis B. Sprung, *President & CEO*

**Wish You and Yours
A Joyous Holiday Season
And a Happy and
Prosperous New Year**

Spaniels in a Landscape, 1792
George Morland, Cynthia S. Wood Estate

DOGGEREL

Photo by Emily Hartman
Submitted to our 39th AKC Photo Contest.
[Enter 43rd contest](#)



*If an inaudible whistle
blown between our lips
can send him home to us,
then silence is perhaps
the sound of spiders breathing
and roots mining the earth;
it may be asparagus heaving,
headfirst, into the light
and the long brown sound
of cracked cups, when
it happens.*



*We would like to ask the dog
if there is a continuous whir
because the child in the house
keeps growing, if the snake
really stretches full length
without a click and the sun
breaks through clouds without
a decibel of effort,
whether in autumn, when the trees
dry up their wells, there isn't
a shudder
too high for us to hear.*

*What is it like up there
above the shut-off level
of our simple ears?
For us there was no birth cry,
the newborn bird is suddenly here,
the egg broken, the nest alive,
and we heard nothing when the world changed.*

What the Dog Perhaps Hears

by Lisel Mueller



Season's Greetings

A quick and festive look at the GAZETTE's collection of retro holiday cards from prominent fanciers. 1:15



The Right Track

Veteran AKC Tracking judge Ruth Vaughan discusses her favorite sport; video produced by Great Barrington KC. 1:44:34



Pure Gold

The [Golden Retriever Club of America](#) presents Laura Kling and the Oxenbergs discussing the art and science of breeding. 1:02:02



Whoosh!

Enjoy a few breathtaking minutes of Afghan Hounds going all out at the 2021 AKC Lure Coursing Championship. 6:44

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FEATURE

2021: *The Year in Pictures*

We are happy to hear from GAZETTE readers that our Breed Columns look better than ever. And that's saying something, considering the parent-club columns have been regular feature in the magazine since the 1930s.

The upgrade of the section's visuals has been ongoing these past few years. This has included decorating the pages with the best stock images from the AKC's impressive collection of purebreds past and present. But the major component of this effort has been the contributions of photos and graphics from our columnists themselves.

The breed columnists have long been our eyes and ears inside the fancy, reporting on events, trends, and controversies within the sport of dogs. And now, thanks to the ease of taking and disseminating photos made possible by digital technology, columnists can illustrate their reports with just the right images to make their words come to life.

In our annual "Year in Pictures" feature, we salute our intrepid breed columnists and their clubs with a holiday package of images they have submitted during the past 11 months.



*Skye Terrier Sabrina,
submitted by Judith Tabler,
Skye Terrier Club of America;
courtesy Darlene Sumner*

The GAZETTE breed columns have never looked so good, thanks to the vivid images supplied by our parent-club columnists.

FEATURE

Clockwise from top:
Alaskan Malamute Buckwheat, of Mountain Home kennels, submitted by Phyllis I. Hamilton, Alaskan Malamute Club of America, courtesy Roy and Sue Fuller;
Ace, a multi-titled **Portuguese Water Dog**, submitted by Carole Prangley-McIvor, Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, courtesy John Brock;
Pointer in the field, submitted by Helyne Medeiros, American Pointer Club



In Their Element

From the very beginning, our breed columnists have helped us learn how their breeds were adapted to best perform in their native working environment.



FEATURE

The Sporting Scene

In 2021, our columnists filed reports of purebreds in a remarkable array of dog sports.



Clockwise from far left: **Flash, the dock-diving Dachsie**, submitted by Trudy Kawami, Dachshund Club of America; **Trick-dog Lappies**, submitted by Maria Swarts, Finnish Lapphund Club of America; **A Tibetan Spaniel** looking adorable in a Pee-Wee event, submitted by Mallory Cosby Driskill, Tibetan Spaniel Club of America; **Agility Leonberger**, submitted by Shannon White, Leonberger Club of America, courtesy Magali Phillip

FEATURE

Downtime

Some of our favorite photos from breed columnists are the ones submitted just for fun.



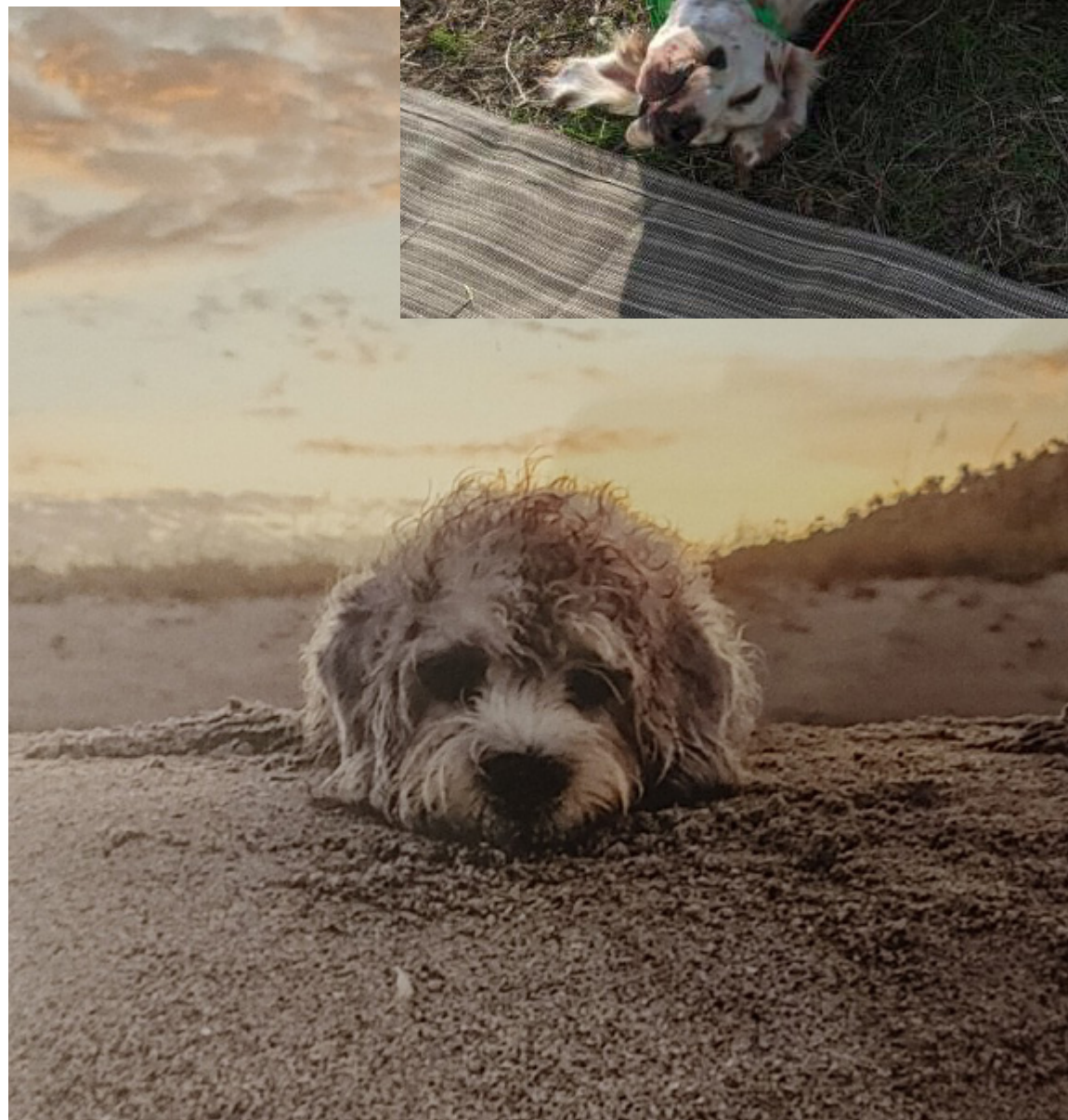
Clockwise from top left:

English Setter, submitted by Carlotta Cooper, courtesy English Setter Association of America;

Bichon Frise, submitted by Mayno Blanding, Bichon Frise Club of America;

Great Dane and friend, submitted by Chantel O. Johnson, Great Dane Club of America;

A beached **Dandie Dinmont Terrier**, submitted by Anita Kay Simpson, Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America;



FEATURE



Portrait Gallery

Clockwise from top left: **Belgian Tervuren**, submitted by Dana B. Mackonis, American Belgian Tervuren Club; **Staffordshire Bull Terrier**, submitted by Erin Sullivan, Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America; **Irish Water Spaniel**, submitted by Dana Louttit, Irish Water Spaniel Club of America; **Dennis Corash and Bedlington**, submitted by Lucy Heyman, Bedlington Terrier Club of America, courtesy Dennis Corash; **Salukis**, submitted by Brian Patrick Duggan, Saluki Club of America, photo by Warren Cook; **Great Pyrenees**, submitted by Karen Reiter, Great Pyrenees Club of America; **Papillon**, submitted by Roseann Fucillo, Papillon Club of America, courtesy Bev Stanley



Parting Shots



Clockwise from top left: **Feco U.S. Coast Guard explosives detector and handler Cory Sumner**, submitted by Beth Nash, Vizsla Club of America; photo courtesy ME1 Cory Sumner; **Dalmatian puppy**, submitted by Jan Warren Linné; Dalmatian Club of America; **Working Swissies**, submitted by Elizabeth Coit, Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America; Longtime **Bull Terrier Club of America columnist Carolyn Alexander**



Our final slideshow of 2021 is a tip of the cap to the photographers who filled our “Ringside” pages with their best shots of the year’s dog-show action. Our warmest holiday wishes to [Kathleen Riley](#), Hot Dog Photography, David Woo and, also, AKC staff members who are doing some wonderful things with cell-phone photography.

We would like to see, and maybe publish, your best cell snaps taken at ringside. Send them to the managing editor at Bud.Boccone@akc.org and we might use them in the GAZETTE and on our [Facebook](#) page.



*I*t had been a festive year for U.S. Bulldog fanciers celebrating their parent club's 50th anniversary. Across the Atlantic, in stark contrast, 1940 was a nightmare. The Nazi aerial blitz had reduced acres of English cities to flaming rubble. From our December 1940 *Bulldog Club of America* column, by Mrs. E.J. Brooks:

"I had long cherished the thought of a dinner for our members, and this suggestion met with hearty approval. [Members] arrived at the Hotel Brittany, 55 E. 10th Street, New York City, and celebrated with good fellowship and splendid cuisine, the double feature, our 50th anniversary and the awarding of our annual trophies. ...

"Just before the breaking up of our party I had another desire realized. Having asked our president if he thought our

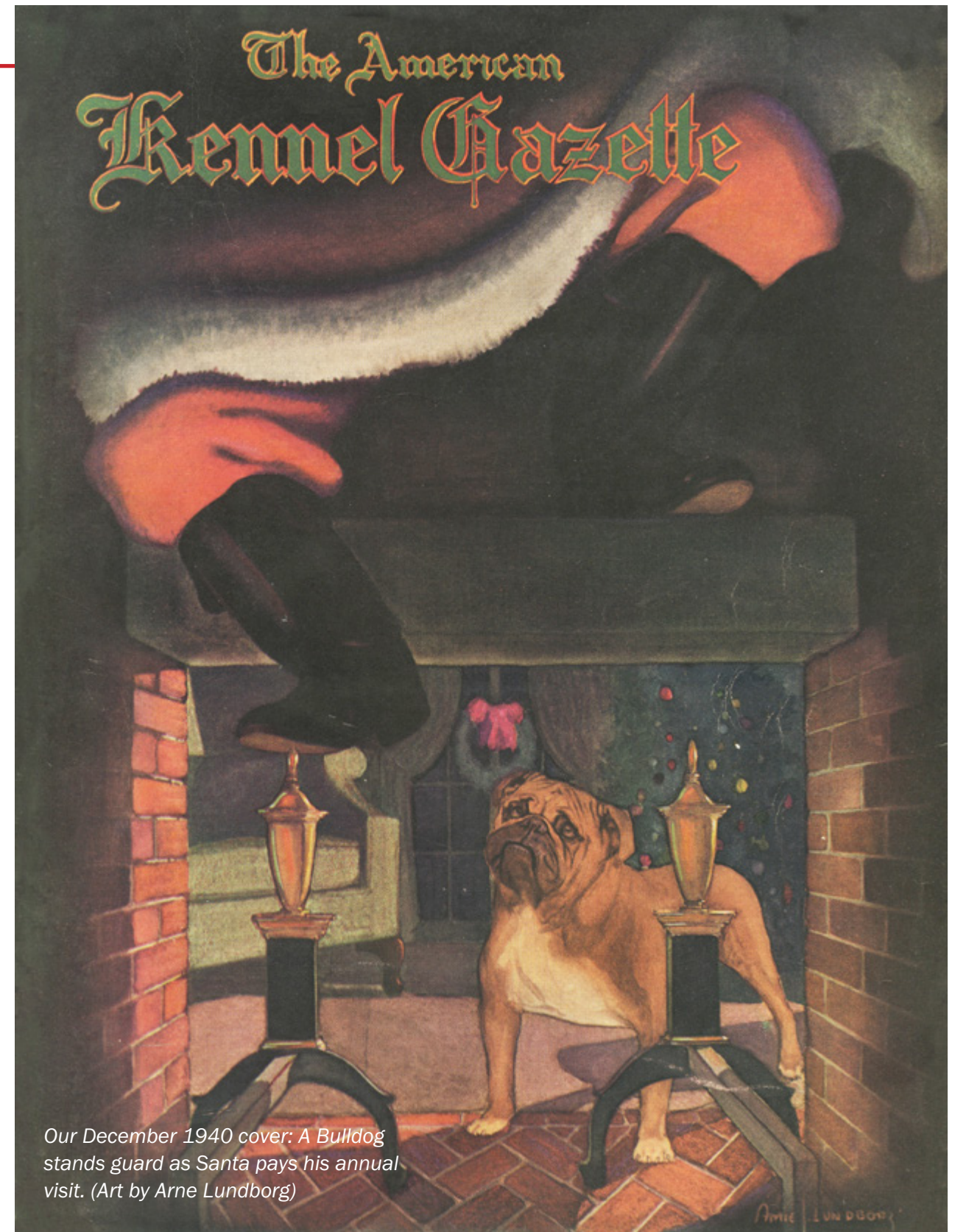
Club could donate some money to the British, toward the purchase of an ambulance or some other equally worthy cause, Mr. [J.F.] Collins asked the

1940: A Christmas Snapshot

members thought of the tentative plan of a fund to be sent to the Bulldog Club of England by the Bulldog Club of America for the above-mentioned cause. The enthusiastic response was most satisfying. In a few minutes we had \$50, and at the present writing we have \$100, and more promised.

"Some of this money came from friends of our members who own Pekes, Great Danes, Dalmatians, and from some who don't even own a dog. We are very appreciative. It seems such a wonderful tribute from this beloved breed of ours and it carries double significance at this time of year: the Christmas spirit of gift-giving and the urgent prayers for a real and lasting peace on earth."

A year after this column's publication, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. American fanciers did their bit for the war effort by breeding, training, and handling military K-9s. The war was won in 1945. The "real and lasting peace on earth" prayed for by Mrs. Brooks remains elusive.



Our December 1940 cover: A Bulldog stands guard as Santa pays his annual visit. (Art by Arne Lundborg)



Norman B. Kenney

a vintage edition of the AKC's *Complete Dog Book* describes the Doberman Pinscher as “an honest dog, uncamouflaged by superfluous coat or the wiles of the artful conditioner. One gains the impression of sinewy nimbleness, of the quick coordination of the well-trained athlete.”

Norm Kenney will be judging the Working Group at the upcoming AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin. He is one of many leading dog people who began their careers with Dobermans, a breed that exerts an enduring fascination on those knowing fanciers who appreciate an “honest” dog. Watch Norm run his ring on Sunday evening, live on AKC.tv.



At this time of year when the word "goodwill" is in the air, the Keeshond Club of America's Debbie Lynch discusses the importance of ring etiquette and manners. Photo: "Keeshond for Christmas" by Chris Flaherty

About the Breed Columns

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by the breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's traits, history, care, and training. A national parent club is made up of dedicated breeders and fanciers and represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to serious dog fanciers in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate quarterly 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. For questions about the breed columns, e-mail Arliss.Paddock@akc.org.

THIS MONTH

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TOY GROUP

Brussels Griffons

STAYING ORGANIZED

One of the most important aspects of organizing our hobby is in the paperwork. The AKC is very specific in the requirements for recordkeeping, and all of the requisites can be found at https://images.akc.org/pdf/record_keeping.pdf.

A hard-copy filing system is very helpful. We all have our personal preferences for organization methods, the most common being having a file-folder for each dog that contains his registration certificate and all other pertinent data, including health information, vaccinations, title certificates, and so on. Breeding and litter information may be kept there as well, or in a separate file or notebook.

Many of us use computerized methods of recordkeeping. There are many very good programs available. Whatever one is used, a hard copy of all breeding records, including puppy placements, must also be maintained.

In localities such as mine, where rabies certificates must be presented for animal-control inspections, I find that keeping the certificates in sleeve protectors in a separate notebook is easy for me and the inspector. Arranged by date from oldest to newest, it's a quick flip of the cover to see when the next rabies vaccines are due. Once a dog receives a booster, his new certificate can be put into the sleeve pro-



jector and that dog moved to the back of the book. Another good system, requiring some initial input, is to utilize your phone or browser's calendar function so that you will receive e-mail reminders letting you know when vaccines will be due. It's also great for keeping on top of expected breeding seasons, and even the closing dates of important shows.

The AKC now offers an online recordkeeping function that is fairly comprehensive. All of the dogs you have ever bred or owned can

be listed, and statistics possessed by the AKC regarding each dog is shown, including sire and dam, DNA number, health screening, litter information, points earned, titles, and (where applicable) coat color. A microchip or tattoo number may be added.

Whatever the methods you find work best for you, the important thing is to ensure that everything is current and pertinent. Having comprehensive information readily accessible reduces that most tedious aspect of our sport

and leaves more time for enjoyment of our Brussels Griffons.

—Anne K. Catterson,

annecatt@gmail.com

American Brussels Griffon Association

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

THE REJUVENATE BIO PROJECT AND MITRAL VALVE DISEASE

Mitral valve disease—or, more appropriately, myxomatous mitral valve disease—is the most common acquired heart disease in small dog breeds. It can also affect larger dogs and is the primary cause of a new murmur in an older pet. When speaking with Cavalier owners, breeders, and veterinarians, one would think the condition is endemic to the breed and the product of the Cavalier's heritage. Fortunately, careful breeding programs have improved longevity in the breed and have lessened or delayed the presentation of the disease. Still, MVD represents a major health concern for the Cavalier and a burden to the Cavalier owner in terms of veterinary expense and early demise of many cherished pets.

You can imagine the excitement when several years ago the Board and officers of the ACKCSC and its Charitable Health Trust met with cell-biology and genetics researchers

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Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel

Lynda Beam

from Harvard and Tufts universities and were informed of a project called Rejuvenate Bio, which might arrest or possibly reverse the process of myxomatous change in the valve leaflets.

The team had identified genes that had the potential to treat heart failure. The team had also found a way to encapsulate the DNA for delivery to involved animals. The idea was to administer one injection of the therapy to dogs diagnosed with heart failure. This is adeno-associated virus (AAV) gene therapy. The therapy changes protein levels, stopping remodeling in the heart. The dog becomes healthier and happier and requires only one treatment and not daily medication.

The Board and officers were overjoyed by the presentation and the early results shown in mice, and they supported the experimental venture. This occurred at an ACKCSC annual meeting and its national specialty, and the Board elected to open this presentation to the membership. The acceptance and support by members and regional clubs was simply amazing in terms of emotion and financial commitment.

So, let's review the concepts:

- The treatment is a gene therapy similar to others that have been approved for use in humans. It introduces an adenovirus-like particle.
- It does not edit or change any genetic

material in the animal.

- It introduces a new piece of DNA into the dog's cells, which then produces a beneficial protein with the potential to treat this age-related disease.
- This newly introduced piece of DNA is not passed on to the next generation and is not transmissible between dogs.
- The use of AAV has been well established in dogs and humans, initially as pre-clinical models and through other work at their labs.
- Dogs have been shown to handle AAV with minimal immune responses in outside experiments that have been confirmed.
- If successful, a dog will require just one treatment, which is meant to last greater than 10 years.

Thus far the experiment has been very successful, moving from mice and Beagles to the first 12 Cavalier volunteers. The chosen volunteers were all senior dogs with MVD with murmurs and in a pre-cardiac failure (CHF) condition. Dogs were followed over a year by auscultation and Doppler exams, and there have been no adverse events.

We were allowed to see one of the Cavaliers, a senior girl who was in Stage 2B, as were all the other subjects. Stage 2B is a precursor to CHF. (Reference: <https://www.veterinary-practice.com/article/staging-and-management-of-canine-mitral-valve-disease>) The change was amazing. Whether

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Rejuvenate Bio can reverse MVD remains to be seen, but it does appear to arrest the process, and by so doing seems to improve the cardiac function and the quality of canine life.

The pilot program is expanding and is setting up a manufacturing and safety run trial, as well as securing approval to allow marketing through veterinarians for dogs with MVD to validate their experimental results. The future is very exciting.

—Dr. John V. Ioia, MD, Ph.D

bonefixr@gmail.com

American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club

Chihuahuas

A BREED WITH HEART

In celebration of the holiday season, let's be thankful for the "gift of love" we receive every day from these little dogs called Chihuahuas.

Most of us have owned other breeds, but in time we finally found our way to this fabulous little creature known as the Chihuahua. Once owned by one of these little dogs, you will never be without one in your home. The more the merrier!

It was proven that the great racehorse Secretariat had a heart significantly larger than that of the average horse. He passed this trait



to his offspring, and it became known as the "X factor." Today we call this having "heart." Although Secretariat's heart was not weighed at the time of his death, later the hearts of his offspring were measured to be significantly larger than what is usual for horses.

It is the nature of all dogs to love and bring joy to their family's lives. Chihuahuas, although they are the smallest of dogs, resemble the great horse Secretariat in that they too have the biggest "heart." They were developed for companionship, and these little dogs

take their job seriously.

At Christmas our Chihuahuas are the theme of our cards as they pose proudly for the camera, donning a red hat with a white, fluffy ball, knowing that ball will soon be their play-toy. They generously offer to help wrap Christmas gifts and decorate the tree. They especially enjoy helping to take down the tree, even if it's not quite yet time.

They possess such angelic little faces, surely they must be angels sent from above. We reward these big-hearted little dogs with jewelry, fur coats, velvet bedding, and just about anything their hearts desire. We let them eat with us, sleep with us, and go out on the town with us.

Their diminutive size makes us feel protective toward them, and macho men have been known to turn into baby-talking boys in their presence. Their "mommies" keep them in their every thought as if they were one of their own children. Talk about "man's [or woman's] best friend!"

These little dogs are so in tune with our thoughts, we sometimes think they must possess a human gene. They appear to feel our feelings, and at times when we are sad, you can literally see tears running down their faces. We immediately cheer up because we don't want our little dogs to be sad. They know exactly how to make us laugh with

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their fun-loving antics, and always just when we need a heartfelt smile. When these “energized” angels find a sunny spot, they may lie there for hours, absorbing the sun as if they were recharging their batteries. Surely this gives them their special ability to spread sunshine in every room in the house.

The Chihuahua is the ultimate in giving and receiving love. Could they too possess that “X factor?”

Christmas is a time to remember others by showing our love through giving and receiving. Every day is Christmas in a Chihuahua’s heart.

Merry Christmas, everyone!

—Virginia (Jenny) Hauber,

wynjnchis@yahoo.com

Chihuahua Club of America



Havanese

HELP OUT AND MAKE THINGS BETTER

It seems to me that we are a society composed of gold-medal complainers. From complaints about the weather, to the lack of our favorite ice cream flavor in the supermarket, nobody complains better than Americans, it seems. We are never happy with the status quo, yet as world-class complainers, how many of us are willing to step up to the plate to make things better? The generation of chil-

dren born to GIs returning from World War II were brought up hearing the following words in their homes: “Never volunteer.” It was the anthem of their parents. That was then. This is now.

Sometimes, it appears that this sport attracts the best complainers of them all. Yet what do these complainers do to change things to make them better? It is said that at the end of the day at a dog show, only one person goes home happy: the person carrying out the red, white,

and blue rosette. Everyone else leaves complaining about something: The judging was corrupt, the parking lot was bad, the food was awful, the bathrooms were dirty. Everyone has an opinion about something. But how many people are willing to get off their couches to work on improving things? Have they joined a dog club—an all-breed, group, obedience, or breed club? If so, have they offered to work for their club (or clubs) of choice? Have they figured out what needs to be done to make

things better at a venue, and made suggestions toward that end?

It is tiring listening to complaints when no effort is made by the complainers to improve the situation. Maybe it is as simple as reminding people on show grounds to pick up poop by offering them a poop bag as they start to obviously walk away. Or how about bringing a broom to a show and sweeping your setup and that of your messy neighbor? And while you are doing that, pick up what you’ve swept; don’t just leave it in a pile for building maintenance to deal with. Wipe the sink out in the bathroom if you’ve dumped dirty dog water or washed food bowls into it. Don’t think of maintenance people as your personal maids or butlers. Find a paper towel left carelessly on the sink? Use another one to pick it up and dispose of both of them properly. Is the trash bin full, or is there no toilet paper on the roll? Find someone at the facility and let them know. Be courteous to others.

Outside of the narrow world of dog shows, think more globally. This ongoing and dreadful pandemic has exacerbated many problems in our society—food shortage, for one. Of all the things that I have volunteered to do this year, from dog club activities to political issues, local and national, the most worthwhile time I have spent has been distributing food through our local food pantry. Not something that

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interests you? No problem ... find something that *does* interest you, and volunteer!

There are so many organizations in every community that need help and can't afford to hire people. Ask your school system what their needs are, and organize a drive to fulfill that need. Libraries always need money. Set up a book-collection drop off, run a book sale, and raise money for the library. You can do it!

Don't complain about conditions. Work to make them better. Turn the saying "never volunteer" into "always volunteer."

—Alice L. Lawrence,

pulifuzz@aol.com

Havanese Club of America

Italian Greyhounds

ITALIAN GREYHOUND TEMPERAMENT

The breed's AKC standard does not mention temperament. However, anyone truly familiar with the Italian Greyhound understands that this is a sighthound, in spite of his small size, and as such, he does not have the same attitude toward life as that of a terrier or a working breed. The IG is a sweet, very affectionate dog who sometimes carries those characteristics to the point of neediness. A happy IG is fun loving and full of enthusiasm for the people and things near and dear to him. He can be quirky and as changeable



as the wind. In German his name is *windspiel*, which literally means "play of the wind" or "playing with the wind." He is intelligent and imaginative but not quite as easily trainable as some other breeds that were created to serve their humans in a specific way.

The IG can be difficult to show, mainly because his affection is focused chiefly on his immediate family and others he knows well,

and he is not very interested in entertaining strangers. That means he is not fond of being expected to behave like a puppet on a string, constantly and eagerly responding to the bidding of his handler with mobile, alerting ears and rapt attention to bait or a squeaky toy. Neither is he likely to immediately connect with a judge, who is a stranger to him.

Sometimes an Italian Greyhound will react

negatively to a judge going over his body with heavy hands—or cold ones—by backing away. This is typical sighthound behavior, and judges who understand this mindset will not fault a dog for it—at least they shouldn't.

That is not to say that the dog should have a panic attack when confronted by a stranger or try to jump off the table while being examined, but nor should he be expected to behave as if anyone who approaches him is immediately his best friend.

The typical IG is cordial to strangers but not overly demonstrative with them. Judges of this breed should always keep that in mind. So should some newcomers to IGs who think they should breed for a tougher, showier, almost terrierlike temperament. Such behavior is not correct for the Italian Greyhound.

Some Italian Greyhounds are reluctant to use their ears when in a strange or new situation. It is well for judges to remember that the original purpose for alerting ears was to make sure that those ears go into a proper rosed position and not straight up. In other words, it should *not* be a requirement that the ears are operated repeatedly like semaphores.

Nor should the dog be judged on his ability and willingness to do what is essentially a "happy tap-dance" in order to be considered worthy. Most IG owners have chosen this breed for its interesting and individualistic behavior as

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well as its natural, streamlined beauty. Neither the appearance nor the behavior should be required to undergo any artificial change in order for the dog to be shown successfully.

—Lilian S. Barber, 2011

[Italian Greyhound Club of America](#)

Maltese

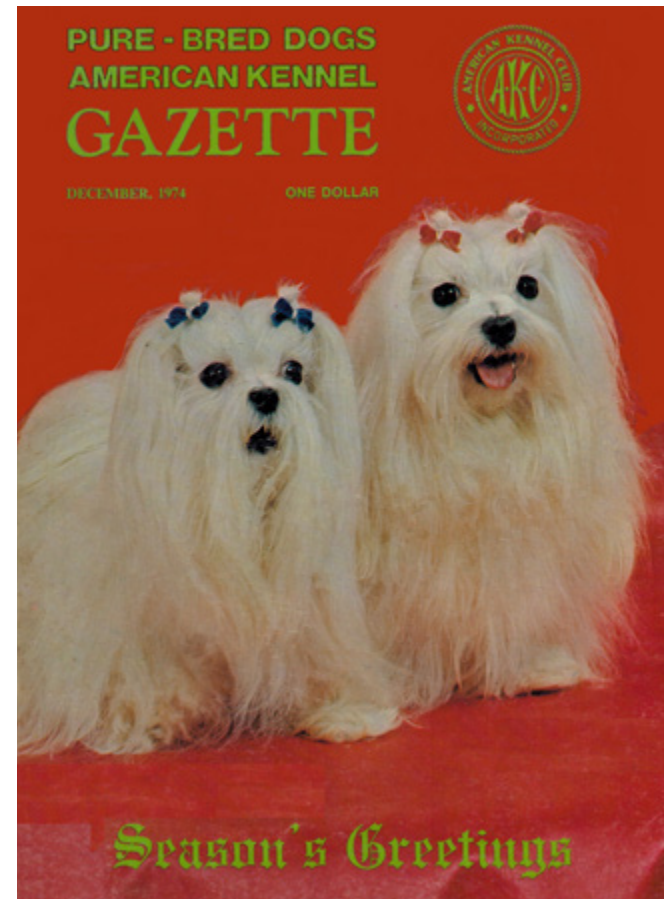
TRAVELING WITH YOUR DOG

Traveling with your Maltese is so easy, as they are very portable. As with your kids, your dogs should have their own luggage as well.

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

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

Don't forget to pack in his bag his food and



Maltese: December 1974

any medications that he is on. It is also good to carry something for if his tummy gets upset. (Bottled water should be taken to help prevent this.) Small containers of food always work best. If you use a canned food, don't forget the can-opener.

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

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

When you are in the hotel room, make sure to check for any pills or pins that might have been left on the floor from a previous guest. The room should be thoroughly checked for anything that could harm your dog when he is loose in the room. I also recommend taking a duplicate key for your car, so that if you stop anywhere, you can keep the air conditioning going by locking the car with the second key. Never leave your dog in a car with the windows up—and even with them cracked a little bit, it gets too hot for your baby.

It is also recommended to make sure that your lodging accepts dogs. If you are flying, be sure to make reservations for your dog to ride in the cabin as well. Also be sure to get him used to being inside an airline carrier before you go. Familiarity with being in the carrier keeps them from crying or wanting to get out.

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

—Daryl Martin,
daryldmartin@sbcglobal.net
[American Maltese Association](#)

Miniature Pinschers

JUDGING TO THE STANDARD

There has been a great deal of discussion about judges calling for wickets and scales in the ring in recent months, with mixed reactions. While not all dogs have breed DQs, a good number do, and these have been put into their standards by the members of the national clubs, and for good reason—to help preserve what we, as breeders, have worked to create as healthy, consistent, and recognizable specimens of our breeds.

The fact that a surprising number of exhibitors seem to be offended if a judge chooses to measure or weigh dogs in their ring is a bit concerning, and measuring shouldn't be looked on as a hideous event. That judge may only need the proof that his/her eye or hands are correct in making a good decision. Personally, I welcome a judge who isn't afraid to make sure they are choosing the best dogs on that day, instead of saying, "Oh, I *think* that dog is oversize," and making a decision they might regret down the line. I have heard this exact reasoning from several well-respected judges who take their judging very seriously—along with the statement that more judges should be checking height and/or weight. A few also made the comment I liked the best:

"Don't be 'that guy' who shoves a huge specimen of their breed in a judge's face, knowing

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Miniature Pinscher

their dogs will be DQ'd, and then whines about it being unfair. You're only doing that gene pool a disservice by allowing those genes to continue contributing the bad outcomes when kept in a breeding program."

The sad thing is when people think a standard is "dumb," or whatever, and start mak-

ing comments such as "Well, we should just change that part, because we don't like it and want it our way"—while giving little or no thought to the decades of work that it took to create standards to have breeds that are easily recognizable both physically and mentally. Are these complainers going to demand another

change when the current "type" changes and no longer favors their dogs? Sadly, I've heard this kind of sour grapes from people in more breeds than I have fingers and toes.

But (and I really shouldn't have to say this) there are some very simple ways to avoid being "offended":

1. *Know your standard.*
2. *Breed to that standard.*
3. *Be honest with yourself and others.*
4. *Do not show out-of-standard dogs.*
5. *Be proud of the dogs you produce.*

That is all!

Wishing everyone a joyous and peaceful holiday season, and may the new year bring you many great new memories!

—Ann Stout

[Miniature Pinscher Club of America](#)

Papillons

LIFE HAPPENS

A wonderful saying attributed to the late John Lennon is "Life is what happens to you when you are busy making other plans." And indeed it happened to me, as I was

planning to retire from breeding and showing when "things happened" that led me to another path.

A little over two years ago, I had a large litter of five puppies; however, one of them was only two ounces and didn't make it. I then became worried about one of the other male pups, who was just four ounces and a lot smaller than the rest of the remaining litter. So I kept supplementing him to make sure he would grow, thus handling him several times a day.

Fast-forward, this little peanut grew up to be a sweet, cuddly, and adorable pup. Of course, I favored him, having handled him so much, and the weird thing was that he was extremely smart. Really! It only took me a short time, less than an hour, to teach him to retrieve a rubber bone—something I never have been able to do with *any* of my dogs!

I threw the bone and said, "Bring it to me, bring it here, bring me the bone." And surprisingly, he did! It was uncanny that he understood everything I said. I assume it was because he paid attention, looking at me all the time, focusing on my every word. It then became a ritual where he would actually pester me to throw the bone, which I did, and he then ran back and dropped it at my feet. It would go on *ad infinitum* if I let him!

Meanwhile, on the same day I also tried to train his litter-brother, but he didn't want any

COURTESY LYNDY BEAM

TOY GROUP

part of it! (Even after seeing his brother be praised for retrieving.) I think he knew the bond I had with his brother, and he was the awkward and needy one, who wanted my attention. I do try my best to include him, and overly praise him when he does something wonderful, but I know I have to work on this more.

This was supposed to be my last litter, but instead that didn't happen either. It was during the peak of Covid-19, when there were no handling classes. However, I didn't anticipate a problem with my little pup's temperament, as he was very curious and outgoing. I did some practicing with him in my backyard, and he moved beautifully in the grass and appeared confident, and I felt he would do fine. I therefore entered him in some outdoor shows, where it was a two-show day.

However, the area for the toy breeds was not a grassy one; instead it was a concrete area, with posts to support an open roof. I arrived in time to practice a bit before the show to get him used to the routine. However, when the ring time came, he was not so sure who this person was, the judge! He hesitated a bit before facing the judge, and so he was RWD.

I then stayed for the afternoon show, working with him a lot. Then I remembered how much he loves his "rubber bone" and always would look for it in the yard when I threw it. So, while we were practicing, I said, "Where



Papillon

is your bone? Let's go find it!" He then forgot about his fears and gladly walked without any hesitation. That afternoon, he not only won Winners Dog but was Best of Winners and Best of Opposite Sex, giving him a four-point major! This was the start of his confidence, and so I decided to enter him in a few more shows, where it was indoors, and again I didn't know how he would react.

Surprisingly, he did quite well at the indoor shows, where the competition was keen with many professional handlers. I entered him in Bred-by-Exhibitor class, and was thrilled when he took the breed over specials (AKC

champions) and even was awarded two Group placements.

All things considered, I had something to look forward to, having discarded my former "life plans," and hopefully am looking forward to another litter.

—Roseann Fucillo,

cilloette@yahoo.com

Papillon Club of America

Pekingese

Carol Kniebusch Noe wrote the following for this column in 2015.

EXHIBITING A PEKINGESE

Showing or exhibiting a Pekingese is different from showing any other breed of dog, from grooming to presentation. They are the same as other breeds, though, in that it's helpful to bring treats and toys to the show that are unique to a particular dog in hope that this will enhance his response and contribute to a positive ring experience.

It is important and will save time if the exhibitor memorizes the ring number and time of exhibiting before leaving home, as this will save time in the long run and may enable parking close to the ring. It will also save time if a list is made of the armband numbers for your dogs and their corresponding registered

names—the steward will be thankful.

On arrival at the show site, proceed to the ring and set up in the appropriate grooming area for that ring, using as little space as possible. Greet your competitors when you arrive. Be pleasant and smile, and you'll be surprised at how a positive attitude will enhance your day.

Patiently wait in line by the steward to get your armband(s) well ahead of your ring time, and have the numbers ready so as not to hold up the process and keep others waiting. Be ready with your dog at the ring entrance at the appropriate time, so the judge and other exhibitors don't have to wait.

Judges usually want the exhibitors to line up and enter the ring in catalog order—and in the Best of Breed ring, dogs should line up in catalog order ahead of the bitches. Judges are on a very tight time schedule and appreciate exhibitors who are sensitive to this lineup procedure.

Because they are toy dogs and move slowly, Pekingese should be carried into the ring. They could easily get hurt if expected to walk fast enough to enter the ring.

As soon as you are in line and in catalog order, stack or set up your dog on the ground or floor in preparation for the judges' preliminary evaluation. The judge usually looks over each dog in line before asking the exhibitors to move around the ring. If the show is indoors, it is important to keep the dog on the mat and

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Pekingese: Ch. Chik T'Sun of Caversham, 1959

stay in line without crowding the exhibit in front of you.

The judge will then examine each dog indi-

vidually on the table prior to moving him. The exhibitor should place and quietly set their dog up on the table while the previous dog is mov-

ing for the judge. As soon as the previous dog is finished moving, the judge will turn around and expect to see the next exhibit set up and ready

for examination.

With the Pekingese standard in mind, the judge will go over the dog completely, usually starting with the head. Because the Pekingese when lifted should be surprisingly heavy for his size, it is necessary to determine this by properly lifting the dog. The exhibitor should be prepared for the judge to lift the dog to determine if he is heavy and compact for his size.

A judge will often want to compare the dogs, so exhibitors should be prepared to return their dog to the table if asked. Two dogs may be set up on the table at one time for this comparison. If the judge wishes to do an additional examination, the dog must be returned to the table.

Exhibitors should practice at home if they wish to use bait or toys in the ring. Too many times bait falls out of an exhibitor's pocket or is accidentally dropped on the floor, distracting the other dogs in the ring—and wasting time while it has to be picked up.

Do not feed your Pekingese during the judge's examination on the table. The judge wants the dog to stand still for the exam and not be lunging or grabbing for food.

Be sensitive to the angle and the judge's line of vision on the final return of gaiting. Many times exhibitors wave the bait in the judge's eyes or face while trying to get expression on the dog. Using a toy while gaiting your dog is fine if you are the only exhibitor, but it can be

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a distraction and rude if there are several dogs in the ring.

Finally, don't forget to smile and thank the judge, regardless of your placement, and remain outside the ring in the event you are required to return for Winners or Reserve.

Be a good sport! —C.K.N.

Thank you, Carol.

—Susan Shephard, PCA Publications Chair,
dejavupekes@aol.com

[The Pekingese Club of America](#)

Pomeranians

Our guest columnist for this issue is Chris Heartz.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TRIMMING

It would seem that in the Pomeranian ring, the most controversial subject is trimming.

Breeders, judges, handlers, and exhibitors all have an opinion, and all have their own style of trimming. Let's look at why the Pom is trimmed the way he is, or should be.

First of all, we need to remember that the Pomeranian is a member of the spitz family, and all of the breeds in that family, including the Samoyed, Keeshond, Finnish Spitz, and so on, share a common coat type, with harsh outer guard hairs, coarse to the touch, and shorter, softer undercoat. This type of coat is



unfortunately as hard to trim as it is to find.

The Pomeranian also has the same basic body type as their larger cousins. As with most spitz breeds, Poms are not over-angulated. The standard is explicit about body shape: “compact and short backed” (not short on leg). It is important to keep this round shape in mind when judging the breed. If the legs are mounted correctly—that is, nicely set under the body in front, and not covering too much

ground behind—the Pom is well on his way to fit into that shape.

The “fads” of trimming Poms, as in many other breeds, come and go. The newest, and probably the scariest fad, is the idea that a Pomeranian outline should resemble a triangle. The shape of a Pom is the very essence of the breed; it is a circle. Some may see the Pom as a square within a circle, but the Pomeranian outline, standing or moving, is

definitely not a triangle. A far greater concern of promoting this triangle shape is that it encourages a body type that suggests the dog should cover more ground. The one thing we do not want to encourage is a Pom with a straight front or over-angulated rear. The shape of the Pomeranian is basic to the breed, and it is round.

The tail: Another very important characteristic in this breed is the tail, “heavily plumed, set high and lies flat and straight on the back.” It is mentioned in the standard twice in this way. It is also mentioned in the coat section of the standard: “Tail is profusely covered with long, spreading straight hair, forming a plume.” Good tails and tail-sets are hard to find and hard to breed, but a beautiful tail contributes greatly to the overall shape of a dog. To check the tail-set, you should be able to put your hand flat against the “pin bones” of the dog and not feel the tail protruding into your hand. A low tail-set is a major fault. It ruins the outline and appears as an afterthought protruding into the circular outline. A common mistake is to trim all the hair from around the tail, exposing the tailbone, and ruining the outline. The tail should be the finish and the main part of the outline.

The pants: Keep your pants on! Again, an important characteristic of the breed. Trimming the pants off too high or above the

TOY GROUP

hock, or at odd 45-degree angles, some people feel shortens the body. But the pants, properly blended into the body coat, with the help of a long, full tail, contribute to the circular shape and outline we are trying to present. The pants give the dog “finish” to the shape—why cut them off? Keeping the pants on often helps to make the tail-set look better as well. An overly scissored body coat and a short, low tail-set is offensive to this beautiful, full-coated breed.

Forequarters: “The coat should form a ruff around the neck, framing the head.” This should indicate that the ruff again contributes to that rounded appearance. The chest as well blends into that ruff, creating a finish. There should never be breaks or obvious angles in that outline. The ruff fits into the chest, and the feather on the back of the legs and should be a soft transition from the leg, into tiny feet. They should not be trimmed up leaving a part of the leg or feet exposed. The outline should always be soft, blending from one part to the next.

In conclusion, I would say, there appear to be three ways to trim the Pomeranian: badly, where the dog is trimmed in a manner that leaves too much coat in the wrong places, detracting from the correct outline; over-trimming, where too much coat is removed to the point that the harsh outer coat cannot even be detected, and destroying the correct out-

line; and trimmed correctly, leaving sufficient coat to evaluate the double coat and tidying up where necessary to accentuate the correct outline. —C.H.

Thank you, Chris, for sharing this educational article!

—Stephanie Hentschel,
darrightkennels@gmail.com
 American Pomeranian Club

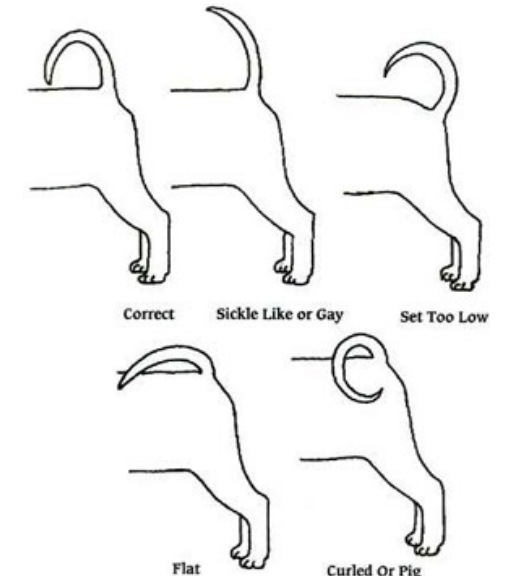
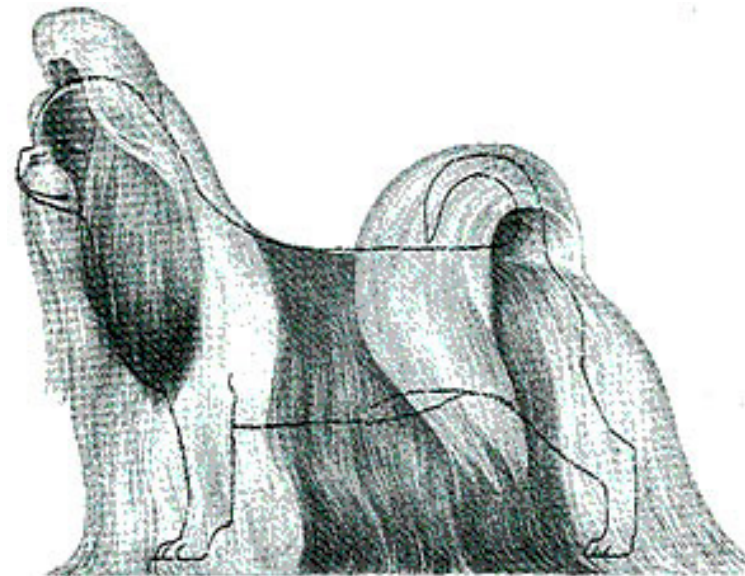
Shih Tzu

THE SHIH TZU TAIL

Many breeders have commented on the many incorrect tail-sets they are seeing on Shih Tzu in the ring these days. The breed standard calls for a teacup-handle tail that is set on high, heavily plumed, and carried in a curve well over the back. A tail that is too loose, too tight, too flat, or too low-set is undesirable and should be penalized to the extent of the deviation. An improper tail-set and/or carriage detracts from the desired balance and outline of the Shih Tzu, seen in the *Illustrated Guide to the Shih Tzu Standard*.

While the standard does not mention length of neck, the Shih Tzu should have enough neck to balance with the arch of the tail. This creates an overall balanced appearance that is lost if the tail is too flat, curled, or set too low.

Remember as you assess overall balance that



(Left) The desired balance and outline of the Shih Tzu, as seen in this image from the *Illustrated Guide to the Shih Tzu Standard*; (right) examples of correct and faulty tail-set and carriage.

a white tail-tip on a dark-colored dog creates the optical illusion of a shorter back. In addition, a young and excited puppy may sometimes flag his or her tail a bit until the weight of the hair pulls the tail down into the correct position as the dog matures. Because the outgoing, happy, friendly, and trusting temperament is such a key hallmark of the breed, no Shih Tzu should ever drop their tail in the ring when moving or when standing still.

On a mature dog, you should be able to insert your hand between the tail and the dog’s back when the tail is correct. However, some Shih Tzu

do not like their tails being “fussed with” when being set up, brushed, or examined. They may let you know this by temporarily twisting these appendages into really peculiar shapes. Once they start moving, however, their tails should return to the desired teacup-handle position. By contrast, a handler may be able to set up a dog so that a low tail-set appears to be correct. When such a dog starts moving, its sloping croup and low tail-set are revealed.

—Jo Ann White,
joawhite@juno.com
 American Shih Tzu Club

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Bichons Frises

HOLIDAY HINTS

December is upon us, bringing the holiday season, with its joys as well as its dangers. We get bombarded with caveats this time of year, but here are some simple ideas to help make the holidays safer for our Bichon buddies.

Most of us won't place puppies in their new homes in December, perplexing our potential buyers to no end. Of course, we give all the usual reasons, such as how the excitement of the season is just too much for a little one, how impossible it is to monitor a pup during the festivities, how dangerous it can be, and so on.

Many breeders like to offer suggestions for announcing that a new puppy is joining the family in the new year. There are wonderful Bichon Frise books available that would be great to read before the puppy's arrival and which would make lovely gifts. How about tucking inside a gift certificate for one of the local pet stores, with a promise of a shopping trip to pick out items for the new puppy? Perhaps a certificate to attend a class at the local dog-training facility could be put inside a book on the subject. And a stuffed-toy Bichon with a certificate good for a visit to the breeder might be just the thing. The breeder is undoubtedly going to want to meet the whole family before placing one of their babies in a new home anyhow, so the promise of a trip



Bichon Frise

Lynda Beam



to see the puppy as soon as possible would be great for everyone.

Holiday plants present their own mélange of problems. The tree is full of or surrounded by tantalizing ornaments, presents, and electric cords, and may be sitting in a base full of “delectable,” chemically-laden, brackish water. One year we put a little tree out of reach on top of a card table, but putting the tree behind an ex-pen has worked the best for us. Ingesting mistletoe (dangerously poisonous) or poinsettia (mildly poisonous) is sure to cause at minimum an upset stomach, but possibly death. Artificial plants are safer than the real thing and reusable.

Although *we* know holiday food is too rich for dogs, our *guests* may have no idea how dangerous it can be. The dogs are best crated or otherwise separated from the festivities, and visitors tempted to sneak tidbits in their direction should be warned of the wrath any indiscretions might incur from their host. Aside from the food problem, nobody wants a dog to escape through the front door. Humorously, it seems as if the only person who doesn't like dogs is always the one who is surprised by an unexpected lapdog, complete with kisses. I usually bring one or two out for a brief visit, but then they go back to the dog room behind a gate or in crates.

Older, trustworthy children can be wonderful with dogs and may enjoy keeping an eye on

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them during the party. They feel important to be asked—and so they are!

Do try to spend a little quality time with the Bichons every day during the holidays. Here's to long walks on crisp winter days—a great way to lower stress for all! When the weather outside is frightful, you might play some inside games with your dogs or teach them some new tricks. Hide and seek is always fun. Sometimes I sit mine in a row in front of me and ask each one to do a different behavior. Keep it fun, and use nutritious treats.

Here's to a healthy, happy holiday season!

—Mayno Blanding,

maynob@gmail.com

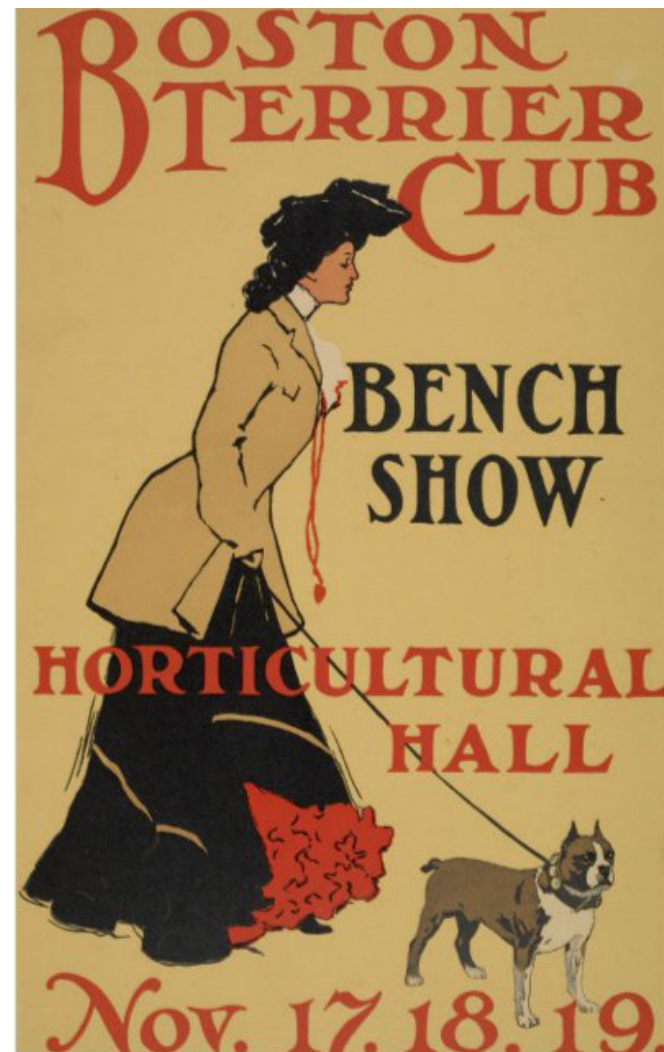
[Bichon Frise Club of America](#)

Boston Terriers

ETIQUETTE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

A member of the Boston Terrier Club of America requested an article on the importance of good sportsmanship. Thanks so much for the suggestion. If you would like to see a column about a topic that could help educate owners or an experience that could benefit others, e-mail me at patsgrooming@gmail.com. Communication is a wonderful thing, and past and future generations benefit from the knowledge.

Sportsmanship is one of the most important



Boston Terrier: show poster, Boston, early 20th century

issues and the foundation of bringing people together and keeping the breed alive. We each are examples that people follow, good and bad. When sitting around the ring or showing dogs, our actions tell a lot about our character. Remember when you first started going to

dog shows and observed how Boston Terrier owners reacted to winning and losing. The observation might have helped you decide whether to become a member of the club in seeing how friendly and helpful people could be, helping you learn about the breed.

My own first experience was bad, when I asked a woman who won if I might buy a dog to show from her and was told she had a blue-eyed Boston she would sell me. Years later that same person wanted to buy a puppy from me, and she forgot she had been cruel—but I didn't forget. The impressions we make can affect the lives of people and make them not want to be a part of our club.

Without members the club dies, and with it the history of the Boston Terrier. To sustain the breed we need to have young people to show, as well as pet owners who don't show dogs. Make people feel comfortable and a part of things.

I am the meet-and-greet person for the Boston Terrier Club of North Carolina, which means talking to people you don't know around the ring and giving small bags of complimentary goodies. The reaction of how it makes people feel is amazing. Some exhibitors showing dogs have traveled a long way and love the kind thought. When these people see us saying unkind words about dogs, judges, or each other, that is a turn-off. It hurts our

Boston Terrier from having more working members and exhibitors coming to specialty shows. Keep from saying your bad thoughts; save them for when you are back at your car. Remember, people are watching you!

We all need to be gracious, whether winner or loser, which some of us forget. There is only one winner on a given day, and if the same person won every time, no one else would waste their money to show. If you win, thank other exhibitors, and say there were a lot of nice dogs in the ring. Be gracious always. If you don't win, suck it up and smile, saying congratulations to the winners. It's a sport! Enjoy the fellowship afterward; remember, the judge made the decision. Bad sportsmanship has no place at dog shows. Everyone wants to win, but don't let it spoil friendships. We all learn from each other. The winner you acted ugly to may be someone you later want to buy a dog from or whose male you want to breed your female to.

Good sportsmanship is a win for everyone. Before you speak unkindly, think: Would you like someone to say that about your dog? Realize people can hear you and may decide they want no part of crazy. The dog show is no place to show your temper. Keep it behind closed doors. If you love the Boston Terrier and want people to have a positive impression of the breed, remember that words make a

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difference. So think before speaking, and let's have fun at the dog show!

—Patricia S. Johnson, member DWAA and BTCA,

patsgrooming@aol.com

[Boston Terrier Club of America](#)

Chinese Shar-Pei

NATIONAL SPECIALTY

Our 2021 national specialty *did* happen! At a nice hotel in Lisle, Illinois, exhibitors and fanciers converged for a week of fun and some good drama. I helped put on the regional with the Lincoln Land Shar-Pei Club, and then for the national, I assisted with the Top 25 Invitational, so I saw our best and brightest up close, and I got to visit old friends and made new ones.

After two years, with Covid-19 canceling the 2020 event, there were double futurity/maturity shows and winners, and double Top 25 qualifiers and winners, so a lot of the joy was spread around!

The first event was the regional show, which was judged by breeder-judge Chuck Suda. As he has been focused on work and a new business venture, and not doing dog shows, I was curious to see what his thoughts were on the dogs now. He graciously provided the following:

“It was a pleasure to judge the Land of

Lincoln regional specialty. The overall quality of the breed was excellent, and most of the class dogs and bitches are worthy of becoming champions. I saw only a handful of off bites, and overall temperament was great.

“My Winners Dog, Siosalach’s Slayer of Monsters, was a nice representation of the breed, with solid movement, and I later learned he finished that day. My Winners Bitch, Good Fortune State of the Art, was a beautiful-moving bitch coming and going as well as in side gait. She was a repeat breeding of my Best of Opposite, GCh. Good Fortune Good and Ready II. He is an exceptional example of the breed.

“Best of Breed, GCh. Shine’s Call the Winning Shot with Tzo Wen N Xin Jin (Eight-ball), was just stunning. I couldn’t take my eyes off of her, and the more I judged, the more I fell in love with this dog.

“My Select Dog, GCh. Gumby’s Hey Now You’re an Allstar NWR, and Select Bitch, Ch Legends Blurubein Perfection Thru the Ages, were both beautiful dogs who represent the breed very well.”

Thank you for sharing your thoughts, Chuck—and enjoy Puerta Vallarta!

For the Top 25, the 2019 qualifying year winner was Asia, Ch. Majesty Legaxy Asia’s Crown Jewel. For the 2020 qualifying year,



Chinese Shar-Pei GCh. Good Fortune Good and Ready II, 2021 national-specialty Best of Breed.

Eight-ball, GCh. Shine’s Call the Winning Shot with Tzo Wen N Xin Jin, took top honors. The People’s Choice award that evening was Ch. Gumby’s Hey Now You’re an Allstar NWR, Smash. A beautiful gathering of dogs!

The national specialty was well rounded, with obedience (High in Trial to Jenn’s High

Rollin Highbanks Hustle, who also earned top scores in rally), Junior Showmanship (Best Junior, Ana Frandsen), Sweepstakes, Futurity and Maturity, vendors, and our great auction/raffle event.

For the national-specialty Best of Breed, a judging change led to a very able David Cook judging, and he found many of the same quality dogs as at the regional, with GCh. Good Fortune Good and Ready II taking top honors, Best of Winners Siosalach’s Tombstone Marshall, and Best of Opposite Blackwitch Asias Win It With a Shot of Tequila; Select Dog was, again, GCh. Gumby’s Hey Now You’re an Allstar NWR, and Select Bitch was Legend’s Blurubein Forward Don’t Look Back GF.

Every breeder and show person should attend the national whenever possible. So much can be learned by just sitting and watching, then add to that the conversations about dogs and breeding programs around the country, changes being seen that should be addressed with breeding programs, honoring those who came before, welcoming newcomers, supporting rescue and, of course, shopping! There really is something for every serious fancier—most of all, learning.

—Karen Kleinhans DeSilva,

kasupei@aol.com

[Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America](#)

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Chow Chows

THE CHOW CHOW, AN ANCIENT BREED

The Chow Chow is one of the oldest documented breeds. This magnificent dog has been used for working, hunting, herding, sled-pulling, and guardian duties. The dogs have also been used for food and for making human's coats from their fur.

Although the breed was originally a working dog, he primarily serves as a companion today. This lion-like, regal breed comes in five colors—red, black, blue, cinnamon, and cream—and two coat types, rough and smooth, and is known for his blue/black tongue and stilted gait.

Our breed has been recognized as one of the foundation canines. A brief history of the breed demonstrates the breed's recognition through the ages in different areas of the world:

150 BC: Dogs resembling the Chow Chow were depicted on artifacts of the Han Dynasty;

11th century: Warrior dogs resembling the Chow Chow were brought into China by barbarian tribes;

1780: The first Chow chows were reported in England;

1880: First Chow Chow (a black bitch named Chinese Puzzle) exhibited in England;

1890: The Chow Chow was exhibited in the U.S. for the first time (Takya, owned by Miss A.C. Derby);

1895: The Chow Chow Club was formed in the U.K., a breed standard was drafted, and Ch. Chow VIII became the first champion Chow Chow;

1903: The AKC recognized the Chow Chow breed ;

1906: The Chow Chow Club, Inc., was admitted as an official AKC member club;

1912: A Chow Chow traveling with Harry Anderson from England to America was lost in the sinking of the *Titanic*;

1915: Eating of dog meat was prohibited in China;

1924: Formation of the French Chow Chow Club;

1934: Chow Chow Club of Australia formed;

1956: First Chow Chows from the U.K., Omar's Mandarin and Omar's Ruby Wun, imported by Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson to New Zealand;

1974: The Chow Club was recognized by the NZKC in October 1974;

2020: The AKC breed standard was last modified by the Chow Chow Club, Inc.

The Chow Chow continues to thrive worldwide and remains the active, alert, aloof, and powerfully beautiful dog that has appealed to mankind through the years. The AKC breed popularity statistics show that the Chow Chow was ranked 75th in breed popularity in 2018, 66th in 2008, 61st in 2004, and fourth in

1999. The regal Chow Chow requires regular grooming and socialization, which make this breed incompatible with today's hectic lifestyle for many dog fanciers. But for those who have shared their lives with a Chow Chow, few other breeds exhibit the devotion, cleanliness, and intelligence that appeals to them.

—Love Banghart,

Lkendr4300@aol.com

[The Chow Chow Club, Inc.](#)

Dalmatians

TRADITION!

'Tis the season, of so many things: Christmas, family, food, gifts, Santa—you name it, there's something for everyone. But some of my favorite things of all are the traditions we observe. They are a little bit different for everyone and every family, but let's not forget to include our dogs. After all, they're as much family as the humans.

So, what are some things you can do with your dog to include him or her in the annual celebration? Let's look at a couple of ideas you might enjoy.

Photos with Santa. Let's face it, it's not Christmas without a visit to Santa. And thankfully, there are lots of places you can take your dog for his big photo op. How fun would it be to get a pic of your dog sharing his list with

Santa? Although many locations are not set up for dogs, there are still a lot of places you can take your dog for a picture, including pet stores, feed stores, and sporting-goods stores. Take this opportunity to share the season with your buddy while getting a lasting memento every year.

Meal deliveries. This is the time to put self aside, and what better way than to take a meal to a shut-in? Christmas can be a challenging time to get out and about, especially if you're wobbly on your feet or not feeling your best. You can either sign up for a meal-delivery service or prepare something yourself for a friend or family member. And of course, take the dog along. Nothing will make people smile more than a well-behaved dog sharing some Christmas cheer.

Decorate the tree. I admit it might be "interesting" if you try to do this with a puppy, but it would certainly make for a memorable time. Regardless, let your dog be part of the fun. If you cut your own tree, this can be a perfect opportunity to share some outdoor time with your dog. (Just remember, if he pees on it, you buy it!)

Christmas movie marathon. Christmas and holiday movies abound this time of year. Make some popcorn and curl up with your best friend(s) and enjoy some snuggle time as you get in the holiday spirit.

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It can be “interesting” to have your Dalmatian help with decorating.

Go walking in a winter wonderland. If you have a park or an area that does it up for the holidays, plan on a stroll with your four-legged friend to see the light displays in your area.

Christmas baking If you enjoy baking and cooking, you can add your dog as your sous-chef. You will find no better kitchen helper

than your dog. He will, of course, be more than happy to be your official taste-tester (with appropriate and safe foods). And consider doing some baking for your dog as well—there are tons of great homemade dog-treat recipes available online.

Include an animal shelter on your gift list. Let’s

not forget those animals who don’t have a home of their own this year. Plan on taking something useful to your local animal shelter or adoption agency. A bag of food, some new blankets, or some fun toys would go a long way in making their season merry and bright as they look for their forever homes.

Christmas and the holidays are a time for caring and sharing. Plan on activities that you can share with your dog while caring for others. The best gift you can share is your time.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays, and here’s to a wonderful 2022!

—Jan Warren Linné,
janlinne56@yahoo.com
Dalmatian Club of America

French Bulldogs

HEMANGIOSARCOMA

Hemangiosarcoma is a silent killer of our dogs. We often detect nothing wrong until it is too late to intervene.

The word *hemangio* is from Greek roots, with *hem* meaning “blood,” *angi* meaning “vessel,” and *-oma* indicating a mass, growth, or tumor.

Hemangiomas arise in the cells lining blood vessels. *Sarcoma* (also from a Greek root) is a malignancy that develops from connective tissues. A hemangioma is benign, while hemangiosarcoma is a cancer that forms in

blood vessels. They typically form in the heart, spleen, and liver. The spleen is the most common origin of the malignancy. Sometimes hemangiomas are discovered by accident when the veterinarian is looking for another issue. Surgery is the only answer and must be done quickly to avoid the possibility of spontaneous rupture. If the tumor ruptures, the dog will not survive due to bleeding out into the abdominal cavity.

According to an article in the VCA by Debbie Stoewen and Christopher Pinard, both DVMs, “Signs of internal bleeding include lethargy, weakness, collapse, decreased appetite, and a distended abdomen. If the bleeding is severe (and untreated), it can lead to death. Rupture of these tumors is a medical emergency.”

If the tumor has been discovered prior to rupture and removed surgically, then chemotherapy is recommended. There is an issue of metastasis to other organs that may be involved, such as the kidneys, lungs, spinal cord, and brain. Often the means of discovery is through an X-ray or ultrasound.

The Morris Animal Foundation provides the following information:

“Even when a tumor is quickly detected and removed, the outlook for dogs with hemangiosarcoma is grim. Statistics show that:

- Average survival time with surgery alone is

COURTESY LINDA DAVIS



French Bulldogs



one to three months;

- Average survival time with surgery and chemotherapy is five to seven months;
- Ninety percent of dogs are deceased one year post-diagnosis despite surgery and chemotherapy, with almost 100-percent mortality two years post-diagnosis.

“The Morris Animal Foundation has invested more than \$3 million in over 20 years of research to improve the quality and duration of life for dogs diagnosed with hemangiosarcoma. Our funded research has focused on:

- Disease basics—understanding the basic biology of hemangiosarcoma may open the way to new diagnostics, treatments, and prevention;

- Overcoming chemotherapy resistance—understanding why hemangiosarcoma becomes drug resistant could improve treatment success, as well as identify new chemotherapy agents;
- Genetic links—studying breeds commonly affected by hemangiosarcoma could lead to new diagnostic testing and clues to the role genetics play in the development of this disease.”

Jan Grebe, Ph.D., says:

“The FBDCA has helped fund a number of research projects on hemangiosarcoma over the years. They have dealt with causes and treatments mostly. When the Health and Genetics committee selects topics of research to help fund with our Donor Advised Fund through the Canine Health Foundation, I am always looking for projects that involve hemangiosarcoma. We really have no idea how common this is because so many people whose dogs suddenly die do not have a necropsy done. This is unfortunate, because many research projects need for people to submit tumor tissue from dogs with this disease, either gotten during surgery, or necropsy. We also need to know how common it is in Frenchies.”

I lost a Frenchie to hemangiosarcoma of the liver and also know of a few friends who have lost a Frenchie to this silent killer. The memory of such a loss will keep one hypervigilant for obscure symptoms. Funding research is a way we can help conquer this cancer, and by doing a necropsy to determine cause. It is important and helpful to supply tissue for research. It is a complex disease.

Further resources:

<https://vcahospitals.com/know-your-pet/vascular-tumors>

<https://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/article/hemangiosarcoma-cancer-in-dogs>

—Sande Abernathy,

jpaplay@comcast.net

French Bull Dog Club of America

Keeshonden

THE RULES OF THE GAME

Manners and etiquette are important in different aspects of the dog world, and especially at shows.

Everyone likes to win, but the fact is that at every show there are usually over 1,000 dogs competing, and only one dog and one handler will go home not having lost that day—the Best in Show dog and his handler. So it behooves all of us, early in the sport, to learn how to lose graciously. When the judge points to you, accept your placement and your ribbon with a smile, thank the judge, and congratulate the winner. It is not always easy, and sometimes a loss goes down very hard, but it is important to behave in a sportsmanlike manner.

Very importantly, never let your dog feel your disappointment. It just takes a few times for your dog to observe your attitude, and he begins to think this “show thing” is not that much fun after all.

Also important is your behavior before and during the show. Do you know people who belittle their competition or make it known beforehand that they have an “in” with the

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Keeshond

judge? Do you see people use unfair ring tactics? Does a handler push her dog out of line toward the center of the ring? Hopefully the judge will notice such unsportsmanlike behavior and correct the person. The same applies when an exhibitor throws bait on the floor to upset the competition, or backs into the entry behind them in line, leaving them little room to show. All of this is unsportsmanlike. It will be noticed, and sooner or later it will come back to haunt the person doing it.

An increasing phenomenon seems to be judge intimidation, such as an exhibitor walking up to

confront the judge after what the person feels is an unfair decision. Some are even bold enough to do it in the ring, and some even feel free to loudly criticize the winner in front of the judge and the other competition.

Judges can help here by drawing a bright line around such behavior whenever it is encountered. They should call out these exhibitors on their behavior and if necessary report it to a bench committee.

If you are old enough to remember tennis star Jimmy Connors, you might recall that the tennis courts were rife with bad behavior at

the time he was competing. Players threw racquets, cursed at judges, and were generally out of control. This all occurred when my husband was first teaching me to golf. I asked him why you didn't see this behavior from golf professionals, as that sport was also being widely televised. He said, "As you learn to play, you will learn that the rules of golf are very strict, and they are strictly enforced. No one would think of doing these things, and if they did the consequences, would be immediate and severe."

By overlooking poor sportsmanship, we enable more of these incidents to occur. Worse yet, our novices are also in the ring, and this presents them with an unfavorable impression. They may see this and quit the sport, or they may think that this behavior is the way to succeed and emulate it. Either way, the sport of dogs is the ultimate loser.

Breeder appreciation. On a positive note, here is a lovely way to thank your breeder for a wonderful dog. Recently a friend of mine had a litter celebrate a birthday. She posted the pictures of the flowers sent to her by the owner of one of her puppies, and another puppy owner sent a basket of fruit! Breeders appreciate photos of their dogs and little notes on their progress. They also like being the first to learn of a win, qualifying score, or other achievement by their little ones. Being kind to your breeder, listening to their advice, and

communicating with your breeder and others in your breed and in the sport will be fun for you, and it will help you build a community of friends both in and out of your breed.

The essence of manners is treating others as you would like to be treated, and looking for ways to show your thoughtfulness and gratitude.

—Debbie Lynch,

dlnpoconsult@gmail.com

Keeshond Club of America

Lhasa Apsos

LIVING IN THIN AIR

The Lhasa Apso is native to Tibet, a remote country of high altitude, an unforgiving climate, and harsh living conditions. The breed's physique and character should reflect its origins: a sturdy little mountain dog, physically lean and strong, capable of thriving in extreme conditions.

Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, sits at 11,450 feet; the Potala palace, former home to the Dalai Lama, is higher yet, at over 12,000 feet. Scientists recently discovered a "superathlete" gene inherited by Tibetans 40,000 years ago from an extinct line of early hominids that helps them to endure such high altitudes. Tibetans use oxygen differently than any other humans and have fewer red blood cells, a trait thought to avoid clots and strokes associated

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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Lhasa Apso: May 2019

with altitude sickness. Yet their bodies are able to deliver sufficient oxygen to their limbs for strenuous physical activity.

While most of us will experience headaches and lightheadedness when we visit Denver, Colorado, the “mile-high city,” one should expect more severe symptoms at 12,000 feet in Tibet. Altitude sickness there is not pleasant: a screaming headache, fever, disorientation, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, and ongoing shortness of breath. The climate is not frigid, but

somewhat mild. There are three “seasons” in the inhabited regions: dry; windy and dry; and wet. Dehydration exacerbates altitude sickness, and the dry and windy seasons contribute to it. Lhasa Apsos developed along with humans in this environment, and while no one has discovered a supergene that enabled them to thrive, their physical characteristics were forged in these semi-arid highlands.

Lhasas needed strong nose-leather and moderate muzzle-length to warm and especially moisten air as it made its way to a well-developed set of lungs. They required a deep and long lung cavity with good rib-spring to store oxygen as it was used for daily activities. Their sides were neither flat nor barrel-shaped. Flat ribs signal inadequate lung capacity and a weak loin, while a broad chest and barreled ribcage require deep, heavy breathing to fill the lungs. Smaller, shallower breaths are needed in high altitudes.

Strong, efficient movement was essential for the dogs living with their sturdy human counterparts. Some Lhasas walked for miles alongside carts, while others lived in huge monasteries. The Potala is over a quarter-mile long and almost as wide, and is 13 stories high, with over 1,000 rooms and no elevators. Wherever it lived, this mountain dog required a body that would use oxygen efficiently. Good feet and joints plus a strong loin coupled with well-devel-

oped quarters and thighs propelled the sturdy little dog effortlessly where he needed to go. Any inefficiency, such as flailing or mincing movement, wasted oxygen needed for survival.

The shaggy, hard hair-coat protected the body and the eyes from the dusty wind and sun, which pierces unfiltered through thin, dry air. The eyes were not large and protruding, giving too much surface area to be damaged by the elements.

An integral part of the package was the steely character. This was a survivor, companion, alarm dog, entertainer—all part of the resume of this sturdy little mountain dog.

While we don’t know the genetic gifts that allowed the Lhasa Apso to survive in Tibet, we do know the phenotype and should do our best to recognize and preserve it.

(First published in this column in December 2014)

—Cassandra de la Rosa,

dlrcas@msn.com

[The American Lhasa Apso Club](#)

Schipperkes

MORE THAN JUST A PRETTY FACE

What many of us have known, the world of performance and companion dog sports is discovering: The Schipperke is a secret weapon! Our little, stubborn, mischievous, but always smart and thinking-outside-

the-box breed is an untapped wealth of intelligence, stamina, and energy. As these canine events are growing in popularity, we see our Schips shining! So I decided to ask two top competitors who excel with Schips in a variety of dog sports for their opinions and advice on starting to take this adventure.

Meet Kathy Swan, who has achieved 100 agility championships and nearly 700 titles in other events, and Anne Colgan, who has also garnered too many titles in numerous events on her dogs to list here.

How long have you been training and competing with your Schips?

KS 18 years.

AC I started with obedience and conformation about 30 years ago, and started agility 10 years ago.

What do you think makes this breed well suited to these events?

KS [They’re] quick learners, athletic, and they love to show off and also to work with their people.

AC They are persistent and determined, and the longevity of the breed is a big plus.

Should you start with a puppy, or should we feel encouraged to start even with an older dog?

KS I’ve done both ways, even started one at

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With their intelligence, stamina, and energy, Schipperkes excel in a variety of dog sports.

10. You can do low-impact things—you don't have to choose "hard" events.

AC Any time is a good time! My dogs just gave me a 78th-birthday present with new titles!

Do you train using treats?

KS Yes.

AC Yes.

Do you use any special diets or supplements for your canine athletes?

KS Supplement for joint health, and maintain a healthy weight.

AC Joint supplement.

Which events have you found the hardest?

KS Of the events I do, lure coursing and agility.

AC Agility and flyball. While the dogs really loved flyball, one of my dogs was not as well suited for it, and it caused injuries. In doing PT with the dog, I learned the sport is awfully hard on a lot of dogs, and I personally wouldn't do it again with mine.

Do you do any extra "conditioning" with your athletes?

KS Nothing beyond weekly classes and some short training sessions at home.

AC Not too much special but perpetual conditioning with classes and active life at home.

What is your favorite event?

KS We love them all, but currently we are loving NASDA, as it involves all types of scent work. We are also enjoying treibball, which is herding balls (also called urban herding.)

AC We all really love scent work of any kind! The dogs really enjoy it, and it's great for older people and older dogs.

Thanks so much to both competitors for their time. I could have listened to their wisdom for hours!

There you go, people—get off your duff, and take your Schip to a barn hunt or something fun you can do together to bond and stay fit! The opportunities abound to tap the energy and intelligence of our beloved "little devils." It's never too late to be what you might have been, and your Schipperke will agree.

—Virginia Larioza,

v.larioza@gmx.com

Schipperke Club of America

Shiba Inu

THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPORTING FOR BREED PRESERVATION

The National Shiba Club of America recently became aware of an upcoming change in the registration policies of the Japan Kennel Club (JKC), in that the club will no longer issue full registration and export pedigrees for NIPPO-registered dogs as of January 1, 2022. This will result in the inability to obtain AKC registration for many Shibas imported from Japan; the quality of American Shibas will decrease, and Shiba genetic variability will become limited as importation decreases.

The Nihon Ken Hozonkai (Japanese Dog Preservation Society, AKA "NIPPO") was formed in 1928 by Dr. Hirokichi Saito. NIPPO is the Japanese government agency

COURTESY OWNER

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Shiba Inu imports with influence on the breed include NIPPO-registered foundation dog Oki, above left, and two more recently imported NIPPO-registered foundation males, right and far right.



responsible for maintaining the registries of the native Japanese breeds. Prior to AKC breed recognition in 1992, American Shiba fanciers urged AKC to recognize a Japanese registry—either NIPPO or the JKC—so that ongoing importation of breeding stock from the country of origin could continue. The AKC did subsequently choose to recognize JKC. The current and soon-ending JKC policies have allowed full JKC registration of any Shiba that is registered with NIPPO.

Truth be told, NIPPO—not the JKC—is the

registry with which the vast majority of Shiba Inu in Japan are registered. The vast majority of preservation breeders of Shiba Inu in Japan only register their dogs with NIPPO because they do not participate in JKC events, only NIPPO regional and national shows. The NIPPO Grand National Show held in Japan annually will bring an entry of approximately 800 Shibas.

High-quality Shibas imported from Japan can do much for an individual breeding

program and improve existing stock (Haskett and Houser, 1997). Most of the top-quality Shiba Inu imported from Japan by American Shiba fanciers come from NIPPO breeders and are NIPPO registered. Early Shiba kennels made significant contributions with their imported NIPPO foundation dogs: Windcastle Shibas, Mokelumne-Reno Sakura Shibas, Taichung Shibas, and San Jo Shibas, to name a few. These contributions continue today, as breeders diligently work to preserve the Shiba Inu's essence and internal strength, which goes beyond a written standard.

The late, respected NIPPO breeder Nobuo Atsumi told the American Shiba fanciers we have a great responsibility to the breed: “It is

becoming more important for American breeders to have a correct understanding of what makes a Shiba a Shiba Inu.”

Currently, an American fancier who wishes to import a NIPPO-registered Shiba simply submits the dog's NIPPO registration and pedigree, along with a registration application, to the JKC. The JKC then issues full JKC registration and a “Certified Export Pedigree” for that dog, which includes the full names, NIPPO registration numbers, and colors of the ancestors, as well as the JKC registered name and JKC number for the dog. This important process will all change as of January 1, 2022. The JKC announced that, due to a requirement of the Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI), the JKC will no longer issue full JKC registration for NIPPO-registered dogs. Instead, the NIPPO dog will be issued an “Appendix” registration with the JKC, which will lack the above information. This will not be sufficient information for the AKC to accept for AKC registration.

What will this serious change do to future lines and the Shiba Inu in the near future if the NSCA and the AKC do not find a solution to accept NIPPO-registered imports? “The door to importation of the best dogs from the country of origin will close, and our breed will suffer the genetic consequences as a result.” A decrease or narrowly limited availability in high-quality genetic material will change

LEFT AND CENTER: COURTESY NATIONAL SHIBA CLUB OF AMERICA; RIGHT: COURTESY YUMI HAGIWARA

NON-SPORTING GROUP

the type of Shiba Inu. The highly valued and important intrinsic qualities (Kan-I, Ryousei, and Soboku) of the Shiba Inu will become lost in the American breed. New Shiba breeders, many who may go forward to become a judge, will not gain the knowledge or understand the importance of importing NIPPO registered Shibas for breed preservation.

The late American and NIPPO Japanese breeders' effort and dedication to preserve the Shiba Inu will be gone in a short time. We as Shiba fanciers owe it to them, the breed, and ourselves to continue the tireless efforts to find a solution that will continue preserving the Shiba Inu.

(Source: Gretchen Haskett and S. Houser, *The Total Shiba*, Alpine Publications, 1997.)

—Letty Hughes, lettyhughes.nsc@gmail.com and Jeri Burnside jeri.burnside.NSCA@gmail.com)
[National Shiba Club of America](#)

Tibetan Spaniels

I invited a new exhibitor in Tibetan Spaniels, Haylee Siegrist-Gross, to write about beginning in dog shows during Covid with her Tibbie, Pepper. The following is from Haylee.

BEST FRIENDS

Three years ago, when I was 24, I was living in an apartment with my boyfriend, and there

was nothing more I wanted than a dog. I had been bitten by the dog show bug a few years earlier, when I was 18, and my mom and I had started showing Smooth Collies. I knew I wanted a show dog, but I knew a Smooth Collie was not going to work in our apartment (besides, my boyfriend wanted a small dog), so I began researching. I wanted a breed that was healthy, friendly, easy to groom, and fairly trainable, and most importantly it had to be cute. Enter the Tibetan Spaniel.

I reached out to Laura LaBounty, a Collie person who I knew had Tibbies. She introduced me to Colleen Chaffee, of Shenanwood Tibetan Spaniels, who gave me Pepper, my best friend.

Pepper has been with me from our first apartment in New Jersey, to our big move to Virginia, and now at our first house in Virginia. She is my constant companion and always wants to be included in whatever we are doing. She has the usual Tibbie stubbornness, but with food she will do anything I ask. And she just so happened to be a great show dog too.

In 2020 I set a goal of being the number-one in NOHS rankings for Tibetan Spaniels—then Covid happened. For five months we stayed at home, with no dog shows. It was not a complete waste, however, as Pepper earned up to her Trick Dog Advanced title at the time, thanks to the AKC's virtual program.

Then at the end of July the dog shows started up again, but there were far fewer than in a normal year, and they were a lot farther away. Luckily, I had been teleworking since March, so I took my work on the road with me. Pepper and I traveled to Canfield, Ohio, which saw

some of the nation's top dogs and more than tripled its normal entries. Then a couple of weeks later it was back to Ohio again for the Friendship Cluster. I had never been to Ohio so much in my life!

In September we had a weekend of Tibetan Spaniel specialties in Pennsylvania, and then it was off to Florida for the Tampa cluster of shows. We made a vacation of it, renting an Airbnb and enjoying some free time at the beach.

And with the unexpected year that it was, and with more driving than I had ever done before, Pepper did it: She was the number-one NOHS Tibetan Spaniel for 2020!



Best friends: Haylee Siegrist-Gross and Pepper, her Tibetan Spaniel.

Now, as shows return to normal, I've continued to telework, enabling Pepper and me to continue to travel to dog shows. As an owner-handler I work to balance my job, dog shows, and friendships. Luckily we have friends that live all over, so we're able to visit them and maintain some semblance of a normal life.

Pepper is my first Tibby, but she certainly won't be my last. I've fallen in love with this monkey-faced breed. They are intelligent and agile, sometimes more cat than dog. They get flashes of energy but are happy to sit by your feet all day as you work from home. In Pepper I have found my best friend. She goes on car rides with me

COURTESY HAYLEE SIEGRIST-GROSS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

to run errands, we have done agility and rally classes together, and usually you can find us traveling to dog shows on the weekend.

I don't know where we'll end up the rankings this year, but I know I'll always have a great time with my best friend Pepper by my side. —H.S.-G.

Thank you, Haylee, for your and Pepper's story. To date, Haylee is again the number-one owner handler in the breed for 2021. I hope this will show that Tibetan Spaniels are not only a great breed for the seasoned exhibitor, they are also wonderful for a beginner.

—Mallory Cosby Driskill,

Ambrier@aol.com

[Tibetan Spaniel Club of America](#)



Tibetan Terriers

MUSINGS OF A FIRST-TIME BREEDER

I'm writing this column while we are currently in the dog days of the summer of 2021, and it's hard to imagine that by the time this is read, it will already be December. Will the Covid situation finally be behind us? Will we be free to travel across the pond, and will families manage to gather for the holidays?

2021 has remained a challenging year for dog show folks, with new norms to get used to. While most of our shows have been opening up, many people are still reluctant to enter

events held in big indoor venues. Additionally, new puppies born during the lockdown struggled with having to socially adjust to a whole new world of show-ring stimuli that they had not previously encountered.

For the first time in history, the Westminster Kennel Club moved to an outdoor venue this year, and though it was held in beautiful surroundings in Tarrytown, New York, somehow the spirit and energy of this yearly event was lacking, due to the absent presence of spectators cheering us on. We look forward to its return to NYC!

The comment of Patricia Trotter, Best in Show judge at this year's Westminster, was memorable:

"As dog lovers, we love all dogs, mixed-breeds and purebreds. They're all pets. Now every pet may not be a show dog, but be assured, every show dog is a pet." Mrs. Trotter has also said that "people who breed purebreds love their dogs as much as a guy with one mixed-breed pet. To be a breeder is a big responsibility." These last words resonated deeply with me this past year, as the careful planning of my first breeding happily resulted in a healthy litter of four puppies, born in April.

As I write this, my new puppies are now approaching 5 months of age. I say "puppies," because out of a litter of four, I kept—against all seasoned and experienced advice—two siblings and have made them part of my family (at least for now)! So far, they are expressing in full the recognized temperament of our beloved Tibetan Terriers, that of an intelligent, loving, slightly mischievous child, with a double dose of naughtiness! As I catch them in action displaying their well-known trait of jumping with ease onto chairs and tables, I wonder if perhaps their origins of being Himalayan dogs makes them want to be up on high?

In preparation for raising our litter, I watched the Puppy Culture DVDs and spent much time and energy in setting the puppies up for an easy transition to their new homes. My two new puppies have had play-dates with our neighbor's children and regular walks in the neighborhood. Now, I have to wait to see how they will grow up. So far, they are healthy, happy, curious, and adventurous. It has been quite an experience to witness them change into "the little people," as they were so affectionately called by the villagers in Tibet.

May all our "little people" bring us good luck and health as we move into 2022. *Tashi delek!*

—Sonam Kushner,

sonamkushner@gmail.com

[Tibetan Terrier Club of America](#)

HERDING GROUP

Bearded Collies

OPEN MOUTH, INSERT FOOT

The words reverberate, the lone sound in the silence that surrounds them. Still echoing, till mocking me, they stubbornly refuse to fade and die. Did I really just say those words? “Yes, you did,” the echo reminds me. The silence which follows the faux pas is deafening. Then the realization hits. Most of us have probably blurted out something before thinking. What happens next is up to you. Depending on the company and context, you can blunder on and hope the goof-up was unnoticed. Or, if warranted, you can apologize. Or, if funny, you can laugh along with everyone else and accept the fact that you’re not perfect. Like others, I’ve had my share of misspoken words.

One instance that will live in my mind, as long as it’s still working, happened a few years back at a dog show. I had stopped to talk with someone about her dogs and inquire about a close friend of hers who was fighting a losing battle with cancer. “She’s here,” the friend said, “Jen wanted to see one last dog show, so I brought her. Why don’t you go over and say hello?” Jen sat in a wheelchair on the other side of the ring—a sad sight, with her skin mustard-colored and a scarf tied around her head. Hesitating, I wondered what I could possibly say to her. And then I remembered



Bearded Collie

her friend telling me about a superb puppy they had just imported. It was an innocuous subject, something happy to discuss. So I approached, exchanged greetings, and then cheerily said, “I hear you’ve got a puppy that’s to *die* for!” Open mouth, insert foot.

It’s bad enough to say the wrong thing to one person, but how about if you say it to a packed audience? The event was one in which, as emcee, I introduced various dog breeds on stage and told a little about each one. The multi-talented Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever and his breeder stood beside

me on the stage as I described the way the dog worked and how it got its name by luring (known as “tolling”) swimming ducks to within range of the hunters’ guns by playing games along the shore to provoke their curiosity. “And then,” I continued, “when the ducks swim close enough, the hunter stands up in the blind and shoots the *dog*.” The words hung in the air for a moment, and then the audience realized the slip and burst into laughter. It didn’t help when the breeder, with a mischievous grin, commented into the mike, “Hunting sure is tough on the breed, but we

sell a lot of puppies that way.”

The scene for this next fiasco was a Beardie specialty in Canada many years ago. A group had gathered to chat, and a man I knew asked, “Alice, have you ever met Ian Noseworthy?” as he indicted the smiling gentleman beside him. No, I hadn’t met Ian, but I knew he had a handsome Beardie who had done some impressive winning, so his name was familiar—and you’ve got to admit, his last name was certainly memorable. (Personally, I thought it was a name better suited to a Bloodhound owner.) So I turned to Ian with a smile and said, “I know we’ve never met in person, but I’ve heard your *nose* so often.” As I blushed beet-red, Ian said, “I bet you’ll never forget my name now.” And he was right.

—Alice Bixler,

alice@bedlamkennels.com

[Bearded Collie Club of America](#)

Belgian Malinois

INDECENT EXPOSURE

I hate being startled. I flinch as I feel the surge of cortisol race up my core. I typically take the name of the Lord in vain and bark out a few adjectives at whoever startled me. Humans are supposed to be smart and adaptable. Yet I am 62 years old, and no amount of being startled has ever changed my reaction.

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Belgian Malinois

If I am—for whatever reason—unaware of your approach, I will startle. If I were a dog, one might say that I was reactive.

A surprising number of dogs have reactive tendencies. Humans have responded by dragging their reactive dogs to crowded events full of other reactive dogs, creating such a habitually toxic environment that people have largely become numb to the damage.

With exhibitors crammed together like sardines in a tin at most trials, I must run a gauntlet of crate-reactive dogs left with a full view of passersby every time I get my dog out

of his crate. On a good day, maybe only one or two dogs will fling themselves at their crate doors, growling and barking at our passage. Mind you, if I could get further away from a problem dog's festival of fury, I would—but then I would trigger fireworks from the other side of the aisle, so that wouldn't help.

All I want to do is get to the ring. Why must it be so hard?

Deep down, everyone knows it's wrong to let their dog terrorize others, but they are sure that in their special case, it can't be prevented: The dog is young; the room is hot; they only

left for a minute; that's just how he is; he never did that before. Any of these may be true. But ultimately, having a reason does not excuse leaving a crate-reactive dog free to scan the environment and choose targets.

It should be obvious why being charged from a crate could be terrifying for a dog walking down a row of crates, minding his own business. But perhaps not so obvious is the stress experienced by the dog inside the crate doing the charging. He is trapped in the crate and cannot flee, so if he feels threatened, he must fight, with the attendant cascade of stress hormones. We have been taught that frequent exposure to cortisol can be damaging to health.

Maybe you never considered this from your crated dog's point of view before. If not, then today is a good day to start. In my opinion, hard-won by experience, no dog should be left in a crate open to the environment, even if you think *your* dog is rock solid. This problem is a two-way street: Not only can a dog in an exposed crate harass those traveling a narrow aisleway, but he is also defenseless to the rude approach of another dog coming down the aisle!

What can you do? How about a simple visual barrier between your dog's crate and the surroundings? Some folks cover their crates with bedsheets, but I set up lightweight, Z-fold Styrofoam around my yodeling Belgian's crate

instead. It worked better than I ever dreamed. I discovered that once in his portable "hotel room," my Belgian relaxed and slept instead of wasting energy on his surroundings—after all, no matter where we were, the scenery was always the same. And since he was out of sight, potentially reactive passersby kept right on going.

If you are like most people, you care about helping to eliminate risk for everyone's dogs through your careful planning and attention to detail, and you expect others to do the same. So why not take this cheap and easy step to help reduce dog-dog conflict at competitions?

It's simple: Cover your crates.

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,

colemich@sbcglobal.net

[American Belgian Malinois Club](#)

Belgian Sheepdogs

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO WIN IN CONFORMATION?

What does it take to win? I recently was at a Belgian specialty show and found myself watching all the owners, dogs, and handlers ringside preparing for their moment in the conformation ring. There was a dog there who has done a lot of winning. The dog and his owner-handler are polished and represent the BSD breed well. I got to thinking about how that dog got to this point. His other owner sat ringside with the dog's breeder and said to me

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Participating in conformation showing takes quite a bit of preparation.

that it was a great breeding and the luck of getting a great dog from the breeder. She also said so many people don't realize the training and preparation that has gone into this dog for this moment.

The owners and breeders of this winning dog understand the process. We often go to shows and see the same lines and same owners and handlers winning. In many breeds you will hear "politics" shouted; however, in Belgian Sheepdogs we are primarily owner-handlers. I remember a top professional handler once tell-

ing us at a seminar that a top-notch owner-handled dog was their biggest competition. It makes sense. Most owner-handlers have one or two dogs to juggle with everything. Professional handlers often have 10 or more dogs, which limits their time, as there are only so many hours in a day.

So what are you bringing to the ring? It is important for any handler to know their dog's faults but focus on highlighting their dog's strong points when in the ring. One dog may have a beautiful ear-set and correct parallel

planes. Another dog may have great shoulder and beautiful outline to their neck. It is not uncommon to see a novice handler highlighting their dog's faults to the judge. A good example would be a handler fixated on getting ears up tight instead of focusing on showing off the dog's beautiful, strong shoulder. The judge just saw your dog's weak points. When I first began showing, win or lose I would watch the videos of myself in the ring and then play the game of trying to figure out what the judge was looking for that day. I laugh at my early days, as it was not always pretty. I saw more of my arm swinging than the dog trotting around the ring. I still video myself to this day. I also do a lot of research prior to entering under a judge to know if what I have is the "type" of dog that judge would appreciate.

Temperament is a part of our breed standard, and it is unfortunately not uncommon to see a nice Belgian lose because he or she lacked confidence in the ring. The breed standard says:

"In his relationship with humans he should be observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive. He should not show fear or shyness. He should not show viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate and friendly, zealous of their attention, and very possessive. Viciousness is a disqualification."

In short, you don't get rewarded for growling

or shying away from the judge, and it's just not good PR for our breed. Dogs, handlers, and even judges have bad days. That is OK, and quite frankly it happens to most of us at some point or another. When the behavior is repeated over and over with the same result is when it should be evaluated.

The dog you went into the ring with is the same dog you come out with. If your dog is balking at exams or showing the bite, or galloping around the ring at handling class on Tuesday night every week, you can pretty much bank he's also going to do it at the show with a complete stranger looking at him. I remember when I got my girl, and as a puppy we went to every AKC match we could find. Some folks laughed at my Group 1 and 2 wins at matches and said, "Oh, that's cute, but it's not the real thing." That is partially true—the wins at the match didn't count for her championship—but the experiences did do wonders in proofing us for the real thing. I remember her first show, where she got her first point at 6 months and 1 week. Our hard work was already starting to pay off. At 5 years old now, my girl is a breed-winning grand champion.

In summary, playing in conformation is tough. Subjective sports are not for everyone, dog or human. It does not happen overnight, either. It can also be a lot of fun when it all comes together and today is your day to get

COURTESY SUSAN REED DAVIS

HERDING GROUP

the ribbon. So go, buy your dog his hamburger for his win, and pat yourself on the back. If today was not your day, congratulate the winners, and go home with smile and a game plan for the next show. And remember, there will always be another show.

Stay safe, friends.

—Susan Reed Davis,

sreedsreed@gmail.com

[Belgian Sheepdog Club of America](#)

Belgian Tervuren

RESEARCH ON GASTRIC CANCER

There is ongoing research into gastric cancer in all the Belgian breeds. There is an international collaboration between researchers Drs. Elaine Ostrander and Jacqueline Evans at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Dr. Anita Oberbauer at UC Davis, and Drs Peter Leegwater and Paul Mandigers at Utrecht University (NL) who are working together on this devastating disease.

Dr. Evans reports:

“The goal of the work is to identify the mutations that cause susceptibility to gastric cancer in Belgian Shepherd breeds. Our findings will be published and made freely available. To date, the Ostrander group has generated genome-wide marker data in a cohort of affected and healthy American Belgians as

well as whole genome sequences from multiple affected dogs. Analysis conducted thus far indicate that there are likely multiple regions of the genome that contribute to increased risk, and that additional DNA samples from both affected dogs and healthy (no cancer history) seniors are required in order to find genes associated with risk for gastric cancer. We are also seeking to collect tumor samples, as information gleaned from general analysis of tumors may identify genes underlying lethal metastasis.

“Embark has also teamed up with the gastric study, and with explicit permission from owners who submit a Belgian sample for DNA analysis, will share that data with the Ostrander lab. It is also possible for owners to submit their raw data from Embark found under the Advanced section of their dogs results directly to jacquelyn.evans@nih.gov.

“We are especially interested in data from healthy senior dogs and dogs who developed gastric cancer. Embark’s data can be directly incorporated into the ongoing gastric study; however, we ask owners to also submit their dog’s blood samples for the gastric cancer study to the Ostrander lab when possible. Having this DNA is essential for follow-up studies that must be done to confirm any initial genetic findings.

“The gastric cancer study is still in need of blood samples from gastric cancer cases as well as aged healthy Belgians (10 years or



Belgian Tervuren

older, with no cancer history), and owners can contact our lab directly to participate at dog_genome@mail.nih.com. Tumor samples are also extremely valuable at this time from dogs diagnosed by biopsy and histopathology or for whom histopathology is planned. If owners think they might be able to donate a tumor sample we ask that they contact us, as a special kit and protocol will need to be provided to the veterinarian ahead of time. Tissue is very delicate, and the collection process is time sensitive and

requires advance preparation. Unfortunately the lab cannot cover the cost of tissue collection but will provide prepaid FedEx shipping labels to send the samples. To clarify, we would like tumor tissue and blood whenever possible but will always gladly accept blood samples only.”

To help offset the cost to owners of necropsy and tissue shipment, the ABTC has established a Necropsy Reimbursement Fund. Club member Dr Kathy Greenfield (trackingtervs@gmail.com) is the contact person for this fund and can

COURTESY L MILLER

HERDING GROUP

provide guidance and coordinate the reimbursement process.

In the absence of a genetic test, owners are encouraged to submit health updates and information on dogs who have been diagnosed with stomach cancer to an online database run by Thea van Niekerk in the Netherlands, “International Register of Belgian Shepherds with Stomach Cancer” (<http://www.belgian-stomachcancer.com/index.htm>). By submitting your dogs’ information to this registry, even those who have died, others can potentially consider risk in proposed breedings.

You do not need to be a member of any club to participate in this study. You only need to love our Belgians and want to help us get on the path to eradicating this deadly disease.

—Dana B. Mackonis,
cachetnoir@yahoo.com

[American Belgian Tervuren Club](#)

Bouvier des Flandres

A BOUVIER IS FIRST TO ACHIEVE HIGHEST-LEVEL AKC RALLY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Meet the AKC’s first-ever RACH 5, RACH 6, and RACH 7 titleholder. And, yes, she’s a Bouvier!

In December 2020, I stood outside the Bouvier ring in Orlando when a charming Bouvier came up to me and rolled over



*Bouvier des Flandres: Ch. Naris du Posty Arlequin, 1970
(Gilbert photo)*

to have her stomach rubbed. That’s how I met the history-making Jaheira and her owner, Becky Wolfer. Jaheira’s formal name is RACH 7 Westfall’s Miss Jaheira Jakar Donlee, CD, PCD, BN, RM 13 RAE 15,

FDC, BCAT, TKN, CGCA, THDA—the first dog of any breed to achieve the AKC’s RACH (Rally Champion) 5, 6, and 7. Yes, she’s a Bouvier. Becky told me, “No one believes a Bouvier is a rally dog, let alone one

with multiple high-level titles.”

Becky shared her formula for success. “It’s all about spending time with them. The blue ribbon is not important, only the green (indicating a qualifying score). There are plenty of trials where we had a great score but no placement, because we are slow. Ties in rally are broken by time. Bouviers are not speed demons, often doing things in their own time. I would rather have a good score and a green ribbon than try to be fast and risk making a mistake. It’s important to have fun and if need be ‘act a fool.’ My dogs love acting a fool in the ring. I think they do it on purpose for attention.

“Showing a Bouvier in rally teaches patience, humility, and above all to have a sense of humor. It teaches you that it’s the journey, not the endpoint, that matters. It teaches you how to read your dog and be a team. It strengthens the relationship with your dog. I have met many wonderful people and made many new friends from doing rally. Those of us with the ‘nontraditional’ breeds tend to stick together and cheer each other on. It’s so much fun to be there when another ‘off breed’ gets a RACH.

“The stubborn and independent Bouvier is not an easy breed. They do things their own way. They don’t like being told what to do and absolutely *hate* repetition, so you can’t keep practicing the same thing over and over. They

HERDING GROUP

are not ‘working machines’ like a Golden or a Border Collie—but that’s what makes it fun. You learn to roll with the punches.

“Very few Bouviers do rally. The good thing is I usually don’t have to remember my number but walk up to say, ‘I’m the Bouvier.’ I am used to hearing ‘But she’s a Bouvier.’ It doesn’t bother me—I just laugh now. She was the first Bouvier to get a RM and RACH title. She has more RAE and RM titles than any Bouvier ever. She is the one and only to have a RACH. She is the *first* dog of any breed to achieve RACH 5, RACH 6, and now RACH 7. There will be others, but she’s the *first*.”

“Hopefully, I will have many more years with Jaheira. I don’t know if it will be in rally ring or not. I don’t know if we will get any more titles or any more ‘firsts.’ I do know that everyone comments on our incredibly strong relationship. I know we have fun doing things together. I know we read each other well. I know that she is an awesome dog and companion that comes from an excellent breeder. I know that she’s a champion and the first dog *ever* to get RACH 5, RACH 6, and RACH 7. And, yes, she’s a Bouvier—RACH 7 Westfall’s Miss Jaheira Jakar Donlee, CD, PCD, BN, RM 13, RAE 15, FDC, BCAT, TKN, CGCA, THDA.”—B.W.

Thank you, Becky and Jaheira, for embodying all the Bouvier can do!

If you’d like to try Rally, visit <https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/get-started/>. With AKC virtual titles offered, people of all ages can achieve a title.

—Jeannette Nieder,
airdrie@myfairpoint.net
American Bouvier des Flandres Club

Briards

THANK YOU FOR CALLING

“Thank you for calling Santa’s North Pole Headquarters. Please listen carefully to our menu. To learn about Worldwide Reindeer Sleigh Tours, press one. For Santa’s Request Line, press two. To speak to the Elf Toy Department, press three.”

Beep.

“You have reached Santa’s Request Line. If your request concerns toys, press one. For clothing, press two. For dogs, press three.”

Beep.

“Thank you for calling the Canine Request Line. For Briards, press one. For all other breeds, press two.”

Beep.

“You have reached Santa’s Briard List. If your request concerns conformation showing, please press one. For obedience, press two. For rally, press three. For agility, press four. For herding, press five. For scent work, press six. For



COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

HERDING GROUP

trick training, press seven. For all others, press eight, nine or ten.”

Beep.

“You have reached Santa’s Briard Conformation List. If you want your Briard to win a Best in Show, press one (and don’t hold your breath). For a first in the Herding Group, press two. If you would be happy with a Best of Breed, press three. If you would like your Briard to take a major, press four. If you just wish you could *find* a major, press five. For a Winners ribbon, press six. For all other ribbons, press seven. For an up-to-date list of judges with failing eyesight, press eight.”

Beep.

“Hi. This is Santa Claus with a special message. Due to the current Supply Chain Crisis, we can’t guarantee your order will reach you by the specified date. We’ll do our best to see you’re not disappointed, but it has caused problems for us too. The batteries for Rudolph’s nose are still on backorder. However, since the mask over his nose reduces it to a faint pink glow, I guess it doesn’t matter. Rest assured that your request has been placed on our list, so please be patient. If you have any questions or concerns, you’re welcome to leave a message on my voicemail. Just press zero and wait for the beep, and don’t forget to supply your name, email address, and cell phone number.”

Hug your Briards, and have a very merry

Christmas! And be glad reindeers don’t run on gas.

—Alice Bixler,

alice@bedlamkennels.com

Briard Club of America

Canaan Dogs

SEX AND THE SINGLE(TON) CANAAN

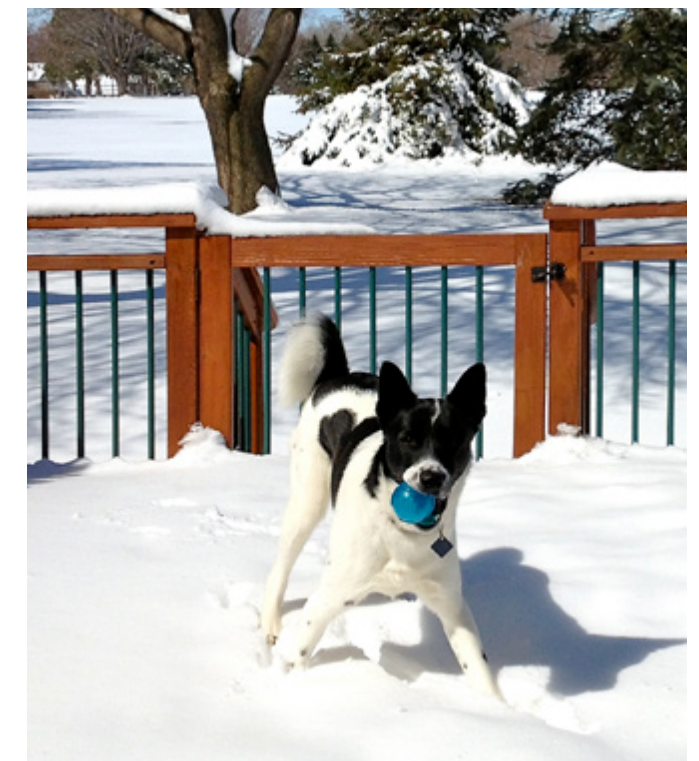
Reproduction in Canaan Dogs is one trait that most breeders can count on. It is the epitome of Canaan natural selection; that is, breed the next generation, or go extinct. The average litter size is usually four to five, though in recent years there have been a few litters of eight or more, and rarely, even litters of just one or two. There is no known reason for the latter situation, though it is thought by some that the causes can range from poor semen quality in the male to hormonal abnormalities in the bitch. Whatever the reason, occasionally the breeder who has counted on a normal-sized litter is presented with full-term or pre-term stillborns and a single live pup or a full-term singleton and must deal with keeping the pup alive and healthy.

Canaan dams are typically good mothers with sufficient milk for the entire litter. For singleton litters, they may not produce as much as a full litter, but the singleton rarely needs to be supplemented; the only cases known are



(Clockwise from above:) Singleton pup cuddling with faux littermates; singleton pup Matan, day 1; singleton pup Matan as an adult

post-C section surgery while the dam is recovering from anesthesia, then the pup is placed back with its mom. One breeder reported that their bitch refused to acknowledge her puppy following C-section recovery and the singleton had to be placed with another litter born that same day, so as to be readily accepted. Other breeders noted that their dams acted like it was normal to have just one puppy, even if she had previously whelped multiple pups, and the singleton gained weight at the normal rate. One longtime breeder put it aptly: “Canaan Dogs are amazing at not wasting resources, even their own resources, making just the right



COURTESY CATHERINE OSKOW (MATAN), CHRISTINA MILLER

HERDING GROUP

amount of milk for the pups at hand.”

The breeder’s interaction with a singleton involves more work than with a larger litter, as they must emulate the experiences of everyday full-litter activities with the lone pup from the first day of its birth. In multiple-pup litters, there is the usual pushing and shoving between siblings for possession of the best teat, with one pup nudged off or another one climbed upon by its sibling trying for different coveted spot. Here the breeder imitates the same activity by gently pushing the pup off the teat while nursing, using their hands to roll the puppy as if a sibling were shoving, or applying gentle finger “walking” pressure over the puppy’s body to duplicate another climbing over it. Many breeders put small plush toys in with the singleton as substitute siblings for the pup to shove, jostle, and climb over, as well as placing these around the sleeping pup to mimic pack-huddling for warm and comfort.

As with normal-size litters, socialization is key, and with a singleton’s lack of siblings, this is even more so. If there are other adult Canaan bitches in the household, it’s not uncommon for one or more of them to hop into the whelping box once the dam allows it to help raise the pup, including teaching it good manners as well as socializing it to other dogs. This is a pack behavior trait that Canaans have retained through millennia,

and these nannies will make sure that the pup learns bite inhibition, not to be too pushy, and other social niceties. The breeder adds the human socialization factor in having the pups meet friends, children, and other animals when appropriate to round out crucial early education. All this hard work is rewarded when the singleton develops into a well-adjusted Canaan, ready for a full life ahead of him or her, whether as a show or performance champion and/or a beloved family pet.

Grateful thanks to the following Canaan Dog breeders with their insight on singleton litters: Bryna Comsky (Ha’Aretz Canaan Dogs), Donna and Jackie Davison (Davison’s Doggone Acres), Cynthia Dodson and David Golden (Revelation Kanaani Canaan Dogs), Alla Geretz (HaTikva Canaans), River Rock Canaan Dogs (Christina Miller), and Catherine Oskow (Mazel Tov Canaan Dogs).

—Denise A. Gordon,
desertstarcanaans@yahoo.com
Canaan Dog Club of America, Inc.

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

HAIR TODAY, GONE TOMORROW

It all started months ahead of the big event. The excitement of another national, and a chance to show my specials dog. I wanted her to be in peak condition. We walked daily and

worked on our presentation skills during the outings. Every day we got up on the grooming table and had a serious, regimented process of combing, nail-grinding, trimming of the pads, and teeth-scaling. Then we took the opportunity to practice our examination on the table itself. Anyone who was crazy enough to visit the house was asked to go over dogs on the table to give them that experience. (This may explain why no one comes to visit anymore. All this time I thought it was due to the Covid-19 situation!)

The next training tool was the treadmill.

Now I have learned that not every dog I own likes exercising on one of these contraptions. Some will run right up onto the unit, while others hide in the bedroom in hopes I can’t find them at all. One particular dog was adept at relieving his bowels while in full motion, a skill not attained by many. Obviously, this sent a clear message that perhaps he didn’t enjoy the treadmill as much as I would have liked. Of course, others would just give me a funny look and lock up their feet so that the machine just flung them off the end and they could dive for cover. This special dog loved the treadmill and



Cardigan Welsh Corgi

DAVID WOO ©AKC

HERDING GROUP

would run full-bore for as long as you wanted. Sounds like things should go pretty well for this well trained and conditioned Cardigan. One might think that, wouldn't one?

Here we are about a month and half away from the big event. The routine was going well, and we started on the table with a combing session. The first pass of the comb seemed a little strained, and a closer inspection showed a little more undercoat hair in the tines than usual. OK, no cause for alarm, just a little springtime shedding—no big deal. The next day we hit the table again, and even more hair came loose. Combing thru the pants revealed lots more loose undercoat. *OMG*, I realized, this dog is heading into the dreaded shedding phrase! Now what do I do? (Here is a video on YouTube of the dog being blown dry and hair going everywhere: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFzCex_Wbl0).

Every dog show exhibitor has their so-called secret formula for getting hair to regrow quickly, I on the other hand, I have never had success with any of them. I immediately started with cool baths on a regular basis, much to the chagrin of my dog. I got that look of *Didn't we just do this a few days ago?* As the undercoat loss seemed to slow down, I foolishly thought I'd managed to dodge the bullet. Silly me. Now it was time for the guard hairs to kiss the world goodbye.

The ongoing joke at our house is the Cardigans shed only once a year—January to December. As you can guess, my heart sank as my beautiful dog was reduced to looking like a plucked chicken. I entered into the denial stage and thought the dog would fine by the national. Add on top of this she decided to go into season, and all hope was lost of showing this year. So, here is this dog in top physical condition and trained to perform at her best—but without the matching coat she was doomed never to enter the ring. The ole saying *"You can't beat Mother Nature"* certainly held true for me this time. It just goes to show you that you can have *hair today, but gone tomorrow*.

—David L. Anthony,
Dragonpatch@gmail.com
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

Collies

SELECTION

Every pillar of the breed, every great show dog, every successful performance competitor came from that one moment when a decision was made: *This is the one*. After the research, rearing, and agonizing it all boils down to deciding who to keep or take home. Selection is intricately linked to the decision-making process, whether we use intuition, logic, or crystal ball.

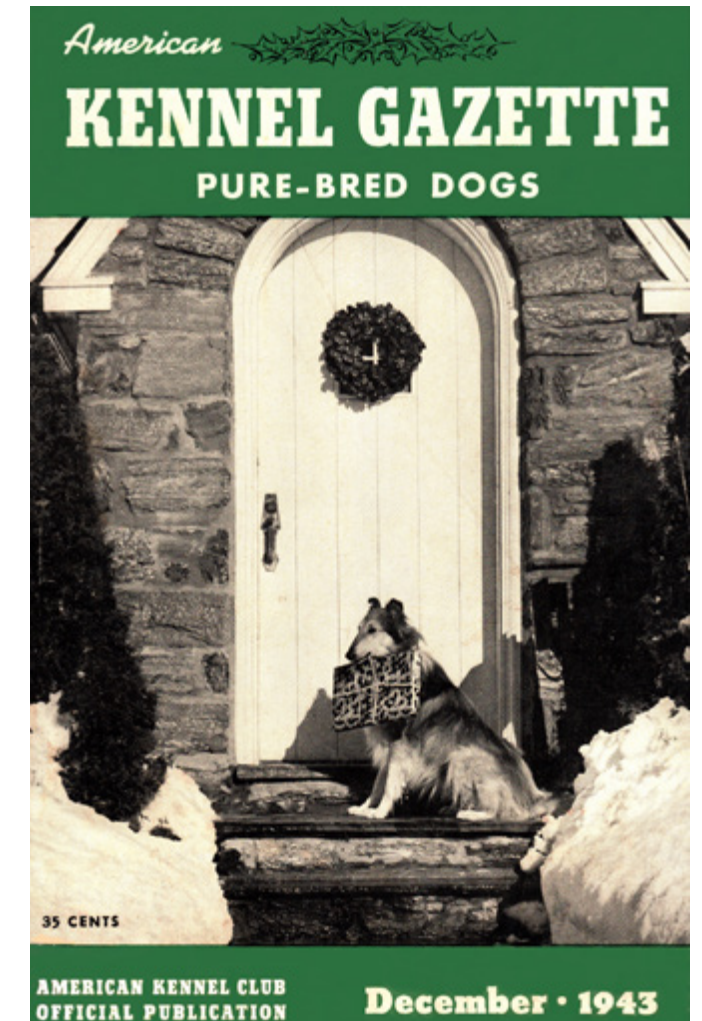
When asked, there are plenty of justifications for our decision—some logical and well thought out, others, not so much. Choices are based on size, color, or gender. Perhaps there are unavoidable constraints such as limited observation or interaction with the litter.

Others might pick solely on one criterion, possibly based on a previous bad experience. That type of decision-making reminds me of a house we once lived in that had a basement that flooded. When it came to searching for a new house, our priority became “no basement flooding.”

There are many happy outcomes from using all the above methods. It makes it so much easier to narrow the list of “must haves.” Most of us have heard at one time or another “it must be sable [or tri or blue],” “it must be a girl [or a boy].” We can narrow the choice to things like head profile/head-on expression/big neck/abundant coat, or even more specific details.

If we know selection is important, and there are choices that must be made, then it would help to examine our own decision-making process. It might open our minds up to possibilities and opportunities we hadn't considered before.

One way is to visit other breeders and evaluate puppies, even when we aren't “shopping.” The chance for insight into someone else's thought process and discuss what that breeder



Collie: December 1943 (Harold Lambert photo)

is striving for can give us a different perspective. What is important to them? Is it manifested in their dogs? Are they going for something specific? Do they have a plan? If their emphasis has been on eye and expression, for example, are they looking to incorporate other assets into their breeding pro-

HERDING GROUP

gram, such as structure and outline? How does prioritizing these things influence your thinking? Selection determines the direction we're going in and what we pick today influences what decisions we will make in the future.

There are so many components to dog breeding that it can be extremely complex. Why does one litter or pup catch our eye, and not another? Our brains connect to the familiar and what is different can appear foreign. On the other hand, what we become very familiar with can be incorrect, for example, if all the fronts are straight, then it can become so familiar as to appear normal.

It's fun to guess who the next winner or breed pillar will be, but selection is so much more. It is the temperament, health, and conformation of parents, grandparents, and the sum of all the parts, the individual in front of us. It is hours of study and thought and knowledge of ancestors as well as the present generation. We may not always agree, but the observations and analyses of successful breeders willing to share can spark new ways of thinking. Our biases and notions and how we process the information are as important as the moment of selection itself.

That crystal ball can't hurt, either. (2013)
—Marianne Sullivan,
millknock@embarqmail.com
[Collie Club of America](#)

Finnish Lapphunds

FLCA 2021 NATIONAL SPECIALTY—CHEERS TO 10 YEARS

The Finnish Lapphund Club of America's 2021 national specialty took place at the Wine Country Circuit in Romulus, New York, at the end of September and into early October. The FLCA show committee worked continuously for the last two years to make this show happen, and the club was very happy to be able to finally celebrate the breed's 10-year recognition anniversary with the AKC. To say there were challenges in making this specialty happen is an understatement, but the committee's perseverance to overcome two show cancellations and a last-minute judge change prevailed, and the show was a great success.

There were 34 Finnish Lapphunds entered each day at the national and regional specialties, with an even split across both sexes and a nice distribution across the classes and sweepstakes. The national-specialty judge, Ray Filburn, was impressed with the quality of dogs presented, especially in the bitch classes. Most of the common coat colors were represented—black and tan, brown and tan, cream, sable, and wolfsable. The judges' education event had a good turnout. Four judges attended the presentation, and at the ringside mentoring they enjoyed learning more about Lappies.

The trophy and gift committee had gone above and beyond to collect many fabulous Lappy-themed prize donations from our Lappy-loving friends and put together nice judge and exhibitor bags. And then they stored all these items for over a year while waiting for the show to finally happen! The club had a special 10-year anniversary celebration logo designed to go on swag, a special cake to share ringside, and a pizza get-together.

An 8-year-old named Micce (AKC GCh.S/Can. GCh.X Peikkovuoren Talviturkki) was brought out of retirement to attend the specialty. His owner had come to terms that his winning days were done and had only entered him as a veteran to support the specialties. Well, this former U.S. and Canadian multiple all-breed Best in Show and Best in Specialty winner ended up taking Best of Breed at both specialty shows, adding two more BISS wins to his resume. Micce made his owner so very proud—he absolutely loved being in the ring again and had a fabulous time.

A few Lappies also did well at the WCC shows by taking home some group wins. GCh.B Peikkovuoren Paras on Panthera, Kukka, got Best of Breed twice and a group win. Her owner says Kukka really loves being in the ring—and anyone who has seen her show will attest that she's a funny, feisty, animated little clown who will do anything for

a freeze-dried minnow! GCh. Lapinkaunis I Want It All, Bandit, also got a group placement, and Ch. Midnight White Sugarok Strut My Stuff at Nallies, Mowgli, earned two NOHS Group wins. It is so wonderful seeing the breed get recognition in the Herding Groups.

There were quite a few Finnish Lapphund owners in attendance where this was their first national specialty, and for some owners and their dogs, their first time showing. Littermates Ch. Sugarok Mona Lisa Smile, Runa, and Sugarok Van Gogh, Ukko, were Winners Bitch/Best of Winners and Winners Dog at the FLCA regional specialty on Friday. This was the first weekend of shows for both dogs. Runa finished her championship over the weekend, and Ukko surprised his owner by how well he did after just a few months of practice. GCh. Joan Jett Du Domaine D'Arinella Bianca, Zelda—a 7-year-old veteran who loves to eat anything, and whose owners were first-time specialty attendees—also competed in Rally and earned her Novice title at the WCC trials.

Another first-time attendee commented that the coolest thing was about the shows was seeing more than two or three Lappies in the ring. Many Finnish Lapphund owners attend shows where they might be the only Lappy people entered, so they said it was fantastic

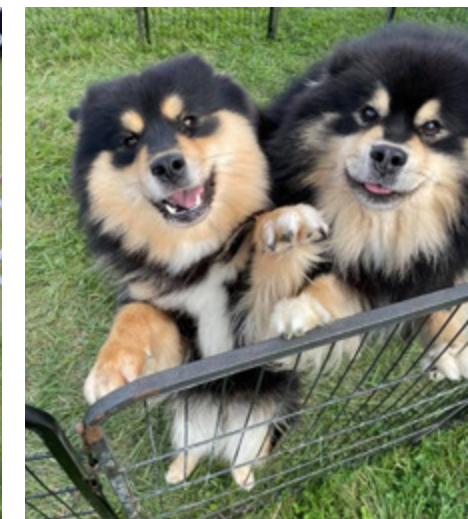
BREED COLUMNS



HERDING GROUP



Micce, winning specialty Best of Breed number one; FLCA's 10-year anniversary logo; lineup at the show; Mowgli proud of his prizes; Kukka and her pretty ribbons; Mowgli on the move; Bandit looking handsome; littermates Runa and Ukko; future Junior Handler with Zulu at her first show; happy Lappies!



seeing 30-plus dogs all at one show. These first-timers got to meet the larger Finnish Lapphund community and said they learned a lot by watching the other handlers and their Lappies in the ring.

The number of Finnish Lapphunds in the U.S. is slowly growing, and the FLCA estimates that there are around 800 Lappies in this country. The number of dogs presented at the specialties is also growing each year, and it is wonderful to see so many new owners enthusiastically taking their dogs into the

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show ring. The next FLCA national specialty is being planned for early June 2022 at Purina Farms. We hope to see you all there!

—Maria Swarts,

miaswarts@aol.com

[Finnish Lapphund Club of America](#)

Norwegian Buhunds

WHAT IS YOUR DOG SAYING?

At a show last month, I took my dog outside to exercise her. One minute she was sniffing the grass, the next she was giving a series of high-pitched yelps that were unlike any sounds that she had produced before. My guess was that she might be in pain. As I was trying to stay calm and identify the cause, I realized how difficult it was for her to communicate with me. Dogs understand and respond to our words, but we seem unable to understand many of their vocalizations.

What is your dog saying when he makes those strange muttering sounds when lying at your feet? Or when he growls during play?

Dog sounds can be grouped into four categories: sounds of warning, sounds of distress, sounds of pleasure, and sounds of affiliation.

Sounds of warning and distress

The low-pitched rumble of a growl or a snarl is a warning sound that is unmistakable. Dogs use lower-pitched sounds to signal that



Norwegian Buhund

they are larger and more dangerous than they actually might be. (Try to growl at a high pitch, and it is no longer a growl.)

Growls are subtler than we think. The soft, low-pitched, sustained growl that seems to come from the chest is the sound of warning given by a confident dog, meaning, “Back off.” When this growl is heard, it is wiser to give the dog space, since failure to respond appropriately could trigger an attack. It is especially dangerous if this dog stops growling abruptly with no change in its posture, because the dog

might have decided to stop talking and resort to physical action.

Growling that is medium pitched, comes more obviously from the mouth, and is of shorter duration indicates an element of fear. This growl is considered by many to be a snarl, especially if there is lip-curling by the dog. Such a growl or snarl is made by a less confident dog who would rather not fight, but the message is the same: “Stay away!”

In contrast, high-pitched sounds of short duration that rise in pitch toward the end of

the sound are sounds of distress. When my dog wants attention or is in pain, she uses higher-pitch sounds such as whines, whimpers, and yelps to suggest that she is small and defenseless. It is an attempt to communicate a desire for food, social interaction, or relief from a full bladder. If whining is ignored, it becomes more intense and frequent before the dog finally accepts that no one is going to respond. (Keep in mind that whining can also become a learned behavior when the dog learns that it results in your attention.)

Yelps are a combination of a whine and a bark that communicate fear, pain, or panic. A single yelp might say “Ouch! You just stepped on my paw,” whereas a series of yelps might communicate “I’m hurting and I’m scared,” in response to severe pain and fear.

As for what my dog was trying to communicate through her yelping that day at the show? She was saying, “Help! I’ve been stung by a bee and it hurts an awful lot!” Once the bee sting was dealt with, she was back to her usual happy self.

Sounds of pleasure and of affiliation

Let us not forget that dogs also communicate pleasure, happiness, excitement, and affiliation through their vocalizations. The most common sounds of pleasure are moans and sighs, although dogs also use whines and growls to communicate happiness.

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Low-pitched moans are very common in puppies and are signs of contentment. Puppies moan when they are in close contact to their littermates, their mother, or their humans. My Buhunds love to lie pushing against my back and moan in content relaxation. Another sound of contentment is the sigh, usually accompanied by the dog lying down with its head on its forepaws. When the sigh is combined with half-closed eyes, it communicates pleasure; with fully open eyes, it communicates disappointment: “I guess you are not going to play with me.”

Although considered signs of distress, whines can also be used to communicate happiness and excitement. The difference is that a whine used to communicate distress rises in pitch toward the end of the sound, whereas a whine communicating excitement either drops in pitch toward the end of the sound or does not change in pitch. If you listen to such a whine, it is unlikely to make you unhappy. All it means is “I’m excited! Let’s play!”

Similarly, there are growls that are not used as warnings or threats but are used to communicate play. Such growls are noisy and medium-pitched, with no low rumbling (like that heard in warning growls) and no signs of teeth. One of my Buhunds loves to lie in her crate with her toy, giving little play-growls at intervals. Dogs walking by the crate are not in

the least concerned about the growls, but an occasional person will stop to see what is happening and will have to be told, “Oh, she’s just playing with her toy!”

Compared to people, dogs have a much clearer understanding of the difference between play-growls and threatening growls. When researchers played different types of recorded growls over a speaker in front of a desirable bone, dogs avoided the bone in the presence of warning growls but grabbed it in the presence of play-growls.

The quintessential communication of affiliation is the howl. Howling in dogs seems to be a behavior similar to that in wolves. A dog howling by itself is communicating, “I want my pack.” One of my dogs has mastered this type of howl; he gives a “yip-howl” when I leave him in his crate and go to train my other dogs. In contrast, a group howl can be a rallying cry or a simple celebration of group affiliation. Such a howl is often contagious (my husband loves to give a howl to get our dogs howling in unison) and can go on for a while, allowing the dogs to display their musical talents.

Dogs make sounds both intentionally and unintentionally, and they all have certain meanings. Just because we do not understand the wonderful variety of sounds that dogs vocalize does not mean that dogs are not doing their best to communicate with us.

—Jasmine Tata,
Jtata2@yahoo.com
Norwegian Buhund Club of America

Old English Sheepdogs

As the regular OES breed columnist, I would like to introduce Dr. Cathy Chudzinski of OESCA’s Health and Research Committee (HRC). The HRC is giving me a break by providing this column, which gives an overview of their recent breed-specific health survey.

OES HEALTH SURVEY SUMMARY

The Old English Sheepdog Club of America (OESCA) recently shared a PowerPoint summary of the most recent health survey with the membership via the club’s [website](#). The health survey was the third in a series conducted by the Health and Research Committee (HRC) of the Old English Sheepdog Club of America. The previous surveys were conducted several years earlier and much has changed in our breed since then. Of significant note, our population has declined in numbers. There have also been numerous advancements in the field of canine health since the previous surveys. Additional genetic testing and improved treatment options are now available and as well as

developments in sharing data via social media. In order to serve our breed, it was important to invite all Old English Sheepdog (OES) owners to participate in this project. This was the first survey that used both assistance from the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) and social media as resources to increase awareness of health issues impacting OES.

Conducting a health survey and sharing the data can be a valuable tool for breed clubs. The OFA and the HRC have used the findings from past studies to make decisions concerning the allocation of research funds for scientific studies. The only way we are able to determine which health issues are most pertinent at this time is by surveying the current state of health in the OES breed. The knowledge obtained by the survey data will help to ensure the overall health of the breed both now and in the future.

The OFA provided guidance, survey tools and tips, editorial assistance and sample surveys during the development of the breed-specific survey tool. The OFA and the HRC survey prioritized maintaining complete confidentiality. There were no identifiers assigned to the survey respondents or any ways to identify individual dogs. The OFA analyzed and recorded the survey for the OESCA. All information submitted is confidential, and numbers are used only in aggregate. The health survey

HERDING GROUP

summary has been posted on the OESCA website.

Data was collected for 1526 OES, from 6 continents. The majority (58 percent) of OES owners who participated in the survey had owned this breed for at least 15 years. The overall health of the dogs was rated as either Excellent or Good by 92.5 percent of the owners. The majority of the dogs (65 percent) had not experienced any major health issues and were living (72 percent) and had been spayed or neutered (70 percent) at the time of the survey.

CHIC Genetic Profiles were registered for 10.3 percent of the dogs. The four OES Health Tests required from the national breed club, OESCA, to obtain a CHIC certification are: hip dysplasia, eye exam (by a boarded ACVO ophthalmologist), autoimmune thyroiditis, and exercise-induced collapse (EIC). The OESCA recommends the following optional CHIC tests: cardiac evaluation, congenital deafness, multiple drug sensitivity, cerebellar degeneration, and primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD).

The current top health issues for OES based on the survey data were cancer, allergies, gastrointestinal disorders, ear disorders (with chronic ear infection most common), and skin disorders. The survey data posted on the OESCA website provides more detail about



Old English Sheepdog

each of these health issues. The only new top five health concern identified from the survey was in the area of gastrointestinal disorders. The most common GI problem the dogs had been diagnosed with was inflammatory bowel disease (48 dogs, or 3 percent of the total surveyed population) and gastritis (30 dogs, or 2 percent of the population surveyed).

The HRC is currently partnering again with the OFA to develop a new survey. The new survey will have a target date of late 2021 or early 2022 and will focus on some health concerns that we would like to learn more about.

The staff at OFA continues to be very helpful in assisting our club in the development of the new survey tool.—Cathy Chudzinski, OESCA Health and Research Committee (oeshealth@gmail.com)

Many thanks to Cathy and the committee.
—Joe Schlitt,
wylecotejs@earthlink.net
Old English Sheepdog Club of America

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

THE CON GAME

The Pembroke Welsh Corgi breed is a clever one, relying upon their heritage as a dog that herded cattle many times their size to, in turn, train their unsuspecting owners. The working Pembrokes had to be agile, quick, and smart to carry out their farm chores. Woe to the new owner who falls in love with that cute puppy face, forgetting that all puppies are cute and that they now have a breed that needs jobs to do.

The Con Game often begins with food. Puppies will sometimes go off their feed during teething. It could be the pain of the teething process, the lack of competition from their former littermates, or perhaps a combination of both. Puppies that may have eagerly eaten three meals a day may end up picking at their food. Often the new owner doesn't

realize that the puppy may be ready for two meals a day and less food and that its gums are sore. The owner switches to a more enticing (to the owner!) food and perhaps adds some “goodies” to the food to entice the puppy to eat. Puppy likes the goodies so when the goodies stop, the puppy stops eating again. And the owner bends to the wishes of the puppy. Puppy quickly figures out that it can con the owner into providing food that the puppy wants. First con accomplished! What other cons can the puppy pull?

Nail trims can be another part of the Con Game. The puppies go to new homes with a history of frequent nail trimmings done by their breeder. New owners may be hesitant to trim the nails for fear of quicking the puppy. Puppy may yip just because it doesn't like being held. Owner interprets the yip as pain and gives up the nail trimming. Second con accomplished!

Selective hearing is a third con. Puppy comes when he feels like it rather than coming when the owner calls him. Puppy may con the owner into chasing down the puppy to catch him. Maybe there is a bath forthcoming or a nail trimming. Always go to the puppy and get him rather than calling him to you for something the puppy deems unpleasant. The puppy is called stubborn or stupid when he has simply conned the owner out of training him.

DAVID WOO ©AKC

HERDING GROUP



Pembroke Welsh Corgi puppy Mickey conning his breeder into believing he's the most laid-back puppy in his litter

Some people successfully train their puppies to ring a bell as a signal the puppy needs to go out. The clever ones quickly figure out that they can con their owners into letting the puppy out whenever the puppy would like. Crying in the middle of the night to go out and then being rewarded with a cookie can lead the puppy to develop a new con.

Owners who treat their Pembrokes for everything will become a victim of the “No Cookie, No Workie” con. The Pembroke must hear/see/smell the cookie before it will do the desired behavior. Obedience exhibitors will use cookies as lures to help establish a behavior, then use cookies (and praise and physical contact and toys) as rewards, but finally fade the cookies as the desired behavior becomes solidified. Random rewards work best.

Adult Pembrokes will try to con their owners as well. It might be a look of bewilderment when given a command the dog knows well. Or conning the owner into a second breakfast. Pembrokes are very good at shaping the behaviors of their owners!

The simplest way to avoid falling victim to the Con Game is to be *consistent* in all of your expectations and commands. Set rules and boundaries, and consistently follow them. Your Pembroke will appreciate your consistent leadership, but don't fall victim to the Con Game!

—Lynda McKee,
TifflynLDM@aol.com
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

Pulik

2020 AND 2021 PULI NATIONAL SPECIALTIES WEEK

Due to the pandemic, the 2020 Puli Club of America (PCA) national specialty was cancelled. A wonderful opportunity arose when the AKC determined the 2020 national specialties could be held in 2021 along with that year's national. The Puli Club of America chose to hold the 2020 and 2021 PCA national specialties at the Bluegrass Cluster in Lexington, Kentucky, during September 2–6, 2021. As you can imagine, there were quite a number of show opportunities for Pulik during the course of the event.

During the PCA-supported entry on September 2, judged by Dr. Vicki Sandage, DVM, Best of Breed was awarded to Ch. Moonshadow Grand Slam, BN, RA, CGC, TKA, and Best of Breed Owner-Handled was awarded to Ch. Moonshadow Glitter in the Air.

The 2020 PCA national specialty, which was held on September 3, was judged by Mr. Michael Canalizo. Mrs. Jeanine Dell'Orfano judged sweepstakes for the designated specialty that day. With an entry of 41 Pulik (12

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HERDING GROUP

class dogs, 11 class bitches, 2 Veteran dogs, and 16 Best of Breed competitors—13 dogs, 3 bitches), Mr. Canalizo awarded the following:

Best of Breed: Ch. Cordmaker Punchinello

Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Breed Owner Handled, Winners Bitch, Best of Winners, Best Puppy: Loakespark Gardenia

Winners Dog: Bubbleton Levitating Bubble, HT, CAX, FCAT2, ATT

Select Dog: GCh.S Moonshadow Mind Games

Select Bitch: Ch. Moonshadow Glitter in the Air

Best Bred-by-Exhibitor: Lambak The Trouble With Tribbles

Awards of Merit: Ch. Moonshadow Grand Slam, BN, RA, CGC, TKA; Ch. Vadrozsa Stonybeck Meet Joe Black, CGC, TKN, TKI, CGCU

The 2021 PCA National Specialty on September 4 was judged by Mrs. Linda Robey. Sweepstakes for the national specialty was judged by Mr. Channing Sheets. With an entry of 40 Pulik (12 class dogs/11 class bitches, 1 Veteran dog, and 16 Best of Breed competitors—3 dogs, 3 bitches), Mrs. Robey awarded the following:

Best of Breed: GCh.B Szentmihalyi-

Szabo Trefa, BCAT, CGC, TKN

Best of Opposite Sex: GCh. Noe Barkaja Ragyogo Lelek

Best of Winners, Winners Dog, Best Puppy in Puppy Classes: Spindrift Devil Dodger at Pajkos

Best Bred-by-Exhibitor, Winners Bitch: Lambak The Trouble With Tribbles
Best of Breed Owner-Handled and NOHS Herding Group 1: GCh. Weatherby Jack Flash

Select Dog: Ch. Cordmaker Punchinello

Select Bitch: Ch. Applegate's No Doubt About Her

Best Veteran: GCh.B Szentmihalyi Szabo Miksa, RN, CGC

Awards of Merit: Ch. Moonshadow Grand Slam, BN, RA, CGC, TKA; Ch. Vadrozsa Stonybeck Meet Joe Black, CGC, TKN, TKI, CGC

The 2021 Regional Specialty took place on September 5, judged by Ms. Anna M. Quigley, with an entry of 29 Pulik.

Best of Breed: Ch. Cordmaker Punchinello

Best of Opposite Sex, Best BBE, Best BBE Group 1: Lambak The Trouble With Tribbles

BOW, WB, Best Puppy: Loakespark Gardenia



(Clockwise from top left:) Best of Breed at the 2020 Puli national specialty, Ch. Cordmaker Punchinello; Best of Breed at the 2021 Puli national specialty, GCh.B Szentmihalyi-Szabo Trefa, BCAT, CGC, TKN; and High in Trial in Obedience for the 2020 and 2021 PCA national specialties, Wyldmor the Wooden Prince at Bartok

Winners Dog: Spindrift Devil Dodger at Pajkos

Select Dog: GCh.B Szentmihalyi-Szabo Trefa, BCAT, CGC, TKN

Select Bitch, Best of Breed Owner-Handled: Ch. Moonshadow Glitter in the Air
Awards of Merit not recorded.

On September 6, a supported entry was judged by Mr. Larry C. Abbott. Best of Breed was awarded to Ch. Cordmaker Punchinello. Best Owner-Handled was awarded to GCh.B Szentmihalyi Szabo Miksa, who went on to



win the Owner-Handled Herding Group.

Along with the all-breed cluster, there were all-breed obedience trials offered all five days. While the flooring in the obedience area was

HERDING GROUP

dirt, it was in an area separated from the conformation rings and activity. Unfortunately, there were not many Pulik that entered obedience/rally at the national this year. The competition with all breeds was quite stiff. Most of the Pulik competing in obedience and rally were also competing in conformation events. There was a total of seven Puli entries (of three Pulik) in obedience for judges Mr. Fred Buroff, Mrs. Nancy Cheski, and Ms. Karen J. Anderson during the show cluster. High in Trial in obedience for the 2020 and 2021 PCA specialties, as well as the all-breed shows, was won by a young Puli on both of the PCA specialty days (September 3–4)—Wyldmor the Wooden Prince at Bartok (Béla). His score both days was 199 out 200 in the Novice B class to complete his CD (Companion Dog) title. Ch./OTCH/MACH Bartok's Harvest Song, UDX4, OM6, PT, MXJ, MX, MXB (Shaker) was entered in the Open B class on September 3 (2020 PCA National Specialty) and was awarded first place in the class. Both "Béla" and "Shaker" are owned and shown by Nancy Kelly. Kalacsos Elsie, RN, CGC, owned and shown by Adrienne Hajdu, qualified in Beginner Novice on September 5.

There were three Puli entries (of two Pulik) during the week in Rally for judges Ms. Katie E. Maess and Ms. Karen J. Anderson. Kalacsos Elsie, RN, CGC, placed third in

Rally Intermediate on September 3. White Porgeloci Perrier, CGCA, qualified in Rally Novice B on both September 2 and 4. Both Pulik shown in rally were owned and shown by Adrienne Hajdu.

The Puli Club of America wishes to congratulate all the winners and to send a special thank you to all who participated in the week of Puli events. Two Pulik finished their conformation champion titles during this week, Lambak The Trouble With Tribbles and Spindrift Devil Dodger at Pajkos—the latter making an impressive debut, finishing his champion title with three five-point majors at the age of 6 months in three days during this show cluster.

Other activities associated with the PCA's multi-day event included ringside mentoring and the annual board meeting on September 3. The annual meeting included having committee chairs submit their annual reports, recording of ballots, and the introduction of new officers and board members.

The social aspect of the specialty weekend began with a welcome party (bourbon tasting!) on September 2 and the annual banquet held on September 4, which included a lively live auction and silent auction.

Opportunities were available to Pulik during the week to participate in Fast CAT, Trick Dog, CGC, and obedience. Unfortunately, neither herding instinct testing nor agility were

part of the Puli event or the show cluster. No Pulik participated in Trick Dog or CGC. Only one Puli participated in Fast CAT—Angyal Haz Honey Honey How You Thrill Me, DCAT, CGCA, CGCU, TKN, VHMP.

A very special acknowledgement must be made to 2020 specialty chair Patty Anspach and 2021 specialty chair Anne Kemp and their respective committees and other volunteers for making the events successful. Special appreciation is given to the Bluegrass Classic Cluster for hosting the national specialties and making it effortless.

I greatly appreciate the input of Patty Anspach, Nancy Guagenti, Nancy Kelly, and Pam Erstling for this column.

—Dagmar Fertl,
dfertl@gmail.com
[Puli Club of America](#)

Shetland Sheepdogs

LOSING HISTORY

It can be devastating when a breed continues to or begins to lose several generations of founders of the breed in our country. The knowledge that has been available with a phone call, or lately a text, diminishes with each loss. Each post that says another icon of the breed has passed affects everyone that counted them as friends, mentors, and/

or teachers. From the early importers of the breed in the early 1900s, to the latest losses we endured since late 2020, I have been pondering the vast amount of experience that has been lost.

Fortunately our national breed club, the American Shetland Sheepdog Association, started many years ago developing programs, seminars, and an archive of historical records to save much of the knowledge that was apparent in these people. I think the ASSA has done a commendable job of trying to preserve the thoughts and history of our early breeders. For many years, at the national specialty, seminars and panel discussions, and articles in the handbook have featured these giants of our breed and allowed many students of our breed access to these people.

Lately even social-media groups have provided platforms where any member of the group can pose questions about the breed or the standard and even ask for photos of examples of virtues mentioned in the standard. It can be an educational tool if you join a group where longstanding breeders participate and offer answers and further the discussion in positive ways. This can be very valuable for those currently trying to absorb as much as possible from those who have been in the breed for a long time. Take care to be sure the advice you get is based on the person's duration in the

HERDING GROUP



Shetland Sheepdog

breed. Strive for knowledge, not opinion.

The ASSA also offers financial aid to local Sheltie clubs that offer seminars centered on knowledge of Shelties, such as bringing in known Sheltie breeders to speak on specific breed topics. This is an excellent way that the parent clubs can support education across the country.

Most important is to always avail yourself to all the opportunities you have to learn. Stay at the show after you have shown your dog. Often it is when the dust has settled at a show and dogs are cared for that people in the breed gather around someone's grooming table or in a grooming spot to go over a dog or just talk. This is when people get into some real interesting discussions. Listen to people who knew the early dogs and breeders—people you may have wished to chat with, or dogs you may have wished to see. This may be as close as you will get to them. I spent many years doing just that: Listening. Asking questions. Filing away the answers. Watching how things were done. Taking and practicing what I liked.

A lot can be learned watching knowledgeable people go over a dog and discuss it with someone else. This education in the breed is your responsibility.

—Janice M. Leonard,
ASSA Life Member

[American Shetland Sheepdog Association](#)

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



MISSION STATEMENT The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function.

Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617
101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

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ATTENTION DELEGATES

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, March 8, 2022**, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

Karen M. Bodeving, Cave Junction, OR, Klamath Dog Fanciers

Janet Boyd, Hokes Bluff, AL, Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

Kerri Dale, Blue Ridge, GA, American Boerboel Club

Jean A. Evanoff, Fargo, ND, Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club

Ruth M. Levesque, Tolland, CT, Alaskan Malamute Club of America

Kevin Lord, Aubrey, TX, Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

Judith A. Seltrecht, Brandon, FL, Manatee Kennel Club

Anne Moore Schultz, Joppa, MD, Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Matthew E. Townsend, Mebane, NC, Carolina Working Group Association

NOTICE

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands sus-

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

Mr. Philip Boyce (Mohnton, PA)

Ms. Sara Watson (Garden Valley, CA)

Mr. Michael Wiles (St. Joseph, MO)

NOTICE

Ms. Sandra Bearce (Tremonton, UT) Action was taken by Beehive Toy Group of Utah's for conduct at its September 17, 2021 event. Ms. Bearce was charged with public criticism of a judge that causes a disruption at an event and unsportsmanlike conduct – refusal or throwing down of a ribbon. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the combined penalty as a three-month suspension of event privileges and \$300 fine, effective September 29, 2021. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Ms. Kimberly Brown (Furlong, PA). Action was taken by the American Sloughi Association for conduct at its June 19, 2021 event. Ms. Brown was charged with inappropriate, abusive or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a one-month event suspension and a \$500 fine, effective June 19, 2021. Ms. Brown appealed the decision to an

AKC Trial Board. The Trial Board denied her appeal. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Mr. Jeff Lindley (Phelan, CA) Action was taken by Santa Barbara Kennel Club for conduct at its August 29, 2021 event. Mr. Lindley was charged with personal property damage. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and \$100 fine and payment of restitution. (Irish Wolfhounds, Border Terriers)

NOTICE

Ms. Gina Podsednik (Burlison, TX) Action was taken by the Bell County Kennel Club for conduct at its October 23, 2021 event. Ms. Podsednik was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Tibetan Spaniels)

NOTICE

Ms. Tiffany Skinner (Stanwood, WA) Action was taken by Vancouver Kennel Club for conduct at its October 30, 2021 event. Ms. Skinner was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for five years and imposed a \$1,000 fine, for refusing to make their dogs and records available for inspections when requested:

Effective November 9, 2021

Ms. Heather Lyn Campbell (Walthill, NE)

Multiple Breeds

Ms. Monica Vernon (Edwardsville, PA) Multiple Breeds

Ms. Sheron Wilson (Wausaukee, WI) Multiple Breeds

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Robert Wild (Marshfield, WI) from all AKC privileges for life and imposed a \$10,000 fine, effective February 12, 2021, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy. (Australian Shepherds)

NOTICE

At its November 2021 meeting, the American Kennel Club Board of Directors approved the recommendation of Judging Operations for disciplinary action voting to impose a reprimand

and a fine of \$300 to Sheree Moses Combs for Application Misrepresentation.

CONFORMATION JUDGES

Letters concerning judges and provisional 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 regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship 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 by email at judgingops@akc.org.

APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified

but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Marilyn Balikowski (110281) NY
(585) 591-4013

cornerstonesaints@gmail.com
Saint Bernards, JS- Limited

Ms. Pamela Leisinger (106283) OR
(314) 359-5810

pamleisinger@hotmail.com
Miniature Pinschers

Mrs. Sherry Patton (110239) TX
(318) 518-6542

4everbts@gmail.com
Boston Terriers, JS

Ms. Darlene Steele (109821) VA
(815) 325-2429

927rossans@gmail.com
Irish Setters, JS

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Gary Andersen (6176) AZ
(480) 991-7485

glandersen@cox.net
Kerry Blue Terriers, Norfolk Terriers,
Norwich Terriers, Russell Terriers, Scot-
tish Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terri-
ers, West Highland White Terriers

Mrs. Connie H. Clark (65733) CA
(831) 685-3934

connie.clark907@gmail.com
Brussels Griffons, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers

Mr. Todd Clyde (52861) DE
(302) 542-3416

tclyde002@msn.com

Boxers, Biewer Terriers, Bichons Frises,
Bulldogs, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos, Low-
chen, Tibetan Terriers

Ms. Elena Edwards (96993) CA
(951) 240-9011

shirzasalukis@me.com
Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Dr. Bev Sigl Felton (65674) WI
(414) 828-2449

beverlyfelten5@gmail.com

Brittanys, German Shorthaired Pointers,
Golden Retrievers, Vizslas, Weimaraners

Mr. Alfred J. Ferruggiaro (7410) MD
(301) 421-1930

alferrug@gmail.com

Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated
Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Nova
Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Spinoni
Italiani, Vizslas

Ms. Denise Flaim (100561) NY
(516) 509-5214

revodana@aol.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Ger-
man Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great
Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs,
Kuvaszok, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies,
Tibetan Mastiffs

Ms. Cheri Hollenback (71029) ID
(509) 993-4504

cascadesamoyeds@aol.com

Boxers, Great Danes, Rottweilers, Keeshonden, Schipperkes,
Dr. M. Patricia Joyce (101483) GA
 (770) 596-8665
 patjoyce1@att.net
 American Hairless Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Russell Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers
Mrs. Meghen Riese-Bassel (39151) GA
 (404) 663-4485
 meghenbassel@gmail.com
 Afghan Hounds, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Airedale Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers
Mrs. Charlene Rutar (94495) IN
 (317) 989-3120
 whiteriver.gsp@gmail.com
 Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Lowchen, Poodles
Dr. Vicki Sandage (98425) KY
 (606) 922-9552
 sandfoxdvm@gmail.com
 Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Cocker Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Weimaraners
Mr. Thomas Schonberger (107485) AK
 (907) 529-6693
 yogi@mtaonline.net
 Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boxers, Great Danes, Rottweilers, Samoyeds, JS

Mr. Joseph Vernuccio (96251) CT
 (203) 829-2428
 joevernuccio@gmail.com
 Balance of Terrier Group: (American Staffordshire Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Welsh Terriers)
Mrs. Beverly Vics (5534) FL
 (863) 439-6990
 beverly5534@yahoo.com
 Manchester Terriers, American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Chow Chows, French Bulldogs, Tibetan Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mrs. Kerry M. Boyd (110297) MA
 (508) 641-6158
 kerickennels@gmail.com
Ms. Pamela J. Rhyner Hirko (93132) TX
 (361) 331-0030
 dediciwhippets@yahoo.com
Ms. Bella Thompson (107246) OH
 (937) 585-4818
 belmark@embarqmail.com

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 PERMIT JUDGES

Dr. Tracie Laliberte (6322) MA
 (508) 409-9776
 infinidaddog@yahoo.com
 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Lhasa Apsos
Mrs. Mary Paisley (110079) WI
 (608) 788-4310
 mtomarkennel@aol.com
 Miniature Schnauzers, JS

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Ms. Bridget Brown (102665) AL
 (205) 515-8753
 jackeye@bellsouth.net
 Cocker Spaniels, Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Dogo Argentinos, Giant Schnauzers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Mastiffs, Rottweilers, Samoyeds
Mrs. Christine E. Calcinari (7041) NH
 (603) 334-9816
 belhaven.nh@icloud.com
 Affenpinschers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians
Ms. Marge B. Calltharp (17384) CT
 (860) 873-2572
 ctmarbo@gmail.com
 Beagles, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds
Mrs. Kathleen V. Carter (6164) CO
 (303) 425-6756

dancehalldolly@live.com
 Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei, French Bulldogs, Lowchen, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers
Ms. Mary Ann Clark (97938) KS
 (785) 539-2946
 ma25275@aol.com
 Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Lowchen, Xoloitzcuintli
Dr. Lisa M. Costello (101255) CO
 (630) 625-2019
 mtncow100@gmail.com
 Azawakhs, Cirnechi dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Scottish Deerhounds, Sloughis, Norfolk Terriers, JS
Dr. Daniel W. Dowling (5972) ME
 (207) 785-4494
 drdaniel@tidewater.net
 Balance of Non-Sporting Group: (Bichons Frises, Cotons du Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Tibetan Spaniels)
Ms. Connie DuBois (104885) FL
 (813) 789-9650
 csdubois@tampabay.rr.com
 Shetland Sheepdogs
Mrs. Donna Ernst (91808) TN
 (440) 773-5052
 anthemkennel@msn.com
 Balance of Terrier Group: (Australian Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Rat

Terriers, Skye Terriers)
Mrs. Sioux Forsyth-Green (100789) NC
(910) 603-7655
siouxf93@gmail.com
Brittanys, German Wirehaired Pointers, Irish Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, Clumber Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Wire-haired Vizslas
Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS
(913) 706-5365
fritzgm77@gmail.com
Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Bluetick Coonhounds, Otterhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Pumik
Ms. Amy Gau (90627) MN
(507) 843-5312
amy@anstechnicalventures.com
Manchester Terriers, Papillons, Pomeranians, Poodles
Mrs. Stephanie Hamblin Barnhill (47317) KS
(785) 764-1536
nykiskas@sunflower.com
Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Dogo Argentinos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards, Tibetan Mastiffs

Dr. Cynthia Hutt (95461) CO
(720) 933-8328
lapicfern@gmail.com
Balance of Herding Group: (Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Belgian Laekinois, Miniature American Shepherds, Mudik, Pembroke Welsh Corgis)
Mrs. Robette Johns (7134) IL
(704) 219-8277
robette1991@gmail.com
Siberian Huskies, Bearded Collies, Belgian Laekinois, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Canaan Dogs, German Shepherd Dogs, Pulik
Mr. Steven Kirschner (97109) IN
(219) 746-8499
sakirschner@earthlink.net
Irish Red and White Setters, Welsh Springer Spaniels
Ms. Kerry L. Kirtley (101393) CA
rbisdogs@gmail.com
Miniature American Shepherds
Mr. Richard Lashbrook (7340) IL
(217) 622-6687
rel50@comcast.net
Boston Terriers, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Schipperkes, Xoloitzcuintli
Mrs. Nancy Lovelady (97313) NV
(510) 520-3708
jwnsl@sbcglobal.net
American Hairless Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Norfolk Terriers,

Norwich Terriers, Rat Terriers, Welsh Terriers
Dr. Camille McArdle (66682) MN
(612) 743-7329
camillemca@gmail.com
Brittanys, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Irish Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, German Pinschers, Neapolitan Mastiffs
Mr. Dale A. Meyer (6655) WI
(715) 654-5330
meyerd@tds.net
Brittanys, German Wirehaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Vizslas
Ms. Mary C. Murphy-East (36967) MN
(763) 291-2263
marmcmurph@aol.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, American Water Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels
Mr. Gary L. Myers (96615) CA
(619) 992-4393
webe_gm@yahoo.com
Cairn Terriers, Skye Terriers
Ms. Susan M. Napady (95639) IN
(219) 762-5203
susan.napady@frontier.com
Airedale Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Scottish Terriers

Mrs. Patti Widick Neale (6097) FL
(352) 359-0912
zoirus@windstream.net
Balance of Non-Sporting Group: (American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei, Cotons du Tulear, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers)
Ms. Laura Reeves (105393) OR
(541) 761-1867
scotiadawgs@gmail.com
Brittanys, English Setters, Irish Setters, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Vizslas, Saint Bernards, Manchester Terriers
Mr. Andrew Ritter (92968) NJ
(908) 996-7355
cerri.bmd@att.net
German Shepherd Dogs, Shetland Sheepdogs
Dr. Judi M. Roller (102261) WI
(608) 843-7952
judi002@centurytel.net
Basenjis, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Borzois, Dachshunds, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Sloughis, Whippets, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Collies
Mrs. Janice K. Schreiber (17450) WA
(253) 846-7999
ashenafea@msn.com
Balance of Hound Group: (American

Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Grand Bassets
Griffons Vendeens, Sloughis)

Mrs. Inge Semenschin (27410) CA
(707) 639-7555

midnightpoodles@sbcglobal.net
Irish Wolfhounds

Mr. Channing Sheets (99781) CA
(415) 254-2582

cashe90@hotmail.com
Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Dogues de
Bordeaux, Siberian Huskies, Keeshon-
den, Belgian Tervurens, Pembroke
Welsh Corgis, Pulik

Mr. Johnny R. Shoemaker (19267) NV
(702) 834-6557

dssup@cs.com
Balance of Hound Group: (American
English Coonhounds, American Fox-
hounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English
Foxhounds, Harriers, Plott Hounds,
Redbone Coonhounds)

Ms. Michelle Shultz (99665) CA
(925) 351-8352

michelle.t.shultz@gmail.com
Pomeranians, Cotons du Tulear,
Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds,
Tibetan Terriers

Ms. Mary Lynn Speer (22531) WI
(715) 497- 4649

kinsmenmastiffs@gmail.com
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Boxers, Dogo
Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Ger-
man Pinschers

Ms. Jan Sutherland (97231) CA
(213) 819-6218

moonrysn@hotmail.com
Boykin Spaniels

Mrs. Deborah Y. Verdon (7115) TX
(985) 788-1940

debverdon33@gmail.com
Australian Cattle Dogs, Belgian
Laekenois, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Shet-
land Sheepdogs

Ms. Margaret "Margie" Wilson (67005) WI
(262) 498-7896

wufwuf113@aol.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-
Coated Retrievers, English Setters, Irish
Setters, Clumber Spaniels, Cocker
Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Field
Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Vizslas

Ms. Claire Wisch Abraham (100709) VA
(571) 318-2768

outlawgwp@aol.com
Brittanys, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers,
Curly-Coated Retrievers, English Setters,
Otterhounds

Mr. Wood Wornall (95931) MO
(805) 264-3304

woodwornall@hotmail.com
Balance of Sporting Group: (Barbets,
Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Nova Sco-
tia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American
Water Spaniels), American Eskimo Dogs,
Bichons Frises, Cotons du Tulear, Lhasa
Apsos, Lowchen

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES

Miss Riley Capton (109913) CA
(213) 434-1103

moodinteriors@yahoo.com

Mr. Cullen "Cully" Leck (10997) MD
(240) 409-1582

whippetcully202@gmail.com

Mrs. Ashley Ryan (105919) PA
(412) 908-6456

ashleysboxers@comcast.net

Ms. Mallori Seifert (109181) CA
jackpotfarms2@gmail.com

BEST IN SHOW

The following persons, have successfully
completed the required Group Assign-
ments in the first Variety Group for which
they are **approved**, have been added to the
list of judges eligible for approval to judge
Best In Show.

Mrs. Anne K. Catterson (17478) AR
(909) 816-2521

annecatt@gmail.com

Ms. Dawn Hitchcock (100299) SC
(864) 238-2742

bubbleezsc@hotmail.com

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mrs. Carol Deeks

Mrs. Kathy A. Forbes

Ms. Lanalee Jorgensen

Miss Cindy L. Partridge

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. Carolyn Fuhrer (102135) ME
(207) 530-1102

carolyn@dogsatnorthstar.com
Tracking – TD/TDU

Miss Lisa Mitchell (40966) NY
(607) 351-5639

Lmm13@cornell.edu
Obedience – Open

Miss Joni Monnich (99849) IN
(650) 930-7241

Sharpei4u@earthlink.net
Rally – All

PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have been ap-
proved 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. Carolee Anita Boyles (105173) FL
(813) 431-4304

carolee@caroleeboylesmediagroup.com
Obedience – Novice

Ms. Ellen Lash (100073) KS
(913) 731-0173

ellenlash@gmail.com
Tracking – VST

Ms. Renee Hoover (99372) VA

(434) 409-5386

srhrotti@gmail.com

Rally – All

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 Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary:

ADWERA-Rhodesian Ridgebacks-Deborah J. Ahern-Ridlon

AFTERHOURS-German Wirehaired Pointers – Christi Chism and Alexis Chism

ANVINDAR-West Highland White Terriers-Deborah Lynn Reed

BLUEPRINT-Dachshunds- Amanda Barron and Ammon Barron

HITCHCOCK- Bouviers des Flandres -Lisa B. Waldron

JUSTTOP- French Bulldogs Mario R. Garduno-

RAFALE- Belgian Laekenois- R. Margaret Currier

REDROCK- Cane Corsos- Curt M. Gebers

SHOWME-German Shorthaired Pointers-

Julie C. Steinbeck

SUMMERSET- Cavalier King Charles

Spaniels-Shawn K. Barnes

STICKSYLVANIA-Vizslas- Margaret R.

Berkes

SUNDAY BEST-Wirehaired Pointing Griffons- Sunday M. Ford

VOM DORNERSTEIN-Dachshunds -

Sandra Patricia Tejada-Merritt and Layne Merritt

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

B-LOVED-Bulldogs-Betsy L. Love

DIMUS AUREA- Doberman Pinschers-Kathleen A. Padilla

FLORIDASUNSHINE-Russian Toys-Jolanta Terrell

FOREST HOUSE-Belgian Tervurens-Kristi L. Schreiber and Michael E. Schreiber

GLENAYR-Airedale Terriers- Peggy F. Frye and Timothy M. Maher

HIGHRIDGE- Boston Terriers- Dawn M. Mancine

HARTLAM FARM-Boxers- Jean K. Kopperud

KISMET'S-German Shepherd Dogs-Maryellen Kish

KNOCKOUT- Chihuahuas – Rachael K. Green

PRESTIGE-Dalmatians-Beth A. Johnson and Jason Rudolph

SHENANIGANS-Papillons- Mary Ann Sheppard

SHOWME- German Shorthaired Pointers-Julie C. Steinbeck

STORMY RIVERS- Labrador Retrievers-Derek M. Stoker

T9- Giant Schnauzers-Adam E. Duke

TREE STARR-Australian Shepherds-Rebecca S. Androff

TEXASGALS- Manchester Terriers- Kat Patrick and Joey Leese

TUFFYBROWNDOGS-Norwich Terriers-Linda J. Stump-Kurnick



**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE,
NEW YORK, NY
NOVEMBER 8-9, 2021**

The Board convened on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

All Directors were present; also present was the Executive Secretary.

The October 11-12, 2021 Board Meeting minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the October 2021 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Sprung reviewed with the Board the status of the action items emanating from the October Board Meeting.

Mr. Sprung reported, that from a Mission

point of view, Litter Registration results are the highest since 2009 and Dog Registrations are the highest since 2007, both accomplished while Staff is constantly taking actions to uphold its integrity. We continue promoting our various dog sports and breeding for type and function. Sports & Events are experiencing the second strongest year in terms of events and the third for entries in AKC's 137-year history.

On multiple levels our departmental initiatives have successfully advocated on behalf of purebred dogs and dogs in general through Government Relations, Marketing, Publications, Education and Public Relations. Newly formed advances of AKC.tv and long-term relationships with Disney/ESPN/ABC are providing additional positive brand and communications outreach opportunities. Departmental objectives are realized by tying each one directly to the roadmap and budget.

The financial outcome of 2021 is by far the best in AKC's history. The balance of our investment portfolio reflects the addition of \$26 million from operations and \$9 million of investment gains. This year's Net Operating Income, excluding investments activity, is projected to be \$32 million, 16 times increase over budget.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.

Legal Update

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of September 2021.

CMS Update

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs; Torraine Williams, Director, Engineering and Keith Frazier, EVP, Business Support Services, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

The Board has directed Staff to create a comprehensive computer system which enables all users to collaboratively exchange information to efficiently manage their involvement with AKC Sports and Events.

Updating the AKC's Customer Management System will:

- Assist external users in managing their events
- Assist internal Staff in managing event related processes i.e., event application and result processing, club information management, judge information management
- Improve reporting capabilities by en-

hanced utilization of data

- Provide a flexible system to efficiently support new S&E initiatives and programs.

Staff has met multiple times with seven different Sports & Events (S&E) departments to begin gathering their suggestions for desired enhancements and additions. The enhancement requests that have previously been submitted to IT by the S&E staff have also been reviewed. Input from the Superintendents has been obtained as part of their normal annual meeting with the AKC. S&E has reached out to eight external users for suggestions. Six have expressed their interest to provide input.

This input has been documented and categorized by business area. Staff are currently in the process of prioritizing and assessing candidates for early deliverables.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented interim financial statements (unaudited) through September 30, 2021.

Financial Results:

Net Operating Income is \$24.9 million primarily due to higher registration and event service revenues, along with lower operating expenses.

Total Revenues of \$78.1 million exceed budget by 35% led by Registration Fees of \$34.7 million, and Pedigree and Registration Related Fees of \$11 million.

Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition and Event Applications fees total \$10.5 million and exceed budget and prior year by 67% and 82% respectively. Product & Service Sales total \$9.2 million and exceed budget by 27%.

Advertising, Sponsorship and Royalties total \$11.9 million and exceed budget by 27%.

Controllable Expenses are lower than budget by 3% or \$1.2 million due to careful management of operating expenses. Non-Controllable expenses were lower than budget by 12% or \$1.2 million due to timing of software development projects.

Compared to YTD 2020 we see the continued positive trend of increased revenues and cost containment.

Non-Financial Results:

Registration Statistics: 2021 YTD Litter Registration was 23% ahead of budget, 17% better than 2020 YTD. 2021 YTD Dog Registration was 30% ahead of budget, 17% bet-

ter than 2020 YTD.

Compared to the same period in 2020, Events & Entries were up by 100% & 90%, respectively.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President, Public Relations and Communications, participated in this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations and Ashley Jacot, Director, Education, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Acceptance of Pedigrees from the Bahrain Kennel Club

The Board reviewed a request from the Bahrain Kennel Club (BKC) to be added to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration.

The Bahrain Kennel Club (BKC), was established in 1974 by Sheikha Danah Al Khalifa. BKC became a full member of Federation Cynologique Internationale in 2017. BKC is a non-profit organization in the Kingdom of Bahrain which represents the canine community. It's goal as stated on its website is: "To educate the public about responsible dog ownership, provide education and exciting events, where everyone

can get together and learn about dogs, their health and welfare."

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to add the Bahrain Kennel Club (BKC) to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration.

Bergamasco Sheepdog Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Bergamasco Sheepdog breed standard as submitted by the Bergamasco Sheepdog Club of America (BSCA). The current standard was effective February 12, 2012. The club wishes to make clarifications to the standard based on input since the breed has been AKC registered. Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the BSCA to ballot its membership on the proposed standard revisions in accordance with the club's constitution and bylaws.

Parent Club Request to retire Torrid Zone (Portuguese Water Dog)

The Board reviewed a request from the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America to retire the kennel name "Torrid Zone". The Club is requesting this on behalf of the Kennel name owners.

The name "Torrid Zone" was registered from 2013-2023 as an AKC Recognized Breed protected kennel name.

Following a motion by Ms. McAteer, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to retire the kennel name "Torrid Zone" for Portuguese Water Dogs.

New Breed for Foundation Stock Service ® – Romanian Carpathian Shepherd Dog

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a petition for the Romanian Carpathian Shepherd Dog to be accepted into the FSS program.

The Romanian Carpathian Shepherd Dog was selected from an endemic breed present in the Carpathian-Danubian area, which is known as Romania today. For centuries the principle criteria for selection has been utilization, this dog having conserved its character intact to the present day. The first standard was written in 1934 by the Zootechnical National Institute. They are used by Romanian farmers to herd and guard their livestock with the Carpathian Mountains. There are approximately 20 dogs in the United States that are eligible for recording with FSS.

AKC Communications – Q3 Report

Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President, Public Relations and Communications, presented to the Board. The Board reviewed the AKC Communications department quarterly report on AKC's media coverage totals and activity highlights.

TOTALS: Clips Evaluated in Q3: 4,754 (+34% from 3,540 in 2020)

Q3 Estimated Audience Reached: 8,501,194,293 (+26% from 6,722,492,060 in 2020)

Publicity Value for Q3: \$12,278,294.82 (+59% from \$7,699,835.59 in 2020)

- Continued raising the visibility of the Chief Veterinary Officer as an expert in an increasing number of media requests.
- Began work on the AKC National Championship PR campaign, including drafting press releases and engaging with an agency to execute a Satellite Media Tour.
- Continued positioning the American Kennel Club and its spokespeople as the expert on all things dog.
- Weekly "AKC Tips" articles written for McClatchy-Tribune reaching 600 newspapers, including the Chattanooga Times Free Press, Dayton Daily News, Duluth News-Tribune,

Fresno Bee, Idaho Statesman, Kingsport Times-News and Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, among others.

- Assisted the AKC Museum of the Dog increase visibility. Secured over 100 media clips for the “9/11 Remembered: Search & Rescue Dogs”. exhibit from outlets such as the New York Times, Inside Edition, CBS Sunday Morning, NY1, and Time Out New York, as well as international outlets in England, Italy, and Portugal.
- Worked with AKC Reunite to create press materials to promote unveiling of trailers through their Pet Disaster Relief program.
- Worked with AKC Reunite to create press materials to promote Adopt a K-9 Cop grant donations
- Sentiment: There were no negative mentions of the AKC during Q3.

Upcoming work includes:

- Press Release distribution in English, Spanish and Chinese to reach even more dog lovers and communicate the good works and news from AKC.
- Proactive holiday hazards campaign.
- Executing the plan for the AKC National Championship broadcast (pre and post broadcast).
- Developing press plan for AKC Meet

the Breeds 2022 tour (national and local).

AKC Education – Q3 Report

Ashley Jacot, Director, Education, presented in this portion of the meeting.

The Board reviewed an update of the Education department’s activities and accomplishments for Quarter 3 of 2021.

Canine College

Canine College develops and manages over 600 courses and exams available for conformation and performance judges, breeders, groomers, the fancy, and the general public.

Breed and Breeder Courses — A total of 54 breeds are now available on Canine College. Canine College is actively collaborating with Parent Clubs on the development of future breed courses for 2021/2022 to include, but not limited to: Akita, Alaskan Malamute, Beagle, Beauceron, Biewer Terrier, Bracco Italiano, Canaan Dog, German Wirehaired Pointer, German Shepherds, Komondor, Leonberger, Mudi, Russian Toy, Samoyeds, Scottish Terrier, Shih Tzu, Spinone Italiano.

AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) Webinar Series – Launched in September

2021. In coordination with AKC CHF, Canine College has launched a Canine Health page with 11 webinars and a program that features a series of speakers from the NPC-CHC Virtual Conference.

Obedience Education — Canine College is developing a series of 6 courses for Judges Education in the sport of Obedience.

Public Education New Resources

To target an additional group of learners and their families, the Public Education team created “Pups in the Classroom,” a preschool curriculum. This two-week unit is designed to help children learn more about purebred dogs and the basic care and safety around dogs. Each day, students will be read a dog-themed book and complete a learning activity. Throughout this unit, students will participate in learning activities that allow them to practice essential language and early reading skills. Students will also engage in math related activities such as: counting, sorting, identifying shapes, completing patterns, and practice refining their fine and gross motor skills. Lesson extension opportunities as well as additional learning resources and activities are all included within this comprehensive two-week unit.

Public Education collaborated with AKC

Museum of the Dog to create a virtual tour for children. The virtual tour included artwork featuring America’s most popular dog breeds. The worksheet focused on comprehension; requiring the children to draw breeds that they saw during the tour, provide facts they learned, and answer a question that required the use of expository thinking. This worksheet was intended for grades 3-5.

The Native Breed resource series was expanded in Q3 to include several more regions to the series. The purpose of Native Breeds is to draw attention to several breeds, show common traits, and promote appreciation of these diverse regions and backgrounds. Each poster includes the history, origins, and culture of the region and how each breed fits into that region. The series now includes nine regions of the world.

AKC Education Webinar Series

AKC Education continues to collaborate with Judging Operations to host breed webinars for judges. In quarter 3, there were six Judges Education Webinars featured which reached 1,215 live attendees. In addition, the recordings have been watched 11,432 times.

AKC Education hosted several additional

webinars during quarter 3, including:

- “Puppy Training 101: Best Practices and Advice” hosted by Penny Leigh for 378 participants.
- “AKC DDTF Webinar Series: Introducing U.S. Police Canine Association & AKC Reunite’s Updated Adopt K-9 Cop Matching Grant Program” hosted by Government Relations for 33 participants.
- “Review of the Revised Judging Guidelines” hosted by Tim Thomas for 426 participants.
- “Show Chair Webinar” hosted by Glenn Lycan and Staff for 89 participants.
- “2021 AKC Canine Health Foundation National Parent Club Canine Health Conference” hosted by CHF and various presenters for 305 participants.
- “Review and FAQs on Conformation Judging Procedures, Policies & Guidelines” hosted by Tim Thomas for 356 participants.
- “AKC DDTF Webinar Series: 3-6 Month Puppies, Getting Started Right for Detection Work” hosted by Government Relations for 70 participants.
- “2021 AKC Obedience Classic Random Draw” hosted by Lisa Liggins for 56 participants.

Government Relations Q3 Report

Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations presented in this portion of the meeting.

The AKC GR team is currently monitoring more than 2,300 bills that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the sport and the American Kennel Club. Additionally, we continue to monitor more than 600-covid-related bills.

To date, AKC GR have published 297 legislative alerts online and via geo-targeted emails to impacted constituents and social media. This number represents a 56% increase over the number of alerts (and accompanying testimony and outreach) for the same period in 2020 (190).

AKC GR is also monitoring approximately 530 actively pending proposed regulations (administrative or implementing changes) at the state and federal level.

The most common legislative issues monitored year to date and in the third quarter were:

1. Animal Cruelty (commonly includes breeder regulation and licensing bills)
2. Working Dogs
3. Animal Control

4. Rescues/Shelters
5. Veterinary

Blogs – AKC GR published 27 blogs covering policy issues and resources for advocates and the public.

The most up-to-date information on legislative issues are available via AKC GR’s Legislative Action Center, www.akcgr.org.

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Pamela Manaton, Director, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Obedience Fix n’ Go Pilot Program Status Update

The Board reviewed a memo that provided the key results of an obedience exhibitor survey conducted in September regarding “Fix n’ Go”.

At the February 2021 Board meeting, the Board approved a one-year “Fix n’ Go” pilot program for obedience that became effective April 1, 2021. It allows obedience handlers the opportunity to communicate with their dogs while performing in the ring at trials when a dog’s performance

does not meet their expectation. The “Fix n’ Go” concept allows the team to re-attempt one individual exercise and then leave the ring.

90% of the exhibitors that have used Fix n’ Go said they believe being able to repeat a single individual exercise had improved their dog’s performance at future trials; and 95% of them feel the program should be continued.

Additionally, a survey of all obedience judges (198) that had judged during the pilot program was conducted to see if Fix n’ Go delayed judging, or in any way, was detrimental to the sport. 93% of the judges responding to the survey stated they did have exhibitors request to use Fix n’ Go in their rings at trials. The judges also reported 98% of the time they did not have problems with exhibitors taking advantage of the situation by using harsh commands with their dogs, and the exhibitors did use Fix n’ Go in the spirit in which it was intended – to help their dogs in a positive way.

In conclusion, the 90% of the exhibitors that have used Fix n’ Go with their dogs at trials said it has been beneficial as way to improve their future performances in obedience. 98% of the obedience judges feel

that Fix n' Go is good for the dogs and it will have a positive impact on the sport.

The Staff recommendation is to make Fix n' Go a permanent enhancement to the sport of obedience at the end of the pilot program. This will be discussed further at the January 2022 Board meeting.

Basset Hound Field Trials – Use of Tracking Collars

The Board reviewed a request from the Basset Hound Club of America to allow dogs competing in Basset Hound Field Trials to wear tracking collars at the option of the handler. The option to wear tracking collars is currently allowed in Beagle Field Trials and Coonhound Nite Hunts.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to amend Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds,

Procedure 3. Judging to allow dogs competing in Basset Hound Field Trials to wear

tracking collars at the option of the handler.

3-C. If a Hound under judgement wears a collar, it shall be a well-fitting collar with nothing hanging from it and no attachments other than tags for identification purposes.

Hounds may wear tracking collars at the option of the handler. The collar surface against the dog's neck shall be flat (no protrusions). While the hounds are under judgement, hand-held devices must be turned off. Hand-held devices may be turned on only after the hound has been eliminated from competition by the judges or judgement has ceased.

Special training devices that are used to control and train dogs, including but not limited to collars with prongs, electronic collars used with transmitters, muzzles and head collars may not be use on dogs at AKC events.

Purchase of the American Field

The Board was advised that in September 2021 the American Field (AF) including its Field Dog Stud Book (FDSB) had been purchased by another firm. The American Field is a sport organization specializing in pointing breed field trials. Pointers and English Setters are the traditional breeds participating in AF field trials. Brittanys and German Shorthaired Pointers have a notable presence.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (In favor: Davies, Knight, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin. Opposed: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Garvin, Hamblin, McAteer) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (In favor: Davies, Garvin, Hamblin, Knight, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro. Opposed: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, McAteer, Wallin) to remove American Field Pointing Breed Field Trials from the list of non-AKC events that may be held by AKC clubs. In addition, FDSB registered dogs will no longer be allowed to register with the AKC. These policy changes will become effective July 1, 2022.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges; Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs; Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support, and Guy Fisher, Manager, Club Development participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

AKC Banners and Signs

The Board reviewed its 2002 Policy regarding AKC Banners and Signs.

The Board Policy, Banners and Signs, directs superintendents to place AKC branded banners and signs at superintended dog shows. The policy also urges clubs to display AKC branded banners and signs at non-superintended events.

The AKC Board passed the Banner and Signs Policy in 2002 with the purpose of consistently branding events and providing attendees with the message that dog events are sanctioned by the American Kennel Club. By distinguishing dog events with AKC branding, attendees see the AKC as the preeminent provider of dog sports in the country.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers it was VOTED (unanimously) to update the AKC Banners and Signs policy effective on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, as follows:

Banners and Signs (July 2002 Board meeting amended November 2021)

All Clubs using an AKC licensed superintendent must display banners and signs provided by AKC to those superintendents at their shows. The banners and signs containing the AKC logo must be placed in prominent and highly visible areas. The banners must be hung on vis-

ible walls under tents at outdoor shows and directly on show rings. The signs must also be in highly visible areas, such as near a busy show entrance, near catalog sales points, one near the Best in Show ring during judging and as part of the backdrop for the show photographer.

The Superintendent and the show-giving club are responsible for coordinating the placing of the banners and signs.

All superintended shows are required to have the AKC logo on all armbands.

Minimum signage requirements:

The AKC Logo must be at least 12 inches in diameter on all banners, signs and placards.

All Events -

1. One horizontal ring banner per every two rings. This is in addition to any placement banners.

2. A flag banner, circular AKC logo or A-frame AKC branded sign visible in all photographs taken at a stand location.

3. An A-frame AKC branded sign placed in the ring first in line with the group placement and BIS markers.

Indoor Events – in addition -

1. A flag banner hung on at least two visible walls in every room where there is a ring.

Televised/Streaming Events – in addition -

1. An AKC banner hung on the ring gating for the Group and BIS rings.

2. Two A-frame AKC branded signs placed on the corners of the group and BIS ring in a manner to insure visibility on camera.

3. Production crews should be consulted for proper placement for televised/streaming events.

Clubs that are not using Superintendents are strongly urged to display AKC banners and signs at their event.

These banners and signs may be purchased from AKC. Inquiries may be directed to:

Club Development

American Kennel Club

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100

Raleigh, NC 27617-3390

clubdevelopment@akc.org

It is the responsibility of both the host club and the superintendent to ensure compliance with this policy. Clubs and/or superintendents will be subject to a fine ranging from a reprimand to \$300 for noncompliance.

The AKC will provide all specialty clubs with an AKC branded table drape. A letter recommending usage of AKC branded material will be included with the table drape.

Sports and Events will supply superintendents with A-frame AKC branded placards, as

used by AKC.tv, to improve visuals for TV, streaming and photography work.

Limited Number of Events Policy

Specialty Clubs have requested staff to consider allowing up to four shows in a calendar year. The current Limited Number of Events policy provides specialty clubs the option to hold two days of shows or two shows per year. If a club uses the two days of shows option, they can hold two shows per day.

The Board reviewed a memo that recommended allowing specialty clubs to hold four shows in a calendar year in a manner of their choosing.

This will be discussed further at the January 2022 Board meeting.

Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 5 Section 2

The *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 5, Section 2, defines the requirements for all ribbons/rosettes used at American Kennel Club (AKC®) conformation events. The Suffolk County Kennel Club submitted a request to modify Chapter 5, Section 2, of the *Rules*. The proposal would provide clubs the option to offer award cards with date and location information of the event in lieu of including on ribbons and rosettes

where presently required.

The proposal would remove the requirement for the date and location of a show to be included on any ribbons or rosettes. Clubs would have the option to provide ribbons and rosettes with just the AKC seal, name of the prize, and the name of the show giving club, and in addition provide award cards to include the seal of The American Kennel Club, the name of the prize, and the name of the show giving club with numerals of year, date of show, and name of city or town where show is given.

The Board decided to forward the proposal to the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee for feedback before considering it further.

Puppy of Achievement

In December, the Delegates will VOTE on a proposal to modify Chapter 3, Section 8, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* which would allow clubs the option to divide the Bred-by-Exhibitor class by age. If approved, the class division will be added to the Bred-by-Exhibitor (BBE) Medallion program such that an entry advancing from the Puppy division of the Bred-by-Exhibitor class awarded winners will be counted toward the BBE medallion.

The Board was advised that if the Delegates VOTE to modify Chapter 3 Section 8 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* at the December 2021 Meeting, Staff will add the Puppy division of the Bred-by-Exhibitor class to the list of classes in which points toward the Puppy of Achievement (POA) certificate may be earned.

Junior Video

The Board was viewed a new video on the AKC's National Junior Organization.

The Delegate's Junior Sub-Committee, at one of the initial meetings, suggested the development of a video to introduce all the different activities in which a Junior may participate.

The Sports & Events Staff worked with the AKC Marketing Department to complete this project. The video is currently on AKC.tv. The Sports & Events Staff in coordination with the Marketing Department have established a plan to further distribute it via communications that go out to all AKC clubs and Junior Handlers. It will also be presented at the December Delegate Meeting.

JUDGES

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events and Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges participated

in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Mr. Thomas Bradley III (#0206) & Mr. Kenneth McDermott (#1396)

The Board reviewed a request to grant a dispensation to allow the reinstatement of judging privileges for Mr. Thomas Bradley III, judge #0206, who had requested and was granted Emeritus status on May 7, 2019.

The Board also reviewed a request to grant a dispensation to allow Mr. Kenneth McDermott, judge #1396, to be approved to judge Best in Show for the final show that will be held by Mid-Hudson Kennel Association in June 2022. In October 2018, Mr. McDermott joined the Emeritus Program. After the June 2022 event, Mr. McDermott would be returned to Emeritus status.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider these matters at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to grant the dispensation to allow the reinstatement of Mr. Thomas Bradley III's judging privileges.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (In favor: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Davies, Garvin, Hamblin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin. Abstained: Tatro) to make a onetime exception to policy to permit Mr. McDermott to judge one final Best in Show assignment.

CLUBS

Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support and Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Delegates and Member Clubs

The Board reviewed a report on the prospective Delegate credentials to be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette, requests for AKC membership applications, and a report on Member Club Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

Report on Member Clubs Bylaws approved in September and October 2021

Irish Wolfhound Club of America (1926)
Oklahoma City Kennel Club, Oklahoma City, OK (1935)

Report on Newly Licensed Clubs approved in September and October 2021

Atlantic Flyway Retriever Club of Virginia, Petersburg, VA (including communities in

triangle north to Chesterfield, south to Dinwiddie, east to Disputanta), 24 total households, 18 local.

Bourbon Hills Retriever Club of Kentucky, Bardstown, KY (including communities south to Campbellsville, north to LaGrange, east to Middletown, west to Cecilia), 25 total households, 12 local.

Erie Canal Beagle Club, Princeton, IN, (including communities no west of Interstate 69, south to Evansville, northwest to Mount Carmel), 19 total households, 8 local.

Sandhills Retriever Club, Pinehurst, NC (including communities north to Robbins, south to Ellerbe, west to Mt Gilead, east to Route 1), 23 total households, 17 local.

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

Inspection Status Report - Third Quarter 2021

The Board reviewed the Inspection Status Report for the third quarter 2021.

The Board adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, November 9 at 8:30 a.m. All Directors were present. Also present was the Executive Secretary.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Tim Pursell, Director, Information Technology, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Cybersecurity Program

The Board was updated on AKC's Email Encryption program. Cybersecurity is a component of a larger Enterprise Risk Management discipline that AKC is implementing. AKC's cybersecurity program is a collaborative effort that primarily includes Information Technology, the Executive Committee, Finance and Legal. Staff works together to produce, publish, and implement Protocols, Procedures, Standards, and Technology.

INTERNAL CONSULTING AND BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President; and Seth Fera-Schanes, Director, Planning participated in this portion of the meeting.

AKC Corporate Project Roadmap Semiannual Review

The AKC Board of Directors has asked for a semiannual roadmap status update. A memo was provided that reviewed the framework and processes involved in the development and management of the AKC Corporate Project Roadmap.

The American Kennel Club uses a corporate roadmap to prioritize projects across departments. The roadmap serves multiple purposes including understanding cross-team dependencies, highlighting the status of projects, ensuring transparency, and optimizing decision making and serves to correlate the corporate objectives with the roadmap and budgets.

The Board was presented with a sample of work that has been completed between July and November 2021.

Updates were provided for projects that remain for Q4 2021 and into Q1 2022 as well as on some projects that are currently in development.

MARKETING

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President, Consumer Demand participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

Q3 Digital Report

The Board reviewed a summary of Q3 results 2021 performance highlights for AKC.org, AKC Marketplace and Shop.akc.org.

- AKC.org traffic is normalizing from 2020 pandemic highs but remains well above 2019.
- Marketplace consumer traffic fell versus Q3 2020 and is below 2019.
- SEO optimization efforts to address recent Google Search algorithm changes are critical.
- AKC Shop Q3 traffic (visitors) was below 2020 and 2019 but orders per visitor continues to climb
- Subscribers for redesigned AKC Pupdate have reached 715,000 users – a 37% increase over 2020
- AKC Email/Newsletters — Email marketing sent 34% more emails in Q3 of 2021 vs Q3 of 2020 with higher open rates and similar click rates.

Social Media

Highlights of our social media strategy in Q3 2021 included promotion of ESPN Dog Day, Puppy Pack Season 3, and AKC Dog Star program, as well as the 20th Anniversary of 9/11.

Q3 2021 TOTALS:

Facebook: 4,002,977 followers

Instagram: 357,803 followers

Twitter: 98,488 followers

TikTok: 138,657 followers

Pinterest: 56,883 followers

Total: 4,654,808 followers

Overview of 2022 Marketing Plans

The Marketing Department will continue to focus on three main Mission based pillars in 2022:

Registration: Increase preservation, ownership and registration of purebred dogs

Sports & Events: Increase awareness and participation in Sports & Events

AKC Brand Health: Improve dog lover's (breeders, fanciers and consumers) perception of the AKC

The results of the AKC Brand Tracker were shared with the Board.

AKC MEDIA

Ron Furman, Director of Media and Sponsorship and William Ellis, Director, Broadcasting participated in this portion of the meeting.

AKC Televised Events: Q3/Q4 Review

The AKC is proud to have the support of top tier sponsors for our fully integrated national and media event platforms that cre-

ate engagement with millions of dog-owning households in America.

70% of the AKC's programs are in the last 6 months of 2021.

The 2nd Annual Bark in the Park premiered August 26th on ESPN2. It was the largest ESPN lead dog content production to date. The event expanded from being staged on the lawn at ESPN Headquarters to Dunkin Donuts Park (a baseball stadium) in Hartford, CT. Bark in the Park was a fun-filled event featuring dog action sports such as agility, weave pole challenge, dock diving, and flyball. AKC staff managed the event from design to execution. AKC's first ever Flyball event on TV premiered on Sunday October 17th on ESPN2. It was filmed at the Coliseum Arena at Indiana State Fairgrounds on October 10. This program is perfect for introducing fans to this growing sport. It premiered as an alternative to NFL as the AKC attracts a large female audience.

CONSENT

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Hamblin it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent items:

- Entlebucher Mountain Dog Proposed Breed Standard Revision

- Kai Ken Society of America - Advance to Miscellaneous
- Delegate Approvals

Entlebucher Mountain Dog Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to permit the National Entlebucher Mountain Dog Association, Inc. (NEMDA), to proceed to ballot the proposed revisions to the breed standard for the Entlebucher Mountain Dog, in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Kai Ken Society of America - Advance to Miscellaneous

The Board VOTED to approve the Kai Ken to advance to approved to the Miscellaneous Class effective June 29, 2022.

The Board of Directors approved the Kai Ken to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Working designation in 1997. The Kai Ken Society of America has met the requirements of the Recognition of New Breeds Board Policy approved in February 2017.

The Kai Ken is one of six spitz type breeds native to Japan, each named for the distinct region they were developed, and all worked primarily as hunting dogs

on small and large game. Kai is the former name of the steep mountainous region now called Yamanashi Prefecture. In these mountains, hunters would take one to three Kai dogs to hunt boar, deer, kamoshika (a kind of mountain goat also known as the serow) or pheasant. In the 1930's Japanese dog fanciers began to formalize standards for the six breeds and establish breed preservation Societies. In 1931 the Kai Ken Aigokai was formed in Yamanashi to document and protect the Kai Ken, and in 1934 the government of Japan declared the Kai Ken a national Natural Monument breed. During World War II, many Japanese breeds suffered great decline, but both access through the difficult terrain of Yamanashi and the caretaking of the people there protected the Kai from the worst of the war. The membership of the Kai Ken Society of America voted favorably by 99% to submit a request for the Kai Ken be approved to move into the Miscellaneous Class.

Delegate Approvals

The Board VOTED to approve the following individuals to serve as Delegates:

Kelly E. Lease, Woodbridge, VA
To represent Clumber Spaniel Club of America

Laura Myles, Snohomish, WA
To represent Whidbey Island Kennel Club

Tammy Porter, Westminster, CA
To represent Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club

Leah H. Schiller, New Carlisle, OH
To represent Dayton Kennel Club

Mary Lynn Speer, Glenwood City, WI
To represent Mastiff Club of America

Penn Ridge Kennel Club

The Board reviewed a request from the Penn Ridge Kennel Club and the associated clubs in the Keystone Cluster. The clubs are requesting permission to use a site that is 215 miles out of their territory. This request was approved in 2021 as part of the Covid-related policy amendments made to help clubs that are scheduled to expire on June 30th, 2022.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit the cluster to use the show site one more year in August 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. It was reported out of this session that there is clear and unanimous support for the AKC Ca-

nine Health Foundation by the AKC Board of Directors. Considering the success of the AKC Canine Health Foundation in recent years, the AKC Board approved an additional \$1 million grant to support CHF's 2022 plan for aggressive expansion and growth.

The \$1 million-dollar incremental grant is in addition to both the \$1,255,000 million dollars that was approved in AKC's 2022 budget and the annual in-kind donation of \$303,000.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss topics of interest and ideas that could generate future programs, services and revenues. Staff was directed to explore some of these items for the January meeting.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

Attest: _____

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

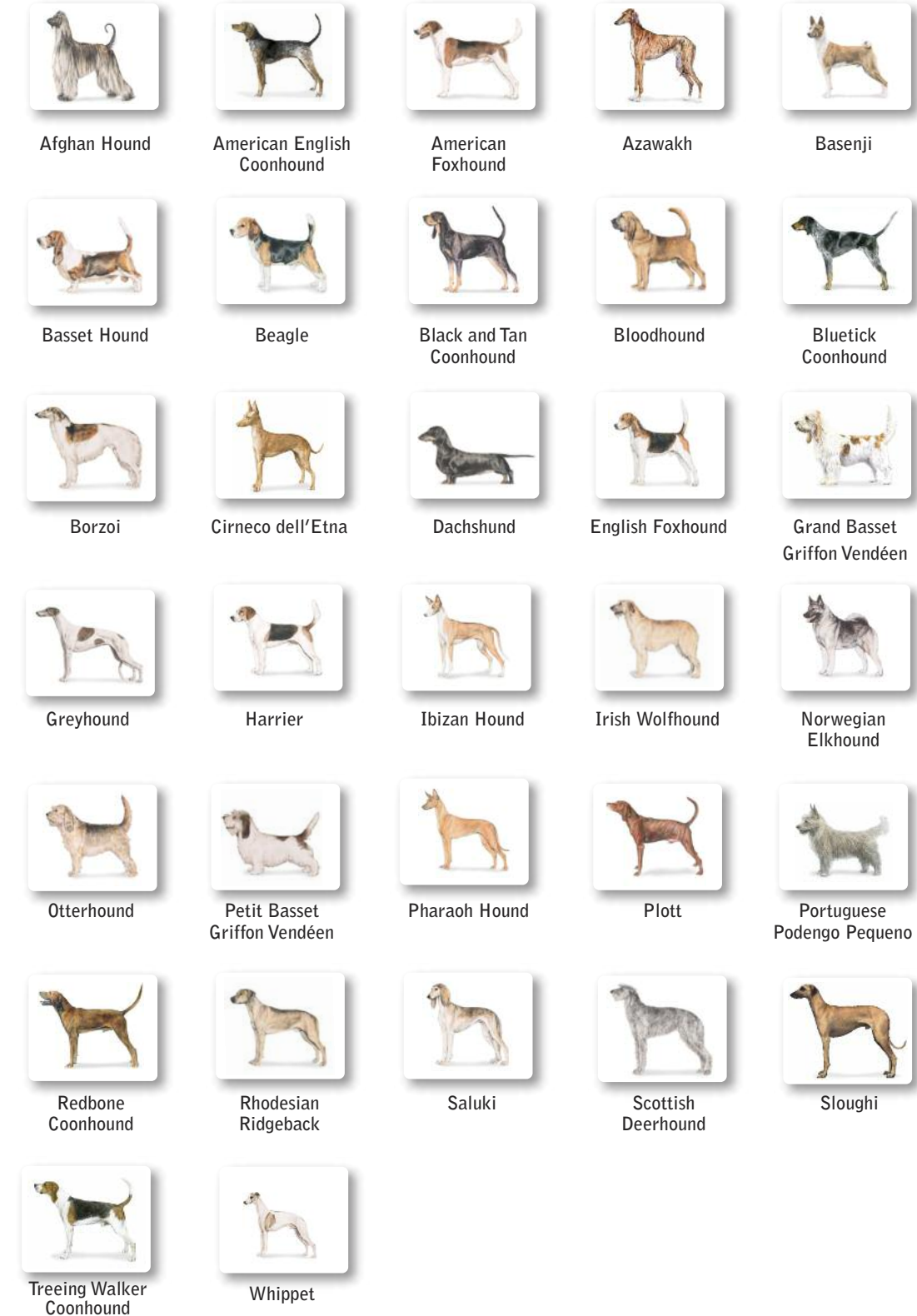
PARENT CLUB LINKS



SPORTING GROUP



HOUND GROUP



PARENT CLUB LINKS



WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



German Pinscher



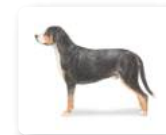
Giant Schnauzer



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

TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



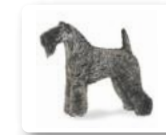
Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



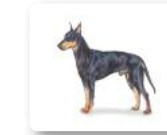
Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



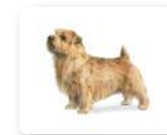
Manchester Terrier



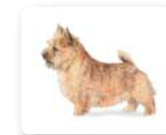
Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



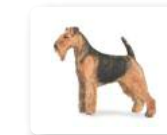
Skye Terrier



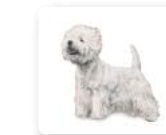
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TOY GROUP



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



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

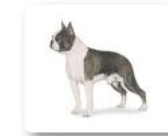
NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



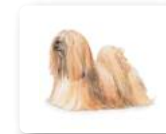
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



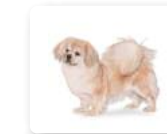
Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

PARENT CLUB LINKS

HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



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



Miniature American Shepherd



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



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/events/handlers/>

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

<http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/>

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/>