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**FEATURE:**  
PIONEERS OF  
POSITIVE TRAINING

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## TIMES PAST

## BREED COLUMNS

### Toy Group

Brussels Griffons	Havanese	Pekingese
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels	Italian Greyhounds	Pomeranians
Chihuahuas	Maltese	Shih Tzu
	Papillons	Toy Fox Terriers

### 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	Canaan Dogs	Old English Sheepdogs
Belgian Malinois	Cardigan Welsh Corgis	Pembroke Welsh Corgis
Belgian Sheepdogs	Collies	Pulik
Belgian Tervuren	Finnish Lapphunds	Spanish Water Dogs
Briards	Norwegian Buhunds	

### 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



SLIDESHOW  
PREMIER CUP AGILITY

## SECRETARY'S PAGES

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



FEATURE

## RINGSIDE SPRING SHOW PHOTOS



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## Of Honors and Education

Summer is here! We are happy to report that live events are actively taking place across each of our sports. We are getting back to seeing old friends and exhibiting our phenomenal dogs.

Speaking of phenomenal dogs, there are just a few weeks left to nominate the incredible dogs you know for the 2021 AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE). Each year, we award five dynamic, loyal dogs who have significantly contributed to the lives of their communities and owners. One award is given in each of the following categories: Search and Rescue, Uniformed Service K-9, Exemplary Companion, Therapy, and Service.

We encourage you to nominate dogs who are making a difference in your community. It is our honor, to learn about the stories of these wonderful dogs, and how they enhance our lives and the lives of those they meet. These awards are an important part of AKC. Since their inception in 2000, a hundred ACEs have been presented to dogs of varying breeds from states across the

nation. Past ACE recipients have included a Belgian Malinois certified as a Human Remains Detection Dog by the National Network of Canine Detection Services, a differently-abled Flat-Coated Retriever who excels in dog sports, and a Dalmatian therapy dog assisting teens who are living in shelters and battling mental illness and addiction issues. Submissions are open until July 31. Visit [akchumanefund.org](http://akchumanefund.org) for information on how to nominate a dog. The winners will be announced in the fall.

ACE recipients will receive an engraved sterling-silver medallion and \$1,000 to be donated to the pet-related charity of their choice, and dog and owner will be featured on [AKC.tv](http://AKC.tv).

The AKC continues its commitment to students pursuing their education in veterinary studies. We are pleased to congratulate the 15 winners of the 2021 AKC Veterinary Scholarships. The recipients have demonstrated their dedication to educational excellence, the future of purebred dogs and the health and well-being of animals. The scholarship supports individuals with a history of participation in AKC pro-



grams and sports who seek to move forward in their education in animal health and medicine. We awarded a total of \$36,000 in scholarship money. We are excited to see how they impact the future of animal medicine. [Veterinary and Junior scholarships are reported in this month's "Updates" section.]

One of our goals is to continue to engage and educate the public through these awards,

research, and various educational programs. And with live events back in action, we look forward to the many ways our clubs will share our mission with dog lovers around the country.

Dennis B. Sprung  
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AKC GAZETTE (ISSN 1086-0940), June 2021, Volume 138, No.6, published monthly at 101 Park Ave., New York, NY 10178, USA, by The American Kennel Club, Inc. Copyright The American Kennel Club, Inc., 2021. No portion of this magazine may be reprinted without permission of the publisher. AKC is a registered trademark of The American Kennel Club, Inc.



Lily and Deagan

## My Brilliant Mistake

*In our May issue, I captioned the Cirneco in this photo as a Pharaoh Hound. In the wake of such an error, a GAZETTE editor can expect a world of hurt: irate phone calls, frantic e-mails, maybe even the dreaded summons to the Executive Secretary's office for a "little chat."*

*This time, though, the error was a blessing disguised as a screw-up. Without it, Cindy Bennett wouldn't have called us with a correction. And if Cindy had never called, we wouldn't have heard about her remarkable daughter, Lily Bennett. Cindy told us:*

*"Lily first started showing in 2015 with her Miniature American Shepherd in 4-H. She went to a handling class as suggested by her 4-H leader, and then to her first AKC show. She had only shown a few times, and the bug had caught!*

*"She wanted a dog to show in the breed classes along with Juniors and was offered Deagan, a Cirneco Dell'Etna. On Thanksgiving weekend, we drove up to breeder Cheryl McDermott, DVM, in Ethel, Washington. Lily sat in her office, and here comes Deagan, a 6-month-old, lively puppy. He promptly went to her and tucked his head into her chest, and that was it: We were proud owners of a Cirneco Dell'Etna.*

*"Since then, Deagan [GCh.S Kr'Msun Nero D, Avola, RN, TKI, ACT2, CGC, CGCA, CGCU, VHM, FDC, ATT] has only been owner-handled and has been trained 100 percent by Lily, now 16 years old. She has used Deagan for many things like PeeWee classes and loaning him to another junior for handling seminars, and they have done public presentations about the breed.*

*"Lily and Deagan competed at Crufts in 2019 with 24 other dogs from the U.S., and the pair won the Canine Good Dog Scheme class and placed third in conformation among a very prestigious lineup of 26 Cirnechi."*

*Is there a special junior in your life? Write to [gazette@akc.org](mailto:gazette@akc.org) and let us know. Include a photo. I promise to double-check the caption. —B.B.*

HOTDOG PHOTO

## NOHS Finals Judges Announced

*Davies to judge BIS; Cline, Davies, and Weiss fill Best in Stakes panel*

### DAVIES TO JUDGE BIS; CLINE, DAVIES, AND WEISS FILL BEST IN STAKES PANEL

The AKC has announced judges panels for the 2021 [National Owner-Handled Series](#) Finals and the [AKC Royal Canin National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes](#), to be held in December at Orlando, Florida, in conjunction with the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin. Best in Show for the NOHS Finals will be judged by Dr. Thomas M. Davies, and Best in Stakes will be judged by a three-judge panel: Dana Cline, Dr. Thomas Davies, and Elliott Weiss.

### BREED/GROUP JUDGES: NOHS FINALS

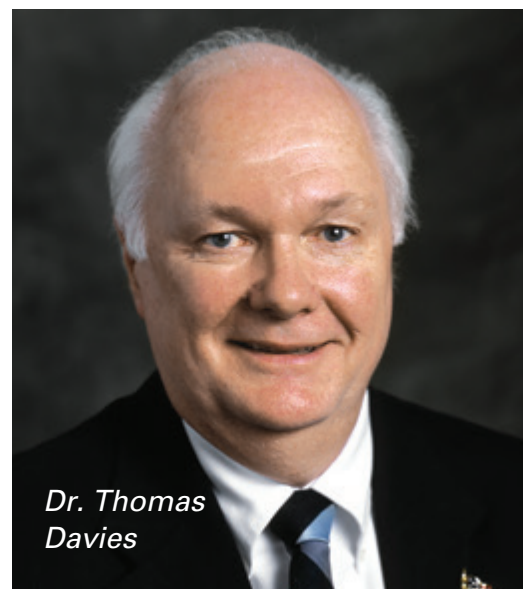
**Sporting** James Brown, **Hound** Susan St. John Brown, **Working** William Daugherty, **Terrier** Philip Briasco, **Toy** Doug Johnson, **Non-Sporting** Mary Wuest, **Herding** Garry Newton

### BREED/GROUP JUDGES: NATIONAL ALL-BREED PUPPY AND JUNIOR STAKES

**Sporting** Linda Pitts, **Hound** Lisa Miller, **Working** Dr. Tracy Powell, **Terrier** Eugene Zaphiris, **Toy** William H. Miller, **Non-Sporting** Philip Capozzolo, **Herding** Cindy Stansell



Dana Cline



Dr. Thomas Davies



Elliott Weiss

## Meet the 2021 Junior Scholars

Eleven students have earned 2021 AKC Junior Scholarships. The awards, ranging from \$500 to \$3,000, are offered to high-school and college students annually.

“These young women are dedicated not only to the sport of purebred dogs, but also to their academics,” AKC Vice President Mari-Beth O’Neill says. “We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors in their studies and involvement with dogs and The American Kennel Club.”

Applicants were evaluated on academic performance and involvement in AKC events. They were required to submit documentation that they are active AKC club members. Additionally, applicants submitted essays about their public-education efforts and how they maintained their contact with AKC events during the pandemic. The recipients participate



Olivia Persinger

in several sports, including dog shows, agility, hunt tests, and obedience.

### 2021 JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Matelyn Cobban,  
Grace Freeman, Ariella Harris, O’Malley McGee,  
Haleigh McKeithan,

Lindsay Meyers, Olivia Persinger,  
Isabella Pine, Amelia Smith, Morgan Stolba, Alison Yoho

**On Our Cover: Pug, photo by Ty Foster for AKC**



PHOTOS THIS PAGE COURTESY SUBJECTS

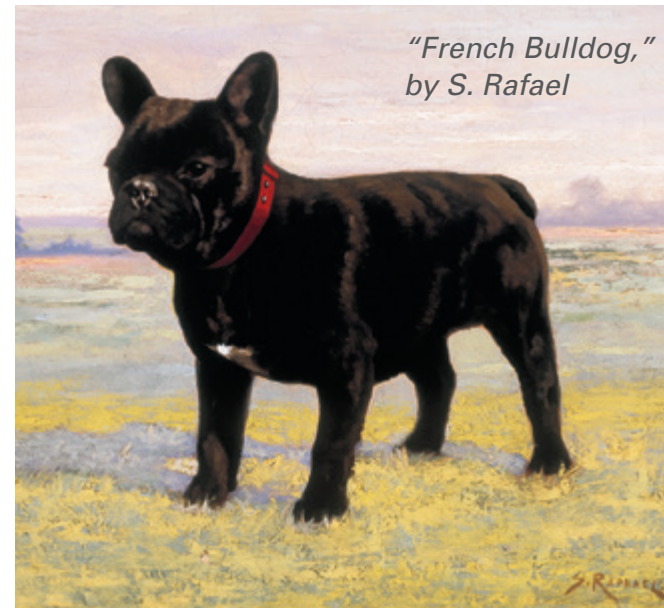
# UPDATES



## AKC Museum of the Dog: The Breeds You Love to Love

*Top Dogs*, an [AKC Museum of the Dog](#) art exhibition running through August 29, takes a look at the top 10 breeds in the AKC registrations rankings, examines their histories, and speculates what exactly about them captures the hearts and minds of so many Americans.

The show's featured breeds include the Labrador Retriever, French Bulldog, German Shepherd Dog, Golden Retriever, Bulldog, Poodle, Beagle, Rottweiler, German Shorthaired Pointer, and Dachshund. Some are mainstays of the "most popular" list, such as the Lab, the number-one ranked breed for the past 30 years. Others are more recent arrivals in the top 10, such as the French Bulldog, a breed once thought scarce in the United States but which



today occupies the number-two spot in the rankings.

[Plan Your Visit](#)



### Reset: Tracking Invitational This Fall

The ninth [AKC National Tracking Invitational](#) will begin on October 16. The AKC postponed the prestigious invitation-only event last year due to COVID concerns.

The rescheduled AKC NTI will run on October 16 and 17 at the Branched Oak State Recreation Area, near Raymond, Nebraska. Only dog-and-handler teams to have earned the elusive AKC Champion Tracker title will be invited to compete.

AKC MUSEUM OF THE DOG; HARRIER: AKC.ORG

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The United States Police Canine Association (USPCA), the largest and oldest police-dog certification organization in the United States, will team with the AKC to hold the first AKC detection-dog competition, tentatively scheduled for the fall. The event will be a public demonstration of the training and skill required of purpose-bred K-9 officers and their handlers.

“We are honored to collaborate with the USPCA,” AKC President/CEO Dennis

Sprung says. “They protect our citizens, strive to educate the public on many important dog-related topics, and are an integral part of communities. We are very proud to be affiliated with them as the nation’s most prestigious police K-9 organization.”

AKC Board member Christopher Sweetwood (Trap Falls KC) adds, “Police K-9 officers are an extremely important part of keeping our communities safe. As someone who has been heavily involved

with helping local police departments obtain K-9 officers, I am very proud to see the AKC support the efforts of the USPCA.”

USPCA President Wayne Rothschild has expressed great enthusiasm for the new partnership. “K-9 officers and the training they go through are very important,” he says, “and we’re thrilled to be able to share this with the AKC’s constituents. We hope to educate the public even more about what these amazing officers do.”

## Veterinary Scholarships Awarded

Fifteen university students from across the country have earned a combined \$36,000 in 2021 AKC Veterinary Outreach Scholarships. The scholarship program supports individuals with a background in AKC events and programs, who seek to promote animal health and medicine.



Emily Eppler

### 2021 AKC VETERINARY SCHOLARS

**Kincade Audette** (Washington State University), **Adrienne Barber** (Tufts University), **Diana Chan** (Tufts University), **Kaitlyn Dreese** (University of Pennsylvania), **Emily Eppler** (Kansas State University), **Chelsea Iennarell-Servantez** (Iowa State University), **Samuel Johnson** (Virginia-Maryland Regional College), **Brandy**

**Lawrence** (Oklahoma State University), **Stephen Oliphant** (Virginia-Maryland Regional College), **Brittany Papa** (Cornell University), **Dora Praczko** (Texas A&M University), **Tressa Reiner** (Iowa State–University of Nebraska), Jordan Tarbutton (Colorado State University), **Courtney Wicker** (North Carolina State University), **Melonie Zuercher** (University of Florida).

### OBEDIENCE, RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP PREMIUM LISTS

The 27th AKC National Obedience Championship and the eighth AKC Rally National Championship will be held July 9 to 11 in Wilmington, Ohio. The events are sponsored by Eukanuba.

#### Premium Lists

- [Obedience Championship](#)
- [Rally Championship](#)

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## Premier Agility Event Returns

OCALA, FLORIDA—The AKC Agility Premier Cup competition was held at the World Equestrian Center on May 15. The 2020 Premier Cup was postponed due to the pandemic, but the dog-and-handler teams showed no signs of rust.

“It was a thrill to see the Agility Premier Cup return this year and to see so many talented dogs compete,” AKC Executive Vice President of Sports and Events Doug Ljungren says.

“These canines are some of the best athletes in the sport, and they put on the performances to prove it.” Over 90 dogs and their handlers participated in this year’s championship event.

In line with COVID-19 safety precautions, the event was closed to the public and entry was limited to exhibitors, judges, production crew, and event staff. Safety requirements included social distancing, temperature checks, face coverings, and sanitizing stations.

### AKC Agility Cup Winners

**8-inch:** Papillon GCh.S/MACH3 Aerilee’s Kitto Katsu, MXC, MJC, OF, BCAT, CGC, TKN (Kit Kat), handled by Lindsey Barrows

**12-inch:** Poodle NAC/MACH4 Jib’s Just Happy to Be Here, MXC, PAD, MJB2 (Bliss), handled by Cassandra Schmidt

**16-inch:** Shetland Sheepdog



Ch./MACH2 Jandale Making Sparks Fly, RN, MXG, MJG, MXF, T2B (Swift), handled by Jennifer Crank

**20-inch:** Border Collie MACH2

Holly’s Hope Goes Far, MXG, PAD, MJG, PJD, MFS, TQX, T2B2 (Fargo), handled by Kathy Wells

**24-inch:** Border Collie MACH2

Tenspeeds Whiskey Bent and Hellbound, MXG, MJG, MFS, TQX, T2B (Cephus), handled by Sarah LeBlanc

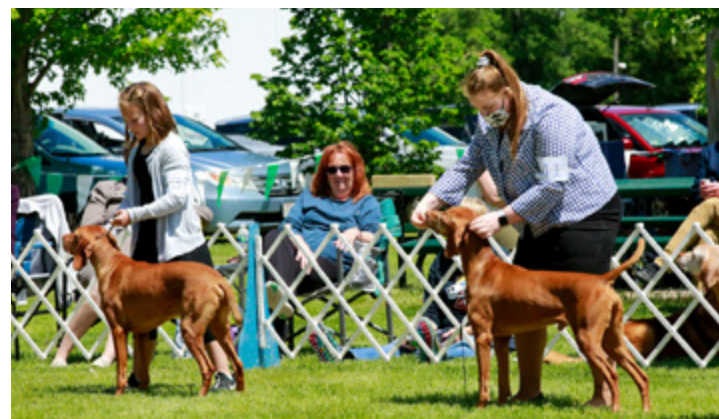
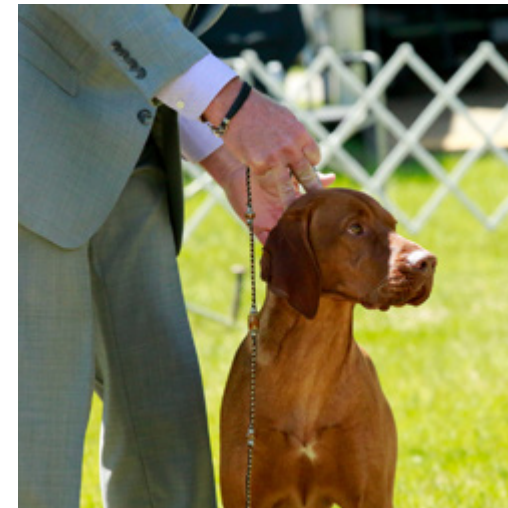
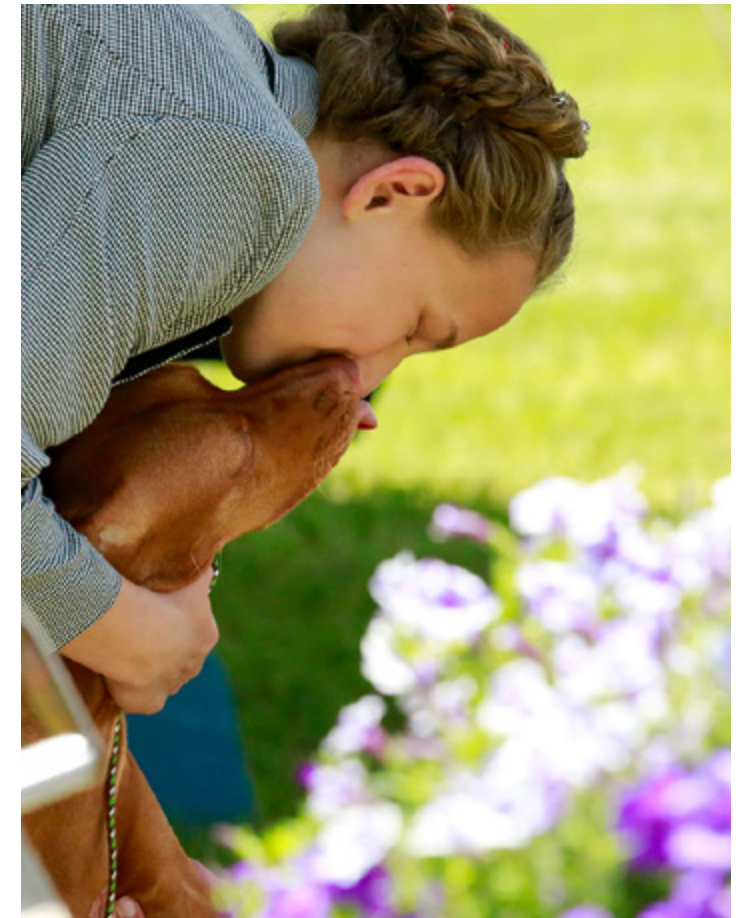
[\(Full Results\)](#)

# RINGSIDE

TWIN CITIES VIZSLA CLUB, MAY 28, AT ST. PETER, MINNESOTA



Photos by [Kathleen Riley](#)



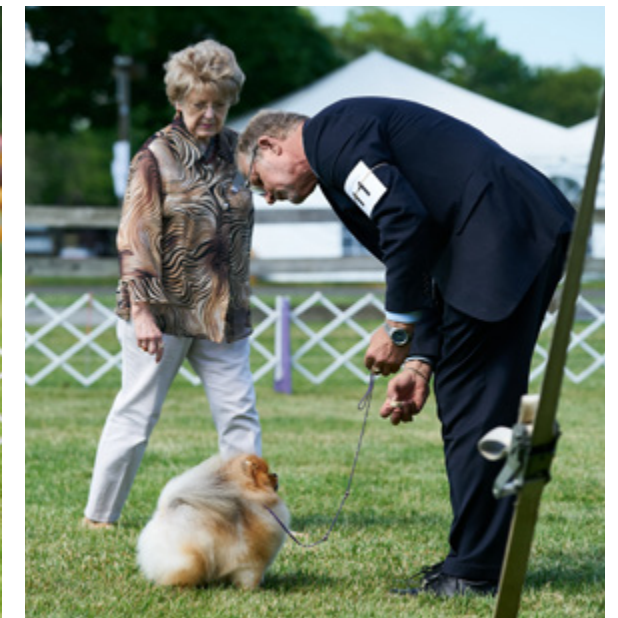
COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY

# RINGSIDE

JERSEY SHORE CLUSTER, MAY 28 TO 30, AT FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY



Photos [David Sungha Woo](#)



COURTESY DAVID SUNGHA WOO

## Would You Like a Hot Dog or a Slip Chain?

*The improbable tale of how we got Fido to sit "positively"*

*By William Van Nostran*

*Checkmate? In both their publicity materials and imaginative animal acts, the Brelands displayed a whimsical creative flair. They did not train chess-playing canines, but the Brelands did teach a chicken to play tic-tac-toe. The chicken even beat B.F. Skinner during his IQ Zoo visit.*

If you took your dog to a local obedience class circa 1950, you'd invariably be required to purchase a training collar as essential equipment. Attend an obedience class today and they'll likely tell you: "buy a package of hot dogs and cut them into bite-size pieces for each session."

So what changed in the intervening decades? That seismic shift in dog training methods involves a few historical oddities: a bizarre World War II military experiment; performing sea mammals; a one-of-a-kind zoo and early behavioral psychology. At the heart of the story: two contradictory training methods. One is based on punishment. The other on reward.

In the late 1930s two obscure University of Minnesota psychology students, Keller Breland and Marian Kruse, studied under a young Harvard-trained Ph.D. known as the "father" of operant conditioning: B.F. Skinner. Along with other graduate assistants,

Breland and Kruse conducted exacting operant conditioning experiments on rodents and birds in a chamber that psychology students know as the Skinner Box.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

If you didn't take Psych 101, the Skinner Box is simple in design. Inside it contains a single lever for a small animal to press (or key for a bird to peck). Once Mr. Rat presses the lever, a food pellet drops onto a tray. The reward reinforces the rat's anticipation that simply pressing the lever delivers a yummy morsel. In operant conditioning terms, that reinforcement causes the behavior to increase in frequency, duration, and/or intensity.<sup>1</sup> Aversives, by contrast, will diminish the behavior.

So, what do rats roving a Skinner Box have to do with frankfurters and training collars? Turns out Breland and Kruse were among Skinner's lab assistants who volunteered to assist him with a secret World War II Navy defense project. For Breland and

Kruse, the experience changed their destiny—and ultimately our approach to dog training.

## STRAPPING A PIGEON IN A PELICAN

While riding a train shortly after Germany bombed Warsaw in 1939, Skinner gazed at a flock of birds in military formation. He later wrote, "Suddenly I saw them as 'devices' with excellent vision and extraordinary maneuverability. Could they not guide a missile?"<sup>4, 5, 6, 8</sup> Guidance systems of that era were primitive; subject to jamming by enemy radar.

From that train ride came "Project Pigeon" to determine if pigeons (yes, pigeons!) could learn to guide a missile to its target. Skinner proposed the idea to the National Inventors Council and then National Defense Research Council. Both rejected it as impractical. For a time, Skinner let the matter drop.<sup>2</sup>

But the Japanese surprise



*The classic Skinner box*

attack on Pearl Harbor rekindled Skinner's patriotic fervor.<sup>5</sup> Eventually he convinced the Navy to evaluate the system. He wrangled General Mills, headquartered near the university in Minneapolis, into managing the contract.<sup>2</sup>

Training began in a secret, makeshift laboratory atop the company's Gold Medal Flour milling complex. Several of Skinner's graduate-student lab

assistants, including newlyweds Keller and Marian (Kruse) Breland, joined him to help get the project "off the ground." The team began strapping pigeons into the nose cone of a missile known as the "Pelican." Using the operant conditioning principles discovered in the laboratory, pigeons were rewarded with seed whenever their pecking pattern kept the missile hurtling toward the

designated target.<sup>5,6,7</sup> (For the record, the skillful missile-guiding pigeons never saw combat duty.)

Dr. Skinner admitted, however, waiting around for orders from Washington, D.C., often hampered progress. These bouts of tedium likely afforded the Brelands an opportunity to appreciate that what they learned in the cloistered confines of Skinner's laboratory



The Brelands met as graduate laboratory assistants to B.F. Skinner and were among an elite group of students he selected for his WWII project, training pigeons to guide a missile toward its target.

could have significant applications in the wider world. The couple grew obsessed by their dream of a profitable animal training business based upon operant conditioning.<sup>2,4</sup>

Referring to Project Pigeon, Marian later wrote: “We were

learning two principles that were to influence the rest of our lives. First, that the science of psychology as represented by Skinner’s operant conditioning was *much* more powerful than anything that had come along to date ... sec-

ondly, that this science could be used to control in a practical manner the behavior of animals. We had no doubts at the time that these ‘laws’ or principles of behavior could apply to all animals anywhere, in any conceivable fashion.”<sup>2</sup>

## DOGS, HORSES, PIGS, OR CHICKENS?

They started from ground zero (or even a little below). According to Marian, “Our assets were a mortgaged farm (with no indoor plumbing), \$800 in the bank, and one baby on the way.”<sup>2</sup> They chose the name Animal Behavior Enterprises for the new company. Those three words aptly expressed their intent—they would build a business based on the commercial potential of animals “behaving.” But behaving how?

“Can we improve horse training, dog training? Certainly,” Marian wrote. “But can we afford to compete with the rule-of-thumb methods already in use?”<sup>2</sup>

Rather than dogs and horses, the Brelands settled on training a host of barnyard animals and birds to perform entertaining “tricks” to advertise products at trade shows, fairs, and similar public events.<sup>9</sup> General Mills offered the Brelands a nine-month contract to furnish

“trained chickens, consisting of the egg laying chicken, the piano playing chicken, and the dancing chicken ... .”<sup>10</sup> The idea was to promote the company’s Larro Feed products by attracting crowds to open houses at outlets across the country.

“We developed the behaviors, we developed the equipment for it, and we put the show on the road, so to speak. And they were *shows*,” Marion explained.<sup>11</sup>

## TRAINING PERFORMING ANIMALS

In 1955, the Brelands sold their Minnesota farm moving to a region amenable to attracting tourists, creating the IQ Zoo in Hot Springs, Arkansas.<sup>4</sup> Well before construction of the interstate highway system, the era of roadside attractions was at its zenith. This unique zoo featured a menagerie of awe-inspiring animal acts. A rabbit rode a fire engine and put out a fire. They taught a skunk to

push a lever activating a giant perfume atomizer. A raccoon tossed a ball into a miniature basketball hoop.

Yet a legion of traditional animal trainers weren’t buying the Breland’s “science of behavior.” Decades after demonstrating the imaginative novel behaviors they could train using rewards, 20th century horse trainers still talked of “breaking” a horse through brute force. Likewise, dog trainers knew little about positive reinforcement.

Blanche Saunders’s popular 1948 book, *Training You to Train Your Dog*, instructed novice pet owners how to teach obedience commands. The formula for success involved teaching a dog to obey by avoiding an aversive correction: “The voice first commands obedience and is then immediately followed by the application of force on the leash.”<sup>12</sup> Typically, a metal chain was on the end of the leash. There was no

# FEATURE

mention of hot dog bits or chunks of cheese morsels. By contrast, advice from *Purely Positive Training*, published in 1998, focuses on reinforcement with food as the primary training ingredient.<sup>13</sup>

Such aversive methods caused Keller Breland to bluntly observe: “The traditional methods still in current use are tremendously inefficient ... Not only are these older methods painfully slow, but their extensive reliance on punishment and forcing the dog into the desired behavior produces unfortunate emotional effects in the dog.”<sup>14</sup>

## MY DOG IS MORE OBEDIENT THAN YOURS

In the 1930s, the AKC inaugurated competitions featuring obedience exercises (heeling, recalls, down-stays, and so on). In the mid-1980s, a few competitive obedience handlers started turning in perfect scores consistently. Still more striking, traditional



*Blanche Saunders: AKC obedience pioneer and author of Training You to Train Your Dog*



trainers noted the dogs performing with high-spirited enthusiasm and awe-inspiring precision.

Turns out, the blue ribbon-winning trainers finally caught on to using food rewards instead of jerking a collar. Training with food quickly became *de rigueur* in obedience circles. (I suspect hot dog sales went through the roof.)

So it took half a century for “old school” dog and horse trainers to adopt Keller and Marian Breland’s accumulated wisdom, rooted in Project Pigeon. But they weren’t done influencing dog training quite yet.

## HOW DO YOU TEACH A DOLPHIN TO “HEEL”?

With the advent of the first aquatic theme parks in the 1960s, the Brelands demonstrated anew their versatility training performing animals. As Marian recounts, “We developed the first scientifically trained dolphin show

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



*Despite their many commercial and scientific successes, it wasn't until training dolphins that dog trainers began to take notice. After learning dolphin-training methods from the Brelands and Bob Bailey, Karen Pryor adapted their teachings to dogs—giving rise to clicker training.*

at Marine Studios. We were also the first ones involved in training pilot whales, first for Marineland of the Pacific and then for Marineland, Florida.”<sup>11</sup>

About the same time, the

Navy initiated a dolphin research program. Robert Bailey, the young Director of the Navy's animal training program, conducted studies into fluid flow around dolphins, as well as dolphin communication.<sup>15</sup> After observing the Brelands train dolphins, Bailey became such an acolyte that he left the Navy to join Animal Behavior Enterprises.

During this sea mammal training period, another dolphin trainer in her thirties worked with the Brelands. In 1984 that woman, Karen Pryor, published the bestseller *Don't Shoot the Dog*, introducing “clicker training.”

## LET'S ADD SOUND TO THAT TREAT

Pryor's method evolved from her dolphin-training days. “You can't very well use a leash or a bit or a whip or even your fist on an animal that can just swim away,” she explained.<sup>18</sup> Pryor credits the origin of clicker training as

an adaptation of techniques developed by Keller Breland, Marian Breland, and Bob Bailey. “It first reached widespread use in the training of marine mammals, which is where I learned it myself.”<sup>18</sup> Fresh fish took the place of hot dogs. Then dolphin trainers added a whistle the mammals could hear: “A lot of terrestrial trainers use a little clicker,” said Pryor speaking at an animal behavior conference.<sup>18</sup>

With one click, the trainer says, “Yes! You got it right!” The clicker marks perfect performance of the cue, followed instantaneously by the reward (food, a favorite toy, or similar treasure the dog covets). In operant conditioning terms, food functions as a primary reinforcer; the clicker is the secondary reinforcer. Once the animal associates the clicking sound directly with the primary food reward, the clicker alone communicates positive feedback. Use of a clicker or whistle to mark a behavior

becomes especially useful when directing animals at a distance—like herding and hunting dogs.

## THE “JUST A PET” BREED BENEFITS, TOO

The lifestyle of dogs has changed dramatically since the 1950s. Then many dogs did chores on the family farm. Today, therapy dogs visit patients in children's hospitals and nursing homes. In the '50s, women were home during the day looking after the pooch the kids promised to feed and exercise. Companies now offer the perk of bringing the family dog into the workplace. In midcentury America, many pet dogs roamed the neighborhood—or spent the day tied to a chain in the backyard. Now, municipalities maintain dog parks and “doggie daycare” is a booming business.

To possess the canine manners to enjoy such activities, socialization and basic obedience is essential. Yet even with hot dogs as a motivator,

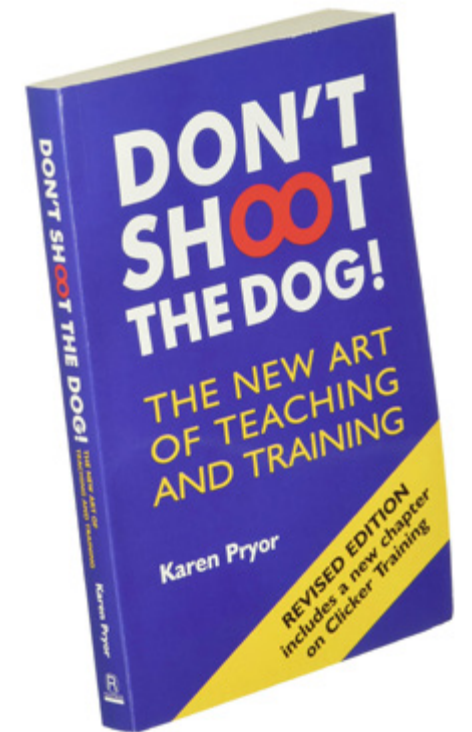
an obedience instructor may recommend adding a slip chain as an additional training aid. So, what happened to the idea of positive only, force-free training? Rewarding good behavior with food makes sense. But you can't reward misbehavior. A dog may well respond to “come” in the confines of a fenced-in backyard. But how consistent is her recall at the dog park when joyously playing tug of war with canine pals?

Although highly skilled animal trainers can teach a multitude of behaviors using only positive reinforcements, most beginners lack the precision, timing, observational skills, and patience required to achieve consistent performance without an occasional, appropriate correction.

## WHEN TO REPRIMAND?

Keller Breland explained when discipline is appropriate in the context of a dog chasing a squirrel or chicken. He referred to this canine activity

as a “self-reinforcing undertaking.” The excitement derived from such instinctual behaviors provides its own reward. No hot dog needed for Fido to give chase. “For this type of response,” Breland wrote, “there seems to be no other possibility of change except through the administration of punishment. Punishment does not actually erase or obliterate the wrong response. It merely suppresses it.” In a scientific



*The influential 1984 book by frequent GAZETTE contributor Karen Pryor*



paper, the Brelands referred to this as “instinctive drift”—instinct overpowers training.<sup>17</sup> (Without leaping into the briar patch of operant-conditioning jargon terminology, “punishment” has several different components, far more specific than the “street” definition. For an update on Keller Breland’s thoughts on instinctive drift and proofing, see sidebar “Training for a Rock-Solid Performance.”)

In such situations, however, it’s vital to assess the underlying cause of disobedience. This requires interpreting canine body language in the context of each dog’s temperament, age, and training level. Your boy may simply be confused and genuinely does not understand the cue in a given context. In that case, harsh corrections are not appropriate. Instead, set up a situation where the dog can’t make the mistake. Or, chunk the exercise into a few basic steps. Success earns a “jackpot” of extra hot dogs.

However, when Fido ignores

a cue because he thinks he’s got a choice, experienced trainers set up an exercise where the dog is likely to make the same willful choice. Anticipate and be ready to correct. Also, the severity of reprimands depends on a dog’s temperament and flagrancy of the infraction. A brawny Rottweiler probably needs a firmer hand than a small, soft Sheltie.

Discipline in dog training also takes many forms along a continuum from a mild verbal correction to a quick leash pop, or even use of an e-collar. (Considerable controversy surrounds electric-collar training. Scientific studies found this method can lead to unintended consequences, including escape behavior, fearfulness, aggression, shyness, or reluctance to explore.<sup>19</sup>)

## YOU GET WHAT YOU REINFORCE

The Brelands promoted consistency in doling out rewards or a correction if needed.

When you call a dog to come,



*“Where she stops, nobody knows.” This act requires teaching a rabbit, Charlie Chance, to manipulate a spinning wheel with sufficient force to keep it turning for several revolutions. The drum-shaped fortune wheel is covered with a rough rubber coating—allowing the rabbit to get a good grip on the wheel.*

where, precisely, do you expect the dog to arrive? In front of you or coming to heel at your side? Either way, that’s the only position meriting a treat. Rewarding for arriving “sort of in the vicinity” causes canine confusion. Dogs don’t get the concept of “in the vicinity.” They do, however, compre-

hend quite specific “place learning,” such as “on your bed.”

As Keller Breland preached: “Reinforce exactly the behaviors you do want, never reinforce the behaviors you don’t want. You get what you reinforce, not what you want.”<sup>20</sup> Bob Bailey defines a “great”

trainer as one who knows how to get the behavior as quickly and accurately as possible. “The best trainers focus on building behaviors, building the desired habits, not suppressing the behaviors that we don’t want,” he says.<sup>21</sup>

In a word, they have good technique. It’s like a pianist

doing five finger exercises or basketball players practicing free throws time and again. The best trainers strive to eliminate inconsistencies, confusing body signals, or excessive talking and movement.

## PIONEERS IN A NEW BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Although underappreciated even today, Keller Breland, Bob Bailey, and Marian Breland Bailey’s pioneering work in applied animal behaviorism proved trailblazing. Yet for decades conventional trainers overlooked or ignored their application of force-free training methods based on B.F. Skinner’s discoveries.

Today positive reinforcement is used worldwide to train dogs, cats, horses, birds, zoo animals, and even people in a variety of settings. So, when today’s dog-training instructors prescribe hot dog tidbits, they are taking a tool from the treasured Skinner Box and applying the scientific knowledge acquired

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR ENTERPRISES PAPERS, THE ARCHIVES OF THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY, THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

teaching pigeons to guide a missile.

*The author expresses appreciation to the University of Akron's Cummings Center for the History of Psychology's archive staff for access to their Animal Behavior Enterprises collection. GZ*

*Bill Van Nostran's writing career began in the U.S. Air Force as a Public Information Officer during the Vietnam War. After stints in corporate communications, he freelanced on a range of training, marketing, and informational videos for such clients as Prudential, Johnson & Johnson, and General Foods. Most recently he served as a research institute medical writer at Akron Children's Hospital. Van Nostran competes in agility and does therapy-dog work with his Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever.*



## Training for Rock-Solid Performance

Many amateur dog trainers spend weekends competing in obedience, agility, hunting trials, or other tests of a trained dog's abilities. A qualifying score makes it all worthwhile. Better yet is coming home with a ribbon (preferably blue).

Imagine, however, your entire livelihood depends on training animals to perform flawlessly, time and again, even in the midst of enticing distractions. Animal Behavior Enterprises' Bob Bailey and Marian Breland Bailey had to meet this challenge to stay in business. (Several years after Keller Breland suffered a fatal heart attack, Bob married Marian and she became known as Marian Breland Bailey.)

In an e-mail exchange, Bob explained both the challenges and scientific methods used to ensure the consistency of their performing animals. "All of this work was done to solve a problem," Bailey explained. "Getting animals to respond appropriately and reliably in any environment under any anticipated conditions."

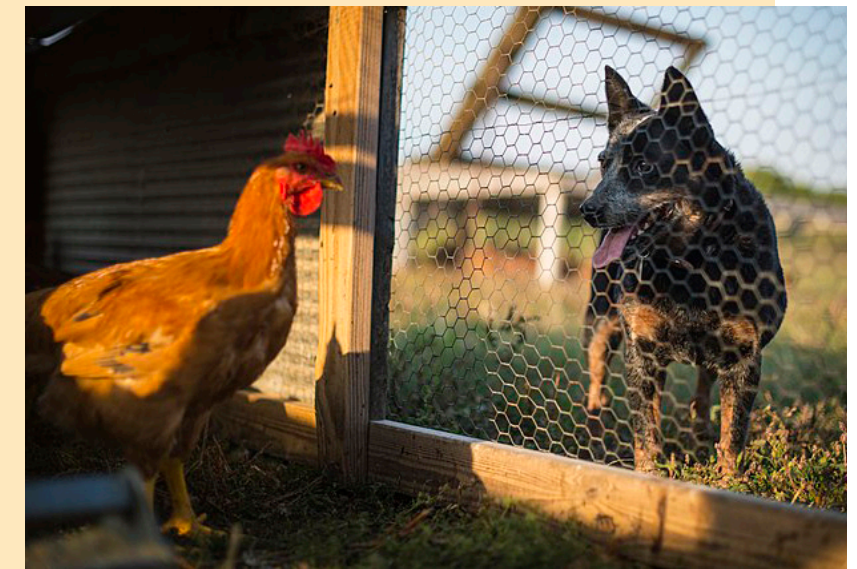
First, they determined if a specific stimulus (a chicken, squirrel, some motion, a flash of light) proved distracting to the animal

and, if so, to what degree. "We looked for 'classes' of stimuli that caused an unwanted response." Bob wrote. "Was it movement, furry or feathery objects, the size of an object, a vocalization or other noise? If there was an undesirable response we identified that animal for conditioning."

Subject animals were tested both when confined and when free. "Our trainers looked for a number of response categories, graded on scales from 1 to 10. These categories related to the animal's body responses (eyes, ears, muscle tension, and so on) to the stimulus.

"The goal of these evaluations was to determine the animal's response to a stimulus during escalation of that stimulus (closer, more motion, and so on)," Bailey wrote me. The training plan depended on the severity of the animal's response to the specific distraction. The training methods focused on desensitization and counter conditioning.

At first, a single trainer worked with one animal in a small bare room. The trainer introduced the stimulus, observed the subject's reactions, and delivered the reinforcer. "To control stimuli (moving objects) we rigged



string and pulley systems or similar contrivances. Occasionally motion-sensing detectors indicated the animal's movement during training. Electric feeders delivered rewards automatically," Bailey said. Using mechanical counters and timers, trainers precisely recorded all data.

"We were quite meticulous in how we asked questions, analyzed, and interpreted data following the scientific method," Bailey wrote. "Our investigations were sufficient to train animals to work under quite severe environmental conditions."

For we amateur trainers, such scientific rigor falls within the "don't try this at home" category.—**B.V.N.**

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## Annie's Ugly Duckling

*From the Philadelphia Inquirer, May 28, 1961:*

**M**rs. Alexander Griffin, of Holicong [Pennsylvania], has enjoyed considerable success in breeding and showing Poodles, since her first brush with an unbrushed specimen a decade ago in Ireland. A visit to the village of Cappoquin, in the County of Waterford, to check on the Hogans and Hylands in her family tree, gave her the first closeup of a Poodle. She liked what she saw, despite the poor tonsorial trim on the dog, a pet of a titled lady from a nearby estate.

Now she can recall fondly several champions. One in particular is Champion Cappoquin Little Sister, the black toy Poodle, now owned by Florence A. Michelson, of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and best in show at Westminster last February. Mary, as she is known to ringsiders, once owned Little Sister.

Little Sister was discovered by Mrs. Griffin in a commercial kennel as a puppy. The Poodle was really an ugly duckling then,

“skinny, with matted hair and dirty” as Mary expresses it. She paid a modest “pet price” for the dog and took her home for a wash and a Continental clip. Sister was transformed into a different dog.

Next Mrs. Griffin sought to evaluate Little Sister as she blossomed into a promising show prospect. So, she went to see Anne Hone Rogers in Mahopac, N.Y. The outstanding young woman handler took a good look and said: “She’s a best-in-show dog.”

That was enough for Mary. The rest of the story was enacted last February at Westminster where Miss Rogers, whose annual earnings as a pro handler run into “five figures,” piloted Sister to dogdom’s pinnacle. But, Little Sister by that time had been sold by Mary to Miss Michelson. There was much speculation as to the price the Florida fancier paid. Mrs. Griffin merely says: “It was a fancy figure!”



*Westminster KC, 1961: Handler Anne Hone Rogers with her third and final Garden BIS winner, Ch. Cappoquin Little Sister, judged by Dr. Joseph Redden. It was Sister's 13th career BIS. (Evelyn Shafer photo)*

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

## Jeffrey Pepper

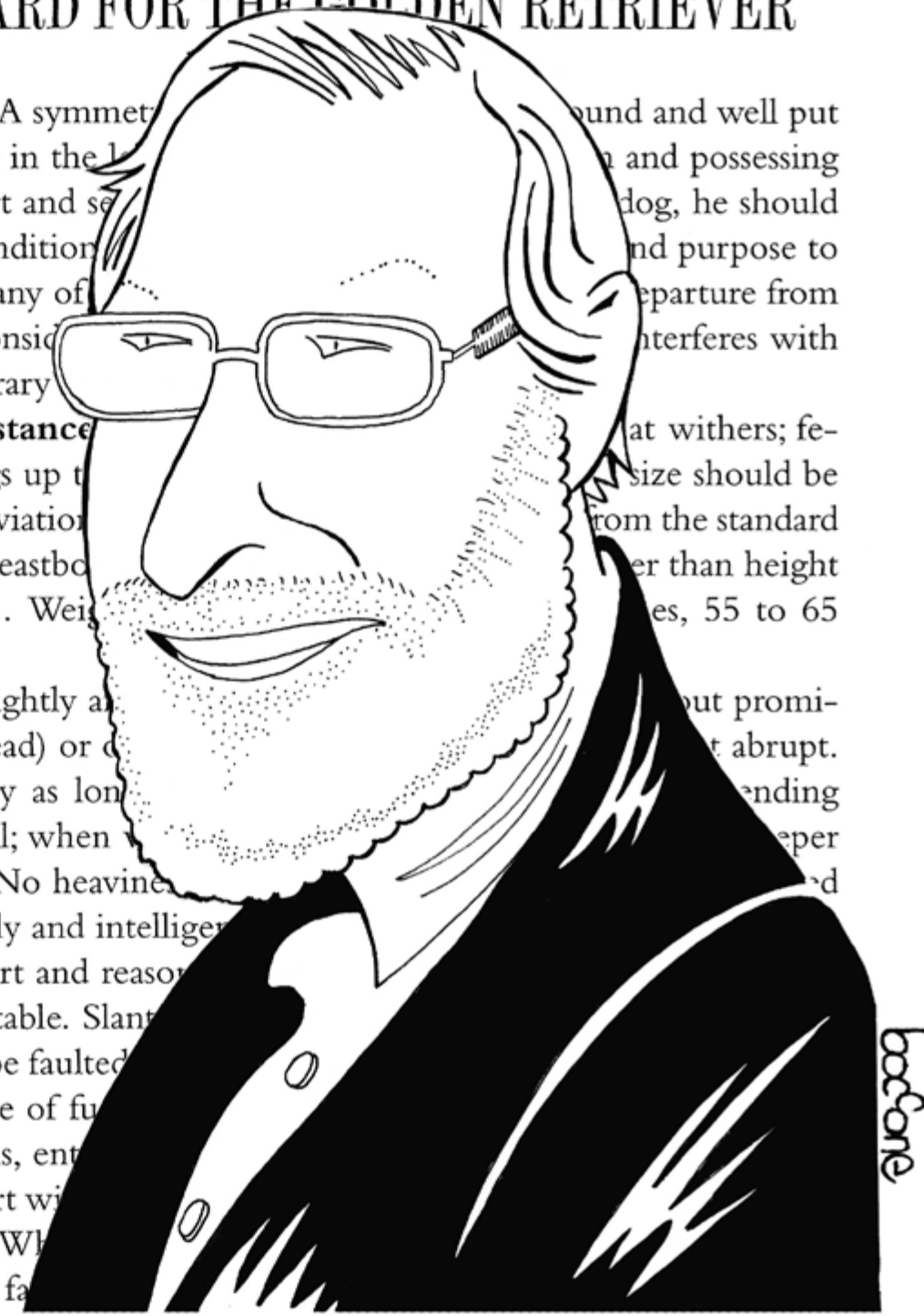
**J**eff Pepper has long been associated with the Golden Retriever, a breed he describes as an ideal family pet—with one drawback: “Because he is so people oriented, many Golden Retrievers make perfectly awful watchdogs. Although he may bark when a stranger comes to the door, the Golden’s tail will be wagging furiously at the same time. If the person outside is out to rob you of your valuables, your Golden is unlikely to try and stop the intruder. In fact, if he could talk, he’d probably say, ‘Hi! Will you play with me? The silver is over there.’”

### OFFICIAL STANDARD FOR THE GOLDEN RETRIEVER

**General Appearance**—A symmetrical, well put together, not clumsy nor long in the leg, and possessing a personality that is eager, alert and sensible. As a dog, he should be shown in hard working condition and purpose to be given more emphasis than any of the departure from the described ideal shall be considered a fault, but one that interferes with the breed’s purpose or is contrary to the breed’s character.

**Size, Proportion, Substance**—Males 23½ to 25½ inches at withers; females 21½ to 22½ inches. Dogs up to 20 inches at the withers should be proportionately penalized. Deviations from the standard shall *disqualify*. Length from breastbone to tip of tail should be greater than height at withers in a ratio of 12:11. Weight, 55 to 65 pounds.

**Head**—Broad in skull, slightly arched, without prominence of frontal bones (forehead) or occipital protuberance. **Foreface** deep and wide, nearly as long as tall. **Snout** smooth and strongly tapered into skull; when viewed from the side, the tip is and wider at stop than at tip. No heaviness of the upper jaw, but not preferred. **Eyes** friendly and intelligent, with close-fitting rims, set well apart and reasonably level. Color, brown; medium brown acceptable. **Slant** correct expression and are to be faulted if they are turned ahead. Dogs showing evidence of functional defects, such as, but not limited to, trichiasis, entropion, or ectropion, are to be faulted from the ring. **Ears** rather short with the tip of the ear falling close to cheek. **Whiskers** Low, hound-like ear set to be faulted if they are too far apart.



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*"Making the Most of Downtime": Karen Kleinhans DeSilva, of the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, discusses how she and her friends stayed connected to the fancy during the enforced idleness of the COVID era.*

## 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](mailto:Arliss.Paddock@akc.org).

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### Brussels Griffons

#### EDUCATION IN THE COVID AGE

Educational practices and offerings have been severely impacted by COVID safety guidelines. Most shows are not allowing ringside tutoring, spectators, or in-ring observation. Seminars have been curtailed due to the danger of large gatherings. Many local training classes, especially those regularly held indoors, have also been suspended. In order to move forward with continuing education the American Brussels Griffon Association and other parent clubs, with the help of AKC, have adopted other forms of educating judges and others about our breed.

In September, as part of the AKC's ongoing program, the ABGA conducted a breed webinar. These take place every Tuesday afternoon/evening, depending on time zone, with a different breed presented every Tuesday. A total of 273 judges or potential judges attended this offering, which is a presentation of the ABGA's usual Judges' Education video and discussion, conducted by the co-chair of the Judges' Education Committee (me). Attendees earned one CEU toward applying to judge Brussels Griffons. A Q&A opportunity was offered at the end. This program is still available online—more about that in a bit.

Work on the ABGA Canine College presentation for AKC is almost complete. These are



video offerings for judges to study our Brussels Griffon breed. Eventually all breeds will be included in this ambitious AKC undertaking. Those already up and running are of excellent quality. Judges pay a fee to attend this offering to earn CEUs, and from there forward can access it at any time, making this a great way to review a breed before a judging assignment.

Various members of the ABGA Judges' Education committee have presented virtual kennel visits via Facetime, Zoom, or other video communication resources. I, myself, conducted one from my porch in Arkansas to

educate a prospective judge in California. It was quite a pleasant experience, although my retirees resented having to “perform” on their porch. I hope these virtual kennel visits and tutoring programs continue to be an acceptable means of gaining CEUs. They make it possible to get credit for visiting breeders all over the country, or the world, to see kennels and breeding programs that one might never get to see otherwise.

The ABGA requires that new members, or associate members who want to become full voting regular members, attend the lecture/video presentation of the Judges' Education program. This program been made available at our national specialties as well as designated local supported entries. With the cancellation of many shows, this has become nearly impossible to accomplish. Therefore, the ABGA is making the viewing of the above-mentioned webinar part of the regular membership requirements. It can be viewed by anyone at no charge, although no CEUs can be earned by judges. A link will be established on our website, and a multiple-choice and true/false quiz about the program content will be taken by the prospective member and included with his/her membership application to verify attendance.

There are so many clever people involved in the dog world. I have no doubt additional

offerings for education and training will be developed in the future. They're a little lemonade from the COVID lemon.

—Anne Catterson,

[annecatt@gmail.com](mailto:annecatt@gmail.com)

[American Brussels Griffon Association](#)

### Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

#### CANINE EPILEPSY AND THE CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL

I found that epilepsy and the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel was an interesting but difficult topic to write about for several reasons. First, the more I researched, the more layers of information I uncovered, and some information out there is old and perhaps incorrect. Like some other diseases affecting the CKCS, regarding epilepsy there is a perpetuating of assumed facts.

Seizures do occur in dogs, and there are different types. Seizures may be brief and even go unnoticed, where the dog may simply appear to be gazing into space for a few moments. This is termed an “absence seizure.” A more common generalized seizure, similar to a human grand mal seizure, is a generalized motor event with the dog laying on its side, moving or paddling its limbs, whining, crying, or barking and unaware of its surroundings. The dog may urinate or defecate, and when the episode is over

DAVID WOO ©AKC

## TOY GROUP



Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Lynda Beam

the will be a post-seizure recovery period, lasting as long as 30 minutes or more, where the dog will remain unaware of what's going on.

Epilepsy is the most common neurological disorder seen in dogs and has been estimated to

affect approximately 0.75 percent of the general canine population.

Diagnosing epilepsy in dogs can be difficult. First, one must rule out other causes of seizure-like behavior such as cardiac events or ves-

tibular disease, hyperlipidemia, and liver disease.

Canine epilepsy is classified into three categories. *Structural epilepsy* is diagnosed where “observable damage” or brain malformation can explain the reason for the seizure. An intracranial tumor, head trauma, congenital malformation, or post-stroke and post-inflammatory diseases such as meningitis may be the cause and can be diagnosed by X-ray, MRI, cerebrospinal fluid analysis, and serum labs.

*Epilepsy of unknown cause* is the term used to describe epilepsy where a structural cause is suspected but not identified.

The majority of canine epilepsy is termed *idiopathic* where there is a repetitive pattern and no identifiable structural, metabolic, or toxic cause, and is assumed to be genetic in origin. The age of presentation in CKCS and all dogs is the same, from 6 months to 5 years. A Swedish study of 665,000 insured dogs in 2014 found an incidence, based on claims, of 18/10,000 or 0.18 percent, which is much lower than the estimated risk. It named the Boxer as having the highest risk at only 0.61 percent, and also named the CKCS as one of the other affected breeds, but I have no percentages. We know that males are at higher risk than females, that the median survival time is 1.5 years, and that pet dogs do better than dual-purpose dogs, like those used for hunting, shepherding, or working.

There is also a study claiming that whole-color CKCS (Rubies and Black and Tans) have an increased inheritance compared to Blenheim and Tricolors, but this is from a 1960 study quoted in a report from 2005. A 2012 study ruled out an association between Chiari-like malformation or ventriculomegaly and seizures in the CKCS.

Determination of an appropriate treatment regimen for canine epilepsy depends on an accurate diagnosis of the type and cause of seizures, only after which appropriate therapeutic options can be identified. Early diagnosis is important and should involve a canine neurology specialist to start early antiepileptic care. Treatment aims to reduce the number and severity of seizures and increase the quality and duration of life.

The mainstay of past anti-seizure control has been oral phenobarbital and or potassium bromide, but levetiracetam (Keppra), gabapentin (Neurontin), and pregabalin (Lyrica) have shown great promise and effect. This could fill another article on treatment.

One of the lessons learned was that although it is a serious disease, canine epilepsy may affect our beloved breed less than feared, and much more needs to be learned. The American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club Charitable Health Trust is an organization supporting the research into problems like

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



## TOY GROUP

this. Learn more at [ACKCSC.org](https://www.ackcsc.org). They are preparing a second Health Survey for Members, which may give us more insight on the incidence of epilepsy in the CKCS.

Learn more at:  
<https://www.akcchf.org/canine-health/top-health-concerns/epilepsy/AKCCHF-Understanding-Canine-Epilepsy-2017.pdf>

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/dog-breeding/canine-epilepsy-myths/>

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American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club

## Chihuahuas

### WHAT DO YOU FEED YOUR DOG?

Have you tried the newest dog food everyone is raving about? *It's expensive, so I'm sure it's great! Those special-order foods must have something my dog food is lacking.* Have you ever thought this and felt a bit guilty when you hear what some other people feed their dogs?

I've tried them all. The most expensive, the most popular, the newest trend, the organic and the less expensive brands. To be honest, I couldn't tell much difference in how my dogs looked or felt when on these foods. Their coats are always shiny, their teeth are good, their attitudes are happy, and they are not picky eaters. Granted, there are brands that have little nutritional value. But price does not indicate "better" when feeding our dogs. We must be discerning buyers when it comes to the food we feed our two-legged family members as well as our four-legged family.

Guilt seems to be a major force in which dog food we select. We hear many breeders say



Chihuahua

they use a certain dog food and gasp at the thought of that coming near our beautiful little puppy. I know, I did the same thing. Then one day, I decided I needed to cut back on the cost of the very expensive dog food I was using. So I went to work doing my research on the nutrients needed for my breed of dog.

The truth is the Chihuahua has a high metabolism. They need to be fed twice a day in order to maintain that perfect balance. The more energy you expend, the more fuel you need to sustain that motion.

So I began my experiment on dog foods and what worked best for my dogs. I tried almost all the foods in the more expensive health food stores and had nice results. I then went to the regular pet food stores. What I found was very interesting.

It all came down the amount of protein and fat contained in the product. The stage of the dog's life is also a factor in what their bodies require. I was so surprised to see some of the top puppy foods did not contain what I consider to be a good percentage of fat and protein. Plus, those

## TOY GROUP

“all stage” foods are just not enough for puppies and sometimes too much for the seniors.

I have found the best percentage of protein for my dogs is 28 to 30 percent, with fat percentages ranging from 18 to 20 percent. When I find a food I like but the percentages are too high or too low, I may blend two foods to get the exact effect I want with my dogs. Too much fat can cause obesity, and too much protein can be a cause for liver and kidney issues, so be careful to stay in the range that works best for your dogs.

And yes, you can use a product that contains corn. Corn is sugar, and with the high metabolism of the Chihuahua, they need that added little boost. When choosing, just make sure corn is not the first product mentioned in the ingredients. Chicken is easier to digest than beef or lamb, so I always use a chicken-based product for the youngsters. Fish-based products sound good, but be sure the fish is farmed in the U.S. I do not recommend fish-based products for pregnant bitches.

Just remember, in your quest for the perfect dog food, you don't have to feed the most expensive brand to have a happy, healthy, and beautiful dog. You just need to be informed.

—Virginia (Jenny) Hauber,  
[wynjynchis@yahoo.com](mailto:wynjynchis@yahoo.com)  
Chihuahua Club of America

## Havanese

### YOU CAN'T ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS

In the column that appeared here in the September 2020 issue, I addressed some of the issues surrounding showing your own Havanese: the joys, the sorrows, “the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.” Some of you may be unconvinced and offer up excuses like “I don't know how and I don't have the time to learn,” or “My body isn't built for running around a show ring,” or “I am terrified and can't get past the butterflies.” Reluctantly, I can accept those excuses. So, the next step is how to select someone else to do it for you.

You might think that asking a friend or relative to show your dog for you is a reasonable, inexpensive way to accomplish the task. It is a great idea if you are willing to accept the risk of losing a friend, terminating a personal relationship, or having a very uncomfortable family Thanksgiving dinner. No matter who shows your dog, including yourself, you need to accept the inevitable fact that no dog wins *all* the time, and you need to do some soul-searching and decide how you will feel about the person handling if your dog doesn't win.

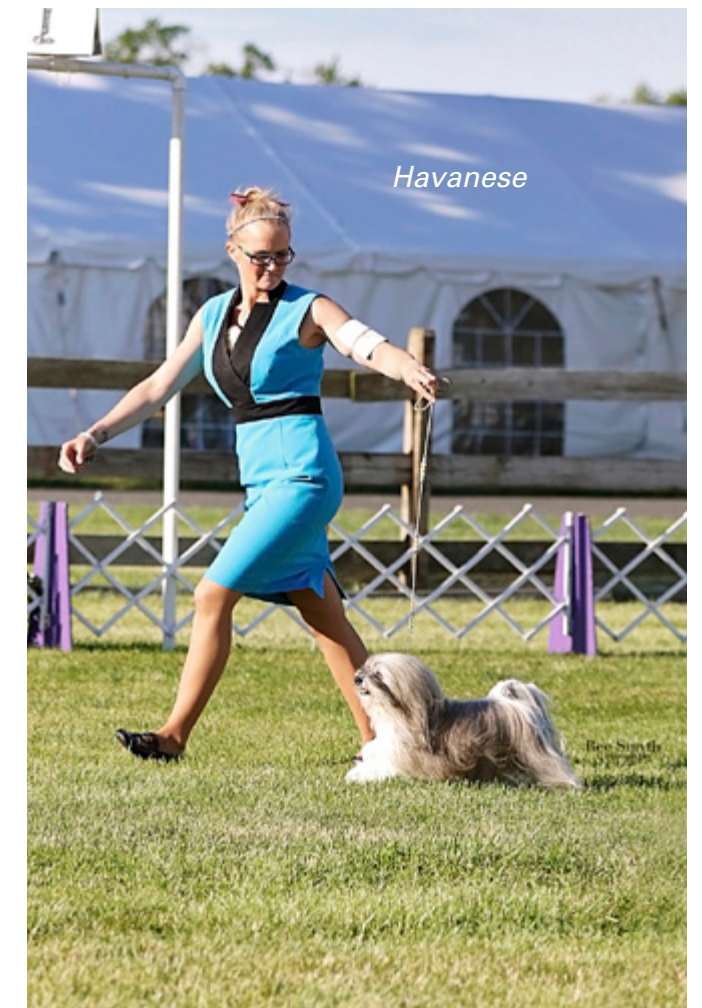
Hiring a non-related person to show your dog for you distances you emotionally from the loss. You don't like the job the person has done? Terminate the relationship, and find

someone else. (It is a lot harder to “fire” a friend or your sister!)

So, how do you go about finding a professional handler? By definition a professional handler should be someone who has dedicated a number of years learning the skills necessary to successfully show dogs. Various organizations list professional handlers who have exhibited professionalism. The AKC Registered Handlers Program and the Professional Handlers Association are two such organizations. Your research must go beyond names listed on websites, however. There are some very fine handlers who are not members of either of these groups. You might want to ask them why.

Do you want a handler who will take your dog to their kennel/home to condition, train, and groom, or do you want to take your own dog to a show and meet the handler there? Start the process by going to many shows to observe dogs being shown in your own breed as well as others. Carefully watch how people interact with the dogs they are handling. Are they communicating well with the dogs? Are they kind and gentle, or distracted and irritated about being there? Are they personally neat, clean, and appropriately attired?

Once you have picked up on what is happening in the ring, find out who is a “professional” and who is not. Of course, do *not*



assume that the person in the ring whose dog won that day is the “best” handler. Not at all. Even a terrible handler can win with a great dog! Talk to people. Get recommendations. Talk to the professionals you observed. Find out if your dog has to live with them, or if they accept “ringside pickups.” Ask to see their rate card and/or handling contract. Understand all documentation. There is nothing worse

COURTESY REE SMYTH

## TOY GROUP

than having someone show your dog and you having heart failure when an unexpectedly high bill arrives.

If your dog is going to live with the handler, you *must* visit the kennel or home to see where your dog will be living. Look at their dog transportation vehicle, and ask about their motor vehicle violation history.

Before you settle on someone you think you would like to show your dog, find out what experience they have with Havanese specifically. Havanese are not “show and go” dogs. Grooming and proper conditioning are a challenge for everyone. Ask to see pictures of other Havanese they have groomed and shown. What expertise do they have with Havanese as well as other Toy Group breeds? How committed are they to presenting your dog according to the breed standard? Are they willing to meet with a local breed mentor to learn about the breed?

Meet the handler’s assistants, and observe them as well. Don’t be shy about asking who will be handling your dog if the professional handler is busy in another ring. Will it be an assistant, or another professional handler? Speaking of that, what is the “pecking” order your handler has in case of a ring conflict? Know where you stand. Do not be afraid to ask. Are you paying for a professional handler or an assistant? Also, if your dog is going to be

living with the handler for a period, find out who will be caring for the dog if he gets sick and must stay at home while the handler is traveling to shows. Ask how soon after a show you will be filled in on the show results.

Ask, ask, ask. This is your dog. This is your money. Often when these relationships don’t work out, it is due to one party not getting enough information in the beginning. Don’t assume anything. *Ask!*

—Alice L. Lawrence,  
[pulifuzz@aol.com](mailto:pulifuzz@aol.com)

Havanese Club of America

*This article has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Havanese Club of America.*

## Italian Greyhounds

### ITALIAN GREYHOUND BASICS

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

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



Italian Greyhound

DAVID WOO ©AKC

## TOY GROUP

yes, he looks like a miniature Greyhound. According to the standard, he is supposed to look like that.

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

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

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

all of this is an eye-stopper.

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

I sometimes receive inquiries from people about a "miniature Italian Greyhound." I have to fight the temptation to say, "There's no such thing!" Such a reference is pretty much the same as a "teacup Poodle" or "teacup Chihuahua"—or "teacup" anything else. It is meant to refer to a tiny specimen of that particular breed, but there is no such official name for *any* breed. There actually *are* people who want the minuscule end of the scale—an IG weighing less than seven pounds and standing 12 inches or less. A dog in that size range would be smaller than the "13 to 15 inches at the shoulder" ideal specified in the standard. This would be a dog too refined and delicate to deal with the real-life situations most dogs face. That may be all right with people who understand the special needs of a tiny dog with very fine bone, but for the average pet home a slightly larger, sturdier IG is a much better choice.—*Lilian S. Barber, 2013*

[Italian Greyhound Club of America](#)

## Maltese

### TOPKNOTS

I am going to give you an interesting history lesson about topknots throughout the years. Originally Maltese didn't have the coat on their head gathered into topknots—instead the coat was actually just parted to each side of the head. As time went on, some people started using yarn to hold the hair in place. Then the yarn started to be bows tying the hair. Then someone decided to start wrapping the hair in rubber bands so it would be easier to hold the bows, rather than tying the bow to the hair.

From there, someone (or fashion) decided it was easier to make a small square of netting to go over the hair to protect it from the rubber-band breaking the hair. Not long after, a little square of wax paper took over where the netting left off. So the horn was developed, with a bow attached! They were gently placed up the skull and to each side. This gave the dogs such a beautiful expression, with nothing overdone. The bows gently enhanced their face and adoring eyes. In those days a lot of people used red, blue, pink, or purple bows. My mother, Rena Martin, thought that black would enhance the expression of the coal nose and black eyes and started using black ribbon for the bows. As time went on, many people followed, as it looked wonderful for the pure-

white Maltese to have the black contrast.

Poodle people got involved, and their creativity carried through. First they started teasing the ear hair to frame the face; the dogs with longer muzzles usually saw more teasing to balance the head. Then to change the look of flatter heads, or longer muzzles, the teasing of the actual topknot bubble started growing. At one point some handlers added cotton balls or hair from the brush to create a bigger skull or shorter muzzle. Fortunately that fad went out the door when the judges were made aware of what was happening. At one specialty the judge started throwing dogs out of the ring for teasing, cotton balls, and use of hairspray!

As the years went on, people started making the topknots like unicorns, and they kept growing to meet the nose. The Maltese started looking like cartoon characters! With growth of use of the internet, Maltese started to flourish in other countries using standards other than our AKC standard. As in everything else, exaggeration became the fashion, the bigger the better. The topknots grew higher, the eyes got bigger and buggier, the noses got shorter and shorter, and the look became more and more like that of the Shih Tzu or Pekingese, which is totally different from what our standard says. So for whatever reason, people copied and have made our topknots be

## TOY GROUP



*A range of Maltese topknot styles over the decades*

entire heads that form globes. The heads with the topknots of today are totally round in front and in back, and the entire topknot is a single round adornment. The entire head is teased and extended over the muzzles. They are a far cry from what our standard calls for. Some of the dogs have a mean look to them. Hopefully in time we will go back to a very gentle, pleasing Maltese look. If the breeders breed to the standard and not to the fashion, it will be easy. Look beyond the topknot for a proper head!

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

### Papillons

#### THE CHARACTER OF YOUR BREEDER MATTERS

What are the qualities one looks for in a breeder of purebred dogs? On the top of the list would be having a great reputation within the dog show community, which means being honest and having integrity, morals, and ethics.

Ethics can be one's moral standard to strive to follow throughout life. It is an aspect of one's conscience in discerning right from wrong, including how one conducts themselves in interpersonal relationships. Most importantly, one's ethical standard distinguishes their character.

Along with the moral argument, you should want the breeder of your pup to give you important information on the breed, the pros and cons, and most of all, be frank with their health records, as in answering questions such as “Are there any illnesses in their lines?” “Are their hearts and patellas sound?” and “Have their eyes been tested for PRA-1 and other eye diseases, and can I see the proof of these tests?”

Does the breeder list the dates of their dogs' vet-checks, along with their vaccines and worming records? Are the dogs all up to date with their shots, and do they list when their next ones are due? Did the breeder recommend what dog food to feed, how much to give, and did they give you a list of foods to avoid that can be detrimental to your dog's health?

It's also very important to know what vaccinations should *not* be given, which may be so dangerous that the pup could die from the shot, such as leptospirosis.

Also important when purchasing your pup, were you able to see both parents on site, and/or see the dogs of any previous breedings from the parents? It certainly would be helpful to see how the puppies could develop in the future, particularly when they are fully coated and have their sweet personalities emerge.

As with all toy breeds, it is important to emphasize to the purchaser how to care for their dog's teeth. Getting the pup used to having

COURTESY DARYL MARTIN

## TOY GROUP

their teeth brushed several times a week is vital to their health. It's also important to know what chew toys are helpful to keep their teeth clean, and which ones are dangerous.

Then there are “puppy play pens” that have toys attached, which can help to stimulate curious young puppy minds. They are a lot of fun; however, you have to be watchful and know when it becomes time to remove toys or they will become shredded and could then be a choking hazard.

Also, most importantly, you should always have a written contract with the breeder that spells out what is expected of you as a puppy buyer, so you won't be surprised later on.

Finding a great breeder should not mean looking for the cheapest and least expensive dog, as you can never make shortcuts when it comes to your dog's health.

—Roseann Fucillo,

[cilloette@yahoo.com](mailto:cilloette@yahoo.com)

Papillon Club of America

## Pekingese

### JUDGING THE PEKINGESE

Following are some important points about the breed.

- The Pekingese is categorized as a brachycephalic achondroplastic (that is, dwarf) breed, so some of its desired attributes are not what

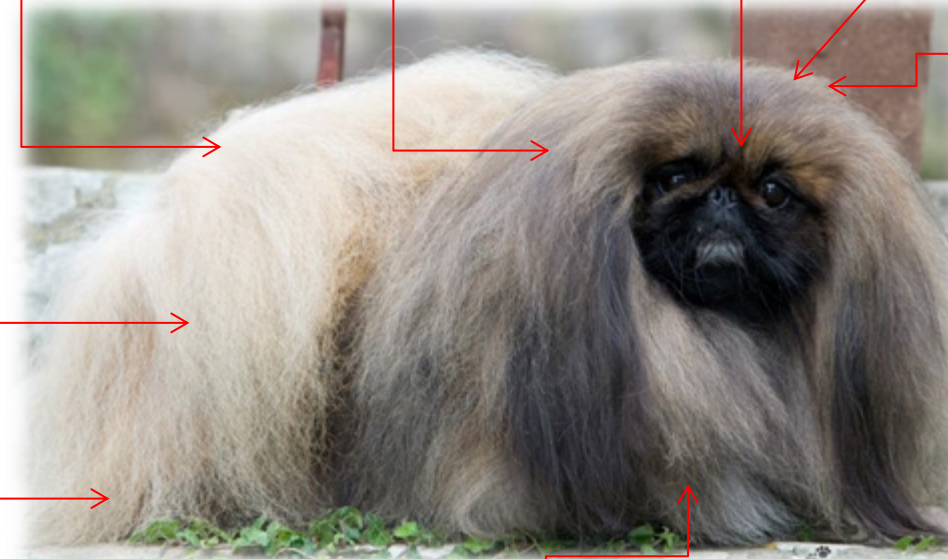


**Tail** Set high and carried over the back

**Body** Pear shaped with a narrow waist and a heavy forechest, compact, stocky muscular, surprisingly heavy for its size. Well sprung ribs Slightly longer than tall with a short loin. Low to ground and should be slung between the legs rather than sitting on top of them, The topline should be level.

**Coat** Long, coarse textured, straight stand off outer coat with a soft undercoat that forms a noticeable mane on the shoulder and neck area with the remainder of the body somewhat shorter. Long feathering is found on the ears, tail, toes, backs of thighs and forelegs. The coat should not obscure the body shape. Obvious trimming/sculpting should not be tolerated.

**Ears** Heart shaped, set on the front corners of the top skull and lie flat against the head. The leather does not extend below the jaw. Correctly placed ears with their heavy feathering and long fringing frame the sides of the face and add to the appearance of a wide, rectangular head.



**Forequarters** The bones of the forelegs are moderately bowed, short, thick and heavy boned. The broad chest, wide set forelegs and closer rear legs all contribute to the correct rolling gait. The correct movement is a slight side to side roll from over the shoulders.

**Wrinkle** effectively separates the upper and lower areas of the face. It should never be so prominent as to obscure more than a small portion of the eyes or fall over the nose leather or to crowd the facial features

**Eyes** Large, dark, bold, round, lustrous, set wide apart. No white to show when looking straight ahead. The look is bold not bulging, the eye rims are black.

**Head** Massive, broad, flat, when combined with the wide set dark eyes, cheekbones and broad lower jaw, forms the correctly shaped face. When viewed from the front, the skull is wider than deep which contributes to the desired rectangular, envelope shaped appearance of the head. Nose, lip and eye rim pigment is black. The nostrils are open, not pinched. A line drawn over the top of the nose intersects slightly above the center of the eyes. No teeth shall show, level lips, undershot jaw. The neck is very short and muscular.

*From the Pekingese Club of America Illustrated Standard*

## TOY GROUP

one may typically desire in a dog.

- The Pekingese should be *dense* and should pick up much heavier than he looks, with a greater proportion of the weight distributed in the front half of the dog. A Pekingese shall have a disproportionately massive head and thick, heavy bones for his diminutive stature.

- The Pekingese has an unusual pear-shaped body that is wide in front and narrower in the rear.

- The Pekingese has a distinctive rolling gait that is the result of the pear-shaped body, wide front, narrow rear, correct weight distribution, and moderately bowed front legs.

The Pekingese is a well-balanced, compact dog of Chinese origin with a pear-shaped body featuring a heavy front and lighter hindquarters. Its temperament is one of directness, independence, and individuality. Its image is lion-like, implying courage, dignity, boldness, and self-esteem rather than daintiness and delicacy.

On the first impression, look for a compact (not square), thickset dog that is low to ground, with a large, envelope-shaped head, high tail-set, and a self-important attitude.

On the table examine the headpiece for lustrous, dark, wide-set eyes; broad muzzle; firm chin; and pleasing facial features. A line drawn horizontally over the top of the nose should intersect slightly above the center of the eyes

You want a thickset, muscular body that

is surprisingly heavy and dense when lifted. Additionally, you should find a dog with a massive, shallow head; a deep chest with a good spring of rib, tapering off to a narrow waist and rear, a level topline, high-set tail and not to exceed 14 pounds. The Pekingese make and shape is critical to make what truly is the Pekingese. The forequarters are thick and heavy boned. The bones of the forelegs are moderately bowed between the pastern and the elbow. The broad chest, wide-set forelegs, and closer rear legs contribute to the correct rolling gait. Shoulders are well laid back and fit smoothly onto the body. Front feet are turned out slightly when standing or moving. The adult coat is a long, coarse-textured, standoff outer coat, with a softer undercoat. The coat forms a noticeable mane on the neck and shoulder area, with the coat on the remainder of the body somewhat shorter in length. A profuse coat is desirable, providing it does not obscure the body shape. Any obvious trimming is to be severely penalized.

The AKC has asked for a statement clarifying the lift of the Pekingese during the exam. The following is what was sent to AKC earlier this year.

“The Pekingese Club of America would like to state that in order to properly judge a Pekingese, it is essential that the dog must be lifted. The lift will determine the weight distri-

bution and the density of the dog. You are not lifting to determine the weight, if you feel the exhibit is over 14 pounds, call for the scale. Our Study Guide that has been distributed to all Pekingese judges states, ‘Pekingese should be small but surprisingly heavy with the majority of the weight found in the front half of their bodies. Lifting the dog two or three inches off the table will confirm this. Wrap your arm around the dog behind the shoulders and under the body and use your other arm to support the chest from the front.’

“This only reason for lifting a Pekingese is to determine that when lifted, the dog is solid and surprisingly heavy for its size and that the dog is indeed heavier in front. All weights are correct within the limit of 14 pounds, and the scale should be called if a judge suspects the weight is over.”

If a judge has questions on correctly lifting the dog or needs further clarification, please contact JEC Chair, Susan Shephard, [dejavu-pekes@aol.com](mailto:dejavu-pekes@aol.com).

The Pekingese Club of America presents a Judges’ Education seminar every year at its national specialty. Additionally, the PCA has mentors in various locations available to present the seminar to local judges groups or to offer one-on-one mentoring. New judges are mailed a study guide from PCA. There are additional judge’s resources at [akc.org](http://akc.org) and

[pekingeseclubofamerica.com](http://pekingeseclubofamerica.com).

The Pekingese is a fascinating breed; please get to know it better.

—Susan F. Shephard, [Dejavu Pekingese ROM](http://DejavuPekingeseROM),  
[The Pekingese Club of America](http://ThePekingeseClubofAmerica)

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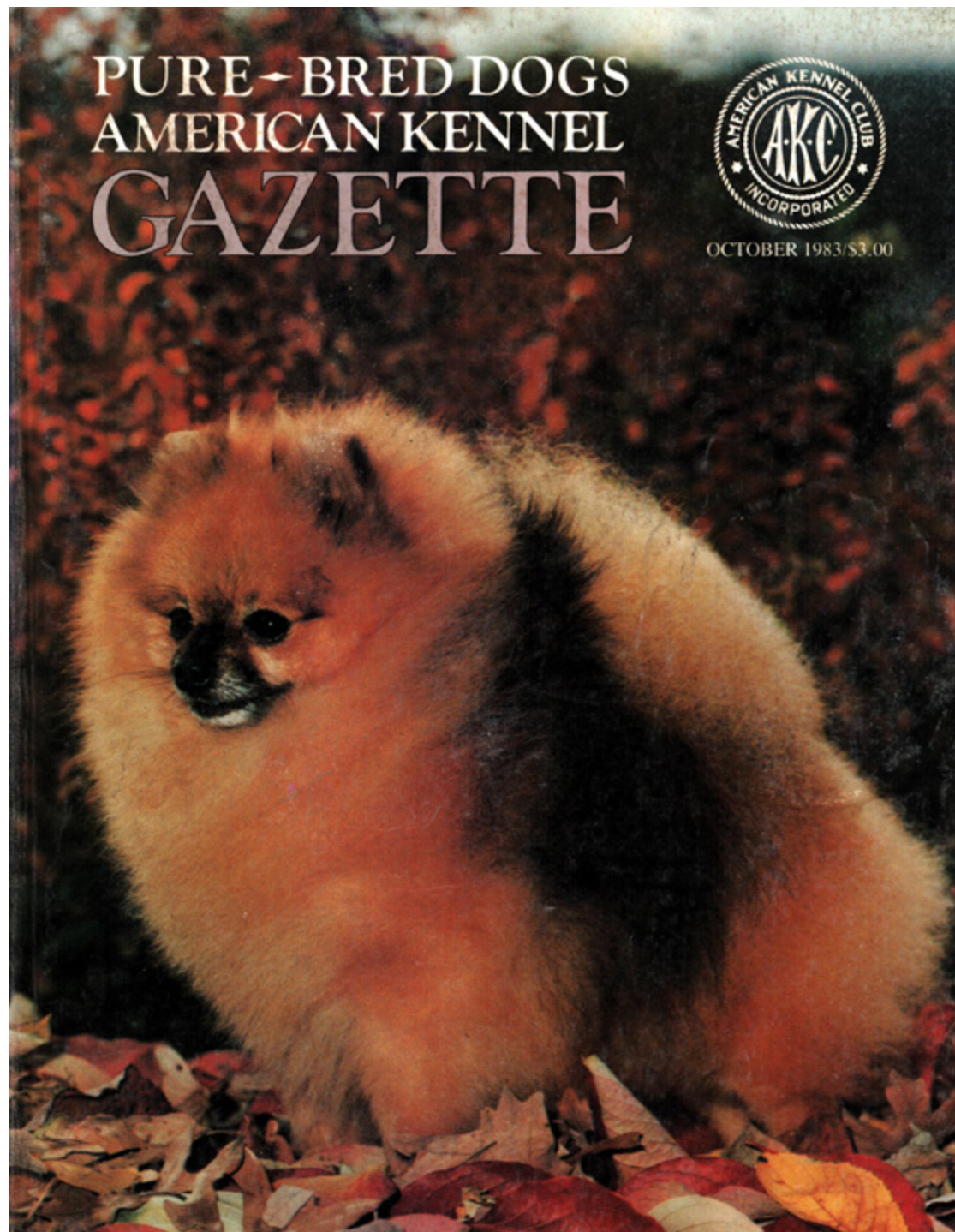
## Pomeranians

### PUT DOWN THE SCISSORS!

As a member of the spitz family, one of the Pomeranian’s most distinctive features is its profuse double coat. Bred down from larger herding and sled dogs, the coat served as a protectant in harsh, cold climates. Although Pomeranians today spend their time inside as family companions, the standard calls for a dense undercoat with abundant long, harsh guard hairs over the body consistent with the original form and function of the breed. While it takes commitment to maintain, a Pomeranian in natural coat is truly a sight to behold.

Around the country and the world, a natural coat is hard to find in the Pomeranian ring today. Both puppies and adults tend to be over-trimmed and sculpted. Guard hairs on the pants, body, and around the chest and head are removed completely, leaving mostly undercoat. This helps give the impression that the dog is square and shorter backed.

## TOY GROUP



Pomeranian: October 1983 (Ashbey photo)

Tails are trimmed short, removing most of the plume, and the base of the tail often has exposed, bare skin to “enhance” the tail-set and carriage.

A Pomeranian should not have hair to the ground like a Pekinese, nor they should not be sculpted and scissored like a Poodle! As described in the standard, the breed should be tidy, neat, and trimmed only for a clean outline. A proper silhouette and clean outline can be achieved without trimming the hair down to the undercoat.

Trimming off guard hairs not only ruins the proper texture of the coat, it can also damage how the hair will grow back. This is especially important to note when trimming puppies. If guard hairs are trimmed off as the adult coat is growing in, often the guard hairs will never come back, leaving the mature dog with an incorrect cotton coat that is more prone to coat loss.

There are numerous Pomeranian grooming pages and groups on social media sites that share pictures and tips of how to properly groom. It is encouraging to see both new and seasoned exhibitors join these conversations to share knowledge and to learn. However, time and time again the examples of a “well-trimmed” Pomeranian are incorrect. Perhaps even worse are the images of dogs Photoshopped to look more trimmed than

they actually are.

As a general rule, straight shears should only be used to trim the ears and feet. The coat must be clean and dry, and all dead coat must be removed by line-brushing prior to any trimming. Thinning shears are used to neaten the appearance and give balance to the outline. There are a handful of good instructional pages and video tutorials on how to properly trim, and breeders/exhibitors at shows who are willing to give examples and lessons. Actively seek these resources out, and continue to share what you learn.

Judges, remain focused on the need for proper coat and coat texture. Do not lose sight of the importance of structure under the coat, but do not confuse over-trimming with correct balance. Exhibitors and breeders, we need to work together to continue to improve the coats of this breed. Don’t be afraid to remind yourself and those around you to put down the scissors!

—Stephanie Hentschel,  
[darrightkennels@gmail.com](mailto:darrightkennels@gmail.com)  
American Pomeranian Club

### Shih Tzu

#### SPECIALTIES DURING THE PANDEMIC

Like many breed clubs, the American Shih Tzu Club decided to cancel a national



## TOY GROUP

specialty scheduled to be held in a hotel ballroom in the spring of 2020, and another planned for the same kind of facility in the spring of 2021. Many of our members and volunteers are elderly, vaccines were still not available, air travel was risky, and the hotel restaurants were closed, as were borders for many of our foreign exhibitors. In addition to the health risks, our entries were likely to be greatly reduced.

Fortunately, we were able to reschedule our 2021 conformation national for December 17, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, in conjunction with the AKC National Championship. We received one-time only permission to hold our puppy sweepstakes at this facility. ASTC-designated specialties with the Brevard Kennel Club, the Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay, and the Central Florida Kennel Club will precede the national, and the ASTC will support the Shih Tzu entry at the AKC National Championship on December 18. A very special thank-you to the American Kennel Club, cluster chair Linda Rowell, and MB-F for making all this possible, and to new show chair Maurene Baum and cluster and AKC National contact person Michelle Jones. This will not be a normal specialty with an awards banquet or a local host hotel. Nevertheless, the opportunity for five majors and a chance

to see dogs and friends from across the country for the first time in a very long time should attract many Shih Tzu fanciers.

As there was not a good option to hold all of our performance events in Orlando, we decided to hold a separate 2021 ASTC Performance National at the Lucky Dog Training Center in Tyler, Texas. Obedience and rally trials will be held on Wednesday, October 27, and Thursday, October 28. Canine Good Citizenship and Trick Dog Testing will be held on Wednesday, and there will be a dinner on Thursday where ASTC Performance and Versatility awards earned in 2019 and 2020 will be presented. Agility Shih Tzu may compete in three Tyler Obedience Training Club agility trials on Friday-Sunday, October 29-31 before the Shih Tzu-only agility trial on Monday, November 1. Obedience and rally and testing will be held indoors in a climate-controlled facility on fully matted rings. Agility competition will be on packed dirt, with crating indoors. A special thank-you to Beth Scorzelli, Jan Sammons, and Terri Jenkins for pulling all this together.

To ease the burden on our generous donors, many of whom were adversely affected by the pandemic, all conformation trophies listed in the 2020 South Carolina premium list are being carried over to the 2022 national, which will be held in the fall at a site to be

determined. Trophy donations paid with 2021 dues will fund the 2021 event. We anticipate returning to a spring national in 2023.

More detailed information on all 2021 events will be posted on the ASTC website. The post-national *ASTC Bulletin* will be postponed until early 2022, when we hope the dog show world will have returned to normal.

—Jo Ann White,  
[joawhite@juno.com](mailto:joawhite@juno.com)  
[American Shih Tzu Club](#)

## Toy Fox Terriers

### TO KNOW THEM IS TO LOVE THEM

If you haven't met a Toy Fox Terrier yet, I encourage you to do so—because they are wonderful. If you are like me and are devoted to this breed, spread the word! Take a minute to stop if you are walking and a stranger wants to know about your little dog.

Join your local dog club. Help them. Support them in any way you can. Show your beautiful Toy Fox Terriers. Participate in benched dog shows (where the dogs are on display) or Meet the Breeds whenever possible.

Our dogs were developed for Barn

Hunt. It is so much fun to watch them work. Show them off and let them shine!

In our world today there has been negative press about purebred dogs. When the general public meets our dogs in a real-life situation, they are always pleasantly surprised. Tell them:

- That a Toy Fox Terrier will catch those pesky gophers in your garden.
- How safe you feel at night with your little watchdog by your side.
- How you laugh and smile every day being entertained by your dog bringing you toys (OK, sometimes a sock, but nobody is perfect).



COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

## TOY GROUP

- How you have a new zest for taking a walk when your Toy Fox Terrier is so happy and excited to see what can be discovered around the next corner.

- How easy it is to groom and bathe the breed's "wash 'n go" silky, short coat.

You might also want to mention:

How much they love to travel. How they will help you watch a movie and catch any possible lost kernel of popcorn. Preparing a meal is a breeze with a Toy Fox Terrier who is ready and waiting to clean up crumbs while they are on kitchen-floor patrol. And under the baby's high chair will always be spotless!

Toy Fox Terriers have huge ears. Mine will listen to everything, including my strange choices in music and questionable singing ability. When my daughter was small, her best friend Buster would listen to all of her hopes and dreams.

Sometimes when we have a really rough day, a Toy Fox Terrier will give comfort and moral support. It is always nice to know that somebody loves you on both the good days and the not-so-great days. If dinner is served a little late, or my outfit doesn't match, my TFT still thinks I am the best. In turn, I consider my Toy Fox Terriers to be the *best*.

So, let's spread the word!—Katherine La Rue, 2016

[American Toy Fox Terrier Club](#)

## NON-SPORTING GROUP

### Bichons Frises

#### KIDS AND PUPPIES

Most of our puppies will be placed in homes where they will live with or interact with children or grandchildren, so it behooves us to make sure that our puppies have plenty of positive contact with children during the sensitive socialization ages of 6 to 16 weeks. If the pups are still with the breeder, then the breeder must take the time to do this. If already placed in a home, then the new owner must understand the importance of socialization.

*Adult supervision is crucial when socializing puppies with children.*

Many people mistakenly assume that dogs and kids will naturally get along well. Unfortunately, that is not necessarily the case. There is a big difference in the way adults and children behave, and for a small dog or puppy, the quick and unpredictable behavior of children can be terrifying.

Little kids without supervision will often try to pick up and/or hug a puppy. They need to be taught that this is not a behavior that dogs enjoy. Teach children to sit quietly on the floor or to stand quietly while *the adult* controls the puppy. They also need to learn that they must always ask permission to touch any dog.

Often children will bend over and reach down toward the top of a puppy's head. The



*Socialization at its best.*

COURTESY MAYNO BLANDING

## NON-SPORTING GROUP

puppy will most likely reach up to greet by licking the child's hand. This often causes the child to pull quickly away—often with a screech—because of a fear of being bitten. Unfortunately, this is dog language to grab at the hand being pulled away, so the puppy may jump toward the hand, frightening the child even more.

Teach children the right way to pet a dog by offering a hand for the puppy to smell and petting gently under the chin or on the side of the head, neck, or back. It is fine for children to offer a treat in the flat palm of their hands, but only if the puppy has been trained to take treats nicely this way. Until a dog is older and completely reliable, don't let children offer food with their fingers.

I teach my puppies the word "kisses." Whenever we meet children who want to pet my dogs, I tell them, "She will give you *kisses!*" using the word just the way I have taught it to the puppy. When the puppy licks the children's hands, I say, "See, she is giving you *kisses.*" Most kids love that.

Children run and jump and should be taught that rowdy play is not a good idea around puppies. For one thing, kids fall down, change direction, speed up, and slow down unpredictably. It is easy to injure a puppy, and it can be terrifying to the puppy when kids yell and scream as they so often do.

Be careful not to overwhelm the puppy. Always be in control of the situation, and watch the puppy's body language for signs of stress. At the first sign of stress, it is time to take the puppy to a quiet place and give her a rest. *Never* force a fearful puppy to be touched by anyone.

This subject is so important to me that I require my puppy buyers to purchase a hard copy and read *Raising Puppies & Kids Together—A Guide for Parents*, by Pia Silvani, CPDT, and Lynn Eckhardt (T.F.H. Publications, 2005). (Check thrift booksellers online for inexpensive copies.) Whether or not the buyer has children, this is the best book on raising a puppy I have ever read.

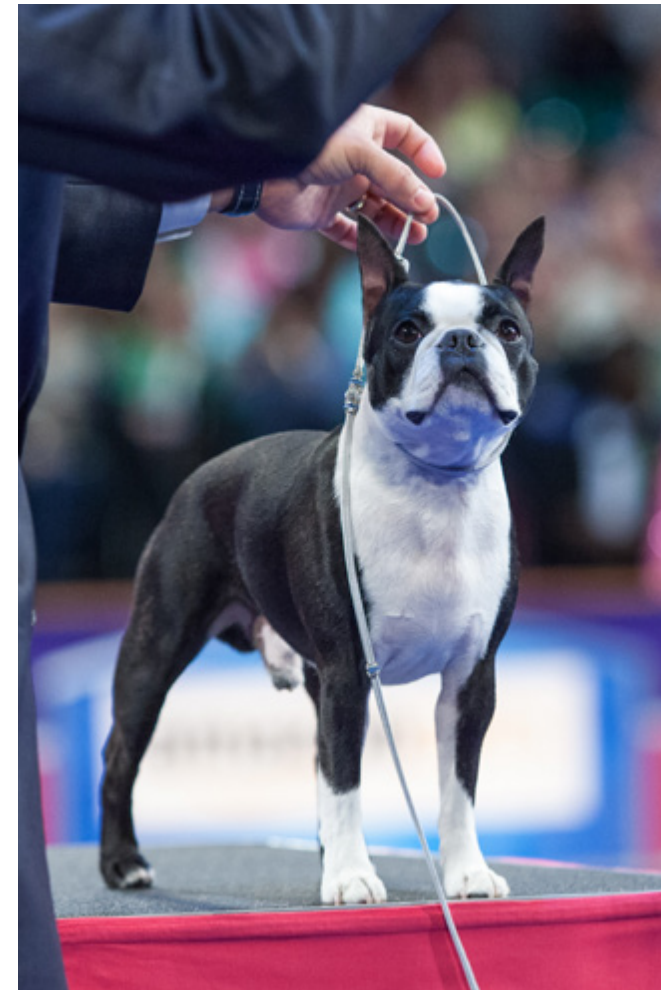
With careful supervision, puppies can learn to love children and look forward to interacting with them.

—Mayno Blanding,  
[maynob@gmail.com](mailto:maynob@gmail.com)  
[Bichon Frise Club of America](#)

### Boston Terriers

#### CONSIDER COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS BEFORE GOING TO THE VETERINARIAN

While the world has made us slow down because of COVID-19, let's reflect upon the things we can do to relieve our stress. Many of us have had to work at home,



Boston Terrier

had our hours cut back, or been out of work. Instead of being depressed, let's remember that everything in life is never always bad or good. We can control many things by just thinking about the best direction to take. Many times people just assume things haven't changed when they have. This holds true regarding our animals too.

Breeding dogs can be the happiest or most difficult times. If you can't talk to your vet in person yet, because of COVID, type out a list of things that need to be done for your dog, and any questions, with spaces for them to write answer. Make a note of all the symptoms the dog has, and ask if the vet if you can call later with any other questions. Tape the note on the cage and tell the helper to give it to the vet. This is very helpful.

Consider not breeding your dog until next year, when hopefully life will be completely back to normal. During the pandemic most veterinarians have been having you drive up and wait in your car in the parking lot with a mask on while a member of the staff comes to get your pet. Not being able to go inside and help deliver the puppies can cost their survival. Some veterinary assistants have never had to deal with bringing a short-nosed pup into the world. Often, new vet technicians have only helped with spaying females. You don't have but a few minutes before it's too late. Babies may get chilled, or the pale blue color on their faces could go white instead of turning a nice pink because of their not being able to breathe. There is nothing like experience to save a baby and make it cry, so everyone knows it has arrived alive. Boston Terrier heads are large, and it only takes one big pup to stop the delivery. Many babies get stuck in

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the birth canal and a Cesarean section has to be done to save the litter. Veterinarians like for the experienced breeder to help, but this might not be possible now because of continuing COVID restrictions.

One of the most horrible signs on a veterinarian's door is "We are closed Friday–Monday for the holiday. If need assistance, please call an emergency clinic." Depending on where you live, that might be a drive of 30 minutes or more, and when you walk in the door, you will be asked to pay \$300–1,000 up front before they see the dog. Plus they might want to spay your female. That's scary!

Perhaps wait to breed your female, or have a back-up plan in case there is a whelping emergency after hours. Remember now they may have to call in two to three extra people if you won't be able to come inside to help. Nothing is worse than the death of a mother dog or her puppies just to have a litter of puppies that could wait until a safer time next year.

Try to relieve stress, and enjoy training for the future happy days to come. Life is sometimes like a terrifying storm that will end and the sun will shine.

—Patricia S. Johnson, member DWAA and BTCA,

[patsgrooming@aol.com](mailto:patsgrooming@aol.com)

[Boston Terrier Club of America](#)

## Chinese Shar-Pei

### MAKING THE MOST OF DOWNTIME

It is hard for many of us to imagine that we have not been to a show for over a year, but that is a fact for many, including me. I had no judging assignments set up, and had no dog I was showing, so nothing was missed on those two fronts. But a lot of visiting was lost, as well as assisting my local club hosting shows.

I had heard, while we were all at home, that there were many litters being bred and whelped. There was time (no traveling to shows), money (no entry fees and travel costs), and the ability to be home with the pups to focus on more than a litter or two. And it seemed that there were potential homes who now had the time and money to look for what they wanted, and time to bring a pup home and do some home training and adjusting—things that working from home allowed.

There were a lot of judges' seminars put on during the downtime, which was great! Even for breeds you may never have planned to judge, you could attend and learn, and dip your toes in the dog world a bit. Hats off to the Judges Department at AKC for making the most of a difficult downtime. And more kudos to AKC and show-giving clubs for finding ways to get people back in the rings, on the fields, and training the dogs. While not yet back to normal, things seem headed in that



Chinese Shar-Pei

direction.

Recently, upon finding that some friends would be attending a show about an hour away, I excitedly planned to go visit a dog show and friends! Then the "new normal" of this time frame was realized: I could not go wander the indoor show site and watch judging of a variety of breeds, groups, and Best in Show, and shop the vendors—all things I love to do. It is a "show-and-go," and I don't have anything to show! (A friend quickly pointed

out that I needed a show pup.) So I'll visit my friends outside, at the hotel, where we can catch up and be distanced. But this made me wonder what else is different, so I reached out to some judge friends—what have they been seeing?

What seemed most predominant was the number of exhibitors explaining, upon entering the ring, "This is a COVID puppy"—indicating not that the pup was ill, but that the pup was not able to be socialized during

ROBERT YOUNG ©AKC

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COVID, so please understand he or she may not be as ready nor as outgoing or steady as you'd normally see. For some breeds who are naturally more aloof, like the Shar-Pei, missing out on socialization could be problematic. Judges also noted that there seemed to be more new exhibitors (including some of those people mentioned above, using the working-from-home time to find a dog and get ready to join this sport). In those cases, both human and pup hadn't been able to get much training. It was probably best that there weren't crowds of spectators for the newbie dogs and handlers to worry about, too! Fortunately, many conformation classes—some with limits, and some outdoors—have started again, but the disclaimer upon entering the ring was pretty common.

Judge friends also said that entries have been pretty good-sized and the quality has been very high, at least initially. Some of that has dropped back down, since exhibitors now have a few more show options, more every day.

The CSPCA is planning the breed's national specialty, which will be in the Chicago area on September 12–17. The 2020 national had to be canceled, as did many others, so we are hopeful and yearning for this one. I'm already excited to meet new exhibitors and see those pups that were bred during the shutdown, to

see what breeders have been up to!  
—Karen Kleinhans DeSilva,  
[kasupe@aol.com](mailto:kasupe@aol.com)  
[Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America](#)

## Chow Chows

### PARENT CLUB ONLINE HEALTH PEDIGREE DATABASE

Currently, over 55,000 individual Chow Chow records can be found in our online [health pedigree database](#), which serves as an important tool for the dedicated Chow Chow breeder. The database is an impressive feature of our national parent club website, managed by our devoted webmaster, Phil DeGruy.

Originally there was no source for the breed that combined our pedigrees, photos, and health certification data. Early in the 1970s, websites and shared online databases were not a common resource, so the data for health certification for each OFA-certified Chow was carefully maintained in a library of binders, and typed lists of OFA-certified Chows were made available to each of the regional Chow Chow clubs by Harold and Adie Toudt.

The Chow Chow Club, Inc., recognized the efforts of the Toudts and appointed Adie Toudt as the CCCI OFA representative. Harold and Adie bought a larger station wagon and continued to maintain the Chow Chow OFA data-



base, personally transporting the many binders to each year's national specialty until 1999, when other devoted CCCI members Steve and Sandra Miller, Alex and Irene Cartabio, and Phil and Vicki DeGruy volunteered their time and expertise to computerize the combined health pedigree database—a very time-consuming project indeed. Through the efforts of these fanciers, the current online Chow Chow OFA database was expanded to become a multifunctional Chow Chow health pedigree resource.

Phil continues to maintain and improve this database for the Chow Chow Club, Inc. It now contains OFA, CERF, and CHIC certification information and provides pedigree search and research functions. The database is part of the [Chow health website](#) and is available to all fanciers online. We appreciate and thank everyone who has participated in and currently participates in the continued development of this historical and current library of accessible knowledge.

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

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This file contains more than the typical pedigree database, as it also includes all health certification information for each Chow Chow who has been tested by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals or the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC).

The Chow Chow Club Inc. requires the following health certifications for the Chow Chow:

For CHIC certification, all results do not need to be normal, but they must all be available to the public so that responsible breeders can make more informed breeding decisions. For potential puppy buyers, CHIC certification is a good indicator the breeder responsibly factors good health into their breeding criteria. Each Chow Chow must be permanently identified via microchip or tattoo in order to qualify for a CHIC number. Certifications include eye examination by a boarded ACVO ophthalmologist and results registered with OFA or registered with CERF; elbow dysplasia (OFA or OVC evaluation); hip dysplasia (OFA or OVC or PennHIP evaluation); autoimmune thyroiditis (OFA evaluation from an approved laboratory); patellar luxation (OFA evaluation); and cardiac evaluation (optional) (advanced cardiac exam or congenital cardiac exam).

The main function of the database is to create pedigrees, but it is more than a just a tool for viewing and studying pedigrees. There are sev-

eral other features that can be used, including:

- creating pedigrees for a potential breeding;
  - calculating the coefficient of inbreeding;
  - listing the siblings and progeny of a Chow;
  - viewing submitted pictures of each Chow;
- and
- documenting other information, such as DNA and additional health certifications.

Many generations of our breed will benefit as a result of the tireless dedication of these members of the Chow Chow Club, Inc., and I urge each of you to submit as much supportive data as you have available to be included in the Chow Chow health pedigree database.

Thank you!

—Love Banghart,  
[Lkendr4300@aol.com](mailto:Lkendr4300@aol.com)  
Chow Chow Club Inc.

## Dalmatians

### IS ANYBODY THERE?

I don't know about all of you, but I have been inundated with requests for puppies. I don't know whether it's COVID, or spring and summer are upon us, or what the reason is—but people want puppies. And they're not just the tire-kickers you can get so many of; they're really good homes with dog-savvy people, people I'd be thrilled to place puppies with.



*"Being there" for people with puppy inquiries and questions about the breed can be time consuming but is vitally important.*

COURTESY JAN WARREN LINNE

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I've also noticed a disturbing trend, though. People tell me frequently they are trying to get a puppy from a reputable breeder, but no one responds to their inquiries. At best, they may get a response of "No puppies right now. Check back in six months."

I know we all have lives—family, friends, dog shows, and the list goes on and on. However, in my mind, part of being a reputable breeder is "being there" for people and their inquiries. As such, I've developed some tips on replying to people quickly, and hopefully efficiently, all while being as personable as possible.

Fielding puppy calls can be a time-consuming task that can eat up hours of your time. I think it's critically important, however, that we make or find that time for those inquiries. These people are wanting to do it right, but they're getting little or no help from a lot of breeders.

In order to help with having "me" time, I've established rules for when I can take calls. As I'm still fully employed, I tell people I have time to talk after 7 P.M. my local time on weeknights, and pretty much all day on the weekends. And then I try to take the time to answer as many questions as I can. I usually lead off with "What can I tell you about Dalmatians?" and the conversation takes off from there. Some calls take 15 minutes, others over an hour. As you get into the heart of the conversation, you can tell who's serious and who isn't.

I also get a lot of e-mail inquiries—and yes, they can be time-consuming as well. I have also decided to make sure I reply within 24 hours to any written inquiry I may receive. I know when I send a question out into Internet Limbo, I am usually watching my email for that reply. One thing I've started to do is to have a generic blurb I can copy and paste as a reply. So much information that I share is repetitive and can be shared with many different people—at least for the initial reply. I do take the time to personalize the email to the specifics of the person asking, but copy and paste can make your responses so much simpler and quicker.

If we want to encourage people to get their next family member from a good and caring breeder, take the time to spend with them and get to know them. This will ensure you know the details of their family, work, and homelife so you can also be comfortable with one of your babies going to join their family. I also have made tons of new friends this way, and I also get regular updates on puppies who are in their new homes. And even if they don't get a puppy from you for whatever reason, they have had a positive encounter with a breeder and maybe learned a little more about their chosen breed. This truly makes for a win-win situation.

—Jan Warren Linné,  
[janlinne56@yahoo.com](mailto:janlinne56@yahoo.com)  
[Dalmatian Club of America](#)

## French Bulldogs

### COLD SHOCK RESPONSE IN DOGS

In February of this year, a huge winter storm struck much of our country. A lot of areas were not prepared for the intensity of the ice and snow, especially in the South. I was afraid to step off my porch after hearing about the numerous falls and cracked heads. But the following story is about a danger I had not anticipated.

One night on the local news in Tennessee they presented a video obtained from the home security camera of a person in my community. On the video was a view of the backyard pool surrounded by ice and snow. The pool looked to be full of blocky ice chunks. A black Labrador was happily running around the pool, being chased by a medium-sized mixed-breed friend. Round and round they ran, and without warning the smaller dog leaped into the pool and disappeared. Immediately a young woman appeared and ran to where the dog was last seen. She ran to the other side and then she plunged into the icy water. After a couple of attempts she surfaced with the dog and laid him on the side of the pool. He was inert. She hoisted herself out of the pool, picked up the dog, and began running with him. At this point the visual was gone, and the commentator finished the story. She was running to the house of her neigh-

bor who happens to be a veterinarian. This was the dog's best chance of surviving his ordeal. The vet put him on warmed IV fluids and administered drugs to support his recovery. He remained there for 36 hours and did survive.

It is important to understand it is very dangerous for people to plunge into icy waters, because it can cause sudden cardiac arrest. Drowning is also a grave danger.

When people or dogs go under in extremely cold water there is an inhalation response. In this situation people can sometimes inhale up to a liter of water and die of drowning. The dog will die fairly quickly if they take in a large amount of water. If there is a smaller amount the symptoms may be delayed by a few hours. This is where it is critical to get the dog medical treatment. The dog may appear to be fine at first. You towel him off and try to warm him up, but within a couple of hours the inhaled water begins to interfere with gas exchange in the lungs. The breathing begins to change, and medical aid is urgently needed.

The dog is in shock, and here are some of the symptoms: a rapid pulse, bright-red gums, agitated behavior, and shallow breathing.

Do not do this to a dog in shock: Don't add an artificial heat source to warm up your dog. You can use a blanket, but not a heating pad or hair dryer. Don't put anything in your

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*French Bulldog*

*Lynda Beam*

dog's mouth that could be aspirated into the lungs. Confine your dog so that they do not move around and waste energy that they need to battle the shock. Vet care is an immediate necessity.

After researching many articles online and interviewing two veterinarians, I've learned it is very clear that the only chance your dog has in this situation is immediate vet care. Even with treatment the dog may still die, but the earlier the treatment, the greater the chance of survival.

Dr. Lori Hunt and Dr. Jean Lavalley both say that the gravest danger is that of hypothermia and water in the lungs. Do not try to treat this yourself. Go to your vet or an emergency clinic. Go immediately. Do not delay!

—Sande Abernathy,  
[jpaplay@comcast.net](mailto:jpaplay@comcast.net)  
French Bull Dog Club of America

### Keeshonden

#### THE MEANING OF COMPANIONSHIP

With the pandemic, this last year has been hard on everyone. There are families that are missing loved ones, some have had illness, and even those who are not financially stressed may have had to work from home. Without colleagues and the socialization that comes with it, loneliness is a real

and constant aspect of our lives. It has come to stay, and the solution that many have found is to seek out the companionship of a dog.

As in every other aspect of our lives when our dogs have stepped up to fulfill our needs, from herding, hunting, and guarding to drug detection and search and rescue, they have eagerly met the moment, to the extent that some of our shelters have been emptied out and breeders find themselves with waiting lists that they can't possibly fill.

Of all the roles that our dogs have engaged in, none makes them happier than being a companion. With more and more people working from home, they have time that they don't spend commuting. That means they can go for walks with a dog. It means they are not alone during the day, and dogs are adept at sleeping when we are busy and eagerly springing into action when we are ready for exercise.

Keeshonden have had many roles in their breed history: all-around farm dog, herding, and guarding the farm and barge. They alert when strangers approach. But the one role that they have always had along with these is that of companion, particularly children's companion.

In stressful times our mental health is challenged in many ways. But the stresses of the pandemic have been particularly acute. Our dogs provide a respite from these stress-

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



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Keeshond

ors. Keeshonden in particular can make a bad day into a happy day. They don't have bad days. Happiness is a breed characteristic, and they are not alone in the breeds with this characteristic. It is hard to be miserable when you have a smiling dog with a wagging tail licking your face. Your dog, whatever the breed, will listen to your woes, will not be judgmental, will love you unconditionally, and will give you every reason why you should be happy too.

Breeding dogs in these pandemic times brings its own things to think about. As I think back on my own career in dogs, I remember what my son said to me. He was only 14 years old, and we were standing in our driveway waving goodbye to a happy family who were leaving with their new puppy in their arms, and two very happy young daughters.

My son said, "Mom, have you ever thought about how many people you have made

happy by breeding dogs?"

Put that way, it makes you think. There have not been many dog shows in the past year. They may open up soon, but we are not out of the woods yet, and scientists think that another is around the corner. Whatever happens, we need our dogs and our breeders. Think about your next litter, and how many people you will make happy.

—Debbie Lynch,  
[dlnpoconsulti@gmail.com](mailto:dlnpoconsulti@gmail.com)  
 Keeshond Club of America

## Lhasa Apsos

### THE LHASA BITE

A prominent feature of Ancient Asian art depicting lion, or Fu dogs, is the stylized caricature of the mouth. Teeth are often bared and either meet edge-to-edge or have prominent lower jaws with teeth protruding. Several of the ancient, smaller Asian breeds, the Lhasa Apso being one, became living representations of this feature, with level teeth or an undershot jaw preferred over the normal canine scissor bite.

Bite is an easy feature to see and evaluate. Understanding the nuances of what is desirable, acceptable, and unacceptable is not as simple, however.

The Lhasa Apso breed standard says, "The

preferred bite is either level or slightly undershot."

Occlusion, or bite, is determined by the alignment of the upper and lower jaws and teeth. There are six upper and six lower incisors (front teeth), and four canine teeth ("fangs") immediately behind them—two upper and two lower. Let's go through the different kinds of bites one might see in a Lhasa Apso.

#### *Preferred*

*Level:* The incisors of the upper and lower jaws meet edge-to-edge. In some countries this is considered an unhealthy bite, due to the wear that is placed on the edges of the teeth from friction. A precise match is trickier than one might think and is subject to developmental variables. Occasionally the teeth will be very slightly off either forward or backward, perhaps as little as 1/16 inch or less. Opinions vary as to whether to consider this a true level bite.

*Reverse scissors:* The inside of the lower incisors touch the outside of the upper incisors, which is exactly the opposite of a normal canine bite.

*Slightly undershot:* The outside of the upper incisors are closely behind the inside of the lower incisors but do not touch.

#### *Acceptable but not desirable*

*Scissors:* A normal canine bite is not preferred, but many breeders will tolerate it, provided expression is not affected. If the muzzle lacks a strong chin and lower lip, making

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

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the face appear snipey, the bite is not desirable. Interestingly, this same lack of correct expression may sometimes occur in dogs with level bites.

*Very undershot:* An advanced lower jaw, with space between the upper incisors and lower incisors. Often the upper incisors touch the lower inside mouth. This bite may be tolerated in an otherwise exceptional specimen, provided the lower incisors do not show and expression is not affected.

### *Unacceptable*

*Overshot:* Occasionally one will see an overbite, in extreme instances called a “parrot mouth.” The upper jaw extends beyond the lower jaw to the extent that the lower incisors or canines touch the roof of the mouth. This bite can cause chronic discomfort and the dog should not be bred.

*Severely undershot:* Sometimes called “shovel mouth,” the lower incisors permanently protrude in a grotesque grin. This should not be confused with teeth that sometimes “hang up” on the upper lip, which is momentary and can happen with any bite.

### *Dentition*

There are six upper and lower incisors, four canines, and 26 pre-molars and molars. While full dentition is a goal, it is not uncommon for small Asian breeds to have missing teeth. Missing lower incisors are most common. Breeding for strength of lower jaw can



Lhasa Apso

help ensure full dentition without crowding. Developmental surprises can occur, as when deciduous teeth don’t drop out and impair traffic for the erupting permanent teeth. This “traffic jam” might deform tooth placement, and what otherwise would have been an excellent bite suddenly is not. Some breeders have puppies’ deciduous canines and/or incisors removed early, hoping to avoid these develop-

mental mishaps.

Breeding good bites is a challenge with small Asian breeds, but there is great satisfaction in achieving an excellent and correct bite in a Lhasa Apso.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,

[dlrcas@msn.com](mailto:dlrcas@msn.com)

[The American Lhasa Apso Club](#)  
**Schipperkes**

## IT TAKES TIME

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

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

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

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

Some Schips are very “bloomy” and go out and take points from the puppy classes, while some are not truly competitive until age 3 or older. When the animal is honestly not ready, be it physically or mentally, the novice can be

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

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Schipperke: October 1994 (Creativity Plus photo)

easily discouraged when losing in the ring.

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

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

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

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

As we all move forward into the future, for our breed and this sport, “How will your Schipperke garden grow”?

—Virginia Larioza,  
[v.larioza@gmx.com](mailto:v.larioza@gmx.com)  
 Schipperke Club of America

### Shiba Inu

#### ENJOY DOING MORE WITH YOUR DOG

The Shiba Inu was originally bred to hunt by sight and scent in the dense undergrowth of Japan’s mountainous areas to flush birds and small game, and occasionally to hunt wild boar. This requires the Shiba’s movement to be nimble, light, and elastic to allow for agility and the skill to turn on a dime. Shibas possess a spirited boldness and an unaffected forthrightness, which yield dignity and natural beauty with an independent nature. This package has led many people

to believe a common misconception that this spirited breed is difficult to train for the performance ring, with their unreliable recall and their tenacity to hunt.

A Shiba owner will agree on the latter, but this breed is quite easy to train with the handler who understands how a Shiba thinks. While I say “easy to train,” however, the handler will have their challenges. The Shiba’s mind is highly intelligent and picks up training concepts quickly but frowns upon a lot of repetition. The handler must see the training through a Shiba’s eyes: “I am not here to please you, and furthermore, how are all your requests advantageous to me?” Understanding this, as well as the breed’s independent hunting nature, allows the Shiba Inu and handler to excel in the performance world.



The Shiba Inu can enjoy and excel at a wide range of canine events and activities.



SHIBA INU PHOTOS: COURTESY LETTY HUGHES, NIKKI WILLIAMS, AND OWNERS

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Increasingly more Shibas and their owners are dipping feet and paws into the wide array of events offered by the AKC and other organizations. Coursing ability tests—CATs, Fast CATs—scent work, and Barn Hunts are weekend favorites for the highly active Shiba who can show off their skills chasing and seeking out critters. A recent scenario described to me depicted a Barn Hunt event set up near the conformation ring, and the Shiba let loose the breed's typical "Shiba scream" outside the show ring once his keen sense of smell picked up the rat scent. I can only imagine the handler diligently working to gain the focus of their Shiba before entering the ring.

The owner who is looking for a little more challenge and has a nearby facility can try dock diving. According to the National Shiba Club of America (NSCA) website, there are two Shibas with dock diving titles, one of whom has earned a Dock Diving Advanced title. This is quite the achievement for a breed that is not particularly fond of water.

The opportunities to earn titles such as Trick Dog and rally through AKC's virtual program allow the Shiba and their owner to explore performance in a low-stress and safe environment at home or a training facility.

The NSCA is seeing more of the membership participate in these activities and earn titles, which in return can be applied toward the club's

annual award program. I personally took the opportunity this past year to explore trick titles with my Shibas. I'll admit tricks with my crew were never on the list; however, I quickly realized the fun I missed, and it was me, the handler, who needed to learn how to teach the trick! These fun events extend beyond being a great pastime to challenge the Shiba mind and their athletic, compact body—they enhance the relationship between handler and dog, build confidence in a young Shiba for the show ring, help an older senior be active, and increase skills of the new or advanced handler.

—Letty Hughes,  
[lettyhughes.nasca@gmail.com](mailto:lettyhughes.nasca@gmail.com)  
[National Shiba Club of America](#)

### Tibetan Spaniels

#### TIBETAN SPANIEL CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

After having to cancel last year's national specialty, it was a relief and joy that the show would go on this year. Thursday, May 20, through Sunday, May 23, 2021, was about all things Tibetan Spaniel! The shows were held in Frederick, Maryland.

On Thursday, the first Top 20 for our club to host began. The attendees all dressed in their formal wear, and it was fun for all. The event was held at the host hotel. Because of the cancel-

lations of shows during the pandemic, the top 20 Tibetan Spaniels from both 2019 and 2020 were invited.

The national-specialty sweepstakes and regular classes were held on Friday morning. Best in Sweepstakes was awarded to Westview Framboise Joint Venture, bred by Peggy Watson and owned by Connie Buckland and Kim Haupt. Best of Opposite in Sweepstakes was awarded to Trillium's Some Like It Hot, bred by Rebecca and Devyn Thomas and owned by the breeders and Peyton and Cohen Thomas.

The national-specialty regular classes, judged by breeder-owner-judge Linda C. Foiles, began, and Best in Specialty Show was awarded to Ch. Ambrier's White Acres the Secret Is in the Sauce, bred and owned by Mallory Cosby Driskill and Carol Tyte. Best of Opposite Sex was awarded to Ch. Lantana's Sweet Baby James, bred by Gail Krall and owned by Gail Krall and Clara Brown.

Winners Dog was the Best in Sweepstakes winner, Westview Framboise Joint Venture. Winners Bitch, Best of Winners, and Best Bred-by was awarded to Ambrier's Rokirk American Burlesque, bred by David Kirkland and Mallory Cosby Driskill and owned by Mallory.

Four junior handlers came for the weekend of shows, and a seminar for our juniors was held by our Junior Handler Coordinator,

Meagan Lamendola. Best Junior in Specialty was awarded to Alexa Walker, with her Tibbie, G.Ch R and B's Show Stopper.

The weekend included three shows—the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America, Inc. national specialty (which was celebrated because it was the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America's 50th anniversary!), the Potomac Valley Tibetan Spaniel Club regional specialty, and the Finger Lakes Tibetan Spaniel Association regional specialty. All show results are listed on the Facebook group Tibetan Spaniel National Specialties, along with many photos. Results can also be found on the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America Facebook page, with the catalog results.

The weekend was packed with activities, including judges' education, held by Linda Foiles; the Top 20 formal event; the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America Board meeting, along with the annual meeting; and the 50th Anniversary awards and auction banquet, held at the Dutch's Daughter in Frederick.

One of the most favorite fundraisers is the State Baskets silent auction. Over \$1,000 was raised by the silent auction this year. Tibbie exhibitors enjoy showing off their state baskets, and the bidding was fierce!

On display were the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America archives. This included the two retired Breeder of the Best of Breed challenge trophies, and the computer sheet of all Tibetan Spaniels

## NON-SPORTING GROUP



*The Tibetan Spaniel Club of America celebrated the club's 50th anniversary—and a welcome return to dog shows—at the national specialty held in Maryland last month.*

registered when the breed was accepted into the American Kennel Club, along with many photos of Tibbies, breeders, and exhibitors of the early years. There was a photo of the breed's first arrival in the U.S., showing the plane with the dogs at the cargo door. (Can you imagine getting that close to aircraft today?) The TSCA's early newsletters and handbooks of champions were also displayed.

Thank you to our wonderful show chair for this event, Mary Novocin, who took in entries, arranged for the Top 20 competition at the hotel, did the catalogs, and basically headed up all the activities. Mary found the site for the show and the hotel. A thank you to all the committees who helped on this endeavor. It takes a group of dedicated club members to hold a national specialty, and we are appreciative of all involved. It was a special time!

—Mallory Cosby Driskill,  
[ambrier@aol.com](mailto:ambrier@aol.com)  
 Tibetan Spaniel Club of America

### Tibetan Terriers OUR JOLLY COMPANIONS

As I sit down to write this column, the grim news was recently announced that the United States had reached a milestone of 500,000 COVID-19 deaths—higher than any other

country in the world. More Americans have died from COVID-19 than on the battlefields of WWI, WWII, and the Vietnam War, combined.

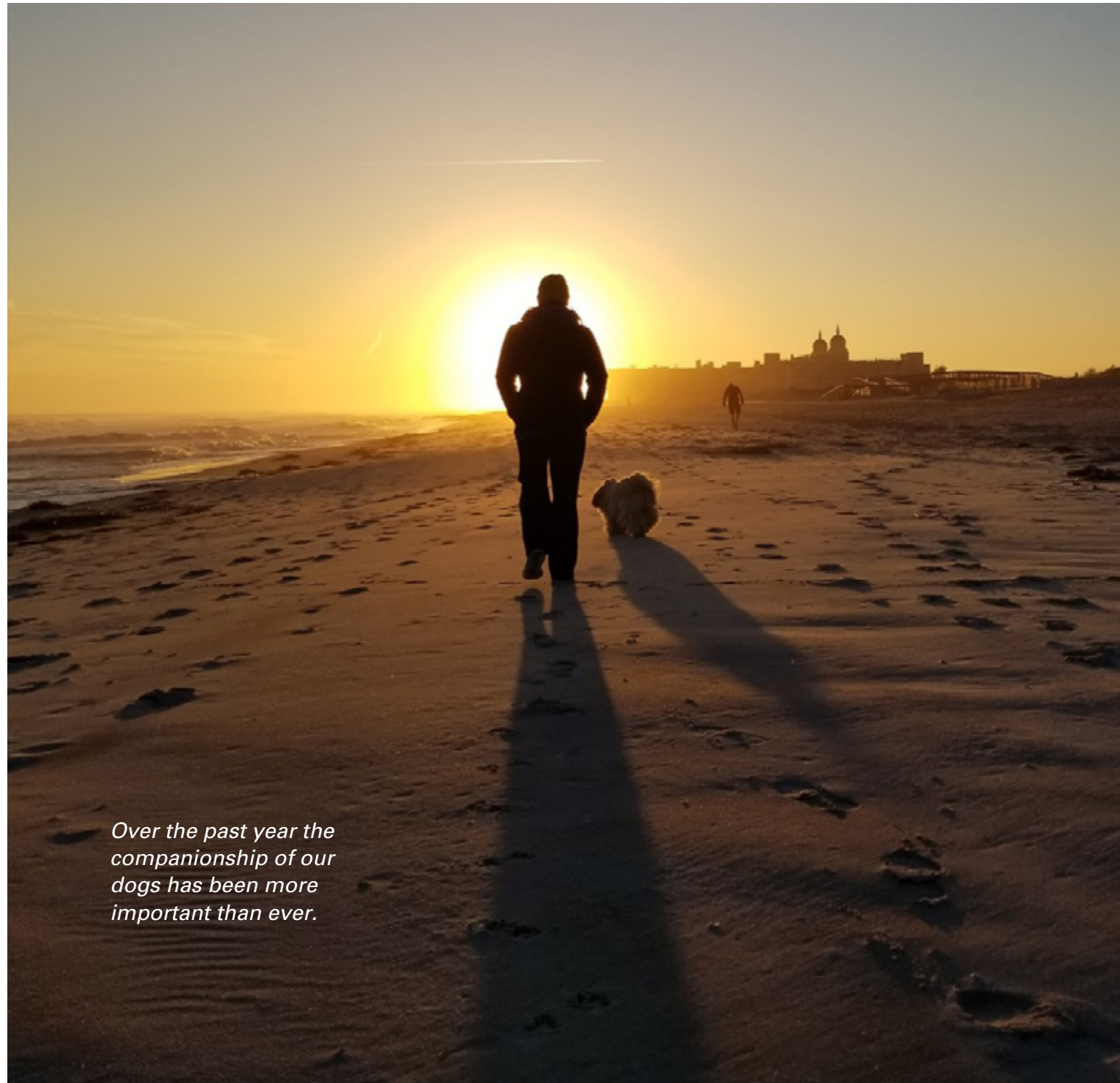
After almost a year of being in lockdown, these are sobering facts. It seems somewhat frivolous for us in the fancy to continue showing our dogs. I began to ask fellow TT dog show friends how they felt about this isolating and restricting experience that we suddenly found ourselves in and how they were managing.

One person who is at dog shows most weekends commented that at first, it was just a scary world, and dog shows seemed unimportant. She felt grateful to be alive, healthy, and safe as the world went crazy. However, as the weeks went by, she really began to miss attending shows. She had a whole group of friends whom she only saw at shows, and she really missed them. She even missed people whom she wasn't friends with but usually saw on those weekends, sharing a smile and "Congratulations!" There was comfort in her routine.

On the other hand, as time went on, she realized that the dogs did not miss showing at all. They went to shows and gave it their best, but only to please her. They were just as happy to practice rally, go for long walks, and play in the garden. All they cared about was being with her. She also realized that although she enjoyed shows, what she really liked was the time spent with her dogs, which in fact could be spent

COURTESY MALLORY COSBY DRISKILL

## NON-SPORTING GROUP



*Over the past year the companionship of our dogs has been more important than ever.*

anywhere, doing anything. She knows she will show again, but she will always remember the one thing that's important is the relationship she has with her dogs, not whether they are at a show, winning or losing.

These sentiments seemed to be echoed by others I asked. They found that being at home allowed them to spend more quality time with their dogs. There were more hours to spend on long, socially distanced walks and hanging out in the backyard. It was also obvious that their dogs did not seem to care if they were running in circles in the show ring or running in circles in the yard; it was just being together that made their dogs happy. Meanwhile, their humans were missing their dog show friends and the camaraderie—treasured memories that one could hold onto. They were missing these moments more than the ribbons.

For those actively campaigning their Tibetan Terriers, it was a fast transition to go from the excitement of being at a big show, like Westminster, to being in lockdown. Not only did this feel depressing, but show teams were then faced with continuously maintaining their dogs and their spirits while being forced to stay home. This sudden shutdown resulted in

dogs who were just starting on the show circuit missing out for months on their normal show socialization. Breeders who had planned to bring out their new young hopefuls to the ring were not able to do so.

That brings us to the subject of coronavirus puppy demand. Both in this country and in Europe, breeders found themselves inundated with requests for a Tibetan Terrier puppy, *now!* One breeder told me it was truly scary. In Norway, the most frightening aspect was that those not able to buy a puppy in the country bought and smuggled them in from puppy mills in Eastern Europe. Breeders had to be extra careful when deciding on the correct forever homes for their puppies. Added to this was again the challenge of how to socialize their puppies in a socially-distanced world.

In the old descriptions of Tibetan Terriers, they are often called “jolly companions.” It would certainly ring true that for all of us, whether breeder, owner-handler, or professional, the companionship of these little people has been an important part of our lives during pandemic days.

—Sonam Kushner,

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[Tibetan Terrier Club of America](#)

COURTESY SONAM KUSHNER

## HERDING GROUP

### Bearded Collies

#### A GRANDSON GETS THE GOODS

**S**o you bred your lovely Beardie girl to this incredible male who is the standard personified and then some! An aristocratic head atop an elegant neck, he appears to skim over the ground, his snowy paws effortlessly devouring distance as his russet coat shimmers with golden highlights. His personality is both regal and rascal. Surely his offspring should rule the rings as he has done. After weeks of white knuckle waiting, the litter was born. They were nice. But you were looking for that handsome stud reincarnated and it didn't happen. Maybe you just need to exercise some patience and wait for the next generation.

The Maternal Grandsire Effect has been known and practiced by some thoroughbred horse breeders for many years. Let's use Secretariat, one of racing's all-time greats, as an example. When his racing days were over and he was retired to stud, breeders flocked to him with their mares. But, to put it politely, none of Secretariat's sons were in the same league as their illustrious dad. The females were better and when bred they produced sons who were frequent visitors to the winner's circle. The qualities which made Secretariat an incredible winner skipped a generation and were passed on to the grandsons through the dams he sired.



*Bearded Collies*

Back in Biology 101, genetics appeared deceptively simple when viewed through the garden of Gregor Mendel's pea plants. Don't be fooled. It's full of surprises, some still to be discovered. However, the Maternal Grandsire Effect has relevance in the canine world just as in the realm of thoroughbred horses.

To get down to the very basics, each cell in a dog's body contains 39 pairs of chromosomes. The dog's sire and dam each contribute one

chromosome to each pair. Every one of those chromosomes are inhabited by a multitude of gene pairs. Now we're talking big figures here. It's these genes that are responsible for the traits that make a dog the individual it is. Which traits appear depend mainly on whether the genes are dominant or recessive though there may be other cases such as incomplete dominance which can make a difference. I told you it could get complicated.

At first it was believed it didn't matter which gender contributed those genes. Then, about 35 years ago researchers found male genes were responsible for small placentas with large embryos while female genes resulted in substantial placentas and sparse embryos. It appears the stud is inadvertently intent on producing healthy and hearty offspring while the female (smart girl!) controls the size of the pups.

The Maternal Grandsire Effect mainly looks at the male/daughter/grandson relationship but technically that's only one side of the equation. Some years ago, a Chow breeder respected worldwide for the consistent quality of his dogs, revealed he relies on what he termed the 'jump and cross' method of breeding. In addition to the Maternal Grandsire Effect, where the male pups 'jump' over their dam to resemble their dam's sire, he maintains the bitch pups produced will have 'jumped' over their sire and take on the traits of their sire's dam. In this instance, grandma makes as equal a contribution to the grandkids as grandpa.

This premise could come back to bite those breeders who optimistically or naively think breeding to a superb stud will correct the faults of a bitch of questionable quality in the resulting litter.

If you've ever watched a youngster and

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thought how much he looks like his granddad, you may be looking at the result of the Maternal Grandsire Effect. If you've kept records and photos, you may be able to look back over the years and find if the "jump and cross" theory manifests itself in your line.

As mentioned, the study of genetics is full of surprises, but these aforementioned breeding methods may provide a basis or guidelines for those looking to establish a line of their liking.

—Alice Bixler,

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Bearded Collie Club of America

## Belgian Malinois

### RISKY BUSINESS

I grew up when it was acceptable for kids to spend long stretches of time "unhelicoptered." Usually, my parents didn't even know where I was as I wandered the countryside on my horse. Sometimes, bad things happened. I nearly drowned on one occasion, and nearly killed my horse on another. But here I am, in the glory of my 61st year, having survived all those risks one way or another.

Back then, dogs were supervised even less than children. We let our dogs out the back door and expected them to stay nearby. Often, they did. The standards for responsible dog (and child) management are much dif-



*Belgian Malinois*

ferent today. Even so, customs and practices vary. Rural and urban habits differ. There is often a wide gulf between what pet owners think, and what dog-sport enthusiasts view as acceptable—and the group taking the greater risk is not the same for every activity. For example, stick play is out of favor with the dog-sport set, many of whom have heard of dogs being impaled on branches. By contrast, the average pet owner is often shocked at the amount of time that competition dogs spend in crates at their events.

Denise Fenzi—competitor, owner of the

Fenzi Dog Sports Academy, and a person who studies the intertwined lives of dogs and people and how to improve them—offers us some thoughts on the choices she has made for her own dogs, and how we might do the same.

"The concept of 'risk' is on my mind. The highest-risk activity I do with my Belgian puppy, Dice, is playing fetch. We play frequently. My throwing skills are poor, and I am well aware of the danger of anterior cruciate ligament damage, among other possibilities. Dogs get hurt playing fetch. A lot. I choose to play anyway, as I have with most of my dogs.

"My little terrier mix Brito's highest-risk activity is going out with my teenaged son. I'm quite sure Chris doesn't manage Brito the same way I do, and that puts him at risk. Yet Brito is at his absolute happiest when he's out with my son, being a boy's dog in a boy's world.

"Lyra, my other Belgian, engages in relatively few high-risk activities. She's older now and has intermittent physical challenges that are easily exacerbated by the wrong move. Lyra has the least interesting and most restricted life of my three dogs. She's done quite a bit less than any dog I've owned in the past 20 years, and yet, ironically, she has the most physical issues.

"Risk is a choice. We choose to accept it because we expect a benefit that will offset the hazard. The risks we decide on are not all-or-nothing choices. We can mitigate risk through modifying either our dogs' activities or our approach to them. Each of us makes choices, conscious or not, that begin the moment our dogs leave our homes: to crate the dog in the car, or let it ride in someone's lap; to hike with the dog on or off leash; to allow play with other humans and dogs, or to live in isolation; to participate in dog sports, or simply enjoy the company of a couch companion.

"I don't fault those who keep their dogs at home and follow every recommended safety

DAVID WOO AKC



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precaution, but I do wonder how the effort to control for every possibility in life impacts a person's mental health. So much is unpredictable. As for the dogs, they will be fine either way. They know only the life you give them, and they do not pine for adventure beyond their experience.

“My choices for my own dogs are probably different from yours. That's okay. We can be different. I will not comment on your choices, because I can bring only my own outlook and experience to such a judgment, and my opinion may have no relevance to your situation. Each of us must choose our own path, as best we can.”

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,  
[colemich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:colemich@sbcglobal.net)  
American Belgian Malinois Club

## Belgian Sheepdogs

### WHAT ABOUT MY DRYER?

“What about your dryer?” That was the response I got from many a dog-show veteran when I asked what to do without my dryer/blower for shows, since COVID-era premiums commonly state no blowers allowed indoors at events. Handheld blow dryers, if any, were now being allowed. Prior to Covid affecting dog shows, we commonly had outlets available, or people brought generators to run



Belgian Sheepdog

grooming equipment outside. I have been in Belgians eight years now, and a variable-speed dryer was on my list of needs as soon as I got my first Belgian. These handy appliances come in all shapes and sizes. A little help from water, and one can be used to poof up even the flattest of coats. So what about my dryer?

This is what the AKC breed standard says the following regarding the Belgian Sheepdog's coat:

“The guard hairs of the coat must be long, well fitting, straight and abundant. They should not be silky or wiry. The texture should be a medium harshness. The undercoat should be extremely dense, commensurate, however, with climatic conditions. The Belgian Sheepdog is particularly adaptable to extremes of temperature or climate. The hair is shorter on the head, outside of the ears, and lower part of the legs. The opening of the ear is protected by tufts of hair. Ornamentation, especially long and abundant hair, like a collarette, around the neck; fringe of long hair down the back of the forearm; especially long and abundant hair trimming the hindquarters, the breeches; long, heavy and abundant hair on the tail.”

The veterans in our breed were amused by my question—or perhaps horrified, as I reflect back. A quick answer was with good, regular brushing you shouldn't have to do much to the coat. Belgian Sheepdogs are often seen out working stock all day one day and in the show ring the next day. So what is the secret, we all ask? You can't show a dirty dog. We all know that. Well, the first step is learning to properly line-brush your Belgian Sheepdog. There are many videos online and hard-copy books available on proper grooming that specifically detail the steps to properly learning to line-groom your dog. Ask any experienced

Belgian person, and you will hear terms like back brushing, and so on, and often enough they will help you the first few times as you learn how to properly brush your Belgian Sheepdog.

Never brush a dry coat. Brushing a dry coat will break the guard hairs. This will leave the coat unhealthy and unattractive in appearance. Also, keep in mind that scissoring is kept to a minimum in this breed. We normally only trim hocks and pasterns on a Belgian Sheepdog. Note: rear hocks are trimmed rather than shaved flat to the skin. A correct Belgian Silhouette is best achieved through generations of good breeding. A good Judge can feel the dog's structure with his hands regardless of what a dryer and scissors can create.

So when we all got a chance to finally get out to the BSCA national this year, guess what we found? A few dryers/blowers outside at private setups, and several indoor setups with a handheld dryer or no dryer at all. All of the dogs still looked spectacular, as they always do at any national. Covid has not affected how we take care of our dogs at home. A properly presented Belgian doesn't happen in one week in Ohio. It happens over weeks, months, and years of dedication to proper exercise, diet and grooming and the overall quality of life provided to the dog.

COURTESY SUSAN REED DAVIS

## HERDING GROUP

The Belgian Sheepdog Club of America national specialty is our opportunity to showcase our breed and visit one another. All in all, I had a blast, and know many others did too. Good work, Belgian friends. Let us keep it going.

We had 19 new members join BSCA last year, and we hope to see many learning the ropes and joining us next year in Washington. Until then, stay safe, friends.

—Susan Reed Davis,  
[sreedsreed@gmail.com](mailto:sreedsreed@gmail.com)

[Belgian Sheepdog Club of America](#)

## Belgian Tervuren

### EARLY BEGINNINGS IN THE U.S.

In 1960, the American Belgian Tervuren Club was formed, shortly after the AKC gave the Belgian Tervuren separate breed status from the Belgian Sheepdog. There were only 12 charter members.

Since that time our club has grown in membership and the breed has grown in popularity. The Belgian Tervuren can be found in every conformation and performance ring all around the world. The versatility of our dogs is truly world renowned. There are very few breeds that can stand up to the test of time with the many things that these dogs can accomplish. That said, our founding mem-



bers—who loved the breed for its beauty, its versatility, and its excellence in all areas of dog show competition—did well in selecting our club motto. This rare combination of virtues is the inspiration for the ABTC’s motto: *A well-balanced Tervuren has a CH (Champion title) on one end, and a UDT (Utility Dog Tracker) on the other.*

By 1971 we had our first Best in Show



*The Belgian Tervuren is known worldwide for its intelligence and versatility.*

dog, and he *was* the motto: Ch. Bonheur’s D’Artagnan, UDT. In 1990 we had our first female Best in Show who personified our motto, Ch. Fox Hollow’s Lothlorien, UDT. But don’t think our long list of BIS dogs are slackers; more than 50 percent of our Best in Show dogs have had performance titles!

National specialties also give the Belgian Tervuren a chance to shine. There have been

seven Ch./UDT BISS winners—with number seven added this year at our national in May:

1967—Ch. Kandice De Fauve Charvonne, UDT

1969—Ch. Mars De Fauve Charbonne, UDT

1970—Ch. Bonheur’s D’Artagnan, UDT

1974—Ch. Ebony De Chateau Blanc, UDT

1990—Ch. Fox Hollows Lothlorien, UDT

COURTESY DANA MACKONIS

## HERDING GROUP

2006—Ch. Cinema I Have a Dream, VCD2, UDTX, RN

2021—Ch./CT/MACH2/RACH Tica Weekend Bender, VCD3, RAE2, RM2, MXS, MJS, T2B, MXF, TDU, TKP, FDC

But truth be told, it is not only our founding members who realized that a Terv needs a job to do, owners have historically realized this as well. Terv owners have primarily been not only the handlers but also the trainers and exhibitors all rolled into one. This is a dog who needs a job, but unlike some other breeds, he needs a job with a partner—his owner.

The club may have set the bar high for what we think we can get out of our dogs, but our dog-and-handler teams have truly stepped up to the plate and continue to do so. We often say a Tervuren is not for everyone, but if it is the dog for you, no other breed will meet your expectations.

—Dana B. Mackonis,  
[cachetnoir@yahoo.com](mailto:cachetnoir@yahoo.com)

[American Belgian Tervuren Club](#)

## Briards

### ONE FOR THE ROAD

**B**riards are really great travel companions. In all the years I've been privileged to live with this breed, every one of my Briards has

enjoyed traveling and made my trips a little bit more pleasant and enjoyable. So much so in fact, that often a Briard has gone along for the ride even though s/he wasn't entered in the show or trial at our destination. They're quiet, take up a surprisingly small amount of space, and expand into substantial, imposing and very effective guardians.

Obviously, I'm not talking about crated Briards. They take up loads of room. We're discussing the ones who are content to ride for hours with their furry heads nestled in your lap while you drive. Or the ones who curl up in the passenger-side footwell. What could be better than a travel buddy who never criticizes your driving, doesn't whine that they're hungry, won't change the radio station or attempt to start a conversation while you're trying to listen to an audio book? And they don't say things like "Weren't you suppose to turn right at that last intersection?" or "You'll have to go back because I think I left my phone in the rest room of that gas station." Outside of an occasional nudge, you can almost forget you're not alone.

Though my Briards have remained unobtrusive while en route, most have felt compelled to assume guardian mode when I parked and exited the vehicle. When the ignition went off, they went on duty. Taking a post in the driver's or passenger's seat, they would remain



alert to warn away anyone who might touch my van or even come too close in their estimation. Carlo, my first Briard, a huge black male with Mickey Mouse ears, had to drop his head down between his shoulders in order to see out the windshield, giving him the look of a surly raven. Once I had hopped out of my van and turned to lock the door when I noticed a man standing on the sidewalk, observing Carlo's glowering countenance with interest.

"Ma'am," he remarked, "You don't have to lock that door. I can't imagine anyone being damn fool enough to try to get in the van with him."

A van was my vehicle of choice when traveling with my dogs but there were times when I had to make do with a smaller mode of transportation. For a while, it was a tiny Toyota. Were my Briards uncomfortable? Not in the least. Chubby Jessie would compact herself

COURTESY: HOT DOG PHOTO

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into the passenger side footwell, a 90-pound dog in a space meant for nothing larger than two size 12 Nikes. Meanwhile, slender Kiki would slumber comfortably in the rear window ledge of the miniscule car.

My other small car was a VW Rabbit (aka *mein hare*). Astounding how much I could pack into that Beetle! One time I drove to a specialty and it transported two people, two adult Briards, one Bearded, plus luggage, grooming equipment, other dog necessities, and a cooler. It made me sympathize with sardines.

The VW Rabbit was dark gray, with an equally dark gray interior. (My son claimed it was the only time he could refer to me as his “gray-haired mother.”) Max, a black male, virtually disappeared in the dark interior when he relaxed in the back and almost caused a friend to go into cardiac arrest as a result. Seeing my VW at a show, she walked over, cupped her hands around her eyes and peered in the hatchback window to see who I’d brought to the show. Max had blended in with the interior so well that she didn’t even notice him until he awoke and, seeing a face staring at him just inches away, came up to the window with a mighty roar that sent my curious friend reeling back in shock.

But a van was definitely preferable for travel. Going from Toronto to Michigan to pick up a Briard pup, my black boy, Carlo, came along

for company. On the return trip, my son was in the back playing with the newly acquired pup while Carlo took up a post between the two front seats when we came up to customs. “Are you bringing anything back?” the customs inspector queried. “An 8-week-old puppy,” I replied, gesturing to the pup in the back of the van with my hand. The inspector looked in and the only dog who caught his eye was Carlo who was sitting between the front seats. He gave the huge black boy a quizzical look. “8 weeks old, eh?” he commented. Then, “I sure wouldn’t want to be around when he grows up!”

Arriving at a show quite a distance from my home territory, I met a friend who cheerily observed, “You’re a long way from home. You didn’t drive here by yourself, did you?” “Oh, no,” I assured her. “I came with my Briard.” What better travel companion could there be?

—Alice Bixler,

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Briard Club of America

## Canaan Dogs

### CANAAN DOGS IN MULTIPLE VENUES

Some exhibitors feel that training a Canaan Dog solely for the breed ring is stimulating enough, while others concentrate on a performance venue as their training goal. Then there are those for whom the term “crazy” would be

justifiably applicable, as these hardy folk train for *both* breed and performance—and not just a single event for the latter. These are the dual or multi-ring Canaan Dog advocates who can be seen hurrying from the breed ring to an obedience, rally, and/or agility ring, or vice-versa, within a single day’s show.

As mentioned in previous columns, Canaan Dogs are highly intelligent and just as highly independent. Training can be rapidly accom-

plished. However, it can be a challenge at the same time. The advantage of training for multiple events keeps the dog mentally stimulated and less likely to “shut down” due to boredom.

Whether training for single or multiple venues, the first step is simple basic obedience. Not only does this reinforce training the owner/handler must exhibit when working with a Canaan Dog, it is also essential for the show ring. A dog who cannot hold a stand for exam in the breed or



MARY BLOOM AKC

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obedience ring or maintain a stay at the agility start-line or in the herding arena is less likely to place or even qualify for that event.

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

Most multi-event Canaan exhibitors use body language in addition to different collar types to assist their dogs. An example of such is when coming to a halt in front of the breed judge, the handler will turn his or her body slightly towards or in front of the dog to signify that the dog is to come to a standing stop rather than an automatic “obedience sit.”

Training the multi-event Canaan with hand signals and/or different commands for the same action in different situations is also beneficial. The standard *stay* obedience command can become *pose* in the breed ring, *wait* at the agility start, and *hold* in the herding arena.

One factor in training for multiple events that is not often mentioned is the condition of both dog and exhibitor, both mentally and physically. At national specialties, it is not uncommon for a Canaan Dog team to show in the breed ring, exhibit in the rally and/or obedience rings, run two or more agility

courses, and herd sheep during an instinct test—all within a space of several days. Canaans tend to be tightly bonded with their owners, so having someone else who is more physically fit run a dog through an agility course or herding trial does not always succeed as it can with more biddable breeds.

Though not yet fully prevalent, the Canaan Dog exhibitor community is starting to expand in the world of dual and multi-ring experiences. It is through these not-so-crazy, but adventurous folk that the “can-do” attitude is displayed when showcasing this versatile breed.

—Denise A. Gordon,  
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Canaan Dog Club of America

## Cardigan Welsh Corgis

### THE EVOLUTION OF THE CARDIGAN STANDARD

We all have viewed photos of our favorite breed from the early years and found that certain features have transformed somewhat from what was originally presented in the ring. The first Cardigan standard was finalized in 1925 and remained relatively untouched until 1967, with four rewrites occurring up until 1995. The first standard called for a foxlike dog to weigh between 18

to 25 pounds, and bitches slightly smaller, and no disqualifications as we know today. Today's standard suggests that dogs weigh in at 30 to 38 pounds—a significant increase, and we are seeing even larger examples as of late.

Bone became important to the Cardigan fancy in 1967 when added to the standard was *Low set, sturdily built, with heavy bone and deep chest.*

This feature still remains a priority today. In 1991, we felt that *Overall silhouette long in proportion to height, culminating in a low tail set and foxlike brush* would help in the understanding of the breed characteristics. The overall balance has been a priority in the standard since the first revision, however, and is still an important consideration.

In 1991 there were significant changes made

**1933 Ch. Megan**

- ◆ First US Champion
- ◆ First American-bred Champion
- ◆ 1936 BOB First Specialty at Morris & Essex

**Early American Cardigans**

**Robinscroft Bandit**

- First American-bred dog to finish his American Championship



**Ch. Megan**  
(Cadno x Brenig Beauty)



Megan  
Brenig Beauty  
Mochan  
Bandit

Earlier versions of the standard described a slightly smaller dog than today's.

COURTESY DAVID L. ANTHONY

## HERDING GROUP

to the entire standard. One can only imagine the heated and lengthy discussions that transpired during its transformation. It was this change that evolved a more detailed description of the headpiece, muzzle, and nose. Of particular notoriety is the introduction of the permissible butterfly nose in the blue merle specimens. In 1967, we find *Color dark to dark amber but clear. Blue eyes, or one dark and one blue eye, permissible in blue merles.* Uniquely, the first standard mentions silver eyes as being permissible. It was in 1967 that we see our first official disqualifications and it was concerning blue eyes in other colors. As for the ears, we went from *flop ears are a serious fault* to *Small and/or pointed ears are serious faults. Drop ears are a disqualification.*

The wonderful front assembly that is one of the major hallmarks of our breed apparently led to the following in-depth explanation in 1991:

*Elbows—should fit close, being neither loose nor tied. The forearms—(ulna and radius) should be curved to fit spring of ribs. The curve in the forearm makes the wrists (carpal joints) somewhat closer together than the elbows. The pasterns are strong and flexible. The correct Cardigan front is neither straight nor so crooked as to appear unsound. Overall, the bone should be heavy for a dog of this size, but not so heavy as to appear coarse or reduce agility. Knuckling over, straight front, fiddle front are serious faults.*

A far cry from the original: *Front—To be slightly bowed, with strong bone. Front forelegs slightly bowed or straight. Legs short and strong.*

The description of the feet and the turnout became clearer in 1991 also:

*Front Feet—Dewclaws removed. The feet are relatively large and rounded, with well-filled pads. They point slightly outward from a straight-ahead position to balance the width of the shoulders. This outward point is not to be more than 30 degrees from the center-line when viewed from above. The toes should not be splayed. Hind Feet—Feet point straight ahead and are slightly smaller and more oval than front. Toes arched. Pads well filled. Dewclaws removed.*

Prior to that: *Feet—Round and well padded. Hind dewclaws, if any, should be removed. Front dewclaws may be removed.*

As you can see, the breed has evolved to some degree from the original design and most likely will continue to do so as breeders look to the past to ensure the future.

—David L. Anthony,  
[Dragonpatch@gmail.com](mailto:Dragonpatch@gmail.com)  
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

## Collies

### LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE BOYS

An oft-heard adage when one is starting out in Collies is to “find the best bitch money can buy.” More advice follows when

there's a litter: “Choose a bitch.” This dictum is applied to novice or the established equally. In fact, I know only one contemporary small kennel breeder who liked the boys, and the majority in her kennel were boys.

Decades ago, large kennels often kept as many males as females, so there were lots of stud dogs in the family to choose from. One top kennel in its heyday would have three or four nationally recognized dogs. While visiting once, a person called and asked the owner if, after evaluating her bitch, would they pick a stud dog for her? Now we are lucky if a kennel has even one stud dog.

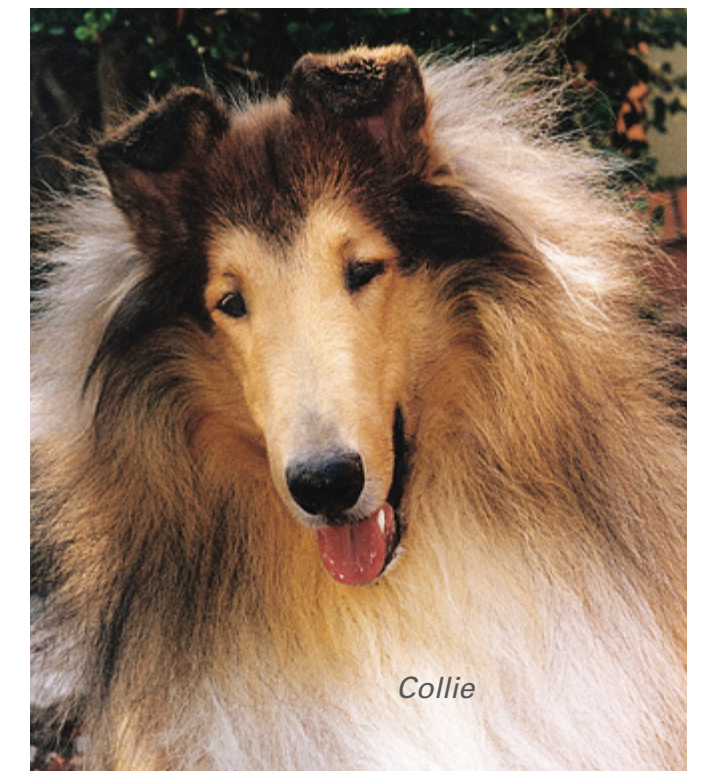
Have you had trouble finding a mate for your girl? You are not alone. Twenty years ago I bred to dogs who left few sons to carry on (in our geographic area), and some of these same breeders went out of dogs entirely. In our Mid-Atlantic area, the number of breeders has dwindled significantly, never mind anyone keeping a stud dog. Making your dog available to others takes time and effort. Other reasons for the dearth of stud dogs could be fertility, health issues, not being as good as the sire, or that it is just a pain to manage. Or they kept a girl.

One clue to this problem is at the dog shows. More bitches are shown than dogs, we know this from the AKC point scale. And if you ask people, they'll tell you that the quality

in bitches is much deeper than it is in dogs. Entries of dogs versus bitches has always been lower in the classes, and also is typically in the specials class as well.

How often have you heard or commented that you wished you could breed your bitch to another bitch? How often at a show have you found the bitches to be so much better? It might be worthwhile to speculate as to why that is.

In choosing a stud dog we look at the individual, the pedigree, the offspring, the temperament and health, and the family to see how it all matches our criteria. With most hobby



Collie

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

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breeders and exhibitors, it's more cost effective and easier to shop for a stud dog rather than keep one. But that pool is shrinking; one by one we eliminate prospects, and the choices narrow. It's not to say there aren't nice dogs—there are—but you get into the dilemma of everyone breeding to a shrinking gene pool.

In “the old days” I would make a list of dogs I was interested in and have a pro and con column for each one. Lists that included five or six now have one or two. Is it really that bad? Am I harder to please, or is there a problem here? Are there so few good stud dogs out there? What really is the question, or the problem? And the elephant in the room is when you do find a dog, the first question is “Is he fertile?”

Do we have nice males in the litter and not keep them, harking back to that early advice to keep the girls? It might take the boys longer to mature, and we don't want to wait. To keep a male is work: There's testing, screening, and handling breedings, all big responsibilities. If we have a nice male, it's important to show or advertise for people to see and keep him in mind. Out of sight is often out of mind. Another bias to fight is automatically going to the familiar kennels and names. What does Joe Famous Kennel have? There might be a pretty dog out there we never considered from someone who does not promote. People want

to see offspring, too.

If you have ever been the owner of a beautiful bitch and asked yourself, “Now who do I take her to?” you know the struggle is real.

—Marianne Sullivan, Charlottesville, Virginia,

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[Collie Club of America](#)

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### Finnish Lapphunds

#### THE LONG ROAD TO RECOGNITION

The year 2021 marks the 10th anniversary of breed recognition for the friendly, versatile Finnish Lapphund. AKC recognition back in 2011 was an exciting milestone, but many people have not had the experience of being involved in this multi-faceted, sometimes arduous process. It is not for the faint of heart—those embarking on the quest to recognition are owed a great deal of credit from those who exhibit, breed, and love the Lappy today!

As a relative “newbie” to the breed myself, I wanted to get the story directly from those who made it happen. Linda Marden, of Sugarok Finnish Lapphunds in Millington, Tennessee, was instrumental in bringing the breed to the United States. In 1987, Linda imported her first Lappy, Jesse, from Europe, with the intent of seeking recognition for the breed. “I would

have not otherwise imported any. I was well experienced with showing in AKC, as I raised quality Samoyeds.” Linda knew early on that recognition would not be a quick process. “I was in my late twenties when I started, so I figured I was in a good position to start such a complex process.” Starting with Jesse in 1987 to recognition in the Herding Group in 2011, it was a nearly 25-year journey!

What goes into obtaining recognition? With the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) not being established until 2000, Linda had to take responsibility for keeping records and the breed registry until that point. “When I started, any breed new to the AKC was treated like it was recently created, even if, like Lappies, it was a breed that had been FCI recognized for many years and well established in its home country. The process was all about numbers. We could not move to the next level of recognition until we had a minimum number of registrations.”

Kit Brillinger established Calaban kennel in 1997. After a great deal of success with Alaskan Malamutes and Akitas, she met her first Lappies in 1993 at a States Kennel Club dog show in Indiana. After that encounter, she began researching the breed. “I knew they were just what I needed,” says Kit. “Medium-sized, eager to please temperament, northern dog look with more of a herding type

personality.” She flew to Denmark in 2005 and the rest was history! She and her dogs have had wonderful success in the show ring. “Competition was hard to come by. It's somewhat better now.” Hopefully with more people discovering the breed, finding that competition will become easier still.

Linda was also took on the task of organizing the parent breed club, which she admits was more challenging than maintaining the stud book and a breeding program. Once Lappies were recognized in Miscellaneous in 2008, her focus expanded to entering shows and traveling the country to give breed-education seminars to judges. Linda has also mentored many junior handlers to a few Westminster breed wins.

AKC recognition does not always mean the dogs are recognized by the masses, however. “I can cite many times I was made fun of for having a ‘made-up’ breed,” Linda shares. “I was truly amazed at how little tolerance dog show people had for breeds they were not familiar with.” She credits the internet with Lappies getting more exposure and interest. Speaking for my family, I can confirm this. My 13-year-old son found the breed while looking for a diabetic-alert-dog prospect—a Google search for a friendly, intelligent, Nordic type dog brought him right to the Finnish Lapphund.

# BREED COLUMNS

## HERDING GROUP



(Clockwise) GCh.B Sugarok Born in the USA, CM (Bruce), Group 4 on the breed's first day of AKC recognition, first Lappy male AKC Ch.; Bruce, Westminster's first Lappy BB (2012) with junior Mary Lee; UKC Ch. Gottorp's Danish Journey, 2005 import to Calaban; GCh. Sugarok Casanova; GCh. Sugarok Champagne on Ice, first Lappy AKC. Ch. and first ROMX.



AKC recognition for these amazing dogs was an early and important goal, but not the only one. Linda says, “[Recognition] was a big part of that goal, but we must also

have enough breeders to keep the breed at a healthy population. So far, Lappies are still too rare for me to feel like we have met that goal, but we are headed in the right direc-

feel, and both Linda and Kit feel Lappies are headed in the right direction, with slow growth and careful breeding. Perhaps Linda says it best in reference to the long road to recognition: “There have been a lot of reasons along the way to feel rewarded, but best of all is spending my life with these lovely dogs.”

—Devon Pierce, Florida  
[Finnish Lapphund Club of America](#)

## Norwegian Buhunds

### VIRTUAL DOG SPORTS

One of the bright spots during the covid pandemic has been the proliferation of dog sports that can be competed in virtually from home. With access to sufficient space for your sport, an account on YouTube, Vimeo, or a similar platform, and a phone or video camera and tripod, dogs and their handlers have been able to not just continue training and participating in dog sports but, for the goal-oriented, even get titles.

Virtual dog sports are especially useful for those who cannot (or choose not to) participate in in-person dog shows and trials in agility, rally, obedience, and so on. And virtual opportunities are important for breeds such as Norwegian Buhunds that need to do something on an ongoing basis. If they do not have such opportunities, they are likely to think



## HERDING GROUP



Norwegian Buhund

up their own busy work (which might involve arranging all of your shoes under the guest bed and watching you search the whole house — after all, why would you need shoes when you hardly leave the house?)

I personally love virtual dog sports. As someone who often has to work on weekends, entering in-person sports is not always easy for me. It is wonderful to be able to participate in dog sports any time any day with my Buhunds. And

although I miss meeting friends and acquaintances at trials and shows, I certainly do not miss driving long distances in the midst of snowstorms to show sites.

The Buhunds also love being able to compete from home. My oldest Buhund, Kinzi (the social butterfly), would probably miss interacting with other people at trials. She was convinced that the only reason we went to shows was to give her the opportunity to meet lots of people (with a little

ring time in between the social fun). My youngest Buhund, unlike Kinzi, has never enjoyed the loud noises of indoor venues, nor has she enjoyed waiting all day in a strange location. She would much rather stay at home, lie in her favorite bed in air-conditioned or heated comfort, and engage in training and trialing in the outdoors with all the fun smells and sights.

The AKC has several virtual initiatives: Virtual Top Dog Challenge, Virtual Home Manners, Trick Dog, Rally Virtual pilot program, ACT 1 and ACT 2 pilot programs (including the new ACT 1 and 2 Jumpers programs), Virtual Water test, Virtual Obedience test program, and so on. My Norwegian Buhunds and I have been trying some of these programs and find them an excellent way to continue training and trialing together during the pandemic, while having fun and earning titles. We plan to continue doing virtual sports along with in-person shows in the future.

—Jasmine Tata, Antioch, Illinois

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[Norwegian Buhund Club of America](#)

### Old English Sheepdogs

#### LESSONS FROM THE SHEARING BOARD

A shearing board? Unless you participate in the herding program with your Old English Sheepdog, you may never have heard of

a shearing board. Your exposure to sheep-shearing may also be limited. Perhaps you've watched a shearing competition or demonstration at your county fair or viewed some videos—hopefully not one of the misleading ones posted by PETA.

On the other hand, chances are good that you have clipped more than one matted OES. I have done both. I've sheared sheep and watched my shearing crew at work. I have also given many an OES his or her summer haircut. This combination of experiences has convinced me that there are things we can learn from sheep shearing that can be applied to clipping a sheepdog. Of course if someone at the Bow-Wow Groomery does your clipping for you, read no further. For the rest of you, I will cover several topics including the shearing/clipping equipment, controlling the animal, and some tricks for taking off the fleece or fur in an efficient manner.

However, before getting into these, let me answer the opening question. Sheep may not always be shorn under the best of conditions. Therefore shearers use a shearing board, typically a four-by-eight-foot sheet of plywood. This provides a sound working surface for the shearer and the sheep. It also provides a clean space to hold the fleece until it can be placed in a wool bag.

Turning to the topics, the sheep shearing equipment has the same components as a dog clipper, at least on a macro scale. The main



*Old English Sheepdog*

*Lynda Beam*

difference is in the size, with the shearing equipment being larger. For both, the business end is the handset that actually does the cutting. This consists of a comb and a cutter. The comb is stationary, and its bottom edge rides on the animal's skin. The leading edge of the comb is notched and the resulting teeth align the hair and hold it while the cutter slices it off. The cutter is also notched and is driven by a reciprocating arm at a high number of strokes per minute. These notched surfaces can become clogged with fleece, and shearers frequently use a stiff brush to clean the teeth and also lubricate the handpiece at the same time to maintain efficient shearing. The same applies when clipping a dog. You don't want to wait until you are done to clean your clipper. More frequent cleaning and lubricating with increase your efficiency.

Obviously both the dog clipper and shearing piece need a motor. One option is for the motor to be incorporated into the hand piece, as in most dog clippers. However, serious shearers use an external motor with a flexible drive shaft to the handpiece. This provides two advantages. It makes for a small, lightweight handpiece, often no bigger than a dog clipper. The other is that the heat from the motor does not add to the heat in the handpiece caused by friction between the cutter and comb. Dog people, especially pro-

fessional groomers, are starting to appreciate the advantages of an external motor, often mounted overhead.

Once you have your equipment sorted out, you can turn your attention to controlling your animal. The goal is to avoid injuries to either of you. Once you get a sheep onto the shearing board you need to wrangle the animal so its butt is between your feet, and its back rests against your legs. Older sheep, even that crotchety ram, will be content in this position. Then the shearer can roll the sheep from side to side as the shearing progresses. It is actually the yearlings or first-time lambs that are likely to cause any control issue, as they are distressed and will kick and squirm.

You will want to take this same approach when getting your dog positioned for clipping. You can likely get an older dog to lie comfortably on his or her side on some sort of table that takes the place of a shearing board. The table should allow you to work from both sides. Unless you have worked with a young dog so that he is acclimated to being on a table, clipping your 10-month old "wild child" can be an ordeal.

Shearers will tell you that the key to efficient shearing is to keep the leading edge of the comb in contact with the hide at all times. This allows the shearer to use long, efficient shearing strokes that can run from the tail to

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

## HERDING GROUP

the neck or shoulders. The same idea applies to clipping your OES. If you keep the leading edge of the comb against the skin as you follow the dog's body contour, you will be able to slip the clipper blade under the mats using a long stroke. If you find that you are only able to take short strokes, you are probably lifting the front edge of the comb and trying to go thru a matted area, rather than under it. This will leave you with a choppy-looking clip.

If you have a badly matted dog, a fine blade like a No. 10 will slip under the mats. However, I don't like the result, as the dog often appears to be "skinned." I have actually had a dog get sunburned with such short fuzz and have seen dogs with clipper burn, when the handset became too hot.

Of course there are some instances where a fine blade is appropriate. These include cleaning out the hair from between the foot-pads and the digits. Another area for a fine blade is the inside of the ear-flap and the side of the face where the ear hangs. Short hair in these areas will provide enhanced air circulation to the ear opening.

However, as a general rule, I have gone to using a No. 4 or 5 blade. My shearer showed me two additional tricks to getting a coarse blade to slip under heavy mats. One is to stretch the skin in the opposite direction of the clipping stroke. The other is to pull the fur

away from the skin as you clip. Both lift the unmatted fur so it is easier cut. I also found that clipping in the direction of the coat, that is from root to tip, leaves a little longer coat than clipping against the grain.

Finally, I have already alluded to the negative effect of excess heat when clipping. If you find that clipping is becoming progressively slower, it may be due to overheating of the clipper. Stop and make sure your blade is clean, and try using one of the cooling lubricant sprays. If heat, rather than a dull blade, was the problem, when you resume, you will hear a softer clipper sound with easier clipping. Another trick is to have two blades, so you can replace the hot blade with a cooler, sharper one.

So, happy clipping! If you try these suggestions, hopefully the result will be easier clipping and a more attractive final appearance.

—Joe Schlitt,

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[Old English Sheepdog Club of America](#)

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## Pembroke Welsh Corgis

### IT'S 2020 IN 2021!

The Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America begins work on its annual national specialty three to four years ahead of time. Members vote for the conformation and

sweepstakes judges three years ahead of time and give input on judges for obedience, rally, tracking, herding, and agility. A suitable site is located and approved, the show chair and performance events coordinator are identified, venues for herding, tracking and agility are located, and the formal planning begins. The many committees needed are formed, and chairs for the performance events are named. Lots of planning is done, and the end product looks like a well-oiled machine. Any glitches are quickly identified and solved. The web site [www.pwccanational.com](http://www.pwccanational.com) is dedicated to each current year's national specialty, and it is updated on a regular basis when information becomes available. The site includes hotel and RV parking information, premium lists, ways and means items, RSVP forms, and so on. Pembroke fanciers from around the world look forward to a smooth-running, eight-day family reunion, with no detail overlooked.

Therefore, at any given time there are at least three national specialties being planned—events for the current year, the following year, and the year after that. In early 2020, planning for the 2020, 2021, and 2022 editions was in progress, and sites were being identified for 2023. The well-oiled planning machine was doing its job.

Then the pandemic arrived, and its ramifications started small and then started gushing.

We had a foreign judge for 2020 who had to cancel due to travel restrictions placed upon her in her home country. Then venues started cancelling, with shows being cancelled all over the country, and state-mandated restrictions were changing almost daily.

The 2021 planning committee, of which I was a member, had a January 2020 meeting that was then followed by a special-purpose meeting in February to discuss the ramifications of canceling the 2020 national. We all could see what was coming for the rest of the year. The 2020 national could be held at the same planned hotel in 2021, with a modification in dates. Contracts are contracts, and financially it made sense to cancel the original 2021 specialty being planned for Tennessee, and keep the 2020 Virginia site for a 2021 specialty. And that is what was done.

The June column is the one in which I usually mention the upcoming national specialty. So, here are the current plans at the time this column is being written: The 2021 specialty will be held at the host hotel, the Founders Inn, in Virginia Beach, Virginia, using the conformation and sweepstakes judges who were elected for the 2021 specialty. (The 2020 panel has been moved to a later year.) There still will not be a tracking test. The original herding venue could not be used due to prior commitments on the dates needed, so a new

## HERDING GROUP



*Pembroke Welsh Corgi: At the 2016 national, MBIS/GCh.B Heronsway Comedy Central (Julia), always breeder-owner-handled by Anne H. Bowes. Anne is the PWCCA's AKC Delegate and was named AKC Herding Group Breeder of the Year in 2007.*

site was found in Denton, North Carolina. The herding events will take place Saturday and Sunday, October 2 and 3. Agility will be on Monday, October 4, in Mechanicsville, Virginia. Tuesday, October 5, is the date for the obedience and rally trials at the host hotel. They will be followed by Sweepstakes,

both Puppy and Veteran, on Wednesday, October 6, with regular classes following: dogs on Thursday, bitches on Friday, and Best of Breed on Saturday.

Since everything is subject to change due to the pandemic, and some of our normal activities may be modified or not held, check

[www.pwccanational.com](http://www.pwccanational.com) for updated information, as well as the Calendar of Events on the PWCCA website. The Calendar also has up-to-date information on the status of all regional specialties, including the judging panels and contact information.

The year 2020 was at best a trying time for us all. We are optimistically looking forward to the 2021 national specialty, knowing that plans are progressing for 2022 in Wilmington, Ohio, 2023 at Purina Farms, and at a soon to be announced location for 2024!

—Lynda McKee,  
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 Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

### Pulik

#### YOUR PULI AND MASSAGE

You probably know that massage can have tremendous physical and emotional benefits for humans, but did you realize that your canine companion might equally benefit from this therapeutic activity?

Both humans and canines can suffer from sore or stiff body parts and a “busy brain” (that is, being mentally wound up). Massage is one of the best ways for both people and dogs to loosen up, increase their range of motion, and maintain and restore flexibility of joints and muscles, as well as relax tired or

overworked muscles and thereby relax and calm the mind. Massage manipulates the muscles, ligaments (which attach bone to bone), and tendons (which attach muscle to bone) to increase circulation and improve elasticity and range of motion. Through massage and feedback from the dog, a certified massage therapist can detect pain, tension, mobility restriction, sensitivities and areas of concern while using her hands to provide relief and relaxation.

Of particular interest are “trigger points” where there may be localized dysfunction or knot in the muscle fiber that can be caused by muscle strain from sudden wrenching movements, falls, and so on. Trigger points are known to cause decreased range of motion, muscle weakness, and dysfunction, and they can create future postural problems due to functional changes in gait patterns. Trigger points can cause pain to actually show up in another part of the body. The massage therapist can use the referral patterns of the trigger points to follow the point of pain back to the originating muscle, locate the trigger point in that muscle, and apply direct pressure to release the dysfunctions.

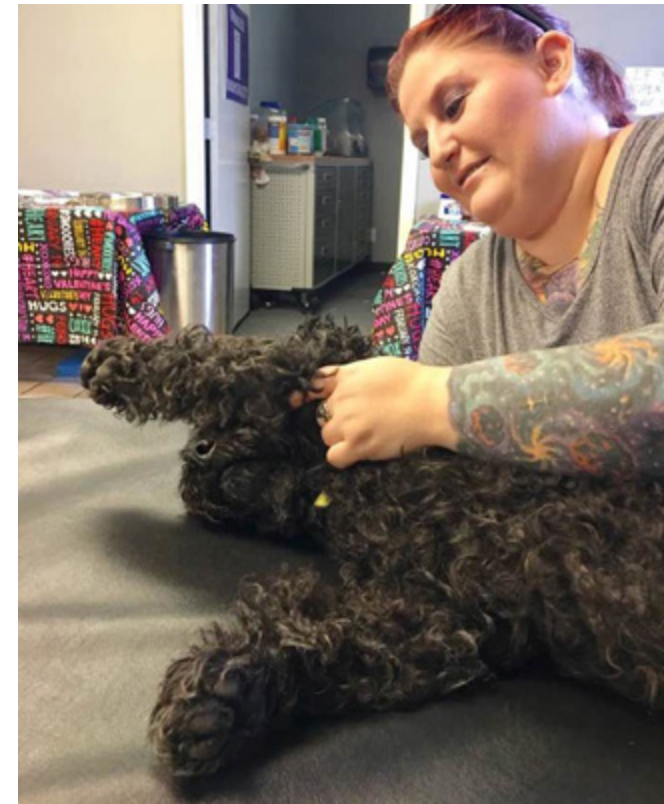
While it might be intuitive how an agility dog (or other dog engaged in high-impact activities) would benefit from regular massage, in fact any dog would be well served by mas-

COURTESY MURIELLE COTE

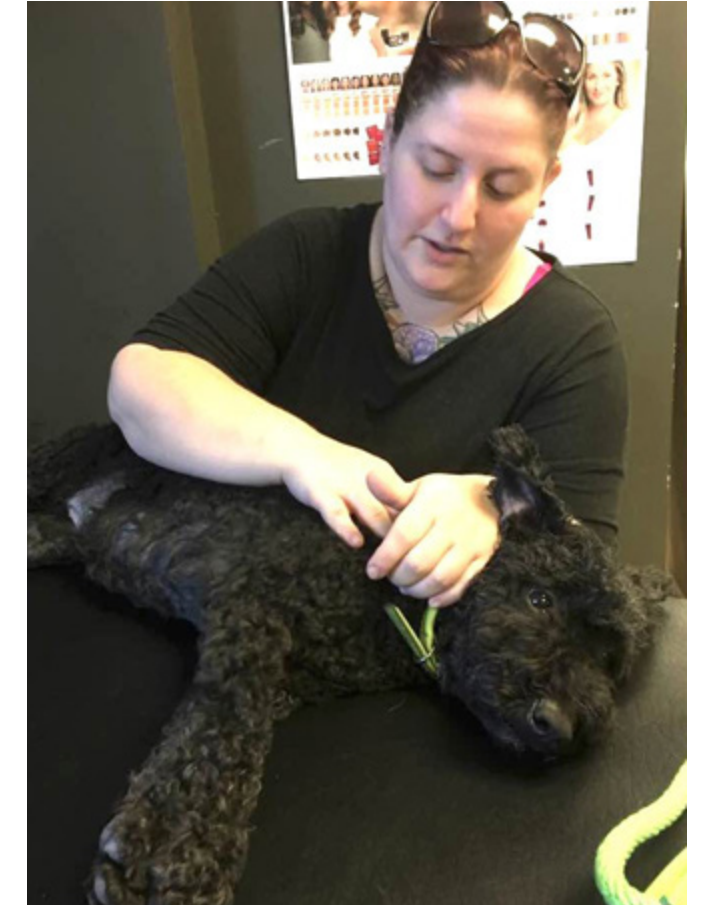
## HERDING GROUP

sage. Massage triggers the body's natural ability to heal itself from injury, strain, surgery, and exhaustion. Massage also aids in the detoxification of chemicals that the body produces to deal with stress, and it positively affects various body systems, including circulatory and lymphatic.

Knowledge of canine muscular and vascular anatomy is mandatory before performing a massage. In addition, knowing animal behavior is a prerequisite for performing a successful massage session. To locate certified (i.e., a certificate from an animal massage or body work course(s)) canine massage therapists, some good sources include getting referrals from your veterinarian, canine chiropractor, or fellow dog sport exhibitors/competitors. You want to be sure you have a credentialed person working on your dog that also has animal bodywork liability insurance. This is not only to protect your dog, but insurance companies will not issue a professional liability policy without a minimum of 100 hours of coursework. Be sure that if you are hiring a canine massage therapist, that



*Pulik with massage therapist Maxie Chapman: Massage can enhance your dog's well-being and complement veterinary care.*



you research what the laws of the state are for where you will be having massage on your dog done. The website of the International Association of Animal Massage and Bodywork (IAAMB) lists the laws pertaining to animal massage in each state: [iaamb.org/resources/laws-by-state](http://iaamb.org/resources/laws-by-state).

At many agility trials, a massage therapist is on site to work on dogs. These athletic dogs may get massages before their runs,

after their runs, when their times are slower than expected, or if something shows up in their gait. I often watch a therapist work on other dogs at a trial, or ask fellow agility competitors for referrals. I personally like to establish a long-term relationship with a therapist and even introduce my up-and-coming agility dogs to the idea of being on the massage table and being touched before they might have a true necessity to address any discomfort issues.

Owning an uncommon dog breed, I am especially interested in having my dog worked on by therapists with prior experience massaging or interacting with Pulik due to the temperament of the breed.

What to expect during your dog's massage session? The average session can take as little as 15–20 minutes to almost an hour, depending on what issues need to be addressed. Because your dog cannot talk, they must be evaluated in other ways: palpation (touch), conformation analysis (how they stand and

COURTESY DAGMAR FERTL

## HERDING GROUP

hold themselves), and gait analysis (observation of their movements for anything extraordinary). Dogs find ways to compensate for discomfort during movement (to the trained eye, even very subtle changes in gait or the dog's behavior are noticeable). The massage therapist may use any of a variety of techniques for your dog's massage. Toward the end of the session, some passive range-of-motion exercises may be used (for example, support a joint on both sides, gently moving the limb through its comfortable range of motion and within its proper plane). In addition, the therapist may show you different ways to encourage your dog to stretch using treats (the exercises might include neck stretches where the dog follows the treat from side to side, toward either shoulder, or encouraging a bow). At the end of the session, the therapist should provide you with their findings (i.e., where the dog's muscles were tight, something that might require veterinary care, etc.).

I asked a few canine massage therapists with time spent on massaging Pulik how massaging a Puli might be different than working on other breeds. Most obvious of course is the coat factor—if the Puli is corded or cut down. The massage therapist has to maneuver through the cords in such a way to not pull on them and startle the dog. But every massage therapist also noted that the suspicious nature

of the Puli means that while you need to move a little slower with this breed, it needs to be done with confidence and no “namby-pamby” touch. In this respect, it really is not that much different than if a judge is putting their hands on a Puli show dog in the conformation ring. One therapist noted that for massage, the Puli requires more intuitive communication than, for example, retrievers. This therapist said she takes her time with the Puli. She compared working on the Puli as similar to working on the Australian Cattle Dog, another tough breed to convince for massage.

It is important to realize that canine massage is not a substitute for qualified veterinary care. Canine massage is intended to enhance your dog's overall well being and complement the care provided by your dog's wellness team (including your dog's veterinarian, chiropractor, orthopedist, or rehab specialist).

Thanks to my canine massage therapist friends Roberta Kirby, Maxie Chapman, and Andrea Friedl who answered my questions and provided suggestions on to improve this column. I have entrusted my agility Pulik to these ladies over the years. I thank Maxie Chapman for permission to use photographs that I took of her working on my Puli.

—Dagmar Fertl,  
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[Puli Club of America](#)

## Spanish Water Dogs

### BEYOND “HYPOALLERGENIC”: UNDERSTANDING THE BREED

Most if not all breeders of Spanish Water Dogs have received the inquiry, “We understand that this breed is ‘hypoallergenic,’ and we are interested in a puppy.” For the breeder, it then becomes a matter of which response they employ first.

Our first task regarding the request for a “hypoallergenic” puppy is to explain that while this is a single-coated breed that sheds far less than many other breeds, truthfully there is no such thing as a “hypoallergenic” dog. Specificity of allergens and severity of allergies vary considerably between individual dogs and people. If dander is the problem, less dander is scattered by a dog who does not shed, but it still certainly exists. If a major trigger is saliva, training the dog to not “give kisses,” lick faces, and so on is an essential and fairly easy solution.

Most breeders consider these situations with great caution to avoid the heartbreak of receiving a subsequent call from the family to report that they must re-home the dog due to allergies.

Allergies aside, there are also puppy buyers who are attracted to a non-shedding breed simply for the convenience of having minimal dog hair on their clothing and in the house,

car and so on. While a reasonable consideration, “who” is this breed with whom the buyer(s) can expect to share their life/lives for typically 12 to 15 years?

The AKC standard describes the breed as follows:

“... faithful, obedient, lively, hardworking, and watchful. He is highly intelligent with an outstanding learning ability. His loyalty and protective instincts make him a self-appointed guardian to his owner, his family, and his property. He should be neither timid nor shy, but is naturally suspicious of strangers. Properly introduced, and given time, the Spanish Water Dog will accept strangers. He is very affectionate with his own people.”

Longtime breed owners and fanciers have come to value deeply the qualities above. For the new owner, however, they must understand the unique nature of this breed's temperament. In conversation with an experienced breeder and owner prior to acquiring my first SWD, he said to me, “These dogs almost seem slightly feral at times.” While perhaps an extreme descriptor, it is not completely inaccurate.

Often described as “velcro” dogs, SWDs are extremely devoted to their chosen person and immediate family. Vigilant and tending to be wary of strangers, they are quick to bark at visitors to the home and even at passers-by

## HERDING GROUP

on a walk on a dark evening. Combined with herding tendencies, this results in some individuals who may attempt to circle and even nip persons perceived by the dog to be unruly or out of order. In encountering new people, these dogs do best when given the opportunity to assess the person, and then they will usually approach quite willingly. When judges try to elicit an animated expression from dogs in the conformation ring, most SWDs care so little for unfamiliar people that frequently the dog's gaze will not even waver from his handler.

The athleticism and intelligence of this breed can also translate into “trouble” if the dog finds itself in a setting offering little mental stimulation and/or minimal exercise. When I come home to a fresh excavation in the backyard, or destruction by chewing, I realize that a good run or cerebral training session is in order for my dogs.

*Non-shedding, cute, and unique* have increasingly become dog-choice criteria without thoughtful consideration of “who” that dog is to actually train and live with. As with any breed, to know them is to love them, but choosing a dog primarily on the basis of its coat quality has the huge potential for an unsatisfactory outcome.

—Marnie Harrison,  
[marnieh52@gmail.com](mailto:marnieh52@gmail.com)  
Spanish Water Dog Club of America



*Spanish Water Dog*

DAVID WOO ©AKC



**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.

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**ATTENTION DELEGATES**

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021. The format and time of the meeting will be determined in the near future by the AKC Board of Directors and an update will be provided. (The meeting will either be held via Zoom Webinar or it will be an in-person meeting).

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club  
Jackson Tennessee Dog Fanciers Association

**DELEGATES CREDENTIALS**

**Melissa Lembke**, Le Sueur, MN,  
Key City Kennel Club  
**Brian P. Meindl, M. Ed**, Hampton Bays, NY,  
American Cesky Terrier Fancier Association  
**Jennifer Modica**, Cape May Court House, NJ,  
Union County Kennel Club  
**Betty Winthers**, Lynnwood, WA,  
Pasanita Obedience Club

**NOTICE**

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

in this column:

Ms. Julie Osborn (Fairfield, CA)

**NOTICE**

Mr. Michael Bickhart (Reedsville, PA) Action was taken by the York & Adams Beagle Club for conduct at its May 8, 2021 event. Mr. Bickhart was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty at a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Beagles)

**NOTICE**

Mr. Robert Bodner (Walnut Cove, NC) Action was taken by the Yadkin River Water Fowl and Retriever Club for conduct at its April 18, 2021 event. Mr. Bodner was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and \$500 fine. (Labrador Retrievers)

**NOTICE**

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for life and imposed a \$10,000 fine, 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 Administra-

tive Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy:

Effective May 11, 2021:  
Ms. Grazyna Latocha (Sidney, OH) Multiple Breeds  
Ms. Barb Kavars (Manly, IA) Samoyed  
Mr. Seth Lins (Bowmansville, PA) French Bulldogs, Border Collies  
Ms. Maggie Potwin aka Maggie Ouellette (Haverhill, NH) Multiple Breeds  
Ms. Angie Sargent (Swanton, VT) Alaskan Malamute, Bernese Mountain Dogs

**NOTICE**

**REPRIMANDS AND FINES**

Notification of fine imposed on superintendents for late publication of a premium list, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 4, Section 2  
Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC.....\$2500  
Notification of fine imposed on superintendents for advertising and publishing to judges prior to approval, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 4, Section 1  
Rau Dog Shows .....\$250  
Notification of fine imposed on superintendents for advertising a non-sanctioned club as supporting an entry, *AKC Board Policy*  
Rau Dog Shows .....\$250  
Notification of fine imposed on superin-



tendents for improper judge change, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 7  
Foy Trent Dog Shows.....\$250

## OFFICIAL STANDARD OF THE CHINOOK

**General Appearance:** The Chinook was developed in the United States as a sled dog whose unique function was both drafting and sled dog racing. Bred to combine the power of freighting breeds with the speed of the lighter racing sled dogs, the Chinook is an athletic, hard bodied dog showing excellent forward reach and rear extension in a seemingly tireless gait. The Chinook is an impressive dog, with an aquiline muzzle, dark almond eyes, black eye markings, a variety of ear carriages, and a distinctive tawny, close fitting coat. The saber tail is held in a graceful sickle curve. Males appear unquestionably masculine; females have a distinctly feminine look and are judged equally with the male. A dignified and affectionate family dog, Chinooks are known for their love of children. The Chinook is to be presented in a natural condition with no trimming. The following is a description of the ideal Chinook.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** The Chinook is a slow maturing breed, often not reaching maturity before 4 to 5 years of age. *Size* - Ideal height at the withers: males 24 to 27

inches; females 22 to 25 inches. *Proportion* - When measuring from point of shoulder to the point of buttocks the Chinook is slightly longer than tall. Females may be somewhat longer in body. *Substance* - Muscular with moderate bone, a gender difference is easily discernible. The Chinook exemplifies a sound athlete in grace, muscle tone, movement, and carriage.

**Head:** The *head* is broad, wedge-shaped, and impressive but in balance with the size of the dog. Cheeks are well-developed and slightly rounded. The *expression* is intelligent, inquisitive and kind. The *eyes* are medium in size and almond in shape with black rims that accentuate the eye and give character. The eye can be any shade of brown but dark brown is preferred. Black pigment in an apostrophe shape above the inner corner of each eye is preferred. *Disqualification* - Any eye color other than brown. The *ears* are set slightly below the top line of the skull and are expressive. They are medium in size, V-shaped, and slightly rounded at the tip. The ear tip should be just long enough to reach the inside corner of the eye. Any ear type is allowed, including drop, prick, or propeller ears that maintain a fold when at attention. Matched ears are preferred and for historical reasons, dropped ears are desirable. Mismatched ears are not to be

faulted. The *topskull* is broad and slightly arched between the ears. When viewed from above, the topskull is almost square, narrowing slightly as it approaches the eyes. The stop is moderate and marked with a central furrow extending up the top skull. The *muzzle* is aquiline, having a slight dip just before the nose leather, and shorter in length than the top skull, measuring from nose to stop as approximately 2:3 in ratio with stop to occiput. Viewed from the front, the muzzle is tapered to form a blunt wedge. Viewed from the side, the topline of the muzzle and the topline of the skull are almost parallel. The nose is large, prominent and the leather is solid black. The lips are black. *Bite* - The Chinook has a full complement of strong teeth meeting in a scissors or a level bite.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** The *neck* is strong, balanced in length, arched, and covered with fur that forms a defined ruff. The skin on the neck is pliable but not pendulous. The neck blends smoothly into the withers. *Topline* - The back is straight, strong and level, with no sign of weakness. There is a slight arch over the loins. The *body* is well muscled and hard. The chest is moderately broad, well filled and deep, and neither too broad nor too narrow. The forechest has a prominent prosternum that extends beyond the point of

shoulders when viewed from the side. The brisket reaches to or nearly to the elbows. The ribs are well sprung, oval in shape, flattening toward the lower end to allow for elbow clearance and efficient movement. The loins are muscular with a slight arch, having enough length to be athletic. The underline has a moderate tuck-up. The croup is muscular, slightly sloping, broad and without exaggeration. *Tail* - The saber tail is set just below the level of the topline and is well coated with distinct but moderate fringing. It is broad at the base, tapering to the end and reaches to the hock with a slight curve at the tip when relaxed. When alert or moving, the tail is carried in a graceful sickle curve, neither curling to the side of the body nor touching the back.

**Forequarters:** The shoulders are moderately laid back, with the shoulder blade and upper arm being equal in length. The forelegs are straight, well-muscled, with moderate, oval bone. When viewed from the front, the legs are parallel, and straight. The elbows turn neither in nor out. The pasterns are flexible, moderate in length, strong, and slightly sloping when viewed from the side. Dewclaws may be removed. The feet are tight, oval in shape, with arched toes, webbing between the toes, and with strong nails. The pads are

thick, tough, and darkly pigmented. The front feet may turn slightly outward when standing allowing the dog to push off from the center toes.

**Hindquarters:** The hindquarters are muscular and strong, moderately angulated, and in balance with the forequarters. The upper and lower thigh muscles are well-defined. The rear pasterns are parallel to each other, and perpendicular to the ground when viewed from any angle. The rear feet point straight ahead.

**Coat:** The Chinook has a thick double coat lying close to the body. The outer coat is straight, strong, and coarse. The length of the outer coat is longer over the ruff, shoulder blades, withers, breeches, and along the underline and the underside of the tail but is never so long as to obscure the clean-cut outline of the dog. The undercoat is short and dense, downy in texture, providing insulation. The groin and inside of the rear legs are protected by coat. A Chinook in full coat feels soft and plush with coarser hair following the topline. A coat in seasonal shedding may be thinner, feel coarser, and should not be penalized. The tail is well-furred with feathering starting about four to five inches from the root. There is slight feathering along the back of the forelegs. The

Chinook is shown naturally and trimming is not acceptable. Faults - Excessively short coat, long, rough, or shaggy coat. Trimming of the coat, including whiskers, is to be severely penalized.

**Color:** Tawny coloration, ranging from honey to a deep reddish-gold, is a distinguishing characteristic of the Chinook and is preferred. Dilute tawny, and its associated diluted pigmentation of muzzle, nose, lips, pads, and eye rims, is acceptable. It is desirable for the ears and muzzle to have darker coloring than the body. This darker ear and muzzle coloring runs from a tawny that is darker than the body to a black shading, with some black shading being the most preferred. A black mark at and just above the inner corner of each eye is desirable. Symmetrical white or cream to pale gold markings are acceptable on the cheeks, throat, chest, breeches, and underside. Any other white markings are undesirable including blazes, socks, and scarves. Disqualification - Any color other than tawny as described.

**Gait:** The Chinook's gait is smooth, easy, balanced front to rear and seemingly tireless. The back is strong and level when gaiting. When viewed from the side, as speed increases, the head and neck lower, the front feet reach out strongly to a line

directly below the nose, the rear drives forward with power, covering ground with minimal effort. When viewed from behind, the rear pads are fully visible. As speed increases, the feet tend to converge toward a center line of gravity.

**Temperament:** The Chinook is an affectionate and playful family companion with a special devotion toward children. The Chinook is a dignified dog; some Chinooks may be reserved with strangers but should never appear shy or aggressive. They are willing workers who are eager to please and enthusiastic to learn. Chinooks are highly trainable, adaptable, and versatile in their abilities. Gregarious with other dogs, the Chinook works well in teams and within family packs.

**Faults:** Variations are penalized to the extent of the deviations.

**Disqualifications:**

Any eye color other than brown.

Any color other than tawny as described in this standard.

**Approved May 11, 2021**  
**Effective August 4, 2021**

**CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Letters concerning judges and provi-

sional 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](mailto: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 APPLICANT**

**Mrs. Clair Chryssolor (109353) TX**  
(830) 388-8689

chiffchaffs2000@icloud.com  
Salukis

**Ms. Mary Ann Pflum (109403) OH**  
(937) 205-4129  
kiltie@ptd.net  
Bearded Collies

## ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

**Mr. Richarad D. Albee (57263) AL**  
(334) 821-7829  
albeerd@charter.net  
American English Coonhounds, Basen-  
jis, Basset Hounds, Bluetick Coon-  
hounds, English Foxhounds, Harriers,  
Irish Wolfhounds, Otterhounds, Plott  
Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing  
Walker Coonhounds, Whippets

**Mrs. Emily (Fish) Barnhart (92354) WA**  
(360) 904-5765  
emilypawcific@yahoo.com  
Brittanys, Golden Retrievers, Vizslas,  
Dachshunds, Cavalier King Charles  
Spaniels, Pomeranians

**Mrs. Linda Berberich (38418) NJ**  
(201) 385-1626  
vomviraus@outlook.com  
Barbets, Golden Retrievers, Cocker  
Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels

**Mrs. Valerie J. Brown (6082) WA**  
(509) 554-1669  
essentiadogs@gmail.com  
Bedlington Terriers, Cairn Terriers,  
Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox

Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Norwich  
Terriers, Scottish Terriers

**Mr. James Conroy (95311) GA**  
(561) 400-2059  
bluedane@mindspring.com  
Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain  
Dogs, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Dogues de  
Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Giant  
Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees, Mastiffs,  
Rottweilers

**Mrs. Mary Faeth (101477) CA**  
(530) 210-7791  
spinfandel@yahoo.com  
Balance of Sporting Group (Barbets,  
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers,  
English Setters, Irish Setters, American  
Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Sussex  
Spaniels, Weimaraners), Airedale  
Terriers

**Mr. Edward A. Fojtik (104757) IL**  
(847) 254-6166  
efojtik@aol.com  
Akitas, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black  
Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Cane Cor-  
sos, German Pinschers, Greater Swiss  
Mountain Dogs, Kuvaszok, Mastiffs,  
Neapolitan Mastiffs, Samoyeds, Tibetan  
Mastiffs

**Mr. Lloyd Graser (16626) TN**  
(262) 844-0160  
bluhvns1@msn.com  
German Shorthaired Pointers, American  
Water Spaniels, Wirehaired Vizslas

**Ms. Collette Jaynes (95369) GA**  
(864) 684-8484  
collette@jazzin.com  
Brittanys, Flat Coated Retrievers, Boykin  
Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Wire-  
haired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired  
Vizslas

**Miss Kathryn Leonhardt (23180) FL**  
(301) 221-3137  
magicdeion@aol.com  
Vizslas, Shetland Sheepdogs

**Miss Sandra Lex (7136) CAN**  
(416) 252-9957  
sandralex@rogers.com  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American  
Eskimo Dogs, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos)

**Mrs. Yolanda Lininger (99933) WI**  
(715) 325-6661  
linincorgi@tznnet.com  
Cardigan Welsh Corgis

**Mrs. Diane K. Ondo (95991) PA**  
(610) 970-9122  
melcairn@verizon.net  
Balance of Terrier Group (American  
Hairless Terriers, American Stafford-  
shire Terriers, Bull Terriers, Smooth Fox  
Terriers, Manchester Terriers)

**Ms. Louise Palarik (6054) IL**  
(847) 487-5677  
colliejudge@juno.com  
Black and Tan Coonhounds, Grand Bas-  
sets Griffons Vendeens

**Mrs. Marilyn Pipes (29634) TX**  
(214) 208-4898  
willmarpp1@gmail.com  
Azawakhs, Basset Hounds, Black and Tan  
Coonhounds, Grand Basset Griffons  
Vendeens, Petit Basset Griffons  
Vendeens, Salukis, Treeing Walker Coon-  
hounds

**Ms. Pat Putman (34310) WA**  
(509) 884-8258  
patputman42@gmail.com  
Manchester Terriers, Shih Tzu, Ameri-  
can Eskimo Dogs

**Mr. Gus Sinibaldi (103241) NC**  
(954) 614-9308  
gus.sinibaldi@yahoo.com  
Affenpinschers, Chinese Cresteds, Eng-  
lish Toy Spaniels, Papillons, Pekingese,  
Pomeranians, Pugs, Shih Tzu

**Mr. Gary Stiles (51717) WA**  
(360) 770-6690  
lacasitas@aol.com  
Boston Terriers, Schipperkes

**Ms. Marilyn Van Vleit (67040) OR**  
(503) 510-1332  
mvanvleit@gmail.com  
Basset Hounds, Black and Tan Coon-  
hounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Grand  
Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Harriers, Ot-  
terhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons  
Vendeens, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

**Ms. Sally Yancey (17981) NC**  
(336) 282-5733

scyancey@aol.com  
Portuguese Pongengo Pequenos

## JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

### Ms. Vicki Jo Graves (99893) WA

(253)-229-7051  
vicdory@msn.com  
JS-Limited

### Mr. Remy L. Smith-Lewis (109351) CA

(707) 208-0435  
rsmithlewis@gmail.com  
JS

## 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

### Mrs. Carolyn Keiper Horowitz (109109) TN

(863) 393-5579  
carolyn@rustic-lane.com  
Manchester Terriers

## ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

### Mr. Larry C. Abbott (20217) TX

(972) 562-1200  
theabbotts@abbottusa.com  
Balance of Herding Group (Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Bergamasco Sheep-

dogs, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Mudi, Norwegian Buhunds, Pyrenean Shepherds)

### Miss Vicki E. Allenbrand (91374) KS

(678) 429-4609  
blackjackdogs@earthlink.net  
Beaucerons, Belgian Malinois, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds, Shetland Sheepdogs, Swedish Vallhunds

### Mrs. Anne M. Beckwith (100057) OH

(614) 570-9779  
halcarsft@columbus.rr.com  
Bull Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Welsh Terriers

### Ms. Gena Box-Young (99477) TX

(979) 574-6230  
gboxyoung@gmail.com  
German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Kuvaszok, Samoyeds

### Mr. Dean Burwell (103997) SC

(803) 831-8375  
dean@pawgate.com  
Airedale Terriers, Bull Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers

### Mr. J. Calvin Dykes (100595) OR

(541) 562-1447  
tresbeaufrenchbulldogs@eoni.com  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Coton de Tulear, Lhasa Apsos, Shiba Inu)

### Mrs. Sharon L. Dykes (100581) OR

(541) 562-1447  
tresbeaufrenchbulldogs@eoni.com  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Finnish Spitz, Lowchen)

### Mrs. Nancy J. Eilks (23143) WI

(920) 648-3192  
eilks@gdinet.com  
Alaskan Malamutes, Cane Corsos, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Saint Bernards, Siberian Huskies

### Mr. Larry E. Hansen Jr. (19512) AZ

(623) 975-0595  
ironwoodnewf@cox.net  
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Samoyeds

### Ms. Dawn Hitchcock (100299) SC

(864) 238-2742  
bubblezsc@hotmail.com  
Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Miniature Pinschers, Pugs,

### Ms. Karen Hynek (35536) MO

(636) 219-6991  
jokareGS@aol.com  
American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, English Foxhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Sloughis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Shiba Inu

### Dr. Adam Stafford King (49694) IL

(812) 568-6972  
askingdvm@gmail.com  
Curly-Coated Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen

### Mrs. Anna Lorenz (19278) WI

(920) 286-1499  
annanewf@gmail.com  
Vizslas, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, German Pinschers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Berger Picards

### Mr. Ronald Lukins (56312) WA

(805) 914-9269  
ron.lukins@verizon.net  
*\*Permit status approval for Cirneco dell'Etna, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

### Mr. Brian Meyer (15140) IL

(815) 332-4848  
bckennel@aol.com  
Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

### Mrs. Cindy Meyer (15141) IL

(815) 332-4848  
bckennel@aol.com  
American English Coonhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

**Ms. Bonnie Money (105681) IN**

(317) 452-2204

blmoney@att.net

Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Belgian Sheepdogs, Briards, German Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

**Mrs. Paula Nykiel (5487) MO**

(636) 239-5577

nykiel@usmo.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds)

**Mr. David J. Peat (6909) AZ**

(480) 473-4776

davepeat@cox.net

Dogo Argentinos, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Tibetan Mastiffs

**Mrs. Pamela Peat (5894) AZ**

(480) 473-4776

pampeat@cox.net

Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

**Ms. Dierdre Petrie (63937) PA**

(610) 763-8976

deirdrepetrie@yahoo.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Harriers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Sloughis), Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Havanese, Papillons

**Ms. Lily Russell (74429) IA**

(319) 795-3305

marialrussell53@gmail.com

Balance of Herding Group (Belgian Laekenois, Mudi, Old English Sheepdogs), Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians

**Dr. Stephen J. Schellenberg (42891) MN**

(651) 338-9311

paradocskerries@gmail.com

American Hairless Terriers, Manchester Terriers

**Mrs. Nancy Tuthill (6729) MD**

(240) 675-1560

cumbrian@myactv.net

English Springer Spaniels

**Edwin (ED) Valle (93014) FL**

(407) 766-2604

edrey524@gmail.com

Biewer Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, Maltese, Silky Terriers

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES****Mrs. Jennifer Bell (109179) LA**

(225) 933-6132

mystang50@yahoo.com

**Mrs. Lynn Smithson (109147) CA**

(530) 282-4444

catsnhound@yahoo.com

**BEST IN SHOW**

The following person, has successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which

she was **approved**, has been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

**Mrs. Marianne C. Klinkowski (7135) CA**

(408) 446-0604

naharin@comcast.net

**CONFORMATION JUDGE: RESIGNED BREEDS/JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP**

The judges below have notified AKC to resign their privileges for the following:

**Mr. Allan Reznik**

Whippets

**Mrs. Melanie D. Williams**

Toy Group, Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chin, Maltese, Papillons, Poodles, Russian Toy, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers, Herding Group, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Mudik, Norwegian Buhunds, Old English Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pumik, Pyrenean Shepherds, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds, Best In Show, Misc

**RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE**

Dr. Bob G. Smith

**DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Mr. Brian K. Cleveland

Mr. Timothy C. Garrison

Ms. Sylvie Lingenfelter

Miss Dorothy M. Macdonald

Mr. Eric J. Ringle

Mary M. Rodgers

Mrs. Lorraine E. Still

**PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES**

The following persons have been approved as a judge on a Provisional basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. **They may now accept assignments.**

**Mrs. Sarah Schroeder (34510) MO**

(417) 234-6141

wicklowsetters@gmail.com

Obedience – Open

**DECEASED OBEDIENCE JUDGES**

Mrs. Jill Urbina (CA)

**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, Ex-

Executive Secretary:

ALDER CREEK-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels-Megan R. Cromwell  
ALLSTAR-German Shorthaired Pointers-Christopher W. Skinner-Bland and Darcy D. Skinner  
CLARISMA-Labrador Retrievers-Clarissa M. Ferrer  
CONNEMARA-Irish Wolfhounds- Debbie J. Sharpe  
CORSAIR-Tibetan Terriers- Lori D. Livingston  
EAGLE'S WINGS- Beagles- Marlin Gipson  
GINKGO-Barbet- Stacy Able  
GLEN 'MOR- Gordon Setters-James A. MacWalter and Kimberly A. Thorpe  
HALLACRES-Bichon Frises- Linda L. Hall  
HIDEAWAY-Brittanys and English Setters- Ben D. Garcia  
JOYFUL-Lagotto Romagnolo- Katherine A. Hollinger  
KEL IMAJAGHAN- Azawakh-Aliya T. Taylor  
KOOLEKISS-West Highland White Terriers- Martha J. Koole  
LAZYM- Labrador Retrievers-Tracy McNames Harper and Stewart R. McNames  
MAGNOLIA PEARL-Labrador Retriever- Carleigh P. Long  
MAGNUM OPUS- German Shepherd Dogs - Melissa N. Sanders  
MOONSTRUCK-Samoyeds- Stacey M. Patulski  
OKIE DOX- Dachshunds- Tracie B. Goodspeed

POTRERO-Cane Corsos -Alexia I. Rodriguez and Gabriel Rodriguez  
SABAL PALM- Cane Corso-Ryan Morgan  
SILVERBACK- Mastiffs- Kimberly Kay Gross  
STONEHAVEN-Cairn Terriers- Catherine J. Burleson

## REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

ARROW STONE-Australian Shepherds-Jesslyn E. Mundy

ATLASSHEPHERDS- German Shepherd Dogs- Agatha Dudas  
DESTA-Doberman Pinschers- Dayna C. Hewitt  
DESTINY-Bichon Frise-Debbie L. Hollan  
DYTTAR-Miniature Bull Terriers- Suzanne M. Rofols  
FRAJAEC- American Staffordshire Terriers- Kimberly Rudzik  
GOLDGROVE-Doberman Pinschers- Sharon S. Pflueger and Tamra L. Rabolo  
HIGH ALTITUDE-Collies- Lauren R. Maggart  
HIGHPOINTER-German Shorthaired Pointers- Wyatt W. Jenkins  
HUDSONVIEW-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Laura Y. Glynn  
INKA EMPIRE-Cane Corsos- Edgar Alex Portocarrero

KYMERITE-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Rebecca D. Markijohn and Michael G. Beasley, SR.  
MIDEE- Chinese Shar Pei- Charles M. Williamson and Debra J. Williamson  
PEARLZ-Poodles- Deirdre Junta  
SECRETWINN-Labrador Retrievers-Debra Winn  
SILVER LININGS- Australian Shepherds- Heather Swik and Jennifer Swik  
SOLACE'S-Australian Shepherds-Karine Sanders  
TMH-Labrador Retrievers-Tiffany J. Hairston  
VON HAUSTIER-Rottweilers-Daniel Cullinan  
WEST INDY-Weimaraners-Mary B. West  
WHITECAP-Border Collies- Jessica R. Withey and Tim M. Egenrieder



**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY AND VIA VIDEO  
CONFERENCE MAY 11, 2021**

The Board convened via Zoom video conference on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 11:02 a.m. Eastern Time.

Mr. Sprung was present in the NY Office. All other Directors participated in the meeting by video conference. The Executive Secretary was present in the NY Office and participated by video conference.

The April 13, 2021 Board Meeting minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Carota, the April 13, 2021 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Mr. Sprung reviewed with the Board the status of the action items emanating from the April Board meeting. Ted Phillips,

Chief Financial Officer and Heather McManus, Deputy General Counsel were present for this portion of the meeting.

## **Board Book Timeline**

The Board reviewed a memo outlining the timeline that Staff follows in the production of the Board books prior to the meeting. When there are two Board meetings in a row, e.g., April and May Board meetings there is only a three-day time period between the April Board meeting and the due date for May Board book memos. This is a very short turn around for Staff. Currently the Board receives the Board book two weeks prior to the meeting. The Board agreed to shorten their review period of the book to one week prior to the meeting; providing an additional week for Staff to work on memos and presentations.

## **Explore Vision, Scope, Requirements and Implementation for future of AKC's**

Competition Management System Keith Frazier, Executive Vice President, Business Support Services; Torraine Williams, Director, Engineering; Tim Pursell, Director, IT; and Seth Fera-Schanes, Director, Planning, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Sports and Events working with numerous other departments continues to grow exist-

ing competitions and create new opportunities for individuals to become involved with AKC. The expansion comes through new competition types, in-person and virtual events and titling from novice to highly experienced competitors.

There is a need for the AKC to assess its current Competition Management System (CMS) infrastructure and make investments in technology that reduces turn-around times for results, reduces manual internal processing, captures additional data points and can scale as our business evolves.

The AKC Board of Directors has asked the Staff to explore the scope of this work, requirements, cost and a multi-year implementation plan. Depending on the scope of the project, there could be changes in workflows and how results are submitted to the American Kennel Club by clubs and superintendents. Also, based on scope, this will be a capital and resource intensive program, and if initiated will be included in the AKC Corporate Roadmap.

The Board agreed with Staff's plan that next steps are to thoroughly buildout a blueprint for how AKC would approach this work to ensure its long-term success. Dr. Battaglia recommended that Staff provide a

quarterly report to the Board on the CMS project development and any ongoing problems. This will be updated in July.

## **AKC Board Policy "Event Committee Legal Expenses"**

Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support; Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations and Guy Fisher, Manager, Club Development participated in this portion of the meeting.

Based on a Board request, Staff presented suggested revisions to the Board Policy, "Event Committee Legal Expenses" which was approved in 1985. This will be discussed further at the July Board meeting.

## **Legal Update**

Heather McManus, Deputy General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. The Board reviewed a Legal Department update as of April 2021.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **AKC Purebred Preservation Bank**

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President, participated in this portion of the meeting.

At the suggestion of CEO Dennis Sprung and with the AKC Board's approval, Board member Dr. Charles Garvin was asked to work with Staff and Delegates to explore how AKC might play a more active role in the preservation of purebred semen. Previously, the board had in 2017 voted to allow, with AKC Board approval, a Parent Club sponsored, breed specific, frozen semen bank to own frozen semen and to apply for frozen semen litter registration as a semen owner provided all other requirements to register the litter were met.

The Board reviewed a memo which provided an update regarding the working group's research and recommendations. The group will pursue these next steps with the goal of having a complete business plan and budget for the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank for the July AKC Board meeting.

## **FINANCE**

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented interim financial statements (unaudited) through March 31, 2021.

Overview: Net Operating Income is \$9.4 million, primarily due to higher registration revenues.

Total Revenues exceed budget \$6.2 million. The drivers of this increase are Registration

Fees, followed by Pedigree Certificate and related services fees for litters, and Merchandise Sales, Good Dog Helpline, Advertising, and Sponsorships.

Revenue Details: Registration Fees exceed the budget by 32%, or \$3 million. Dog Registration Fees primarily lead this increase.

Pedigree Certificate fees and related service fees for litters continue strong results, exceeding budget by 57% or \$6.1 million.

Recording & Service fees exceed the 2021 budget by 51% or \$611k but trail YTD 2020 by 17% or \$370k. Product & Service Sales exceed budget by 27% or \$665k led by Merchandise Sales.

Advertising & Sponsorship revenues led this report category over budget by 22% or \$678k due to increased advertising revenue and newly executed sponsorship agreements.

Total Expenses trail budget by 9% or \$1.4 million. Key factors are the cautious deployment of organization resources as certain mission-related business activity lags due to the pandemic.

Controllable expenses, net, were lower than budget by \$1.4 million due to professional service fees, promotion expenses, and travel offset by fulfillment expenses due to increased merchandise sales.

Non-Controllable expenses were lower than budget by \$400k due to the amortization of software development costs.

Activity Statistics:

- Registrations: 2021 YTD Litter Regis-

tration was 23% ahead of budget and 22% better than 2020 YTD. 2021 YTD Dog Registration was 34% ahead of budget and 37% better than 2020 YTD.

- Events and Entries continue to reflect the negative impact of COVID-19 cancellations. Compared to the same period in 2020, Events & Entries were down by 22% & 39%, respectively.

*Board member Rita Biddle had to leave the remainder of the meeting to deal with an unexpected, urgent matter. (2:15 p.m. ET)*

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

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

## **Nominating Committee**

The Board reviewed a memo outlining the timeline for selecting the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee for the March 2022 election must be appointed by August 15, 2021, and its report must be received no later than October 15, 2021. For the last two years the appointment was made in July. This will be discussed further

at the July Board meeting.

## **AKC Bylaw Amendment for AKC Board to Meet Through Electronic Means**

New York State law allows for Board meetings to be held by teleconference or similar communications equipment or by electronic video screen communications.

§ 708(c) of the NPCL:

*Any one or more members of the board or of any committee thereof who is not physically present at a meeting of the board or a committee may participate by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment or by electronic video screen communication. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting as long as all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time and each director can participate in all matters before the board, including, without limitation, the ability to propose, object to, and vote upon a specific action to be taken by the board or committee.*

The Board reviewed a Staff memo that recommended changes to the AKC Bylaws that would affirmatively set forth the ability of the Board to meet through electronic means.

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Ms. Biddle) to con-



sider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Ms. Biddle) to approve the following amendments to Article VII, Section 4, 5 and New Section 6 of the AKC Bylaws (changes underlined below).

**Article VII, Section 4** – “There shall be at least eight regular meetings of the Board each year. Additional meetings may also be scheduled at the direction of the Board. The date, time, method and location of all regular meetings shall be determined by the Board. Fourteen (14) days notice of said date must be given to each Director by United States mail, telephone or electronic mail.”

**Article VII, Section 5** – “Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the Executive Secretary at the direction of the President, Chairman of the Board, or on the written request of three (3) Directors. Five (5) days notice of the date, time, method and location of such special meeting must be given to each Director by United States mail, telephone or electronic mail unless a waiver of notice of such meeting shall have been signed by every Director.”

**Article VII, New Section 6** – “Any one or more members of the Board or of any committee

thereof who is not physically present at a meeting of the Board or a committee may participate by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment or by electronic video screen communication. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting as long as all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time and each director can participate in all matters before the board, including, without limitation, the ability to propose, object to, and vote upon a specific action to be taken by the Board or committee.”

This will be read at the June Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the September Delegate Meeting.

### **Proposed Bylaw Amendments from Delegate Bylaws Committee**

The Board reviewed two (2) proposed Bylaw recommendations from the Delegate Bylaws Committee.

The two amendments for consideration are:

**Article IV, Section 1.** An amendment to establish that the only criteria that may be used to determine membership eligibility is the criteria described in this section of the Bylaws.

**Article VI, Section 2.** An amendment to

create a new section of Article VI that would state that proxy voting is prohibited by the Delegate Body, Delegate Committees and the Board of Directors.

These will be discussed further at the July Board meeting.

### **AKC Communications 2021 First Quarter Report**

The Board reviewed the first quarter report from the Communications department which highlighted their accomplishments on behalf of the AKC and the Sport of Purebred Dogs.

Clips Evaluated in Q1: 8,937 (Clips +25% from 7,119 in 2020)

Q1 Estimated Audience Reached: 10,481,192,432 (Estimated audience + 46% from 7,173,437,997 in 2020)

Publicity Value for Q1: \$9,444,035.22

### **COMMUNICATIONS/PR ACTIVITIES**

- AKC National Championship winner interview aired on Good Morning America virtually after show airing in January 2021.
- Due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions, AKC's Most Popular Dog announcement was livestreamed on

AKC.tv's DogCenter. Pre-announcement efforts included an exclusive with the Associated Press. Additional clips include Yahoo! News, Chicago Sun-Times, Detroit Free Press, and USA Today, among others. The announcement garnered nearly 2,800 clips in Q1.

- Ongoing media pitching executed to key audiences with stories that speak to positive qualities of purebreds/breeders. Distributed 17 press releases to appropriate media outlets.
- Conducted several interviews with top tier media regarding Lady Gaga's pet theft, the rise of puppy scams, and Major Biden, including The Daily Beast, San Francisco Chronicle, FOX 5, CNN, FOX News, NBC 4 New York and more.
- 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.
- Offered outreach assistance to clubs hosting matches, clusters, RDO days and other events to get the word out

about events that have resumed safely around the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Worked with AKC Reunite to create press materials to promote unveiling of trailers through their Pet Disaster Relief program.
- Sent out a press release announcing the opening of the 2021 AKC Humane Fund Award for Canine Excellence (ACE) nominations.
- Set up an email distribution plan around the 2021 ACE Awards nominations.
- Awarded heroic police K-9 with the 2021 AKC Paw of Courage Award and gained media attention around announcement.
- “AKC Communicates” newsletter distributed weekly – drives traffic to AKC.org.

## **AKC My Canine and Me Award**

The Board reviewed a memo describing a new program to recognize young people’s accomplishments with their dogs. Entitled the “AKC Canine and me Awards”, the program will honor children and young adults who are making a positive impact on the world with their dogs or achieving personal growth and success utilizing their knowledge of dogs and their dog ownership.

Applicants may be nominated by a parent,

teacher, mentor or another adult familiar with their efforts. Applicants must be in good academic standing and submit a report card (for grades K–8), GPA (Grades 9–12) or school transcript with the application. All children nominated will be enrolled in the AKC Junior program and receive a Junior number.

One winner will be announced annually in each of four (4) categories:

### **AWARDS**

**Personal Achievement Award:** Celebrating children who have overcome personal challenges with the help of their dog.

**Influential Junior Award:** Children demonstrating leadership skills with their dog during after-school activities or gatherings and inspiring their peers and teachers as a result.

**Innovative Junior Award:** Celebrating children who have excelled in honing their creativity through training skills with their dogs.

**Community Achievement Award:** Celebrating juniors who show commitment and passion through fundraising and contributing to their community for the welfare of dogs.

Each winner will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

## **AKC Delegate Report 2020**

The Board reviewed a year-end report on Delegate attendance and turn-over in 2020. They were provided with a monthly breakdown of the number of AKC Delegates seated, resigned or deceased in 2020. 44 Delegates resigned in 2020 and 40 new Delegates were seated.

Attendance increased at each Delegate Zoom meeting compared to the previous year’s in person meetings.

## **AKC Education Q1 Report**

The Board reviewed an update on the accomplishments of the Education Department for the first quarter 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. A total of 51 breeds courses are now available on Canine College. The Italian Greyhound breed course launched in Q1. Eight breed courses are currently under development and review by the Parent Clubs and Canine College is actively collaborating with 14 Parent Clubs on the development of future breed courses for 2021/2022.

**Virtual Storytelling** – Canine College com-

pleted a prototype for the development of an animated video series. Our goal is to promote literature around purebred dogs and AKC sports that can be used in the classroom with discussion guides or right at home. Our unique approach to digital storytelling features the dog as an animated character and narrator of the story.

## **Webinars – edited and published in Q1**

- Putting on the Ritz: How AKC Events Happen
- Judges Education Webinar Gordon Setter
- Virtual Canine Breeder – Neonatal Care ‘Starting and staying healthy webinar’
- Recording of Juniors Webinar – Combined
- Pro-Handler Roundtable Recording Session
- AKC Virtual Canine Clubs – Dog Shows and Events
- Careers in Dogs’ Webinar

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

Course 1: Obedience Judges Getting Started

Course 2: General Regulations

Course 3: Judging Standards and Procedures

Course 4: Judging Novice Classes

Course 5: Judging Open Classes

Course 6: Judging Utility Classes

**Dog Pass Service Program** – In coordination with Government Relations, Canine College will be developing a series of multimedia and eLearning components for a nationwide initiative to certify evaluators and teams.

### **Public Education**

- The AKC PupPals Program continues to grow and expand. Since its launch in August 2019, we've received over 4,200 dog submissions and more than 920 requests for PupPals. We continue to work on expanding this program and serve those most in need.
- AKC Canine Ambassadors continue to teach about purebred dogs and responsible dog ownership through virtual offerings. We are currently working to ensure our list is current and reach out to our Canine Ambassadors to offer assistance in safely engaging their communities during this time. We now have nearly 400 active Canine Ambassadors.
- With the success of the AKC Education Webinar Series, Public Education launched the AKC Virtual Canine Club series in January. This initiative

allows us to offer the in-person AKC Canine Clubs virtually, providing additional ways for teachers to use these lessons in their classrooms. One school in Moline, IL is participating in this program and looks forward to having a purebred dog and its handler come for a visit and teach the students about dog sports once in-person school returns in April.

- In Q1, all educator resources were updated to make them more visually appealing and “clickable” in an effort to garner more attention from teachers. We currently boast 70+ lesson plans for grades K-12 that span all subject areas. In March, these lessons were added to Pinterest to engage more followers. They have been very popular, garnering 76,668 impressions, 299 engagements and 267 pin clicks in less than thirty days.
- In March, Public Education launched AKC's The Canine Corner. It is a free online newsletter packed with content and resources for teachers and educators. Each monthly newsletter contains lesson plans, “read-alouds”, and other activities to engage students in and out of the classroom.

### **AKC Education Webinar Series**

AKC Education continues to collaborate

with Judging Operations to host breed webinars for judges. We were pleased to celebrate one year of these webinars on March 30, 2021. Webinars continue to be offered every Tuesday evening. In Q1, 9 breeds were featured, reaching 1,787 live attendees. Since its launch in March 2020, 101 breeds have been presented to 27,034 live attendees. In addition, the recordings have been watched 7,412 times.

AKC Education hosted several additional webinars during Q1, including:

- “Getting Puppies Started Right for Detection: Experts Compare and Contrast Successful Approaches” in collaboration with Government Relations for 63 participants.
- “Getting a Handle on the AKC National Owner-Handled Series” hosted by Tim Thomas for 235 participants.
- “Texas Legislative Update-January 2021” hosted by Government Relations for 22 participants.
- “Virtual Canine Breeder Excellence Track” hosted by Mari-Beth O'Neill, Dr. Joann Randall, and Dr. Marty Greer for 144 participants.
- “Puppy Training During COVID-19: Advice and Best Practices” hosted by Penny Leigh for 1,738 participants.
- “So, Your Dog Isn't Cut Out for Explosives Detection Work? Here are Other

Opportunities” hosted in collaboration with Government Relations for 101 participants.

- “Meet AKC Staff that Participated in AKC Events as a Junior” hosted by various Staff for 48 participants.
- “Breeding Success Starts with Managing Your Brood Bitch” hosted by Dr. Marty Greer in collaboration with AKC Staff for 552 participants.
- “Exploring Issues, Challenges, and Recommendations for Improving Government Acquisition of US-Bred Working Dogs” hosted by Government Relations for 66 participants.

Since March 2020, AKC reached more than 38,756 constituents using these educational webinars.

### **Government Relations 2021 First Quarter Report**

The Board reviewed a memo which provided an update on work performed by AKC Government Relations (GR) for the first quarter of 2021 and a status update on current department activity, major projects, significant activities and legislative successes as of April 15, 2021.

**Legislative/Regulatory Tracking:** The AKC GR team is currently monitoring more than 2,100 legislative bills that could impact re-

sponsible 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.

To date, 120 legislative alerts online and via geo-targeted emails to impacted constituents and social media have been published. This number is slightly higher than in 2020 (110) and represents a 100% increase over the 60 alerts published in the same period of 2019. The significant increase in legislation may be due to legislative activity caused by consideration of measures from 2020 that were quickly reintroduced in 2021 after having been curtailed in non-standard “pandemic” sessions in 2020.

Legislative Alerts, & Testimony: In the first quarter, GR published 108 legislative alerts and provided written comment and/or oral testimony on nearly as many measures.

Advocacy Text Alerts: To make advocating on dog issues even easier, GR introduced legislative text alerts in February. Individuals already receiving AKC alerts via email can sign up for alerts via text that enable the recipient to send a specially tailored message of support or concern about specific legislative proposals directly to appropriate lawmakers at the state and federal

level – directly from their mobile device. Constituents can opt-in to receive text message alerts by texting AKCGR to 50457.

Detection Dog Task Force: GR provides the Staff lead for this board-directed taskforce. Current areas of focus include education and information about the rearing of potential future detection dogs. Staff also continues to work with government agencies and the public to raise awareness of the working dog shortage and to develop ways to improve utilization of US-bred dogs.

Service Dog Pass/American Service Dog Access Coalition: AKC GR worked with colleagues at the American Service Dog Access Coalition to continue to develop all aspects of a new authoritative, voluntary and verifiable credential for service dogs that have met specific standards. Details were provided in a memo and presentation to the AKC Board in April.

Blogs: AKC GR published 17 blogs covering policy issues and resources for advocates and the public.

## **COMPANION and PERFORMANCE**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events and Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events participated in this portion of the meeting via video

conference.

## **Veteran Age for Ibizan Hounds in Lure Coursing**

The Veteran Stake in Lure Coursing is one that is reserved for senior dogs and held at the option of the club. Each parent club can set their breed’s own age requirement in order to be eligible to enter the stake. Currently, if the breed has no specific eligibility age requirement, the regulations default to six years of age. The Board reviewed a recommendation to specify the eligibility age for Ibizan Hounds entering the Veteran Stake to be at least seven years old, per a request from the Ibizan Hound Club of the U.S. This will be discussed further at the July Board meeting.

## **Virtual Scent Work Test Pilot Program**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to implement a new Virtual Scent Work Test (VSWT) pilot program. This is a pass/fail test that can be performed by dog owners in their own home according to basic testing criteria. Three suffix titles at three difficulty levels would be offered – VSWB (Beginner), VSWI (Intermediate), and VSWE (Experienced). A higher-level title will supersede a lower title on the dog’s pedigree. The pilot program will last one year. If approved by the Board, the Scent Work Department would begin recording

Virtual Scent Work Test passes on August 2, 2021. This will be discussed further at the July Board meeting.

## **Allowing for Waiting Lists in Retriever Hunting Tests**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow clubs holding Retriever Hunting Tests, at their option, to create a waiting list from which they can fill in slots created by scratches/no-shows up to the start of the test. In Retriever Hunting Tests, the Master level test is the only test that is allowed to limit the number of entries; therefore, this recommendation only applies to the Master level test. Currently this is not allowed. The FT/HT Delegate Committee discussed this recommendation in March and felt it was a good idea. The Retriever Hunting Test Advisor Committee has endorsed this idea. This will be discussed further at the July Board meeting.

## **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 and Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **Appeal Process for Event Distance Conflicts**

The Sports and Events Staff recommended to the Board that they consider adopting a policy that would provide clubs with the option of an appeal process in situations where events in conflict based on straight line miles are much further apart in driving miles. The appeal process would be available when the driving distance between two events is approximately 25% greater or more than the conflict distance established for the sport or in special circumstances.

The club(s) with the established show(s) would be notified of the appeal and be provided an opportunity to comment. The comments will be taken into consideration when reviewing the appeal. If approved, the effective date would be for events occurring on or after September 1, 2021. This will be discussed further at the July Board meeting.

## **Request for Additional Shows**

The Board reviewed a request from the Big Apple Working Group Club and the Big Apple Sporting Society to hold four shows each in 2021. The request is based on the cancelling of events on Long Island.

The Limited Number of Events Board Policy allows clubs to hold two shows per year and provides clubs the opportunity to hold a third show if they meet certain criteria, in-

cluding no other shows within 500 miles.

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

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Dr. Davies, the Board VOTED (In favor: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Davies, Hamblin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; Abstained: Garvin; Absent: Ms. Biddle) to allow the clubs to each hold two additional shows in 2021 only.

## **AKC Disqualification Review Committee**

The Board of Directors, at its May 2020 meeting, approved an appeal option for dogs disqualified for attack by a judge and the composition of the AKC Disqualification Review Committee, that would review such appeals.

The AKC Disqualification Review Committee is defined as being comprised of five members, three of which are AKC Conformation Judges appointed by the AKC Board Chair and two of which are AKC Staff members with extensive sport experi-

ence appointed by the CEO. All members of the committee need to be approved by the AKC Board of Directors.

As all members of the committee need to be approved by the AKC Board of Directors, the Board reviewed a request by staff for the committee to be assigned. Mr. Dennis Sprung, President & CEO has appointed staff members Mari-Beth O'Neil, VP of Sport Services and Tim Thomas, VP of Dog Show Judges to serve on the AKC Disqualification Review Committee. Their appointments require Board approval.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously; Absent: Ms. Biddle) to confirm the staff appointments to the Committee.

## **JUDGING OPERATIONS**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; and Tim Thomas, Vice

President, Dog Show Judges, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges**

The Board reviewed recommended changes to the *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges*. This document is for all judges and aspiring judges as it summarizes Rules, Policies and Guidelines as they relate to procedure and conduct.

This memorandum recommended revisions to specific sections of the *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges* to provide clarity to individuals who may be approved to judge AKC Conformation events. This will be discussed further at the July Board Meeting.

## **COVID-19 - Conformation Judging Approval Process**

At its May 2020 meeting, the Board approved modifications to the Judging Approval Process regarding the approval of Conformation Judges due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sport and the judging community. The measures approved by the Board incorporated permanent modifications to the Board approved Judging Approval Process as well as tempo-

rary measures effective through December 31, 2020, and later extended through March 31, 2021, and again through June 30, 2021.

The Board expressed its desire to revisit the temporary measures prior to their expiration date to determine if they should cease as scheduled or be extended based on the event outlook at that time.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to extend the temporary modifications to the Judging Approval Process for a final time through September 30, 2021.

## **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, re-

quests for AKC membership applications, and a report on Member Club Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

## **Report on Member Clubs Bylaws approved in March and April 2021**

Carroll Kennel Club, Westminster, MD (2021)  
Clearwater Kennel Club, Clearwater, FL (1999)  
Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America (2004)  
Seattle Kennel Club, Seattle, WA (1884)  
Siberian Husky Club of America (1946)  
Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Essex County, NJ (1999)

## **Report on Newly Licensed Clubs approved in March and April 2021**

Great Dane Club of Southeast Florida, West Palm Beach, FL (including communities north to Stuart, south to Miami Springs, in proximity to Interstate 95), 27 total households, 15 local.

## **COMPLIANCE**

Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **New Penalty**

The Board discussed a Staff memo regarding a new penalty for the offense of know-

ingly bringing a dog on event grounds that displayed clinical symptoms of or is known to have been in contact with a communicable disease within thirty days. This new penalty cannot be applied because currently there are no Dog Show Rules prohibiting this conduct. Chapter 11, Section 9 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* regarding communicable diseases was amended in September 2020 and does not include any time frame regarding exposure to a communicable disease or any restriction from attending an event after a dog has had a communicable disease; only that the recommendations of their veterinarian be followed. The Board directed Staff to forward the issue to the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and the Delegate Canine Health Committee for their consideration.

*(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)*

## **MARKETING**

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President, Consumer Demand, participated in this portion of the meeting.

## **Q1 Digital Report**

- AKC.org users grew 31%, Sessions grew 35% and pageviews grew 30% versus Q1 2020
- Organic traffic remains by far the

largest traffic acquisition source and grew by 35% vs Q1 2020

- The Digital Content Staff created or updated, and then published almost 150 articles which generated 33 of the total 78 million pageviews on AKC.org
- Marketplace also saw traffic growth across all three measures in Q1 though at lower rates than AKC.org
- AKC Shop did see a "COVID" bump in traffic across all three acquisition sources beginning in March of 2020. AKC Shop has not held onto this traffic surge, users declined -15%, Sessions declined -14% and pageviews declined -4% versus Q12020

## **Q1 2021 Marketing Social Media Report**

Highlights of our social media strategy in Q1 2021 included promotion of ABC and ESPN program airings, National Agility Championship coverage and AKC Dog Star program.

## **Q1 2021 TOTALS:**

Facebook: 4,005,800 followers  
Instagram: 346,246 followers  
Twitter: 98,690 followers  
TikTok: 123,890 followers  
Pinterest: 49,069 followers  
Total\*: 4,623,695 followers

## **REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT**

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President; par-

participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **AKC DNA Logistics Workflow Update**

At the direction of President, Dennis Sprung, the Staff addressed a new business model for the processing of DNA. The Board reviewed a memo that provided an update on changes to the logistics workflow for most AKC DNA orders to be implemented in May 2021.

The advantages of the new workflow include the following:

- Reduction in total elapsed time from beginning to end (approximately 3 weeks less)
- Elimination of data entry by AKC Staff
- Elimination of errors related to AKC Staff interpretation of handwritten DNA sample submission forms
- Improved sample security due to reduction in sample handling
- Improved order tracking for AKC, lab and customer
- Implementation of automated customer order status updates
- Reduction in customer phone calls regarding order status.

## **AKC Foreign Registration Update**

Staff provided an update for the Board regarding the successful launch of Online

Foreign Dog Registration on April 22, 2021 by a cross-functional team of AKC employees, on time and within budget.

Prior to the launch of Online Foreign Dog Registration, customers applying for AKC Foreign Registration had to submit a handwritten or typed multi-page paper application along with the required documents, photos and payment by mail.

The new processes will improve efficiency and customer experience.

## **CONSENT**

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia it was VOTED (unanimously; Absent: Ms. Biddle) to approve the following Consent items:

- Saluki Club of America and SPDBS PAL Request
- Herding – Allowing Test Judges to Participate in Trial Classes
- Herding – Allowing Stock Dogs to Participate in an Event
- Allowing for Waiting Lists in Pointing Breed and Spaniel Hunting Tests
- Limited Number of Events Policy
- Chinook Breed Standard Revision
- Manchester Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Delegate Approvals

## **Saluki Club of America and the Society for the Perpetuation of Desert Bred Salukis**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Saluki Club of America (SCOA) and the Society for the Perpetuation of the Desert Bred Salukis (SPDBS) to allow the dogs in the SPDBS registry to obtain a PAL number without having to be spayed or neutered. Allowing owners of SPDBS dogs to obtain a PAL number will permit these dogs to compete in AKC Performance and Companion Events. This is effective as July 1, 2021.

## **Herding – Allowing Test Judges to Participate in Trial Classes**

The Board VOTED to amend the *AKC Herding Regulations* to allow herding judges to handle dogs at the event other than the testing level they are judging. Clubs can hold both herding tests and trials during the same event. There are three types of herding test levels a judge may be assigned. Only one test level allows for a judge to handle a dog in the trial portion of the event while the other two do not. This has contributed to clubs having difficulty in obtaining judges. This change will make it easier for herding clubs to obtain judges and bring greater consistency to herding judging eligibility.

## **Chapter II. Section 5. Judging Restrictions**

and Eligibility.

An approved Herding Trial judge shall not handle a dog in any level at the Trial where they are judging. A Herding Trial judge may handle a dog in a testing level. A Herding Test judge may handle a dog in any trial level or test level other than those they are judging. A judge may not interrupt their judging assignment in order to handle a dog. No dog owned or co-owned by the judge or any member of his or her family or household may be entered under that judge at a test or trial for which he or she has been advertised as a judge. Dogs owned by a member of a judge's family or household may be entered under other judges at the event.

## **Herding – Allowing Stock Dogs to Participate in an Event**

The Board VOTED to amend the *AKC Herding Regulations* to allow stock dogs to participate in the trial but not in the class for which they are setting stock. This change will make it easier for herding clubs to obtain good stock dogs.

**Chapter II. Section 3.** Judge's and Herding Committee's Responsibilities.

The Herding Trial Committee and officials of the trial-giving club are responsible for providing the stock, fencing, facilities and equipment which meet the requirements of these Regulations. The Committee is re-

sponsible for providing adequate livestock handling crews, particularly when more than one arena is used at an event. It is strongly recommended that the Committee arrange to have one or two experienced stock dogs and their handlers present throughout the test or trial. If no non-entered experienced stock dogs are available, the stock dogs may be entered in the event but not in the class for which they are setting stock. Stock handlers, who are entered in the event, must not have been involved in the selection of the stock for their run.

### **Allowing for Waiting Lists in Pointing Breed and Spaniel Hunting Tests**

The Board VOTED to amend the Regulations for *AKC Hunting Tests for Pointing Breeds* and the *Regulations for AKC Hunting Tests for Spaniels* to allow clubs holding Pointing Breed and Spaniel Hunting Tests, at their option, to create a waiting list of entries received after the event has filled but prior to closing, from which they can fill in slots created by scratches on the day of the event. The owner/handler must agree to have their dog placed on the waiting list. Prior to the start of the event, if the club is aware there are dogs that will not participate, they can fill those slots with dogs from the waiting list. This allows the club to fully utilize the capacity of their event and will allow additional dogs to participate.

## **Chapter 1. General Regulations**

### **Section 15. Closing and Drawing of Entries, Entry Limitations, Running Order.**

Entries for an AKC-licensed or Member Club Hunting Test may close at any time prior to the Hunting Test, but shall not close later than the day preceding the start of the Hunting Test.

Waiting List. A club holding a limited entry Hunting Test may, at its option, create a waiting list for entries that are received after the test has filled but prior to the published closing date. If, after closing and up to the day of the event, there are entries that are known will not be participating, dogs may be taken from the waiting list to run in the position of the absent dogs.

Owners/handlers must agree to have their dog placed on the waiting list. A club utilizing a waitlist may either add dogs across all test levels (a senior hunter scratch could result in a dog being added to the master level test) or the waitlist can be test level specific (a senior hunter scratch can only result in a dog being added to the senior level test). The decision between these two options is up to the event committee. If a club decides to utilize a waitlist, it must be explained in the premium. If the waitlist applies across all test levels, the decision to add dogs from the waitlist shall be made up to the start of the event. If the waitlist applies to a specific test level, the decision

to add dogs shall be made up to the start of that test level. Dogs called from the waiting list shall be prioritized in the order the entries were received.

Dogs selected from the waiting list shall pay the published entry fee. Dogs that were on the waiting list but were not able to run shall have their entry fee refunded in full. For dogs that have scratched and been replaced, it is up to the club to determine the refund policy. The refund policy must be explained in the premium and must be the same for all dogs. If a club using an entry service wishes to use a waitlist as explained above, it is up to the club and entry service to work out how this will be achieved. Neither the club nor the entry service may charge potential entrants a fee for placing their dogs on a waitlist.

### **Limited Number of Events Policy**

The Board VOTED to modifying the Limited Number of Events policy to allow Specialty Clubs in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico to hold up to four concurrent or independent specialty shows in a single year. Limited Number of Events Policy regarding Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico: All-breed, limited-breed, and specialty clubs in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico have the option to hold up to four shows in a calendar year.

### **Chinook Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to approve the revisions to the Chinook Breed Standard. [See page 2](#)

### **Manchester Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to permit the Manchester Terrier Club of America to ballot its membership on the proposed changes to the breed standard in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

### **Delegate Approvals**

**The Board VOTED to approve the following individuals to serve as Delegates:**

Stephanie S. Brooks, Coral Springs, FL  
To represent Fort Lauderdale Dog Club

Edward J. Collins, Scottsville, VA  
To represent Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America

Jean C. Edwards, Bridgeton, NJ  
To represent South Jersey Kennel Club

Jill Faulmann, Sherwood, OR  
To represent Sherwood Dog Training Club

Mary Ellen Ferguson, Bernalillo, NM  
To represent Rio Grande Kennel Club

Jane Fitzin, Powhatan, VA  
To represent Winston-Salem Dog Training Club



Eduardo Toshio Fugiwara, Hampton, NJ  
To represent Two Cities Kennel Club

Vanessa Giamo, Newton, NJ,  
To represent Miniature Bull Terrier Club of  
America

Laurie Green, Toledo, OH  
To represent Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club

Corie Haylett, Boone, NC  
To represent Asheville Kennel Club

Edwin T. Lorentz, Slippery Rock, PA  
To represent Central Beagle Club

Debbie Phillips, Sun City, AZ  
To represent Arrowhead Kennel Club

Virginia T. Rowland, Templeton, MA  
To represent French Bulldog Club of America

Joanne E. Schottinger, MD, Chester, NJ  
To represent Greater Swiss Mountain Dog  
Club of America

Lynne Wickens, Andover, OH  
To represent Ashtabula Kennel Club

Rachel Wilson, Scituate, RI  
To represent Wampanoag Kennel Club

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **September Delegate Meeting**

The Board discussed the possibility of holding an in-person Delegates meeting in September. Paula Spector, VP Corporate Services, was asked to investigate feasibility and options and report back to the Board in July.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, May 13, 2021 at 5:08 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

Attest:

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Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

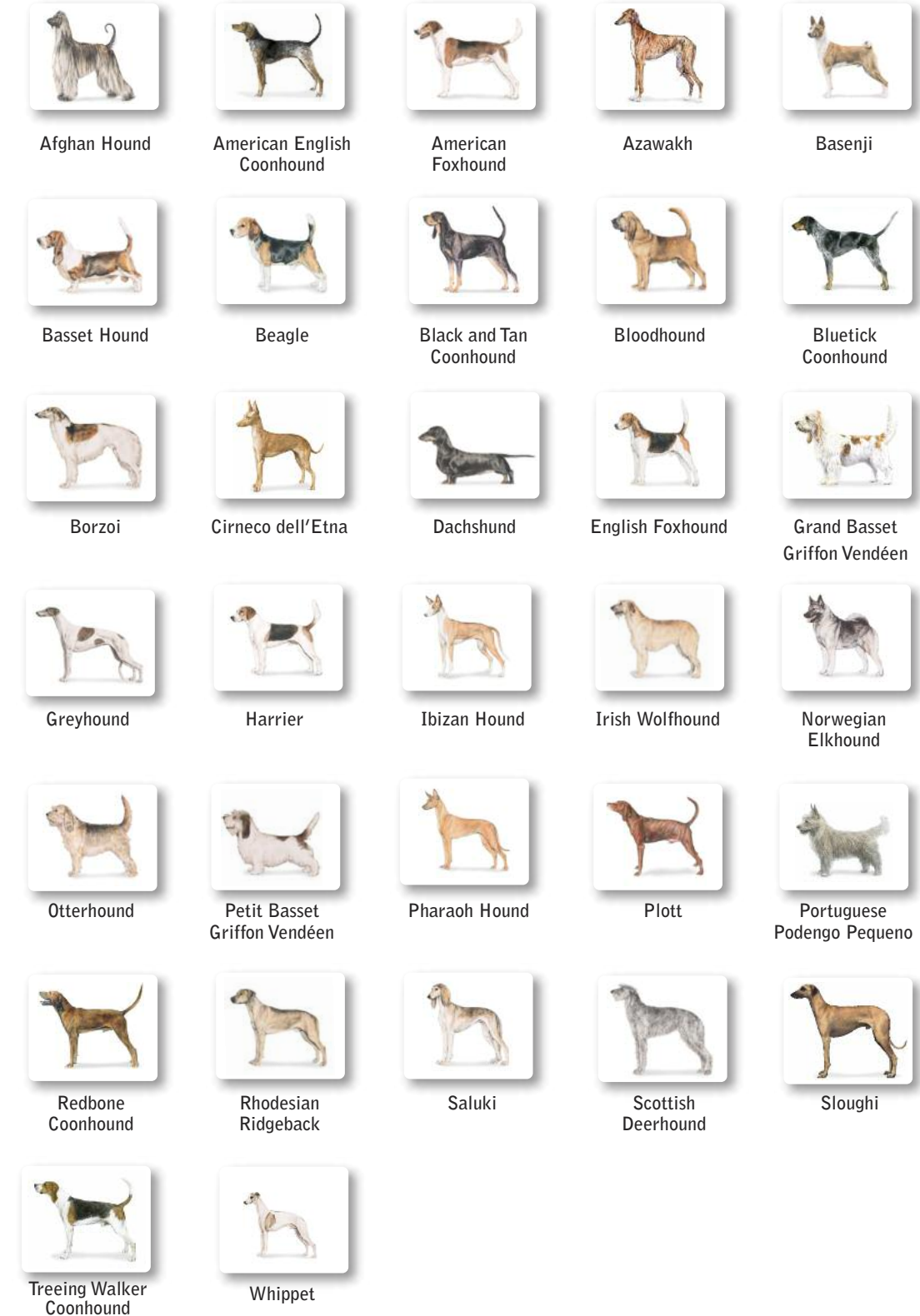
# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## 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



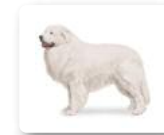
German Pinscher



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

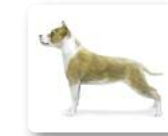
## TERRIER GROUP



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



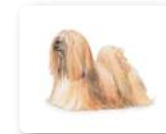
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



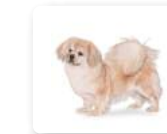
Schipperke



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/>