

Topknot News

The Newsletter of the Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.

Summer 2013



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AKC's 35th Annual Photo Contest

Do you think your dog has that certain "star quality"?

Are you an accomplished shutterbug (or aspiring to be one)?

If so, you might want to consider entering AKC's 35th Annual Photo Contest. It can be an elegant portrait, a lively action shot, or just an image of your dog expressing himself—creativity, quality, and originality are the only parameters. Well, there are a few rules, too, Go to this link on the AKC website for entry details.
http://classic.akc.org/pubs/photocontest/2013/photo_contest.html

Entries must postmarked by January 31, 2014, and received no later than February 7, 2014. **Start snapping!**

OUR COVER PHOTO is a previous winner of the Annual AKC Photo Contest, and was generously provided to Topknot News for use by the estate of the photographer, Richard Robyn.

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Tony Saia
AHCA President



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Welcome to another celebrated Topknot News from the AHCA. Recently we have had some minor

changes with our communication newsletter, but I assure you all that our integrity will not be sacrificed. I am extremely pleased that both Lynda Hicks and Toni King have stepped up to the immediate tasks in putting this latest edition to print, Thank You, ladies. Our organization continues to face challenges in entries, help from the membership, and overall participation from our fancy.

Enclosed in this publication you will read all about this year's recent Breeders Cup which, I must say, was a huge achievement. Our group from Detroit, lead by Becky Morissette, created an event that will be remembered by all who attended. Kudos to this team.

We are in the final stages of planning our biggest event - "THE NATIONAL" - in the breathtaking city of Portland, Oregon. Our team, headed by Diane Kroll, will truly make this an event that can satisfy all of our appetites for Afghan Hounds.

Later this year, our Club will be represented at two significant AKC events promoting the world of Pure Bred Dogs. The first will be in the Big Apple - New York City - and later here in the Sunshine State of Florida. Any help or suggestions to make our Breed stand out will be greatly treasured

As you read this latest edition, you will notice that our crucial events for 2014 are planned and staged for your pleasure. The National is staged in the picturesque Hill Country of Central Texas, and the Breeders Cup will be in New Jersey along with the AHCNNJ, Bucks Co., and Trenton KC. Both are picturesque areas of our great country.

Finally, the Board is looking for key people to help fill some positions: Topknot News Editor, Topknot News Graphic Designer, Rescue Chairman, and an enthusiastic person to Chair our 2015 National. If there is any interest, please contact me.

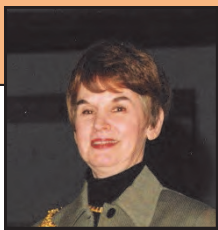
Read on and enjoy your summer.

Tony Saia
President



AKC DELEGATES REPORT

Submitted by
Connie Butherus



If it is the second week of June, I must be in Raleigh, NC. The last several years, the June Delegates' meeting has been held in the second home of the AKC. Having been there so often, some Delegates are beginning to feel though it is their second home as well.

Day one got off to a brisk start with the Parent Club Committee. The Chair, Pat Laurens, oversees an efficient and energetic agenda which addresses items of interest and concern to the Parent Club Delegates. We covered the following:

- The new suffix title, CGC (Canine Good Citizen), is well received. So far this year about 8,400 titles have been issued. We were informed in the CFO report that this has also generated increased income for the AKC. They receive between 200 and 300 requests every week. The impetus for awarding this title was put forth by the Parent Club Committee.
- The use of e-Balloting for on line elections could be an option for some clubs. Caution is advised however. IF, and a big IF, it is permitted by the state in which the club is incorporated and IF the Parent Club membership approves as stipulated in its Bylaws or so amended, it is allowed. We were informed that a statement from the AKC is pending. So far, nothing has hit my inbox regarding this.
- National Specialty catalogs have resurfaced as a concern for some AKC staff it seems. A memo was issued stipulating that a separate catalog is required for EACH event offered IF, again the IF word, the club uses a different superintendent for that event. Groaning was heard throughout the room!! However, the Board Chair was in attendance and stated the Board would address the concern. We requested one catalog be permitted for the entire Specialty to be sold on the first day of the sequence.
- A request was made regarding the fee required for the transfer of a dog handled by a Junior. If the dog has a couple of co-owners plus the Junior, the fee can add up. In addition, should the dog be transferred back to the owners, there is a fee to remove the Junior from ownership. The lowering of this fee structure was supported by the Committee.
- The Board has approved a new title. Drafting titles can now be earned and awarded for all breeds. Can't wait to see a Peke pulling a cart!
- A Breeders' Conference is in the planning phase for the AKC/Eukanuba show in Orlando, Fla. December 12th and 13th. It will be open to all comers and at no charge. Experts in the field of reproduction are to be the presenters. Nice.
- The AKC and AKC/CAR have embarked on a program for emergency response vehicles to be deployed in disasters. Forty-four fully equipped response trailers are being constructed in NC to be used whenever and wherever a disaster strikes. Each trailer will cost between \$17,000 and \$20,000, plus transportation to get on the road. Clubs are requested to sponsor these trailers. Sponsoring clubs will be listed on each of the trailers. The trailer will be ready to roll within one hour of notification of a disaster. They will be fully stocked with items needed for use at the site, such as crates, crate pads, leashes, water buckets, food dishes, etc. This could well become the canine equivalent of the Red Cross. A worthy cause worth supporting IMHO.

The All Breed Club Committee met in the afternoon. Their agenda included some of the items covered by the Parent Club Committee listed above. Additional topics were:

- Suggested protocols to be used for the cancelation of shows. The content is to be posted on the Delegates list. I will send it on once it is up. So far nothing in the inbox.
- Local breed clubs can opt into the AKC program whereby new puppy owners in their area will be notified by email of the breed club and the contact person. To date not many clubs have seen results from this initiative it was noted.

- The issue of the exclusive access to designated territory by a member club generated extensive discussion. In an era of cluster shows, costly venues, vanishing show sites and high gas prices, the need to reassess past practice is needed. However, clubs must come up with ways to promote pure bred dogs within their territory even if holding their show outside of that area.

The Delegates' Caucus concluded the day. Much of the discussion centered on the NBC Today Show attack on the AKC and the resultant fallout. The need for an aggressive marketing program promoting the AKC, a new PR firm and a proactive national effort were put forth as suggestions. These things are worthy and needed but at this point how do we unring the bell? The damage has been done.

Tuesday AM began with the Forum. The topics were some of the best and most practical in recent memory. The presentations began with the need for dog owners to do Estate Planning in order to protect and provide for their dogs. Between 12% and 27% of dog owners include their dogs in their wills. Four states do not permit pet trusts to be designated. The need for positive ID of each dog is essential. AARP was noted as a good resource for legal assistance. Who knew?

Dispute resolution followed. The need to avoid litigation was urged as the outcome may well be dreadful. Great care in contract construction was stressed even, and perhaps especially, between friends. Alternate dispute resolution was indicated as being the best approach. (Would anyone ever imagine disputes occurring between people owning dogs?? Think of that.) BTW the speaker is an attorney, dog breeder and engages in resolving disputes involving dog folks.

The minutes of the actual Delegate Meeting can be accessed in full on AKC.org. The reports are worth reading and informative. But, in order to keep this report reasonable in length and not a tome, the high points are listed below.

- The newly hired chief of Social Media has hit the scene with a big impact. AKC Facebook has 80,000 engaged people, the blog has 130,000 visitors and the website is to receive a face lift. User friendly, one dearly hopes.
- A new PR firm is now on board. They represent Shell Oil, Starbucks, eBay to note but a few. Now they have us, the AKC. Great news and very well received.
- There is a new style of outreach in place, new conversations and new enthusiasm for positive outcomes. Clubs are encouraged to send their accomplishments and good works to Stephane Smith at the AKC. These will be part of the new message and culture change being generated.
- New options for AKC membership are being tested to specific groups.
- Even the CFO had some good news to report. Revenue is up and expenses are down so far this year. Noted however is the increase in fees, continued decline (8%) in registrations and unfilled positions. Investments are doing very well, the reserves are healthy and there is a net surplus. Fewer consultants are being used, payroll is down due to the unfilled positions, as are retirement benefit payouts. Income from royalties is up, AKC/CAR is on the plus side and the new CGC title has generated increased income. This was the most complete and informative report presented by the rather new CFO so far and it was very well received.
- The proposal to bar former AKC employees, who become Delegates, from holding a position on the AKC Board was defeated by an overwhelming majority. Not even close.
- The current Judges approval program is not bringing joy to the existing nor prospective applicants it seems. The new practice of masking the name of the applicant is equally disliked. No one expressed any degree of pleasure with the process at this point. Back to the drawing board on this project.
- The NBC Today Show assault on the AKC continued to generate comment, suggestions and pointed questions. Much of the heat had been dissipated by the announcements regarding the new PR firm, proactive activities in place and future actions to be taken. Heads Up! The AKC is on the march!

The next meeting will be held the second week of September in the usual site at Newark airport.

Respectfully Submitted,
Connie Butherus
AHCA Delegate to the AK
Electronic Reports Coordinator



AHCA LIBRARY REPORT

Submitted By Helen Stein,
AHCA Librarian



As promised in the last issue of Topknot News, the first Kay Finch Scrapbook is complete and will be on display at the National Specialty in Portland. Sue Hamlin transferred many of Kay's memorabilia into an oversized, archival quality binder. It's a much better way to protect and preserve old photos and clippings and Sue is working on a second binder at the time of this writing. In addition to that scrapbook, we'll have videos of past specialties on display, many photos from breeders of the past, and a couple of articles of Kay's famous "Afghan Hound" clothing.

Copies of Introduction to the Afghan Hound will be available for sale, as will CDs of the AHCA presentation "A Retrospective View of Afghan Hounds in America, 1940-1980" which includes many past AHCA Specialty winners as well as other top-winning dogs of the time.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Portland!
Helen Stein

CANINE HEALTH REPORT

Submitted by Health Chair,
Eileen Laudermilch



This has been an exciting year for the health of our breed. The OFA health survey has been up and running and it is yielding important information that will help to guide further research for our breed. If you have not done so, please do the survey on your dogs, past and present. The CHIC testing stats are in the board report.

In the last year, we have helped to fund studies on thyroid conditions, osteosarcoma, hemangiosarcoma, and intend to help support the new study on bloat. Canine Health Research is funded by a partnership with Purina. The weight circles are the key. If you feed any Purina product, please sign up with Purina to reap the rewards and help to support the Canine Health Foundation. Every two years, there is a health conference. This year's topics include canine epilepsy, inherited cardiomyopathies (enlarged ill-functioning hearts of several types), cranial cruciate ligament deficiency, bloat and multiple organ failure, canine hemangiosarcoma, infection and immunity and other topics yet to be announced. I will be attending and will give a report in Portland as well as share the information with the membership.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen Laudermilch RN CCRN, Health Chair AHCA

STATISTICS by JoAnn Alft



Correction to AHCA Statistics – Year 2012

Highest Point Total in Obedience for 2012 is
GCH Chicich's Envy's Jewel, CD,BN,RA,THD - score 552

Owners: Susan and Ronald Dimattia of Ogden UT
Breeder: Erin Davis

CHYLOTHORAX by Sandy Frei

Way too many Afghan Hounds come down with Chylothorax. When they do, the survival rate for complete recovery is low, even with surgery.

We (Eileen Laudermilch, myself, along with help from Duane Butherus in working with the Canine Health Foundation) are looking into putting together a study to see why our breed is affected by this disease and if this an idiopathic or inherited disease.

If you have had a dog in the past who has contracted this disease, please send me the following:
Name of dog
Age when Chylothorax was diagnosed
Time of survival from diagnosis
Was surgery performed? If so, what was the procedure used?

Please send your information to me by either email or regular mail.

Sandy Frei
PO Box 1245
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Email: sstormhill@aol.com

Enjoy the article by Amy Hites, "Loving Moosie." Moosie survived this disease after undergoing surgery performed by Dr. Jonathan McAnulty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Sandy Frei



RESCUE by Barb Hastings, Rescue Chair



Summer is once again upon us, but the influx of Rescues has slowed. We currently only have one or two Afghans seeking forever homes.

I would like to say thank you to all who have fostered or helped transport some of these dogs. I would also like to say thank you to all who have helped support Rescue by donating to our fundraising efforts. Please remember, when sending a check for donation, whether it is for the Hendrix Fund, to help Afghans over the age of 9 years with geriatric medical issues, or to the Donna Amos Special Needs Fund (formally referred to as just Special Needs) or just to Rescue in general, the checks should be made payable to AHCA RCT (Afghan Hound Club of America Rescue Charitable Trust). You can note where you want the money used on the memo line. Since we are a Trust, we must follow the regulations stipulated in the 501-c-3 agreement, thus making it necessary to have checks payable to the Trust Account. This will save our Treasurer a lot of time and keep us in good standing with the IRS.

Again, thank you for all the support and help in the past years.

Russ & Barb Hastings, AHCA Rescue Chairs

Loving Moosie

By Amy J. Hites

The story begins when my friends asked my husband, Rick, and me if we would be interested in a two-year-old male, Moosie. He had initially been sold to a home where he was being kept on a basement landing. His exuberance had gotten him into trouble and he was exiled. Eventually, the family took him to his breeders for grooming and they never returned. The breeders felt that with Moosie's quality and zest for life he should be in a forever home

We met them in Asheville, NC. They arrived with Moosie pulling full throttle across the parking lot. Moosie had knocked us down and was in our laps while Rick and I sat sprawled out in the parking lot. Not your typical aloof Afghan! But as we soon learned ... most typical Moosie fashion. He was the most beautiful male Afghan Hound we had ever seen. His tail was sky high, his fiery red saddle glistened, with his blonde side coat bouncing like the ocean waves. No introductions were needed. He knew we were his forever home and never looked back.

Moosie was reunited with his littermate sister Lara. We began leash training, housebreaking, and conformation classes. He responded without protest and with enthusiasm. Whatever task he was given he tackled it. Soon it became clear he was living to please us. However, we discovered he was petrified of our couch. We were heartbroken to see this confident, sweet king of dogs fall apart when invited up to join us. With love and coaxing he eventually got past it, but not completely over it. He would hop up cautiously, with pleading eyes as if to say, "Are you really sure this is okay?" Then he would drift to sleep sharing his couch with the rest of his pack.

Moosie had a stellar show career. He is the first Afghan Hound that I showed and finished myself. He taught me, I didn't teach him. We were a team. He would throw a stack every time he came to a stop. He would stretch and place his feet and arch his neck like an Arabian halter horse. I had a judge tell me "He isn't a pointer." He loved the show ring. He was always Best of Winners or BOB. He finished in style at the Tara specialty weekend in Atlanta, GA going BOW for a four-point major under Dr. Asa Mays. His breeder was at ringside to watch his dog that had been abandoned, finish first class, defeating some of the best Afghan Hounds in the country. He finished one year from the date we had picked him up in NC.

Moosie had such a connection with people that they would come to shows just to see him. He would nuzzle gently up to children and lay in the laps of folks who were wheelchair bound. He had his own following! Fans became friends. He never met a stranger. Little did we know this fairy tale was about to come to a screeching halt.

Moosie developed a nagging cough. No fever, no significant diagnostic findings. A couple of months later he went into full respiratory distress. We were sent to Oakland Veterinary Referral Service (OVRs) in Michigan for a surgical exploratory as our vet suspected lung torsion with chylothorax. However, she had never encountered it herself. Her instructions on the referral sheet read, "You MUST save this dog."

We arrived at O.V.R.S. with Moosie, and they confirmed the diagnosis. His prognosis was extremely poor even with surgery. We called our vet to report the news and tell her that we decided to put him down. We were not prepared to do frequent chest taps, x-rays, and routine treatments. Not to mention the expense. Our vet, Dr. Ann

Cavender, told us to do the surgery and she would give us all of the support we needed and be available to us 24/7. We proceeded with the surgery. He had extensive lung damage, lost two lung lobes, and he visited the Rainbow Bridge for a moment. We were instructed this dog could NOT have anesthesia without a specialty team. They were shocked that he recovered. We were not.

After a week, Moosie came home to us with a chest tube, morphine patches and oxygen. He continued the routine and low-fat diet, restricted exercise, and had intermittent chest taps. His beautiful coat was gone. I told God that it didn't matter, shows didn't matter. I just wanted my dog to live. He made it through the recovery process. People all over the world were praying for him. I pinned an angel to the jammies that his breeder had made for him to keep warm while he recovered. His bright beautiful gaze returned.

If you were privileged to be one of Moosie's personal friends, you would know that his eyes were the windows to his soul. I have never seen an expression or gaze like his. There was something magical about his eyes and expression. It's difficult to explain and words fail to describe it. It is absolutely the thing we miss most about him. I truly believe he had a higher power working through him that would connect through those eyes of his. It was powerful, and spiritual. We associated Moosie's life with rainbows. Whenever there was a shadow of doubt or something to overcome, we would see the most beautiful rainbows. It became a symbol of inspiration and faith that he would go on if we would continue to believe in him.

Moosie's coat had grown back and there was a show in Wisconsin. Dr. Asa Mays would be judging. We thought it fitting to take Moosie in celebration of his healing. Joy turned to sorrow as Moosie relapsed. Hopefully, we would return for a chest tap and it would resolve itself. This wasn't the case. We took him to Dr. Ann for chest taps about every other day. There were times we would get home and have to go back again and drain another liter of fluid before he would get relief. He dropped weight quickly and went down to 38 lbs. We hand fed him roasted chicken and fresh lean meats.

We were devastated but not willing to give up as he had not. He would cooperate fully with the chest taps without any anesthesia. I don't know how long we could go on like this. His care again was full time and critical. Dr. Ann said that she couldn't find any new procedures or clinical trials to help him. We had come to the realization that we were nearing the end of the road. We would cry, and Moosie would nudge our hands and lay his head in our laps as if to say, "It's OK." He would flag his tail up as if to convince us he wasn't ill.

We were a few days away from the Wisconsin show. I couldn't remember where I had made our hotel reservation. I got on the internet and typed in area motels and a miracle occurred. As I was making the internet search on the screen it read: "University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine approved for research grants for Idiopathic Chylothorax treatment in dogs, contact Dr. J. McAnulty re: clinical trials." We packed up Moosie with his jammies on, hopped in the car with the article in hand and left for Dr. Ann's. We were waiting for her to open at 6 AM. We met her at the door.

(Continued on page 7)

Loving Moosie

By Amy J. Hites

We put in a call to Dr. McAnulty.

Moosie had to be drained and have x-rays while waiting to hear from Dr. McAnulty. Dr. Ann's face turned white and she could hardly speak. Moosie had another lung lobe torsion and was in dire straits. This time the fluid would not drain and was different in nature from what it normally had been. Moosie also jumped off the table and almost lacerated his liver. Things had changed drastically. We gave Moosie as much relief as possible and headed for home.

By the time I got home Dr. McAnulty had left a message for me. He told me what paperwork he needed for Moosie. I told him I didn't think he would live long enough to get him approved for the trials. He said, "Can you be here in the morning?" I said YES. We packed up Moosie and left for Wisconsin, having no idea if he was even qualified or if they could do anything for him. Moosie was in so much distress in the car that he stood for the entire eight-hour drive with his head in my arms. We didn't think he would make it, but knew it was the only chance he would have. If not for Dr. Asa Mays, for the scheduled show in Wisconsin, for having to cancel the motel, for Dr. Ann who wouldn't let us give up, for all the prayers, Moosie would have never survived.

Moosie qualified for the grant and he lived to make it to the clinic for surgery. We spoke for a short time as he was prepped for surgery. We thought this would be the last time we would see him. I asked for scissors and cut off his topknot so I would have something of his to hang onto. It was gut wrenching. His eyes connected with us and he turned to his new family in the critical care unit where he would be for the next month. He greeted them and looked back into our eyes. He walked away confidently. I said, "Moosie knows he is going to make it through this." If he didn't, he would teach these students and professors how to treat this terrible disease. There would be a profound contribution to veterinary medicine regardless of the outcome.

He was to be there about 10 days, if all went well. His prognosis was very poor, as this would be the second time cracking his chest and a very invasive open-heart surgery, with prolonged anesthesia. We were informed that a lottery was used to determine which procedure Moosie would have. He would have a pericardectomy with thoracic duct ligation. However, he became their worst case scenario, developing every complication in the book. He had an aneurysm that was repaired, he was left with one and a half lung lobes. I had daily reports from his staff, and they just loved him. He walked around freely within the ICU. They said he cooperated fully with everything.

The day prior to being discharged, he developed a pneumothorax. Dr. McAnulty had left for a conference and the doctor in charge suggested we euthanize him. Mortified, I called Dr. Ann who then called the university. The resident didn't want to continue treatment without Dr. McAnulty. She encouraged him to make the repair. (You don't mess with Dr. Ann). He told her that the repair would not be covered

by the grant and it could be a substantial cost. Dr. Ann instructed him to fix it and gave him her own personal credit card. Another two weeks later Moosie came home. Leaving the clinic there was a small memorial dedicated to the pets that died at the clinic. Moosie promptly lifted his leg on it, scratching the ground at its base and we were off for home with our beloved hound.

We were always guarded and afraid he would relapse. Moosie lived the next decade with all his heart and soul. He was nominated for an ACE (Award for Canine Excellence) award by the AKC in 2005 in recognition of his service to mankind. Every birthday was a milestone and was celebrated with cake and ice cream. Moosie was shown as a veteran for special occasions. He sired two more conformation champions, and two top-10 field champions. We couldn't have asked for more.

After he turned 12 he developed anal gland carcinoma. He couldn't have treatment due to his heart and lungs. His 13th birthday was his last. We had powdered donuts and ice cream. He was insane over powdered doughnuts. His anal cancer progressed rapidly but he took it in stride. We knew he was growing more uncomfortable by the day and he tried to hide it. We began struggling with it and decided if he would go off food and put his tail down, we would have to do the inevitable.

The night before Moosie died, we saw the most intense complete beautiful triple rainbow with boiling red and gold clouds. It was the most magnificent sky I have ever seen. It gave us chills and brought tears to our eyes. Little did we know it would be Moosie's last night on this Earth.

At 10 PM every night he would let me know it was time for bed. I always kissed him on the nose before I crawled in. One of my biggest regrets is that on this night he was so peaceful I didn't want to wake him. I didn't kiss him. We woke in the morning and he couldn't stand up, his eyes had the pleading look they had 10 years before. We knew that look. We carried Moosie out into our yard to see his best friend, Khayti, his daughter. He got up just enough to water his favorite bush, and out the door he went. We stopped to get him a doughnut, which I fed to him in the car while we waited for the vet. I vowed Moosie

would NEVER lose his life in the vet's office if I could help it. Moosie died in my arms in the back seat of our truck with his favorite blanket around him looking into Rick's eyes.

How we miss those eyes and seeing the wisdom in his old soul. When Moosie died, Khayti went off her food and we lost her a month later. The following week my dear friend and Moosie's breeder, lost her life as well. It was the end of an era and obviously was by design. I know that Moosie, Lara and Khayti were at Rainbow Bridge to welcome their beloved breeder home. Moosie brought us many lifelong friendships and lessons. But most of all, he taught us to believe and never give up. He was a once in a lifetime dog. I know that his best friend Khayti is at his side with his breeder.

Until we meet again
at Rainbow Bridge.



OBEDIENCE/RALLY/VERSATILITY

Committee Report

Submitted by Debbie Petersen



NEW VERSATILITY AWARD WINNER

“RIO”

GRCH/DC Inisfree's Superior Majic SC, CD, RN



I am honored to be receiving the Versatility Award from the AHCA.

Rio achieved his Conformation Championship quickly, we then moved on to working on his Lure Coursing Field Championship and his Obedience titles. Rio's first two times on a coursing field, he won back to back five point majors. For the first leg of Rio's CD title he was entered at the 2011 National Specialty where he was High in Trial. Rio and I are now working on Agility, so there may be future titles for him.

Rio's first litter, born 6/23/12, are following in dad's paw prints. Five out of the seven showing are major pointed within their first year, and two have BOB wins over Specials.

Thank you,
Lorene French
Duet Afghans



AGILITY COMMITTEE

REPORT

Submitted by Lynda Hicks, Chair



AKC HOSTS 2014 COMPANION EVENTS EXTRAVAGANZA IN HAR- RISBURG, PA WITH NEW AKC RALLY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The second annual AKC Companion Events Extravaganza will run from March 27-30, 2014 at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex and Expo Center in Harrisburg, PA. The 2014 Extravaganza will include the AKC National Agility Championship, the AKC National Obedience Championship and the first-ever AKC Rally® National Championship.

Due to the 2013 Rally National Competition's enthusiastic reception from exhibitors and spectators alike, the event will be upgraded and designated a National Championship. The winning dog from the highest-level Rally Advanced Excellent class will be the "2014 AKC Rally® National Champion" and will be the first dog to proudly place the "RNC" prefix before its name. Rally exhibitors will still have the opportunity to compete for top honors in the Novice, Advanced and Excellent classes at the Extravaganza.

"The inaugural Companion Events Extravaganza held in Tulsa, OK last month was such a great success that it was a natural progression to now have three National Championships celebrating companion dog sports," said Doug Ljungren, Vice President of Companion and Performance Events. "Enthusiastic spectators cheered on their favorite dog or breed during the fast-paced action of Agility, the flawless execution of Obedience and the fun of Rally."

The 2014 Extravaganza will feature Agility on Thursday, Agility and Rally on Friday, and Agility and Obedience on Saturday and Sunday.

Stay tuned to the AKC website for the 2014 Judging Panels and other updates on the 2014 AKC National Agility Championship, AKC National Obedience Championship and AKC Rally National Championship.



2013 Rally® National Competition
March 15, 2013 Tulsa, Oklahoma



AFGHAN HOUNDS AS THERAPY DOGS

Several Afghan Hounds have attained AKC's new Therapy Dog (THD) title, with more on the horizon. We would like to acknowledge the great work these owners and hounds are doing and recognize their valuable contributions here.

Earning a Therapy Dog title builds on the skills taught in the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy and Canine Good Citizen programs which creates a sound and friendly temperament needed by a successful therapy dog.

In 2011, AKC launched their Therapy Dog program, which awards an official AKC title to recognize dogs and their owners who have given their time and have worked to improve the lives of the people they have visited by volunteering as a therapy dog and owner team. The AKC Therapy Dog title can be earned by any dog who is AKC Registered (including PAL), has been certified by an AKC recognized therapy dog organization, and has performed 50 or more documented community visits.

Therapy dog certification organizations are the experts in this field. It is their dedication that has organized and advanced the work of therapy dogs and their efforts should be acknowledged and appreciated. A number of certification organizations are recognized by the AKC (for a full listing, visit <http://www.akc.org/akctherapydog/organizations.cfm>). A dog must be certified by one of these organizations to be eligible to receive the AKC Therapy Dog title.

Following are some heartwarming stories about working Therapy Dogs. This work is truly enriching the lives, not only of those being visited, but of the owners and their hounds.

CHENAS - Am. Can. UKC Ch. Simoon's Chenas of BrandyLane RN, THD, CGC Owner: Clarissa Stawarski

Clarissa Stawarski and Chenas were awarded Top Therapy Dog of 2013 by the Freedom Guide Dogs for the Blind at a banquet given in honor of the top therapy, top guide dog, and the top care giver dog. Freedom Guide Dogs is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in Upstate New York, which breeds, raises, trains and places guide dogs with the blind and visually impaired.



Freedom Guide Dogs holds an annual fundraiser banquet each year, during which they award individuals in the community who have gone above and beyond to help others.

According to Karen Buttenschon, Puppy Program Coordinator for Freedom Guide Dogs, "This year on April 18th we honored Clarissa Stawarski and Chenas with the Therapy Dog award. We felt that they make an incredible team brightening the days

for our elderly in our community nursing homes each week."

Chenas visits various nursing homes and group homes each week in Oneida County, NY, and her weekly visit is a highlight in the lives of both Chenas and the residents she visits.

TESSAH - CH Kryslaur's Diva Tessah THD Owners: Dan & Debbie Gann

Debbie is a retired school teacher who loved to teach reading and language arts to first and second graders. This is what got us involved in the Goodwill S.P.E.A.K. Program (Special Pups that Enhance the Abilities of Kids) & Stark County Library PUPS & PAGES Program. Tessah participates through Therapy Dogs International.



The first year, we went to the school I retired from. It was great seeing colleagues and former students. Several of the teachers that knew me well made funny comments like, "they wouldn't expect anything less than that Gann's dog could read!"

We were helping children to read fluently and with expression. Tessah would look at the student and wag her tail when they read with enthusiasm. This would encourage them even more by her response.

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AFGHAN HOUNDS AS THERAPY DOGS

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As second graders, they sat on the smaller chairs, Tessah would straddle their legs, and they would lay their book on her back and braid the hair on her ears, while reading a book. It was such a cute, relaxing and rewarding sight to see this interaction of Tessah and the children.

One child, who lacked the confidence to read aloud, gained enough confidence by reading to Tessah that he was able to overcome this hurdle.

A few children who may have had a negative experience with dogs were able to overcome at least some of their fear. They started the year with some distance from Tessah, but as the school year progressed, gradually came to enjoy their time with her to the point they were sitting with her and petting her.

Tessah also visits a Senior Assisted Living Facility on a regular basis. They refer to her as the "Inn's Mascot!" When the residents see her, their faces light up and they begin to talk about the pet/pets they had. The stories are endless but the memories they share brighten their day!

One particular resident was initially reluctant to talk or acknowledge Tessah or me. As time went on she let Tessah get closer but wouldn't touch her. One day Tessah happened to put her nose in the resident's purse where she kept her TIC-TACS. She thought this was so funny that Tessah had found them. She didn't remember she had any in there. After this incident, every time we came in the resident would start to laugh and tell everyone how Tessah loved her purse. Once again we made her day. What a great feeling.

The time spent with Tessah and seeing the impact on the young and old has been very rewarding for us both. It makes me feel so good to know that we have made a positive influence in their lives, and helped brighten their day and put a smile on their face. This feeling is PRICELESS!! We hope to continue this in the years to come.

Note: Tessah's Breeder, Kristi Jones, has also participated in therapy work with Tessah's Uncle JACK – CH Kryslaur's Just Jack.

ENCORE – GCH Suni's Time after Time at Oreia, RN, BN, CGC, THD

and

SURI – FC Asia Soraya Tazi of Suni, SC, CGC

Owner: Claudia Jakus

The most important characteristic of a therapy dog is its temperament. I have been fortunate to have had four dogs that had the temperament to qualify as a therapy dog.

Encore has the best temperament of any dog I have had. He has been participating in therapy visits since he was six months old, was the first Afghan Hound to receive AKC's Therapy Dog (THD) title, and has made over 150 documented therapy visits.



Suri, Encore's half-sister, is new to Therapy work. She was in training early this year, passed her testing in June, and has just started going on visits with us. Encore and Suri are both third generation working Therapy Dogs, all certified through Therapy Dogs International.

A therapy dog is a dog trained to provide affection and comfort to people in hospitals, retirement homes, nursing homes, schools, hospices, people with learning difficulties, and in stressful situations such as disaster areas. We visit many of these locations, in addition to reading programs through the schools and libraries. Children struggling to read have an opportunity to read to the dogs without judgment being passed on them.

I was asked to mention a few memorable moments and, as I thought about it, a couple came to mind. After requesting Encore to "paws up" - meaning putting his front paws on the bed - a woman who appeared to have had a stroke got a big smile on her face. When we were leaving after our visit, her daughter ran up to thank me for coming. That was the first time her Mother had smiled in a week.

Another instance came when we walked into a room to see a lady sitting in a chair - bent over. She threw her arms around Encore's neck and said, "Sometimes you just need something to hug."

Once several years ago, when I had Uno, we visited a stroke patient who had lost use of his right arm. When I gave Uno the command, "jump" - up on the bed she popped. I asked her to give the man a kiss, and as she did, he moved his right arm to pet her. His wife was so overwhelmed she asked the nurse to take a picture.

For me personally, our visits to a retirement home for Jesuit priests is the most rewarding. There are two floors of assisted living and three floors for those who need nursing care. Our time with these men is so gratifying. They love Encore, and he is so totally comfortable there that he tends to fall asleep during our visits, so I get to listen to the wonderful stories these men have.

Just a few life stories that have been shared with me are that of a WWII prisoner of war, a priest who spent 20 years in India, 36 years in Africa, and started several schools for children of AIDS parents; and one who was in the Philippines during the war and witnessed his parents being killed.

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AFGHAN HOUNDS AS THERAPY DOGS

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Afghan Hounds are not Golden Retrievers or Labs that are all happy and kissy - what Afghans do as Therapy Dogs is "stimulate conversation," and sometimes that is all people want.

RUBY - GCH Chichic's Envy's Jewel, CD, BN, RE, CGC, THD

and

CARMELLA - UKC CH Triplemark's Carmella Masquerade, CD, BN, JC, RA, CGC, THD

Owners: Susan & Ron Dimattia



When I was a little girl, I fell in love with my first Afghan Hound after seeing it in my mother's AKC Dog Book. I was a lucky bride and got an Afghan puppy for a wedding gift. I had Tonya for 11 wonderful years. After losing her, it took 33 years to find room in my heart for another, and then seven years ago we got Carmella. At six months old, she was quite shy and needed a lot of socialization, but with kindness and patience, she bloomed into the sweetest, most special dog I have ever known. At 2-1/2 years old, we were certified as a Therapy Team with Intermountain Therapy Animals.

Our first visit was at a nursing home near my house. The activities director was taking us around from one patient to the next. Carmella was a bit unsure about the funny smells and weird sounds in this new place, so to reassure her that everything was okay, I knelt down next to each person in their wheelchair, introduced Carmella, and asked if they wanted to give her a treat. I thought she was getting the hang of it when she took the lead and went to a little old lady behind me on her own. When I turned around and asked the lady if she wanted to give my dog a treat and handed it to her, she took it in her fingers instead of the flat of her hand. That's when I first looked into her face. My heart melted as I realized and looked up to the activities director and said, "This is Lila," she nodded, "Yes." I replied, "This is my Grandmother!" I knew she'd been placed in a nursing home, but didn't know which one, since I hadn't seen her for several years. She did not recognize me. Carmella had never met her, but instinctively knew she was related to me. Every time we went there to visit, Carmella would hunt her down, and Lila did come to know who I was again in time.

So, my husband and I decided that if one Afghan is this much fun, then two would be even better. Well, you guessed it; we got another one, Ruby. She has been a blast. Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Lure Coursing and Therapy. She is following in her big sister's footsteps all the way, and more! In fact, they

do everything together; they especially love to do Brace Work. Ruby has been certified as a Therapy Dog since she was a year old and she's now three. Alternating dogs each week, we go to the nursing home and during the school year, to an Elementary School for Second Graders to read to them. We also visit a Special Ed. Class, read them a story, then the children take turns visiting with the dogs and cuddle with them on the floor. The children always comment on how soft their hair is and how gentle they are. The dogs don't care about stuttering or mispronounced words. They love to look at the pictures and the kids really enjoy reading to them. Their reading skills soar and their self-esteem blooms. We've been doing this for four years, and occasionally we run into students from years before in the hallway and the dogs still remember them and are happy to see them!

The girls really know when it's time to go to work. As soon as they have their scarves, leashes and collars on, they know!! Last year I had neck surgery and talked my doctor into letting my dogs come for a visit at the hospital. I thought I was well enough one morning and asked my husband to bring them, but as the day progressed, I relapsed, called him and said not to come. He had the girls brushed, leashes on and in the car. Well, he was able to get Ruby out, but Carmella absolutely refused to get out of the car. She was going to do her job no matter what. So, into the hospital room she came. She had never been there before. I couldn't talk, and at first she didn't recognize me. However, when she got a whiff of me and realized who she was there to see, she was up on the bed in a flash, light as a feather, nuzzling me with her sweet face. The next day Ron brought both girls, and Ruby seemed to know exactly where she was going, as if Carmella had told her beforehand. Being on the receiving end of their "sweet therapy," is absolutely amazing! It makes what we do so much more important.

When I applied to the Intermountain Therapy Animals organization, one question they asked was "Why do you think your dogs would make good Therapy animals?" My answer, "Because they are such a unique breed and people would get a chance to see and touch these beautiful animals in person. They are also such gentle and sensitive creatures, you can't help but love them."



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ASTRO – DC Perfection Elmo’s Solar Eclipse, CD, RN, SC, THD and
NICK – GCH DC Perfection Cheri-A Frosted Ice, CD, RN, SC, THD and
SNOW-B – GCH DC Cheri-A’s Ice Ikon Du Carousel, RA, SC, THD and
HOLLY – CH Perfections Parisian Holiday, JC, THD and
BOOBERRY – CH Perfection Cheri-A Holiday on Ice, JC

Owner: Ellie Stonequist

I have five Afghans Hounds that are Therapy Dogs, four of which now have the Therapy Dog title, and another very close to having completed the requirements. We go every week visiting a Nursing Home, an Assisted Living facility and an Alzheimer’s facility.



The four that have their THD titles are Astro, who was my first therapy dog.

He is now 11 years old and loves visiting facilities. His half-sister, Holly, will be 10 years old this year. She is the mother of three six year olds that I have that also do therapy work.



Nick recently earned his Grand Championship, and has been visiting an assisted living facility since he was about eight weeks of age. His brother SnowB, was returned to me two years ago and started Therapy work at that time. Booberry, a sister to Nick and SnowB, is just starting her visits and should

complete the requirements for a THD this year.

All five of my dogs were tested and passed through Delta Society which is now Pet Partners. It is a great organization to be a part of. The residents of these facilities just love seeing the dogs and being able to reach out and touch their beautiful soft coats.

As well as doing individual visits with the dogs, I also participate doing therapy dog visits with the Rogue Valley Kennel Club, and we put on a little show just to show all the training the dogs have in order to do these visits. We do heeling, sit and stay, recalls, have all the dogs down in a group as we walk around them, some do tricks and retrieve. The seniors love it and it is so rewarding.



CARSON CH. Stormhill’s Look N’ Good In Red, CD, RN, CGC (Carson has qualified for the THD title)
Owner/Breeder : Sandy Frei

More than just a pretty face, Carson began his work as a therapy dog three years ago when we enrolled in the Reading With Rover program in the Seattle area. Reading With Rover was started by Becky Bishop who was also Carson’s teacher when he attended her puppy kindergarten classes.

He first had to pass a therapy dog test similar to the Delta Society (Pet Partners) test that they use for therapy dogs. Then we had to do 10 hours of in-service training at the libraries and bookstores that put on the Reading With Rover program. He has now been an official Reading With Rover dog for nearly three years.

In January 2010 a good friend of mine who works with the Reading With Rover program asked me if I would be interested in working with the special needs kids at Woodmoor Elementary school in Bothell, WA. I shadowed her one day with the kids she was working with to see if I thought Carson could handle it.

In March, we began working with a class of fourth grade special needs students. Last year we switched to a second grade class and this year we have returned to the same classroom with new students and two returning students.

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Each child is different. Some are autistic, some have Down's syndrome and several have been confined to a wheelchair. Each child gets a turn to walk Carson. I teach them how to respect him. We begin with one leash. Carson is at my side and both the child and I hold onto the leash and walk the interior of the school. We would take a loop around the inside of the school. By the end of this year, each child was able to walk Carson on their own with me close by. Whenever we met someone in the hallway who would want to meet Carson, the children have to tell the person his name and give permission to pet him. Carson becomes that child's dog for the short period of time that we would walk together. By the end of each year that we have done this, I could really see a difference in the children's verbal skills when they talk about Carson and how they walk with him. In the beginning, I teach the children how they must respect him. They must pet him with soft hands and talk with a normal voice. I also take a brush and let them brush him. They really enjoy that. Carson usually wears his snood when we go for our walks. One day I took it off for the children to see the long hair on his ears. One of the boys had a startling revelation when he realized that Carson's ear was actually attached to his head! We even used our time together to practice sits and downs. I would ask the kids which trick they would like to see Carson do. They always got a kick out of seeing him do what they asked of him.

The past two summers he participated as a Reading With Rover dog at the same school working with children who were enrolled in the summer reading program. He also goes to the libraries and bookstores on the weekends as a Reading With Rover dog whenever we can. We will be returning to Woodmoor in July to participate in the summer reading program.

Carson turns eight this December. In his free time he goes to agility classes. We are looking forward to competing in agility at this year's National in Portland, OR.



Another registered therapy dog, Thumbelina (left) along with her brother Hunter (right), both owned by Toni King, visits with a Girl Scout Troop.

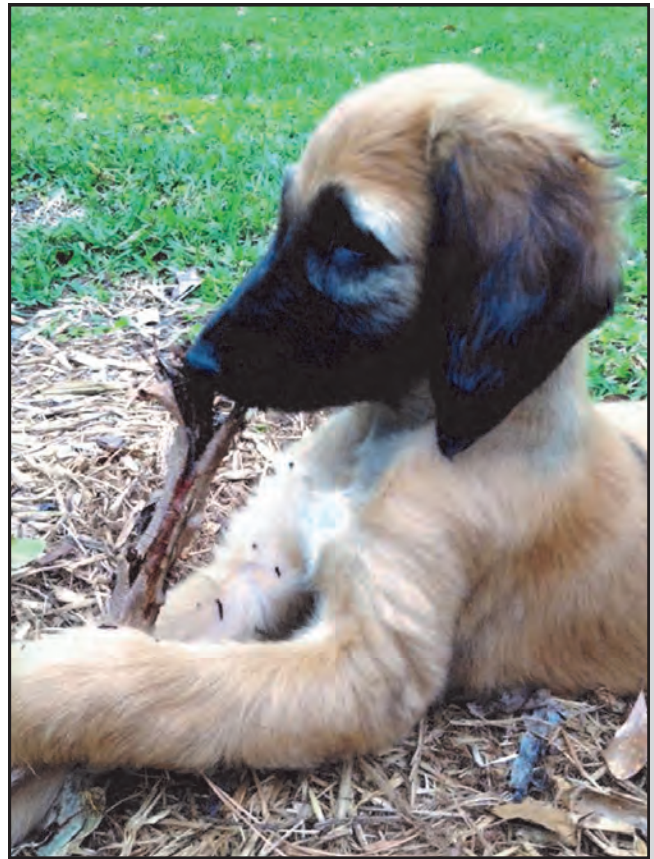


Photo by Doris Horton

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP

Submitted by
Anna Stromberg, Chair



I wanted to share with the membership what I have planned for the juniors in Afghan Hounds. After contacting most of the active juniors in person, with parent or chaperone consent, I have decided to make a newsletter via email and possibly a closed group on FB for their benefit. There will be very strict membership rules. Included will be wannabe junior/parent, current junior/parent, junior judges, wannabe junior judges and a select group of approved mentors. You have to remember we are dealing with minors.

The topics would be Q and A with former juniors, the juniors themselves writing bios, articles written on junior showmanship and available information on seminars and work shops, how a junior can incorporate their hobby into teaching others about good dog husbandry, how they can use their love for dogs and their passion for their hobby in their academic life, for example. This will start with a premier issue after July 4th weekend.

The seminar at the National will have two guest speakers, Alicia Morrison Jones and Emily Petersen. The hands-on section of the session will be one on one with each junior and a personal mentor for about 30-45 minutes. After the session is over we will have time for Q and A and a spontaneous meal if so wished. We will open this to a maximum of 15 juniors, and if we have room we will allow other interested parties to participate by pre-registration. Services and meal donated by private anonymous sponsor.

I hope that we can encourage more "juniors" to stay with our breed! We are already receiving interesting biographies of these young future Afghan Hound personalities and are looking forward to hearing more from them on how the community and the club can help them evolve in this breed.

Suggestions or comments please forward to Anna Stromberg - astromberg1@gmail.com – 516.314.1937 mobile



A Junior in the making.

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB AWARDS JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The American Kennel Club® (AKC®) awards Junior Scholarships - ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000 each year. These scholarships are offered annually to high school, college and graduate school students.

"Scholarship recipients distinguish themselves through their commitment to academics, their dogs and participation in AKC events and clubs," said Mari-Beth O'Neill, AVP of Sport Services for AKC. "It's wonderful to be able to reward the accomplishments and the enthusiasm of the young people in our sport through the AKC Junior Scholarship program. We wish them well as they complete their education and move onward to even greater success in their careers and the dog world."

Applicants are evaluated based on academic history and involvement in the sport of purebred dogs with special consideration given for those who are active in AKC clubs and events. In addition, applicants are required to submit an essay describing their future involvement in purebred dogs and with the AKC.

The 2013 recipients represented a cross-section of the fancy today, with participation in many different AKC events. Students range from second and third generation exhibitors to those who found their way to their first dog events by chance. Their accomplishments include achieving conformation, agility, obedience, AKC Rally®, tracking, hunt test and therapy dog titles on their dogs, qualifying for the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Junior Showmanship Competition, becoming a Junior Showmanship judge, competing at the AKC National Agility Championship, winning first place and a Gold Medal at the FCI Agility World Championships, and becoming Honor Society members, Dean's Lists members and Class Valedictorians. Future aspirations of this year's winners include veterinary school, earning degrees in such diverse fields as biology, business, film, Japanese, English, and zoology and, of course, remaining involved in AKC events and clubs.

The next deadline for scholarship application will be February 14, 2014. For information regarding application for scholarships, visit the AKC



TEAM COZZONI

New Lifetime Members

AHCA is proud to recognize our newest Life Members – Tom & Norma Cozzoni. This honor is bestowed on long-term AHCA members (min. 20 years) who have contributed significantly to the Parent Club. This is the first time in the history of our Parent Club that a husband and wife TEAM have received this honor.

After so many years, it is very difficult to capsule what we have accomplished over 40 plus years. What an honor it is to be selected as Lifetime Members. All stories start, so will we, at the beginning.

We were married a short time when we purchased our first home. I had always wanted a Collie, but Tom said they were just too big. One day he was out making a call, which happened to be in the country, and came upon a sign that said "Saint Bernard Puppies For Sale." Of course, who could deny that cute little ball of fur!!! Well, the ball of fur grew . . . and grew . . . and grew . . . until we decided that WE needed to be the boss, and took her to obedience class. At the time of graduation, the teacher said she had beautiful conformation and suggested we take her to a fun match being held that weekend. At that time, the only conformation classes we were familiar with happened to be at a church. Come to find out, we had a very special bitch that could compete in a conformation dog show. So, off we went to our first fun match – and of course she won the working group, along with a trophy that looked like it came out of a gumball machine. We were hooked, line and sinker into the dog world – and leather skirts!! Never knew a Saint Bernard could drool that much!

As time went on, we found ourselves in the middle of top St. Bernard breeders. We bought a young bitch that ended up propelling us into the world of dog showing. Having a quality bitch being handled by a #1 Novice, I finished her by winning Group 1st at a time when the Working Group included all the Herding breeds as well. We didn't even realize that she got five points from the major held by the Akita. Of course, that finished her and now we were in unfamiliar territory – competing in the Working Group.

One day while waiting for the Group to start, I saw this magnificent animal walk into the Hound Group. As a retired beautician, all I could see was beautiful, flowing hair. Like a kid in a candy store, I said to Tom, "I have to have one of those!!" The beautiful black-masked silver dog was Ch. Kings Royal Kaluku, aka "Luke." Tom found the owners, Gene and Sigrid Fitzgerald, who just happened to have a litter of puppies. Need I say more? We went to their home and saw a beautiful little powder blue silver bitch. Dogs don't come in "powder blue," especially in the Working Group! Needless to say, she came home with us, and a long-time friendship and partnership stated. Dinah ended up being Ch. Kings Royal Medinah. We later got her brother, who was a root beer brindle, Ch. Kings Royal Harvey Wallbanger, who I finished quite easily. Luke ended up being the #1 Afghan in 1974, and our partnership, "LukesLair," was born.



Dinah was sent two times to Ch. Shangrila Pharaoh Gandharra for breeding. Of course both times, Dinah said, "No, No" and Gerda said, "I will not allow a bitch to be raped." Dinah came home with no puppies, but lived the life of a Queen and allowed us to live with her.

Our partnership's second attempt at breeding was a Luke daughter to Ch. Khayam's Apollo. That breeding produced two males that we kept - Ch. LukesLair On The Rocks and Ch. LukesLair Galliano Gold. Galliano was a beautiful shaded mask red, 27-1/2 inches at the shoulder, who was all male, and in his mind knew he was as big as a Dane. He had a way about him that made you look at him when he was in the ring. He kept his eye on the judge at all times and when the judge would look at him, he would throw his head back and look straight ahead. He did not tolerate other dogs looking at him, especially males.

Our First Afghan - Dinah Our first AHCA National was in 1979 at the Statler Hilton. We were as green as grass and overwhelmed with all the people and dogs that you only see in the magazines. We were fortunate to meet Betsy Hufnagel, who was so sweet and caring to these two Mid-Westerners that I am sure looked like hay seeds lost in a fog in the Big Apple. We did not know where to exercise a dog or groom. Betsy shared her secret spot with us and took us under her wing.

Galliano was entered in the Bred-By Class (remember – I said the word Novice). We walked into the class and I was in awe, for all the big breeders were in that class. Galliano stood his ground, showed like a million bucks, and WON the BBE class!!! What? Are you sure? Virginia Burch was the judge, and like I said, we did not know much, but when the Winners Dog class was getting

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TEAM COZZONI

New Lifetime Members

(Continued from page 15)

ready to go back in the ring, Betty Richards was getting Camri's Black N Tan Rebellion ready to go in, thinking "I have a good chance of winning." Well, to both our surprise, the American Bred won the points and the Open Dog Reserve, and I got to meet Betty Richards!

As I said, Galliano did not like male dogs looking at him. At one show after the Milwaukee Specialty with Kent Delaney judging, we were in a class of BBE dogs. There could have easily been 20+ in the class, and as Kent was making his cuts with two piles (and you never knew if you were in the good or bad pile) he sends us into a sea of males. I tried to get as close to the fence as I could, with one hand over his eyes. After about a minute, from what sounded like the bowels of Hell, came this grumbling growl - it looked like the Red Sea had parted, and we made our way to the fence. Lois Boardman loved him, and always said, "When anyone questions his size, remind them if he was only ½ inch taller he would be out of standard." I think it would be fair to say Galliano put us on the Afghan map.

The California girls were very hospitable, and I was fortunate enough to be invited to the old Santa Barbara show site that looked like something out of a movie scene. It was the most beautiful show grounds anyone could ask for. I flew into L.A., stayed with the Weinraubs and saw all the beautiful Sanallah Dogs, and got to meet Kay Finch in her studio with her beautiful art collection. After the shows in Southern California, I went north with Betsy to visit the lovely Cavu dogs. My visit to Northern California would not have been complete without a trip to Coastwind Kennels, where I saw Jacaranda, Dick (Ch. Coastwind Yev' Rah Amid), and so many more incredible dogs.

The first time we saw a Coastwind dog was at the Chicago Specialty. Dinah was being shown in the classes, and all the talk was, "Coastwind is here!" We did not have a clue - what was a Coastwind? When the specials came into the ring, here was this very handsome man in a white sport jacket and bow tie, and on the end of his lead was this magnificent black creature that had an aura about him that made you look at him. As novice as we were, we could recognize his quality. You could hear a pin drop when they walked into the ring. He was Ch. Coastwind Obsidian.

In the early '80's, the Fitzgeralds decided to give up showing,



Our daughter Maria with Galliano

and to be very honest, we did not want the responsibilities that go along with being a breeder. It seemed during those years everyone wanted an Afghan, and there were plenty of people breeding, not caring about health issues or pedigrees. Not understanding the commitment nor the personality of our breed, sometimes a forever home for a puppy was not in the future. To be a breeder meant a lot of time and effort in putting pedigrees together, thinking it all out and hopefully producing a litter of fine quality Afghans. Our heart was really in showing. There were so many top breeders that we felt if we could find one to work with us, we would have the perfect scenario.

We found that with Tim and Billie Taylor of Karzak-Sephira Kennel. There were many great dogs that came from their kennel, with their combined pedigrees. We were very fortunate to be a little part of showing and campaigning some of their dogs. Our first was an adult class dog, Ch. Sephira White Lightning - a beautiful white dog who was a Dick son bred to Asara, one of Billie's bitches. Lightning was dripping in coat and also in type. Standing still, he could not be denied, but movement was not his forte. In type he was everything an Afghan should be. We were so excited to take him to the Garden. What a learning experience that was!! Taking a white dog to be exercised on the streets of New York!! Every time we took him out, he came back in and had to go right into the tub!

We then got a puppy bitch, Ruby (Ch. Karzak's Sephira Suspicion) from the Hooter (CH Karzak's Apocalypse) x BriaH (CH Sephira-Amra BriaH) breeding. Ruby was a joy to show. There were a few litters we co-bred with Tim and Billie over the years which did quite well. It was the perfect partnership. They bred and we did the showing in the Midwest. In the late 80's and early 90's they retired from breeding to give their entire attention to raising their beautiful children.



Norma with Ruby

There were a few other breeders we did work with, but none to compare with our first two experiences.

I was showing a beautiful shaded masked red bitch, CH D'Rata's Mandalay, who Judy Felton awarded with a Best in Show. She told us later that "Mandy" was only the second Afghan in all her judging career she had ever given a Best to. The first was CH Scarabet Caruso, bred by Karen Carter.

The late '80's seemed to bring a wave of contemporary breeders and exhibitors with new ide-

(Continued on page 17)

TEAM COZZONI

New Lifetime Members

(Continued from page 16)

as they thought should involve the AHCA. In 1986, a group got together and decided to propose an alternate slate to run for the next AHCA election. One of them came up to me and asked if I would like to run as Corresponding Secretary. I had served as C.S. for our All-Breed Club and Cosmetologist Association of Illinois. I thought, "How hard could that be?" A BIG surprise waited for me. After the election, only two offices survived the alternate slate - Dave Frei, President, and yours truly as Corresponding Secretary.

My first Board Meeting was held in Key West, Florida. Upon arriving to the hotel, I was met with six huge boxes filled with correspondence for the new Secretary! I am thinking, "What did I get myself into?" That first meeting had a little different atmosphere, as anyone could imagine. Who were these two Rebel Rousers, and what did they have in mind? After time, I think they realized we were there with new ideas, and wanted nothing more than to promote the betterment of the Afghan Hound that we all loved.

With that said, the new "Newsletter" was born. The "Bulletin" was to be published three times a year, following each Board Meeting I had no idea what a job it would become! "In Those Days" (I just had to say that), all correspondence was done by snail mail. That was a time-consuming job on its own, but to also produce a Newsletter!

With the help of Dave Frei and Suzie Lee and her husband (computer wizards from Detroit) I was introduced to the computer world. I became very good friends with a "MAC." Up until that time, I thought a Mac was associated with the Golden Arches!!

The first Newsletter, produced in the Spring of 1987, was my baby!! The Afghan Hound Club of America Bulletin with the club logo printed inside the cover. The front page story was always a challenge.

I did not realize all the other job descriptions that went under the Corresponding Secretary umbrella: setting up all meetings; contacting hotels in the part of the country they were to be held; booking meeting rooms to include a working lunch menu and, of course, the 3:00 "snack break." Our meetings seemed to go on forever – sometimes 8 AM to early evening.

The Corresponding Secretary was also in charge of Regional Club Guidelines, which were sent in to me to be approved by the Board. All information had to be included for approval. We also had Clubs In Formation that had Guidelines to be followed before they received AKC approval. Being Chairman for Regional Clubs, I thought it would be rewarding for clubs to be recognized with an award for their outstanding work during the year, i.e. Education or Rescue. They were acknowledged and

presented with an award at our annual Dinner. It was key for the Parent Club to communicate with and help the Regional Clubs. As chair, we held Regional Club delegate meetings in conjunction with the Nationals, helping Regional Clubs with ideas to present to their members.

During that time, informal gatherings at Specialty shows, called "Parleys" were very effective. They included members, as well as inquiring minds, curious to know more about purpose and goals of the AHCA. Q&A sessions were offered, along with the host club providing wine and cheese. Parleys proved to be a very positive experience for the Parent Club.

Additionally, the Bulletin provided a Memoriam Fund Column, with all donations going to the Rescue Fund, and a Breeders Directory was created and approved for publication along with the annual Member Roster.

All in all, the years spent as Corresponding Secretary were definitely a pleasant experience that I loved doing. Even with all the stress of putting that Newsletter out three times a year, it was like giving birth, and I coddled each one with much love. I was so very fortunate to serve with seven outstanding Presidents: David Frei, Lila Wadsworth, Lynne Schanzel, Betty Stites, Connie Butherus and Linda Shipley.

Looking back over the years, several things stand out.

- ✦ Galliano winning the BBE class at the National Specialty and WD at Tara under Betty Brisell.
- ✦ Meeting so many special people over the years that took us to so many parts of the Country.
- ✦ Competing with the Mecca breeders that gave their heart and soul to the breed – to be part of it in those days was mind boggling.
- ✦ Our Best in Show, and of course, WB and Award of Merit at the 1995 National in San Diego with Delta (Myriad's Jovan Red Sea).

Delta came to us as a rescue dog from a friend that heard about this bitch that was going to be put down. She went to look at her, and called me to say, "You have to rescue this bitch!" I drove to meet her in Iowa, and out came this matted to the skin, skin and bone, beautiful bitch with a very dead look in her eyes. I could see that under all that sorrow, there was a beautiful Afghan Hound.

I brought Delta home in late April, and when I took her out of the van, Tom said, "That could be something Ned Kauffman might like, if you can get her to come around." Well, needless to say, with lots of tender loving care, plus a bath every three days, she bloomed into a National Specialty winner. An unbelievable true story.

(Continued on page 18)

TEAM COZZONI

New Lifetime Members

(Continued from page 17)

It seems that I have left out the most important player in this game, and that is my husband, Tom. He came along on this lifelong journey always encouraging me, and was my biggest fan. Behind the scenes, observing, and of course, my biggest critic. Sometimes a little too much, but always having the best interests of the dogs at heart.

Tom submitted his application to become an AKC judge in June of '85. Tom says he will always remember his first assignment in Wisconsin. It was an All-Breed show, with an Afghan Hound entry of over 55. He gave WD to a young black and tan male of the Odrons. Mary Jane sent a picture with the inscription, "Your first assignment and his first points. Congrats to you both." That was the start of Tom's judging career. He limited himself to mainly judging Afghan Specialties, the breed he loves, and has never had the desire to go any further.

Tom has had quite the experience judging many Specialties, and truly believes he was so fortunate to be around during the climax of so many top dogs being shown. Having not only seen the "Great Ones" but having the opportunity to have judged some of them. I think to this day when he judges, he looks for an Afghan that has that Galliano attitude. He has always said, "An Afghan should own the ground he stands on and not be a renter!"

In 1992, He was honored to judge The Afghan Hound Club of South Australia. Being invited to Fermoy Kennel to meet David Roche was the icing on the cake. Seeing his home and art collection, and having the opportunity to have conversations with him was like a step back in time.

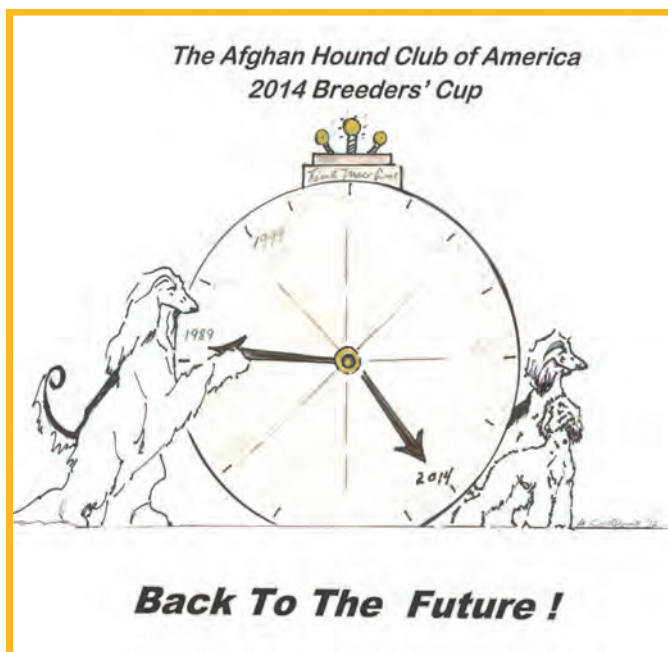
Speaking of time – it has really flown by. In January, we will be married 50 years! It has been a partnership that neither one of us could have done without the other's support. As we moved along through the years, we met many Afghan Fanciers who have become acquaintances and friends. Without them we know this journey would have been impossible. Some were very supportive, and contributed to our accomplishments, like the Fitzgeralds and the Taylors, who had faith in us to trust us with their dogs. Betsy Hufnagel introduced us to the AHCA. Dave Frei and the Steins were very supportive during my tenure serving on the board, and most notably, Ned Kauffman, who was Tom's mentor.

Again, we want to thank the AHCA. Becoming Life Members is such an honor – it feels like being inducted into the AFGHAN HOUND WORLD HALL OF FAME!!!

Norma Cozzoni



Afghan Hound Club of America 2014 Breeders Cup May 2, 2014



Afghan Hound Club of America 2014 Breeders Cup May 2, 2014 Mercer County Park, West Windsor Township, N.J.

Breeders Cup Secretary - Dorma Sue Busby
by barakiafs@peoplepe.com

Host Hotel

Holiday Inn-Princeton
100 Independence Way, Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone 609-520-1200

A block of rooms will be held until April 15, 2014 for the Afghan Hound Club of America
Rates - \$107.00+Tax without Breakfast
\$109.00+Tax with up to two breakfasts per room
One time pet fee: \$50.00 per room
After April 15, 2014 reservations will be subject to availability and prevailing room rate.

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THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY 2013 BREEDERS' CUP RESULTS

Submitted by Dorna Sue Busby,
Show Secretary



JUDGE'S CRITIQUE By Michael Strockbine

I would like to thank the Afghan Hound Club of America for giving me the honor of judging the Twenty Fifth Anniversary Breeders' Cup. The show site was convenient and well laid-out. Everyone involved with the production of the show, including those that kept me moving along, ought to be commended, which, I think, I may have just done. The weather cooperated, for the most part, and it turned out to be an ideal day for a dog show!

One of the more recent phenomena in our sport is the prevalence of social media. Through these various venues, it is very much possible to know a good deal about who is doing what, who is going where, and other aspects of "Too much information..." One thing that I was sure of was that I was going to have a lot of quality in my entry. And, I did. Considering that there were five classes in each sex, the competition ended up being between three class-winning dogs, and three class-winning bitches.

In dogs, it came down to the 9-12 month old blue brindle Agha Djari's Fifth Dimension of Sura, the black 12-15 month old Shylo Uptown Strutter, and the black 15-18 month old Wynsyr Maasai. Each dog exhibited beautiful type, but they were definitely different from each other. The 9-12 mo. had the charm and capriciousness that comes with that age. The 12-15 mo. had a raw type of presence and powerful, open side gait. The 15-18 mo. had a stunning outline and style. All had exceptionally good expressions. I was basically looking at an apple, an orange, and a peach. Each one perfectly ripe. Which was I in the mood for?

With the bitches, I ended up with the same conundrum... The black 12-15 month old Boanne-Burrllom Athena, the blue brindle 15-18 month old Agha Djari's Eye Candy of Sura, and the white 18-21 month old Mithra Ariel of Etrigan. The 12-15 mo. had the desirable houndy outline with ground-covering side gait. The 15-18 mo. was just beginning to shed her puppy look, moving into that stylish adolescent bloom. The 18-21 mo. was classic in type and exotic glamour. Again, beautiful heads and expressions. More different types of fruit . . .

Well, in both sexes, it came down to "*the picture*," moving from the side. To my eye, this takes into account structure, side gait, carriage, attitude, and the Afghan Hound's unique presence. So, around went the three dogs, and then around went the three bitches. And then, we did it again. And again... The choice between these six youngsters, all of refreshingly outstanding quality, was not easy, but it was very pleasing to watch them all go around. Again . . .

On what was, perhaps, to be the last time around, the 9-12 mo. puppy dog managed to leave behind his capriciousness (a little tired?) and flattened out in his movement, and everything came together, offering a glimpse of what will most likely be in his future. He was my Best in Breeders' Cup, followed closely by the powerfully elegant 12-15 mo. bitch, who was my Best of Opposite Sex.

It really was a great opportunity for all of us to see what promises to be the future of our breed, with a diversity of types and well researched combinations of pedigrees producing the qualities that drew us to the Afghan Hound in the first place. This ought to be interesting...

Michael Strockbine

Regular Dog Classes

Placements in the 6-9 Months Puppy Dogs

1. **RUSTIC SEABISCUIT OF SPIRIT RIDGE**
Breeders: Wm. J. Mines, Eileen Wolfe & Karen Larsen
Owners: Eileen Wolfe & Wm. J. Mines
2. **RUSTIC SERENADE SMARTY JONES**
Breeders: Wm. J. Mines, Eileen Wolfe & Karen Larsen
Owners: Eileen Wolfe & Karen Larsen

Placements in the 9-12 Months Puppy Dogs

1. **AGHA DJARI'S FIFTH DIMENSION OF SURA**
Breeder: Stefan Boieck
Owners: Suzanne J. & Wm. R. Neill & Alicia Morrison Jones, Christine O'Connor & Stefan Boieck
2. **WYNSYR THE WINGMAN T'ZION**
Breeders: D. Scott Pfeil, William Pfeffer, James Donahue & R. Sutton
Owners: Dr. Andrea & Michael Wood & D. Scott Pfeil & James Donahue
3. **INISFREE SIRAE' DUET CRYSTAL BLUE PERSUASION**
Breeder: Anna C. Tyler
Owners: Lorene French & Anna C. Tyler & Louise Paulson
4. **INISFREE SIRAE' DELIRIOUS DUET**
Breeder: Anna C. Tyler
Owner: Meredith Sobota

Placements in the 12-15 Months Dogs:

1. **SHYLO UPTOWN STRUTTER**
Breeder/Owners: Bruce Clark & Stephen Fisher
2. **FOXRUN WYNSYR RUMOR HAS IT**
Breeder/Owners: Lynn Mercer, Wm. Pfeffer, D. Scott Pfeil
3. **WYNSYR FOXRUN WHAT GOES AROUND**
Breeder/Owners: Lynn Mercer, Wm. Pfeffer, D. Scott Pfeil
4. **BOANNE-BURRLLLOM'S BLACKTHORN**
Breeder/Owners: Anne & George Evans & Gill Ullom & Bobbi Blewett

Placements in the 15-18 months Dogs

1. **WYNSYR MAASAI**
Breeders: Gary Lennon, Peg Yeloushan, William Pfeffer & D. Scott Pfeil
Owner: Gary Lennon
2. **AGHA DJARI'S ELEMENTAL**
Breeder: Stefan Boieck
Owner: Janis Nixon
3. **SILHOUETTE'S ON STAR**
Breeder/Owner: Elizabeth Berman

Placements in the 18-21 Months Dogs

1. **SHANTE' PRIME TIME SENSATION**
Breeder: Marilyn Domhoff
Owner: Darlene Pallen-Deckard
2. **SHANTE DEJA BLU**
Breeder/Owner: Marilyn Domhoff.

Placements in the 18-21 Months Dogs

1. **BOANNE RUSTIC POWER OF ONE**
Breeders: Anne & George Evans Jr. & Bobbi Blewett
Owners: Anne Evans & Bobbi Blewett & Eileen Wolfe
2. **SUNI'S ONE TIME AFFAIR V MAZSHALNA, JC**
Breeders/Owners: James & Lynda Hicks & Donna & Vanessa Bates

Regular Bitch Classes

Placements in the 6-9 Months Puppy Bitch

1. **SPIRIT RIDGE SOMETHING ROYAL OF RUSTIC**
Breeder/Owners: William J. Mines & Eileen Wolfe & Karen A. Larsen
2. **RUSTIC DARK MIRAGE SPIRIT RIDGE**
Breeders: William J. Mines, Eileen Wolfe & Karen Larsen
Owners: Eileen Wolfe & William. J. Mines
3. **SPIRIT RIDGE SERENA'S SONG**
Breeders: William J. Mines, Eileen Wolfe & Karen Larsen
Owners: William J. Mines & Darlyn Pfeiffer
4. **RUSTIC'S LADY SECRET OF BELEXANDER**
Breeders: William J. Mines, Eileen Wolfe & Karen Larsen
Owners: Chad Alexander & Christopher Belt & Eileen Wolfe

Placements in the 9-12 Puppy Bitch

1. **CATCH THE WIND OF MEADOW VALLEY**
Breeders: Ria & Tony Wagner
Owners: Cherie & Christopher Bruckman
2. **SHYLO MOONRAKER**
Breeder/Owners: Bruce Clark & Stephen Fisher
3. **WYNSYR ONE MO NIGHT IN ZION**
Breeder: D. Scott Pfeil, William Pfeffer, James Donahue & Rosemary Sutton
Owner: Dr. Andrea & Michael Wood & D. Scott Pfeil & Linda Johnson
4. **JAKAR'S LIKE A PRAYER**
Breeders: Amy Donnell & Tara Schultz
Owners: Amy McCrary & Amy Donnell

Placements in the 12-15 Months Bitches

1. **BOANNE-BURRLLLOM ATHENA**
Breeders/Owners: Anne & George Evans & Gill Ullom & Bobbi Blewett
2. **WINTERBOURNE'S AMANDARI**
Breeder: Jodi Allward & Stefan Boieck.
Owner: Jodi Allward
3. **SILHOUETTE'S STARLET**
Breeder/Owner: Beth Berman
4. **WINTERBOURNE AGHA DJARI AMANSARA**
Breeders: Jody Allward & Stefan Boieck.
Owners: Stephanie Fletcher & Jody Allward & Stefan Boieck

Placements in the 15-18 Months Bitches

1. **AGHA DJARI'S EYE CANDY OF SURA**
Breeder: Stefan Boieck.
Owner: Suzanne J. & Wm R. Neill & Alicia Morrison Jones & Christine O'Connor

Placements in the 18-21 Months Bitches

1. **MITHRA ARIEL OF ETRIGAN**
Breeders: Kathleen Williams DVM, Reginald Nesbitt & Phyllis Roe
Owners: Reggie Nesbitt & Kathleen Williams DVM & Phyllis Roe

**Best in AHCA Breeders' Cup
AGHA DJARI'S FIFTH DIMENSION OF SURA**

**Best of Opposite Sex in AHCA Breeders' Cup
BOANNE-BURRLLLOM ATHENA**

AHCA 2013 Breeders' Cup Winners



BEST IN BREEDER'S CUP

Agha Djari's Fifth Dimension Of Sura (Dog)

Ch. Sura's Hollywood Nights x
Ch. Agha Djari's Burlesque

Breeder: Stefan Boieck
Owners: Suzanne J. & Wm. R. Neill & Alicia Morrison Jones, Christine O'Connor & Stefan Boieck

BEST OPPOSITE SEX IN BREEDER'S CUP

Boanne-Burrllom Athena (Bitch)

Ch. Boanne's Thunderation x
Ch. Boanne's Zarafina

Breeders/Owners: Anne & George Evans & Gill Ullom & Bobbi Blewett



Photos of the 2013 Breeders Cup winners' taken and provided by
Bill Carson, Cameo Photography
cameophotography@aol.com (309) 797-8390
Ring & winners photos from that weekend can be viewed at www.seemyprints.com

DETROIT SPECIALTY WINNERS

Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club

June 1, 2103

Judge: Joanne Buehler,
Regular classes (entry 28-28-6-7)

BOB - **GCH Criston Enchanted**
BOS - **CH Boanne's Thunderation**
BOW, WD - **Rustic Mahali It's All In The Game**
WB - **Shylo Moonraker**
RWD - **Wynsy The Wingman T'Zion**
RWB - **Mithra Ariel of Etrigan**
Select Dog - **CH Shylo Uptown Strutter**
Select Bitch - **Scaramis Girl Power at Regle**
Award of Merit - **GCH Xenos Candren**
Award of Merit - **CH Agha Djari's Eye Candy of Sura**
Best Puppy - **Wynsy The Wingman T'Zion**
Best BBE - **Boanne Rustic Power of One**
Best Stud Dog - **GCH Alphaville's Shylo Here I Come**
Best Brood Bitch - **CH Macara Uptown Girl**

Judge: Anita Richards
Sweepstakes (entry 43)

Best in Sweepstakes - **Wynsy The Wingman T'Zion**
BOS in Sweepstakes - **Boanne-Burrllom Athena**
Best Veteran in Sweepstakes - **CH Mystical Billy Th'Kid'N Gold**
BOS Veteran in Sweepstakes - **Mystical Isabella Rennah JC**

Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club

June 2, 2013

Judge: David Frei
Regular classes (entry 31-25-6-5)

BOB - **CH Boanne's Thunderation**
BOS - **GCH Criston Enchanted**
BOW, WB - **Genesis Giselle**
WD - **Wynsy The Wingman T'Zion**
RWD - **Winterbourne's Amantaka**
RWB - **Winterbourne's Amandari**
Select Dog - **GCH Mahali Arriva Sandpiper**
Select Bitch - **CH Agha Djari's Zen at Winterbourne**
Award of Merit - **Wynsy The Wingman T'Zion**
Award of Merit - **GCH Xenos Candren**
Best Puppy - **Wynsy The Wingman T'Zion**
Best BBE - **Winterbourne's Amandari**
Best Stud Dog - **CH Inisfree's Superior Majic SC**
Best Brood Bitch - **CH Agha Djari's Zen at Winterbourne**



BOB - GCH Criston Enchanted



BOB - CH Boanne's Thunderation

Photo compliments of
Cameo Photography





The Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Specialty June 1, 2013 Critique by JoAnne M. Buehler, AKC Judge

Thank you to the Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club for this wonderful invitation to judge their Specialty and to the exhibitors for the high quality of the exhibits. I had a beautiful entry with wonderful depth of quality to evaluate. It is so gratifying to know we still have dedicated and talented breeders active in our breed today.

DOGS:

6-9 Puppy Dogs – Rustic Seabiscuit of Spirit Ridge

This class consisted of one very handsome, masculine youngster of lovely conformation, good balance, carriage and great promise.

9-12 Puppy Dogs – Wynsyr The Wingman T'Zion

Of the four entered, two lovely, promising puppy dogs showed. Puppies go through so many different stages as they grow at various times. On this day, my class winner was more together and improved the more he moved. He is a very good dog with lovely footfall and balanced movement, beyond his stylishness. He has a beautiful length of neck in keeping with his balance and promises great things. A competitor in Winners' Dog, ultimately, he was my RWD and BP.

12-18 Junior Dogs – Winterbourne's Amankata

This was an impressive class of youngsters; many will be winners on another day. Six months is a long time in a growing puppy's life, leading to a wide variety of stages in this class. Despite this, I found a great depth of quality in this class. My class winner this day caught my eye early with his easy movement and sure footfall. With hands on examination, I confirmed his square balance and lovely conformation under his conflicting teenage coat. He was definitely a competitor in Winners' Dog.

Bred By Exhibitor Dogs – Boanne Rustic Power of One

A Breeder's showcase, this is always my favorite class. On this day, the entry showed great variety in style, balance and movement. My placements reflected the differences and the quality. My class winner is a very masculine dog in excellent physical condition with commanding movement. He is surely a frequent competitor for the points.

Open Dogs – Rustic Mahali It's All In The Game

The singular competitor in this surprisingly small Open Dog Class entry is the summation of Afghan Hound qualities. Walking into the ring, he owned it; he showed with sparkle and confidence. A masculine dog with the "look of eagles" he fits our standard nicely with a hard, well-toned body, balanced and natural easy movement. He refused to leave my ring empty-handed this day. Ultimately, he was my WD and BOW.

9-12 Puppy Bitches – Shylo Moonraker

This was a truly lovely class of young bitches with great depth of quality and promise. Any one of these ladies would be a welcome addition to many a pack of Afghan Hounds. I consistently found lovely eyes, expressions, and balance when judging the entries in the class. My first place winner was very deserving, well-balanced, standard size package with nice details and presence. Ultimately, she was my WB from a very competitive group of class winners.



BITCHES:

12-18 Junior Bitches – Winterbourne Agha Djari Amansara

To a breeders' delight, there were many options in this class: a very consistent entry overall, despite a variety of "looks." My class winner is a very nicely balanced, compact bitch that uses herself well. She was a definite competitor for Winners Bitch.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitches – Mithra Ariel of Etrigan

Although small in numbers, this class had a very competitive entry. Each bitch is very deserving of her Championship. On this day the class was won by a patterned bitch who was every bit an Afghan Hound bitch; feminine, rangy, raw-boned – her own 'person' so to speak. When she chooses to show her movement, she is so easy on her big feet, with beautiful timing and balance – so captivating. If you missed her given moment, you missed something so often missing in our Afghan Hound show rings today.

American Bred Bitches – Genesis Giselle

This class consisted of two nice bitches in good, mature condition. Both were shown well with nice movement and good conformation. Minor differences placed them one and two on the day.

Open Bitches – Mahali Rustic Scarlett Ribbons

Unfortunately, being a single entry often works against an exhibit's opportunity to relax in the show ring and be seen at its best. This bitch was not happy to be in the ring, evaluated or examined. On another day with a different set of circumstances, she could easily be competitive.

BEST OF BREED –

To truly have choices – options – is a great joy for a dog show judge; having as many as I had with the Best of Breed entry here is fabulous. Just watching them round the ring initially without bookkeeping, is mesmerizing.

BOB: GCH Criston Enchanted

Enchanting in every way, this bitch epitomizes the Afghan Hound for me. Very feminine with a beautiful eye, head, tail set, hipbones, large feet, good bone and body; coming in the ring she said 'I am a contender'. When she changes from standing to moving, her profile remains the same; head and tail carried high, topline level, all movement easy, balanced and ground covering below her; as if she could carry a glass on her back without spilling a drop. A famous Breeder Judge once said to me, 'there is no mistaking it is the same dog standing and moving'. This is her image and the challenge she gives to other Afghans.

BOS: CH Boanne's Thunderation

Upon entering the ring this handsome Afghan Hound also announced he was a contender. He is pleasingly standard size, masculine in every way with lovely detailing. His movement is very fluid and easy. On any day a true pleasure to have in the ring.

Watching the Best of Breed competitors entering the ring initially was time-stopping in a sense. Each dog/bitch has the opportunity to tell a story when it circles alone. As observers, we read that story, fitting the pieces together with another time and place. My responsibility as the judge is to prioritize those stories, honoring our breed's history from ages past. Judging this entry was an honor.

The Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Specialty June 2, 2013 Critique by David Frei, AKC Judge



Thank you to the Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club for the invitation to judge its 54th Independent Specialty. An impressive entry and a beautiful site made it a very enjoyable day for me.

This was the strongest entry I have had in our breed for a number of years, with lots of nice young dogs (thanks in part, no doubt, to the connection with the AHCA Breeders Cup) and a beautiful group of specials. Thank God for Select Awards and Awards of Merit, allowing me to offer some reward to the quality in attendance.

I loved my winners and so many of them would have easily won bigger prizes in some of my recent assignments. Every dog that walked out of the ring with an award deserved it.

I was impressed with heads and necks and shoulders, and I was impressed with the dogs that had proper movement and proper size and balance. I have not seen enough of that in single packages in recent assignments. I am pretty much on record through the years as saying that both the artist and the engineer in me needs to be happy with what I see. Afghan Hounds need to be arrogant and “pretty,” but they better be put together right and they better be able to do the job that they were bred to do. So they have to convince me in their two minutes with me that they are athletic and can run and cut and capture or hold their prey.

There were some toplines that I wasn’t excited about and I tried to give their handlers every chance to fix them if they were fixable, but it didn’t always happen. And I had a couple of bites I didn’t like. But overall, beginning to end, it was as nice an entry as I think I could have found anywhere.

My Winners Dog **WYNSYR THE WINGMAN T’ZION** was a spectacular young black dog (from 9-12). Beautiful head and eye, great neck and shoulders, square and balanced, nice angulation, wonderful mover, perfectly presented. What more could I ask for? He was an easy winner in this nonetheless very tough competition on this day, with my Reserve WD, the striking **WINTERBOURNE’S AMANTAKA** coming from the 12-18 class.

While my Winners Bitch **GENESIS GISELLE** was not from a puppy class, she was nonetheless young. She was a beautiful cream bitch, with an elegant head, topline, body, movement. She had a wonderful look about her, and looked like a dog that I would have hoped to have bred myself “back then.” Lovely head and eye, nice neck, shoulder, topline, movement. She is at the “puffy” stage with her coat, but underneath it she was all there. Interestingly, she came from the American Bred class and while this makes no difference, of course, I am certain that she was

the first dog I have ever taken from AB to this kind of an award. Easy winner here, she also won BOW over the WD in what was one of the many tough decisions that day for me. My RWB was **WINTERBOURNE’S AMANDARI**, who could have won on most any other day.

Nine specials in the ring with my two Winners, what a beautiful lineup. After all of my individual examinations, I stopped and looked at them all and gave them a little applause. It sounded like the crowd agreed that this was indeed a very nice collection of dogs. Thinking of Gerda and what I felt to be an appreciative audience, everyone with their own favorite, I put them to work. I didn’t want to walk away thinking I should have moved another dog one more time. I believe that the dogs, their handlers, and the people ringside all “got their money’s worth.”

My Best of Breed winner **CH. BOANNE’S THUNDERATION** a lovely, masculine, proper-sized, beautifully-moving black and silver, earned it. Nice head, outstanding neck and shoulder lay-back, great body, all the correct angles were there to see whether he was standing or moving. He came off the ground like I think they all should, and his feet did what they are supposed to do under that body. Breed type and attitude in one package.

My Best of Opposite Sex winner **GCH CRISTON ENCHANTED** was in it all the way. She had it all going for her, great breed type, lovely head, outline, shoulders and topline, a nice moving bitch, beautifully presented. She could have easily won this. Another time around the ring, maybe...

I would love to have either of these dogs in my kennel. Perhaps in my next life?

My Select Dog **GCH MAHALI ARRIVA SANDPIPER** and Select Bitch **CH. AGHA D’JARIS ZEN AT WINTERBOURNE** can win in any ring on most days and I imagine that they will be doing just that. My Award of Merit winners (**GCH XENOS CANDREN** and my WD) too.

Beautiful dogs in the ring excite me, especially in my original breed. Thanks to all who exhibited under me and thanks to the Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club for the assignment.

David Frei



AHCA INVENTORY ITEMS AVAILABLE
To order any of the inventory items contact:
Sue Busby
barakiafs@peoplepc.com
PAYPAL/VISA/MC ACCEPTED (Prices do not include postage)



2008 National Items

25 Catalogs "MEMORIES" \$5.00
(Featuring all past winners from 1940 to current, all events)

TOP 20 INVITATIONAL

Catalog & DVD Set Cost \$5.00



2009 National Items

25 Posters, 18 x 22 (unframed) \$5.00
 Sweatshirts \$5.00
 Grey - 2 (S), 9 (XL)
 Catalogs, 9 \$5.00



2010 National Items

25 Posters - 18 x 22 (unframed) \$5.00
 Sweatshirts \$5.00
 Brown - 1 (S)
 Tote Bags \$5.00
 National Logo Canvas - 25
 National Logo & Vellus Logo - 3 5
 Catalogs - 2 \$5.00



2010 Breeder's Cup Items

T-Shirts \$5.00
 Beige - 2 (S), 2 (L), 1 (XL)
 Light Blue - 1 (L)
 Catalogs - 6 \$5.00



2011 National Items

Catalogs - 7 \$5.00



2011 Breeder's Cup Items

T-Shirts \$5.00
 Carolina Blue - 3 (S)
 Cataglos - 6 \$5.00



2012 National Items

Sweatshirts \$5.00
 Burgundy - 1 (3XL)
 T-Shirts \$5.00
 Blue - 3 (M), 2 (L), 6 (XL)



Baseball Caps (Peach Logo) 2 \$5.00
 Catalogs - 12 \$5.00



2012 Breeder's Cup Items

Catalogs - 12 \$5.00

2013 STAINLESS STEEL \$10.00
TRAVEL MUG 12
 Kay Finch DVD 5 \$10.00

WAYS & MEANS

Laptop Tote Bags (Logo in gold threads) \$15.00
 Black, 7
 6-Pak Coolers \$10.00
 2 Pink; 6 Gray



PARENT CLUB LOGO ITEMS

PC Lapel Pins, 14K gold plated \$15.00
 Tie Tac or Safety w/Safety Catch



Come to Portland!

The Afghan Hound Club of American proudly presents

The 77th AHCA National Specialty

Wednesday, September 25 - Saturday, September 28, 2012

Hotel and Show Site

Holiday Inn Portland Airport - Group Code AHC
 1-888-HOLIDAY (888-465-4329) or 503-256-5000
 Single or double room rates are \$89.00 (plus tax), up to 5 dogs per room.
 Free wireless internet, free parking.

The exhibit hall is a 15,000 square foot building just across the driveway from the hotel. Vendors and grooming area are adjacent to the show ring, Food concession and full-service bar will be open during show hours in the exhibit hall. FREE morning coffee will be available for early-birds.

Flying In

Portland International Airport (PDX) is serviced by all major airlines, most using aircraft that will accept 400 and 500 crates. The hotel is providing a dedicated ***Exhibitor Shuttle with extra crate space.***

Seattle-Tacoma Airport (SEA) is less than 3 hours north of Portland and is also serviced by all major airlines. Ride-sharing: A message board will be set up in the lobby for carpooling to off-site events. A cargo van will also be available to transport up to six dogs to lure coursing.

Driving In

Downtown Portland is only 10 miles from our host hotel. It's less than 60 miles to the Oregon Coast, Mount St. Helens, Mount Hood, Timberline Lodge, Multnomah Falls, or the Columbia River Gorge.

Two all-breed dog shows and three agility trials on the weekend preceding the National.

Special Events

Senior Showmanship Competition following the Vendor/Welcome Party on Wednesday night.

4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition for the first time at the National!

Art Auction in the Atrium with hors d'oeuvres and drinks.

Back to back regional specialties on Sunday.

Show judges:

- Stephen Fisher - Beginner Puppy
- Chris Terrell - Sweepstakes
- Dominique Denis - Dogs
- Lee Canalizo - Bitches & Intersex
- Katie Effert - Junior Showmanship

Dianne Kroll, Show Chairman

971-221-7623

Sue Busby, Show Secretary

586-264-4292

Performance judges:

- Lyndell Ackerman - Lure Coursing
- Ann Billups - Lure Coursing
- Paula Ratoza - Agility
- Jill Jones - Obedience & Rally

2013 NATIONAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, September 25

7:30am - ASFA Lure Coursing Trial
9:00am - AKC Lure Coursing Trial
2:00pm - Agility Trial
6:00pm - Welcome Mixer & Vendor Party
8:00pm - Senior Showmanship Competition

Thursday, September 26

9:00am - Obedience Trail & Rally Trial
12:30pm - Beginner Puppy
1:00pm - Veteran Sweepstakes
1:30pm - Triathlon Conformation Judging
2:00pm - Sweepstakes
6:00pm - Happy Hour
6:30pm - Breed Symposium & Dinner

Friday, September 27

8:00am - Judges Education
8:00am- - Regional Clubs Meeting
9:00am - Rescue Meeting
11:00am - Regular & Non-Regular Dog Classes
1:30pm - Parade of Rescue
2:00pm - Regular & Non-Regular Bitch Classes
5:00pm - Juniors Rising Stars
6:00pm - Art Auction in the Atrium

Saturday, September 28

8:00am - Membership Meeting
12:00pm - Parade of Veterans / Liberty Class
12:30pm - Junior Showmanship
1:00pm - Best of Breed Judging
4:00pm - Brace, Stud Dog & Brood Bitch Judging
6:00pm - Happy Hour
6:30pm - Awards Banquet

Sunday, September 29

8:00am - Board Meeting
9:00am - Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland
12:00pm - Lunch Buffet
1:00pm - Evergreen Afghan Hound Club

2013 NATIONAL TROPHY DONATIONS

Once again it's time to donate to the AHCA National Specialty Show Trophy Fund. If you donate \$50, or more, you will receive a free catalog and be listed as a donor. If you donate \$100, or more, you will receive a free catalog and be listed as a special contributor.

Please send your trophy donation to:

JoAnne Buehler, AHCA Trophy Chair
3941 Legation St. NW
Washington, DC 20015
301-590-9056
tazihound@his.com

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Submitted by
Rose Mary Bridges Zednick

iPad Raffle

The AHCA is raffling off a brand NEW IPAD. It is 32 GB WIFI accessible, retina display with A6Xchip. Value is \$599.00. The drawing will be held at the National Specialty on 9-27-2013. You need NOT be present to win.

We have printed ONLY 400 tickets. The cost is \$10.00. As of July 1, 2013, we have sold 143 tickets. Please contact ANY of the following people to purchase a ticket:

Jerry Bazar	757-467-9556
Lee Bornstein	602-677 6690
Beth Collins	218-310-1446
Steve Fisher	303-520-0179
Christine Pinkston	757-426-2018
Lex Robertson	412-721-3647

THE PROCEEDS OF THIS RAFFLE GO TO THE AHCA GENERAL FUND. Please remember this is everyone's club and if each member bought just one ticket, we would be sold out. My sincere thanks to the sellers of tickets for their hard work and to all the people who have bought tickets.

Remember, if you don't buy a ticket you can't win.



MEET THE JUDGES

FOR THE

2013 AHCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY



Lee Canalizo
Judging
Conformation
(Bitches/Intersex)

Kandahara Hounds was established in 1961 with the purchase of Babu Gamn Of Grandeur, a black masked silver grand-daughter of Int. Ch. Khyber Kim. Tawny, as we called

her, was bred first to Ch. Shir Khan of Grandeur and several of these pups were the initiation to the breed of several of today's prominent Afghan Hound judges and fanciers.

In the course of our not extensive breeding program, we always stayed with Grandeur, Crown Crest, Ben Ghazi and the old Turkuman lines, trying to maintain these old lines, as we felt they best personified the typical Afghan Hound in looks, temperament and movement.

We finished many of our Afghans over the years along with a half dozen Salukis, a Kuvaszok and a Standard Wirehaired Dachsund. We enjoyed the exhibiting and the competition thoroughly but got as much love and pleasure from the guys that didn't make it in the show ring for one reason or another.

At the time we purchased Tawny from Sunny Shay, she said, "Show your Afghan and see the world." How right she was!! I am now approved to judge BIS, six groups, miscellaneous breeds and both varieties of Manchester Terriers.

I have judged in Australia, Spain, Canada, Puerto Rico, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Mexico and Finland, but still prefer the good "ole" USA. After over 50 years with this most wonderful breed, having the honor of judging the National for the second time is definitely a highlight in my extensive judging life.

Lee Canalizo



Dominique Denis
Judging
Conformation
(Dogs)

I have owned Afghan Hounds since 1974, and my kennel is TCHEKANA. If you'd like to look at my dogs during the years, my website is: <http://tchekana.free.fr>.

I have imported several dogs from America, mostly having Moornistan and Akaba backlines. In my breeding program, I have always been looking to combine the beauty of the Moornistan heads and the balance, body and attitude of Akaba.

I also had a bitch from Australia that became an International Champion: Jacosta Dirty Dancing.

I have bred and owned many champions, even two world champions. But, please don't ask me for records as I am not good at that!

I have been a judge for about 20 years (Afghan Hounds and Saluki), having judged in most European countries, including Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Russia and Australia. I have also judged in America.

As a judge, I am looking for a balanced Afghan Hound, not only in body, but also showing overall balance. I am very much into having what we call in France "the very important points of our breed," like eye shape and placement, hip bones, saddle with typical natural hairs, etc. – that make an Afghan Hound so different from other breeds.

Movement is also of real importance to me, both side gait and coming and going. I always look for that "king of dogs, covering the ground as his own land."

Dominique Denis

MEET THE JUDGES

FOR THE

2013 AHCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY



Chris Terrell
Judging
Sweepstakes

I handled my first dog at a show in Honolulu in the late 60's. At that time there were only two shows a year and I had purchased my first show dog, Afghan

Hound Tradewinds Kohala Toba, six months before this show. He was a young dog and I did my best to keep him groomed properly and learn as much as I could from the other Afghan owners on Oahu at that time.

The day of the show came, and he won Winners Dog under a very distinguished and sophisticated judge. I was thrilled and I came into the ring after the judging to get our picture taken. The judge looked first to the dog and then spoke to me, "My son, I must tell you that this is a very lovely animal...but...I also must tell you that, in the future, I might suggest that you find someone else to show him for you." Needless to say, off went the ponytail, on went the suit.

With the help and support of my wife, Marguerite, and so many professionals in the dog show world, I set out to learn how to present the Afghan Hound in an honest and professional manner. The Afghan Hound deserves nothing less than the "Best!"

Chris Terrell
Kabik Afghans



Stephen Fisher
Judging
4-6 Month
Beginner Puppy

Dogs have always been a huge part of my life. As a child, my family had toy dogs including Pekingese, Chihuahua, and

even a show Shih-Tzu shortly after their recognition in 1969. I wanted a "big" dog, and was able to obtain my first Afghan Hound, who I named "Sultan Allah Casbah." I thought that an exotic dog deserved an exotic name.

Dog shows finally started to go my way in the late 70's when my best friend Bruce Clark and I found that we had very similar ideas about Afghan Hounds and Shylo was born. The first "Shylo" litters were whelped in the early 80's and we quickly became the most successful "New" kennel the breed had seen. We were the top Afghan breeders in the U.S. for 1986-1991 (cumulative), with 34 new champions.

In the years since, we have bred well over 100 American champion Afghans and have bred, owned, and finished for others over 150. This includes several all breed and specialty Best-in-show winners as well as 20 different group winning Afghans. Our most successful dogs can be found "somewhere back there" in the pedigrees of a large number of current show Afghans in the U.S. and include Ch. Shylo Sebastian of Patmar, Ch. Shylo Marquis Malachite, and Ch. Shylo Darktown Strutter. Though we did almost no breeding for over a decade, in the last few years we've enjoyed a renewed interest in exhibiting and have recently imported dogs from Sweden, Spain and Australia, all of which are now American Grand Champions.

In the last few years we've also been able to pursue our second love, Greyhounds. Though we've had only a few Greyhound litters, we've had great success in that breed as well, and have bred over 30 American champions and several all breed and specialty Best-in-show winners. In 2011 we were pleased to have the top Sire and Dam in the breed in the U.S.

I'm honored to be judging the Parent Club's first "Beginner Puppy" competition. Some would say that it's fitting as I've been known more than once to appreciate and even go all the way with a remarkable puppy in my judging.

Steve Fisher

MEET THE JUDGES

FOR THE

2013 AHCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY



Kate Effert
Judging
Junior
Showmanship

I do not remember a time in my life without dogs. I was always drawn to them, and when I was very

young I would bring home dogs from the neighborhood and tell my parents that they were lost. On my fifth birthday I received a Golden Retriever as a present from my parents. She came from Beckwith's Golden Retrievers. Several years later, my brother received an English Springer Spaniel. We had an instant connection and bond, and my fate was sealed.

I always read the pet column in the Seattle Times. I saw an article about Junior Showmanship and a class being offered in Burien, Washington. I had no idea what I was getting into, and neither did my parents. Thus my love for showing began. I was not from a show family and had no idea about grooming and presenting my animal. I joined Puget Sound English Springer Spaniel Association, was guided by several members in my early years, and enjoyed the competition.

After aging out of juniors I graduated high school, went onto college, got married, and began missing the time in the ring and English Springer Spaniels. I decided to go to the January Portland Shows and see what was being presented in the ring, and the rest just fell into place. I decided that I wanted to support and give back to the show community and work on becoming an all-breed Junior's Judge.

In addition to judging and showing, I am the Secretary for the Seattle Kennel Club and Vice President of PSESSA (Puget Sound English Springer Spaniel Association). I enjoy all my dog related activities; however I also enjoy gardening, trying to remodel our home (my husband and I have had a few missteps - in this area we are not naturals), and trying new restaurants in the Seattle area.

Kate Effert



Jill Jones
Judging
Obedience/Rally

I was born in England but came to the US in 1964 planning to spend just two years here. My plan had been to work for two years and make my fortune – as

you know the streets of California are paved with gold! Then, I planned to sail home from San Francisco, down the west coast, through Panama, seeing Mexico and the West Indies on the way, and back to England to buy a sports car, which I had picked out even to the color!

Instead I met my husband and wound up with a pickup truck instead of a sports car. We moved from California to Oregon in 1968, when my husband, Bob transferred with his company. We were lucky to wind up in the Eugene area. Sadly, Bob died in 2001, but he is the one who started me in dogs. He insisted that I take my cute, furry Norwegian Elkhound puppy to obedience class – and that was the beginning. The first day I walked into Beginner's Class, the instructor's husband said "Oh no, not an Elkhound – you can't teach them anything!" That remark could have made me turn around and leave, but had the reverse effect, and Gus became the first UDT of the breed in 1975.

Since then, I have put obedience titles (including five UDs) and tracking titles (15 TDs, and eight TDXs) on a variety of dogs, mostly Pembroke Welsh Corgis, but also Labradors, Greyhounds, and a Ch. Finnish Spitz, who is the only VCD1 of the breed (that means that he got a CD – not brilliant, but adequate; his TD – very much a team event between he and me, and his Novice Agility Std. and Jumpers titles). Although two of the greyhounds received only their CD titles, the third one, Quiver, given to me after she had finished her UD, became the first female greyhound to earn her advanced tracking title, the TDX.

The current 'doggy' household consists of a Pembroke Welsh Corgi, a Cardigan Welsh Corgi, and a Guide Dogs for the Blind 'Career-Change' Labrador, who recently completed his VCD2 and is getting ready for TDX. The corgis use him for herding practice -- the house is in a constant uproar these days! I am currently competing in agility and obedience with the Cardigan.

Jill Jones

MEET THE JUDGES FOR THE 2013 AHCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

Paula Ratoza Judging Agility

Paula Ratoza is a true dog-lover, who breeds, trains, and handles Doberman Pinschers in conformation, obedience, agility, tracking, rally, musical free-style, and protection. Her own dogs have earned High-In-Trial awards in obedience, rally and agility competitions. In addition, Paula and her dogs share their love through community service projects such as nursing home, hospital, and school visitations.

She is a very popular Agility judge, having judged over 250 Agility Trials since she became approved by AKC in 2006. Paula has been training dogs for over 40 years. She has taught obedience classes for Portland Park Bureau and Portland Community College, and developed the dog-training program for Mt. Hood Community College. She has coordinated the dog agility demonstration at the Oktoberfest in Portland, Oregon.

Feathers & Fur Talent Agency was founded in 1992 by Paula. Credits include: movies; local, national, and international live action commercials and photo shoots; documentaries; television series; fashion shows; and live theatre. Feathers & Fur specializes in dogs, but has access to all types of domestic animals and exotic birds. She has cast over 40 dogs each for Eukanuba and ProPlan commercials.



Lyndall Ackerman Judging Lure Coursing

Ms. Ackerman lives in Washouga, Washington. She has judged 45 AKC trials since she started judging in 1998.

Her original breed was Salukis, and her Saluki "Diva", DC Issibaa's Devious Diva, RN SC won Best of Breed and High Scoring Dual Champion at the 2008 AKC National Lure Coursing Championships.

She received the honor of judging lure coursing at the American Whippet Club's National Specialty in April of this year.



Ann M. Billups Judging Lure Coursing



Ms. Billups lives in Cottage Grove, Oregon,. Her original breed is Whippets, breeding under the BOB'N prefix.

She has been a conformation judge for Whippets since 2003, having judged the prestigious Western Washington Whippet Association Specialty in 2005.

An approved AKC Lure Coursing judge since 1998, she has judged 49 AKC Lure Coursing Trials to date.

We welcome Ms. Billups, and are happy to have such an experienced lure coursing judge at our National Specialty.

REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY NEWS

**Submitted by Darlyn Pfeiffer,
Regional Club Chair**



Just an FYI! To help avoid the confusion many have experienced when applying for Parent Club Approval, Barb Bornstein will be printing Guidelines for your club to follow to make the process easier. I think it simplifies the process, and you will have it all right there in front of you without having to navigate the Parent Club Site. It will be mailed to all Regional Club Corresponding Secretaries soon.

At the Regional Meeting in Portland, I will be sharing some of the Packets I received that have been in my estimation "Perfect Examples" of how it is to be done. I will also welcome input from Regional Club Representatives.....and have some suggestions of my own.

CLUB SHOW SECRETARY REGULAR CLASS JUDGE SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE	SHOW DATE LOCATION
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Patricia Shaw Regular: Jayne Edwards (UK) Sweeps: Jennifer Taylor 4-6 month Puppy Competition: Jayne Edwards Junior Showmanship: William Russell Jr.	August 2, 2013 Auburn, WA
Midwest Afghan Hound Club Holly Miller Regular: Ramon Podesta Sweeps: Billy Webb Junior Showmanship: n/a	August 9, 2013 Oberlin, OH
Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio Holly Miller Regular: Gene Vaccaro Sweeps: Marilyn Thompson Junior Showmanship: n/a	August 10, 2013 Oberlin, OH
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus Holly Miller Regular: James Dalton Sweeps: Pam McQueen Junior Showmanship: n/a	August 11, 2013 Oberlin, OH
Afghan Hound Club of Memphis (supported entry) Memphis Kennel Club - Onofrio Dog Shows <i>AHC of Memphis will host a free lunch for afghan exhibitors & a Raffle</i> Judges: Douglas Johnson and Barbara Pepper	August 17-18, 2013 Southaven, MS
Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club, Inc., Onofrio Dog Shows Regular: Russel McFadden Sweepstakes: Leslie Stoffels Junior Showmanship: Russel McFadden	August 23, 2013 Lake Elmo, MN
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan Curtis Regular: James Dalton Sweepstakes: Michael Liss Junior Showmanship: Jean Pero	September 5, 2013 Greeley, CO
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan Curtis Regular: Kenneth Tippie Sweepstakes: Deborah Morgan Junior Showmanship: Kenneth Tippie	September 6, 2013 Greeley, CO

REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW DATES

CLUB SHOW SECRETARY REGULAR CLASS JUDGE SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE	SHOW DATE LOCATION
Afghan Hound Club Greater Portland (AM) Dorma Sue Busby Regular: Valerie Hansen (D) , Dominique Denis (B & I) Sweeps: n/a Junior Showmanship: Kathryn Britton	September 29, 2013 Portland, OR
Evergreen AHC (PM) Dorma Sue Busby Regular: Claire Millward Sweeps: n/a Junior Showmanship: n/a	September 29, 2013 Portland, OR
Lehigh Valley Afghan Hound Association Hans Holderman Regular: Raymond Kelly Sweeps: Diana Fife Junior Showmanship: R. Kelly	October 06, 2013 Annandale, NJ
Afghan Hound Club of Austin Carlos Chujoy Regular: Kalen Dumke Sweeps: n/a Junior Showmanship: n/a	October 19, 2013 Belton, TX
Northern California Afghan Hound Club Moss-Bow Regular: Juan Miranda Sweeps: John Fahey Junior Showmanship: n/a	October 19, 2013 Pleasanton, CA
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Caroline Jonker Regular: Michael Koss Sweeps: Amy Wendling Junior Showmanship: n/a	October 19, 2013 Charlotte, NC
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Caroline Jonker Regular: Jane Sheppard Sweeps: Don Powell Junior Showmanship: n/a	October 20, 2013 Charlotte, NC
Sand "N" Sea Afghan Hound Club Moss-Bow Regular: Thomas Kirstein Sweeps: Lorraine Tayeb Junior Showmanship: n/a	November 8, 2013 Brooksville, FL
Suncoast Afghan Hound Club Regular: TBD Sweeps: TBD Junior Showmanship: n/a	December 13, 2014 Orlando, FL
Tidewater Afghan Hound Club Regular: Liz Milward Sweeps: Sandy Nelson Junior Showmanship: n/a	March 1, 2014 Virginia Beach, VA
Tidewater Afghan Hound Club Regular: Iren Naarits Sweeps: TBD Junior Showmanship: n/a	March 2, 2014 Virginia Beach, VA

The Veteran Lump

by Barb Bornstein

The Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty Show is approaching. There are promises of bigger and better (bigger dogs not necessarily being better) events and we look forward to our National Specialty Show with excitement and dreams fulfilled. We anticipate the beautiful Oregon roses and the wonderful west coast seafood found in Portland. I thought it would be fun to re-examine the Classes offered this year. The definitions of these "Classes" are not found in the *AKC Rules and Regulations to Dog Shows*, but they may be helpful for a better understanding of what we may expect during this week of Afghan Hound festivities.

THE PUPPY CLASS - The Puppy Classes are the cutest of all. These puppies are the future of our breed. Watch it closely. We will see beautiful puppies who will mature into beautiful adult Afghan Hounds and we will also see beautiful puppies who will turn into ugly ducklings. It is also possible to see the ugly duckling who could turn into the beautiful adult. We will catch sight of puppy faces obscured by monkey whiskers with black noses poking out. Other things we will observe in the Puppy Classes is gangly movement, owners over-stacking their puppies, stretching immature not fully-developed joints and muscles, placing strain on the youngsters' joints. All of this will be combined with general over-handling in the rush for an early blue ribbon and a desired AHCA medallion. We will witness the happy, free and easy gaiting puppy who will someday graduate to the Top of the Class.

THE BRED-BY-EXHIBITOR CLASS - The Bred-By-Exhibitor Class is Class Conscious. We will recognize the pride on the breeder/owner faces as they move their newest, and best, Afghan Hounds before us. The Bred-By-Exhibitor Class is the most coveted Class from which Championship points may be won.

THE OPEN CLASS – The Open Class is usually the largest Class. Afghan Hounds in this Class range in all colors, sizes, shapes, and coat patterns. As we scrutinize each Afghan Hound in the Open Class we will gain an overall perspective of how the breed has progressed from the days of the Puppy Class. Some Afghan Hounds in the Open Class have No Class, others have More Class and a few will be Classic in design. This is a difficult Class to win.

THE BITCH CLASS – The entrants found in this Class are found ringside. They will be complaining about everything they see and hear: the quality of the dogs, the quality of the show, the quality of the fanciers in attendance, etc., etc. Don't walk in front of them. You could be next! The Bitch Class will be fed a form of bait known as "gossip." Others participating in the Bitch Class will be in the second row leaning over the Bitch Class helping to fan the flames of fire with offerings to keep the Bitch Class burning. Men also participate in this Class. This is a Unisex Class. As you might expect, the Bitch Class Lacks Class.

THE DRAMA CLASS – The Champion Afghan Hounds from around the United States (and a few from foreign lands) position themselves before us in this Class, better known as the Best of Breed Competition (Intersex) Class. This is a Classy Class! Some Afghan Hounds entered in this Class are Specialty Best in Show winners, some All-breed Best in Show winners, and some are both, but all are hoping to collect the most desirable win of all, a Best of Breed at the Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty Show. This is the Drama Class with a capital "D." We watch the players act out the final scene under the skillfully guided hand of the director. The Drama Class is suspenseful, thrilling, and breathtaking. Who will win? Who will be liked the best? Who will thrill us beyond belief? Who will turn in the best performance? Each owner/handler will be endeavoring to stimulate their Afghan Hound to Out-Class all of the other Afghan Hounds entered in this Class. We spectators will be on the edge of our seats until the final curtain when the director points to the winner. Hold your breath though as the Drama Class may have a "sting-type-twist" to its plot! All the Champion Afghan Hounds entered in this Drama Class could be Out-Classed by a dog or bitch from one of the above no-champion Classes. If a Class dog or bitch does win Best of Breed, his owner will be laughing and crying throughout the Specialty Show Awards Banquet. Do not be offended if this Afghan Hound's owner ignores your words of congratulations. He, or she, won't be responding to anything on this earth for a while. This behavior on the part of the owner/handler should not be considered as having No Class, as he has in fact just risen to the status of a Class Act!

THE OBEDIENCE/RALLY/AGILITY CLASS – The Class Clown is often found in the Obedience/Rally/Agility Class. These Afghan Hounds may be wearing red noses. On the other hand, it could be the owners wearing red faces. The Afghan Hounds entered in the these classes perform according to their owners commands (Ha!). Here you will see Afghan Hounds entertaining us with humor and silliness while their owners work with great frustration. Beware, our judges may find the Class Clown to be disruptive. As observers, we will find this Afghan Hound a captivating personality who will immediately become endearing to us and we will laugh at the owner who has just been thrown a pie in the face!

THE DANCE CLASS – The Dance Class is the highlight of the fancier portion of the AHCA National Specialty Show. Ladies and gentleman will dance around in their finest regalia, swaying back and forth in front of each other exhibiting their latest pomp and circumstance. Some of these dancers will be fashion statements presenting Classic lines in composition. Others could care less about entering the Dance Class having No Class

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(Continued from page 34)

in their attire, refusing to participate in what they may feel is actually a War Dance Class. The music provided for the Dance Class is the chatter of clicking teeth together with the tinkling of jewelry dangling from their limbs as they adorn their newly purchased jewelry designs from our vendors, hoping to add more Class to themselves.

THE CLASSROOMS – There are many Classrooms at the National where we will meet to discuss and learn about our Regional Clubs, Rescue, etc. The largest Classroom is where we will listen, learn, express and share our knowledge about the Afghan Hound. This Classroom is termed “Seminar.” Another very important Classroom is the Judge’s Education Classroom. In this Classroom potential Afghan Hound judges receive insight on our breed and are guided by our knowledgeable owners and breeders.

THE OTHER CLASSROOM – The Other Classroom is where the Classy ladies and gentleman, the Officers and Directors, of the AHCA meet to discuss and implement the business of the Parent Club. The AHCA Officers and Directors are sometimes considered First Class (or so we are told), but in fact they are AHCA members just like everyone else and most do have their hearts in the right place. If you are Class Conscious, you may wish to become a member of the First Class AHCA Board of Directors, however being Class Conscious is not a requirement. Instead,

to become a First Class member you will want to work hard for the breed, do your best, be nice to people you dislike so you won’t give the rest of the First Class a Lower Class reputation and never worry how much money comes out of your own pocket. To become First Class you have to pay all your own expenses and expect criticism.

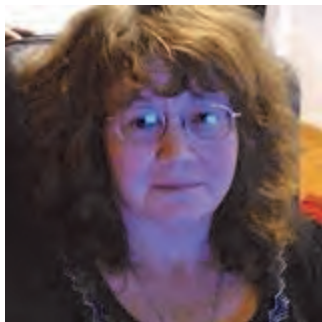
THE VETERAN LUMP CLASS – The Veteran Class is the most heartwarming Class we have. As we enjoy watching each veteran parade around the show ring, our eyes begin to tear and the familiar “Veteran Lump” comes to our throat. Never mind that we had once criticized this Afghan Hound’s front, head or rear, or that we had hoped to beat this veteran (and his owner) with our own Afghan Hound years earlier in show ring competition. The Veteran Class always produces camaraderie among us as exhibitors. For a short time we share our love for all Afghan Hounds as equals. There is no Class Barrier during the Parade of Veterans. Throughout this class we hold hands and share each others hankies looking upon our competition as friends. The atmosphere during the Veteran Class is always unto itself and the AHCA Specialty Show glows with love for the Afghan Hound. Ill blood is forgotten and we become a brotherhood. So, when you behold this Class, have plenty of Kleenex on hand and wear your waterproof mascara. See you in Portland.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joy Denise Atkins-Miller

My first Afghan was by Eng Am Ch. Huzzah Excelsis (of Horn-ingsea) out of a Dureigh/Moornistan bitch, bred by Norm and Mary Lou Benjamin, Shikari Hounds. Our first show, if memory serves, was judged by Dewey Abrams in Springfield, MO. After judging we went out under a tree at the fairgrounds and picnicked with Dewey and Reigh. I also literally got to sit at Sunny Shay's feet after one of our first AHC of St. Louis Specialty shows and learn.



I bred my "foundation" bitch, Shikari's Uguava of Amon Re (Ch. Shikari's Gingilier [Falstaff son] X Charikar bitch), back to Falstaff with Barb's and Mary Lou's help.

Marriage, a house fire (I lost five of my tazi as well as the rescued "Jody," Ch. Bakali MacBeth, to smoke inhalation), moving/building a house on a farm, my Arabian horses, working in the transportation field (Care Cab/TWA), and then atypical MS have kept me busy.

I've been fortunate that I've always had the means to keep my hounds and rescued ones for my enjoyment. I got interested in showing after panicking when Andy (Ripshin's Anduhar of Amon Rih) was 11 and there were no hounds available (Peter B had a two year waiting list at the time). A house without an Afghan Hound is not a home!!!! I bumped into Roger Elfgren and Ylla Carson at an AHC of St. Louis Specialty show; Roger knew of a bitch that needed a show home and the rest, as they say, is history.

Joy Denise Atkins-Miller
Amon Rih AH (Arabian Horses & Afghan Hounds)

Mike & Angela Barrett

Mike and I live on the Central Oregon Coast in a rural area on half an acre with our seven Afghan Hounds. We have three grown/married daughters and four grandchildren. Mike is a self-employed finish carpenter and a Volunteer Fire Captain. I am also self-employed with a custom sewing shop; for pictures of my work visit: www.angiesalterations.net.



It was my love of Afghans at age 15 when I saw a picture of one; that got us started. Thirty years later and after our girls were all grown, we got our first Afghan "Lady Madison." I had contacted Bev Davenport about the same time that Debbie Petersen got a pair of Afghans returned to her, and so it began; Madison came to live with us in August of 2003, and Debbie became a dear friend and Afghan Hound Mentor.

Next we tried the show world and lure coursing with Marcel, and several months later with Rockey; both boys were bred by Debbie and have done well in Show and Field. Shortly after getting the boys, we lost our beloved Madison to spleen cancer. She was with us just three years but she took a huge part of our hearts with her.

Several months afterward, we adopted two girls from the Auburn 45, Cinder and Spice, a special pair that were very bonded to each other. Again after three years, we lost Cinder to lung cancer. And Spicey was diagnosed with Lymphoma after just two years with us, but she is a survivor and doing very well. This August will be four years since her diagnosis. Along the way we also adopted Tazi when her owner passed away. Next came Willow, who was turned in because she could not seem to stay in her own yard. And most recently, we have decided to adopt Wilson, a very traumatized boy when we got him, and Autumn, who came to us very ill. Each has their own unique story.

In November of 2008, we became the Rescue Chairs for Oregon in our local club, Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland. This has been the most awesome experience! We have had many Afghans, young and old, come through our home. We have placed many in new homes. We look forward to many more years in Rescue. Our hearts are really with those that come so broken and getting to help bring them back to being happy, healthy Afghan Hounds. We feel very honored and blessed to get to do this. There is no greater moment than when they raise that tail up and feel safe again.

We have made many new and wonderful friends in the Afghan Hound world, and we look forward to meeting many more at this year's National in Portland!

Thank you for accepting us into the Afghan Hound Club of America.

Mike and Angie Barrett

DC Perfection's Cadeau parfait MC (Marcel)
DC Perfection Nalihar Rock Hudson LCX (Rockey)
And our special rescues: Spicey, Tazi, Willow, Wilson and Autumn
Please visit our Facebook page: Afghan Hound Rescue of Oregon

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Erika Peters

I was born into showing dogs by Rai-Mai Norwegian Elkhound Kennels. I started showing the family Elkhounds at the young age of four in the classes and breed ring. At 10, I



started showing in Junior Showmanship. In 1992, I decided to branch out to another breed for Juniors, an Afghan Hound, and was introduced to Duane and Connie Butherus. They co-owned their bitch Ch. Ararat's All Hot an Bothered "Rosie" with me to show in Juniors and a wonderful new chapter was started.

I've always had Elkhounds in my life until the passing of my heart dog in 2011. I added an Akita in 2006. But I came back to a breed I've always loved when I added an Afghan Hound in 2010.

Through the years, I've earned over 30 championships on the Norwegian Elkhounds, four Afghan Hound Championships, my first Grand Championship, multiple group placings, and several Canadian Championships. In Juniors, I've won top Junior Handler in Norwegian Elkhounds, qualified for Westminster, and represented the State of NJ and Trenton KC at the World Series of Junior Showmanship with Rosie, the Afghan Hound. I have even dabbled in Agility and earned a Novice Agility title on my Elkhound. I've also had a spot on Animal Planet's Zig and Zag: Alpha Dog Challenge as a contestant with my agility dog.

I currently live with my mother and her dogs in Leesburg, VA. I've been a member of numerous breed clubs and served on the Board. I'm currently is a member of the Akita Club of America, Potomac Afghan Hound Club, and now the Afghan Hound Club of America.

I am an approved AKC judge for Junior Showmanship and have done multiple Sweepstakes assignments for Norwegian Elkhounds. Currently, I am working toward my judge's license for Elkhounds, showing my current Afghan Hound, and have some other exciting plans for the future.

Erika Peters

Deborah Ridley

I became entranced with afghan hounds at the age of eight while riding my bike past a wood fenced yard that had an abundant knot hole. I swear I might as well have seen unicorns in that yard. Growing up in Alaska, either of those entities had to have been celestial bodies. But from that day on I always dreamed of having one; Afghan not unicorn.

As a young adult, fate intervened. A friend had been caring for a stray Afghan Hound and after no one claimed him, he owned me from then on. That was 1976. I acquired my first "show" afghan in 1978, won a group placement with her in my second show and was hooked -- not only on the breed but on dog shows, too.

Living in Alaska meant not too many mentors or learning opportunities, and we had to learn so much by trial and error. I tried to travel often to shows in the Northwest and absorb as much as I could in a very short time. When exhibitors would come to Alaska, I'm sure I drooled at the visiting "celebrity."

I have lived now in the "lower 48" for about 14 years, in the Rocky Mountain region, where I'm employed in federal law enforcement for Homeland Security Investigations. We live in the Cheyenne, Wyoming area on a ranch where the deer and the antelope play. My husband, Eric, is great at taking care of the dogs. I like to travel, while he is the most content staying home on the range, and that works out great!

My two wonderful kids (adults now) are my son Jordan, who still lives in Alaska, and my daughter DeMia. DeMia and her daughter Kylie, age five, live nearby in Cheyenne. If Kylie's skills say anything to the future, she will be beating all of our butts in no time in the show ring. She is fabulous kennel help and puppy socializer. Can you tell I'm a proud grandma?

I have my provisional Junior Showmanship judge's license and plan to apply for some breeds in the near future. I also breed and show Skye Terriers, which I have had since 1985, and belong to the Skye Terrier Club of America.

Deborah Ridley (formerly Divis)
Kuhl Breeze



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mary Sonnen

I was 14 years old when I met an Afghan Hound. It was the first Afghan in the St. Paul / Minneapolis area. We were both in the same beginner obedience class. I had a Miniature Schnauzer that was an awesome obedience dog. The Afghan Hound was quite the opposite! I was fascinated by this independent thinking, naughty, free spirited dog. My fascination has never ended.

Many years passed. I graduated from high school, college, got a job, and got married. On our fifth wedding anniversary, my husband surprised me with a three-month-old Afghan Hound puppy. Sacha was physically not the best quality, but her mind and spirit compelled my husband and me to learn more about the breed and acquire additional dogs.

This is our 40th year of proud Afghan Hound ownership! We have had 15 life-long dogs in our home - currently three. It has been my personal philosophy to keep my dogs in show coat unless health conditions prohibited. I enjoy competitive events with my dogs, but first and foremost our dogs are family members and live with us.

Some additional information:

- bred three litters (10 AKC Champions – one BIS / SBIS)
- personally finished nine AKC Champions
- titled two ASFA Field Champions
- titled and visited with four therapy dogs (the current therapy dog has been working seven years in a major metro hospital and a school with special needs children ages K-3)
- acquired AKC Agility Open and Jumpers with Weaves Excellent titles - qualified for the AKC Invitational
- acquired AKC Rally Excellent title

I am a retired nurse practitioner - worked two years in a hospital and spent 35 of the last 40 years of my career managing clinical public health programs. Retirement has led me to working in a dog training center, teaching rally obedience and agility classes, teaching 4H rally, and other volunteer activities.



Mary Sonnen's "Chili" Sondymars Innovation RE, AX, AXJ, NJP, ThD, CGC

Jason & Jennifer Taylor



Currently residing in Bellbrook, Ohio, Jason and Jennifer share a passion for dogs both professionally and personally. Jason, whose original interest was Terriers, has bred and shown Wire Fox Terriers, Lakeland Terriers and Airedale Terriers before becoming a fan of the Afghan Hound.

He is the communications director for Procter and Gamble's Iams, Eukanuba and Natura brands, responsible for customer service, brand PR and various projects such as the AKC Eukanuba National Championship.

Jennifer also works for P&G Pet Care as the Clinical Trials Manager, working closely with veterinary clinics and pet owners to develop exciting new products.

Jennifer's family bred and showed Irish Setters, so after graduation and job hunting, she decided to purchase her first show dog. Always enamored with the Afghan Hound, she and Jason chose and purchased Woody (SBIS Ch. Winsong Hollywood Park, JC) at eight weeks old in 2005.

To date, 12 Jolie hounds have attained AKC championships, with nine SBIS wins. Other notable Jolie-bred awards include Winners Dog at a National Specialty, RWD at a National Specialty, and BOS at the Breeder's Cup. They are proud to be new members and are looking forward to many more years of friendship, learning and a shared passion with the members of the Afghan Hound Club of America.

Jason & Jennifer Taylor
Jolie Afghan Hounds



Above - still photo from music video "Save the World" by Swedish House Mafia



Left - Rock star Stevie Nicks with her Afghan "Branwen" circa 1970's

Below - A commercial ad featuring Afghan Hounds circa mid 1980's

Back cover art by Michelle Trifero and Marla Lutrick.



AHCA CLASSIFIEDS Positions Open

RESCUE CHAIRPERSON

AHCA currently has a Great Opportunity for a Rescue Chair. Please consider volunteering to fill this intensely gratifying position. Confidentiality, discretion, and compassion a must. Interested candidates please contact Tony Saia 727.289.2095, or beachbrookafs@yahoo.com

TOPKNOT NEWS STAFF

Have experience in the publishing field? Fabulous communicator? Excellent computer graphics skills? Topknot News is looking for you!!! We have two vacancies - Editor and Graphic Designer. Come work with the best, join our team!! Contact: Tony Saia 727.289.2095, or beachbrookafs@yahoo.com

SHOW CHAIRPERSON

The 2015 National Specialty will be held in the Eastern part of the U.S. We need your positive attitude, and exceptional organizational and management skills. Experience helpful, but will consider all volunteers.

Contact Abbe Shaw
805.689.7119,
Abaca101@aol.com

Or Tony Saia 727.289.2095,
beachbrookafs@yahoo.com

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☆☆ COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE ... ☆☆
☆☆ !! MOORNISTAN !! ☆☆
☆☆ A TopKnot News exclusive ☆☆
☆☆ interview with ☆☆
☆☆ William (Bill) Moore. ☆☆
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The next Topknot News
Submittal Deadline is
October 12, 2013

