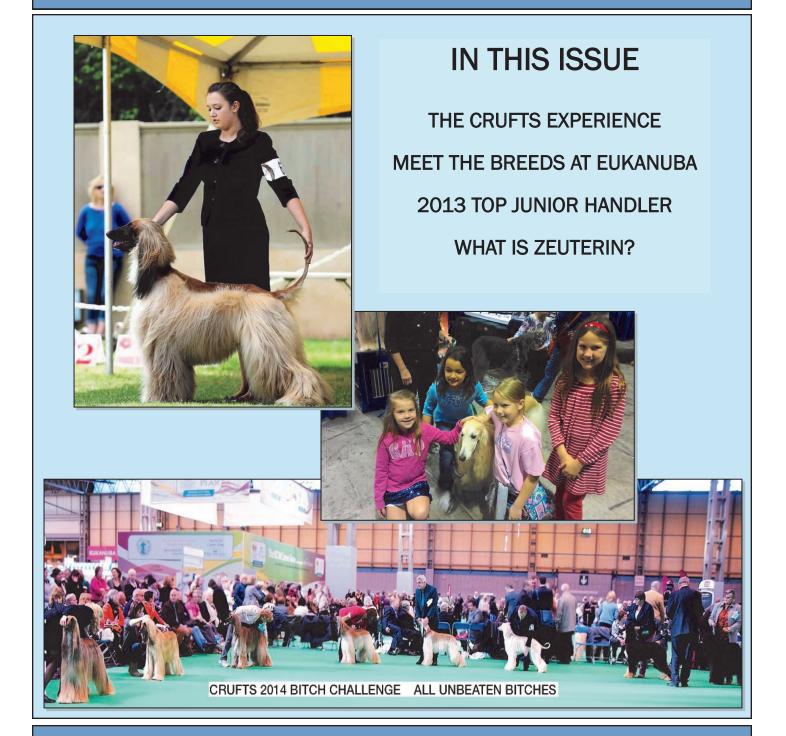
Topknot News

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

Spring 2014



Visit the AHCA Website at afghanhoundclubofamerica.org Rescue Hotline: 1-877-AF-RESCU (1-877-237-3728) Topknot News Editor (Pro Tem): Lynda Hicks suniafghans@gmail.com (512) 799-0799

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P&P 318.1 The newsletter of the AHCA shall be entitled "Topknot News" and shall be published three times a year, each publication falling within six (6) weeks after the Board Meetings so as to include all news from that meeting.

The next Topknot News submittal deadline is May 26, 2014



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Another Easy Way to Help Canine Health

Thank you to everyone who continues to vote for the AKC Canine Health Foundation in the TruckVault Cares contest.

You can also help by starting your Amazon shopping from the Amazon Smile page: http://smile.amazon.com

You use your normal Amazon log-in information and select a charity to support. Find us under American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, Inc. or the tax ID of 13-383813.

If you already shop at Amazon this is an easy way to help canine health that won't cost you anything beyond your normal purchases.

Thank you!

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Don't know what to do with your old Parent Club sweatshirts or t-shirts? RECYCLE THEM!!!

AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA

QUILT FUND RAISER

Alice Hastings has graciously volunteered to make a quilt for the Parent Club. The quilt is to be made from past National or Breeders' Cup logos. You can send the entire shirt or the section with the logo (if sending logo only, please leave enough fabric around logo for the patch.)

Deadline for sending is June 1st.

Please send your old Parent Club logo Sweatshirts or T-Shirts to:

Alice Hastings 144 Geddes Mountain Rd. Amherst, VA 24521 434-426-1827 fellini123@aol.com



Submitted by James Hicks President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, I wish to thank the Members of the Afghan Hound Club of America for placing your trust in me to serve as President for the next two years.

Off and running in 2014 !!!

My goals for 2014 are:

- To improve communication between the members, the fancy and the Board, AND between the National and Regional clubs.
- To improve the financial status of the AHCA, AND assist Regional clubs in finding new sources of revenue to help stabilize and improve their financial status

Committees and volunteers are the backbone of an organization such as AHCA. The Board of Directors is elected to not only maintain the functions of the AHCA, but also to help grow the organization. Growth happens with the work of the committees. Participation in a committee is open to all members of the AHCA.

We are all Afghan Hound fanciers with families, dogs and jobs, and are not able to focus on AHCA as much as we would like. Every little bit helps, and with that help, the AHCA can continue to not only function, but to grow and prosper. Every contribution of our members and Board members is invaluable to the success of the Club as a whole.

Help make a difference — VOLUNTEER!!!!

AHCA CLASSIFIEDS

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.

TOPKNOT NEWS STAFF

Have experience in the publishing field? Fabulous communicator? Excellent computer graphics skills? Topknot News is looking for you!!! We have three vacancies - Editor, Graphic Designer and Proof Reader. Come work with the best, join our team!!

Interested candidates please contact President James Hicks 512-799-0799 texashicks@gmail.com

AKC DELEGATES REPORT

Submitted by Connie Butherus



Delegate's Report AKC Delegate Meetings March 10, 11, 2014

The Delegate Meetings were held March 10th and 11th at the usual site, the Doubletree Hotel at Newark Airport. This being the Annual Meeting and election for the AKC Board of Directors it was well attended but less so than in previous years. There were 338 Delegates officially recorded as present which is 60 to 70 less than in previous years.

Monday was consumed with the Delegate Committees attending to the matters within their specified scope of responsibility. As a member of the Parent Club Committee I make it my business to always attend that meeting. The agenda was full and covered matters specific to the Parent Clubs' concerns, interests and problems. Items addressed were:

- A self study evaluation is to be made available to Parent Clubs to enable them to assess their structure, function and efficacy. This will be placed of the Parent Club Delegates list and the Parent Club Conference list shortly. The Program is voluntary and the results are not published nor released in any way. It is designed to enable a Parent Club to take an internal inventory of its Club assessing it against objective measurable criteria. It is anticipated that new Clubs and those in formation will find the self study especially helpful.
- The Canine Good Citizen (CGC) title has been awarded to 17,000 dogs since its inception a little over a year ago. The requests average 1000 per month. As the dog must be registered with the AKC it has been a bit of a revenue enhancer. The newest CGC title Community Canine, which is an advanced recognition, has generated 1000 titles at the rate of about 300 per month since becoming available. These are in addition to the ones cited above.
- Electronic balloting for Parent Clubs is approved by the AKC. Clubs are cautioned to accomplish the needed By Laws changes before using this form of balloting. Also it must be permitted by the State in which the Parent Club is incorporated. Parent Clubs are encouraged to obtain the advice of a corporate lawyer in the State of incorporation regarding the permissibility of electronic balloting in that State.
- Trailer Task Force Project is doing very nicely. The funding for these emergency/disaster canine response trailers is nearly \$244.000 with an additional \$16,000 pledged. Clubs and canine associated groups having contributed so far include: 104 Clubs representing 67 Parent Clubs or regional affiliates, 35 All Breed or Group Clubs, OFA, AKC Humane Fund and AKC Reunite. The first trailer was placed in NC. The Atlanta Kennel Club is funding one, several Clubs in Colorado are funding two as are Clubs in Maryland. This disaster relief project has existed for only six months.
- The Delegates Bylaws Committee has sent a proposal to the AKC Board regarding Delegate eligibility. The proposed change would remove most of the restrictions currently in effect such as: Professional Handlers or Trainers, Professional Judges (those charging a fee in excess of expenses) Dog Show Superintendents, dog food sales people, promoters of kennels or show dogs or accepting advertising in commercial dog publications etc. etc. Continuing to be ex-

cluded would be those convicted of animal cruelty, theft, embezzlement or misappropriation of funds or property from the AKC or any of its affiliated clubs. This promises to generate much discussion before the anticipated June vote. There are those who believe a Club has the right to select whomever they believe would best represent them. Others believe differently. It is of interest however the AKC Board did not make its usual recommendation regarding passage of this proposal but rather sent it on to the Delegate Body for determination.

- Parent Clubs, local Breed Clubs and Regional Breed Clubs can now offer the National Owner Handled Series at their specialty shows. It is hoped the Parent Clubs will participate and promote this competition.
- The Events section in Raleigh is working diligently to solve the problems Clubs are experiencing in getting their shows and events approved. A year ago it took about 8 to 14 days to receive a reply. That became 42 days and is now reported to be 21 days. For those waiting for approvals each day seems like an additional week however.
- Parent Clubs continue to request the Meet the Breeds be rotated around the country. Alan Kalter, AKC Board Chair, indicated the issue is one of sponsorship, aka money. Alternative methods were discussed as possibilities for Clubs to provide this type of event to their communities.
- Eddie Dzuik of the OFA reviewed the status of the CHIC DNA Repository. This DNA sample bank which started in 2005 stores samples for future research in canine genetic diseases. They store affected and non-affected dogs and family groups for researchers to have immediate access rather than need to wait for samples to be obtained before beginning the research. There are currently 18,000 individual samples. Three breeds, Dalmatians, Newfoundlands and Golden Retrievers each have over 1,000 samples in storage. Canine research organizations world wide have used samples from this repository in their work. Parent Clubs are in a prime position to promote and assist in this important work by having samples drawn at their National Specialties.
- The Herding, Earth Dog and Coursing Committee notified the AKC Board they no longer recommend Coursing Ability Tests be allowed for puppies under the age of 12 months. This piece of news was greeted with applause. The Board will now make its determination.

Tuesday morning the Delegates assembled once more to begin the process of electing 3 individuals to serve the next four years on the AKC Board of Directors. There were 4 candidates running for the 3 positions. The results were available after the first and only ballot. The number of votes needed to elect were 170.The numbers told the story: James Dok 179 Charles Garvin 205 Ron Mennaker 259

After the results were announced a standing ovation was given to Pat Scully for her many years of dedicated service to the AKC Board and the dog community.

Eighteen new Delegates were seated and the Delegates approved 2 field trial and 1 Rally amendment.

Alan Slay of the Events Department assured the Delegates his folks were working diligently to solve the slow turnaround time now experienced in the events approval process. He then addressed ways of attracting more visitors to dog shows. Three who have been very successful in doing this spoke about their methods, Patty Strand representing the Rose City club in Portland, Org. Carol Williamson of the Houston cluster and Tom Davies of the Springfield Mass group which hosts 39 shows a year at their exhibition

(Continued on page 5)

AKC DELEGATES REPORT

(Continued from pg. 4)

center were overflowing with ideas to enhance dog shows. All of the speakers stressed getting the news about the show out in the community using all available outlets. Meet the Breed type events, art contests, grade school tours, demonstrations, fly ball, CGC, My Dog Can Do That, health screening, agility, promos at movie theaters, and use of social media were some of the suggestions put forth.

Alan Kalter, Board Chair, stressed the future and the progress made by the AKC in the past year. Getting the truth out about the AKC and its accomplishments is essential. Use of social media, live streaming of the AKC Eukanuba show and increased focus on young families and empty nesters were all cited. He stated a Committee has been established to assess the possibility of resuming the televised coverage of the AKC Eukanuba show again. This was greeted with applause.

Dennis Sprung, AKC President spoke about the Trailer Project and stated the trailer funded by the Humane Fund will be located in the San Francisco, Ca. area. He produced one of the vests designed for the volunteers working on the trailers to wear with AKC lettering quite visible.

The CFO, Peter Farnsworth, reviewed the previous year in money terms. Revenues were up, expenses down, investments increased, pension liabilities shrank, net assets were up and registrations continue to decline....but more slowly. He noted that one source of income was CGC now being offered at Petco Stores.

Chris Walker the V.P. in charge of marketing and social media reviewed the accomplishments in his area of responsibility including T.V. coverage, live streaming of the AKC Eukanuba show and the 1.5 million followers on Face-Book.

Carl Ashby, AKC Board, continues to lead the President's Challenge to raise funds for the AKC PAC. In the 2012 election cycle \$46,000 was raised. This is not even close to the \$66,000,000 he cited for HSUS. However 90% of the candidates the PAC supported were successful. The AKC tracks about 1200 bills a year. Another Presidents' Challenge will be held this year. The goal is to raise \$75,000. With 5,000 AKC clubs that averages out to \$15.00 per club if all clubs participate.

Larry Sorenson, Delegate of the Dachshund Club of America, read a letter from their Board of Directors. It addressed the promotional video produced by the AKC media area featuring two breeders of Dachshunds. The breeders in the video are not members of the Parent Club, are not Breeders of Merit nor was the Dachshund Club of America contacted about featuring their breed. Noted also was the direct link to the web page of the individuals features from the AKC video. He concluded with stating the Dachshund Club of America has been a member Club of the AKC since the late 1890s.

The next Delegate meeting will be June 8 and 9 to be held again at the Doubletree Hotel, Newark Airport.

Respectfully Submitted, Connie Butherus AKC Delegate for the Afghan Hound Club of America



2014 AKC LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE From AKC CEO James F. Crowley

More than 60 AKC Legislative Liaisons from around the country gathered for the 2nd American Kennel Club Legislative Conference to discuss the strategies and tools necessary to fight anti-dog legislation.

The Conference, held January 25-26, 2014 in Raleigh, North Carolina, provided legislative liaisons an opportunity to exchange ideas, discuss what was working in their states and communities and share lessons learned with fellow dog advocates from across the United States.

"The purpose of the conference was to provide our legislative leaders with tools and information that will help them inspire and empower concerned dog owners in their clubs and communities to counter misinformation and fight bad canine policy," said AKC Government Relations Director Sheila Goffe. "It was an outstanding conference, probably one of the best I've attended put on by any organization," said Linda Hart, Secretary and State Legislation Liaison of the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs, Inc.

Representatives, lobbyists and public relations professionals were onhand to speak with attendees. Presentations included:

- Political Participation and Success, presented by Michael Williams, a Senior Policy Advisor with Barnes & Thornburg, LLP who has served as AKC's federal affairs advisor and advocate since November 2008.
- Taking Back the Conversation, presented by Sarah Longwell, a Senior Vice President at Berman and Company, a dynamic research, communications, advertising and government affairs firm in Washington, D.C.
- Media Training for Dog Advocates, led by Bill McIntyre, Executive Vice President/Group Head, Grassroots & Public Affairs for Edelman, AKC's public relations firm.
- A Legislator's Perspective on Animal Rights, presented by Rep. Tara Sad, who is currently serving her fourth term in the New Hampshire House of Representatives, where she serves as Chair of Environment and Agriculture Committee.
- Political Involvement From Fancier to Legislator, led by Rep. Janice Sparhawk Gardner, an AKC judge, delegate, legislative liaison and Representative of the citizens of Dover, New Hampshire Ward 3, Strafford District 15, to the New Hampshire General Court.
- Tales from the Trenches: Federation Building and Community Outreach, presented by Michele Kasten and Jeffrey Ball, both longtime fanciers and Vice-President and President of the Illinois Federation of Dog Clubs and Owners and the New Jersey Federation of Dog Clubs, respectively.
- Humane Relocation and the Animal Rights Movement, led by Patti Strand, the National Director of the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA), former AKC Board Member and a volunteer lobbyist since 1991.
- The Breeder as Advocate, presented by Pat Hastings, a breeder, owner, handler and AKC judge who has taught seminars for 25 years around the world about evaluating litters and other aspects of the sport.

AKC staff also led a number of sessions:

- The Latest from AKC GR: Trends, Tools and Resources, oversees AKC legislative policy strategy and AKC outreach at the federal, state and local levels. New legislative trends to watch in 2014 and the AKC resources available to clubs and federations.
- Advocacy 101: Engaging Members in Effective Networking and Advocacy

 Veterans at addressing legislation at the state and local levels, Community activism, getting to know local officials and understanding the
 legislative process.
- Using Technical Language to Your Advantage—legislative analysis and provided tips and insight into reading legislative language and understanding how it can impact dog ownership.
- Canine Litigation—AKC's involvement in appellate litigation of significance to the organization and dog owners.

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP



Submitted by Anna Stromberg, Chair

We had a very exciting year for juniors in the breed. Emmylea Herring, selected as best Junior at the National, came all the way from Alaska to com-

pete. Her year-end standing over all was 3rd.

The Future is looking bright for Afghan Hounds and totaled 17 young handlers competing in junior showmanship at all breed and specialty level. The top ten list looks like this:

- 1 Libbie Flanagan
- 2 Elizabeth K Edgerton
- 3 Emmylea Raye Herring
- 4 Alexis Kujawa
- 5 Mattison Taylor
- 6 Gretchen Vanderzee
- 7 Alexis Jones
- 8 Makenzie Brumley
- 9 Karol-Ann Savard
- 10 Autumn Ashley

The remaining seven additional Junior Handlers showing Afghan Hounds did not rank, but their efforts and results are just as important.

I must give a shout out to our many juniors who are competing in the breed ring with excellent results. They are truly and inspiration to everyone and with their talent and sportsmanship are true role models for anyone of any age.

I am hoping to have a personal letter to each and every one soon to continue the communication with parents and juniors alike.

Purina pro club have announced that they will be doing a juniors program shortly. I hope to have more information on this, and am waiting for a response to my request.

The one thing that keeps coming back to me from juniors and their parents is the request on a junior membership in the AHCA. I will bring it up again at the next meeting.

I thank the club for the opportunity to work with our next generation. I truly enjoy it!

Respectfully submitted, Anna Stromberg, Junior Showmanship Chair



2014 TOP JUNIOR HANDLER LIBBIE FLANAGAN

Our top junior for 2013 is Libbie Flanagan of Meza, Arizona.

GCH Sars Summerwind Keeping the Faith is Libbie's partner in the ring.

This is from Libbie:

"My name is Libbie Flanagan, I'm 15 years old, and I live in Mesa, Arizona. I have been showing for almost six years now, and almost two years ago I was offered the chance to show an Afghan Hound in the Junior Showmanship competition. My dog Manly was given to me by his breeder and my wonderful mentor Pamela Unterseh. Also, thank you to Rosemary Sutton, the co-breeder, for breeding such an amazing dog. Without them I would not have had the chance to be introduced into this fascinating breed, and meet such kind and caring friends who share my love for Afghans. They have made these past few years so enjoyable due to all their support. This past year I've gained many great memories and friends. I am looking forward to what the New Year will bring. "



WHAT IS ZEUTERIN ?

Submitted by AHCA Health Chair Eileen Laudermilch

CANINE HEALTH REPORT

Submitted by Health Chair,

Eileen Laudermilch

The results for the fourth quarter are as follows:

Hips: 10 excellent, 11 good, and two fair. No abnormal Thyroid: 10 normal Eye: 15 normal Cardiac: 2 normal Elbows: 3 normal

For the total of 53 tested, two CHIC numbers updated and three new.

Hip stats for the year:

Our dysplastic rank in consideration of all breeds is 218 out of 263 breeds. The hips were a total of 98; 94 normal, three abnormal and one borderline. The normals were broken down to 35 excellent, 53 good and six fair. Of the three dysplastic; there were two mild and one moderate.

Respectfully submitted, Eileen Laudermilch RN CCRN, Health Chair

REMINDER

If you have not done so already - please go to the OFA website and complete the Afghan Hound Health Survey http://www.offa.org/surveys/survey_afghan.html

MPS1 UPDATE

It has recently been reported on FaceBook and the internet that the two Afghan Hounds in question did and do not have MPS1

AHCA's Health Chair recommends that anyone wanting further information regarding this should contact: Charlotte Newton Sheppard Professor of Medicine School of Veterinary Medicine University of Pennsylvania 3900 Delancey Street Philadelphia, PA 19104-6010 Phone <u>215-898-8830</u>; fax <u>215 -573-2162</u>

Zeuterin is a non-surgical alternative to conventional neutering.

For the last few years, my vet, Dr. Ingram, has been involved in the testing of this drug; sometimes traveling to inject feral dog populations in Africa. When this medication was first released, the recommended age group was 3 - 10 months. Most recently, this recommendation has been increased to dogs up to 10 years of age.

Zeuterin is a composed of zinc gluconate neutralized with Larginine injected directly into the center of the dog's testicles. Most dogs are sedated to ensure proper injection. Sperm production is effectively shut down within 1 - 3 days. However sperm in the vas deferens and possibly the epididymis can remain viable for up to 30 days. The active ingredients Zinc and L-Arginine are metabolized within 72 hours and do not create a long term health hazard associated with the localized injection. This medication results in scarring of the testicles and in addition they have an average of 52% reduction of the size of the prostate gland and also a 41-52% reduction of the circulating testosterone. Once injected, a small "Z" is tattooed on the dog's inner thigh to signal the veterinarians, owners and shelters that the dog has been sterilized.

In the initial study, 30 six month old dogs and 10 controls were followed for two years. During that time, there were no significant differences found between the treated and untreated animals. At the conclusion, no differences were found in vital organs. In the treated animals, the epidymidis, testicles and prostate all had size reduction. Due to the fact that 50% of circulating testosterone was present, no bone growth abnormalities have been noted as in traditional castration. I asked the researchers regarding secondary characteristics such as a smooth saddle and face in the Afghan Hound and they had no information on such. This possibly opens up another possible desirable outcome in our beloved breed.

Possible side effects: The injection was noted as painful in 2.6% of the 270 treated dogs studied. The most common systemic reaction of the Zeuterin injection was increased neutrophiles in 6.3% post injection. 4.4% experienced vomiting in 1 minute to 4 hours post injection. <1% experienced licking of the scrotum, which is highly discouraged as this could result in ulceration to severe scrotal infection. Swelling begins 24 hours post injection and peaks at 48 hours. The testicles will be atrophied in 1 month post injection.

At this time, only veterinarians that have been specifically trained in administration of Zeuterin are permitted to do this procedure. Exact measuring and injection are essential.

I hope I have answered any questions you may have. Please contact me for any additional question and I will do my best to obtain your answers.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Erica Jantos

Hello new, old and VERY old friends, my name is Erica Jantos.

Thank you very much for accepting me to your group.

I am the third generation to exhibit dogs under the Province banner and one of those few lucky souls that were born into the breed. I can't recall a time when Afghans were not a part of my life. My mother, Jane Sheppard, tells me I went to my first show at 4 weeks old. At the time my father, Eugene Jantos was campaigning BIS Ch Artemis of Province.

Through the 80's I joined my dad nearly every weekend as we crisscrossed the east coast. I look back upon those days fondly, I truly feel they were the "golden days" of Afghans. Very magical times where you saw mythic dogs and their glamorous god like handlers. Where the specialties had not 50 entries, but 50 specials alone.

The big weekends we brought grand mom Frances with us. I would look forward to holding court ringside with her and her peers; feeling special sitting next to Reigh Abrams, Betty Zimmerman or Kay Finch when she was in town.

The proudest day of my life was in 1982 when Scooby, CH Province Applause Resolution won the National. This was only recently surpassed by my mother being asked to JUDGE the National. I personally thank you for giving her that honor.

Today, I have a fairly simple life in Eastern PA. Other than my parents and brother, my family consists of my fiancée, Ramon, and his daughter Willow.

We have 2.5 Afghan Hounds. Sasha, Inisfree Majic From Province, the queen of the home, and the new addition Loki, our Swedish import Alphaville's Flash Forward. Our "half" is Volt, CH Wynsyr Voltaire of Province who I co-own with my mother, he spends most of his time in Maine with her. In my spare time I read, have an unhealthy shopping habit when it comes to antiques, and adore to travel.

Thank you again and please do not be shy if you see me at a show, the grumpy one was my dad.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Cathy Kirchmeyer

I acquired my first Afghan Hound as a young woman in 1967 and have since enjoyed a life enriched by dogs and horses.

Currently I have three Afghans that participate in agility, lure coursing, obe-

dience, and recently the new sport of barn hunt. Yes, my Afghans love barn hunting! I compete about every other weekend in dog performance events. However, my favorite activity is walking with my dogs around our large fenced acreage where afghans can be real hounds chasing rabbits, flushing birds and treeing squirrels and raccoons.

Contrary to the common stereotype of Afghans, I would describe them as clever, fearless, loyal, comical and easily trainable, although the desire to give chase always remains dominant. Judging from people's reactions, including surprise, I believe my Afghans serve as positive representatives of the breed at dog classes, trials and other outings.

One of my fondest afghan memories is meeting a magnificent afghan running alone in a city park about 50 years ago. I learned afterward that he had been imported from Northern India by a diplomat. This afghan truly was a king of dogs!

I now am retired from my work as a university professor and welcome the chance to serve AHCA in some way.



Erica Jantos

WELCOME NEW MEMBER Edna Kishbaugh

SHIRRIN One of Edna's dogs. Doing her "thing" with therapy work



Edna has loved and been owned by Afghan Hounds since 1975, when she acquired Lazlo Fehr from a breeder in Northeast Pennsylvania. A strong-willed and handsome red hound that ran The Hill for 15 years, many with his buddy, the Border Collie, Tux. Lazlo was shown once in Missouri, hated the experience and ate his blue ribbon on the way home.

Next came the fine golden Hound Just Phaedron who ruled The Hill for many years with the help of Just Atthis, the tiny, tough domino bitch that kept him fit.

Since 2000, the Hounds at L'Rhel have included the alpha Chandhara's A Touch of Reiki, (Edna is a Reiki Master and teacher), Shirrin (Asia's Midnight L'Rhel), and her descendants The primary interest at L'Rhel is sound, athletic, intelligent hounds who prove themselves in many venues. Shirrin's get and grandget are proving they can.

There have been four litters of L'Rhel hounds to date. The first produced the two AHCA National Triathlon winners and Dual Champions Sevion and Chica, their brother Ch. Zeke., and sister Toozh who, with a CGC, JC and 7 points, has produced litters by Judah and Starzon. Five of those pups still live here on The Hill with their dam and granddam.

The BIE at the 2006 AHCA National Lure Coursing was Frida, owned by L'Rhel, and BIE at the 2007 AHCA National Lure Coursing was Sevion, bred by L'Rhel.

Edna has been a member of the Lehigh Valley Afghan Hound Association for a number of years, contributing art work to their raffles for rescue. She is also on record as available for rescue transport in her area.

A noted sculptor in clay, wood, stone and metal and a skilled stained-glass artist, she has contributed well-received pieces to the AHCA National Art Auction.

Edna is delighted to be accepted as AHCA member and intends to contribute to the club and the preservation of the breed in the future.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Emile Peterson

Hi Everyone! I am Emilie Peterson, former Afghan Hound Junior Showman.

I am so excited to be accepted into the National club. I love this breed with all my heart!

My current afghan hound, GCH Perfection Cheri-a's No More Mr Ice Guy JC CGC RA, aka Mister is the one who started it all.

Thank you to my mentor and "other mother," Debbie Petersen for giving me the best dog to start with and for being that special someone to teach me everything!

I began juniors with my rescue Papillion, and migrated up the line to an Afghan Hound. School has been priority lately, but look forward to breeding my first litter of Afghans and getting back into the ring,.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the National in Texas



Emile and Mister Winning Best Junior Handler in Show



THE CRUFTS EXPERIENCE

Submitted by Christine Pinkston

The idea to go to CRUFTS was just sort of 'tossed out'. Sure, it sounded like a fun idea. I had always wanted to go. I had a dog that qualified, so why not?

There are three parts to this adventure and three, no, four participants: Myself, Anna Stromberg, Ben Franzoso and my dog, Rachel.

"Rachel" GCH Criston Enchanted - qualified to be entered at CRUFTS in 2012 and 2013 when she won Best Opposite Sex those years at the AKC Eukanuba Show. In addition, for dogs from the USA, the following criteria applies:



"USA - Winners of Best of Breed, Best of Opposite, Awards of Excellence at the AKC Invitational, December 2014. Additionally, Best of Breed, Best of Opposite, Grand Champion Select Dog and Bitch, Awards of Merit Winners (if offered) and Best Bred by Exhibitor (if offered), at one National Breed Specialty show per breed chosen by the parent breed club and agreed by the AKC."

GETTING ENTERED

First - The ATC number. This is the registration number – much like our AKC number. It stands for Authority to Compete. The requirements are: Their specific Application form, the dog's AKC Registration, Certified AKC Pedigree and the (in my case) the 'Invitation' to enter CRUFTS Certificate. There was a time frame after which the UK would no longer process applications in time for CRUFTS entries. Applications could be done via mail, fax and email. As everyone knows – nothing is ever easy and it never is right the first time. I made four phone calls to England to follow up on items which were holding up my application. The 5 hours ahead time zone was an issue. The UK staff was courteous and I tried to be my most charming self while in the process- emailing pictures of Rachel looking stately. And, of course, I was cutting it rather close to the deadline – being a serial procrastinator. Then, by some miracle, I received an email from the nice ladies in the UK with Rachel's ATC Number and a note that the ATC form was being mailed to me. With the ATC Number, I could now contact the show superintendent, FOSSEDATA.

FOSSEDATA

Whose website is in English, was still difficult for me to understand. More phone calls and new friendships made with the Fossedata ladies. I sent them a picture of my doggie – it is always recommended to make friends with your kidnappers to try to personalize yourself – so I thought this might work here as well. It did. I am now a registered client and I am a 'partnership' since my dog is co-owned. I had my dog successfully entered now at CRUFTS. (I was so excited to have gotten this far that I posted my success on FaceBook!)

I was advised that I could purchase additional admission tickets, car park passes and catalogues (note the spelling) with my entry and I did so. I did not know to purchase an Unloading Pass ahead of time and found, when we went to the show site the day prior to Hounds, that this was critical. Anna was able to secure this Unloading Pass. I did not ask her how and I do not want to know how in case I am asked to testify.

GETTING THERE

Going to England with dogs used to be difficult. Going to England with dogs is STILL difficult. There is no quarantine but there are still hard, fast and inflexible timeframes for Rabies shots and Drontil/Droncit Plus medication. It is absolutely possible to fly a dog directly into England. But, your dog CANNOT be checked along with you as excess baggage. It must be 'shipped' as freight on your flight. So, you would have to go to the freight terminal, adhere ALL of the required veterinary documents to the dog's crate and pay about \$2,000 (yes) each way to ship. Your dog would arrive in England and be off-loaded to the Cargo Terminal while you are arriving and trying to get through the Passenger Terminal. A cargo agent then inspects the documents, looking for any loophole to deny entry, removes your dog from the crate, pats it down for contraband, 'wand' him or her for the microchip number – you sincerely hope your dog does not run away, bite the cargo guy, and that he finds the microchip which, of course has migrated to the dog's knee. If all goes well, you can expect to be able to claim your dog from the cargo terminal in about 5 – 6 hours. . . . Nope. Not for me or my dog! So, the best options were to fly into Paris or Brussels. Your dog can be checked as 'excess baggage' and unloaded with the golf clubs, cellos, and other oversized luggage. We chose to fly into Brussels. No problems in NY at JFK. No problems at Brussels. About \$200 (yes) each way. Bring and check a dolly.

CARS/VANS

They do not make real-sized mini vans to rent. Period. The car rental guy sized up our mountain of baggage as he peered from behind his counter and gave us a bigger van than the one we reserved. It still was barely big enough for three adults, a dog and luggage. Anna was folded like a

(Continued on page 11)

The CRUFTS Experience

Submitted by Christine Pinkston

(Continued from page 10)

pretzel in the back seat. The seat space beside her was stacked to the ceiling.

We drove into France. Anna had made a round trip reservation (also critical) for the Channel Tunnel – affectionately known as the 'Chunnel'. Upon arrival at the Chunnel, we detoured for the Pet Inspection Station where Rachel's documents were checked, she was scanned and all was OK'd. We were given a 'slip' to put on our car windshield and barely had room for that! We drove onto the 'Chunnel Train'. It was like driving into a giant intestine - the trains hold about 130 cars. You shut off the engine, can close your eyes for about 30 minutes, magically the train emerges on the other side and you are in England!!!!

GETTING WITH THE PROGRAM

We went over to the NEC (National Exposition Center) the day before to get a sense of the show. We parked in the car park and took the continuously running bus to the buildings. There is one central lobby and FIVE show Halls. Each Hall is currently containing more than 1000 dogs each day for four days. Over 22, 000 dogs. It is HUGE!

Without the Unloading Pass you have to unload at the off-site parking and roll your crate in or walk your dog in, probably more than half a mile. With the pass, there was a long line of cars, expertly directed by the inflexible local site police. No talking your way in - definitely not the American way of bypassing the rules.

Once in the building, you scout for your ring and the 'benching' is conveniently located around your ring. Each bench has two armbands on it. One is for you to wear - the other stays on the benching. There is NO electricity at the show for exhibitors. Period. Nada. Anything like that has to be done before you get to the building.



The Rings are green carpet. There are no baby-gates or barriers between the exhibitors and dogs and spectators. Chairs, for the most part, make up the ring barriers. People with their dogs enter the ring from wherever they please. Spectators feet and legs precariously encroach on the carpet, but no mishaps were noted by me. In the classes, catalog order usually doesn't happen. Everyone just comes in. The ring stewards walk in and out of the ring during judging. For Afghan Hounds - Dog classes and Bitch classes ran concurrently in side-by– side rings with more chairs in between those rings and people watching facing one way and then moving their chair around to face into the other ring. The entry was huge - 260 Afghan Hounds Spectators were polite and there was no clapping until the final awards were made. The judge had the winners of the classes line up while critiques were handwritten for later divulgence. We pretty much were the only ones with spray bottles and excessive brushing. All English champions compete in the same classes with non- champions of the same sex. One male and one female are selected for the CC' award or 'ticket' as it is also known. The male CC winner and the female CC winner then compete against each other for Best of Breed. This must be decided by a unanimous decision of the dog judge and the bitch judge. If there is no agreement, the show officials have to hunt down the group judge who would then come to the ring and cast the deciding vote.

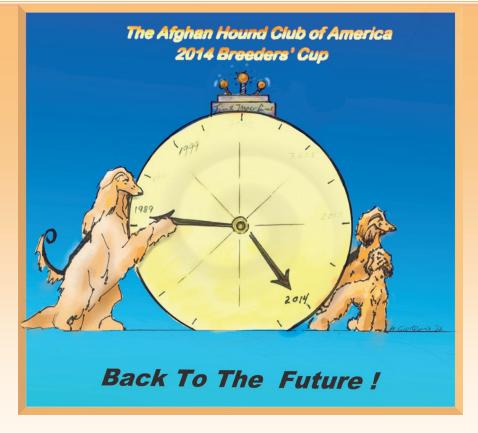
After the Best of Breed is awarded, there is much cheering, taking of pictures, hugging, thanking of judges etc. (I know this because we were fortunate enough to have won!!) Everyone then retires back to the benching area for well-deserved libations, some of them alcoholic. (I know this also for a fact and I thought it was good to go with the flow).

This was a tremendously exciting trip. To have made it to one of the greatest dog events in the world was amazing. To own the first American Bred, and very likely the first American Owned Afghan Hound to win the breed at CRUFTS was humbling. To watch my dog enter the group ring was surreal. I made many new friends and met in person the people I had come to know on social media. We were welcomed warmly. We felt part of the global family of dog lovers and, in particular, Afghan Hound lovers. Would I go back? ABSOLUTELY!!

And, for me, something must have stuck about this trip. Every

afternoon I am enjoying a cup of perfectly brewed tea in the kitchen of my home in Virginia and thinking about the kinship we share with a larger community. Special Thanks to my good friends and travelling companions Anna Stromberg and Ben Franzoso without whom this trip would not have been possible nor would have been so fun. And a big hug to my four-legged friend who travelled happily and represented herself well in a far away place.





The Twenty Sixth Annual Afghan Hound Club of America Breeders Cup will be held Friday, May 2, 2014 at Mercer County Park, West Windsor Township, New Jersey.

It will be held in the morning with the Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey holding its specialty show in the afternoon. In addition on the same grounds will be the following shows:

May 1, Thursday, Central New Jersey Hound Association

May 4,Sunday , Trenton Kennel Club

May 5, Monday, Trenton Kennel Club On Saturday, May 3, Bucks County Kennel Club will hold its shown in Erwinna, Pa. a scenic drive from Princeton on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River. Supported Entries for Afghan Hounds are planned for the Hound Club, Trenton and Bucks County shows.

The host hotel is: Holiday Inn Princeton 100 Independence Way, Princeton, NJ 08540 Phone <u>1-609-520-1200</u> A limited block of rooms will be held until April 15,2014 Rate : \$107.00 + tax without breakfast \$109.00 + tax with up to 2 breakfasts per room One time pet fee of \$50.00 per room Reference the AHCA when making your reservations.

Trophy donations for the Breeders Cup can be sent to: Hal Perry & Tony DeMarzo 43 Maple Place Keyport, NJ 07735 The Show Secretary is: Dorma Sue Busby 586-264-4292 barakiafs@peoplepc.com

Event Co-chairs are: Connie Butherus <u>908-735-9673</u> <u>gcb27@ptd.net</u> And MaryAnn Giordano <u>908-735-6258</u> <u>mywayafghan@comcast.net</u>

Morning (breakfast) and afternoon hospitality in planned for the Breeders Cup exhibitors and spectators. This will be provided by the members and friends of the Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey and other participating Afghan Hound Clubs in the area.

Please plan to have an Afghan Hound celebration on the first extended show weekend in May 2014 in the Central New Jersey area. It is an interesting and historical part of the country with many attractions and opportunities for sightseeing and tours. The nearest airports are Newark Liberty or Philadelphia International.

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)



\$5.00

\$5.00

\$10.00

\$20.00

\$30.00 \$40.00

\$40.00

\$40.00

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			and the second	2013 National Items	
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Black, 7 6-Pak Coolers 2 Pink; 6 Gray \$10.00



PARENT CLUB LOGO ITEMS

Sweatshirt Cloumbia Blue XL 6

Fleece Vest Gray XL-2, 2X-1, 3X-1

Hoody Royal Blue L-1 Hoody Black XL-3, 3X-1

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

\$15.00

THE AFGHAN HOUND — NOT JUST ANOTHER PRETTY FACE MEET THE BREED AT EUKANUBA !!!



THE GANG!!! - Our Great Team of Volunteers

The AKC Eukanuba National Championship Dog Show was held this year at the Orange County Convention Center, in Orlando, Florida on December 14-15, 2013. Anyone who has attended knows what a marvelous venue it is for showcasing the world of dogs. Once again the parent club was invited to participate by hosting an Afghan Hound booth at "Meet the Breed". Designing, organizing, setting up (and tearing down!!), and staffing the booth with volunteers is as exciting and rewarding as it is exhausting.

We decided to stay with the theme "The Afghan Hound – More Than Just a Pretty Face" because it is such a true statement of our beloved hounds and serves to highlight the beauty as well as the athleticism of the breed. Thanks to the AKC providing double booths to the larger breeds we had lots of space to work with. The design we used last year worked well, so we added some new features and were really pleased with the outcome.

The booth is supposed to help educate the public on the breed – history, purpose, personality, temperament, etc. As before we separated the booth into two parts – one focused on beauty and one focused on performance. Since it was the holidays, both our mannequin "Sabrina" and her faithful afghan "Charlie" were decked out in Christmas fashion, accompanied by a Christmas tree decorated with Afghan Hound ornaments.

A new exhibit this year, which was very popular and got a lot of attention, was a poster board featuring photographs of famous people with their Afghans throughout the years. Our favorite was the picture of Gary Cooper with his afghan hound who he described as "the <u>smartest</u> dog I ever owned"!!! The performance side of the booth also featured a poster board and photographs, this time showing the Afghan Hound competing in lure coursing, agility, obedience, and therapy.

The center and focal point of the booth was a rugged mock wall with a television framed to give the appearance of looking through a window into a field on which videos of lure coursing competition was constantly showing. A backdrop of a desert scene with a hunter and his afghan completed the display.

As always, though, the real stars of the booth were the dogs themselves – that's what the people come to see and that's what brings the booth to life. We were honored to have some truly awesome repre-



sentatives of our breed in attendance this year.

"Thank you" just doesn't say enough for our team of volunteers who gave up their weekend to bring their dogs to this event: Janie Getz with her rescue Jasper, Gary Larimer with his darling puppies

Twinkle and Buckeye, Darla Hichborn with her champion Thor, Mark and Rita Hendrix with their coursing star Joy, Sonny Tremarki and Jim Reynolds their champions Austin and Flash, Al and Kathryn Pemberton (what a trooper, she was there both days after just having knee surgery) with their champion Ben, and of course, our champion (of our hearts as well) Spirit. Also thanks to the many parent club members who stopped by to lend their support.

We made a lot of new friends for our hounds, corrected some misconceptions, and once again were humbled by this incredible breed that we are fortunate enough to share our lives with. To see the Hounds interact with the hundreds of spectators that stopped by and to watch the expressions on the people's faces (especially the children) is beyond description.

OH, and by the way – the booth again took Hound Group IV – YEAH!!!!

Marcia & Dom Morelli Chairs, AHCA Breed & Public Education

Submitted by Marcia & Dom Morelli Chairs, Breed & Public Education



Above - Poster board showing Afghan Hound competing in lure coursing, obedience, agility and therapy.

Below - poster board featuring photographs of famous people with their Afghans





"Sabrina" and her faithful afghan "Charlie"

ELECTRONIC BALLOTING

The AHCA Board of Directors requests feed-back from members

AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

Date: March, 2014

To: AHCA Members

From: The AHCA Board of Directors

Subject: Electronic Balloting for the AHCA

Dear AHCA Members;

The Board of Directors would appreciate knowing your thoughts and opinions on the use of Electronic Balloting for elections, votes on breed standard revisions, By-Law amendments, and any other specific questions the AHCA Board of Directors shall determine.

Included, for your examination, is the American Kennel Club Electronic Balloting Question and Answers for your review. This AKC Question and Answers Sheet should provide you with many of the answers to your questions concerning the working process of electronic balloting.

This topic is being placed on the agenda for the 2014 General Membership Meeting, in Belton, TX. All members are asked to email their thoughts and comments to the Corresponding Secretary, Sue Busby at: barakiafs@peoplepc.com

Thank You, The AHCA Board of Directors

Electronic Balloting

American Kennel Club Electronic Balloting Q & A

(The American Kennel Club requires that such balloting must be conducted by an independent organization which specializes in electric balloting.)

How does my club see if this is permissible?

The club must check with the Office of the Secretary of State in the state where the club is incorporated or check the law governing not-for-profit organizations incorporated in that state.

Can my club do this now and make the Bylaws change later?

The bylaws require that ballots be "sent" / "mailed" and that they be secret. As long as these components are met, the bylaws can be amended at a later date.

How does my club handle those members who want a paper ballot or who do not return a signed consent form? Those members will continue to receive ballots via USPS.

Where does the club keep the signed consent forms? The Secretary (or Recording Secretary) should keep the consent forms.

Is it necessary for the club to have the consent forms signed each year upon membership renewal or is the one consent form sufficient for as long as the member is in good standing?

No, but the member has the right to "opt-out" provided the request is received by the club in advance of any election deadline.

How does the club combine the two voting methods - paper and balloting for the total?

If the electronic balloting service does not include the counting of paper ballots the club must conduct the nonelectronic balloting in any of the ways currently prescribed in the bylaws

Does the club have to report the votes separately to the membership or just the totals?

The club should report just the totals but obviously the club's internal records should include both counts.

How does the club ensure that a member did not vote both electronically and by paper?

The club will have two lists of members: one sent to the eballoting firm and the other maintained by the recipient of ballots received via USPS.

The Benefits, Drawbacks & Risks of Internet Voting

Benefits:

- Convenience and accessibility for members who have computers with Internet access at home, at work, or abroad; and for certain groups of electors (persons with disabilities, the military, single parents, members who are traveling, etc.)
- Flexible voting time for members
- Flagging of ballot errors –alerting designated officer of ballot errors
- Lower cost than traditional methods\
- Potential to increase voter turnout
- Potential to enhance electoral efficiency
- Faster and more accurate results
- Instant absentee ballot
- Font size and screen language can be modified

Drawbacks and Risks:

- Limited access to Internet or limited understanding on the part of some members, including clear definitions on what computers can be used in electronic balloting and what computers cannot be used.
- Difficulty verifying voter ID
- No "paper trail" for a recount if requested
- The cost of an "independent monitor" for counting only the paper ballots. (Some CPAs charge the same for counting 20 ballots as they do for counting 400 ballots.)
- Hacks or viruses attacking the system and altering the ballot results
- Technical difficulties, programming errors or server malfunctions on the part of the vendor hired to email ballots and count ballot

Members, please email your thoughts and comments to the Corresponding Secretary -Sue Busby barakiafs@peoplepc.com



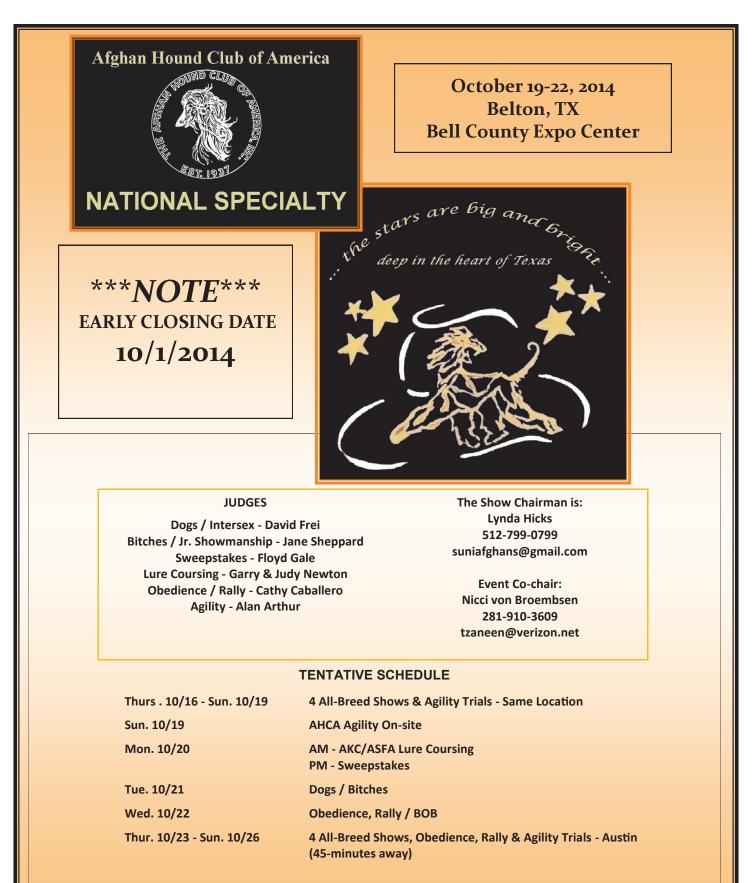
REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW DATES

*Note: This information was gathered by TN Editor from other sources, and accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Please refer to <u>http://www.akc</u> or <u>http://afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/</u> for more detailed information.

CLUB SHOW SECRETARY REGULAR CLASS JUDGE SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE	SHOW DATE LOCATION
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas Show 1: Regular Classes: Randy Tincher Sweeps: Johnnie Rae Show 2: Regular Classes: Patrick Guilfoyle No Sweeps	April 26, 2014 Parker, TX Ken Conner, Event Secy. acw2@tx.rr.com
Afghan Hound Club of America—BREEDERS CUP Judge: Mary Ann Giordano	May 2, 2014 Township, NJ Dorma Sue Busby, Event Secy. barakiafs@peoplepc.com
Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey Regular Classes: Nancy Self No Sweeps	May 2, 2014 Township, NJ Rau Dog Shows, Supt. info@raudogshows.com
Tara Afghan Hound Club5/24:Regular Classes: Chris Kaiser Sweeps: Brigette Kaiser5/25:Regular Classes: Gil Ullum Sweeps: Mary Blacker	May 24 & 25, 2014 Atlanta, GA Karen Mays, Event Secy. karen@zencor.com
Afghan Hound Club of St. Louis Regular Classes: Richard Souza Sweeps: TBD	May 31, 2014 Gray Summit, NJ Jan Henry, Event Secy. afjhans@earthlink.net
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago, Inc. Show 1: Regular: Classes: Reginald Nesbitt Show 2: Regular: Classes: Nancy Edgington Sweeps: Lauren Morrison	June 6, 2014 Joliet, IL Carol Glowczynski, Event Secy. sticklady4@comcast.net
Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club Regular Classes: Sandra L Weinraub Sweeps: Pam Unterseh	June 7, 2014 Vallejo, Ca. MB-F Inc., Supt mbf@infodog.com
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club Regular Classes: Michael Gadsby Sweeps: Beth Collins	June 13, 2014 Windsor Locks, CT Amy Mero, Event Secy. maxmero@comcast.net
Afghan Hound Association of Long Island Judges: TBD	June 14, 2014 Windsor Locks, Ct. Dr. Barry Deitch, Event Secy. mikemarla1@optonline.net
Colonial Afghan Hound Club Regular Classes: James Dalton Sweeps: Billy Webb	June 15, 2014 Windsor Locks, Ct.
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REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW DATES

CLUB SHOW SECRETARY REGULAR CLASS JUDGE SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE	SHOW DATE LOCATION
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Judges: TBD	August 1,, 2 2014 Auburn, WA
Midwest Afghan Hound Club Regular Classes: Edith Tichenor Hanson Sweeps: Gail Mofford	August 8, 2014 Oberlin, OH Holly Miller, Event Secy. pennybank@roadrunner.com
Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club Regular Classes: Jerry Klein DVM Sweeps: Harry Bennett	August 22, 2014 Lake Elmo, MN Onofrio Dog Shows, L.L.C., Supt. mail@onofrio.com
Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Regular Classes: Duane Butherus Sweeps: Connie Butherus	August 29, 2014 Whitmore Lake, MI Dorma Sue Busby, Event Secy. barakiafs@peoplepc.com
Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club Regular Classes: Roger Hartinger Sweeps: Megan Wager	September 27, 2014 Romulus, NY Jim Rau Dog Shows, Supt. info@raudogshows.com
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Judges: TBD	September 27, 28, 2014 Charlotte, NC Marianne Shaw, Event Secy. m.burtshaw@yahoo.com
Afghan Hound Club of America —NATIONAL SPECIALTY Dogs / Intersex Judge: David Frei Bitches / Jr. Showmanship—Jane Sheppard Sweeps: Floyd Gale Obedience/Rally: Cathy Caballero Lure Coursing: Garry & Judy Newton Agility: Alan Arthur (to be held on 10/19/14)	October 20, 21, 22, 2014 Belton, Tx. Margaret Bleakney, Event Secy. http://www.bleakneyshowservices.com margaretbleakney@nctv.com Phone/Fax : (254) 237-2158 Cell: (512) 657-7875
Afghan Hound Club of Austin Regular Classes: Richard Souza Sweeps: Rafael Fontella	October 25, 2014 Austin, TX Onofrio Dog Shows, L.L.C., Supt. mail@onofrio.com



WATCH FOR PREMIUM LISTS ON THE AHCA WEBSITE SOON!!!

For further information http://afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/index.php/national/announcements or contact:

2014nationals@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org