

Topknot News

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

Spring 2017



Mariell

*Art by
Mariell Turesson*

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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
submission deadline is
July 10, 2017**



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2017 BREEDERS' CUP: Linda Shipley

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: www.akc.org/governmentrelations

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NATIONAL SPECIALTY 2017: Joy Atkins-Miller

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TOP KNOT NEWS: Russ Hastings

WAYS & MEANS: Sue Busby

WEB PAGE: Eddie Kominek



Letter from the Editor

This is our "in between issue". It is in between the end of the two major events in the Afghan year, at least in the United States, and the beginning of those events again for the new year. Those two events are the Breeders' Cup, typically held in the Spring and the National Specialty Show, typically held in the Fall. The results of those two events usually fill up considerable space in the issues that immediately follow them. This issue doesn't have major event coverage, so more space is dedicated to general interest and educational articles. There is an article on banding coat, one on genetic diversity that has some thought provoking information, and one concerning fungus infections. Hopefully, you will enjoy the change of pace and perhaps, even learn something you didn't know.

Please pay attention to the message from our President, Ken Amos, found on page 3. It alerts you to some very important voting you will be asked to do in the near future. There will be votes on issues that have been discussed for years in our club but have never progressed beyond the talking phase. When I was running a manufacturing business we had a saying, "There comes a time in every project when you have to shoot the engineer and go into production". In other words, either take some action or stop talking. This vote is just that; the AHCA either decides to change and try something different or stay the same. It is up to us. Remember, "if you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got".

Good luck at the shows you attend this year, if you see a member of the TN staff come say "hi" and let us know how we are doing.

Russ Hastings hrh3judge@gmail.com

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Attention AHCA Members

*Please remember to
notify Sue Busby if
your address changes,
you hear of a fellow
member who is ill or
has crossed over the
Rainbow Bridge.*



*Dorma Sue Busby
810-241-2529
baakiafs@peoplepc.com*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by
Ken Amos
President



Well, you asked for it, so you will be receiving it soon! As I have mentioned in previous columns the Board has been working on several proposals in response to membership requests. These include

some very important changes to the club and the way we hold shows so please watch the Parent Club home page and our Facebook page where we will announce the mailing of the ballots.

The biggest vote is for a change to the By-Laws of the club to allow for an associate membership. This will be put forth according to AKC recommended guidelines and will be a non-voting membership available for someone with 2 years in the breed. More details will come with the ballot of course. This idea has been debated for many years and I believe the only way to resolve it is to put it to a vote and see how the entire membership thinks.

There will be some technical changes to the By-Laws as well (about e-balloting, treasurer duties and board meetings) plus 2 significant changes to P&P (Policies and Procedures) that we feel should be presented to the entire membership of the club instead of holding the vote at the General Membership meeting at the National (which usually barely achieves the 10% of membership necessary for a voting quorum).

The first P&P item is the idea of combining the Breeders' Cup with the National Specialty (in place of Sweepstakes). With fewer clubs willing to make proposals to host either event it has been a challenge to find groups to do 2 separate events. Second is a vote to allow the Show Chair of the National, working with the Board of Directors, to decide whether local specialty clubs have the option to hold their own shows before the National instead of following it, as the P&P reads today.

Some big changes but I believe it is time for the membership to vote. We could take more surveys, host more discussion boards, argue points at the National, etc... but I doubt any new arguments would be put forth and we would be back where we started — no action — just talk.

Thanks,
Ken Amos
President
Afghan Hound Club of America

AKC Delegate Report

Connie Butherus



December 2016 Meeting

The last quarterly meeting of AKC Delegates was held in Orlando, Fla. on December 15-16th. It has been the practice to hold the December meeting in conjunction with the AKC show. This presents a challenge being held so close to the December holidays. However it is always business before pleasure.

- Parent Club health statements have now been received from 146 of the 190 Clubs. These will be posted on AKC Marketplace to inform potential buyers of the health considerations for a particular breed. The AHCA was one of the first Clubs to submit their statement.
- There are now 55 Disaster Relief Trailers in 27 states.
- The AKC Marketplace will provide space for Parent Club approved rescue groups in which they can post the availability of dogs.
- Breeders of Merit listed on the Marketplace will be so recognized only for the breed in which they are approved and not additional breeds unless also approved for that breed. The AKC Marketplace has been redesigned and is the replacement for the Breeders Classified ads. It is solely for the marketing of dogs.
- Group Realignment is still alive and well but nothing has been decided, determined nor put to print so far. This is not going to fade away as additional breeds are recognized and come into the existing seven groups. In 1982 the year of the last realignment there were 130 recognize breeds. There are now more than 200 with 54 in the Foundation Stock services (breed clubs in formation) and 17 having been recently added.
- I am co chairing a committee to bring newly recognized breed clubs into AKC member club status. The AKC BOD has approved the mission statement and we will be working closely with the Sport Services division as we go forward. Once a breed enters the Miscellaneous Group a mentoring process will be offered to the Club. The goal is to smooth the pathway forward for them so that when the Club enters its respective group they have completed all of the steps to become a member club.
- The AKC Canine College is up and running. The first breeds to enter the curricula being the Lagotto Romagnolo and Irish Red and White Setters. This in an on line presentation with testing. It will be a benefit to judges seeking additional breeds. We were told that these courses are "in collaboration with the parent clubs ". (Interesting choice of words me thinks.) All Parent Clubs will be contacted and asked to designate a person to work with the curriculum developer. There is a \$50.00 fee per course. More on this to be sure.

The nine candidates running for the 4 AKC Board positions participated in the annual question and answer session. The questions were submitted by the Delegates and Jim Crowley ably moderated the panel. No one crashed and burned but neither were there great pronouncements. They each then gave their 3 minute prepared speech in which the Delegate were given reasons to elect them. I know most of the candidates quite well and believe several would be well suited to lead the organization into the demanding future.

The slate of Candidates follows:

Jeffery Bell
Rita Biddle Carota
Gregory Paveza
Thomas Powers
Julian Prager
John Ronald
Daniel Smyth
Harvey Wooding

As always I will vote as instructed by the AHCA Board.

The proposed amendment which would extend, but not mandate, the closing time for entries to be no later than 11:59 PM passed however the vote was close and required a count of the Delegates.

The President, Dennis Sprung presented the Visionary Award to five delegates, Chris Sweetwood, Gail LaBerge, Alan Kalter, Nancy Fish and Tom Davies.

An infomercial on the newly minted locator collar for canines was presented by the executives of the company that developed it. This device is a GPS, activity monitor, media accessed wonder with a price tag to match (\$200.00++) Some of the features are nice to have but perhaps not required to find a lost or wandering dog. Not sure there is an economy version available. This will be marketed by the AKC.

In addition to the election the issue of exclusive territory control by All Breed clubs is scheduled to be voted on. The last time it was on the agenda it was sent back to the Rules Committee for a rewrite. It promises to be a hot issue which will again require a counted vote. So be it!

March 2017 Meeting

Due to the blizzard that arrived and dumped significant amounts (feet) of snow we were not able to attend the Delegate meeting. No one who intended to drive to the meeting could! Many of the Delegates who attended the Committee meetings the day before left rather than becoming stranded at the hotel meeting site. The attendance was so poor there was great concern that there might not be the required quorum of 144 Delegates. They had 164 in attendance. Usually the Annual meeting draws about 400 Delegates.

The election for the Board of Directors required 5 ballots to get the job done. Finally 4 of the nine in contention were elected:

Rita Biddle (1 ballot)
Dominic Caroda (1 ballot)
Harvey Wooding (3 ballot)
Tom Powers (5 ballot)

Chapter 2 Section 3 allowing a club to appeal to AKC if their request to hold a show in that club's territory is denied passed almost unanimously.

Chapter 14 Section 14 to establish a national retriever derby passed.

Subsequent to the election the new Board of Directors met and elected Ron Menaker as Chair and Tom Davies as Vice Chair.

Editors Note: This is the first meeting that Connie has missed during her time as our delegate. That is an outstanding record equaled by few. We all need to thank her for her dedicated service to the AHCA as our AKC delegate.

Breeders' Cup Update

Sue Busby

Nuggets of Nostalgia

The Breeders' Cup litter nominations are coming in and we have received thru February 20th 24Litters. Entries are coming in slowly but they have time to enter. Pre-Order catalogs are minimal right now.

Dorma Sue Busby
Show Secretary

To the AHCA Board of Directors

Re: Breeders' Cup Dewey & Reigh Abram Memorial Trophy

At this time my health is not the best. I am entrusting the Breeders' Cup memorial trophy with Sue Busby. She has my permission to maintain it for the next 3 years. That is how many spaces are left on the base for the winners brass plate. I have contacted Anita Richards and she will continue to make the small replica trophy for the next 3 years.

Please make changes to the P&P's, 911.3 to reflect this change.

Reggie Nesbitt
Bombey Afghans

Do you know who this is? What about the dog?
See page 8 for the answer.



Outreach Committee

Stir Greer



Please allow this to serve as a report of the Member Outreach Committee for the period ending March 4, 2017.

Thank you very much for the recent appointment as Chair of this Committee. In light of the short time frame since appointment, I am in the process of evaluating the structure of the Committee and the work plan, as well as the objectives of the Committee. As Chair, I look forward to presenting a more thorough Report for your next Board Meeting.

Stir Greer

Corrections / Updates

Nikki Gardner is now:

Nikki Gardner Kueffer
16 W. Postal Ave.
Newark, OH 43055
Cell: 740-616-6940
Houndsofwinsong@gmail.com

National Liaison

Brenda Brody



I have contacted a few people with the hope that they might be willing to chair the 2018 AHCA national show & offered a few suggestions for show sites but so far no one has made a commitment. If a member has an idea about a location or the desire to chair the event, please contact me or Ken so a proposal can be submitted to the board.

Brenda Brody

Memorial

Members who have crossed the rainbow bridge:

Hobart Brown
Henry Deitzen

Missed by us all.

Canine Health Report Eileen Laudermilch



AKC Canine Health Foundation Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc. Donor Advised Fund

End-Year 2016 Statement (01/01/2016-12/31/2016)

01/01/2016 Balance	\$992.37
Contributions	\$940.00
PPCPP Contribution	\$469.20
Investment Earnings/ (Losses)	\$125.06
MOU Grant Support	\$.00
Management Fees	\$.00
Research Support*	\$.00
12/31/2016 Balance	\$2,526.63

*To obtain a history of your organization's research support or to learn about research areas in need of sponsorship, please email chfgrants@akcchf.org

Thank you for your continued and generous support of the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF). Your donations, club fundraisers, and participation in the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program enable CHF to award research grants that make a true impact on the lives of the dogs we love today, and the dogs we will love in the future.

CHF is thrilled to announce that there are more ways than ever to **double your impact** for canine health research. In 2017, the American Kennel Club (AKC) will generously match all donations **and donor advised fund disbursements** made in support of [tick-borne disease and epilepsy research](#), up to \$250,000 each. Additionally in 2017, the AKC will continue their match of donations from new and lapsed (last donation made on or before 12/31/2015) donors up to \$500,000.

We hope you will seize this tremendous opportunity to double your donation or donor advised fund disbursement and help CHF meet these important match challenges. CHF's [2017 Research Grants Portfolio](#) details our newest and active research projects. You can also search all of our active grants by research program area on [our website](#). Please [contact us](#) to learn more about these grants, or to receive a list of grants of special interest to your breed or organization.

Finally, please **save the date** for the 2017 National Parent Club Canine Health Conference. This year's conference will be held August 11-13 at the Hyatt Regency at the Arch in St. Louis, MO. Early bird registration information and conference agenda details will be made available soon.

Thank you for your unfaltering commitment to dogs, to CHF, and to our mission to help all dogs live longer, healthier lives. We look forward to your continued partnership in 2017.

Sincerely,

The Staff and Board of Directors of the AKC Canine Health Foundation

As usual it is wonderful to see the continued interest in testing, even 4 blood samples were sent for reasearch!!! the 3rd quarter report is as follows:

Thyroid: 19 normal
Dental 1 normal
Cardiac: 4 normal
ACA: 1 normal
Hips: 13 Excellent, 5 good and 1 Fair
Eyes: 10 normal
Elbow: 4 normal
Patella: 3 normal

5 CHIC numbers were issued in this quarter. The 4th quarter has 7 but I have not received the other testing reports as of yet.

Mentoring

Editors Note: At the last BOD meeting there was considerable discussion about mentoring. The letter below from Eddie Kominek is a result of those discussions. If you were, are, or aspire to be a breed mentor it is worth reading.

After this weekend, I understood the depth of the mentor program. I didn't know the AKC maintained a list of AHCA mentors approved to autograph forms after sitting with judges ringside. I thought it was just for newbies. After talking with Christine today, she was kind of under that assumption as well. I checked the P&P's and we talked about her role as mentor chairperson and how it was more than just newbies. She has decided to stay on as Mentor Chairperson.

Things I've done:

- Cross referenced the official AKC roster with our online list.
- Removed people who were not on official roster.
- Added people who were.
- Told Christine some people on list were no longer members in good standing and she needs to update the list.
- Removed the ability for people to self-include themselves on their Profile as a mentor.
- Revamped the Mentor page to include the AKC description/blockquote.
- Added a link under Club for the AKC Giving Back Mentor Program
- Added a reflection link back to the Find an Afghan Hound menu that just says "Mentors"

There were quite a few members culled from the list. I hope they all choose to rejoin. I hate that there's an additional step that has to go through the Chairperson, but now believe it is totally appropriate and necessary.

Eddie

Obedience/Rally/ Versatility Lynda Hicks



For the period of September thru November, there have been 13 titles earned by Afghan Hounds in obedience, rally and therapy. No Afghan Hounds have qualified for the Versatility Award during this period.

AKC has not provided December results at this time, so end of year results are not available.

There have been no recent changes in AKC Obedience and/or Rally Rules and Regulations.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynda Hicks

Meet The Breed Anna Stromberg



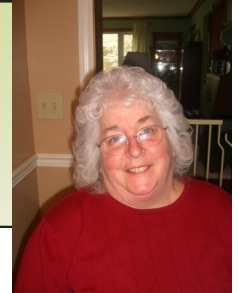
The two biggest promotional events for any breed happens during the month of December at the AKC National Championship in Orlando, FL and in February during Westminster KC in New York. The booth in Orlando was decorated with help from Maryann Giordano and her beautiful back drop. With numerous volunteers from the Afghan hound fancy in Florida, the booth was perfectly staffed during the two days. I must mention Kathryn and Al Pemberton, Gary Larimer, Ray Sylvia, Brad Budka, Lynn Rymer, Valerie Cooper, Rita and Mark Hendrix, Amy Kaplan, Colleen Feldman among a few more for supporting and helping!

New York, which takes place on piers 92/94 during one wild Saturday preceding the big show is smaller and without doubt it is more hectic than the Orlando venue. My volunteers were Diana Kassir and her Arya, Joanne Anderson and my husband, Ben Franzoso. Ben and I had Scarlett and Amelia in tow from Florida for this event. Amelia has participated at all of the New York MTB since it's inception. The two events have in common a very eager public asking questions ranging anywhere

from the Afghan hounds ability to live in an apartment (NY) to how do they tolerate heat (FL). What we find very important at these events are plenty of dogs to be petted, admired and photographed. They are all experts at selfies now! We can always use volunteers and dogs so feel free to contact me at astromberg1@gmail.com if you would like to help out at these venues!

Anna Stromerg

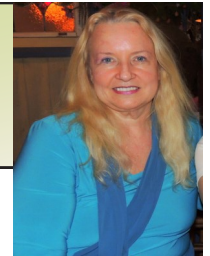
Awards Report Barb Hastings



Once again, I ask that the Regional Clubs adhere to the format and wording as written in the Policies and Procedures when applying for the Best of Winners Medallion and Junior Showmanship certificate and award. I will not be able to furnish these awards unless I receive the application for the award, and a copy of the premium list, listing the award in the wording specified by the AHCA. Please send these items in a timely fashion, usually more than one week before your show, thus allowing for enough time to mail them prior to your show date.

Barb Hastings

Rescue Report Martha Powell



We have successfully sold out our annual Rescue calendar for 2017! Thank you to the many supporters who ordered a calendar, and to those generous souls who included a donation with their purchase. This is our main source of revenue for the year, and we are very grateful for those who have helped us. Many thanks to Marilyn Danko and Joanne Anderson, who produced the calendar together, and to Marilyn, for mailing them for me. Our 2017 Pocket and Desktop Planners also sold very well! Many thanks to Angela Carolyn for her beautiful work, and to Barb Hastings and Anna Stromberg, who helped sell and mail them! We have two Afghans in Tennessee, Thelma and Louise, who are traveling to their new home in Staten Island this week. They have been brought back from a terrified, feral state by the foster, to great condition. The foster had never taken care of Afghans before, and I am so grateful for her help.

Two Afghans, whose owner was evicted from his home in Las Vegas, have been staying with a foster in Arizona. We have our final home visit this weekend, with a wonderful couple, that I think will take great care of Samson and Delilah.

Bonded pairs are much harder to place, but I feel bound to keep them together. They have already experienced enough drama in their life. I don't want them to have to go through separation anxiety from each other, on top of what they have already suffered. Another Afghan, in Louisiana, was found tied to a cinderblock in a parking lot. Rescued by animal control, who contacted me, the boy is with a super foster family. He is ready to be adopted, and will be on our website in the next few days.

Martha Powell



2017 National Update

Joy Atkins-Miller

2017 NATIONAL CHAIRS

Any suggestions and/or volunteers for open positions would be helpful and appreciated.

Show Chair, Joy Atkins-Miller
 Asst Show Chair, Erica Jantos
 Breed Seminar, Barb Bornstein
 Agility, Mikki Razor
 Trophies, Tara Richardson
 Dinner Reservations, Erika Peters
 Ways & Means, Becky Morrisette
 National Anthem, Patrick Byrne
 OR-Tri, Vickie Fagre-Stroetz
 Decorations, Joy Atkins-Miller
 Show Sec/Supt, Sue Busby/Foy Trent
 Emergency Response, Joy Atkins-Miller & Purina
 Announcer, Allan Reznik
 Art Auction, Donahue and Pfiel
 Auctioneer, Jason Taylor
 Awards Dinner open
 Awards MC open
 Awards Chair, Barb Hastings
 Breed Education, open
 Catalog Advertising open
 Catalog Sales open
 Chief Ring Steward, open
 Club/Show Sales open
 Grounds, exhibitors are required to clean up after their dog
 Judges Education open
 Judges Hospitality open
 Jr Seminar, Alicia Jones
 Lure Coursing, Eddie Kominek
 Rescue Raffle, Martha Powell
 Vendors, Jody Gardner
 Dinner Reservations, Erika Peters

O-A-R

To economize and provide a venue that is safe and will encourage entries, I have worked closely with IHCUS to share costs for our Obedience-Agility-Rally Nationals, approximately \$400.

The schedule:

9/12. Tuesday, 8:00. Agility (with Ibizan Hound Club of United States [IHCUS]), Event Center, Purina Farms.
 9/13. Wednesday, 8:00. Obedience and Rally with IHCUS), Event Center, Purina

Prize list for the supported agility entry by March 15th. Premium finished by first part of April. I believe this schedule will allow for meetings, etc., that were mentioned as concerns.

Conformation is moving along well.

Trophies moving along well with Julie Roche. She will provide unique, hand sculptured, comparable pottery and figurines for the National Championships and first place winners.

Ways & Means:

Experiencing some difficulty in getting the complete logo on the merchandise. I'm working on correcting this.

Donations/Packages:

Tara Richardson is the Trophy Chair. She would like to list each "prize" or trophy on FB and our website so people can select and pay via PP for the trophies. This is a departure for AHCA, but Tara has worked this successfully with the national Chinese Crested Club. Of course, anything over \$50 will entitle the donor to a catalog.

I need help on figuring out packages to offer: I am completely out of my realm on this. Erica and I will be working on this.

Meeting Room Costs:

During our Nationals, Purina asked if we could accommodate them by being out of the Founders Room by 2:30 on Sept 12, so another parent club could use it for their dinner. Since it will divide our cost by half for that day, I approved.

Sponsorships:

Erica has drafted a letter for me to use to solicit sponsorships. With the number of other parent club shows there, I will be using the 500+ dogs present to go after sponsors.

Judges Education:

AHCA received a request that we coordinate our Judges Education with the other hound clubs so that judges wishing to attend all the seminars could. While an excellent idea, with our time restraints, I'll do the best I can.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joy Atkins-Miller
 2017 Show Chair

Answer to Nuggets of Nostalgia from Page 5

This was a hard one so,
 if you didn't know don't feel bad.

The answer: A Candid photo taken at Ladies Kennel Association (U.K.) Championship Dog Show -- Champion Sirdar of Ghazni with Mrs. Mary Amps. 5/14/30

FOR SALE

The Afghan Hound Club of America Topknot News is now offering business card size
 (approximately 2.5" x 3.75" same as this size)

For Sale Ads.

Ads are to be for Afghan Hound related items which are for sale or services. **No "Win" ads or other animal ads** will be accepted. Acceptance or rejection of ads is at the sole discretion of the Afghan Hound Club of America BOD.

Cost is \$50/issue or \$125/3 consecutive issues. Ads must be submitted camera ready.

Submit to Editor, Topknot News
 hrh3judge@verizon.net

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: SPOTLIGHT ON OUR NEW BREED JUDGES

By Allan Reznik

Patrick Guilfoyle, Burbank, California

Did you grow up in a doggy household?

I did not. In fact, I was not allowed to have a dog growing up. My parents were from ranching families and moved to the city to leave the animal deal behind. I did get to spend summers at the "farm" but I think my dog obsession started at around 15 years of age working as a kennel boy for Rex and Leotta Vandeventer. They owned a boarding kennel as well as being top-winning professional handlers in Omaha, Nebraska, where I am from originally. The Vandeventers showed the Afghan Ch. Taralane's Carpetbagger to multiple Best in Shows during my time with them. He was bred by the late Betsy Merrill, later to become Betsy LaHam.

When did you see your first Afghan Hound? Was it love at first sight and did you know this was a breed you would be involved with all your life?

Walking home from Blessed Sacrament grade school, someone along the way owned two black-masked red Afghans that would sometimes be in the backyard. They, of course, would go totally psycho when I walked by. I had never seen anything so beautiful in my life. I was mesmerized. I still am.

While you are not an Afghan Hound breeder per se, you have been associated with the breed for decades, having been the handler for Tully's Kennel in Omaha, which many of the old-timers will remember. The Tullys owned Ch. Tully's Big John, and also acquired Ch. Khayam's Apollo and Ch. Continental Blue Falcon. Tell us about those years, your responsibilities with the Tully dogs and your recollection of the great Afghans and great Afghan breeders of the period.

When I went to work for the Tullys as one of the kennel help, there were 100 dogs on the property. The Tullys were independently well-to-do with a chain of men's clothing stores. The dogs -- Afghans, with a few Borzoi, Salukis and Poodles thrown into the mix -- started as a hobby for them, but quickly became much more. I went with the Tullys to a local dog show and Mrs. Tully had won a big puppy class with a male. She put the armband on me for the puppy bitch and pushed me into the ring, saying that she had watched me training the puppies in the backyard and knew that I could do it. It was my first time in the ring. I won the puppy class and went on to Winners (that didn't happen then like it does now). The rest, as they say, is history.

Apollo was the first dog I showed as a Special. Which, as I sit down to write this, just seems so crazy to me. I was going to a lot of local shows in the Midwest and finishing some dogs and then, out of the blue, Mr. Tully purchased Ch. Khayam's Apollo from Dr. Rogers, his breeder, who, as a pathologist, had decided to divest himself of the dogs to concentrate on law school. Apollo had recently (in 1973) won the Group at the Garden (handled by Gene Blake). I was 21 years old and had been working for three years at this point for the Tullys and held a limited handler license from the American Kennel Club to show only dogs that belonged to the Tullys. You did not show dogs in those days that were not your own unless you were licensed to do so. I did not want to show Apollo but rather I wanted the Tullys to leave the dog with Gene Blake to finish out the year, let him have another year and then retire him. I begged them to listen to me.

The Tullys were controversial and while I did not distance myself from them. I was even at that age pretty clear about the differences between us. I didn't get my way. I won a limited amount in light of what Gene would have done with the dog; a couple of specialties and Best in Shows. I started the following year killing myself by winning 10 breeds and ten Groups because I wanted to retire Apollo and special Ch. Khayam's Country Miss who was a Ch. Coastwind Gazebo daughter out of Apollo's litter sister who I had finished with two Group wins from the classes. The Tullys wouldn't allow it. They didn't believe in specialing a bitch. I felt pretty strongly about this, so we talked it through and remain even to this day friendly but, I never showed another dog for them.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU: SPOTLIGHT ON OUR NEW BREED JUDGES (Continued)

What are the defining characteristics of the breed for you?

This is one of those challenging questions that comes up when I tell people who want to judge Afghan Hounds that "it shouldn't be easy for them to learn the breed." The General Appearance portion of the standard goes a long way in answering this, or at least it should. "His whole appearance one of dignity and aloofness with no trace of plainness or coarseness" is a wonderful place to start, as is "giving the Afghan Hound the appearance of what he is, a king of dogs, that has held true to tradition throughout the ages." The king of dogs. That's always worth repeating.

What qualities do you worry we might be losing in the breed?

Well, unlike some, I'm pretty optimistic about the breed in general. I'm not one to wax nostalgically about the dogs of the past because frankly, there were a whole bunch of not so greats sprinkled in with the good ones just like there are now. I judged a specialty in the Midwest a few weeks ago and flew home very satisfied. Now that doesn't always happen but it speaks well for the breed in that place and time.

Size is a huge (see what I did there?) issue with me in both dogs and bitches. An even bigger (see, I did it again!) issue in Europe. I do hate those big cloddy things lurching around the ring. Whereas I am not particularly a head hunter, it's their faces that I fell in love with all those years ago. There was an elegance to their faces surrounded dramatically with all of that hair that was so exotically beautiful, with those eyes that drew you. There are some really weird heads out there now. It's "center line running up over the foreface with little or no stop," not center line filling in the foreface that forces the eyes to the sides of the face like a horse. They're predators, not prey.

You have some strong opinions about "breed drift." Please explain the term and share your thoughts.

Ah yes, breed drift. It's one of my pet peeves. It's incremental and insidious. If I worry about nothing more in the breed it's the drift away from the standard. Here's my not-so-popular theory about why it happens. Unless and until breeders have the power of their own convictions we will be forced to suffer through breed drift through style, that in some breeds (think German Shepherd) actually changes the whole outline and reason for a breed. I'm going to concentrate on just one aspect of this in Afghan Hounds as an illustration of just how dangerous this can be. Call it "flying reach and drive," or "TRAD" (tremendous reach and drive) or whatever. It isn't right, it isn't called for in the standard but it is flashy, and therein lies the problem. That word "flashy." Not all judges are created equal and that certainly includes lots of breeder judges. To be real, many breeders didn't get it when they were breeding so why would anyone assume that they would adhere strictly to the standard and not be blinded by the flash when they judge?

When a dog, especially an Afghan Hound, cannot sustain himself in his way of going but is forced to slip out behind to keep up there's a problem with the dynamics of what you are looking at. Three pretty steps in a row does not a mover make. By rewarding these dogs the breeder judges give permission to other judges to "find" those dogs on their own because most multi-breed judges are insecure about judging this breed. And so if permission is granted by a breeder judge then it must be right, or at least okay. In the vicious circle of the snake eating its own tail, they win and other not so committed breeders want that blue ribbon too, and so it gets perpetuated in the whelping box ad infinitum. Then no one wins but the dogs that not only can't hunt honey, they can barely make it around the ring on their own.

Who do you consider the greatest Afghan you ever saw?

I have an amalgamation of dogs for different reasons. I loved how Pepsi, Ch. Kabik's the Challenger, collected himself with a dead level top. I lost my mind when I saw Ch. Coastwind Phobos because of the detailing of his croup and his bend behind. The brindle dog Ch. Triumph of Grandeur for owning the ground he stood on, and when he was good on the fly there were none better. Karen Wagner's red dog Ch. Pahlavi Puttin'on the Ritz who, at the time, I was convinced I wouldn't like because of his size but he was pretty amazing to see in person. It was like a jet taking off. Ch. Kaftan Korrigan because he had a face of death. There are lots more but those are the ones that come to mind.

Who were your mentors in the breed and in the sport?

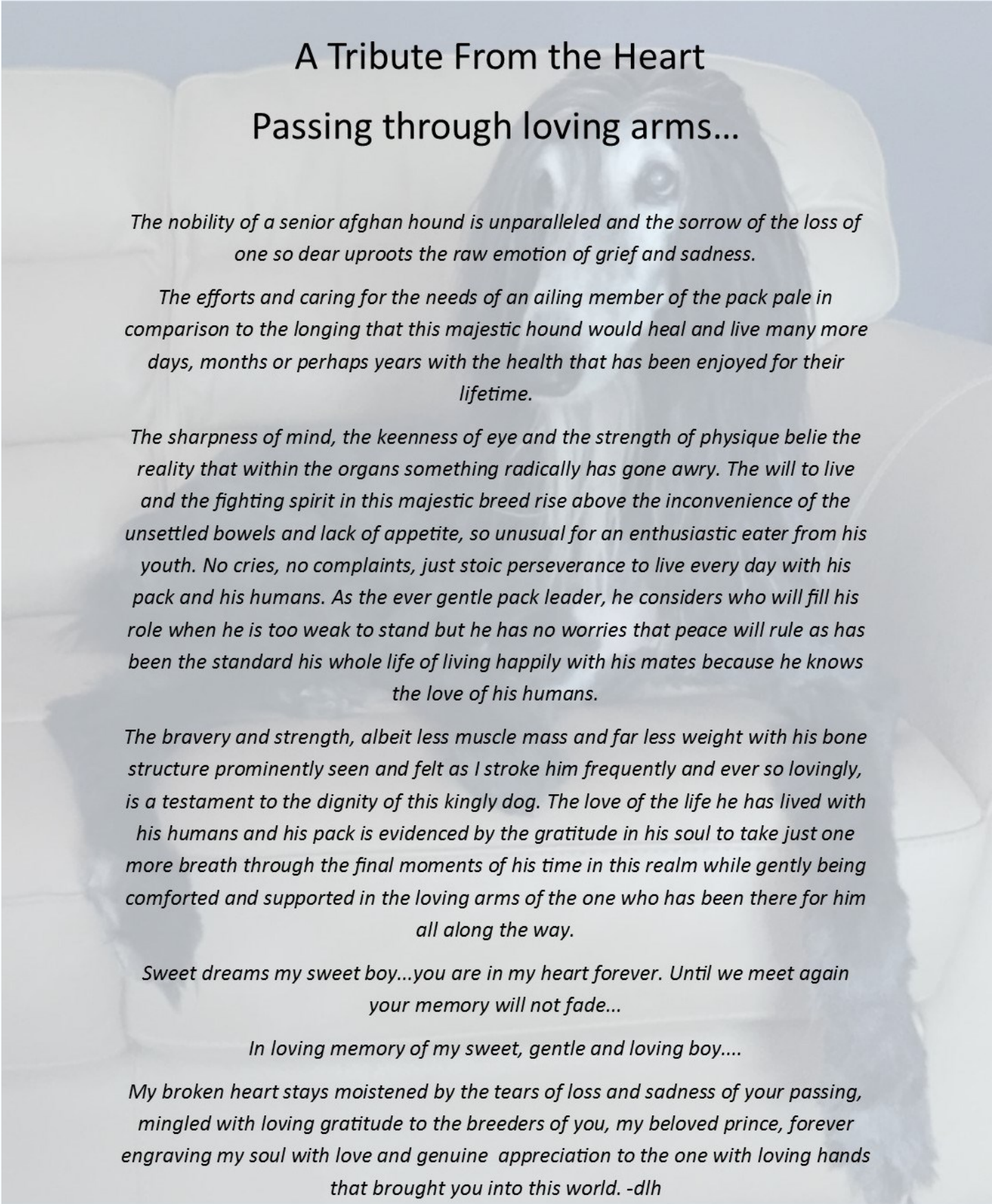
There are too many to list here still living (you know who you are). I've lost, and the breed has lost, some magical people. Fred Alderman, Billy Liles and Gerda Kennedy all had a hand in shaping for me what is important in the breed.

Would you ever withhold awards?

Without question. I believe that it is a contract that I signed by becoming a judge to protect the breed to the best of my ability.

What advice would you give an exhibitor showing to you for the first time?

I'm really focused on people relaxing and having a good experience when they show under me. I might take my job a little too seriously but, I'm really aware of being that young guy being sent into the ring the first time, and I want it to be as pleasant as I possibly can.



A Tribute From the Heart

Passing through loving arms...

The nobility of a senior afghan hound is unparalleled and the sorrow of the loss of one so dear uproots the raw emotion of grief and sadness.

The efforts and caring for the needs of an ailing member of the pack pale in comparison to the longing that this majestic hound would heal and live many more days, months or perhaps years with the health that has been enjoyed for their lifetime.

The sharpness of mind, the keenness of eye and the strength of physique belie the reality that within the organs something radically has gone awry. The will to live and the fighting spirit in this majestic breed rise above the inconvenience of the unsettled bowels and lack of appetite, so unusual for an enthusiastic eater from his youth. No cries, no complaints, just stoic perseverance to live every day with his pack and his humans. As the ever gentle pack leader, he considers who will fill his role when he is too weak to stand but he has no worries that peace will rule as has been the standard his whole life of living happily with his mates because he knows the love of his humans.

The bravery and strength, albeit less muscle mass and far less weight with his bone structure prominently seen and felt as I stroke him frequently and ever so lovingly, is a testament to the dignity of this kingly dog. The love of the life he has lived with his humans and his pack is evidenced by the gratitude in his soul to take just one more breath through the final moments of his time in this realm while gently being comforted and supported in the loving arms of the one who has been there for him all along the way.

Sweet dreams my sweet boy...you are in my heart forever. Until we meet again your memory will not fade...

In loving memory of my sweet, gentle and loving boy....

My broken heart stays moistened by the tears of loss and sadness of your passing, mingled with loving gratitude to the breeders of you, my beloved prince, forever engraving my soul with love and genuine appreciation to the one with loving hands that brought you into this world. -dlh

Recent Scenes ~ Celebrating Our Breed



FUNGUS INFECTIONS IN AFGHANS

Reprint courtesy of Ruth Weddle
~ In loving memory of Sharon Weddle ~
Our Afghans, June 1968
Article by Susan A. Tilton,
West Manchester, Ohio

Fungus is a most miserable infection for an Afghan and his owner. It attacks the skin, making life almost unbearable for the dog. It itches, the dog scratches, the coat becomes torn, matted, and hair falls out. The owner wrings his hands, the coat is ruined, the dog is miserable.

There are two types of fungus: moist and dry. The moist type produces open, running sores. The dry kind is more likely to attack an Afghan; his skin becomes dry, scaly, and thickened. If it is not checked, the dog in scratching and biting at the itch can break the skin and cause bleeding and further infection.

Fungus seems to be more common in dogs that are outside a great deal and spend much time on the ground. It also occurs in concrete kennels where there is little sun to keep the runs dry. Fungus occurs most often in summer since dogs are outside more often in warm weather, hence the term "summer eczema" used in describing this skin disease.

When the Afghan lays on a moist ground, the moisture dampens the hair and finally penetrates to the skin. The Afghan's long thick coat keeps out daylight and provides a perfect "nursery" for the fungus: dark, damp, and warm.

The fungus usually attacks the feet first then the elbows and hocks. These, of course, are the parts most in contact with the ground. As the infection spreads, it goes to the belly, then the tail and hindquarters (where the dog sits). If not checked, the infection spreads to envelop the whole dog with a skin that itches constantly, leaving the dog in a frenzy. By this time the coat is completely ruined for show purposes.

Any scratching and/or biting done by a dog should be checked immediately. Other causes of itching are mites (mange), fleas, ticks, lice, and sometimes simply "dry skin" from a lack of fat in the diet, too many baths, etc. If a dog is outside for some time each day, a fungus-curative shampoo should be used as a preventative when he gets his bath. When he comes in from the rain, he should be dried as rapidly as possible with a dryer, vacuum cleaner (hose in reversed blowing position), or with towels. Talcum brushed through the coat will pick up moisture left by toweling.

There are special preparations for fungus prevention available at pet shops or from vets. If an Afghan contracts fungus, it may be necessary to clip him to the skin in case of a widespread infection. Avoid this problem by letting your Afghan run in an area that gets a lot of sunshine, or if he is a show dog which has to be kept out of direct sunlight to avoid coat discoloration, at least use a good disinfectant regularly in the runs and watch closely for any scratching.



"Saturday Evening Post" cover, March, 1944, showing three of Marion Florsheim's champions, Int. Ch. Asri Havid, Ch. Yenghiz Khan and Int. Ch. Rudiki of Prides Hill. Artist, Rutherford Boyd.

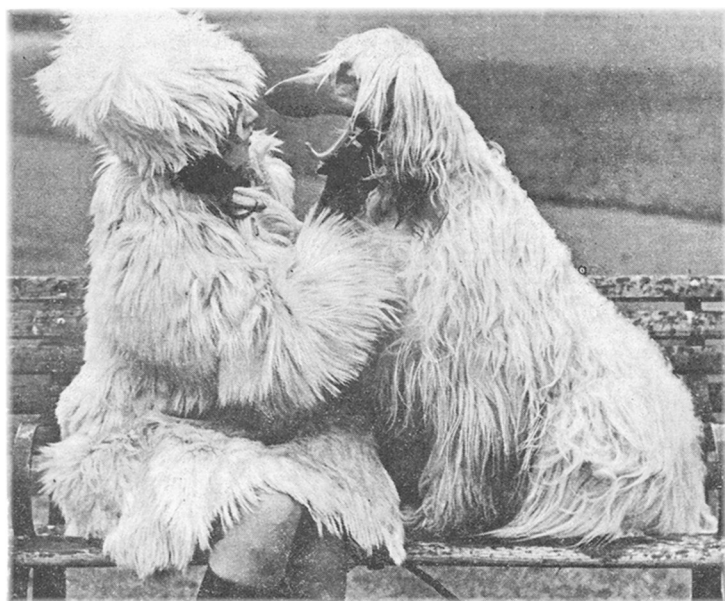
AFGHANS IN THE NEWS

Reprint courtesy of Ruth Weddle — Our Afghans

The amusing shot below was found in the "NATIONAL ENQUIRER" and sent to us by Martha Hayes of Hancock, Md.

Putting on the Dog

An Afghan hound is the perfect accessory for a young lady with an eye for style. If she also happens to be fashion-conscious, what better than an Afghan outfit — long-haired hat and coat — to match her exotic choice of dog. An alert ENQUIRER photographer was on the scene when this look-alike twosome turned a few heads of passersby on a recent outing in New York's famous Central Park.



USA Afghan Hound Specialty Shows 2007

Compiled by Murray Anderson "Tazi Tourist", NZ from AKC results

DATE	CLUB (Show location)	ENT	JUDGE	BOB	BOS
Feb 10	Nutmeg AHC (CT)	50	Reggie Nesbitt	Charteroak Luxanamoon (B)	Ch Boxadan Never Look Back (imp Dmk)
Feb 10	AHA of Long Island (NJ)	53	Dr Tesic Djourde (Hun)	Boanne's Listen To Your Heart (B)	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn)
Mar 02	AHC of Gt Milwaukee (WI)	26	Dr Jerry Klein	Ch Stormhill's Spit-N-Polished (B)	Ch Charsada Fulfills A Dreams JC (imp Can) (D)
Mar 09	Potomac AHC (VA)	86	Ramon Podesta (Chl)	Ch Elan Sebring The Matrix (D)	Ch Dragonfly Whiter Shade Of Pale
Mar 10	Tidewater AHC (VA)	85	Roberto Posa (Swz)	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Dragonfly Whiter Shade Of Pale
Mar 11	Richmond AHC (VA)	72	Russell Hastings	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Llacue's Aloof Let Freedom Ring
Mar 24	AHC of Gt Phoenix (AZ)	40	Rosemarie Crandhal	Ch Thaon's Travertine (B)	Ch Sura's Hollywood Nights JC
Mar 25	AHC of Gt Phoenix (AZ)	37	Pamela Levander	Ch Thaon's Travertine (B)	Ch Summerwinds Reflections Of Me
Apr 13	AHC of California (CA)	62	Dr Jerry Klein	Ch Thaon's Travertine (B)	Ch Sura's Hollywood Nights JC
Apr 15	Tara AHC (GA) DS	31	Betty Stites	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Llacue's Aloof Let Freedom Ring
Apr 21	AHC of Gt Columbus (OH)	47	Garry Newton	Ch Regle Living Jewel (B)	Ch Mahar's Cole Night Shadow
Apr 28	AHC of Dallas (TX)	105	Lee Gindlesperger	DC Allure's Suddenly Last Summer SC (D)	Ch Sha-Cone Abaca Delightful
Apr 29	AHC of Dallas (TX)	85	Le Hedstrom	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Messengers Amarige D'Amour
May 04	AHC of Nthn New Jersey (NJ)	64	Roberta Hall (UK)	Ch Boxadan Mind Your Own Business (imp Dmk) (D)	Ch Dragonfly Whiter Shade Of Pale
May 26	AHC of S/W Ohio (OH)	39	Jay Hafford	Bombey's Hajji-Baba of Baraki (D)	Victorian Cinnamon Twizt
Jun 01	Colonial AHC (MA)	20	Lynn Mercer	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Dragonfly Whiter Shade Of Pale
Jun 01	AHC of St Louis (MO)	27	Francisco Jose Cabrera (Arg)	Ch Qamar's Quicksilver Dragonfly (D)	Ch Tifarah's Shawnlu Ameristar JC
Jun 08	AHC of Gt Chicago (IL)	28	Kent Delaney	Ch Stormhill's Spit-N-Polished (B)	Ch Silhouette's Starlight Express
Jun 16	Suncoast AHC of Florida (FL)	45	Dr Jerry Klein	Beachbrook's Too Much Drama (B)	Pahlavi I Can Touch The Sky
Jun 30	Gt Pittsburgh AHC (PA)	34	Jay Cunningham	Ch Criston Star of Siam JC (D)	Ch Thaon's Travertine
Jul 01	Gt Pittsburgh AHC (PA)	33	Dave Frei	Ch Thaon's Travertine (B)	Ch Pahlavi Sundance Festival JC
Jul 05	Finger Lakes AHC (NY)	36	H. Russell Hastings III	Ch Pahlavi Sundance Festival JC (D)	Komar's Leila Sa'Eeda Amirah
Jul 07	Sand 'N' See AHC of Florida (FL)	21	Sandy Frei	Ch Genesis Silverado (D)	Ch Beachbrook's Too Much Drama
Jul 20	AHC of Gt Portland (OR)	28	Ken Tippie	Ch Summerwind Me N Myself N Pamir (D)	Ch Aries Wisteria Carousel
Jul 20	AHC of Omaha (NE)	39	Gene Vaccaro	Ch Wynsyr Scimitar's Tyson (D)	Ch Hillside Dubbonet
Jul 27	Monterey Bay AHC (CA)	37	Janis Reital	Ch Cavu Wild N Naughty Nites (B)	Ch Sura's Hollywood Nights JC
Aug 04	Evergreen AHC (WA)	50	Stephen Wheeler (Swe/Aus)	Ch Stormhill's Star Studded (D)	Ch Raffica's U In De Stripes Samar
Aug 11	Midwest AHC (OH)	56	Edith Hanson	Ch Elan Sebring The Matrix (D)	Ch Beachbrook's Too Much Drama
Aug 17	AHC of Memphis (MS)	40	Chris Kaiser	Ch Amina Coldxotica (D)	Ch Utchat American Beauty JC
Aug 24	Gt Twin Cities AHC (MN)	37	Edith Hanson	Ch Thaon's Travertine (B)	Ch Wynsyr Out Of Africa
Aug 31	Gt Detroit AHC (MI)	44	Mary Lou Benjamin	Ch Cynergy's Aviator O'Verpatsha (D)	Bombey's Dancing With Fire
Sep 04	AHCA National (Denver, CO)	164	R Stein(I-S, B), G Guthrie(D)	Ch Thaon's Travertine (B)	Ch Elan Sebring The Matrix
Sep 07	AHC of Gt Denver (CO)	102	Betty Stites	Ch Stormhill's Spit-N-Polished (B)	Ch Elan Sebring The Matrix
Sep 20	Tara AHC (GA)	44	Terry Chacon	Ch Dragonfly Whiter Shade Of Pale (B)	Ch Windfalls Touch Gold
Sep 29	Finger Lakes AHC (NY) DS	34	Jane Roppolo	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Panacea Simoon Chon Teh Kah Deh (imp Can)
Oct 07	Lehigh Valley AHA (PA)	62	Delberta Gogulski	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Anrobs Time To Rock
Oct 20	Nthn California AHC (CA)	65	Ed Gilbert	Ch Thaon's Travertine (B)	Ch Summerwind Me N Myself N Pamir
Nov 09	AHC of Gt Houston (TX)	26	Seamus Oates (Ire)	Ch Jovan Cruise Control (D)	Gabriel's Bit-O-Honey JC
Nov 16	Sthn Arizona AHA (AZ) DS	27	Peter Machen (Can)	Ch Sura's Hollywood Nights JC (D)	Ch Aries Wisteria Carousel
Nov 30	Colonial AHC (MA)	30	Honi Reisman	Ch Xandali Nut'n But Soul (D)	Ch Dragonfly Whiter Shade Of Pale

40 Specialty Shows / 34 Clubs (28 of 1 & 6 of 2), average entry 50.3

Ch Thaon's Travertine (7 BIS 1 BOS), Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (7 BIS 1 BOS), Ch Stormhill's Spit-N-Polished (3 BIS), Ch Elan Sebring The Matrix (2 BIS 2 BOS).

USA Afghan Hound Specialty Shows 2008

Compiled by Murray Anderson "Tazi Tourist", NZ from AKC results

Feb 09	Nutmeg AHC (CT)	78	Åge Gjetnes (Nor)	Tanqueray Tennessee Gold Regimes (D)	My Way's Pied Piper
Feb 10	AHA of Long Island (CT)	53	P Cruz (IS,D), M Stanski (B)	Ch Poseidon of Mountain Top One (imp Jpn) (D)	Ch Anrobs Time To Rock
Feb 29	AHC of Gt Milwaukee (WI)	28	Georgiana (Georgie) Guthrie	Ch Wynsyr Out Of Africa (D)	Ch Winsyr It's Allabout Friends
Mar 07	Tidewater AHC (VA)	110	Helen Furber (Aust)	Ch Boanne's Tale Of A Dragon (D)	Ch Mahali In Paisley
Mar 08	Tidewater AHC (VA)	102	Helen Haas	Ch Criston Inspiration (D)	Taifa's Sundara-Liberte-Dignite-Vanite
Mar 09	Richmond AHC (VA)	68	Valerie Hansen	Ch Anutara Covrsation Sumrwind (D)	Ch Taifa's Sundara-Caleidoscopia
Mar 22	AHC of Gt Phoenix (AZ) am	42	Roberta (Bobbi) Keller	Thaon's Quinlan (D)	Sirae Creme De La Creme
Mar 22	AHC of Greater Phoenix (AZ) pm	47	Betsy Hufnagel	Ch Sirae Creme De La Crème (B)	Ch Thaon's Quinlan
Apr 11	AHC of California (CA)	63	June Leitch (UK)	Ch Jovan Cruise Control (D)	Ch Boanne's Hearts Are Wild of York
Apr 19	AHC of Gt Columbus (OH)	53	Pamela Levander	Ch Jovan Cruise Control (D)	Ch Victorian Cinnamon Twizt
Apr 26	AHC of Dallas (TX)	39	Eugene Blake	Ch Summerwind Me N Myself N Pamir (D)	Jovan Sweet Tea
Apr 27	AHC of Dallas (TX)	39	Stephen Fisher	Sirae Chrome Cruiser (D)	Andros More Than U Bargain For
May 02	AHC of Nthn New Jersey (NJ)	63	Pamela Bruce	Xandali Dream Maker (D)	Ch Anrobs Time After Time
May 17	AHA of Long Island (NY) DS	17	Robert Witney	Ch Dragonfly Whiter Shade Of Pale (B)	Ch Ledgehill Man Of My Dreams JC
May 24	AHC of S/W Ohio (OH)	49	Lucy Orlowski	Ch Arabesque Sarah Brightman (B)	Ch Kasban American Idol
May 30	AHC of St Louis (MO)	24	Dr Angel Sandoval (Mex)	Ch Amare Rider In The Rain (D)	Andros More Than U Bargain For
May 30	Colonial AHC (MA)	23	Peter Belmont jnr	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC (B)	Ch Evensong Bolero JC
Jun 06	AHC of Gt Chicago (IL)	50	Karen Dumke	Ch Jovan Cruise Control (D)	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC
Jun 06	Sand 'N' See AHC of Florida (FL)	35	Le Hedstrom	Ch Genesis Silverado (D)	Ch Le Nobel I Gotta Be Me
Jun 07	Suncoast AHC of Florida (FL)	30	Eugene Blake	Ch Genesis Silverado (D)	Ch Aloof Llacue's Classy Chassy
Jun 14	AHC of Gt Portland (OR)	22	JoAnne Buehler	Ch Kaimars Nothin But The Truth (D)	Ch Tanis Black Pearl JC
Jun 28	Gt Pittsburgh AHC (PA)	41	David Cochrane	Ch Pizzazz Debonair JC (D)	Ch Charteroak Dark Moon
Jun 29	Gt Pittsburgh AHC (PA)	36	Patricia Franklin	Ch Pizzazz Debonair JC (D)	Ch Charteroak Dark Moon
Jul 04	Finger Lakes AHC (NY)	34	Steve Reale	Ch Pizzazz Debonair JC (D)	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC
Jul 18	AHC of Omaha (NE)	41	Charles Robinson	Ch Mahadi's Pharoah Ramses (D)	Ch Aries Wisteria Carousel
Jul 25	Monterey Bay AHC (CA)	37	Robert (Bob) Godfrey	Ch Pamelons Late Nite of Cavu (D)	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC
Aug 02	Evergreen AHC (WA)	31	Michael (Mickey) Koss	Ch Tanis Black Pearl JC (B)	Ch Kaimar's Nothin But The Truth
Aug 09	Midwest AHC (OH)	77	Chris Kaiser	Ch Boanne's Legend Of The Dragon (D)	Ch Charteroak Dark Moon
Aug 15	AHC of Memphis (MS)	24	Rita Figg	Ch Pizzazz Debonair JC (D)	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC
Aug 22	Gt Twin Cities AHC (MN)	43	Carol Esterkin	Ch Wynsyr Scimitar's Tyson (D)	Ch Winsyr China Doll
Sep 04	AHC of Greater Denver (CO)	49	Sandy Frei	Ch Sura's Hollywood Nights JC (D)	Ch Sirae Creme De La Creme
Sep 05	AHC of Gt Denver (CO)	54	Richard Souza	Jovan Speeding Ticket (D)	Ch Dzum The Divine Miss M (imp Aus)
Sep 23	AHCA National (Frankenmuth,MI)	216	J Hafford (I-S,B), A Weinraub (B)	[Agha Djari's Reflection of Xenos (Ger) (B)] *disq.	Ch Windsong Hollywood Park
Sep 26	Gt Detroit AHC (MI)	117	Jane Sheppard	Ch Wynsyr Scimitar's Tyson (D)	Ch Stormhill's Spit-N-Polished JC
Oct 05	Lehigh Valley AHA (PA)	56	Gill Ullom	Ch Nachtmusiks Spirit Warrior JC (Can) (D)	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC
Oct 11	Tara AHC (GA)	48	Roberta (Bobbi) Keller	Ch Gabriel's Rare Bear JC (D)	Ch Sirae Creme De La Creme
Oct 12	Tara AHC (GA)	43	Tom Cozzoni	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC (B)	Ch Gabriel's Rare Bear JC
Oct 18	Nthn California AHC (CA)	41	Jim Saarinen	Baakara's The Way Of The Heart (D)	Ch Cavu Wild N Naughty Nites
Nov 07	AHC of Gt Houston (TX)	16	Patricia Franklin	Ch Wynsyr Scimitar's Tyson (D)	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC
Nov 14	Sthn Arizona AHA (AZ) DS	25	Edith Hanson	Ch Thaon's Mowgli (D)	Ch Boanne's Hearts Are Wild of York
Nov 28	Colonial AHC (MA)	32	Dr Duane Butherus	Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC (B)	Ch Jabir Night Fever JC

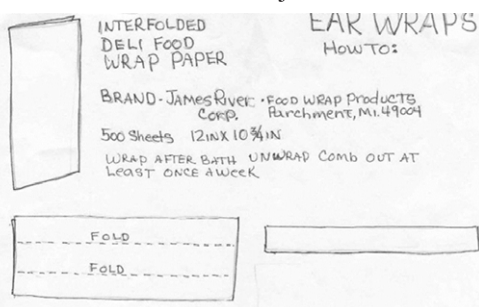
41 Specialty Shows / 33 Clubs (25 of 1 & 8 of 2), average entry 51.1 *BOB subsequently disqualified as only USA-bred dogs can be shown in Bred By Exhibitor class.
Ch Pizzazz Debonair JC (4 BIS), Ch Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC (3 BIS 6 BOS), Ch Wynsyr Scimitar's Tyson (3 BIS), Ch Jovan Cruise Control (3 BIS).

WRAPPING AND BANDING COATS:

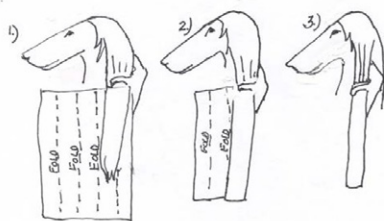
Reprinted with permission of
Rosemary Sutton — Summerwinds

EAR WRAPPING:

Ear and body wrapping and hair banding are a good way to protect the coat and prevent hair breakage. There are many different ways and materials used to wrap coats. Some of the materials used in wrapping are plastic, silk, or with parchment paper. I use parchment papers that are pre-folded, deli papers that are used to wrap deli sandwiches and submarine sandwiches. These work the best for me. I purchase them at Costco. Brand name -James River - Food Wrap product parchment - made in MI 49004, 500 sheets, 12" X 10 3/4". There are two different methods I use to wrap ears. Both start out in the same way. As I said, these papers come in boxes pre-folded in half like Kleenex. I then fold the already pre-folded sheet in half again. Next, I open the fold I just made back to the beginning to the way they come in the package, which is in half pre-folded size. I use the fold line I just made and fold the edge to that fold and fold again to the end. Sort of like in a roll, instead you have creased and folded into fourths, until you end up with a narrow folded paper. The reason for folding the paper is that it's much easier to work with and to fold the hair inside of the paper.

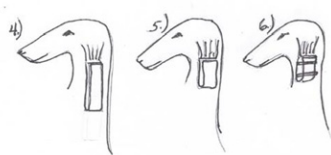


One is to wrap the end of the ears coat in packages



1.) I am right handed, so I start by holding the dog's ear in my right hand and slide the paper underneath the ear. Make sure to slide

the paper to below the ear leather. Do not fold the ear leather in the paper. 2.) Bring one fourth of the paper in front of the ear and hold the ear coat in tightly with your right thumb. 3.) Then with your left hand, fold the last fourth of the paper around to the front of the dog's ear. Still holding on to the dog's ear and wrap in your right hand.

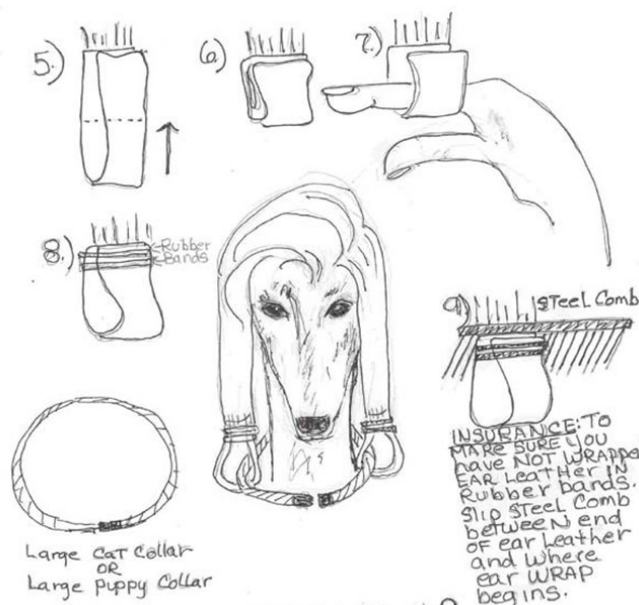


right hand. 6.) You hold onto the wrap package with your

left hand so it will be easier to wrap the rubber bands around the ear wrap with your right hand. Caution: You will first want to check and make sure you have not caught the dog's ear leather in the paper wrap by taking a long toothed steel comb and run the teeth between the end of the ear leather and the top of the ear wrap. Now it is time to rubber band the wrap to the ear. I use two. You will want to wrap them enough times around the wrap so that the ear package is snugly secure.



7.) Insurance: Check again with the steel com to make sure the teeth can go completely through between the tip end of the ear and the wrap package. If you should catch the end of the ear leather and rubber band it tightly into the wrap, it can cut off the circulation and you could loosen the end of the dog's ear. This is very important to not forget to do everything as you wrap the dog's ears. 8.) The dog's ears are wrapped in packages.



EAR WRAPS METHOD #2

HOW TO:

Follow directions on sheet #1

1.) Same 2.) Same 3.) Same & 4.) Same

The other wrap I use the most is the same wrapping as fig.1.2.3. 4. 5. Wrap the end of the ear fringes in the paper and wrap up to fig 5.

5.) Fold up wrap in half. 6.) Fold up wrap in half again. 7.) Open wrap and insert your finger so that the wrap has an open area. 8.) Wrap rubber band around the top of the wrap. Insert a steel comb between the end of the ear leather and the top of the wrap to make sure that the rubber band has not wrapped the end of the ear leather. Be sure to see the teeth of the comb from the opposite side. 9.) Now, run a small collar around the neck and through the ear wraps to hold the ears close to the neck, which

WRAPPING AND BANDING COATS: (Continued)

is a safe way to make sure that the wraps don't get caught on anything or that the dog or his kennel mates don't chew off the ear wraps and eat off the ear coat along with the wraps.



10.) Removing the Ear Wraps: The length of time you leave the ears wrapped will vary a little. I usually leave them up until their next bath. Some people like to check them more often that will be up to you. When you unwrap the wrap there will be hair wrapped around the part of the ear where the wrap was; it might even be somewhat matted. What has happened is the loose hair that the dog normal sheds will gather around the top of the ear wrap. Gently pull it apart and

then brush with a pin brush and comb through the ear with a steel comb and it should remove easily. Some people are of the belief that you can lose too much ear coat by wrapping ears. I don't find that to be true. I feel that you can lose more ear coat by one accidentally eating the ear fringe off.

BANDING:

Banding up the coat of the adult Afghan hound is another way to protect side coats on the males for protection of the groin hair area from urine stains. Banding also protects ear coat from getting into the dog's mouth. Some people will use this method as a weekly routine. Others will only band in between shows to keep the dog clean. It is a great way to keep a full-coated male who is in the house all the time from getting urine on their side and leg coat to prevent the dog from smelling like urine.

People will use different types of rubber bands. I prefer the small bands that the toy breeds use in their topknots, made of latex material. They don't break hair. To remove, just cut the band out of the hair. Some people will use the rubber bands that are used in children's hair and covered with nylon. To band the hair, start from the groin and wrap the side coat forward and the leg coat downwards. Take about a 2" piece of hair and wrap a rubber band around it, making a very small ponytail. Then take another 2" piece of hair next to the first one and connect together with a



rubber band to the first ponytail, like a French braid. Continue doing the same along the dogs underline until you have tied up the coat to where it is up and out of the way and won't get soiled. **1.)** Then for the rear legs, start again at the loin area. With a 2" piece of hair, wrap it in a pony tail, then take another 2" piece of hair, band to the first ponytail and wrap the two together working down the stifle front part of the rear leg until you have tied up all the leg coat you think will get dirty. Be careful not to band too tightly at the base **2.)** This method can be used also on a bitch down their rear legs to tie up their skirts from being soiled by urine. Start at the top of the bitches rear and top of the back leg. Make the first 2" ponytail then connect the next 2" piece of hair along with the first ponytail; rubber band both together. Then take the next 2" piece of hair and rubber band it to the first two. Continue the same way down the back leg until you reach the hock. Be careful not to band too tightly at the base.



Photo Reprint Courtesy of Ruth Weddle
Weddle Publications, 1972



AFGHAN HOUNDS, OLDEST OF DOMESTICATED BREEDS

The Afghan has a very fine silky fleece, resembling camel's hair, covering his entire body. The same kind of hair forms a tuft on top of the head. Many people ask why dogs native to a hot country have such a thick coat. The answer is that it is necessary to protect the body from sandstorms. The hair on top of his head is to modify the effect of the hot sun.

THE MENTOR February, 1927

MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING BREEDS

JEROLD S. BELL, DVM

Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University
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In order to understand how to maintain breeds, we have to understand the genetic forces that shape them. Natural species evolve through natural selection. Any genetic changes within a population that improve the chance of survival and ability to reproduce in the populated environment will be at an advantage and thrive. This results in a loss of genetic diversity through the disadvantaged. This loss is not detrimental to the population as it is directly related to increasing its superiority.

Dog breeds develop through artificial selection for desired phenotypes – what you can see in the dogs. These can include conformation, behavior, working ability and health. Most breeds originally started from either a small population of related founders, or as a population of unrelated dogs that conformed to a working or conformational phenotype. Some breed lines will be discarded over time due to genetic defects, or an inability to adhere to a standard. Regardless of the breed origin, generations of reproduction within a small population produce homozygosity (the fixation of gene pairs) through close breeding. This is what causes breeds to reproduce themselves with each generation.

Genetic studies of dog breeds show that they lose on average 35% of their genetic diversity through breed formation. Genetic studies also document the increased homozygosity found in dog breeds. **Low effective population size (low number of founders) and high deep-pedigree inbreeding coefficients (homozygosity) are a natural and expected consequence of breed development.**

Breeds differ from natural populations in that only a small percentage of dogs reproduce to create the next generation. In a population sense, this represents a genetic bottleneck with each generation. Individuals chosen for breeding should represent the quality traits of the breed. Quality traits should not be lost through the absence of selection or the abandonment of quality lines.

Population expansion is an important aspect of breed maintenance. If the offspring of small population breeds are generally healthy their population can grow and expand. They are at stages of breed development where more populous breeds were earlier in their development. Breeders of small population breeds need to mentor their puppy buyers to expand their breeder base as well as the number of dogs. Population expansion allows the creation of new “family lines.” A larger population allows average relatedness of breeding pairs (based on recent generations) to be less than the prior generation.

Population contraction is detrimental to breed maintenance due to the loss of quality breeding lines and genetic diversity. **Healthy breed gene pools require expanding, or large, stable populations.**

There are times when a lot of breeding is going on and registrations are increasing, and times (such as the recent past) when less breeding is going on. However, it is the offspring that reproduce (regardless if from prolific or limited-breeding parents) that contribute their genes to the next generation. Breeding quality dogs from different “lines” and areas of the gene pool prevents the loss of genetic diversity.

The popular sire syndrome is the single most influential factor in restricting breed gene pool diversity. When a breed is concentrating on a specific sire or multi-generational sire line, other quality male lines are abandoned. This causes a loss of genetic diversity to the breed gene pool in exchange for a rapidly increasing influence of the popular sire. Now is an important time to use frozen semen of quality dogs from the past to expand gene pools. Stored DNA (such as from the OFA CHIC repository) or semen can be used for breed-specific genetic testing that might not have been previously available.

All individuals carry some deleterious genes, which can increase in frequency with natural as well as artificial selection. More “lines” of naturally occurring species have died off due to genetic disorders or diminished fitness than those that have survived. As individuals propagate, deleterious mutations can become breed-related disease if they are disseminated and increase in frequency.

Studies show that some breeds have more issues of specific genetic diseases with linebreeding and others do not. This depends on the genetic load of deleterious recessive genes in the gene pool. **The genetic health of dog breeds is not a direct function of homozygosity, genetic diversity, or population size; but of the accumulation and propagation of specific disease liability genes.**

Artificial selection to maintain breeds requires active selection against deleterious genes. This is easier with dominant or additive genes, as the genotype is observed in the dog’s phenotype. For recessive deleterious genes, selection involves the development and use of genetic tests that reveal the carrier state, or the identification of lines with carrier risk.

Some hereditary disorders and disease-predisposing phenotypes have been actively selected for by breeders. The most evident and widespread is the brachycephalic obstructive airway disorder, seen in extremely short-muzzled breeds. Other extreme phenotypes include excessive skin, excessive skin folds, excessive hind limb angulation, excessive size, excessive coat, dome-shaped skulls, and eyelid abnormalities. **It is important that breed standards and selection practices specifically avoid selection for extreme phenotypes that cause disease liability. For the show ring, judges’ education should be directed towards rewarding moderation of disease-related extreme phenotypes.**

Regular breed health surveys should be conducted by breed clubs to monitor for the presence and changing prevalence of genetic disorders. The OFA offers on-line health surveys for breeds. Breed genetic health should be judged on breed health surveys that document the occurrence of genetic disease. Parent breed clubs should determine realistic prebreeding genetic screening requirements based on the prevalence and severity of testable disorders in the breed. Health testing requirements should be listed in the OFA CHIC and AKC Bred with H.E.A.R.T. program websites.

Without direct selection against genetic disorders, the genetic health of breeds will decline. Breeders who refuse to do prebreeding health screening should be directed to find a different

MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING BREEDS

JEROLD S. BELL, DVM
(Continued)

hobby or profession that they can actually be good at. It is not ethical to breed dogs without selection for genetic health. **Selection of healthy breeding stock is the most important aspect of maintaining breeds.**

Each breeder must prioritize their selection for positive traits and against disease traits with each mating. Some breeders feel that genetic screening will reduce the genetic diversity of breeds. The proper use of genetic screening actually increases breeding choices by allowing quality dogs at higher-risk of carrying disease liability genes to be bred:

- Quality carriers of testable disease-causing recessive genes should be bred to normal testing mates and replaced for breeding with quality, normal testing offspring.
- Quality dogs with a less desirable phenotype (such as fair or even mild hip dysplasia in breeds with high frequencies of dysplasia) should be bred to dogs with desirable phenotypes (good or excellent hips) and replaced for breeding with offspring whose phenotype is better than the parent.
- Quality non-affected dogs from lines expressing disorders that do not have genetic tests (such as epilepsy) should be bred to mates from families or litters not expressing the disorder and replaced for breeding with a quality, healthy offspring.
- In small population breeds with high frequencies of genetic disorders, breeders are often “frozen” from breeding for fear of producing disease. This causes continued breed decline due to population contraction. Breed improvement requires selection of the best breeding choices in matings that can reduce the frequency of genetic disease. As the population and breeding choices expand, the ability to reduce the frequency of disease expands with it. **Breed improvement involves;**

- 1) selection of breeding dogs
- 2) appropriate pairing of mates
- 3) breeding
- 4) replacement of less desirable breeding dogs with more desirable offspring.

An unfortunate development in dog breeding is recommendations designed for the preservation of rare and endangered species. These involve outbreeding (reducing homozygosity and average inbreeding coefficients) and increasing minor gene or chromosome segment frequencies. Dog breeding requires diverse lines, and not a homogenized and randomized outbred population. Outbreeding will not reduce the frequency of breed-related genetic disease, as the causative genes are already dispersed in the breed gene pool. Genetic selection for quality and against undesirable traits is what causes homozygosity and reduces the frequency of minor genes and chromosomal segments. Blindly selecting for them without knowing their effect could significantly reverse selection based breed improvement. **Homozygosity is synonymous with pure breeds. It is not inherently correlated to impaired genetic health, and does not have to be artificially controlled.**

Expanding populations with different breeders undertaking different types of matings and selecting on different lines, while monitoring and selecting against genetic disease provides for a healthy, diverse breed gene pool. Official genetic screening results should be made available to prospective breeders, and to the pet and breeding-stock purchasing public. This is facilitated through open genetic health databases like the OFA. It doesn't matter whether a breeder is a large commercial breeder, or only breeds once. It is no longer acceptable to say that genetic disease “just happens.” In today's environment, not testing for documented breed-related hereditary diseases is irresponsible and unethical breeding. **Breed-specific pre-breeding health screening should become as universal as equine pre-purchase examinations.**

BREED MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT REQUIRES:

- A large or expanding breed population
- Avoidance of the popular sire syndrome
- Avoidance of extreme phenotypes that can produce disease liability
- Monitoring of health issues in the breed
- Constant selection for quality and health

Words That Make Us Smile

We all like to get letters like this!

Dear Russ,

First I would like to tell you how much I enjoy Topknot News and tell you that and your team do an excellent job. I have not shown or finished an Afghan in many years but I still own one ,Candy, who gets a short haircut. My family obligations and health have left without the energy to maintain a show coat.

My Candy and my GCh Saluki, Simba, spent their days running on my small “Texas ranch” and on occasion catch a rabbit who does not make it through the fence. I have a large collection of Afghan art so the covers are a joy. I have been able to identify the old pics without looking at the answers! At present I am president of the Poodle Club of San Antonio. I got my first Poodle in 1960 and while working for a handler I saw my first Afghan, Desert Wind and I fell in love. A few years later I got my first Afghan out of Ch. Dynasty's Marked Card. Both breeds have been in my house ever since.

Please keep up the great work you are doing. When the envelope arrives it brings so much joy to my life.

God Bless,
Lee Ann Mann

REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW DATES

See “AHCA National” Information for Regional Specialties around that event

**Note: This information was gathered by TN Editor from other sources, and accuracy cannot be guaranteed.*

Please refer to <http://www.akc> or <http://afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/> for more detailed information

Carolina Afghan Hound Club (2 Shows, 2 Days) With AHCA Breeders Cup Charlotte, NC Judge Day One: Steven G. Kelly Judge Day Two AM: Shelley Hennessy Friday & Saturday - April 28, 29, 2017	Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Monroe, MI Judge: Shelley Hennessy Sweeps: David Cooley Friday - July 7, 2017
Tara Afghan Hound Club (2 Shows, 2 Days) With AHCA Breeders Cup Charlotte, NC Judge Day One PM: Sandra W. Frei Judge Day Two: Jane M. Sheppard Sweeps Day Two: Julie Roche Saturday & Sunday - April 29, 30, 2017	Evergreen Afghan Hound Club (2 Shows, 2 Days) Auburn, WA Judge Day One: Lucy Orlowski Sweeps Day One: Jan Butler Judge Day Two: Ken Tippie Sweeps Day Two: Lonnie Patterson Saturday & Sunday - August 5, 6, 2017
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas (2 Shows, 1 Day) Lewisville, TX AM Judge: Nancy Self AM Sweeps: Allan Reznik PM Judge: Patrick Byrne AM Sweeps: Jarnell Carter Saturday - April 19, 2017	Midwest Afghan Hound Club (2 Shows, 1 Day) Buckeye Bash Weekend Oberlin, OH AM Judge: Chris Kaiser Sweeps: Brigitte Kaiser PM Judge: Duane Butherus Friday - August 11, 2017
Afghan Hound Club of Austin Lewisville, TX Judge: Michael Canalizo Sweeps: Shirley McFadden Sunday - April 30, 2017	Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio Buckeye Bash Weekend additional show w/Lorain County KC Judge AHCSO: Jan Swayze-Curry Sweeps: Jim Webb Judge Breed/OH Group LCKC: Paul Gindlesperger Group LCKC :Rita Walker Saturday - August 12, 2017
Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey Upper Black Eddy, PA Judge: Sandy Frei Sweeps: Barbara Cassidy Friday - May 5, 2017	Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus Buckeye Bash Weekend additional show w/Lorain County KC Judge AHCGC: Rita Figg Sweeps: Janet LeNobel Judge Breed/OH Group LCKC: Dr. Barry Deitch Group LCKC : Sharon Derrick Sunday - August 13, 2017
Afghan Hound Club of St. Louis With Mississippi Valley KC Cluster Judge: Randlell Tincher Sweeps: Allan Reznik Saturday - June 3, 2017	Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club (2 Shows, 1 Day) Lake Elmo, MN AM Judge: Jamie Ganoza Sweeps: Allan Reznik PM Judge: Rosemarie Crandall Friday - August 25, 2017
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago (2 Shows, 1 Day) Joliet, IL AM Judge: Robert Godfrey PM Judge: JoAnne Buehler Sweeps: Rebecca Morrisette Friday - June 9, 2017	Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver (2 Shows, 2 Days) Greeley, CO Judge Day One: Pauline Hewitt Sweeps Day One: Robin Zegiler Wochner Judge Day Two: Dr. Paul Hewitt Sweeps Day Two: Perry Rooks Thursday & Friday - September 7 & 8, 2017
Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club No Judge Information Vallejo, CA Saturday - June 10, 2017	Afghan Hound Club of St. Louis Gray Summit, MO (Purina Farms) Judge: Thomas Kirstein Sweeps: Julie Roche Friday - September 15, 2017
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club East Windsor, CT Judge: June Leitch Sweeps: Deb Coudriet Sunday - June 18, 2017	Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club With Wine Country Cluster Romulus, NY Judge: Eugene Blake Sweeps: Linda Jackson Saturday - September 30, 2017
Tidewater Afghan Hound Club With Blue Crab Cluster Chesterfield, VA Judge: Pam Arwood Sweeps: Gary Parks Saturday - July 1, 2017	

AHCA INVENTORY ITEMS AVAILABLE

To order any of the inventory items contact: Sue Busby

5.11- Inventory of Items For Sale

Submitted by Dorma Sue Busby

barakiafs@peoplepc.com or 586-933-5682—H or 810-241-2529—C

PAYPAL/VISA/MC ACCEPTED

Prices do not include postage



Breeders' Cup Items

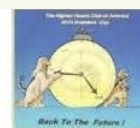
2013 Breeders' Cup

Stainless Steel Travel Cup 7 \$5.00



2014 Breeders' Cup

Travel Bags Royal Blue 17 \$5.00



2016 Breeders' Cup

Catalogs 12 \$20.00



2015 National Sales Items

Ladies full zip Jacket/embroidered logo
Beige (sm)-2 (m)-2 (lg)-1 \$20.00



Canvas tote Bags w/color logo- 21 \$5.00

Catalog 12 \$5.00

Purple exhibitor tote bags \$2.00

Parent Club Logo Items

5.26 WAYS & MEANS



Ways & Means

PC Lapel Pins 14K gold plated
Tie Tac or Safety Pin catch \$15.00

Bath Towels Black/Gold logo 5 \$20.00

Christmas Ornaments
White/Gold Logo 6 \$5.00

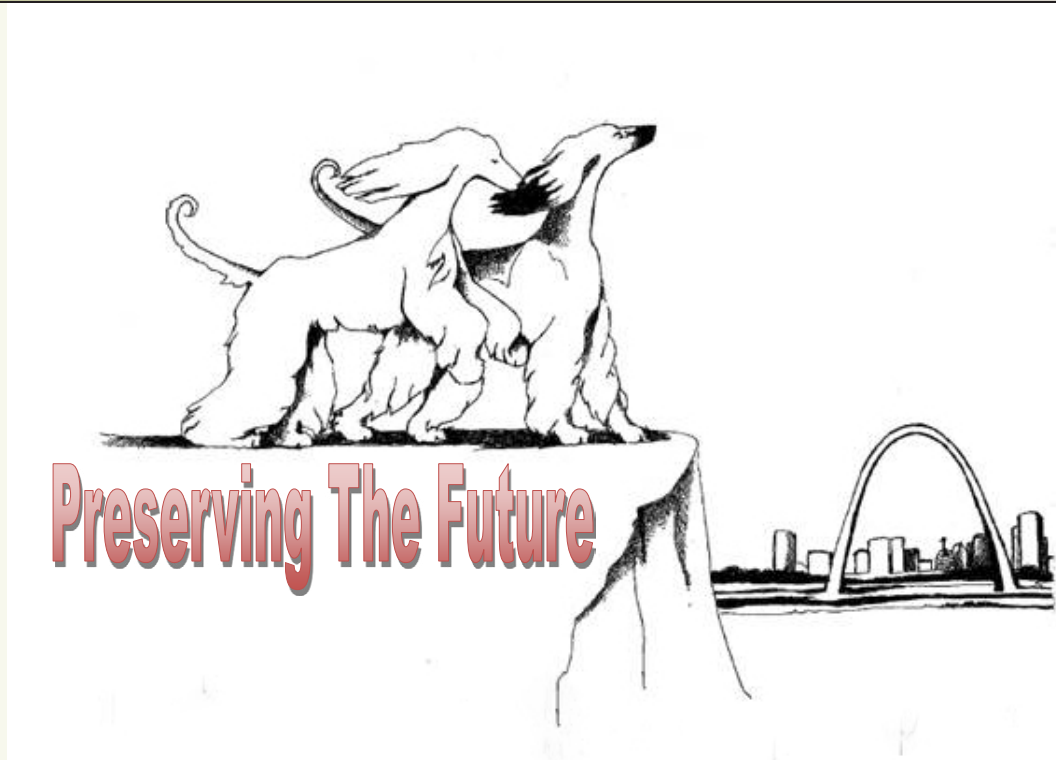
W/Parent Club Logo Items

Grey Bath Towels w/Teal Logo
80th National Specialty 3 \$20.00

Directors Chairs/side table
Dr. Green 5 \$40.00

Baseball Caps/Black PC logo \$20.00
Pink /3 Sage/3 Gray/1 Beige/2

The Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.
Proudly Presents
The 81st National Specialty Show



Saturday, September 11th 2017 - Wednesday, September 14th 2017
Greys Summit, MO

*****Purina Farms*****

2017 National Specialty Website
Joy Atkins-Miller, Show Chairman

508-584-8411
Show Secretary, TBA

Judges:

Lex Robertson

Richard Souza

Robert DiNicola

TBA

TBA

TBA

Regular and Non-Regular Dog Classes and Best of Breed

Regular and Non-Regular Bitch Classes, Junior Showmanship Classes

Sweepstakes Classes (All), Triathlon

Lure Coursing

Agility

Obedience & Rally

*The Afghan Hound Club of America
Proudly Presents
The Twenty-Ninth Annual
Afghan Hound Breeders' Cup
April 28th, 2017
Piedmont Kennel Club Showplace
Charlotte, NC
Judging—All classes JoAnn Jones*



Contact Information

Linda Shipley
Show Chairman
5310 Old Hundred Lane
Atlanta, GA 30327
404-303-8999
sharja@bellsouth.net



Dorma Busby
Show Secretary
11950 Plumbrook Rd.
Sterling Heights, MI. 48312
586-264-4292 (h)
810-241-2529 (c)
barakiafs@peoplepc.com

General Information

Host Hotel
Comfort Inn Carowinds
3725 Avenue of the Carolinas
Ft. Mill, SC 29708
Phone (803) 548-5200 (use code AHCA for show rate)
\$94.00 + Tax/Night, \$25 1-time pet fee

RV Parking available at Carolina Camp Wilderness Resort Two miles from the show site. Same exit as hotels: I-77 exit 90 704-587-9116.

This event is held in conjunction with:

Friday, April 28, 2017 - AM – **AHCA Breeders' Cup**
Friday, April 28, 2017 - PM – **Carolina Afghan Hound Club (Judge: Mr. Steve G. Kelly)**
Saturday, April 29, 2017 - AM – **Carolina Afghan Hound Club (Judge: Ms. Shelley S. Hennessy)**
Saturday, April 29, 2017 - PM – **Tara Afghan Hound Club (Judge: Mrs. Sandra W. Frei)**
Sunday, April 30, 2017 - AM – **Tara Afghan Hound Club (Sweepstakes Judge: Ms. Julie Roche)**
Sunday, April 30, 2017 - AM – **Tara Afghan Hound Club (Judge: Mrs. Jane M. Sheppard)**

VENDOR BOOTH SPACE (4 Day Event!)

For information regarding booth space, please contact: Chris Kaiser – abiszetcreations@att.net

AHCA BREEDERS' CUP BANQUET (FRIDAY NIGHT)

North Carolina Barbeque \$25.00

Trophy Donations

Please include kennel name for catalog listing.

Remit to: Linda Lee Jackson

206 Oakwood Ct., McDonough, GA 30252 770-898-0286

Linda0822@bellsouth.net

Catalog Advertisements

\$25 = Full page, black & white

Please make checks payable to: AHCA

Advertising copy must be received by: April 1, 2017

Send Ad Copy and Payment to:

Michelle Friesen

mgfriesen129@gmail.com

757-284-5281

Visit the AHCA Website at
afghanhoundclubofamerica.org
Rescue Hotline: 1-877-AF-RESCU
(1-877-237-3728)