

Topknot News

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

Winter 2009



THE STORY OF THE AHCA LOGO

Submitted by Susan Howell Hamlin

Upon taking office as recording secretary in 1971 under the newly enacted by-laws, I proposed that the AHCA should have an emblem or logo to identify it, as there had never been one in the history of the club. As "one of the new kids on the block", as in most organizations, when an idea is presented, is non-controversial, will benefit the club, and perhaps even bring in extra money, that idea is usually okayed if there is someone to do the work. I volunteered to go forward with my idea.

Although there were many very artistically talented AHCA members, I suggested that Kay Finch design the logo image. Kay was certainly a first lady of the breed, whose winning Crown Crest dogs and distinctive ceramic sculptures were popular and well known. The Board agreed with my choice.

But put this all in perspective: In 1971, there were no PCs, no e-mail. It was pre-telephone deregulation time, with long-distance calls paid for by the minute. Letters (remember them?) were written and delivered by the USPS with a postage stamp costing 8 cents.

Prior to calling Kay, I had contacted Balfour (a company founded to create fraternity and sorority jewelry, later high school and college rings and during WWII – military insig-

nia, and who would ultimately strike the initial gold membership pins) and Foley Dog Show Organization (AHCA's show superintendent who would print the logo on ribbons and the catalog) to ascertain their criteria for the artwork needed.

My initial letter to Kay indicated the Board wanted an image that could be used as a logo on ribbons, the catalog cover, membership pins, and tie tacks (to be the size of a dime).

Shortly, Kay submitted to me a drawing of an Afghan Hound lying on its side surrounded by puppies (the image that the Detroit AHC club now uses). After sending a copy to Balfour, they determined the image was too large to

reproduce well on something ultimately as small as the size of membership pins.

I again contacted Kay to ask if she could do a head study, and again she complied by submitting such a drawing. If memory serves me, I believe that copy was used only for the 1972 national catalog covers and ribbons, as we were pushed for time, but Balfour was very explicit in rejecting that particular draw-

ing (a 3/4 head view - which wouldn't work on the reduction size they had to make). Again I contacted Kay, and she graciously submitted the third drawing – an Afghan Hound head in profile - of what we now use. Balfour was happy, Foley was happy and the AHCA Board was happy.

That's the story of how our AHCA logo came to be. Those little gold membership pins/tie tacks cost only \$10 in those days. In later years, when the cost of gold skyrocketed, they were discontinued, and a new less expensive enameled membership pin was struck.

Visit the AHCA Web Site at <http://clubs.akc.org/ahca>

Rescue Hotline: 1-877-AF-RESCU (237-2728)



Topknot News Editor: Barb Bornstein
(602) 677-6690
Assistant Editor: Janet Lenobel
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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.)

2008 AHCA Officers and Directors

President: Abbe Shaw
First Vice President: Linda Shipley
Second Vice President: Brenda Brody
Corresponding Sec'y: Donna Amos
Recording Secretary: Sandy Nelson
Treasurer: Linda Jackson
Board of Directors:
Dorma Sue Busby
Jody Gardner
Debbie Petersen
Tony Saia
Helen Stein
Sandy Weinraub
AKC Delegate: Connie Butherus

Editor's Note:

Once again Tony Saia and Floyd Gale and their guru committees managed to preside over another splendid National Specialty Show. It is always marvelous to have the show ring, grooming area and vendors all in the same venue. It also makes for a very busy area with so much to see and do, and what fun!

On another note: I must give a public thank you to husband, Lee Bornstein for all his work with each issue of TN. Lee told me not to mention him but he does so much for this publication and without his computer skills TN would be a big mess. He never complains and he is continually bailing me out of computer jail. Perhaps one of these days I will understand how these computer things work, but don't count on it. I haven't understood it in over 40 years so it's doubtful any of this computer stuff will ever make sense to me.

Next TN Deadline is March 13, 2010

2009 Committee Chairpersons

AKC Delegate: Connie Butherus *duaneb@ptd.net*
Agility: Lynda Hicks *suniafghans@gmail.com*
AKC Gazette Column: Pat Gilbert *tazi1970@sbcglobal.net*
Awards: Claudia Jakus *claudiajakus@comcast.net*
Breed & Public Education: Linda Shipley *sharja@bellsouth.net*
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Canine Health: Midge Martin & Sandy Frei *kaihorn@att.net/
sstormhill@aol.com/*
Complaints: Board of Directors
Inventory: Sue Busby *barakiafs@peoplepc.com*
Judges Education: Harry Bennett *harryonly@aol.com*
Junior Showmanship: Jody Gardner *jmgafghan@aol.com*
Legislative Affairs: Betty Salmon *bettysalmon@columbus.rr.com*
Librarian & Publications: Helen Stein *beaniesue@aol.com*
Lure Coursing: Max Ross *mrosshomestead@comcast.net*
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Membership: Sandy Weinraub *amerbeaut@aol.com*
Mentor Program: Bobbie Keller *zafarahounds@comcast.net*
National Events Liaison: Tony Saia *beachbrook@prodigy.net*
National 2010: Judy Bloom *jubilann@aol.com*
Obedience: Debbie Petersen *afghan1@juno.com*
Parade of Rescue Medallions: Dorma Sue Busby
barakiafs@peoplepc.com
Parliamentarians: Connie Butherus & Helen Stein *duaneb@ptd.net/
beaniesue@aol.com*
Policies & Procedures: Barb Bornstein *dancingtree@trims.com*
Regional Clubs: Sandy Nelson *karizmaafghans@comcast.net*
Rescue: Russ & Barb Hastings *baruast3@verizon.net*
Statistics: Sharon Watson *salem@netsync.net*
Topknot News: Barb Bornstein & Wynne Kalish & Janet Lenobel
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Web Page: Chris Kaiser *ahca_web@att.net*

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Note: We cannot make corrections to Committee Reports; therefore, send your corrections directly to the Committee Chairs. They will contact us with your corrections for publication in their reports in the next Topknot News. Email all other corrections directly to the Editor at: dancingtree@trims.com

PAT GILBERT, NEW AHCA COLUMNIST FOR THE AKC GAZETTE

As most AHCA Members are aware, we recently lost AHCA member Georgie Guthrie. Georgie had been an Afghan Hound breeder/exhibitor for over 50 years. She was one of the most respected members in our breed and a friend to everyone who knew her.

Pat Gilbert will replace Georgie as the AKC Gazette Columnist. Pat's first article will be a memorial to Georgie and will appear in the February 2010 issue.

Pat has written for the dog press since 1974. Pat and her well known husband Ed Gilbert, Jr. are winners of the Dog Writers' Assoc. of America Ottawa Kennel Club/Bob Cole Special Award, 2007. Pat was also the Hound Group Director for the Los Angeles Dog Judges Educational Association (LADJEA).

Pat is approved to judge many breeds and has judged in the United States, Canada, Australia, and the Republic of Korea. She has held educational programs on grooming and handling in the United States, Canada, and the Republic of Korea. She has also presented several presentations on Sighthounds. Pat is conversationally multilingual in English, French, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese which is an asset to international presentations.

Pat is a member of the Afghan Hound Club of America (AHCA), American Saluki Association (ASA), American Dog Owners Association (ADOA), Life Member of the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), Canadian Dog Judges Association (CDJA), Senior Conformation Judges Association (SCJA), Dog Judges Association of America (DJAA), Take the Lead (Lifetime Member), Dog Writers Assoc. of America (DWAA), Dog Legislation Council of Canada (DLCC), President's Council of AKC/Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF), Founding Member of AKC Humane Fund, and a member of National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA).

The combination of Pat and her husband Ed's backgrounds provides a unique and broad range perspective in regard to the evaluation of purebred dogs and their exhibition.

If you have articles you feel would be of interest to the public, please contact Pat at: 530-877-6235 or email her at tazi1970@sbeglobal.net.

WAYS & MEANS REPORT (Or, Christmas is coming!) Submitted by Chair, Sue Busby

Parent Club Logo Inventory (Logo in Gold Threads)

Fleece Blankets @ \$15.00 Each (4 Navy, 7 Forest Green)

Laptop Tote Bags \$25.00 Each

Duffle Bags @ \$40 .00 Each (6 Navy, 9 Red, 1 Black)

Red, Blue & Grey Luggage Tags @ \$5.00 Each

Baseball Caps in Assorted Colors @ \$15.00 Each

PC Lapel Pins in 14 KT Gold Plated

Tie Tac or Safety Pin @ \$15.00 Each

Prices Do Not Include Postage. Contact Sue with your order at: barakiafs@peoplepc.com

2008 AWARDS
Submitted by Awards Chair, Terry Chacon

Top Dog in Breed 2008

Ch. Wynsyr Scimitar Tyson
Owners: JW and Debbie Rogers, D. Scott Pfeil & Bill Pfeffer

Top Bitch in Breed 2008

Ch. Silhouette Shame Shame Shame JC
Owners: Elizabeth Berman, Robert Berman and Joel Fisher, DVM

Top Producing Sire 2008

Ch. Cheri-A-Elmo Iceman Perfection CD (6 champions)
Owners: John Wood, Jr. & Jerome Elliott

Top Producing Dam 2008

Ch. Perfections Parisian Holiday JC (5 champions)
Owners: Debbie Petersen & Eleanor Stonequist

Top Junior Handler 2008

Hannah Bevan
5288 South Ridge W.
Madison, Ohio 44057

2009 AHCA Young Sportsman Scholarship Award

The scholarship winner is: Megan Wager

Top Lure Courser AKC for 2008

FC Allures Infinity SC LXC
Owners: Andrew Coates, Tod & Stephani Norris

Top Lure Courser ASFA for 2008 (tie)

Am/Can Ch Charsada Dreams Can Come True LCM/Can
FCH SC ORM
ORM is Oval racer of Merit (Canadian title)
Owner: Brenda Burns

Can Ch Charsada Dream No Small Dreams FCH/Can
FCH SC
Owners: Jeanie Martin & Brenda Burns

Top ASFA member of AHCA for 2008

Ch Pizzazz Tropical Twist FCh
Owner: J. Messersmith

Obedience - Novice Winner

Sol Backen In Your Dreams CD, RN
Owner: Gisela Bailey

Top Rally for 2008

Tabitha CD RA SC - Score 296
Owners: Jerry and Sharon Pearson

Awards continued ...

Rally Certificate

Cindaw's Chantilly Lace of Elmo, CD RA score 296
Owner: R. Parson

Rally Excellent Certificate

Ch. Fabelhaft Majic Silver Lining, CD RE SC NA NAJ
NAP NJP Score 277
Owner: Shelley Hennessy

Versatility Awards (3)

DCH Perfection Elmo Solar Eclipse CD
Owners: Ellie Stonequist and Debbie Petersen

DC L'Rhel Suni Asia's Timestep, RA, MC, LCX
Owners: James and Lynda Hicks

F. Ch. Sabrina CD, RE, SC
Owners: Jerry and Sharon Pearson

Lifetime Membership Awards:

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Guthrie
Mrs. Betty Stites
Mrs. Sharon Watson

Editor's Note: Claudia Jakus is taking on the duties as the new Awards Chair. We thank Terry for the work she has done on this committee.

CANINE HEALTH

Submitted by Chair, Midge Martin

I just received the Canine Health Foundation newsletter where it was announced that a new research grant has been made to evaluate multidrug resistant genes in canine lymphoma cells exposed to enrofloxacin and prednisone, and a second grant for a comparison of T-regulatory cells in dogs with spontaneously occurring Lymphoma following Oral vs IV Cyclophosphamide. So, Lymphoma treatment is on the table.

Read more about your dog's health on page 7.



STATISTICS REPORT
Submitted by Chair, Sharon Watson

The first Afghan Hound to become a Champion of Record was **Kabul of Prides Hill**. He earned his Championship in 1934. When the numbers drop, the AKC changes its requirements for majors. Therefore, although we know the number shown is way down, the number of dogs finishing is the same or even higher. What does it mean? It is clear that a dog earning his Championship in the seventies or eighties had more competition. Were those dogs better? Maybe. But we do see dogs winning specialties that are not the best ever. However, quality is not determined by numbers. I thought the number of Champions would go down when the number of dogs shown went down but as you see, that is not the way it works. This means that dogs are finishing which would not have finished 20 years ago and their breeders believe they are good quality because they are Champions. In the chart below is the Year followed by the Number of Afghan Hounds completing their Championship in that year.

Year	#	Year	#	Year	#
1934	1	1962	67	1990	208
1935	3	1963	85	1991	167
1936	3	1964	84	1992	191
1937	10	1965	92	1993	193
1938	16	1966	111	1994	212
1939	16	1967	107	1995	205
1940	17	1968	131	1996	205
1941	15	1969	121	1997	191
1942	18	1970	101	1998	197
1943	16	1971	133	1999	195
1944	17	1972	145	2000	195
1945	16	1973	107	2001	202
1946	22	1974	95	2002	225
1947	29	1975	119	2003	176
1948	46	1976	118	2004	208
1949	45	1977	88	2005	182
1950	28	1978	98	2006	163
1951	39	1979	116	2007	218
1952	24	1980	126	2008	182
1953	38	1981	129		
1954	41	1982	127		
1955	40	1983	169		
1956	47	1984	168		
1957	38	1985	186		
1958	95	1986	186		
1959	59	1987	189		
1960	56	1988	187		
1961	72	1989	187		

Rule Change for AKC Events

Effective January 1, 2010

All dogs must be individually registered with either the AKC or a foreign registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration in order to participate in any AKC Conformation, Performance, or Companion event.

Go to akc.org to see the full text of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

OBEDIENCE TITLES EARNED

Between 1940 and 1960 4 Afghans Hounds earned Obedience titles.

Between 1960 and 1970 there were 10 Afghan Hounds who earned Obedience titles.

1971	1
1972	3
1973	67
1974	60
1975	66
1976	82
1977	46
1978	47
1979	60
1980	54

1981 to 1989 went down gradually to 19.

1990	16
2000	10
2007	0

These figures are not surprising when you consider when Agility and Rally began; hence many exhibitors switched from Obedience to these events.

**PURINA PARENT CLUB PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAM UPDATE
Submitted by Helen Stein**

As a dog breeder and/or enthusiast, you are probably very aware of the issues we all face trying to preserve our rich heritage and ensure a bright future for dogs everywhere.

Since 2002, thousands of fellow dog breeders and enthusiasts have chosen to have an impact by feeding Purina brand dog foods, participating in Purina Pro Club and declaring their participation in the Purina Parent Club Partnership (PPCP) Program. When you enroll in the PPCP Program, Purina will match the value of the weight circles you submit by 10%. This in no way impacts your personal rewards.

Half of the matching earnings each year are pre-designated for canine health research and contribute to supporting Canine Health Foundation grants in which researchers aim to better understand the genetics behind many conditions affecting our dogs. The other half is eligible to provide supplemental funding of canine health research or may be used to fund educational and/or rescue efforts. The PPCP Program has raised in excess of \$2.8 million for canine health research, education and rescue efforts.

Has your club utilized the funds at the Canine Health Foundation (CHF) to support research? Remember that half of all PPCP earnings go to the CHF and are designated for research to benefit your breed. Current projects include such topics as exercise induced collapse, cancer, epilepsy, cruciate ligament rupture and degenerative myelopathy. Contact the CHF today (caninehealth@akcCHF.org) to see how your PPCP funds can make a difference!

In addition to helping fund a variety of canine health research projects, funding has been used to help support educational outreach programs such as scholarships, library support, essay contests, youth programs, conservation education programs, art contests, reading programs, judges education seminars, breed specific educational materials such as illustrated breed standards and responsible dog ownership materials.

Rescue programs also benefit as funds have been used not only for the direct care of those dogs in need, but by also providing the much needed funding to support additional fund raising through the development of calendars, websites and adoption events.

The core essence of the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program is working together for the betterment of dogs everywhere. Your national breed club, the Canine Health Foundation and Purina are counting on you. Thank you for joining us in preserving our heritage and ensuring a healthy future for our canine companions.

As of August 31, 2009, the Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc. has 317 members declared for the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program. From January 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009, 56 members have submitted weight circles resulting in a total of \$898.44 accumulated thus far for the 2009 Program.

The best way to increase the earnings and close the gap on the potential earnings is by spreading the word:

To Club members who are already Pro Club members: Encourage them to declare for the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program by calling 1-877-776-2582 and encourage them to submit weight circles to the Purina Pro Club.

To Club Members who feed Purina but are NOT members of Pro Club: Make them aware of the Purina Parent Club Partnership program and encourage them to join Pro Club, declare for their breed and submit weight circles to the Purina Pro Club.

Each new person who declares participation in the PPCP Program and submits weight circles or who joins Pro Club and declares and submits weight circles will only help to increase the earnings for 2009. To assist you in spreading the word, we have developed ad slicks and a program overview sheet that are perfect for use in your club's publications, website, show catalog, etc. Additionally, we have found that many participants have been made aware of the program through information made available to them on their club's web site.

Recently, the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program established a presence on facebook. Visit www.facebook.com and search Purina Parent Club Partnership Program and join the group. Please encourage club members and friends to join our facebook group as well. We hope to use this group to communicate general information, share successes, best practices, etc. The more we spread the word, the more we can do for canine health and well-being.

If your club has not already done so, please consider adding a link from your website to the PPCP website to make it easy for fanciers of the Afghan Hound to access additional information about the PPCP program. If you would like a copy of the ad slick, overview or a web link image, please email me at MICHAEL.ALLWAY@PURINA.NESTLE.COM and I will be happy to fulfill your request.

Also, please do not forget that we have PPCP promotional display boards that your club may have for their use while supplies last. We hope you will be able to use the display at events, meetings, banquets, etc. to help build awareness of the program and earn funds to benefit your breed. If you are interested in receiving a display board for your club's use, please let me know.

Please encourage participation in this unique program, and submission of weight circles to benefit the Afghan Hound. Though canine health is a major component of the PPCP program, canine welfare is also an integral component.

Purina thanks you for this opportunity to partner with you and the CHF in advancing the health and well being of the Afghan Hound.

Mike Allway, Manager
Breeder/Enthusiast Services
Nestle Purina PetCare

THE MYSTERIES OF THYROID DISEASE

Submitted by Submitted by Health Co-chair,
Sandy Frei

(Reprinted from The AKC Canine Health Foundation Newsletter,
Discoveries, Issue 29, Summer 2009)

Hypothyroidism is a condition where there is not enough hormone produced or secreted by the thyroid gland. Because of this, the metabolic processes in the body slow down. Some symptoms of hypothyroidism include lethargy, weight gain, coarse hair, hair loss, dry skin, and cold extremities.

Being fit and healthy is a growing concern for many, but with pet owners it does not end there. Not only do we want to keep ourselves healthy but we want our pets to be that way too, so we go the extra mile to ensure their diet is correct and give our companions plenty of exercise. But what if we cannot tell that our animals are sick? With diseases of the thyroid, symptoms can be non-specific, and hard to detect.

Thyroid disease is a disease which affects the thyroid gland. The thyroid gland is a gland with two lobes that resides in the neck. It produces two major hormones, T4 and T3, which regulate the speed at which the body burns energy and makes proteins. When the thyroid malfunctions it disrupts the normal rate of these processes. Some of the different diseases which affect the thyroid gland are hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, immune-mediated thyroiditis, and thyroid nodules.

Hypothyroidism is a condition where there is not enough hormone produced or secreted by the thyroid gland. Because of this, the metabolic processes in the body slow down. Some symptoms of hypothyroidism include lethargy, weight gain, coarse hair, hair loss, dry skin, and cold extremities. The level of hormone secreted determines how extreme the symptoms are. Hypothyroidism is normally treated with hormone replacements and treatment is typically needed for the rest of the animal's life.

Hyperthyroidism is an excessive secretion of hormones produced by the thyroid gland. This causes an increase in the metabolic processes in the body. Symptoms of hyperthyroidism include weight loss, increased appetite, and hyperexcitability. Gastrointestinal problems such as vomiting, diarrhea, and increased fecal volume can also occur. Symptoms can vary and range from mild to severe. Treatment for hyperthyroidism varies but can include long-term administration of an antithyroid drug.

Immune-mediated thyroiditis is a problematic disease. In immune-mediated thyroiditis anti-thyroid antibodies in the blood or tissues attack and destroy the thyroid gland. Symptoms are similar to that of hypothyroidism, due to fewer and fewer hormones being secreted by the deteriorating thyroid gland. This disease usually progresses slowly and is not noticed until it is in the late stages. Treatment includes hormones to suppress or replace thyroid function along with pain management drugs.

Thyroid nodules occur rarely but are growths that develop on the thyroid gland. These growths can be cancerous or non-cancerous. Biopsies are done to determine specifically which type they are. Growths are either treated with anti-inflammatory drugs or are surgically removed if they are causing pain to the animal.

There is currently research to help determine how thyroid problems affect different breeds and if there are specific genetic determinants which lead to thyroid disease that can be identified by testing.

With the help of the researchers, in time we as pet owners may be given more tools to help us keep our pets healthy even from those diseases which may be invisible to us.

You can help by participating in clinical trials and/or providing financial support to the Canine Health Foundation's efforts (visit www.akcchf.org to see what projects need participation or to make a secure online donation). If you would like additional information about the research CHF is funding on thyroid disease, visit our website at www.akcchf.org and click on "Research."

FUNNY DOG-RELATED LAWSUIT

Submitted by Marcia Morelli

A mother sued the City of Norwalk, CT, because her child's shoes were ruined by dog poop. She claimed her young son stepped in dog feces outside the garage of the aquarium and sought \$100 in damages - for replacement of the shoes and reimbursement of the admission fee to the aquarium since their visit was cut short because of the ruined shoes.

According to the city attorney, her claim will be denied because "After all, poop happens".

ROUNDUP IN THE ROCKIES DVD'S

There are only the following DVD'S left of the 2007 Roundup In The Rockies Logo Inventory:

1—Bitches & Field Trial @ \$5.00

7—Obedience & Rally @ \$5.00

3— Complete sets @ \$25.00 (Dogs, Bitches, BOB, JR'S, Sweeps and Vet. Sweeps, Parade of Vets & Rescue.

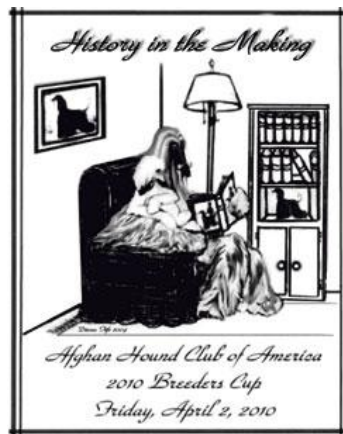
Prices Do Not Include Postage.

To Place Your Order

Contact: Becky Morissette
586-286-7095

obsessionsafs@comcast.net

2010 Breeders' Cup
HISTORY IN THE MAKING
Friday April 2, 2010
Hosted by the Midwest Afghan Hound Club



Host Hotel: The Holiday Inn Strongsville
 15471 Royalton Rd.
 Strongsville, Ohio 44136
 440-238-8800
 Rooms are \$79/Night, Plus Tax (Ask for Midwest Afghan Hound Show rate)
 Non-refundable \$40 for room with dogs. 3-dog limit.

Also at the same location: Saturday, April 3, 2010: Midwest Afghan Hound Club Specialty
 Breed Judge: Rachel Irvin
 Sweepstakes: Les Lindop

Sunday, April 4, 2010: Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus Specialty
 Breed Judge: Margrete Stanski
 Sweepstakes: Mary Ann Giordono

Breeders' Cup Dates and Fees	Deadline	Fee
Judge Nomination was on October 2, 2009		
Ballots to Breeders	October 13, 2009	
Ballots Returned	October 23, 2009	
Judge Announced	October 28, 2009	
Individual Get Entries	January 2, 2010	\$20.00
Supplemental Litter Entries	February 2, 2010	\$35.00
Supplemental Get Entries	February 2, 2010	\$25.00
Late Get Entries	February 2, 2010	\$25.00
FINAL Get Entries	March 16, 2010	\$50.00

For further information contact:

Dorma Busby, Co-Show Secretary
 barakiafs@peoplepc.com

Sharon Watson, Co-Show Secretary
 salem@netsync.net
 490 Fairmont WE
 Jamestown, NY 14701-2723
 716-483-3803

Show Chairman:
 Lori Starinsky
 12869 Hawke Rd.
 Columbia Station, OH 44028
 440-236-8847
 lorenwood@yahoo.com

For Midwest & Columbus Specialty Show Premiums
 Contact:
 Holly Miller
 4382 Wayne Road
 Mantua, OH 44255
 330-274-8904
 pennybank@roadrunner.com

We are planning an exciting weekend for you and your hounds
Please join us so you can be a part of "History In The Making"

<http://breederscup2010.webs.com>

LIBRARY REPORT

Submitted by AHCA Librarian, Helen Stein

2009 National Specialty Show – Library table

This was a wonderful specialty and I want to congratulate Show Chair Tony Saia and Co-chair Floyd Gale on a job well done (for a second time)!

At the show, we had on display many items of Kay Finch memorabilia including Kay's scrapbook dedicated to Ch. Crown Crest Mr. Universe and one for Ch. Taejon of Crown Crest. These priceless books included show photos, candid photos, notes and history of the two dogs.

We handed out many copies of a CD that can be used by breeders, clubs and rescue groups as public education materials. The CD included the 2009 version of *Introduction to the Afghan Hound*, as well as several public education flyers including Afghan Hound history, a copy of the AKC breed flyer, and a sheet of recommended reading materials.

We are researching prices to reprint *Intro*; in the meantime, a single copy of the CD is available to individuals at no charge. Contact me at BeanieSue@aol.com or drop me a note at 61630 Toro Canyon Way, La Quinta, CA 92253. Once the booklet is reprinted we will send 10 copies to each Regional Club. Additional copies will be available at a minimal charge to clubs or individuals.



Rajah of Arken

AKC Breed Flyer

I have contacted AKC about updating the "breed flyer" that is on the AKC webpage.

AKC has confirmed that my request has been submitted and will be processed.

If you haven't seen the breed information on the AKC website, please visit www.akc.org/breeds/afghan_hound



Shirkhan of Grandeur

Disposition of Regional Club Catalogs

We have several hundred catalogs from regional clubs' specialty shows.

The Board has agreed the Library will no longer store old regional specialty club catalogs, so next Spring, I will contact each regional club and offer them the catalogs that are available. The only cost to the regional club will be shipping. More info will be in the Spring issue of Topknot News.

Sandy Frei donated several old photos including these two charming candid shots of Ch. Shirkhan of Grandeur and one of Rajah of Arken.



Shirkhan of Grandeur

SPECIAL NEEDS REPORT

Submitted by Rescue Chair, Barb Hastings

THE INDY 4

Submitted by Rescue Chair, Barb Hastings
(The following is from Maureen Anderson AHRCO)

Betty came from Hobbs, New Mexico, and came to me on July 10th 2009. Her background is a bit sketchy but from what I heard she came from some groomers who dropped her off at the shelter in New Mexico. Rescue picked her up and got her to the vet. She spent over a week at the vet's clinic, she was very ill. She has Ehrlichia. She had over 200 ticks on her. She had become very anemic and needed vitamin injections. She also has a very large tumor on her hip area that has been diagnosed as bone cancer involving the spinal cord area. It is the size of a grapefruit, too large for surgery. A biopsy of the tumor could cause her to bleed to death with her platelet count. X-rays were taken to confirm the cancer. Betty is managing the pain with pain meds. She is a very special girl and is doing her best to fight the cancer. Here are some photos:



Betty on the Patio and on her favorite place in the house.



We are sorry that in this case the outcome for Betty will not lead to a long and happy life. But for most of our Special Needs dogs, we do have happy endings with new homes and much love. Without donations to the Special Needs Fund, we would not be able to help these dogs. Donations to Special Needs can be made at any time. There is no need to wait for a particular dog to send your support. Just send a check to AHCA Rescue and write Special Needs on the memo line. Your donations will be used to help cover the medical expenses of dogs who need a little extra support.

On Wednesday, September 2, 2009, Indianapolis Animal Control officers responding to complaints from neighbors removed 4 young Afghan Hounds from a private address in Camby, Indiana, and turned them over to AHRCO. We named them Malcolm, Miles, Moira and Mercedes (Mercy). All were in deplorable condition: dirty, matted and infested with parasites; however, Mercy was in obvious distress. She weighed 35lbs and was bleeding from the rectum.

The four were transported to Columbus, Ohio and taken to the Gahanna Animal Hospital for examination where it was determined that Mercy's condition required more specialized attention. Transferred to MedVet she was diagnosed with a cecal inversion and underwent emergency surgery.

Released to our care two days after surgery, Mercy recovered quickly. During her post surgery follow-up visit 12 days later, she weighed in at 45 lbs. Miraculously, she had gained 10 lbs. in 12 days. Three weeks following surgery, her doctors declared her a well-healed miracle and released her from care.

Unfortunately, little is known regarding the origin of these dogs. While the surrendering owner gave some information to the Officers, further investigation cast doubts on her story. The owner claimed she had recently rescued the dogs from someone in Tennessee and was trying to find homes for them. As the story of these dogs spread on the Internet, information came to us that in December 2008 this person had a post on Craigslist advertising Afghan Hounds available with a \$50 re-homing fee. We know now there were six adult Afghan Hounds and four 3 month-old puppies being kept in a 10 x 20 chain link pen.

Although these dogs came from the depths of darkness, their future is bright. They do not suffer any of the symptoms typically seen in these types of situations. They are not shy; they all have great temperaments and fabulous personalities and will make wonderful additions to their new families.

As of September 29th – all of the Indy 4 have been adopted: Miles – adopted by his foster Mom, Kathleen vanVelse, Indianapolis, IN. Malcolm – adopted by the Wagner family, Hanson, KY. Moira – adopted by Darlene Sixta in Independence OH. Mercedes (Mercy) – adopted by Karen Rich, Kettering, OH. I thank those members of the Afghan Hound community who openhandedly donated towards Mercy's vet care. Your generosity saved her life.



REGIONAL CLUB SHOW INFORMATION — 2009 & 2010

Submitted by Regional Club Chair, Sandy Nelson

CLUB	DATE	REG. CLASSES	SWEEPS	SHOW SECY	LOCATION
Afghan Hound Club of Austin	10/17/2009	Lila Wadsworth	not applicable	Deanne LeMastre	Belton, TX, after Bell County KC show
Northern California Afghan Hound Club	10/17/2009	Gene Vaccaro	Gail Mofford	MB-F	Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton, CA
Northern California Afghan Hound Club	10/18/2009	Sweeps only	Chuck Alarcon		
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc.	10/31/2009	Stephen Fisher	Bruce Clark	Jan Lucree	Holiday Inn Select, Atlanta, GA
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc.	11/01/2009	Steve Kelly	Sandy Velozo-Walsh	Jan Lucree	Holiday Inn Select, Atlanta, GA
Sand 'N See Afghan Hound Club	11/06/2009	Dr. Duane Butherus	Mrs. Connie Butherus	MB-F	5360 Lockhart Rd, Brooksville, FL
Carolina Afghan Hound Club	11/12/2009	Shelley Hennessey	Leslie Stoffels	MB-F	Cabarrus Arena & Event Center, Concord, NC
Southern Arizona Afghan Hound Assn.	11/13/2009	Steve Kelly	Alicia Morrison Jones	Jack Bradshaw	Pima County Fairgrounds, Tucson, AZ
Colonial Afghan Hound Club	11/27/2009	Jane Sheppard	pending	MB-F	Royal Plaza Trade & Conference Center, Fitchburg, MA
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland	01/21/2010	Edw. M. Gilbert, Jr.	Kristi Trivilino	Onofrio Dog Shows	Portland Metro Expo Center, Portland, OR
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club	02/13/2010	Amy Sorbie	Cynthia Byington	Amy Mero	Paws 'N Effect LLC
Afghan Hound Association of Long Island	02/14/2010	Hal Biermann	Chris Terrell	Jim Rau	Paws 'N Effect
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Milwaukee	03/05/2010	To be determined	To be determined	Bev Werdin	
Tidewater Afghan Hound Club	03/13/2010	Kerin Hutchings	Kathryn Carr	Tracee Elwess	Wyndham Hotel, Virginia Beach, VA
Tidewater Afghan Hound Club	03/14/2010	Abbe Shaw	Susan Bahary	Tracee Elwess	Wyndham Hotel, Virginia Beach, VA
Southern Arizona Afghan Hound Assn.	03/19/2010	D. Scott Pfeil	Sue Games		Windermere Hotel, Mesa, AZ
Midwest Afghan Hound Club	04/03/2010	Rachel Irvin	Les Lindop	Holly Miller	Holiday Inn Strongsville, OH
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus, Inc.	04/04/2010	Margrete Stanski	Mary Ann Giordano	Holly Miller	Holiday Inn Strongsville, OH
Afghan Hound Club of California	04/16/2010	Rachel Irvin	Gail Kramer	Blue Ribbon Dog Shows	Oak Canyon Park, Silverado, CA
Afghan Hound Association of Long Island	06/18/2010	Richard Souza	Jen Erickson/ R.Cotes Juniors	Dr. Barry Deitch	Tails-U-Win, Manchester, CT
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland	06/18/2010	TBD	TBD	Lyn Robb	Washington County FairPlex, Hillsboro, OR
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club	06/20/2010	D. Scott Pfeil	Lorie Starinsky	Dale Boyd	Tails-U-Win, Manchester, CT
Afghan Hound Club of Southwest Ohio	06/27/2010	TBD	TBD	Dorma Sue Busby	The Roberts Centre, Wilmington, OH
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus	06/26/2010	TBD	TBD	Sue Busby	Roberts Centre, Wilmington, OH

The Afghan Hound Club of America supports Regional Clubs holding a “Parade of Rescue Class” by offering a medallion suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon as a special award for each rescue exhibit entered.

Contact Sue Busby (barakiafs@peoplepc.com) to receive your Specialty Rescue Medallions.

AKC DELEGATE REPORT

Submitted by Connie Butherus, AKC Delegate for the AHCA

The quarterly meeting of the AKC Delegates was held September 15, 2009. As always various committee meetings were in session on the 14th (you may recall that the 14th and 15th were also the first two days of the AHCA National Specialty in Lancaster). For AHCA people who are also delegates – there are four – the conflict is one big headache.

On Monday I attended the Parent Club Committee, a committee on which I serve. The agenda as always was lengthy and relevant to Parent Club concerns, issues and challenges.

The Group Realignment proposal generated much discussion which at times became quite heated as emotions (voices!) began to run away with the logic. The issue came to an abrupt halt when we were informed the AKC Board was “withdrawing” the motion. Three parent clubs had written to the Board objecting to their proposed group designation – Siberian Husky, Vallhund and Alaskan Malamute. Their letters were shared with the Delegates present.

Our committee has undertaken a project of gathering information from all Parent Clubs regarding their bylaws, codes of ethics and related information. Eighty-eight parent clubs have submitted documents to date. The goal is to have this information available for use by clubs in formation and newly emerging breed clubs wishing to develop those documents.

Updated information was presented regarding the AKC show in Long Beach, CA and its Meet the Breeds event. Information was also presented regarding the upcoming Meet the Breeds event at the Javits Center in New York City.

A new concept – Grand Champion title – was presented. It was also discussed at length the next day at the Delegates' Meeting. Many, many, many questions, suggestions, comments and concerns were put forth. The title requires 25 points (3 majors under different judges and at least one point from another). These points may be awarded to Champions in Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, one Select Dog and one Select Bitch. Judges may elect to withhold any of the awards at their discretion. Points awarded are based on total number of dogs defeated of the same sex based on the existing schedule of points in the divisions. One hopes the concept will generate interest, entries and improve the bottom line of the many clubs facing dramatic reductions in entries due to the economy this past year. Target date for implementation is May of 2010 if it is approved by the Delegates.

The Delegate Caucus was on fire with the Group Realignment issue. Nothing new was presented but all comments were delivered with great gusto. The impact of the proposal on all breed clubs, the objections of the three aforementioned parent clubs, concern for keeping the “Arctic Breeds” together and a move to divide the question were voiced. Lots of heat but sadly no light resulted.

Tuesday morning began with the Delegate Forum and a presentation on the Grand Championship title by AKC staff. This was followed by the actual meeting.

The first business of the day was voting for members of the various delegate Committees such as Canine Health, By Laws, Rules and Parent Club (the Parent Club Committee is the committee to which I have been elected and currently serve). At the conclusion of the voting we resumed the agenda.

The Chairman's Report by Ron Menaker focused on the accomplishments of the AKC in its 125 year history, noting the actual anniversary will be 9/17/09. The AKC Show December 12 and 13 (Long Beach, CA) will be a celebration of the milestone. The AKC is the leading animal welfare organization for canines and has many contributions of note:

- Scholarships
- Publications – Stud Book, Family Dog, AKC Gazette
- Events – Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Lure Coursing, Field Trials
- Legislation AKC PAC
- Canine Health Foundation – 550 grants awarded
- Companion Animal Recovery
- Canine Good Citizen
- Humane Fund
- And the list goes on

HAPPY 125th AKC!

The President's report by Dennis Sprung focused on the Meet the Breeds at the Javits Center in NYC (as this event will be co-hosted by the AKC and the Cat Fanciers, it may well become a highly memorable event!). With 82 vendors, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts possibly to offer merit badges in responsible pet ownership, 87 legislators from the tri-state area (NY, NJ, Conn) slated to appear as honorary chair persons, this event should give a significant boost to the pure bred dog fancy and emphasize the responsible owner/breeder. Take that, PETA!

The CFO, Jim Stevens once again painted a rather gloomy financial picture. All revolves around the downturn in registrations and the fallout of the decline in revenue (11%) sales, publications (22%), etc. Total expenses however have been reduced 8% through employee reductions etc. The investment portfolio has gained so far in 2009 compared to losses in 2008.

As noted above, the Group Realignment Proposal was sent back to the AKC Board. It took a bit of parliamentary advice and moves but the issue was not voted on and the AKC Board has one hot potato to handle.

The amendment to permit division of the 12-18 month class (12-15 and 15-18) at the option of the individual clubs was passed as was a Retriever Field Trial amendment.

The AKC/PAC (Political Action Committee) presented an outstanding video which received a standing ovation. It encouraged good legislation and working with our legislators to promote positive laws, offer solutions and electing appropriate legislators. So far this year 900 bills have been introduced regarding our canines (in all of 2008 there were 800)

A Delegate from California attempted to make a motion calling for the Delegate Body to vote on the mixed breed initiative. He also wanted further discussion on this. His concern seemed to use the legality of the AKC's involvement with mixed breeds (offering the events for them). The Executive Secretary recounted the steps taken to obtain competent and comprehensive legal counsel regarding this and the chairman explained the reasons given by the legal counsel regarding the organizational structure.

At the conclusion of the meeting I headed for my car and went straight to the Host Conference Center, Lancaster, PA to enjoy a spectacular National Specialty.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Submitted by Chair, Betty Salmon

Following is a forwarded post from Donna Herzig, who worked on this case and is very happy with the outcome. It includes her personal opinions and observations. After that post, you will find a link to the actual ruling. Then, comments from the AKC, which may offer additional insight.

This is a wonderfully favorable ruling in the battle to save owners' rights and protect show breeders from unwarranted search and seizure. It could directly affect certain provisions of most of the anti-breeder bills pending across the country. This ruling hits at the very heart of these bills; their constitutionality.

Subject: Louisville Kennel Club

This is a great decision. Judge Simpson found that the determination between altered and unaltered dogs is without merit and therefore the requirement of inspection of enclosures for unaltered dogs is unconstitutional. He additionally found that dogs are personal property and the requirement of a seizure bond where you must post a bond upon a showing of probable cause and if you cannot post the bond your animals become the property of the state, city etc. is unconstitutional and a finding of guilt must occur before a court can take your property. The judge issued an injunction prohibiting the city from enforcing these provisions. With respect to the Fourth Amendment issue the Court dismissed it because the city agreed with us. However, the Court spent a lot of time discussing the Fourth Amendment and stated that notwithstanding the ordinance seeming to allow for seizure without a warrant for tethering violations, for some cruelty issues and for any violation of the ordinance (a provision used by Meloche to seize animals for violations of his alleged Class A requirements) the Court reasoned that no ordinance provision nullifies a warrant requirement so as to those seizures LMAS must obtain a warrant prior to seizure. Moreover, while the Court did not strike down many of the definitions, it could have just left it at that. Instead the Court went point by point and clarified the statute as to what was permissible and what wasn't. Notwithstanding the story in the Courageous Journal - I am not sure that they read the same opinion, we had a major victory on the issues that matter on a national basis. Please read it a few times, it gets better with age. While Judge Simpson did not deal with the state issue, the veterinary issue which was the most important one, was addressed by a change in the state law which makes veterinary records confidential and does not permit release of them unless a court order issued or the owner gives consent in writing. Since we prevailed on our Sec. 1983 issues, Jon will file next week for attorney's fees which are mandatory under the statute. We are hopeful that we will receive a substantial reimbursement. Donna Herzig

http://d.yimg.com/kq/groups/6503560/1187908967/name/order_and_memorandum_opinion.pdf

Continued on Page 14...

Continued from Page 14...

AKC Legislative Post:

Victory for Louisville KC in Suit Against City

October 06, 2009

Late Friday, United States District Court Judge Charles R. Simpson, III, of the Western District of Kentucky issued his decision in the case of the *Louisville Kennel Club, Inc. v. Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government*. A significant victory for the Louisville Kennel Club, the judge's decision features two key rulings that may also prove to be of great importance for dog owners nationwide.

First, Judge Simpson held that there was no rational basis why owners of unaltered dogs should be treated differently than the owners of altered dogs. This declared the part of the ordinance that required owners of unaltered dogs to get the Director's written approval for those dogs' enclosures (owners of altered dogs did not have such a requirement) as an unconstitutional violation of Equal Protection and Substantive Due Process.

Reiterating another court's earlier decision that recognized that dogs are personal property, the judge further held Louisville's seizure bond requirement as an unconstitutional violation of procedural due process rules. This requirement, which required anyone accused of animal cruelty to post bond for the care of their seized animals, would have resulted in the forfeiture of animals if they were not able to pay for the bond regardless of whether or not they were later determined to be innocent.

"We congratulate the Louisville Kennel Club and their co-plaintiffs on their leadership in opposing the Louisville ordinance," said Dennis Sprung, President and CEO of the American Kennel Club. "We are confident that this decision will encourage communities to consider the interests of responsible dog breeders and owners when making changes to their animal ordinances."

2008 National Items Available:

(Or, Christmas is just around the corner!)



Sweatshirts @ \$10.00 Each
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2009 National Specialty Show Winners

Best In Veteran Sweepstakes: # 439 CH SERENDIPTY'S DUE FOR A CHANGE, Owners: JAN & SCOTT PLANK
Best Of Opp Sex In Vet Sweepstakes: # 188 CH. ARABESQUE SARAH BRIGHTMAN, Owner: DEAN D'AQUILA
Best In Sweepstakes: # 288 ZURAH BINT RASHID VON HAUSSMAN, Owner: RAMON PODESIA VALENZUELA
Best Opp Sex In Sweeps: #261 BEAUJON SWEET METALIC, Owners: DAVID BEAUREGARD & LYNN M DUFRESNE
Winners Dog: # 263 TELL'S ELAN SEBRING THE WOMANIZER, Owners: RACHEL & PETE IRVIN & C. TELL COLLINGE & J. KLEIN.
Reserve Winners Dog: # 295 JAKAR SHEKINAH SAGE ADVICE, Owners LESLIE STOFFELS & AMY DONNELL
Winners Bitch: # 390 STORMHILLS SWEET DREAMS OF RAFFICA, Owners: GARRET & SUE GAMES & SANDRA FREI & TERRI VANDERZEE.
Reserve Winners Bitch: # 376 POLO'S BLACK CINDER AT ANDROS, Owner: DIDIER COTON
Best of Breed: # 399 CH. THAON'S MOWGLI Owners: JAY T. HAFFORD & JAMES BLANCHARD & ANN STERNER
Best Opp Sex to Best of Breed: # 430 CH. MAJIC WHAT EVER I WANT, Owners: KAREN M. TODD & LISA BETTIS
Award of Merit:
459 CH. ELAN SEBRING THE MATRIX, Owners: RACHEL & CHARLES IRVIN & J. KLEIN & L ROBERTSON
494 CH. AGHA DJARI'S REFLECTION OF XENOS, Owner: STEFAN BOIECK
417 CH. POLO'S THE AVIATOR, Owner: LORIANNE AMADEO
443 CH. PERFECTION CHERI-A NO MORE MR. ICE GUY JC, Owners: EMILE & DEBBIE PETERSEN
#505 CH. GENESIS SILVERADO, Owner: JOHN SHAW
Best Bred By Exhibitor: # 344 MAZSHALNA'S OUTLAW TORN TAJI, Owners: YANCY RUSSELL & DONNA M. & VANESSA J. BATES
Best Puppy: # 213 KASBAN MCDREAMY OF RIVERVIEW, Owners: LINDA GUARINO & LAURA MAULDIN
Best Stud Dog: # 321 POLOS SONIC BOOM AT DELOUBELLE, Owners: RENE LAMBERT & LOUISE OUMET LAVIGNE & LORIANNE AMADEO
Best Brood Bitch: # 102 CH. PIZZAZZZ PEPPERMINT TWIZT, AX,OAJ,FCH,SC, Owners: JULIE MESSERSMITH & JIM COUDRIET
Best Brace: # 142 CH. HAR-LOU'S GORGEOUS JORGE & CH. HAR-LOU'S AIN'T SHE GORGEOUS, Owners: DEBI GOLDEN & L. WISHER, D. SEHELLHORN & DARCI GOLDEN
Best Jr. Handler: # 415 KATELAND KOCH
Highest Scoring Dog in Obedience Trial: # 128 CH. MAHALI TUSCARORA CDX,RA,NA,NAJ, Owners: MARY MORGAN & LYNNE SCHANZLE
High in Agility Trial: # 132 CH. PANACEA SIMOON CHON TEH KA DEH AX, MXJ, Owners: DIANE BEAUMAN & JAN PLANK & BARBARA ARNDT
High in Triathlon: # 155 DC L'RHEL SUNI ASIA'S TIMESTEP, MC, LCX, RA, CGC, Owners: JAMES & LYNDA HICKS
Best in AKC Lure Coursing: SEBRING ELAN CARUMBA, JC, Owner: VICKI FAGRE-STROETZ
Best In ASFA Lure Coursing & Best in Event: Ch. Marah-Yantra Little Big Man, Owners: Claire Satlof, Jeffrey Bedrick & Marietta Forrester.

Editor's Note: Brigitte Kaiser's speech at the Friday night Awards Dinner was simply delightful. We have reprinted it below for your reading enjoyment.

This is my first time to speak to such a large group of people. Usually it is my husband doing the talking. Don't worry, it will be brief, since the other judges need their time "up here" and I am convinced that none of us want to miss our MC, Mr. Michael Canalizo's entertaining presentation. I am sure that they are as honored to be in my presence as I am in theirs.

The unbelievably hard work of so many, executed with lots of special flair and class, has made this event so popular and reflects what this Club should be known for: a FANTASTIC group of dedicated individuals that love our breed. This is the appropriate moment to thank my Ring Stewards, JoAnne Buehler, Linda Jackson, Bob and Helen Stein, for their hours of service. Their time was greatly appreciated.

It is evident that the exhibitors play an important part, as without their entries there would be no National.

At this point I would like to address the newcomers, sometimes called Novices, and welcome them and relate an experience at the very beginning of my time in the ring. When asked by the famous Col. Wally Pede to set up my bitch's hocks perpendicular, I had no idea what he meant, since English is not my first language. At that time I not only did not know what HOCKS were, but also the other word was totally foreign to me. Did I win that day? NO. Did I learn something? ABSOLUTELY. I have never asked an exhibitor to set up the hocks perpendicular.

In spite of the embarrassment, I continued exhibiting, never thinking the road would lead me to this moment, the thrill of a lifetime.

Sometimes there is a lot to be learned from those humbling experiences. I believe I have gained a little bit of knowledge since then. My advice: learn from the best, have a vision and stay true to your convictions.

My final message: CONGRATULATIONS to the winners.

2009 NATIONAL SHOW CHAIR REPORT
Submitted by Chair, Tony Saia

The AHCA National Specialty Show Committee and friends worked months to present a remarkable affair for each individual to fully enjoy our breed. It was a time to meet old acquaintances, make new friends but mostly to take pleasure in the camaraderie of our fellow enthusiasts.

To chair such an event as this is beyond belief, and I do hope everyone will look back at this National in a positive light. We need to stay focused on the state of the Afghan Hound and each individual must try their best to promote the enhancement of our dearly beloved breed. I also wish to thank you all for taking time out of your hectic schedules to attend this year's National. It was also wonderful to welcome all of our foreign friends too.

Finally, I could not have brought Mysterious Nights and Haunting Days to Lancaster, PA without the help of so many fanciers. Many thanks to the following people who had a helping hand in making this years National a huge success.

Floyd Gale—For all your hard work at home and for putting up with me on this rollercoaster the second time.

Diana Fife—For creating a vision, a concept, and clearly a FABULOUS logo to represent this National.

Lynda Hicks—For educating me on Agility and for another job well done.

Marla Capossi—For calling and petitioning for art.

Chris Pinkston and Pat Warner—For doing another great job organizing all of our evening dinners.

Terry Chacon—For getting all of our Awards done.

Sandy Frei—For holding another impressive Breed Education Seminar.

Cindy Chandler—Collecting Catalog ads and being a great partner in putting on the Invitational, One Night Only.

Becky Morisette—Getting all those great items for us to purchase and for her help in the table centerpieces at the Awards Dinner.

Lisa Bryant—Organizing our bathing facility and scheduling the baths.

Mary Ann & David Giordano—For their help in the Hospitality department.

Connie Butherus—Connie again came to my rescue for entertaining our judges.

Betty Salmon—For selling raffle tickets and making money.

Jay Johnson—For the ring equipment and making the flag post.

Michelle Trifiro—For taking time out with her puppies to be our Lure Coursing chair.

Linda and Bob Jordon—They did a great job organizing the Lure Coursing.

Harry Bennett—For the education of our future judges.

Jody Gardner—Juniors and helping with the decorations.

Chuck Milne—Chuck could not be here but he helped in our show theme.

Michael Canalizo—Who was entertaining as our Master of Ceremonies.

Helen and Bob Stein—For once again being our chief Ring

Stewards.

Linda Jackson—Linda was always there when I needed her.

JoAnne Buehler—For bringing class to our trophy tables.

Lucia Brown—She put together an awesome group of vendors for all of us to spend our money.

Fran Reisman—For endless hours of help in everything and for her moral support.

Tom Collins—For giving class while announcing our Invitational.

Darlyn Pfeiffer—For being a great auctioneer and making money for the AHCA.

Debbie Petersen—For filling in with help in both Obedience and Rally.

Lisa Bryant and Russ and Barb Hastings—Who made money for our Afghan Hound Rescue.

Brian Lenobel & Max Ross—Who put on a great golf tournament.

Rachel and Pete Irvine—For supplying the East Coast crate.

Perry Rook—For videoing our Invitational.

Helen Stein—Again, for helping us with pictures of our past winners.

Sue Busby—A great show Secretary, for being a friend and for her exceptional dedication to the AHCA.

Marilynn Jennings—For supporting the National with Isle of Dog Products.

Finally another Thank You to our artists who took time to make our magnificent trophies: Cynthia Byington, Diana Fife, Mimi Baker, Janet Williams, Val Hiller and Brigitte Kaiser.

2009 National Items Still Available

Limited Quantities Available
 Prices Do Not Include Postage

Posters 18" X 22" @ \$15.00 Each

Sweatshirts @ \$25.00 Each

Color & Sizes Available:

Grey— SM, MED, LG, XL, 2X, 3X

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2009 Agility Trial
Submitted by Agility Chair, Lynda Hicks



Agility at the 2009 Nationals had a record entry of 19 – it was exciting to see so many beautifully working teams, and lots of spectators coming to the event center early Tuesday morning, to cheer the dogs and handlers on.

High Scoring in Agility – with a perfect 100 score - was Chon – Ch. Panacea Simoon Chon Teh Ka Deh AX, MXJ, from the Excellent B Jumpers with Weaves competition, owned by Diane Bauman, Jan Plank and Barbara Arndt.

Another perfect 100 performance was seen from the Novice B Jumpers with Weaves class, was Reine – Ch. Si-moon's Reindance at Twylke, JC., owned by Diane Bauman and Jan Plank.

And qualifying in Preferred Novice with an impressive score of 95 – at their very first trial - was Aiden – Ch. Jingles Ready Steady Go, owned and handled by Sharon Ferraro. Aiden was also a “star” of the video “**A is for Afghans Hounds- Intelligent Afghan Hounds**”, which made its debut at the Awards Dinner (see more exciting news about this video below).

Huge thanks to our fabulous, and very patient, judge Scott Stock; AHCA Nationals Show Co-Chairs Tony Saia and Floyd Gale for lending so much support to the performance events, MAX200 for providing the equipment and master coursebuilder; and to the wonderful and hard-working Agility Team members, Dee Delesandri, Claudia Jakus, Nancy Krysizk, James Hicks, Kathy Pugh, Ann Sterner, M.J. Moss, Ulrike Reinisch, Nicci vonBroembsen, and to Julie Messersmith, who was a tremendous help setting obstacles.

MORE EXCITING NEWS

First, copies of the video “**A is for Afghan Hounds - Intelligent Afghan Hounds**” will be distributed to all Afghan Hound clubs to be shown as an educational program at your club meetings. Club secretaries should look for it in the mail soon.

Second, Agility is planned in conjunction with the 2010 National Specialty in Sacramento – so GET YOUR DOGS READY! Details to follow.

BREED SYMPOSIUM REPORT
Submitted by Chair, Sandy Frei

Pat Trotter held a fantastic breed symposium called "Made to Move" for us at this year's National in Lancaster, PA. Her **Born to Win** book has been revised and sold out almost immediately. Pat kindly donated \$5 back to the Parent Club for each book sold and she donated one book to our raffle. If any of you are interested in obtaining an autographed and personalized copy of the new and improved **Born To Win**, send \$40 (includes shipping) to her at:

Pat Trotter
P.O. Box 222036
Carmel CA 93922

Special thanks to Tony Saia, Michael Canalizo, Chris Pinkston, Pat Warner, Midge Martin, Darlyn Pfeiffer and Joan Lavell for their help in making this year's Breed Symposium such a success."

I am pleased to announce that Pat Trotter has agreed to do our 2010 Breed Symposium, in Sacramento, titled "The Gene Scene". She will talk on breeding, a subject she is well versed in. I urge all of you who will be at next year's National to attend.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GOLF
TOURNAMENT WINNERS**

Sandy Nelson & Max Ross, Team Winners
Max Ross, Men's Longest Drive
Max Ross, Men's Closest to the Hole
Beth Collins, Women's Longest Drive
Jim Webb, Men's Shortest Drive

A NOTE FROM THE TROPHY CHAIR
Submitted by Trophy Chair, JoAnne Buehler

The following generous Afghan Hound fanciers were inadvertently left off the acknowledgment pages in the 2009 National Catalog. They donated \$100 or more to our Trophy Fund this year. They are:

Christine Pinkston
Bob & Helen Stein
Mimi & Kevin Yeager

Our apologies and appreciation to you.

On behalf of the entire Show Committee,

JoAnne Buehler
Trophy Chair
AHCA 2009 National Specialty

JUNIORS RULE

Submitted by Junior Chair, Jody Gardner



It is hard to believe that it has been a year since the last national, and what a wonderful national it was. I am always excited when the junior entry is up. This year there were nine juniors entered, what a nice entry. It is always a challenge to schedule the junior seminar and the junior showmanship competition so that a minimal amount of school is missed. The commitment of these young people is amazing. What a great group of juniors that competed this year! You will want to watch for these very skilled juniors in the ring. I was very impressed with all of their handling skills. The very skilled juniors that were entered this year are as follows: Novice Intermediate, Makayla Hoffman, Novice Senior, Kaylyn Hoffman, Amanda Hoffman. Open Senior, R. Michael Woodworth, Emile Petersen, Katie Grohowalski, Melissa Leishman, Travis Cramsey (absent), and Kateland Koch. When the dust settled it was Kateland Koch that got the nod from Judge Mrs. Sandy Weinraub as Best Junior Handler for the 2009 National competition. Congratulations to Kateland and Ch. Winsong-BluHill's Mr. Fantastic on this wonderful win.

The junior seminar this year was presented by Julie Szymanski. Julie had the wonderful idea of asking a panel of judges along with herself to talk and work with the juniors. The panel consisted of Mike Canalizo, Rita Figg and Dr. Edna K. Martin. These most informative judges along with Julie answered questions and put the juniors through their paces. I'm sure even the very, very senior handlers that came to watch and listen picked up some tips from this very knowledgeable panel. Many thanks to Mike Canalizo, Rita Figg, Midge Martin and Julie Szymanski for making the time to mentor and support the juniors in our breed.

Honored this year was the Best Junior Handler for 2008. That honor went to Hannah Bevan. This is Hannah's second time for this well deserved award. The Best Junior Handler of the Year is determined by a point system while handling an Afghan Hound. Hannah topped the chart at

209 points to earn Best Junior Handler for 2008. Hannah also qualified for 2008 AKC / Eukanuba National Championship and Westminster Kennel Club junior competition. Congratulations, Hannah, for a job well done.

The Afghan Hound Club of America offers a \$500.00 Young Sportsmanship Scholarship Award. This scholarship is awarded to a unique individual that is able to balance school and the sport of dogs. This individual is a full time student and participates in conformation and performance events for Afghan Hounds. The recipient of The Young Sportsmanship Scholarship Award for 2009 is Megan Wager. Congratulations, Megan.

If you know a young person who would qualify for this scholarship, the information and forms can be found on the AHCA website.

Juniors are the future of our breed. It sometimes just takes the smallest thing to get someone interested. To all of you that have taken the time to answer a question, helped with grooming, lent a lead or brush to a junior, THANK YOU. To those who have mentored, co-owned, driven or entered dogs for juniors, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Support or mentor a junior the rewards are priceless.



SWEEPSTAKES CRITIQUE

Submitted by Sweepstakes Judge, Brigitte Kaiser

Once again, this year's NATIONAL will be remembered as another FANTASTIC event, thanks to the capable leadership of Tony Saia, Floyd Gale and the show committee. My personal thanks also go to my ring-stewards JoAnne Buehler, Linda Jackson and Helen and Bob Stein for their hours of professional service, to Michael Canalizo for being the announcer and to Connie Butherus for her Judge's hospitality. They did all the work, while I was having fun judging the largest entry of the last decade.

In an entry of that magnitude I was pleased to find the quality that I had hoped for. The great sportsmanship displayed added to the pleasure of the day. If you are looking for a detailed critique of all four placements in each class, I honestly don't believe in the typical, trite descriptions so often found in judge's reports. I judged true to my convictions and was very happy with my lineup in the end. All of them were great representatives of what I believe an Afghan Hound should be. They were gaited to their best advantage, effortless, showing balanced reach and drive, solid toplines, good shoulders and tails, etc. There were many placements in the classes that left a lasting impression and I believe their future will be bright.

I was not bothered by puppies misbehaving, as they are not tin soldiers or pushbutton dogs. They are AFGHAN HOUNDS. I believe in rewarding quality instead of penalizing behavior (depending on the age); the structure is more important. Those few, who conveyed the "you must be kidding, touching me" attitude made up with their movement. I was not going to let them have their way and settle for a lesser placement.

In Regular Sweepstakes my class placements were as follows:

6-9 Months Dogs

- 1 - Mijkelh's Rock Star Procyon - Wallack
- 2 - Tahkira Hijacked From Hell - Ferguson
- 3 - Whenever Wherever of Meadow Valley - Buttler
- 4 - Lafara's Dream Lover - Falkenheimer

9-12 Months Dogs

- 1 - Mozart's Llacue's Rock Me Amadeus - Ashby, Llano, Cuevas
- 2 - Mozart's Llacue's Wolfgang - Ashby, Llano, Cuevas
- 3 - Mozart's Llacue's Don Giovanni - Ashby, Llano, Cuevas

12-15 Months Dogs

- 1 - Beaujon Sweet Metallic - Beauregard, Dufresne
- 2 - Tell's Elan Sebring the Womanizer - Irvin, Collinge & Klein
- 3 - Marquis Kaftan Le Sage - Renaud, Guerin, Taillon
- 4 - Marquis Saka Secret of Simoon - Renaud, Guerin, Taillon

15-18 Months Dogs

- 1 - Jakar Shekinah Sage Advice - Stoffels, Donnell
- 2 - Wynsyr-Shimara The Dark Knight - Sutton, Pfeil, Pfeifer
- 3 - Deloubelle Zeta Draconis - Tapin, Lavigne, Lafrance
- 4 - Boanne's Thunderation - Evans, Blewett

6-9 Months Bitches

- 1 - Whatever Lola Wants of Meadow Valley - Buttler
- 2 - Jolie Huate Couture - Krupp, Taylor
- 3 - Lafara's Crazy In Love - Falkenheimer, Willeford
- 4 - Excel Dream Catcher - McCoy

9-12 Months Bitches

- 1 - Mozart's Llacue's Magic Flute - Ashy, Llano, Cuevas
- 2 - Jovan Timeless - Jones

12-15 Months Bitches

- 1 - Marquis Bianca Nuage Magique - Renaud, Guerin, Taillon
- 2 - Marquis Akina Shade of Simoon - Renaud, Guerin, Taillon
- 3 - Kasban Egyptian Blue - Mauldin
- 4 - Team Blazen X New Sense - Thompson

15-18 Months Bitches

- 1 - Zurah Bint Rashid Von Haussman - Podesta
- 2 - Willowmoor Play With Inspiration - Matarazzo, Clark
- 3 - Charter Oak Midnight Moon - Mines, Vaccaro
- 4 - Calling Polo's a Touch of Freedom - Amadeo

With top honors going to: ZURAH BINT RASHID VON HAUSSMAN (15-18 mos. bitches) Owner: Ramon Podesta Valenzuela, Chile

And BEAUJON SWEET METALIC (12-15 mos. dogs) Owners: David Beauregard & Lynn M. Dufresne

Both are examples of great Afghan Hounds in excellent condition and correct coat texture.

VETERAN SWEEPSTAKES

Submitted by Veteran Sweepstakes Judge, Brigitte Kaiser

I was pleased to see so many VETERANS competing. My choices were: Best in Veterans Sweepstakes: CH. SERENDIPITY'S DUE FOR A CHANGE (7-9 yrs. dogs) Owners: Jan & Scott Plank

And Best of Opposite Sex in Veterans Sweepstakes: CH. ARABESQUE SARAH BRIGHTMAN (9-12 yrs. bitches) Owner: Dean D'Aquila

Both showed with great enthusiasm and style for their age, the handsome Male came fully dressed and the beautifully built Female came as a Naked Lady.

THANK YOU ALL again for the honor. It was an experience I shall treasure forever.

DOG JUDGING CRITIQUE

Submitted by Judge, Sandy Weinraub

I would like to express my gratitude to all for the honor of being asked to judge dogs at the AHCA National Specialty Show. I felt the cream of the crop showed up and there were very difficult decisions to be made. Often the placings and qualities in the classes were very close and the competition was very stiff in many cases. With that said, personal preferences come into play, and for me the end results are always (first and foremost) balance in body and movement, an easy and floating gait, beautiful head, and expression and all of the components that scream Afghan Hound type. When my class winners came into the ring I honestly was thrilled to say every one of these dogs possessed these qualities. I do not have a catalog to refer to so no names or owners can be mentioned.

1st in 6-9 Puppy Dog was a very well balanced and typey cream with beautiful pigment and expression and for one so young, a beautiful and effortless mover showing much potential. I believe he went on to be Best Puppy In Show.

1st 9-12 Puppy Dog was a tough contest between two black and tans that I found out were litter brothers. The final decision was that the first place was slightly easier and agile in side gait and a bit more masculine than his brother, but both showed much promise for the future.

1st 12-18 Dog. What more can I say than this dog stole my heart the minute he walked into the ring. I loved everything about him and was thrilled to have him in my ring: in outline his balance from head to long neck to topline and wonderful bowed rear, beautiful tail and gorgeous head and expression. When he moved, everything came together once his handler had him going at the proper pace. He was perfectly balanced in movement with a wonderful easy springy gait and I suppose it didn't hurt that he was so reminiscent of dogs I have owned and loved over the years. Maybe that is what makes a show like this so exciting to judge when something like this boy enters the ring and speaks to you. At any rate it was thrilling for me and I will be anxious to follow his career. He was my Winners Dog.

I can't go on without commenting on the beautiful blue brindle dog that placed 2nd to my winner. He was a wonderful, easy moving dog with the proper spring of gait that should be so typical of this breed. Literally floating around the ring with such ease and style. On this day I felt he was a little out of condition and needed to fill out, which I am sure he will do when he matures and he will be one to contend with.

1st American Bred Dog. Only 3 dogs in this class and the winner was a lovely, typey, blue brindle dog. I would like

to have seen more balanced movement from the side, but a beautiful Afghan Hound none the less.

1st Bred By Exhibitor Dog. A gorgeous moving black and tan masculine boy with fabulous floating side gait and eventually my Reserve Winners Dog. On any other day he could easily have been the ultimate winner.

1st Open Dog. Again a gorgeous, typey, blue brindle dog with beautiful head and expression. It took him a while to settle into himself as he was fighting the lead. Once the handler let him move on a loose lead, at his own pace, he was the eventual winner of this large class.

In closing, I would like to stress the importance of this breed being an athletic hunter. As our mentor Connie Miller used to say, the typical reconnaissance trot is essential to a running sighthound, with spring and ease, and feet barely touching the ground, never shuffling and dragging. This is a difficult thing to understand, but moving speedily from point A to point B is NOT a typical sighthound, and speed and racing should never be condoned as proper Afghan Hound movement. Effortless and ease is part of TYPE with a capital T.

2009 NATIONAL ART AUCTION

Submitted by Auctioneer, Darlyn Pfeiffer

I want to send out a big Thank You to all who helped make the 2009 National Art Auction so successful. First to Marla Capozzi, for her endeavors to get great items. What amazing donations. Then to all the Auction Crew which includes the lovely Vannas: Sandy Frei, Marla Capozzi, Sandy Weinraub, and Chris Pinkston!! Not forgetting our Van, Tony (he does it all!). Of course we had the Lone Star State's Super Ringman, keeping the crowd stoked, Mr. James Hicks, and assisted by more great Texans, Wayne and Joanne Jones! More thanks to ring person Claudia Jakus, clerk Linda Hicks, James' lovely wife, and runners, Vicki Fagre-Stroetz and Becky Morrisette, who got all the buyer info. We kept them on their toes, as they chased from table to table, with a smile!

The accounting was handled by our talented AHCA Treasurer Linda Jackson and the Queen of Parent Club Logo Goodies, Ms. Dorma Sue Busby. Great Job! We think we have this fine tuned for Sacramento!

Also a special thanks to Chris Pinkston and her Mom Pat Warner for putting together some great dinners for all the Special Events at Lancaster!

Thanks to all the artists and fanciers who donated great pieces, Chris Kaiser, Betsy Treharne, Peter Belmont, Diana Fyfe, Connie Nibarger, June Boone, The Ledbetter Estate, Betty Salmon, Mimi Baker, Marla Capozzi, Violet Skiles, Beachbrook, Martial Robin, and Sandy Weinraub. Please forgive me if I forgot anyone.

And last, but certainly not least, thanks to all the great bidders who supported this fundraising event. Without your generosity, our Nationals would not be nearly as Special!

BITCH & INTERSEX JUDGING CRITIQUE

Submitted by Judge, Edith Hanson

What an honor it was to be selected by my peers to judge the National Specialty, undoubtedly the premier event for Afghan Hounds all over the world. A special thank you to Tony Saia and Floyd Gale for the tremendous job they did as we all knew they would. Also thanks to all their committee members and to my wonderful ring stewards.

In that same vein thank you to the Afghan Hound exhibitors who are some of the most professional in the dog game. You don't realize how nice it is to judge an enormous class when everyone knows where they should be. I judged a Specials class of 79 once at the Chesapeake National and it was almost chaos..... the exhibitors had no idea which group they were in or what they should be doing!

I was very pleased with the quality of the entry. I was pleasantly surprised that, overall, fronts were better than I expected. Set under and length of upper arm has improved. Many fronts felt good to go over but moved either stiff or with lack of reach. The main concerns I had were lack of underjaw and eye shape and color. I know, I know, "they don't run on their eye shape and color". But you have to look at them everyday and I want to see a beautiful expression.

My Best of Breed winner, Ch. Thaon's Mowgli, in my opinion, had perfect balance, rock hard topline, good croup, good in front and rear and moved with balanced reach and drive. He is square and of proper size. He is not a glamorous color but he has everything else.

Best Opposite Sex was Ch. Majic Whatever I Want. She was a close contender for the breed having the same attributes as the breed winner. At only 2 years old I predict a great career for this young lady.

Best of Winners (now Ch.) Stormhill's Sweet Dreams of Raffica was another proper sized, square, beautiful mover. Her balance was to die for. In the Winners Bitch class she was pressed by the Bred By Bitch (who went on to Best Bred By the next day) Mazshalna's Outlaw Torn Taji, a gorgeous black masked silver with the most beautiful head, eye and expression but decided she'd had enough of me touching her for that day. Also in close contention was the 12 to 18 class winner, Zafira Bint Rashid Von Haussman, a beautiful moving black and tan. She and her sister of equal quality, who went second in this huge class, are from Chile. Reserve Winners went to the second in open, Polo's Black Cinder at Andros, another beautiful moving black and tan. She is from France but bred in Canada.

A mention about the 12 to 18 month bitch class. It was the best overall quality of all the bitch classes. There were many beautiful bitches that didn't get a ribbon, the quality ran very deep. That makes me very happy to see since

our numbers have been declining. We may not have quantity but if the National is an indicator we do have quality.

The five Awards of Merit winners were excellent. They were selected for their various virtues. I truly wish I had about 15 more awards of merit. There were that many that I thought to be outstanding.

Best Brood Bitch to that great old lady, Ch. Pizzazz Peppermint Twizt, AX, OAJ, FCH, SC who won on the merits of her 2 beautiful sons.

Best Puppy to the lovely cream male, Kasban McDreamy of Riverview. I'm sure we'll see more of him in the future.

What a treat to judge 4 braces. It's great to see participation in these non regular classes. The winning Brace was Ch. Har-Lou's Gorgeous Jorge and Ch. Har-Lou's Ain't She Gorgeous. These 2 black and tans went around the ring with synchronized movement. It was like you could see only one set of legs.

Great job everyone. What a wonderful venue for the whole world of Afghan Hounds to come together. Thanks again for the honor of judging what has to be the greatest assignment of my life.

Editor's Note: *Unfortunately, no pictures were forthcoming from our National show photographer but they may be viewed on the website: www.shermanarts.com.*





The Next Topknot News Deadline is: March 13, 2010