

Topknot News

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

Summer 2010

AFGHAN HOUND HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT Submitted by AHCA Health Chair, Midge Martin

June, 2010

This has been a busy time. We have coordinated a communications system to get information on the website and on our Facebook page quickly and seamlessly.

CHIC testing continues to be a priority for breeders and fanciers alike.

We are working diligently to make all aspects of the projects of the Canine Health Foundation accessible to the AHCA Board, AHCA members, and the fancy at large.

I had hoped to have a short but comprehensive Health Survey for you before this, but it has not been forthcoming. We WILL have it before the National, where we will have a health booth once again.

We have recommended to the AHCA Board, that a contribution to the Canine Health Foundation be given for a sponsored study on certain cancers. Since cancer is the number one killer of all dogs, we thought it a worthwhile endeavor. We are considering another study on transmission of monorchidism/cryptorchidism. We'll keep you posted.

Thank you so much for your stories and questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Midge
(Dr Edna K. Martin)

AHCA LIBRARY REPORT Submitted by AHCA Librarian, Helen Stein

Introduction to the Afghan Hound

A small history of this booklet -- In 1974, during Norm Kattelman's presidency, a committee was formed to produce a booklet that would be of help to new Afghan Hound owners and potential owners. During that period of extreme popularity of our breed, the AHCA felt that an educational tool was badly needed. This booklet was used for nearly 30 years. When we exhausted our supply of printed booklets, we distributed scanned copies on CD at no cost to users. In the last few years, we have updated the original information to include expanded info on grooming, performance events and many other helpful items. This has also been distributed on CD at no charge to clubs, rescue groups and individuals requesting copies. I'm happy to say that the Board has authorized printing of this revised booklet and copies

should be available by the end of the summer.

The CD version has color photos; the printed version will be in black and white, spiral bound and in 8-1/2" x 11" size. I'll have copies of both at the National Specialty in Sacramento - please stop by the Library booth to pick up a copy and to see our many unique photos and scrapbooks.

AKC Studbooks

The American Kennel Club allows us to distribute copies of the Stud Book for Afghan Hounds to parent club members. If you would like to receive monthly copies by email, please contact me at BeanieSue@aol.com

See you in Sacramento!
Helen Stein



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

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

Topknot News Editor: Barb Bornstein
(602) 677-6690

Assistant Editors: Mary Kenney Blacker & Susan Howell Hamlin

Proofreading: Suzanne Eaton Duay

Distribution: Linda Shipley

(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.)

2010 AHCA Officers and Directors

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AKC Delegate: Connie Butherus

Editor's Note:

Judy Bloom and her gang are gearing up for another spectacular Sacramento National. Once again it should be fun!

Topknot News welcomes four new members to the TN Staff. Linda Shipley is in charge of distribution. It is because of Linda's efforts that you receive your Topknot News in a timely manner.

Mary Blacker and Sue Hamlin have taken on the responsibility of co-assistant editors. Both ladies have considerable backgrounds in our breed, both served on the AHCA Board of Directors and have a working knowledge of the AHCA. Both have owned a Best In Show Afghan Hound and both ladies have been strong supporters of TN and have contributed much to TN in the past.

Suzanne Eaton Duay has taken on the main proofreading task. She has had professional experience with proofreading and I shall try my best to make her task easier. Suzanne has contributed to this issue as well.

See page 4 of this issue for an update from our Rescue people who have helped save the lives of our beloved breed. We salute them.

**Next TN Deadline is:
Friday, November 5, 2010**

2010 Committee Chairpersons

Agility: Lynda Hicks *suniafghans@gmail.com*

AKC Delegate: Connie Butherus *duaneb@ptd.net*

AKC Gazette Column: Patricia H. Gilbert *tazi1970@sbcglobal.net*

Awards: Claudia Jakus *claudiajakus@comcast.net*

Breed & Public Education: Marcia & Dom Morelli *dmorelli@verizon.net*

Breeders' Cup: Sharon Watson & Sue Busby *salem@netsync.net/
barakiafs@peoplepc.com*

Canine Health: Midge Martin & Sandy Frei *kaihorn@att.net/
sstormhill@aol.com*

Complaints: Board of Directors

Facebook: Gary Lennon *lennongary@yahoo.com*

Inventory Control: 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: Helen Stein *beaniesue@aol.com*

Lure Coursing: Max Ross *mrosshomestead@comcast.net*

Mailing List Coordinator: Claudia Jakus *claudiajakus@comcast.net*

Membership: Patricia Silverman *siegandiz@earthlink.net*

Mentor Program: Bobbie Keller *zafarahounds@comcast.net*

National Events Liaison—2010: Tony Saia *beachbrook@prodigy.net*

National Events Liaison—2011: Cal Evetts *Cal.evetts@gmail.com*

National 2010: Judy Bloom *jubilann@aol.com*

Obedience/Rally/Versatility: Debbie Petersen *afghan1@juno.com*

Parade of Rescue Medallions: Claudia Jakus *claudiajakus@comcast.net*

Parliamentarian: Connie Butherus *duaneb@ptd.net*

Policies & Procedures: Barb Bornstein *dancingtree@trims.com*

Publications Coordinator: Helen Stein *beaniesue@aol.com*

Regional Clubs: Bob Brown *louis99@aol.com*

Rescue: Russ & Barb Hastings *baruhas3@verizon.net*

Statistics: Jo Ann Alft *jalf@netwurx.net*

Topknot News: Barb Bornstein *dancingtree@trims.com*

Ways & Means: Suzanne Eaton Duay *hotbeach@cfl.rr.com*

Web Page: Chris Kaiser *ahca_web@att.net*



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by AHCA President, Brenda Brody

The much anticipated CALIFORNIA GOLD II National Specialty is fast approaching in October. There is still time for a donation to the trophy fund, ads need to be placed in the catalog, and volunteers are needed to help with sales. Other opportunities are available at the show itself. Please respond in a positive way to promote our club's upcoming event. Contact Judy Bloom at jubilann@aol.com to offer your help or contact Betsy Hufnagel at cavutoo@gmail.com for a trophy donation. We need the support of all the membership to make this event a success.

I am sorry to report that the vote for the By-Law changes to the Constitution were not the required 2/3 majority. Therefore, the 2nd Vice President will continue to be elected in off years from the President and 1st Vice President, and the mailing of the annual meeting notice will continue from only the corresponding secretary.

For your information: Cindy Chandler tendered her immediate resignation of membership to our club effective 26 June 2010. Our Constitution states that membership may be terminated by written resignation addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, which was done. Once the letter of resignation is received, opened and read, the person submitting the resignation is no longer a member of the club and the club has no choice but to accept the resignation.

As many of you are aware, our breed has suffered a recent setback with the animal cruelty issue in Indiana. Upon learning of this situation, it brought to mind another deplorable situation of a rescue effort in the early 90s of a similar nature in which I was personally involved. Some things that stand out in comparison of the two events are that when people do not let you come to their homes there is usually a reason. Make a point to go anyway. Another sign of something amiss is when people say they are going to be places and on a regular basis make all sorts of excuses and don't show up. These are precarious times. We need to be more observant and mindful so that we can step in to help before the conditions reach such deplorable circumstances.

No one would have ever thought these horrific situations could have occurred. They did and there were warning signs, but no one acted upon them. If there is fear of neglect and abuse, call animal control. That is the initial legal step to hold people responsible for their actions. Better to do that than to wait until it is too late. Dog people live in a small world and we will step in to help at a moment's notice. Do not be prideful when you need help. We all need help and who better to give it than our fellow Afghan Hound fanciers. Before it's too late, ask for help, offer to help and help. Our directive is to preserve and to protect; with these dogs we failed.

Brenda Brody
President
281-367-5323
gabrielafghanhounds@earthlink.net

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

Rescue Statement on Indiana Afghan Hounds

As most are probably aware, there has been a situation involving Afghan Hounds in Indiana that has left most of us sick at heart. At this time, I can report that in addition to the two found dead in the home, one other had to be euthanized due to a fractured leg and necrotic flesh. All others are doing well and have been bathed and shaved down. Those needing immediate attention have seen a vet and are on ID food.

The people who have worked so hard to help these Afghan Hounds need a round of applause. National Rescue will be funding the care of these dogs until such time as they are returned to owners or breeders. Those who are without a home will go into foster care and be placed in approved homes once their health has returned.

Donations can be made through PayPal or by check.

Russ & Barb Hastings
AHCA Rescue Chairs

Mail checks to:
AHCA Rescue
% Barb Hastings
4071 Gurnee Rd
Westfield, PA 16950

RESCUE REPORT

Submitted by Chairs, Russ & Barb Hastings

As we have no Special Needs dogs and rescue has been somewhat slow, I asked Maureen Anderson to write a little something on the lighter side of Rescue. Afghan Hound Rescue of Central Ohio "AHRCO" is a vital link in the National Rescue's volunteer group. Even with all their hard work, there still is time for some fun.

Editor's Note: This was submitted prior to the Indiana rescue.

A ROYAL AFFAIR IN CENTRAL ARFDOM

By Maureen Anderson

As the years have passed, so have the faces of our rescued Afghan Hounds. In the 13 years since we began, we have rescued and re-homed 175 Afghan Hounds.

Our success has much to do with our foster homes which we affectionately refer to as "camps." As each orphan enters our program, it is sent to camp. We have many camps, and in appreciation of our dedicated volunteers, we gather once each year for an annual reunion. This gathering offers foster families the opportunity to visit with their former foster fur kids and the new families to meet others like themselves - people who share their love for Afghan Hounds.

Although we limit our placements to within the area we rescue from (Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and W. Virginia), each year our attendees travel from afar. To assist those who live so far away, we arrange for one of the local hotels to be receptive to four-footed furry guests. Each year as the day draws closer, our members and guests become more excited; new members look forward to the gathering with all the innocence of first-timers, while foster families eagerly anticipate a few hours of visiting with their former orphan.

We always gather at the same location, Highbanks Metro Park, a few miles north of Columbus. This venue offers a huge outdoor space, plenty of shade trees and a shelter house with the capability to hold 100 Afghan Hounds with humans attached.

As we plan for the event, our fundraisers solicit raffle donations by contacting local businesses and many of the magnificently talented Afghan Hound artists within the fancy. Thankfully, people are generous and our table is loaded with goodies.

Finally, the much awaited day dawns and volunteers are at the park early to set-up and prepare. By noon we are ready, the raffle table is loaded, the BBQ chefs are busy at the grill and empty tables await the "dish to share" brought by each family.



Foster Dad with Orphan

As happy Afghan Hounds and their families begin to arrive, joyous cries can be heard throughout Central Arfdom as foster families are remembered by their former orphans who are sometimes unrecognizable with their new flowing locks and smiley faces. After awhile when the food tables are full, the feast be-

gins. For the next two hours we eat and visit. Old friends catch up on events of the past year and new friends are made.

After the feast, the festivities begin. The tradition of electing a king and queen to reign over Central Arfdom originated with the idea of offering a "show ring" type competition minus the AKC standard requirements for Afghan Hounds. Created on the concept of the high school prom king/queen, the contestants are separated by gender and then paraded around the ring as their stories are told. The audience then votes. Votes are counted and the winners announced. The first runners-up in each category are elected as Lord Valiant, aid to the king, and Lady Valaide, aid to the queen.

Following the voting, the official crowning ceremony begins. The winners are draped with the royal cloak and a crown placed upon their heads. Proud parents are presented with a trophy honoring their Afghan Hound's admittance to the Royal Court of Central Arfdom. Sometimes this goes well, sometimes not. (*Have you ever tried to get your Afghan Hound to wear a crown?*) The trophies, created and donated by Linda Rana (*thank you Linda*) are passed from winner to winner each year. For our members, winning the king/queen competition is a huge deal - it's a "Best in Show."



Queen Feather



King Walter

With the elections over, the crowd moves back to the shelter house for the raffle drawing. Members wait anxiously to learn if they have won a much wanted item.

As the day draws to a close and tired, happy Afghan Hounds depart, volunteers begin the cleanup process. The old saying "many hands make light work" comes into play as trash is gathered, tables are cleared and travel totes are packed. All too soon the shelter house has been restored to its earlier state and the show is over for another year.

Author's note: AHRCO'S 2010 Reunion, "Affies in the Park" will be held August 7th. We welcome guests from the Afghan Hound community. If you would like to attend, please contact us at ahrco@columbus.rr.com for details.

Note: The quilt on the back cover was made by Susan Lutz - an AHRCO volunteer. This quilt was the second quilt she has made where she sews images of our rescued Afghan Hounds in the quilt. The dogs pictured were all rescued in 2009. Both quilts were donated to AHRCO and raffled off - the first in 2008 and this one in 2009. This quilt was won by Diane Windersham from Holt, Michigan.

CRAZY DOG LAWS
It's All In The Wording
Submitted by Marcia Morelli

Here are a couple of town ordinances that make you wonder if the town fathers took the time to read them after they wrote them. Let's hope they have since been rewritten.

From Belvedere, California: "No dog shall be in a public place without its master on a leash." I can just visualize all the dogs running to the pet stores to buy matching collars and leashes for their owners!

From Arvada, Colorado: "If a stray pet is not claimed within 24 hours, the owner will be destroyed." You've got to hope that one was never put into practice!!

AHCA ITEMS FOR SALE
WITH GOLD THREADS
Submitted by
Inventory Control Chair, Sue Busby



(PARENT CLUB LOGO ITEMS WITH GOLD THREADS)

FLEECE BLANKETS	\$15.00
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20 Black	
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8 Navy, 9 Red, 2 Black	

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Red, Blue & Grey	
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Tie Tac or Safety Pin	
BASEBALL CAPS	\$15.00
Assorted Colors	

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PURINA PARENT CLUB
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

June 2010 Update

Submitted by PPCPP Coordinator, Helen Stein



The Afghan Hound Club of America has received a check for \$737.31, which represents our credit for the weight circles submitted by AHCA members and Afghan Hound fanciers--71 of you! Under Purina's guidelines, this money is to be used in funding education, health research and/or rescue efforts. In addition, a matching amount will be sent by Purina to the Canine Health Foundation to be used in our Donor Advised Fund (a savings account in the name of the AHCA).

My latest update from Purina states that participants in the PPCPP program represent well over 100 breed clubs. Based on the participation of these breed clubs in 2009, Purina was able to present a check for nearly \$300,000 to the Canine Health Foundation at the CHF fundraiser in March.

Thanks so much for the support you've shown for this program! If there are any questions about the PPCPP, please contact me at BeanieSue@aol.com

WAYS AND MEANS

Submitted by Chair, Suzanne Eaton Duay



The first orders of our new product are just shipping out from iron artist "Franz." These custom made, wrought iron water bowl stands are not only sturdy and functional, but also beautifully handmade with a stylish Afghan Hound motif. We'll get a better picture on the website as soon as we have the items in hand. The stands come with a removable, heavy-duty 3-qt. stainless steel bowl, and can be ordered in two styles, round or square, with a choice of several finishes including silver, copper, gold and bronze, either antiqued or solid color. The price is \$119 plus shipping. Please email me for more info or to place your order. Delivery takes 6 to 8 weeks, so get your order in soon to hotbeach@cfl.rr.com

ON THE ROAD, JULY 2010

By Barb Bornstein

Traveling on the road with two Afghan Hounds, one near adulthood, one puppy and one Standard Longhaired Dachshund is enormous fun but also challenging. We have been traveling with our dogs since the late 1970s. In the beginning we used our motorhomes just for traveling to dog shows. Since 1987, we have been traveling the United States with our dogs along for the ride.



Thirty years ago, many RV parks would not allow large dogs. Luckily, our beloved "Hal" had an incredibly easy coat to maintain and it was always beautiful, groomed or not. Upon check-in at RV parks, when we were told we could not stay with our large dogs, we would casually produce him, in full coat, and park owners would immediately inform us that since our dogs were so gorgeous we were certainly honorable people and could stay at their campground.

Over the years there have been several experiences that have been memorable. A few are as follows:

The first thing we discovered traveling with our Afghan Hounds is that because our dogs are never more than a distance of about three feet from us at any given time, we become "incredibly" bonded to our dogs. That in itself is a joy!

We have also found that all of our Afghan Hounds have had considerable homing instincts. "Perfect" was an Afghan Hound who could find his way back to our coach, no matter how far away we were, and no matter how many motorhomes were lined up in a row. Perfect always knew which coach was ours. Once, in the Prescott, Arizona woods, we walked over a mile through the woods to get to the local convenience store. On the way back to our coach, I let Perfect out to the end of his leash and he lead us the entire mile back to our coach. Another time, on the beach in Oregon, we released Perfect but he refused to honor the "Come" command and headed back through the dunes to the RV parking area. Lee took off running and found Perfect sitting smugly next to our coach steps waiting for Lee to open the door and let him into the coach and on the sofa.

Every one of our Afghan Hounds is taught to "Come" on command. We have also discovered that using the "Come" command on an Afghan Hound is something that must be reinforced daily (see above). Our dogs are usually released about five feet from the coach door and they always make a beeline up the steps, into the coach. One night when our bitch "Sheila" was released, she headed up the steps and in the dark ran into a friend of ours who was standing in the coach doorway. She spooked, ran back down the coach steps and into the deep, dark woods. One command brought her back to us and the next day we returned to reinforcing the "Come" command.

Roaming on the road with dogs also means you will inevitably run into wild animals. Several years ago we were camping in Montana grizzly country when one day Lee returned with Hal to inform me that he and Hal had heard a grizzly bear growl. I ignored this until after dinner that night Lee, Hal, and I were sitting outside by the campfire when we heard another growl, then another. On the third growl Lee said we were going inside the coach! The experts tell you if you do meet a bear not to turn and run but stand still. Yeah, like that is going to happen!

Hal and I ran into a cow moose a few years ago. Miss Moose looked at Hal with a dreadfully long, hard, cold stare. We quickly moved on and eventually so did Miss Moose. Another time Hal and I encountered a buffalo while camping in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The buffalo gave us his version of the hard stare and Hal and I immediately turned on our heels, and hocks, and left.

Upon arrival at our current campground in Idaho, the campground host took one look at the black, 18-month old Afghan Hound and told us we needed to keep him on lead because some people might think he was a black bear. A few days later I was walking this young hound when we ran into a four-year-old boy on his bicycle. The boy got off of his bike and with huge eyes stood looking at the hound saying "Ooooh, Ooooh, Ooooh." I asked the boy if he thought my dog was a bear and the boy shook his head yes. I told him that this was my dog and he slept with me. The youngster started crying. The poor kid was scared to death.

The one animal we have been fortunate not to have a close encounter with is the dreaded Pepe Le Pew! Several years ago we were camping at the Arizona Chiricahua National Monument when "Cruiser" and I met Pepe in the middle of the road. Need I say we did a quick about face.

The most common question we are asked is, "Does your dog have a sore throat?" I cannot begin to tell you how many times we have explained the "snood." Other questions we get, especially with the darker colored dogs are: "Is that a bear?" "Is that a gorilla?" Or, my favorite question is "My dog wants to know what kind of dog your dog is?"

We have been reasonably lucky with medical issues. Our Afghan Hounds are generally quite healthy and that is a blessing. Accidents have been rare but they have happened. Years ago, deep in the back woods, I too quickly opened the coach door to let Hal come into the coach after his walk with Lee and accidentally sliced Hal's shoulder open about one inch in diameter. Not having the proper equipment on hand, we sprayed the cut with antiseptic spray and used a regular sewing needle and red thread to close the hole. The cut healed nicely but there was a discolored scar that lasted throughout Hal's life. After all these years I finally did it! Not once have I ever slammed an Afghan Hound tail in a coach door, until about six weeks ago. Poor puppy!

Traveling with a five month old puppy can be tremendous fun and immense horror at the same time. This puppy happens to be wild and never wears out, no matter how many mountains we have attempted to climb nor rivers we have crossed. While puppy learns the rules of travel, we age, not so gracefully, but laugh all the way through the teaching and learning process.

One more thing. We always clean up after our dogs! Always! Yes, I mean always! For one thing, dog poop does attract wild animals, especially bears. Because we do clean up after the dogs, we have been able to meet and become friends with volunteer campground hosts throughout our National Park System. These hosts range from Iowa farmers to naval intelligence to just ordinary people like you and me.

There are many ins and outs to exploring our country with Afghan Hounds but the ecstasy is rewarding beyond belief. We are with our hounds twenty-four/seven and witnessing the country we live in. I must tell you, this USA is one incredibly wonderful country. There is nothing more satisfying then sitting under the nightly American stars, roasting marshmallows over an open campfire when an Afghan Hound puppy suddenly leaps into the air, steals your marshmallows from the stick and gets gooey marshmallow mush stuck all over his monkey whiskers. Ah, heaven.

REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW INFORMATION

Submitted by Regional Club Chair, Bob Brown

CLUB / SHOW SECRETARY	SHOW DATE / SHOW LOCATION	REGULAR CLASS JUDGE/ JUNIORS /SWEEPS
Greater Pittsburgh Afghan Hound Club Laurentia (Rincy) Ebbert	7/3/2010 Mingo Creek County Park Finleyville, PA	Garry Newton - Regular Classes Jym Webb - Sweepstakes
Greater Pittsburgh Afghan Hound Club Laurentia (Rincy) Ebbert	7/4/2010 Mingo Creek County Park Finleyville, PA	Jim Saarinen - Regular Classes Bruce Clark - Sweepstakes
Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club Barb Hastings	7/9/2010 Hamlin Firemen's Field Hamlin, NY	Barbara D. Arndt - Regular Classes Melissa Williams - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Omaha, Inc. Onofrio Dog shows, LLC.	7/16/2010 Omaha Qwest Center Omaha, NE	Lynn Mercer - Regular Classes Laurie Goodell - Sweepstakes
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Joanne Brown	8/6/2010 Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs Auburn, WA 98092	Lucy Orlowski - Regular Classes Lucy Orlowski - Junior Showmanship Suzanne Neill - Sweepstakes
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Joanne Brown	8/7/2010 Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs Auburn, WA 98092	Stephen Fisher - Regular Classes TBA - Junior Showmanship Bruce Clark - Sweepstakes
Midwest Afghan Hound Club Holly Miller	8/14/2010 Lorain County KC Show Grounds Henrietta Twp., OH	Lucy Orlowski - Regular Classes Leslie Stoffels - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Memphis Kim Harwood	8/20/2010 Southhaven Multi-Purpose Arena Memphis TN	Bonita Visser - Regular Classes Debbie Schellhorn - Sweepstakes
Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club Onofrio Dog Shows	8/27/2010 Washington County Fairgrounds Lake Elmo, MN	Debbie K. Petersen - Regular Classes Nicole Gardner - Sweepstakes
The Detroit Afghan Hound Club, Inc. Sue Busby	9/4/2010 The Lower Huron Metro Park Belleville, MI	Betsy Hufnagel - Regular Classes Anna Stromberg - Sweepstakes
The Detroit Afghan Hound Club, Inc Sue Busby	9/5/2010	John Roger Morton - Regular Classes Linda Kolb - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan D. Curtis	9/9/2010 Island Grove Park 14 th Ave. N. & D Street Greeley, CO	Betsy Hufnagel - Regular Classes Robin A Hug - Junior Showmanship David F. Sorey - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan D. Curtis	9/10/2010 Island Grove Park 14 th Ave. N. & D Street Greeley, CO	Michael Koss - Regular Classes Michael Koss - Junior Showmanship Beth Collins - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Houston		No show in 2010

The Afghan Hound Club of America supports Regional Clubs by awarding BOW and Best Junior medallions. If a Regional Club holds a "Parade of Rescue" class, the AHCA will also award a special medallion for each rescue exhibit entered.

See page 9, AWARDS for complete details to receive your Parade of Rescue Medallions.

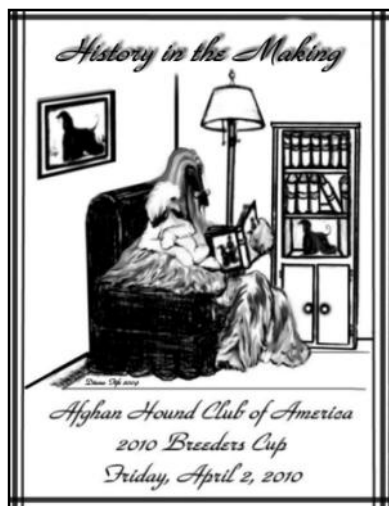
The Afghan Hound Club of Austin, Inc. Deanne LeMaistre	10/2/2010 Double H Ranch Florence, TX	Steve Kelly - Regular Classes Renee Franklin - Sweepstakes
Lehigh Valley Afghan Hound Association Shaina Bates	10/10/2010 Clinton Elks Lodge Picnic Grounds 10 Lower Landsdown Road Annandale, NJ 08801	Ken Tippie - Regular Classes & Juniors Harry Bennett - Sweepstakes
Northern California Afghan Hound Club Janet Riggs	10/22/2010 Red Lion Hotel Sacramento, CA	Hobart Brown - Regular Classes Susan Bahary - Sweepstakes
Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club Janet Riggs	10/23/2010 Red Lion Hotel Sacramento, CA	Richard Souza - Breed and Bitches Roberta Keller - Dogs Robert Keller - Sweepstakes
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Louise Carter	10/30/2010 Pending	Pending - Regular Classes Pending - Sweepstakes
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Louise Carter	10/31/2010 Pending	Pending - Regular Classes Pending - Sweepstakes
Sand "N" See Afghan Hound Club of Florida Bill Turner	11/12/2010 Brooksville, FL	John R. Morton - Regular Classes William (Bill) Pearce - Sweepstakes
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc Jan Lucree	11/20/2010 Holiday Inn Select 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA	Dr. Jerry Klein - Regular Classes & Juniors Jan Swayze Curry - Sweepstakes
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc Jan Lucree	11/21/2010 Holiday Inn Select 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA	Edith T. Hanson - Regular Classes Brian Lenobel - Sweepstakes

AWARDS

Submitted by Awards Chair, Claudia Jakus

PLEASE all show secretaries: Remember to include an original copy of your premium list along with your request for your Best of Winners medallion. If you offer Junior Showmanship, your certificate must come from Bob Brown, not me. If you offer Parade of Rescue, you can wait until your entries close to request all of your medallions at once, because they are usually mailed out Priority mail the following day.

Please do not ask to send your premium list by email. I will not accept it or print it!!



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TO ORDER CONTACT SUE BUSBY:

barakiafs@peoplepc.com

PAYPAL/VISA/MC ACCEPTED

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS, PART II

Submitted by Legislative Chair, Betty Salmon

For most of us, our Legislatures have closed for summer recess. If you live in a state with pending anti-breeder legislation (and who doesn't) take a quick breath. It would be inappropriate to let out a full sigh of relief, because the bills will just be back next session. Not only that, but with the ARs (Animal Rights) financial resources and professional lobbyists, you can be guaranteed they will be pressing their agenda during the break. So don't sit back and work on your tan!!! Now is the time to rally the troops and press forward.

In the last issue, we talked about impromptu visits to your legislators. Now with your state senators and representatives closer to home, it is a perfect opportunity to schedule some time to chat with them about your concerns. And remember, when they look at their watch it means wrap it up. You probably will have 10 or 35 more points to make, but if you take their time to do so, you will undermine the messages you have already delivered. If they look at their watch, summarize your conversation in one or two sentences, thank them for their time, offer to assist them in future matters, and get the heck out of there.

Let's briefly talk about one of the easiest and hardest ways to contact your legislators: the letter. I say easy because most of us are literate. I say hard because it is never easy to pick only one or two points and only address those one or two points. I personally find this to be nearly impossible. After all, when pending legislation has all sorts of bad language and a myriad of ways to hurt you as a breeder/rescuer/owner, how can you possibly pick just one or two points? However, if you read any of the articles addressing this topic, you wonder how you can cite only one?

You can't. At least I can't. However, if you want your letter to even be read, let's look at a way around it! Write your short letter, but reference the one-inch, three-ring binder you have included in your mailing. This works really well for the more verbose among us.

- In that notebook, include a section on the value to your community and state of dog shows and other dog-related activities. The AKC has compiled these statistics, by state, for your use. There should be at least one page about the financial impact and at least one page that talks about the good deeds the fancy does in the community, such as education of children and pet owners, donations to causes, and rescue.
- Also, include a section with real quotes from the Animal Rights world. These are available on many sites, and will drill home the fact that their side will not compromise, will always push for more, and has a hidden, onerous agenda. After letting the ARs speak for themselves, your legislator may just reach the conclusion they are kooks (albeit voting kooks).
- In another section, include one or two very good articles that lay out the real goals of the HSUS and other ARs. If the difference between animal welfare and animal rights is addressed, all the better. If at all possible, don't use a CCF (Center for Consumer Freedom) article. But, if you must, include a second article from another source. HSUS has

geared up to sling mud at CCF since the launch of Human-Watch.com, and you don't want to have your argument or data dismissed. You can use data from there, but back it up with another source.

- In one section, include a spreadsheet (available from the AKC and other places) that shows the many anti-breeder/HSUS backed bills across the country.
- Have a page, usually at the very back, which lists your contact information and your many qualifications in matters concerning dogs. List your club affiliations, the number of years you've shown or bred dogs, whether or not you also have a dog-related business such as training or grooming, and the number of years you've successfully operated that business (and paid taxes). Reiterate that you would welcome an opportunity to assist the legislator and that they should call with any questions they may have. Mention that if you don't know the answer, you know many other people in the dog world and will find the answer for them. Also put your contact information at the very front, perhaps by slipping a business card under the clear covering most binders have provided for cover letters.

Leaving this notebook behind after a meeting or sending it along with your ridiculously short letter will accomplish several of your goals. It will provide the information you would like to get in front of the legislator but won't be able to during a short meeting or letter. It will provide a way for your arguments and concerns to get passed on in their entirety to an appropriate staffer. If your meeting was with a staffer, it will provide a way to get your comments in front of the legislator. It will give your legislator or their staff a reference that they can return to again and again while weighing your comments and concerns against those of the opposition. Make sure your notebook and information are good enough to be the Gold Standard in their office regarding this issue.



In the next installment, we'll talk about calling your legislator's office, and address letter etiquette. Everything you need to know about that is common sense, so please don't WAIT until the next installment to call or write!! I saved it until last because we'll be talking about things you probably already know and with which you already feel comfortable. I hope you enjoy your summer. And remember, don't be complacent. ACT.

THE PUPS ACT - AN ANALYSIS

Submitted by Legislative Chair, Betty Salmon

The USDA's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) recently released a scathing report on the lax regulatory efforts of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) when dealing with repeat offenders - commercial breeders whose facilities consistently fall below acceptable levels during inspections.

In response to the OIG report, Sens. Richard Durbin (D-Ill.) and David Vitter (R-La.) introduced the PUPS Act (Puppy Uniform Protection Statute, S. 3424) - a reincarnation of previous legislation. A companion bill was introduced by Reps. Sam Farr (D-Calif.), Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.), Lois Capps (D-Calif.) and Bill Young (R-Fla.) in the House of Representatives.

This Act will have a great, negative impact on us as hobby/show breeders, even though they say it is intended to help regulate internet sales.

Following is an analysis of the bill by Margo Milde and is reprinted with permission. Her analysis is the basis of Illinois Federation of Dog Clubs and Owners (IFDCO) position statement against the bills. Margo's comments represent her analysis, and are not necessarily those of AHCA, its Legislative Affairs Chair, or this publication. They are provided because they will give you a good idea of this bill's potential impact upon you and the fancy:

The PUPS bill is up:

[http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:S.3424:](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:S.3424)

Just a few brief comments to start with. This bill provides a new category of breeder, "High Volume Breeder," as one needing USDA licensing. They define a "High Volume Breeder" as:

HIGH VOLUME RETAIL BREEDER- The term 'high volume retail breeder' means a person who, in commerce, for compensation or profit -

(i) has an ownership interest in or custody of 1 or more breeding female dogs; and

(ii) sells or offers for sale, via any means of conveyance (including the Internet, telephone, or newspaper), more than 50 of the offspring of such breeding female dogs for use as pets in any 1-year period.

BREEDING FEMALE DOG - The term 'breeding female dog' means an intact female dog aged 4 months or older.

The sticky question of "co-ownership" immediately raises its ugly head. Many AKC breeders "co-own" a number of bitches (and dogs, for that matter) that do not live in the home of the breeder. Regardless of where these bitches are maintained, it appears that one interpretation of the defined number includes any bitch who is "co-owned" by an individual breeder. Even worse, "breeding female" includes any intact female over 4 months of age (personal comment: it's probably no coincidence that MSN laws have been introduced, and passed such as in Las Vegas and Los Angeles, with a 4 month S/N requirement. See, the dots all connect!!!) Thus, "breeding females" includes pup-

pies not intended to be bred until a more mature age, or even those puppies still of a biologically non-breedable age; or elderly intact bitches well past a breedable age; or bitches left intact for reasons of veterinary recommendation, or left intact for show, working ability, or any other purposes, even if the bitch was not intended to be bred that year (or ever).

"50 puppies" may sound like a lot, but when you add up puppies from co-owned bitches who don't reside with their breeder, assuming that will be the interpretation given, you will then realize that who this bill targets is the typical AKC (or UKC) hobby breeder!!! Additionally, to make matters even more complicated, and as any long term breeder knows, the number of puppies the breeder "offers to sell" in any given time period does NOT mean that all those puppies were sold! Perhaps, for example, the number of puppies produced was not the optimistic number that the breeder had actual buyers for, or perhaps a poor economy forced buyers to back out of the deal at the last minute. Yet, the breeder would still be classified by the number he or she "offered to sell," as opposed to the actual number of puppies sold.

The AKC (or UKC, etc) home hobby breeder that would be included under this law will need to be licensed, and to ensure that their facility (i.e., their home) meets the engineering standards required for a commercial USDA-licensed kennel. Think that is easy? Think again. Your home may be spotless, and the care of your dogs immaculate, but it is highly unlikely that your home can meet these USDA APHIS (ANIMAL & PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE) standards, unless you keep your dogs separate in a special addition to your home, so that they don't reside in your "human" home proper.

Additional requirements include exercise requirements, which can be very problematic in interpretation; and a ban on "wire flooring," despite the fact that well-designed wire floors keep puppies warmer, drier, and healthier than a cold concrete flooring.

These are just my initial speculations. I am waiting to see more official interpretations of this bill. Here are a few additional resources on this bill:

AKC is still examining the potential impact of this bill (personal comment - I hope they don't take too long in doing so!! Really, the bill is relatively short and doesn't take that long to read):

http://www.akc.org/pdfs/canine_legislation/PUPSlegalert052710.pdf

Please see links included in the above AKC document to APHIS inspections requirements and regulations for USDA licensed breeders, and then ask yourself if YOUR home could meet these standards.

Pet World's Steve Dale is opposed to this legislation, and asks the million dollar question: Why aren't existing USDA APHIS regulations being enforced?

<http://www.chicagonow.com/blogs/steve-dale-pet-world/2010/05/why-are-puppy-mills-allowed-to-operate.html#more>

<http://tinyurl.com/39wwpq9>

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I suggest strongly you read the entire IG report for yourselves. You will see that there are known major problems with existing enforcement for repeat violators, as detailed in this report. Why aren't existing laws enforced, and shouldn't that be the focus of our efforts, not "new laws" that would allow the substandard breeders to continue on their merry way, while shutting down the responsible breeder?

Margo Milde - Author
Director-Illinois Federation of Dog Clubs and Owners
AKC LL - Rand Park DTC
AKC LL - Agility Ability Club of IL
AKC LL - Moraine Tracking Club
AKC LL - Fox River Field Spaniel Club
AKC LL - Field Spaniel Society of America (AKC Parent Club)

AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT
Submitted by Connie Butherus,
AHCA Delegate To The AKC
June 6-7, 2010 - Atlanta, GA

The Quarterly gathering of AKC Delegates was held June 6 and 7, 2010 in Atlanta, GA. Being "True to Tradition," it was the least attended of the four meetings with about 230 club representatives making the scene. As the meeting agenda was light, many chose to absent themselves.

However, throughout the two days, despite the small number, two issues were large – and largely unaddressed in the public forums. The two elephants in the room being term limits for the Board of Directors (vote in September) and the proposed and quickly withdrawn annual fees for AKC judges. The latter issue was taken on by Dennis Sprung, AKC President, in his address on Tuesday, as well as a couple of the Delegates. Nothing even close to the furor seen on the various lists.

The Parent Club Committee agenda was teeming with topics specific to the Parent Club Delegates and their respective clubs. The on-going pain resulting from the decline in registrations was the theme running through a number of the topics discussed. The problem is widely known, but the solution(s) remain written in invisible ink. Alan Kalter of the AKC Board and Peter Puisz, Delegate, Rottweiler Club of America and a Committee member, spoke to the concern as follows:

- The AKC in the past year(s) has initiated many positive offerings such as the Grand Champion title, the Canine Partners program, the reclamation project, financial support to the Canine Health Foundation, grants awarded via the Humane Fund, Community Achievement Awards, the Meet The Breeds events, AKC Educational Matches, breeders seminars with the Canine Health Foundation, funding for the Parent Club Conference, the annual invitational show, Good Sportsmanship annual awards to each member club, Disaster Relief response, Legislature assistance and fund, Political Action funding. The list goes on and on.

Despite all of this, the fancy (all of us) has not kept pace with the need regarding registrations – AKC's core business. The AKC is now at a tipping point. Expenses cannot

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AKC Delegate's Report

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continue to be cut. Registrations equal revenue. In the future, without an increase in registrations, services will need to be cut.

Currently the decline in registration of puppies produced is estimated at 40%, with half (50%) of the puppies produced by the fancy going unregistered. The loss of registrations results in the loss of people and we cannot afford to lose people (people equal participation and club members and funding).

One suggestion offered was to encourage breed rescue groups to seek PAL (formerly ILP) registrations for rescued purebred dogs. This would enable these dogs to participate in events such as agility, coursing, obedience, rally, etc. Other ideas included the use of FACEBOOK and a membership program such as an association of AKC friends and supporters. Other agenda items included:

- Alternative registrations (UR prefix with AKC numbers in pedigree)
- AKC coupons offered to Parent Clubs to be awarded at National Specialties (Show Chairs should contact David Roberts – dwr@akc.org)
- Parent club notifications when dogs are removed from the AKC registry can be obtained quarterly. Again Parent clubs can mail Dave Roberts – dwr@akc.org and request this information.
- Parent Club Code of Ethics project is completed. The committee approved a Code of Ethics Guidelines for writing codes of ethics. These guidelines were developed from the 90-plus parent clubs submitting documents. This will be available shortly (once officially blessed by the AKC). Of interest to the AHCA is the introduction to the guidelines which is taken from the AHCA Recommended Practices preamble. This was cited as "one of the best" of those received (90 plus). It is quoted and attribution given to the AHCA (the AHCA Board has been made aware of this). The project coordinators were Karen Spey, American Pointer Club and your Delegate. Karen was the one who stated the AHCA preamble as "one of the best." I could not agree more! It is anticipated these guidelines will be of use to Parent Clubs wishing to develop codes, revise existing codes and especially to new and emerging Parent Clubs wishing to establish such a document.
- A "Breeder of Merit" initiative is in the works. Qualifications are yet to be specified. Bet your last dollar that to be included, 100% of puppies produced by the breeder must be AKC registered for the gold star status.
- EQUISHURE – AKC's club insurance broker was reviewed. They offer a variety of coverage from events to Directors and Officers. Subgroups are not covered such as 501c3 (rescue) organizations.
- The AKC Gazette will be modified with upcoming events being published every other month instead of the AR organizations and numerous competitors for AKC work product and statistics.

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- One Parent Club recently reported a big problem with the Hilton Hotel at the Atlanta Airport which was the site of their National Specialty. Clubs are advised to use caution when and if booking this site due to the actions by the staff and management.
- MEET THE BREEDS will be held at the Javits Center in NYC October 16 and 17, 2010. It is hoped all Parent Clubs will again participate. Contact Gina DiNardo – gml@akc.org for specifics.

The Delegate Forum was conducted by Mike Liosis, Director of the AKC Club Relations, and Lisa Peterson, Director of Communications on assistance and information available from the AKC.

Mike outlined his area of responsibility and assistance available to clubs. The job seems overwhelming with:

- 5,076 clubs eligible to hold events
- 615 Member clubs which includes all Parent Clubs.
- 17 different types of clubs
- By-laws review and approval for all of the above
- Maintaining yearly contact information for all clubs, officers and membership
- Multiple types and levels of membership
- General advice and wise counsel to all of the above, whenever needed.

Lisa presented the functions and duties of her shop and listed all of the documents, kits, templates and services provided from AKC programs on disaster preparedness to classified ad content. Available on request are:

- Club publicity tools
- Show site locator
- Registration statistics
- Public education materials
- Government relations information
- Newsletter for club newsletter editors – AKC Syndicated
- Too many more to list.

The entire presentation is available for club programs by contacting Lisa lxp@akc.org.

The actual meeting content was covered in less than two hours. No bombs dropped nor earth-shattering information.

Chairman Ron Menaker reviewed the new titles offered such as Grand Champion to the allowance of Parent Club specific titles if the AKC does not offer such.

The President's Report by Dennis Sprung focused on the proposed and withdrawn judge's fee volcano. The rationale for this was pointed out (decline in registrations from 96% in AKC revenue generated to 50% currently). He outlined the future steps to be taken regarding this as well as the need for the AKC to change from the manner in which it operated in the past.

CFO Jim Stevens presented his usual interesting and, at times humorous, financial picture. Declines, expenses and increases were all quantified and projected in PowerPoint. All in all from 1-1-10 through 5-31-10, the AKC has a \$101,000 (+or-) deficit. Investments yielded \$1.6 M (2.5%) in the same timeframe. Revenues are down \$1.9 M (7%). Expenses are down 4% and the reserve funds are \$21 M (operating) and \$24 M Endowment. The message: Register your puppies!

The balance of the meeting consisted of Community Achievement Awards: Lawrenceville (GA) KC and Belle City (WV) KC, Canine Legislative Award to NC Federation of Dog Clubs, legislative issues involving local vets, two responses regarding proposed/withdrawn judges' fees and lack of inclusion of "stakeholders" by AKC in its proposals, committees and initiatives.

Next meeting September 9 & 10, 2010 in the NYC area.

As always I will act as directed by our Board.

Respectfully submitted,
 Connie Butherus
 AHCA Delegate to the AKC



GIVING BACK MENTOR REPORT Submitted by Chair, Bobbie Keller

Not much to report this time. Of the 58 members, 29 didn't get back to me. Of the 29 that actually did respond, there were only 4 contacts, and no "that's a wonderful report."

It seems this is a result of lack of interest in our breed and lack of interest from our Giving Back members.

BREEDERS ONLINE

If you would like to be listed as a breeder on the AHCA Website, email your complete information directly to Bobbie Keller at:

zafarahounds@comcast.net

You must supply Bobbie with detailed information such as your name, kennel name, contact information (email address and telephone number) and the state where you reside. Bobbie will then list you by state.

The following was submitted by Suzanne Eaton Duay:

Last fall at the Sand 'N' See AHC Specialty, I met a young spectator whose interest in and enthusiasm for Afghan Hounds truly impressed me. Not having had a mentor myself back in the 1970s, I decided to do what I could to help this newcomer get involved in the breed. It was my pleasure to introduce Jared Garner to folks at the specialty and he quickly impressed us with his keenness.

Jared says he has always loved dogs and has been attending dog shows in the Central Florida area for several years, watching and learning from ringside. Although he currently has three dogs, two Chinese Crested and a rescue Greyhound, he says that his true desire is to raise and show Afghan Hounds.

Meanwhile, until he's in a position to have another dog, he has "adopted" mine to play with and learn with. He's becoming an excellent groomer and is a quick-learning handler. We attend handling classes and he practices with several Afghan Hounds that friends "loan" him. He recently attended a judges' education class presented by Harry Bennett and the two-day George Alston handling seminar. Jared reads all the breed books and literature he can get his hands on and loves studying my old *Reviews*. Several of the Afghan Hound owners in the area have joined in the teaching process and we all enjoy this charming young man.

Our mentoring relationship has been progressing over eight months now. Jared's sincere interest in all things Afghan Hound inspired me to help him and I've been rewarded with a wonderful friendship, plus the joy of seeing him so happy in his element with an Afghan Hound at his side.

A MESSAGE FROM THE 2010 NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW CHAIR, JUDY BLOOM

Hi all:

It is now less than 4 months until the California Gold II National Specialty Show, to be held in Sacramento, California, starting October 17th through October 23rd. I would like to thank the committee chairs who have been doing a wonderful job with little input from me.

It's been a tough year. I'm a little behind schedule but have now jumped in with both feet to insure another successful National. We are paying special attention this year to the performance events, which will be held at the host hotel, except the Lure Coursing trials, which are Nicci Von Broembsen's baby. She and her team have gone the extra mile to make sure this is a special event. They have had a few hurdles to overcome, but now have a site that looks like a perfect place for a lure trial.

The Shine on Harvest Moon Welcome party Sunday evening will be a relaxing, fun time. We're hoping to have live music for dancing, singing and laughing. This event will be held in JB's, a huge lounge with tons of seating. There will be a signature California Gold drink, and to get you off on the right foot, you will receive one free drink ticket.

Terry Chacon and Abbe Shaw's vendor party will be lots of fun, highlighting California wine tasting along with cheeses and crudités. Plan on attending and supporting your vendors. There will be a raffle, with each vendor donating a basket with a minimum value of \$50 including something of theirs. Don't miss this!!

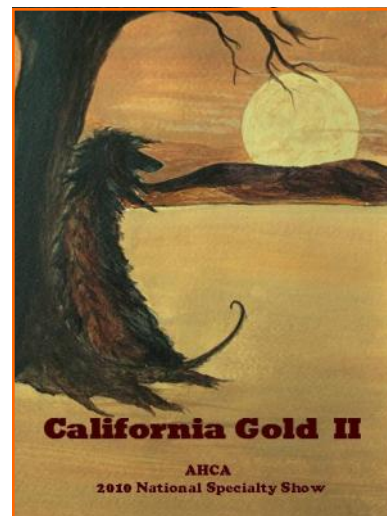
For the Breeders symposium, Sandy Frei and Midge Martin have planned another informative evening with Pat Trotter, (past winner of AKC's Breeder of the Year) to be your guest speaker. There will be a dinner and no host bar to start the evening.

The now famous Friends of the Fancy Art Auction, headed by our talented auctioneer Darlyn Pfeiffer, will have a treasure trove of Afghan Hound art for all of us to bid on. Please, all you talented artists and collectors who would like to donate a piece from your collections, contact Darlyn Pfeiffer by email at verauctions@charter.net. Lets make this another successful fun evening, starting with two free drink tickets/door prizes/and dinner. Proceeds from this Art Auction are divided between the parent club and the very overworked Afghan Hound Rescue.

Lorraine Tayeb will once again head the Rescue Raffle table each day. She does a wonderful job of collecting interesting items to place on view that you may bid on.

We now have on board a new catalog advertising chair, Michelle Friesen at mgfriesen@verizon.net. The price for ads are: color \$125.00 or black and white \$75.00. Please send your ads to Michelle as soon as possible. Let's make this another great parent club catalog. Thank you everyone for your support and kind thoughts.

For more information on the National, go to one of the following:



www.californiagold2.com
www.afghansonline.com
info@afghanhoundreview.com
jubliann@aol.com

Wine Tasting With The Arts



Please join Artist/Vendors of the 2010 Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty for a Wine Tasting Extravaganza on Monday October 18, from 6 pm until 9 pm.

Artist/Vendors will have their work on display and available for purchase as you sample wine from local and Napa area wineries. Cheese and fruit will also be served.

Raffle tickets for baskets representing each artist, will be sold upon entry to the event. This will be your chance to possibly win a basket prepared by each artist/vendor, and a \$100.00 bill will be added to one of the baskets to make it even more exciting.

So come, relax, taste some of the area's best wines, listen to great music, shop, dance if you like and enjoy a night with your favorite Afghan Hound artists.

**CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH
2010 NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21**

Location:

**Red Lion Hotel
1401 Arden Way
Sacramento, CA 95815**

**Room Reservations: 916-922-8041
Special Event Rate \$90.00/day
Mention the "AHCA" Event to receive this rate**

Judges:

**Dogs & Intersex—Reggie Nesbitt
Bitches—Hank Nave
Puppy & Veteran Sweepstakes—Chris
Pinkston**

Show Chair:

**Judy Anne Bloom
916-485-0136 after 5:30 PM (PST)
Jubilann@aol.com**

**AHCA WILL HOST TWO DAYS OF
LURE COURSING
Submitted by 2010 Field Chair Nicci von Broembsen**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

**ALL-BREED AKC Trial
2 JCs and a QC test**

Only gate entries will be taken
FTS - Lynda Hicks: suniafghans@gmail.com

Tests at 9 :00 AM PST
Trial at 9:30 AM or 15 minutes following completion of QC and
JC tests, whichever is later.

Trial hours from 7:30AM

Judges:

Charles Roberts from Oregon, JC (a) and QC All Breeds
Stephani Norris from Ohio, JC (b)
All Breeds except Afghan Hounds



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

AHCA NATIONAL LURE COURSING TRIAL

ASFA will be run at 7:30 PST, followed by the National AKC
Trial and Tests at 11:00 AM, or after the completion of the
ASFA Trial, whichever is later.

Trial hours are from 7:00 AM until after ribbons are
awarded. ASFA roll call 8:00 AM. Sunday will be pre entry
only.

**ENTRIES CLOSE 6:00 PM on Wednesday, September 29, 2010
at FTS:**

Cathy Lursen-Powers
20311 Road 30 1/2
Madera, CA 93638-8069.
Email: questiw@earthlink.net

Judges:

Karen Arends, Texas, JC (a) and QC
Christie Beetz, California, JC (b)

Location:

James Rutter Middle School,
7350 Palmer House Drive.
Sacramento, CA 95828-4027

**DISTANCE FROM THE HOST HOTEL
11.4 MILES, APPROX. 13 MINS.**

For more information visit www.CaliforniaGold2.com
or

Nicci von Broembsen tzaneen@verizon.net or 281-910-3609

**2010 AHCA Breed Symposium
Submitted by Chair, Sandy Frei**

TUESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 19TH 7:00 PM

Speaker: Patricia Craig Trotter, Vin Melca Elkhounds

Subject: The Gene Scene (breeding dogs)

Price: \$15.00

Meal: Pasta bar and salad bar.

Make checks payable to AHCA

Send to: Linda Jackson, Treasurer
206 Oakwood Ct.

McDonough, GA 30252

For more information contact:
Sandy Frei at: sstormhill@aol.com

**MAILING LIST
Submitted by Chair, Claudia Jakus**

I have divided the mailing list into 2 areas, East and West of the
Mississippi. If the National is being held in the East then those
exhibitors on the East mailing list will be mailed premiums -
those West of the Mississippi can either request one or print it off
the various web pages where it will be located. The opposite
applies when the National is held West of the Mississippi. ALL
parent club members, no matter where they live, will continue to
receive a premium as a benefit of belonging to the PC.

**THE 2010 AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA
NATIONAL ART AUCTION**
Submitted by Darlyn Pfeiffer

Hello Afghan Hound Artists and Fanciers,

This is where it all began at the last Afghan Hound Club of America Specialty in Sacramento!

Judy Bloom was the first Show Chairman to embrace the concept of a high-quality art auction at this once a year event. It has become one of the biggest fundraisers in Parent Club history. You, too, can be part of history with your donation for the 2010 National!

I know it seems like October is a long off, but, we need your help. We are looking to add some wonderful Afghan Hound art, to join the retired Lladro donation from Judy Bloom, and a wonderful Ann Sterner work.

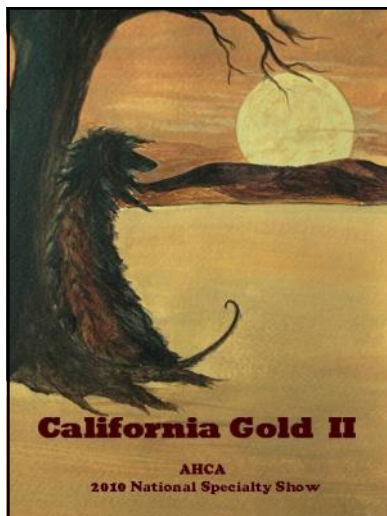
Contact me, Col. Darlyn Pfeiffer, werauctions@charter.net, send a photo with a description, and we will get it on the web-site!

Items can be sent to Judy Bloom at 2801 Hilldale Road, Sacramento, CA 95864, or brought with you to the National!

I look forward to hearing from you.

All my best,
Col. Darlyn Pfeiffer

2010 SPECIALTY SHOW CATALOG ADVERTISING



Catalog Advertising
Rates:

Full Color Page -
\$125.00

Full Black & White
Page - \$75.00

Place your ads as soon as possible.
For more information contact:

Michelle Friesen, Advertising Chair
5947 Eagle Point
Portsmouth, VA 23703
mgfriesen@verizon.net

AHCA GALA AWARDS DINNER
Thursday Evening, October 21st

HARVEST BUFFET

\$38.00 Per Person (Includes tax & tip)

Mustard Crusted Pork Loin on Apple and Hazelnut Dressing

Sliced Prime Roast of Beef on Pinot Noir Forest Mushroom
Sauce

Sautéed Chicken Marsala

Spinach Salad with Sun Dried Cranberries, Grilled Pear & Blue
Cheese Vinaigrette

Mashed Yukon Garlic Gold Potatoes

Medley of Northwest Vegetables

Fresh Seasonal Fruit with Raspberry Yogurt Sauce

Warm White Chocolate Bread Pudding with Brandy Sauce

Coffee - Tea - Iced Tea - Cash Bar



**AUCTION FOR:
AHCA RESCUE BENEFIT
&**

THE MORRIS ANIMAL FOUNDATION

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Betty Stites

**EAST COAST CRATE RAFFLE
WINNER WILL BE DRAWN**

See AHCA Premium List for dinner reservation form.

Mail the completed reservation form along with check
payable to the AHCA (US Funds Only) to:

Jay Hafford
30019 Alta Mira Lane
Valley Center, CA 92082
760-749-6365
afghans@pacbell.net

Reservations are required and must be received by
October 14th, 2010.

Reservations without payment cannot be processed.

Tables of 8 may be reserved if all 8 names, dinner selections and
payment are sent together.

HOW GOOD IS YOUR HISTORY?

Were you able to answer the questions below correctly? The correct answers are shown in red.

Name a famous Marx Brother who brought Afghan Hounds into our country. **Zeppo**

Badshah of Ainsdart was also known as **Loppie**.

America's first Best In Show Afghan Hound was **Eng. & Am. Ch. Badshah Of Ainsdart**.

In 1934 he became the first Afghan Hound Champion. **Ch. Kabul of Prides Hill**

She was the first Afghan Hound Bitch Champion. **Ch. Barberryhill Dolly**

Who was the World War II Naval Bomber Afghan Hound Mascot who was killed aloft in action on a South Pacific mission? **Red Ryder**

She ferried planes from field to field for Civilian Defense during World War II. **Marion Florsheim**

Who founded Prides Hill Kennels? **Q. A. Shaw McKean**

This Afghan Hound was imported from Afghanistan in 1934. **Tazi of Beg Tute**

Which famous Afghan Hound lady's family received a letter of condolence on her passing from President Jimmy Carter's office? **Sunny Shay**

This Afghan Hound was raffled as a prize to help raise money for the "Bundles for Britain War Effort" during World War II. **Freckles**

Name the Afghan Hound who was the foundation bitch for the "brindle" color in America. **Pushum**

This female Afghan Hound retired with 161 All Breed Best In Shows. **Ch. Tryst Of Grandeur**

What year did Ch. Kabik's The Challenger win Best In Show at Westminster? **1983**

The first time this well known lady exhibited her Afghan Hound, she showed him on a clothesline rope. Who was she? **Ruth "Babbie" Tongren**

This winning Afghan Hound is also known as a winning poker hand. **Ch. Akaba's Royal Flush**

The Afghan Hound first appeared in which group before the Hound Group was given separate status by AKC in 1937? **Sporting Group**

Felt's Thief of Bagdad was also known as **Thumper**.

The first Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty Show was held in what year? **1940** What dog received top honors? **Ch. Tanyah Sahib Of Cy-Ann**

What is the date and year the Afghan Hound Standard was adopted by the American Kennel Club? **September 14, 1948**

In what year did the AHCA National Specialty Show permanently move out of New York? **1980**

This grand lady is still known around the country today, not because of her Afghan Hounds but, because she created a special ceramic glaze. **Kay Finch**

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POLICIES & PROCEDURES
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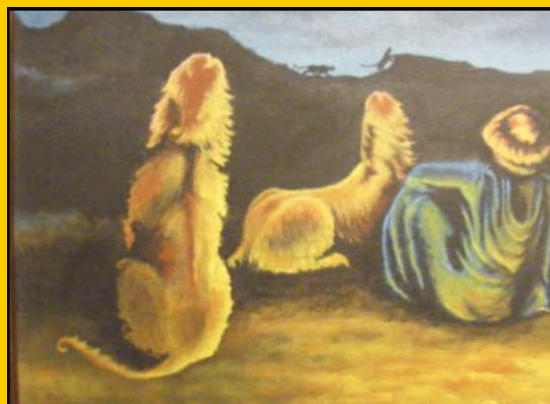


Policies and Procedures are currently being updated and will soon be posted on the AHCA website. For some time we have needed P&P updating and at long last these changes are being implemented by the current Board of Directors.

If you are a committee head, you should examine the P&P section of committees in order to assist the board with updating your committee duties.

**AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

9:00 AM
Tuesday, October 19, 2010
Martique Room
Red Lion Hotel



COLOR GENETICS

By GD Sinck



Dogs have two colors of pigment active in their bodies, black and red. The various shades and mixtures of these two pigments are controlled by the basic color genes and the modifiers acting upon those two pigments.

There are three basic colors in dogs, black, red, and black and tan. In order of dominance for Afghan

Hounds, is black at the top, red in the middle, and black and tan in the bottom position. This order of color inheritance is not the same in other breeds. This is the order for Afghan Hounds.

Arguments exist as to whether black and tan is a true color or just a pattern. Regardless of what it is, black and tan is inherited as a color in the series of genes controlling basic coat color.

Every other hue is an alteration of some kind, working to change the basic color, or patterning, of the hair. These altering factors are inherited independently from the basic color genes.

Brindle is one of these genes. It is dominant, resulting in random black stripes over the body of the dog. The amount of brindling can vary tremendously from hardly any to making the dog appear almost black. "Black" French Bulldogs are heavily brindled dogs. Frenchies must have some tan/red showing on their body. Black is a non-registerable color in that breed. Black Afghan Hounds can carry brindle but it is masked by the solid black color.

There is a series of genes controlling the extension of black pigment. The range of control is interesting as it results in self-masked creams in the most recessive expression to fully black masks or faces at the other end of the scale.

Then there is the albino series of genes which affects the quality of black pigment, preventing it from being fully expressed. The black pigment granules (manufacturing sites) are present in the hair follicles but cannot be expressed properly. The lack of expression is a breakdown in the metabolic process producing the pigment. The expression is limited and can result in many different shades of pigment. The presence of pigment granules in the hair, whether they are active or not, determines the difference between an albino animal and a big white spot. There are no pigment granules in a white spot. The granules never migrated into the tissue of the body affected by the white spot.

Also present are factors effecting the red pigment, the dilutions giving many shades of red, from dark to very light, to the color we call silver in the USA, known as fawn in most other countries.

There is a dominant graying factor working only upon black pigment. This often results in dogs with premature grey masks. Also, dogs born black, turning blue (grey) with age, have some form of this factor. Regardless of popular opinion, they are not blues. True blues are born blue.

Domino inheritance is not thoroughly understood. It is connected with self-mask creams and black and tans. All three colors are produced by Afghan Hounds who throw dominos. There are two types of dominos. The original Swedish, or Agouti, type was exemplified by Ch. Tanjores Domino and his descendants. The second type is an obvious extension of the black and tan pattern.

There are other gene mutations working on color but are not in the color gene series. The change in color or patterning is a secondary effect of the mutation. The most common in Afghan Hounds is the color called blue. This is a mutation often affecting many different tissues and interfering with proper bodily functions. The color is not a true color. When an Afghan Hound inherits the double recessive required for this, the air space inside the hair follicle is restricted. The black pigment cannot distribute evenly as in black dogs. The clumping of the black pigment in the narrowed air spaces causes the hair to look grey as light diffuses through the follicle.

Other non-color mutations working on pigment and its distribution are known. Merle, a color not in our breed, is common in other breeds. It is a hearing loss mutation with blue eyes and the merle color is a side effect to hearing.

There are certainly other mutated genes in the gene pool altering color. We just are not aware of them yet. I am sure as more DNA studies are done and in-depth knowledge of the genes is determined, these non-color factors will be identified.

In reference to sun burning in black dogs, it is inherited. Some dogs are naturally black and do not exhibit the red tint in their coat, called sunburn. Others do. I had a black bitch who was black as all get out, never showing any hint of sunburn. She produced both black and burnt offspring. If a dog has the sunburn factor, you can lock it up in the closet but it will still have the red cast to its coat.

Spotting is the result of pigment not migrating evenly or in adequate time. Pigment comes from the spinal cord during embryonic development. If the tissue farthest away from the spinal cord matures beyond the point where it can accept the pigment granules as they migrate, those areas of more mature tissue will be white. What we have in our breed is called Irish Spotting. Irish Spotting shows up at the more extreme points on the dog's anatomy, the feet, chest, and tail tip for the most part.

Injury can result in pigment not being produced also. In this case we know about it if our dog is injured such as a bite scar or other bodily injuries resulting in open cuts or punctures. Scar tissue apparently lacks pigment granules.

DOGS RULE

A dog is a blessing that some think is true...

The only thing better is if you have two!

So follow these rules when you have a dog to hold...

For they are worth more than silver or gold.

Keep plenty of food and water on hand...

And taking walks often is a very good plan.

Dogs love to nap frequently but they are often ready to run...

It's the way they were made, it's the way they have fun.

So enjoy your dog often giving them kind words of praise...

And they'll be your faithful friend all their live long days.

Anonymous



**The Next Topknot News Deadline is:
Friday, November 5, 2010**