

# Topknot News

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

Winter 2010



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by AHCA President,  
Brenda Brody

We had an exciting time for our recent National Specialty in CA under the excellent direction of Judy Bloom and Janet Riggs and the balance of the committee chairs. For our event, the only day with rain and cold was for the lure trial on the first day, but the dogs loved it. And from then on the weather was perfect. Again, we had representatives from all over the world who always add so much to our show.

The general membership meeting had some controversy. There is still misunderstanding regarding the Afghan Hound Club of America Rescue Charitable Trust. This is a separate entity from the AHCA and only shares part of the name. Each organization answers to its own board of directors and are very separate entities. At the June board meeting, motions were passed by the AHCA board to initiate the AHCA to begin its own rescue account again so that, at a future point in time, rescue would be under the control of the AHCA. Until then, the Trust will continue to use its quite substantial funds that were given to it from the AHCA, and, at the appropriate time, the AHCA will again have funds in place to have the monetary means to handle rescue. Currently all rescue is through the Trust and the AHCA has no say in it or how the money is dispersed. The board of the Trust answers only to itself. And the interaction of the rescue chair is with the Trust, not the AHCA. All her dealings are with the Trust.

There was much discussion on this topic and much misunderstanding. The AHCA board did not vote nor could it vote to dissolve the Trust since they are very separate organizations. Consequently, a motion was made at the general meeting to establish a committee to actually look into these ideas and make suggestions and to get further clarification. This committee consists of Connie Butherus, James Hicks and Betty Salmon. They will report back to the board and the membership.

Other exciting changes were also implemented. The membership passed a motion to initiate health testing requirements for entering future Breeders' Cups. In 2012, an extra cash award of \$1000 will be given to the breeder if the sire and dam of the winner is CHIC certified. And in 2013 and continuing, it will be required that all the sires and dams of nominated litters be CHIC certified. We desire to promote breeding healthy dogs and thankfully this motion passed.

And to promote membership into the club, the board voted to lower the requirement for activity within the breed from 7 years to 4 years. We encourage any and all who are interested in the workings of the AHCA to apply for membership since it is the only way to have any say in the AHCA business or events. So please encourage your friends to look online under membership and apply. Many suggestions were made from the Parent Club conference that Linda Shipley attended in August. We also hope to institute more changes to encourage more participation within our club.

The board also voted to send a health survey to all members for inclusion with your membership dues. Please copy the form for as many dogs as you have and return this so we can get a base of information on the health issues concerning our breed. We are also looking into an online health survey that would have real time results posted.



*Continued on Page 3...*



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

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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.)

#### 2010 AHCA Officers and Directors

President: Brenda Brody

First Vice President: Linda Shipley

Second Vice President: Abbe Shaw

Corresponding Sec'y: Donna Amos

Recording Secretary: Eileen Laudermitch

Treasurer: Linda Jackson

Board of Directors:

Dorma Sue Busby

Jody Gardner

Sandy Nelson

Debbie Petersen

Tony Saia

Helen Stein

AKC Delegate: Connie Butherus

#### Editor's Note:

This issue of Topknot News displays only a few of the many stamps featuring Afghan Hounds from around the world. Enjoy.

A special thanks to President, Brenda Brody who made all but two of the National conformation photos available for your viewing pleasure. Be sure to check out the Lure Coursing article and read about the memorial run. It was a wonderful teary-eyed feature of this year's Lure Coursing. Let's hope this becomes an annual event.

Thanks again this year to all of our fabulous committees who take the time to submit the material found within.

This is a busy time of year for all of us so enjoy yourselves and your Afghan Hounds. Sit by the fire with your furry big-footed companions by your side, and sip eggnog as you read Topknot News.

Seasons Greetings!

**Next TN Deadline is:  
March 26, 2011**

## 2010 Committee Chairpersons

**Agility:** Lynda Hicks *suniafghans@gmail.com*

**AHCA Rescue Charitable Trust:** JoAnne Buehler *tazihound@his.com*

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

**Awards:** Claudia Jakus *claudiajakus@comcast.net*

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

**Complaints:** Board of Directors

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**Inventory Control:** Sue Busby *barakiafs@peoplepc.com*

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**Junior Showmanship:** Jody Gardner *jmgafghan@aol.com*

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**Librarian:** Helen Stein *beaniesue@aol.com*

**Lure Coursing:** Max Ross *mrosshomestead@aol.com*

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

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

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

**National 2011:** Jody Gardner *jmgafghan@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 *jalft@netwurx.net*

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

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

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At the awards dinner, MC Steve Fisher made us all laugh with his remarks about the upcoming advertisements we can expect from some of our judges since that very day AKC instituted a new policy to allow judges to advertise and solicit assignments. He had fun with some individuals and their special kennel names too. On a special note: Sue Busby received the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award.

Our next club event will be the 2011 Breeders' Cup in Virginia Beach, VA on 11 March. Money has already begun to be raised for that event through the great ability of the Breeders' Cup Chair Jerry Bazar. Plan to be there to support the event and the club. The Wyndham Hotel is quickly filling so do not delay in getting your reservations made; call 757-428-7025 and ask for the Afghan Hound Club rate.

Jody Gardner has begun passing out "save the date reminder magnets" for the 2011 National in Wilmington, OH; 25-29 September. Name the event and win \$50 worth of apparel with the logo. Contact Jody at [jmgafghan@aol.com](mailto:jmgafghan@aol.com) to enter this contest by 31 January or to learn what other activities will be going on in September, or if you want to volunteer to help. The show will be at the Roberts Centre connected to the host Holiday Inn Hotel. It's not too soon to reserve your room there either; booking code is AHN.

Please if you have concerns, questions or comments, I am always available.

Brenda Brody  
President  
281-367-5323  
[gabrielafghanhounds@earthlink.net](mailto:gabrielafghanhounds@earthlink.net)

### CHRISTMAS RETURNS

Santa comes quietly long before dawn  
While shops are still busy and lights are still on  
While dinners are simmering and kitchens are warm  
And children count presents they'll open by morn.

He slips past the trees and the windows aglow  
Through the gate to the back yard as icy winds blow  
To find the pup that he brought last year chained up  
In the snow  
And kneeling he whispers,  
"Are you ready to go?"

There are too many stops like this one tonight  
Before the beginning of his regular flight  
He leaves not a note or a footprint in sight  
Just an unbuckled collar on a cold Christmas night.

*Winner of the Maxwell Award for excellence in Poetry in 1998 from the Dog Writers Association of America.*

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](mailto:dancingtree@trims.com)



## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Submitted by Barb Bornstein

Changes in P&Ps continue with the following highlights:

The requirement for membership into the AHCA has been reduced to four (4) years in the breed.

Rescue is to update their rescue guidelines.

A new 3" bronze medallion is to be designed to replace some of the 6" bronze medallions currently awarded at the National Specialty Show.

See the October Board Minutes for all changes and check the AHCA website for current updates.



## CRAZY DOG LAWS

Submitted by Marcia Morelli

How confusing can you make a barking ordinance?

A City Council in Australia may take the prize! They are pushing for a change to their local ordinance which would define excessive barking as no more than a total of 3 minutes in any 30 minute period. So, if you had 5 neighbors with barking dogs, half of every single day could be filled with barking and you would not be able to do anything about it.

If you want to register a formal complaint, providing you have actually taken the time to document the times and duration of each episode, there is an official form to be filled out and accompanied by a fee of \$55 (refundable if the complaint is proven).

Really, is anyone going to bother????! Earplugs would probably be easier – and cheaper.



## THE NEW AKC BREEDER OF MERIT PROGRAM

Dear Brenda Brody,

Last month, AKC's Registration Division distributed the first in a series of *AKC Clubs E-Packets*. Due to the overwhelmingly positive reception of the service, we are happy to offer the next edition of the e-packet for October 2010; and with it, provide information on an exciting new program for breeders.

Since its founding in 1884, the American Kennel Club has served all who are committed and dedicated not only to the sport of purebred-dogs but to all dogs. As AKC has grown and expanded, the reach and influence of core-exhibitor breeders has expanded as well. With those breeders in mind, AKC has created the **new Breeder of Merit program**. It proudly honors breeder/exhibitors' dedication and hard work as they continue to produce dogs that are healthy, capable, and beautiful. The foundation of today's AKC Breeder of Merit program has the power to influence, guide, and teach future breeders, exhibitors, and all purebred dog owners.

AKC is excited to welcome all breeders interested in the program who meet its requirements. To help you in providing your club members with information about the Breeder of Merit program, we include the following:

**A Microsoft PowerPoint presentation**, which explains why the program was implemented, the requirements breeders must meet to be accepted, and benefits that come with being a Breeder of Merit. It's fully-automated, so be sure to turn up the sound on your computer.

**Breeder of Merit Program application** to print and distribute to club members.

**6 Easy Ways to 100% Registration** - a printable information sheet to help breeders ensure their puppies get registered.

**Breeder of Merit booklet** that briefly explains the program and who to contact at AKC with inquiries.

**Full-page** and **half-page** ads that promote the Breeder of Merit program, which can be added to your club's newsletter.

We encourage you to distribute this information to your club members. We hope you are as excited about the new Breeder of Merit Program as we are. For more information, go to [akc.org/breederofmerit](http://akc.org/breederofmerit), or send an e-mail to [merit@akc.org](mailto:merit@akc.org).

Sincerely,

John Lyons  
Chief Operation Officer

David Roberts  
VP, Registration and  
Customer Service



## THE AHCA RESCUE CHARITABLE TRUST

Submitted by Chair, JoAnne Buehler

In 2005 the Afghan Hound Club of America Rescue Charitable Trust (AHCARCT) was established in order to accept some \$40,000 which had been generously bequeathed for the AHCA rescue effort from the Herman and Judy Fellton estate. Since then the interest earned from this \$40,000 has gone into the Rescue checking account. Per the directive of the Fellton estate, the initial bequest is invested.

The AHCA Board of Directors first discussed this bequest and its stipulation at their October 2004 meeting in St. Cloud, MN. The bequest's stipulation had been brought to the Board's attention prior to this meeting, and the Board had received the information necessary to initiate the formation of a 501C(3) not-for-profit charitable branch of the AHCA.

Attorney Ed Sledzik, who had experience with 501C(3) not-for-profits for other dog clubs in addition to tax work, was retained for this effort, which began after the October 2004 board meeting. 501C(3) status was granted to the AHCA Rescue Charitable Trust (AHCARCT) on October 25, 2005.

It was proposed per AHCA Board directive under the presidency of Duane Butherus in 2005, that Linda Jackson (then AHCA treasurer), would also act as treasurer for the AHCARCT and provide financial reports to the AHCA Board, the AHCARCT Board of Trustees, and the CPA at financial year-end. Linda also provides the same reports to the AHCA membership at the annual general membership meeting.

The Trust was established for tax purposes at Mr. Sledzik's recommendation, in Washington State. A Trustee residing in Washington State was needed, and Sandy Frei agreed to serve. Initially, AHCA Treasurer, Linda Jackson became a Trustee along with myself (JoAnne Buehler), who was responsible for establishing the Trust.

The AHCA Board of Directors, with Duane Butherus as President, agreed to the establishment of the AHCARCT with these Trustees at their February 11, 2006 Meeting. The AHCA Board of Directors later suggested that Harry Bennett be added to the Board of Trustees.

The original three Trustees (Sandy Frei, Linda Jackson and JoAnne Buehler) had their first meeting via conference call on February 27, 2006. Harry was added per the AHCA board's suggestion, and also Rita Figg, who has extensive rescue experience beyond the AHCA and is unaffiliated with any rescue group.

The Fellton bequest money was invested in a risk free CD that paid interest, and a checking account was also established. The details of this can be found in the various Treasurer's reports. The AHCA Rescue monies and the AHCARCT checking became

one account along the way to accommodate donors to the Art Auctions, etc. with tax write offs. This will end with the end of the current year.\* The AHCA Rescue will have its own account or be a portion of the AHCA account per the AHCA Treasurer and Board's decision. The core Trust money has been moved into a Money Market Account that allows up to 6 checks to be written each month without charge.

The AHCARCT Board of Trustees maintains complete control of the Trust and the Trust monies. The AHCA Board of Directors, or committees, must come to the Board of Trustees with any request for funds. The Board of Trustees has determined the Trust must stay in place per the Felltons' directive and as a means of receiving other gift monies from donors in the future, some of whom have contacted us to date.



The AHCA is not unique in forming this tax-exempt branch of the parent club. Of the 94 AKC Parent Clubs participating at the Parent Club Conference, 43 have some type of 501C(3) status with a couple of them in formation now.

Most Respectfully,  
JoAnne M. Buehler  
Chair, AHCARCT Board of Trustees

*Editor's Note: The AHCARCT Board of Trustees are:*

*Chair: JoAnne Buehler*

*Secretary: Rita Figg*

*Treasurer: Linda Jackson*

*Board of Trustees: Harry Bennett & Sandy Frei*

*\*This move has been put on hold by the current AHCA board while a three-member committee studies this.*



## WAYS AND MEANS

Submitted by Chair,  
Suzanne Eaton Duay

Unisex zip hooded jackets and six-pack coolers with the AHCA logo were sold at the National Specialty in Sacramento. Both items were available in a variety of colors -- pink, purple, blue, gray -- were popular and sold well. Very few remain, but there is a small supply of the jackets and coolers still available. These items can be purchased from Sue Busby; please see her report for sizes and colors still available. Prices are \$30.00 for the jackets and \$10.00 for coolers.

# AHCA NATIONAL INVENTORY FOR SALE

Submitted by Inventory Chair, Sue Busby



## PARENT CLUB LOGO ITEMS

We now have the PC lapel pins in 14kt gold plated, in a tie tac or safety pin closure. This was done years ago in 14kt gold. We have some new items as well this year. If you were at this year's National you saw the Hoodie full zip sweatshirt and the small soft-sided coolers. These coolers are great for holding ringside cool down towels or for use as a water bowl.

## PARENT CLUB LOGO ITEMS WITH GOLD THREADS

FLEECE BLANKETS	\$15.00
3 Navy, 7 Forest Green	
LAPTOP TOTE BAGS	\$20.00
20 Black	
DUFFLE BAGS	\$25.00
8 Navy, 9 Red, 2 Black	

## AHCA LOGO IN SILVER THREADS

FLEECE SCARVES	\$10.00
5 Blue, 5 Red, 2 Gray	
LUGGAGE TAGS	\$ 5.00
Red, Blue & Gray	
AHCA LAPEL PIN, 14 KT GOLD PLATED	\$15.00
Tie Tac or Safety Pin	

## NEW ITEMS

6 PAK COOLERS	\$10.00
Colors: Pink, Blue & Gray	
HOODIE FULL ZIP SWEATSHIRTS	\$30.00
Colors: Pink, Blue & Gray	

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE POSTAGE

TO ORDER CONTACT SUE BUSBY: [barakiafs@peoplepc.com](mailto:barakiafs@peoplepc.com)

PayPal/Visa/MC accepted



**2008 NATIONAL INVENTORY**

(Prices do not include postage)

**CHARCOAL COLOR FLEECE SLEEVELESS FULL ZIP**  
**\$10.00**

2 - XL, 1 - 2X, 2 - 3X

- DVDs 1 - CONFORMATION SET \$50.00**
- DVDs 3 - PERFORMANCE EVENTS \$15.00**
- DVDs 5 - LURE COURSING \$ 5.00**
- "MEMORIES CATALOG" \$ 5.00**

(A lot of history in this show catalog, all National Specialty Show winners are featured from 1940 to 2007)

**TOP 20 INVITATIONAL**

**CATALOG & DVD SET COST \$10.00**



**2009 NATIONAL INVENTORY**

(Prices do not include postage)

For those of you who missed the 2009 National, you can still purchase some of the beautiful logo wares.

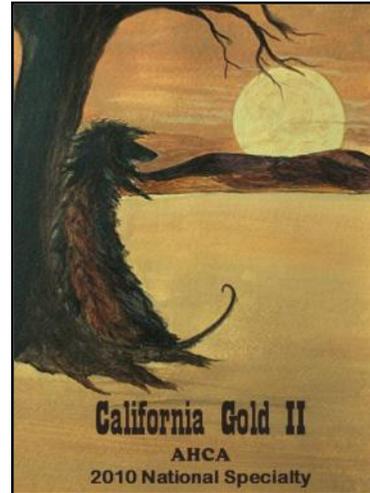
- POSTERS 18 X 22 \$ 5.00**
- T- SHIRTS \$ 5.00**  
 BLACK - 3 Small, 21 Medium, 4 Large, 10 Extra Large  
 PURPLE - 8 Extra Large
- SWEATSHIRTS \$15.00**  
 GRAY - 7 Small, 8 Medium, 21 Large, 5 2X, 1 3X  
 PURPLE - 6 Small, 13 Large, 29 X-Large, 6 - 2X
- 1/4 ZIP SUEDE SHIRT \$20.00**  
 YELLOW - 2 2X  
 BLACK - 3 Medium, 2 Large, 8 Extra Large, 2 2X
- 2009 CATALOGS (Includes Postage) \$ 5.00**

**TO ORDER CONTACT SUE BUSBY:**  
**barakiafs@peoplepc.com**

*PAYPAL/VISA/MC ACCEPTED*

**2010 NATIONAL INVENTORY**

(Prices do not include postage)



For those who attended this year's National and purchased the beautiful logo shirts and sweatshirts, "Thank you." If you missed out, you can still order t-shirts, sweatshirts, posters, tote bags & ¼ zip shirts.

Don't forget Christmas is coming and these would make wonderful Christmas presents!

- POSTERS 18 X 22 \$20.00**
- SWEATSHIRTS \$25.00**  
 Assorted Sizes in Black & Brown
- T-SHIRTS \$15.00**  
 Assorted Sizes in Green, Brown & Chocolate
- 1/4 ZIP SPORT-TEK JACKET \$40.00**  
 Assorted Sizes in Brown
- POLO SHIRTS \$35.00**  
 Assorted Sizes in Black
- LOGO CANVAS TOTE BAGS \$25.00**

**TO ORDER CONTACT SUE BUSBY:**  
**barakiafs@peoplepc.com**

*PAYPAL/VISA/MC ACCEPTED*



## AHCA HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by  
Edna (Midge) Martin, Chair  
Sandy Frei, Co-Chair



## AHCA 2009 STATISTICS

Submitted by Statistics  
Chair, Joann Alft

The National Specialty is now history, and we move on to the next one, in Ohio.

There have been many accomplishments this year that will be good for our breed. These are steps forward for the AHCA.

We have aided in sponsoring two grants for the Canine Health Foundation that are now fully funded. Both of these are cancer studies, one for research on hemangiosarcoma - blood, and the other is research on osteosarcoma - bone. Cancer is the number one killer of dogs, and these two cancers in particular have taken many of our beloved hounds.

We have finally devised and circulated a new, user-friendly Health Survey that will, hopefully, give us current information about the state of health in the Afghan Hound. The surveys were sent with the dues notices. PLEASE send them back quickly, so we can tabulate the information.

Every year the Canine Health Foundation requests information about the top 5 health concerns in the breed. Up until now, we have only guessed...now, I hope we will have better data to send.

We are always looking for new avenues to pursue in order to keep you better informed about the state of health for Afghan Hounds in particular, and dogs in general. I have recently received information about other cancer studies that are available to learn about and support, i.e., the Canine Hereditary Cancer Consortium at the Van Andel Research Institute in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Roe Froman, DVM is the Research Chair. They welcome blood and tumor samples of affected dogs. They are using mixed breed as well as purebred dogs.

All of this is useful to us in our pursuit of breeding healthy dogs. Thank you for allowing me to serve you in this capacity. I love it and hope to be an even better steward of your hounds' health in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Midge



### TOP PRODUCING SIRE

**CH Elan Sebring The Matrix** (11 Champions)  
Owners: Rachel & Pete Irvin, Jerry Klein, Lex Robertson  
Breeders: Rachel Irvin, Jerry Klein, Ken Tippie, Lex Robertson

### TOP PRODUCING DAM

**CH Winsong Jakar Angel of Truth** (6 Champions)  
Owners: Dr. David & Amy Donnell  
Breeders: Nikki & Jody Gardner

### TOP WINNING DOG IN BREED COMPETITION

**CH Genesis Silverado**  
Owner: John Shaw  
Breeders: Lou Guerrero, Hank Nave & L. Schanzle

### TOP WINNING BITCH IN BREED COMPETITION

**CH Wynsyr China Doll**  
Owners: D. Pfeil, W. Pfeffer, D. Rogers & J. Rogers  
Breeders: D. Scott Pfeil & William Pfeffer

### TOP JUNIOR HANDLER

**Kateland Koch**  
1238 Neale Ln  
Loveland, Ohio 45140-9423

### TOP AKC LURE COURSING DOG

**FC Allure's Infinity, MC LCX**  
Owners: Andrew Coates & Todd & Stephani Norris  
Breeders: Todd & Stephani Norris & Judy Bloom

### TOP ASFA LURE COURSING DOG

**Dozer - Cameo's The Ghost of Summer, FCh JC**  
Owners: J & S Anthony & C. Sullivan  
Breeders: Connie Sullivan & Deann Britton

### HIGHEST POINT TOTAL IN OBEDIENCE

**CH Criston Moon Shadow, CD**  
Owners: Jan & Rick Chryst & Christine Pinkston  
Breeders: Laura Malden & Linda Shipley

### TOP AGILITY DOG

**CH MACH Stormhill's Red Zinger, JC, MXF**  
Owners: Robin Cohen, Robin Kletke & Sandy Frei  
Breeders: Mary Offerman, Terri Vanderzee & Stormhill Kennel



## 2011 BREEDERS' CUP

Submitted by Chair, Jerry Bazar

2011 Breeders' Cup Judge is Jym Webb



## AHCA LIBRARY REPORT

Submitted by AHCA Librarian,  
Helen Stein



Although the 2011 Breeders' Cup is still a long way off, work has already begun. "BRING IT TO THE BEACH" has been selected as the theme, since it will be held at the Wyndham Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach on March 11, followed by two Tidewater Afghan Hound Club Specialties held at the same venue March 12th & 13th.

The Breeders' Cup & Tidewater Afghan Hound Club each have four sponsors: Animal House Professional Grooming Products, Magical Touch Professional Grooming Products, The Afghan Hound Review, and Hawaiian Tropic Sun Care. These sponsors will all be supporting the party after the Breeders' Cup, along with many of the Afghan Hound Regional Clubs and will provide the Breeders' Cup and Tidewater AHC with giveaways and drawings for free items.

Entries are now open as are litter nominations for the Breeders' Cup. Send your entry in now to Sue Busby, Show Secretary. Tidewater AHC will have their premium available in January, 2011.

By the time you read this, our first Breeders' Cup Raffle/Trophy Donation will have been completed and someone will be the lucky winner of a \$500.00 VISA gift card!! I hope you did not miss out on this super raffle.

If you did, you still have a chance to win one of two prizes in the next Breeders' Cup raffle that will begin in November - for a chance to win one of two prizes. First prize will be an Apple iPad with 16 GB, Wi-Fi, an Apple Carrying Case, and an extended warranty. Second place winner will receive \$200.00 worth of products from Animal House and Magical Touch Professional Grooming Products. These prizes will be drawn at the Breeders' Cup before Best in Breeders' Cup is chosen on March 11, 2011.

These are only some of the things that will be going on, and the entire Show Committee and I are working very hard to make the Breeders' Cup 2011 one of the most unforgettable experiences you will ever have at a dog show. So, "BRING IT TO THE BEACH" and have a ball in Virginia Beach!!

It was great to see so many of you at the National Specialty in Sacramento! The Library table was open for only a few hours, but we had some new items on display, including a set of the "Impact" books by Inge James (a new acquisition to the Library). Although I had slide shows of past specialty winners, the projector couldn't compete with the beautiful sunny days -- so only the scrapbooks and other books were visible to passersby. Many of our beautiful old photographs are fading, and I learned very quickly (thanks to Ken Amos!) to get them out of the sun!

Last call! Regional clubs -- I'm in the process of unpacking regional club specialty catalogs from years past. There are not many catalogs for some clubs, but if you want to have these old copies I need to know by January 1. The Secretary or President of a regional club should contact me to let me know if you want them, and where to send them. The cost to the regional club will be only for postage.

After January 1, catalogs will be disposed of.

Does your regional club need ideas for a program? We have many videos to rent - for a current list please contact me and I'll let you know what is available. Prices are reasonable - usually \$10 plus return postage - and a club may keep items for up to 6 weeks. Many of these are currently in VHS format, but I'm converting them to DVD. Some, such as *Dogsteps* or *Canine Cineradiography* are on DVD format and are suitable length for club meetings. Recent National Specialty shows are DVD format as well. Another DVD, *Really Reliable Recall*, would make a fun program even for those who aren't Obedience enthusiasts - and as a bonus it features Afghan Hounds! Thanks to Bonnie Perego for donating that program. Another fun addition was "*Intelligent Afghan Hounds*" - donated by Sharon Ferraro. Sharon very graciously donated a copy for EACH regional club, and more copies can be ordered by following this link:

<http://www.aquaafghans.com/Videos.asp>

Many thanks to all who have donated photos, videos, memorabilia or who have included a donation with your dues.

Hope you all have a happy and healthy holiday season. I look forward to seeing you all in 2011.

Helen Stein  
[BeanieSue@aol.com](mailto:BeanieSue@aol.com)  
760-564-8398

Thanks much for the Life Membership Award at the Annual dinner this year. It has been a pleasure working with the Parent Club over the years and an honor to have judged the National on several occasions.

Bob Stein



## REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW INFORMATION

Submitted by Regional Club Chair, Bob Brown

CLUB / SHOW SECRETARY	SHOW DATE / SHOW LOCATION	REGULAR CLASS JUDGE/ JUNIORS /SWEEPS
The Southern Arizona Afghan Hound Association Charlotte Bender	11/19/2010 Pima County Fairgrounds Tucson, AZ	Mrs. Michele L. Billings – Regular Classes Judy Banker - 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 & Jrs. Jan Swayze Curry - Sweepstakes
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc Jan Lucree	11/21/2010 Holiday Inn Select 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA	Mrs. Edith T. Hanson – Regular Classes Mr. Brian Lenobel - Sweepstakes
Colonial Afghan Hound Club MB-F	12/03/2010 Royal Plaza Trade & Conference Ctr Fitchburg, MA	Dr. Barry Deitch – Regular Classes Betsy Treharne - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Houston	No show in 2010	
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland Onofrio	1/21/2011 Portland Metro Expo Center Portland, OR	Patricia H. Gilbert – Regular Classes & Jrs. Robert E. Hutton - Sweepstakes
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club Amy Mero	2/12/2011 Paws 'N Effect, LLC Canine Training Center 36 Corporate Ridge Hamden, CT	Jaime Ganoza – Regular Classes Lucia Brown – Sweepstakes
The Afghan Hound Association of Long Island Dr. Barry Deitch	2/13/2011 Paws 'N Effect, LLC Canine Training Center 36 Corporate Ridge Hamden, CT	Gene Vaccaro – Regular Classes Jerry Bazar – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Milwaukee Inc. Darlyn Pfeiffer	3/4/2011 Wisconsin State Fair Park 8100 W. Greenfield Ave. Milwaukee, WI	Le Hedstrom – Regular Classes Sandy Nelson – Sweepstakes
Tidewater Afghan Hound Club Tracee Elwess	3/12/2011 Wyndham Oceanfront Hotel 5700 Atlantic Avenue Virginia Beach, VA	Bob Stein – Regular Classes Dr. Caroline Coile - Sweepstakes

**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.**

Tidewater Afghan Hound Club Tracee Elwess	3/13/2011 Wyndham Oceanfront Hotel 5700 Atlantic Avenue Virginia Beach, VA	Betty Stites – Regular Classes Ms. Linda Jackson - Sweepstakes
The Southern Arizona Afghan Hound Association Arlene Blouch	3/18/2011 Windermere Hotel 5750 East Main St. Mesa, AZ	Pamela Bruce – Regular Classes Rose Mary Bridges Zednick - Sweepstakes
The Potomac Afghan Hound Club Inc. Jim Rau Dog Shows	3/19/2011 The Fairgrounds York, PA	Loraine Gyenge – Regular Classes Claudia Orlandi - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Phoenix Colleen Ayling	3/19/2011 Windermere Hotel 5750 East Main St. Mesa, AZ	Diane K. Burvee – Regular Classes Rita Mather - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Phoenix Colleen Ayling	3/20/2011 Windermere Hotel 5750 East Main St. Mesa, AZ	Patricia Franklin – Regular Classes Theresa Hodge - Sweepstakes
Richmond Afghan Hound Club Nancy Leuba	4/2/2011 The Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Ed. Doswell, VA 23047	Paul Gindlesperger – Regular Classes Paul Gindlesperger – Jr. Showmanship Teri Tevlin - Sweepstakes
Richmond Afghan Hound Club Nancy Leuba	4/3/2011 The Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Ed. Doswell, VA 23047	Lee Gindlesperger – Regular Classes Lee Gindlesperger – Jr. Showmanship Eileen Laudermilch - Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of California, Inc. Blue Ribbon Dog Shows	4/15/2011 Oak Canyon Park 5305 Santiago Cyn Rd. Silverado, CA 92676	Thornton Keith – Regular Classes Pamela Unterseh – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey Judy Brandenburg	5/6/2011 Mercer County Park Old Trenton & South Post Roads West Windsor, NJ 08561	Ramon Podesta – Regular Classes Kelly Fitch – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of St. Louis Jan Henry	6/4/2011 Purina Farms Gray Summit, MO	Eugene Blake – Regular Classes Christine Pinkston – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago, Inc Caroline Lewis	6/10/2011 Pilcher Park Rte. 30 & Gougar Road Joliet, IL	Sandra Frei – Regular Classes Darlyn Pfeiffer – Sweepstakes
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club Ms. Dale Boyd	6/17/2011 Knights Inn Newburgh, NY	Stephen Fisher – Regular Classes Kazunari Shintaku – Sweepstakes Sulie Greendale-Paveza - Jr. Showmanship
The Afghan Hound Association of Long Island Dr. Barry Deitch	6/18/2011 Knights Inn Newburgh, NY	Jacqueline Quiros-Kubat – Regular Classes Jesus Llano – Sweepstakes Dr. Barry Deitch - Jr. Showmanship
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland Pending	7/8/2011 Southwest Wash Fairgrounds Centralia, WA	Pending – Regular Classes Pending – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship

**It came to me that every time I lose a dog they take a piece of my heart with them. And every new dog who comes into my life gifts me with a piece of their heart. If I live long enough, all the components of my heart will be dog, and I will become as generous and loving as they are. *Unknown***



## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS, PART III

Submitted by Legislative Chair, Betty Salmon

Hi Everyone:

Well, we've finally reached the third and last installment of the "How to Communicate with Your Legislators" series. It's time to talk about the etiquette of letter writing.

You should always **address** your letter to "**The Honorable insert name**," whether writing to a Senator or Representative at both the State and Federal levels. So that would mean your letter would start out with an address such as:

*The Honorable Pat Tiberi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515*

Then, in the **salutation**, use the legislator's title:

"Dear **Senator** insert name"

"Dear **Congressman** or **Dear Congresswoman** insert name"

As mentioned before, you will want to keep your letter short and limit it to one topic. Be concise. If you are writing about pending anti-breeder legislation, don't bring up the corresponding push for breed-specific laws or whether you support crop and dock restrictions. And refer to the pending legislation by its number and working title: *I am writing you about SB95, the proposed "puppy mill" bill.*

Consider using bullet points to support the position you are urging him/her to take.

Doing so will give each point the emphasis it deserves, and will keep your letter succinct.

If you are a constituent, say so. You represent (and influence) votes, jobs and taxes in their district. If you are not a constituent, mention why listening to you is good for their district: *I, and 535 other exhibitors, spend an average of three weekends a year attending dog shows in your district; staying at motels and spending money on goods and services. HB110 would adversely affect these shows and ....*

Be polite, but show that your position is strongly held and supported by fact.

Whenever possible, write an actual letter. Some legislators don't pay much attention to e-mails and may only look at a tally sheet that their staff keeps showing the ratio of pro and con calls/e-mails received on a particular issue. A letter has a better chance of actually being read. And, if you don't have a computer or typewriter, then hand write it! A Representative from Missouri once told me he always reads the hand-written letters and notes

first, as he knows someone really wrote it rather than copying a form letter.

So, we've reached the end of this series. Please call, visit, or write your legislator if an issue is pending that affects you as a dog owner or breeder. We all need to get involved and let them know the HSUS and PETA are not representing us nor looking out for our best interests. You can do it!



## PURINA PARENT CLUB PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Submitted by PPCPP  
Coordinator, Helen Stein

If you feed Purina, do you know about the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program? PPCPP is an alliance between Purina and National Parent Breed Clubs to help promote canine health and wellbeing.

The PPCPP Program helps AHCA earn funds for canine health studies, education and/or rescue through the participation of our members in Purina Pro Club. If you do feed Purina, please enroll in the PPCPP by calling toll free, 1-877-PRO-CLUB, or visit the website at [www.purinaproclub.com](http://www.purinaproclub.com).

When Pro Club® members, who are also members of the National Parent Breed Club or an affiliate club, declare their participation in the PPCPP and participate in the weight circle redemption program, the AHCA will earn an incremental 10% of the value of all points redeemed with the qualifying weight circles. This won't take away from the benefits you receive due to your membership in PPCPP. If you sign up, be sure to "declare" participation on behalf of AHCA. Thanks to the many members who don't belong to PPCPP, but have sent their weight circles to me to submit on behalf of AHCA.

On an annual basis, the total earnings per club will be donated to the Afghan Hound Club of America. These donations will be split with a minimum of 50% of the funds accrued going directly to the Canine Health Foundation through the Donor Advised Funds. The remaining 50% can be used by the AHCA for additional health research, rescue and/or education programs.

Earlier this year, AHCA received a check from Purina for \$737.31 for our members' participation in 2009. For further info, send me an email: [BeanieSue@aol.com](mailto:BeanieSue@aol.com).



## WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE, WHO NEEDS ENEMIES (or, on Mandatory Spay-Neuter Laws)

Submitted by Legislative Chair, Betty Salmon

*Permission has been granted to reprint this article from FixAustin.org.*

The FixAustin.Org Blog

Blogging for Austin's Homeless Pets Since August 2007  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2010

With Friends Like These, Who Needs Enemies (or, on Mandatory Spay-Neuter Laws)

Why animal advocates should never, ever, advocate for mandatory spay-neuter laws: They do not work, they have never worked, they increase shelter killing, and they divert limited funding away from programs that actually do work to decrease shelter intake and increase lives saved.

This is not to say that additional spay/neuter isn't needed in most communities. It is. Rather, it is to say that passing mandatory spay/neuter ordinances isn't an effective way to achieve greater spay/neuter compliance rates. If you want to learn more about how to effectively decrease shelter intake and increase live outcomes, read the No Kill Equation here:

<http://www.nokilladvocacycenter.org/nokillequation.html>

If you want to learn why mandatory spay/neuter laws are absolutely not the answer, read on.

Mandatory spay-neuter ordinances do not work. The ASPCA did an extensive study on mandatory spay-neuter laws and concluded that they have failed to decrease shelter intake. According to the ASPCA, there is no "credible evidence demonstrating a statistically significant enhancement in the reduction of shelter intake or euthanasia as a result of the implementation of a mandatory spay-neuter law." <http://www.aspc.org/about-us/policy-positions/mandatory-spay-neuter-laws.html>

Mandatory spay-neuter ordinances target the wrong population. The largest category of animals entering the shelter are feral and community cats and their kittens. These are unowned or "loosely" owned animals of whom no person will claim ownership. As a result, instead of targeting the population that needs spay-neuter (community cats), the ordinances target the population that largely is already spaying and neutering their animals to the tune of 80 or 85% (pet owners). Money is virtually thrown out the window by targeting pet owners rather than the unowned animals contributing most to shelter intake. The non-profit group Alley Cat Allies has a long article explaining this phenomenon. As Alley Cat Allies explains, "Mandatory spay/neuter laws do nothing to address the real issue[s]. Instead, these laws divert public resources away from beneficial programs and into administering an unenforceable law." <http://www.alleycat.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=794>

Mandatory spay-neuter is extremely expensive. Enforcing the ordinance would require additional Animal Control officers and additional trucks and equipment. Just one employee and one

truck would cost more than \$100,000 in year one and more than \$50,000 each additional year. Two would cost at least \$200,000 to start. That money would come out of programs that work to save lives, like low-cost and free spay-neuter programs, Trap-Neuter-and-Release programs, foster programs for baby kittens, as well as adoption programs. In Los Angeles, mandatory spay-neuter required millions of dollars worth of additional funding at the cost of proven and workable solutions to shelter killing.

Mandatory spay-neuter laws kill more animals than they save. In Los Angeles, intake and shelter killing increased 30% after the City began enforcing its new mandatory spay-neuter program. In Kansas City, mandatory spay-neuter has been enforced by sweeps of poor neighborhoods, where healthy and loved dogs are handed over to Animal Control due to lack of funds for spay-neuter. Some cities (like Fort Worth, Texas) have abandoned their mandatory spay-neuter ordinances because the ordinances did not work.

Mandatory spay-neuter laws have negative and dangerous side effects. Cities such as Fort Worth, Texas, have experienced a decline in rabies vaccinations following implementation of mandatory spay/neuter ordinances. As a result, the public has become more at risk of rabies due to implementation of the ordinances. In addition, nearly every city to pass a mandatory spay-neuter ordinance has experienced a significant decrease in pet registrations, meaning that fewer pets who arrive at shelters are able to be reunited with their owners.

Mandatory spay-neuter laws unfairly target the poor. 90% or more of pet owners with the financial means to do so already spay or neuter their pets. The largest category of pet owners who haven't done so simply cannot afford to do so. For this group, cost - not unwillingness - is the primary obstacle to spay/neuter. As a result, Animal Control in Kansas City, for example, has done "sweeps" through poor neighborhoods picking up animals and killing them at Animal Control.

Mandatory spay-neuter laws promote backyard breeding and possibly even puppy mills. When Animal Control sweeps through a neighborhood and either seizes or, by "owner surrender" takes animals that families cannot afford to have spayed or neutered, families who lost their animals to the Animal Control authorities will replace it with another, feeding the backyard breeding industry and possibly even puppy mills.

Every major animal-welfare group who has studied the effects of mandatory spay-neuter laws is against them. The ASPCA is against them. So is Alley Cat Allies, the No Kill Advocacy Center, the American Veterinary Medical Association, and Best Friends Animal Society. We're not generally a group that defers to authority (and we're proud of it!), but the consensus against mandatory spay-neuter laws - even among groups that rarely agree - is highly compelling.



## AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT

Submitted by **Connie Butherus**,  
AHCA Delegate to the AKC

The Quarterly Delegate sessions were held September 13 and 14 at the Newark Airport Sheraton Hotel. This site has become the usual New York venue as it is much less expensive than comparable hotels in NYC. As so many delegates do not have their expenses covered by their clubs, it is a popular selection. Not posh but quite workable. As delegates are selected by their clubs to conduct business, not sightsee, it facilitates sticking to the job at hand.

The Parent Club Committee agenda was full as usual and was well attended - also as usual. The business included:

- Report on the August Parent Club Conference held in North Carolina (AHCA represented by Linda Shipley). Great speakers and content!
  - Code of Ethics project completed and results are available with supporting documents submitted to the AKC. I worked on this project and reported the results at the meeting.
  - 104 Parent Clubs responded.
  - Code of Ethics Guidelines developed and available.
  - Update on Meet the Breeds events at Long Beach, CA (December 4th & 5th) and the Javits Center, NYC (October 16th & 17th).
  - 2010 Invitational Show premium list will be on line only - no mailing.
  - New AKC titles of record available in monthly report. Clubs can use these to recruit new members, but only 13% of clubs use it currently.
  - Efforts to elevate the status of breeders in the fancy have resulted in the new Breeder of Merit program. The requirement and benefits can be reviewed at [txy@akc.org](mailto:txy@akc.org) (Tina Yuhl at 919-816-3932). This program is at **NO** (zero-none) cost to the breeders.
  - Group realignment is again alive and well. The Committee has been reconstituted. More to follow - to be sure.
- New "event enhancements" now in the works. These may include a reserve BIS, expanded number of group placements, a 4-6 month puppy class (no Ch. Points can be earned) and an owner-handler competition. No specifics were available as yet.

The balance of the day was spent at Parent Club Conference meeting to evaluate the event, the Delegate Caucus and the Coordinating Committee. Nothing new as the major items had been addressed at the Parent Club Committee Meeting.

The Delegate Forum began early on Tuesday the 14th. The presentation was "Responsible Pet Ownership - the Calgary Model of Animal Control" presented by Bill Bruce, Director of Animal and Bylaw Services, Calgary, Canada. This is a different model of delivering animal services using partnerships, education and enforcement (only when necessary) to deliver a program. Results stated were:

- Very low aggression rates
- High return to owner rates
- Low euthanasia
- Self funded - no tax dollars

Following the Forum we were in regular session and got down to the business to be addressed.

First to be accomplished was the vote for composition of the various Delegate Committees. The Parent Club Committee had 11 delegates running for four positions (3-year terms). I was lucky enough to be re-elected and smiled the rest of the day!

Reports were then heard. First chair, Ron Menaker, reviewed the accomplishments of the year. With over 5,000 AKC Affiliated Clubs, the AKC is planning enhancements to increase the participation and recognize breeders. The planning is ongoing and has resulted in such programs as the Breeder of Merit (see above) and continuing improvement(s) to the annual AKC show in December (it will be televised this year on ABC TV).

President Dennis Sprung followed and began by congratulating all involved with putting on the Parent Club Conference (another smile). He then listed many significant accomplishments to date. Examples are:

- The Humane Fund awarded grants (up to \$1,000.00) to 10 Parent Club Rescue groups, 3 grants to women's shelters that accept pets that accompany their humans in need of protection to the shelters.
- A \$5,000 grant to the Canine Health Foundation in support of research on seeds that penetrate tissue (eg., field dogs) and cause significant damage.
- A Wall of Fame at the New York site.

Jim Stevens, CFO, had the usual good news/bad news report:

- The anemic economy has hit all areas of the business, yet AKC investments earned a modest amount so far
- Registrations remain a toothache as they decline and impact all related areas - e.g., credit cards, licensing, publications etc.
- Winner's Gallery is showing a profit
- Expenses are down \$1.6 Million year to date - but there is still a deficit.

The major vote taken was to eliminate term limits for the Board. Currently Board members are limited to two consecutive terms of 4 years each (8 years total). After a 1 year hiatus they can run again and hope to be reelected. Some have succeeded - others have not. As this was an amendment, it required a 2/3 affirmative vote. Result: 151 in favor of eliminating term limits and 220 in favor of maintaining term limits. The proposal failed. It has now been proposed that the hiatus be expanded to a full 4-year term. I will keep you posted.

A proposed amendment which would allow Superintendents and Show Secretaries to schedule after lunch judging assignments without dividing them into hourly periods unless requested otherwise by Show Chairmen. This caused much discussion and the general drift being it was not an exhibitor-friendly move - sort of "if it's not broken don't fix it" assessment. Vote is scheduled for December.

Alan Kalter, AKC Board Member and former marketing tycoon/expert, outlined via PowerPoint (sort of high class show and tell) the various programs, projects and major accomplishments the AKC has implemented on our behalf. He stressed "We are the AKC" (that means you and me) and the motto "we are more than champion dogs, we are the dogs' champions." To list but a few AKC funded items:

- Legislative Department - protects the rights of dog owners
- Companion Animal Recovery
- Canine Health Foundation
- Publications
- Achievement Awards
- Veterinary Outreach - \$1,000,000 in scholarships
- Junior Showmanship Scholarships - \$500,000 awarded
- Disaster Relief Program - floods, Katrina rescue
- Canine Ambassador Program - educational content for school children
- Responsible Dog Ownership Day
- Canine Good Citizen Program

All of these wonderful items cost bucks - real cash bucks. Expenses have been cut to the bone, next may require amputation.

Our salvation is for the fancy (us) to insure that our dogs - all of our dogs - are registered. We were told that fifty (50) percent of puppies produced by the fancy are not AKC registered. It is estimated that an additional 150,000 puppies could be registered if the breeders in the sport registered all of the puppies they produce. That is real money! The increase in registrations also impacts other significant areas such as legislative clout.

Next Meeting - December 6th & 7th in Long Beach CA.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Butherus  
AKC Delegate to the AKC





## GIVING BACK MENTOR PROGRAM

Submitted by Chair, Bobbi Keller

Hi Folks,

My name is Keith Stevens and I am the proud owner of Lucee. I don't know you, but Angie Barrett (AHR Oregon) said I should write you folks and let you know how Lucee was doing.

I got Lucee in January. I never ever in my life thought I would own an Afghan Hound. After all I'm a Springer Spaniel guy, but my wife had Afghan Hounds and Lucee came into rescue about the time I was going to start looking for a pup. What a great personality! She won me over fast. I asked Lisa what she thought. She reminded me that it was me that put the limit of three hounds on this house. She also reminded me that we had plenty of couch space for another Afghan Hound. When I picked Lucee up, Angie had the idea that Lucee would make a good lure coursing dog. After all Angie and Mike Barrett have two national champion lure coursers, they should know. So I set my sights on teaching her to race.

Our first practice did not go so well. I let Lucee watch the other dogs course and she seemed excited about trying it. It was now her turn. A lady helped me by releasing her so I could be the catcher. The lure took off, Karen released her, the lure took off one way and Lucee took off another. Along with being quite embarrassed, I became very concerned if I would even be able to catch her. No problem, she came right back to me. Lucee knew she was supposed to run but now we had to teach her to chase the lure. The lure operator sent her back with Karen and put a squeaky toy on the lure and we tried it again. The light bulb came on and Lucee never looked back.

We went to many practices and the good folks at Chintmini Kennel Club helped us tremendously. We were now ready to try to get qualified and race in lure trials.

Lucee and I went to trials in May and although she did do the first half of her JC very well, she failed her QC because she played with the boy dog too much (she loves to play). We did not get to run in the trials which was OK. We were having fun at practices, and as long as she was having fun that is all that mattered.

We practiced more and went to the August trials last weekend. She had matured a little and practiced a lot. Lucee passed her QC beautifully, better than I expected. It looked like she finally got it.

Now came her first run in the trials. We lined up. I heard the "tally ho," and I let Lucee go. WOW - what a sight to see! She took off and never looked back. She led the whole way, she

coursed beautifully and attacked at the end. Her second run, against even better competition was as good or better. That sealed it. Lucee won her first trials and got a 5 point major, although I still don't understand the points stuff yet. Sunday was a repeat of Saturday. She won easily, and got another 5 point major. What a weekend, we both had a blast.

The best part of Lucee's running is she always comes into the lure with a big smile on her face. She loves it, she loves the other dogs, she loves the people, but most of all she loves me. She is a great dog. She is lying next to me as we speak.

Angie deserves most of the credit, not only for getting Lucee for me, but for getting us into lure coursing. I hope I did not bore you folks. Lucee is very special to me. I am looking forward to the next 12 or 14 years.

Sincerely  
Keith and Lucee

### **The following was submitted by Suzanne Eaton Duay:**

A lady from the Baltimore area contacted me by email regarding Chylothorax being diagnosed in her Mastiff. Since I had a young Afghan Hound bitch who passed away from the disease a few years ago, I was able to offer her some firsthand information, but little encouragement. I told her about the clinical trial undertaken by Dr. McAnulty at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and the treatment protocols recommended there. Unfortunately, her boy succumbed less than two weeks after diagnosis before surgery could be performed. It was very sad for her and her family.

Meanwhile, newcomer Jared Garner is continuing to learn and practice his show skills and expects to be in the ring at the Deland, Florida shows in late September. Wish him luck!

### **The following was submitted by Juli Szymanski:**

Mentor: is a Noun

Definition: A person who advises

Synonyms: advisor, coach, counselor, guide, instructor, trainer or tutor.

Most of us should know this definition when we volunteer to be a mentor. Most of us who are members of the AHCA are mentors in our own way, whether it be mentoring for the breed, mentoring for new puppy owners when they purchase from you or just plain walking down the street, when people ask you "what kind of dog is that," you are mentoring and educating.

In our role as mentor, we must always keep this in mind - what an individual feels is the best for them and their dog! After all, that person is the one who has to live with that dog. What we should be doing as mentors is not necessarily imparting our "way" of doing things, but teaching that individual how we do it and why. That way the individual can make a choice and learn what is best for them. We can give them the tools, but they have to want to use the tools we have given them.

I am positive that over 90% of our membership has at one time or another "mentored" someone who was thinking of getting an Afghan Hound, or has an Afghan Hound. You mentored them with how that pup or dog should be cared for, you mentored them on what food to feed it, how to bathe it, what was the best for that puppy or dog, the easiest way to live with that dog, etc. You should never put restrictions on a new person in the breed to learn about that breed, never tell them that they cannot "speak" or learn from an individual you do not "like," you can only tell them your opinion on that person and why! The "why" is the most important! How do you know that the new person will not learn from that individual that you do not "like"? YOU DONT! Who knows, they may learn something that you don't know and they can teach you!

No matter how long you've been in Afghan Hounds, how young or old you may be, embrace someone new to the breed and mentor them. Make a difference in their life, the life of their dogs, and see how you will grow through mentoring also. I know I certainly have!

*Editor's Note: If you would like to read Juli's article in its entirety, contact Juli at: [juliszymanski1963@yahoo.com](mailto:juliszymanski1963@yahoo.com)*



## 2010 ART AUCTION

Submitted by Col. D.J. Pfeiffer

It was another memorable, exciting, event-packed National, and a successful art auction! Thanks to Judy Bloom, who embraced this idea 5 years ago and helped it come to fruition! A special thanks to all of the artists and fanciers who donated wonderful items: Judy Bloom, Linda Jackson, Gaan Sculptures, Pat Kunich, Pattii Norsworthy, Janet Riggs, Terry Chacon, Bob & Helen Stein, Jay Hafford and Jim Blanchard, Tony Saia and Floyd Gale, Betty Stites, Betsy Hufnagel, Anne Sterner, Le and Carol Hedstrom, Lucia Langlois, Denise Ross, Pam and Lonnie Patterson, and Pat and Ed Gilbert. If I missed anyone, my humble apologies!

Let's talk bidders. They were generous & fun! An awesome group of good sports! Bidding was lively, and entertaining with my wonderful harem of Vannas. The always colorful Ms. Sandy Frei, Debbie (Yancy's Hot Blonde Significant Other who gave me her card and I promptly lost it), and back from a hiatus (husband imposed) the frisky Mrs. Brigitte Kaiser! These ladies really worked the crowd, with lots of one liners and smiles!

Speaking of working the crowd, Mr. James Hicks, one of the hard-working team of Texans who I saw laboring at the conformation ring, the performance events, and last but not least after all that, was ring man extraordinaire. And then let's not forget, our treasurer, Linda Jackson and her trusty assistant, Dorma Sue Busby, who cashiered and did the accounting. Thank you all!



## 2010 BREEDER SYMPOSIUM

Submitted by Chair,  
Sandy Frei

Pat Trotter, breeder-owner-handler of the world famous Vin Melca Norwegian Elkhounds and AKC licensed judge, was our speaker at this year's breed symposium. Last year she spoke at our 2009 Breed Symposium on Afghan Hound movement. This year she kindly took time out of her busy schedule to come and speak to us on a subject she knows well...genetics. The program was called "The Gene Scene."

She opened the program with a video of Afghan Hounds that was produced by George Bell for the Top Dogs in Topknots event at the 2005 AHCA National in San Diego. She then moved into a PowerPoint presentation on genetics. (Many thanks to her husband Chuck Trotter who helped her with the presentation).

She talked about the importance of a breeder paying attention to function when planning a breeding. She drove home the importance of breeding good fronts.

She used diagrams to show how traits may not crop up in the first generation but in subsequent generations.

Lloyd Brackett was a very successful breeder of German Shepherd Dogs back in the 1950s. She shared his formula for successful dog breeding which was a pedigree where the sire of the sire would be the grandsire of the dam.

She incorporated the breeding of thoroughbred racehorses in her talk, citing one of the most famous race horses, Spectacular Bid, who never was able to reproduce his greatness - versus a horse named Storm Cat who didn't have greatness on the track but went on to be one of the great producers of his time. It should be noted that Storm Cat was a Secretariat grandson through his dam and that the greatness of him as a producer came through his pedigree.

She stressed that, as breeders, we need to do a better job of educating and being more honest with ourselves on pedigrees, structure and movement before planning a breeding.

Thank you to Pat for another great, informative program. Thank you to all who chose to attend. We had over 80 attendees.

Pat also had her revised edition of *Born to Win* on sale at the event. If any of you are interested in obtaining a signed copy, you may contact her at her address below. The cost of the book is \$40 (includes postage). She will also sign your copy. Please indicate how you would like it signed.

Pat Trotter  
P.O. Box 222036  
Carmel, CA 93922-2036

**AHCA NATIONAL LURE COURSING**  
**Submitted by 2010 National Lure Coursing Chair, Nicci von Broembsen**

The AHCA hosted a weekend of Lure Coursing as a start to the 2010 National Specialty in Sacramento, CA.



**The perfectly manicured field was also ideal for dogs who had to be shown.**



**Best of Breed in the ASFA Trial, Kahlia, with owner Eileen Brooks (center), Nicci von Broembsen (left) and Cathy Lursen-Powers, Field Trial Secretary (right).**

On Saturday we held an All Breed AKC Trial and had an entry of 70 dogs. Ten Sight Hound breeds were wonderfully represented. We took a break after prelims and enjoyed hot dogs BBQ'd by Dick Koscinski, and a pot luck lunch provided by exhibitors. The weather on Saturday was perfect for coursing - mid 70s and a slight breeze.

Nine breeds qualified for the Best In Field, with seven finally running. The Whippet and Pharaoh Hound then tied, so we had another run-off for the title. What an exciting finish to the day.

BIF was won by the Whippet *Pearl*, owned by Deborah and Maurice Bahm. The exciting Pharaoh, *Wyett*, is owned by Greg Witt, who was also one of our Lure Operators for the weekend.

Seven Q's were run and five JC's.

Sunday morning saw the start of the 2010 National Specialty Championship trial. This year ASFA was run first with a total entry of 15 dogs. Results were as follows:

**Open Stakes:** 1st - *Kahlia*, 2nd - *Xoran*, 3rd - *Middy*, 4th - *Tabitha*, NBQ - *Samara*

**Field Champion Stakes:** 1st - *Captain*, 2nd - *Lady Bug*, 3rd - *Niska*, 4th - *Fianna*, NBQ - *Samara*

After some interesting runs we had our winner from the Open stakes. *Kahlia*, Aoxomoxoa of Calai, owned by Eileen Brooks.

Brunch was then served in the form of a "deli buffet," accompanied by assorted pies and cookies. Fortunately, we managed to finish the brunch before the rain, which lasted the rest of the day, set in.

We then reached a poignant moment in our trial, and many memories were relived and some made.

**The running of the Memorial or 4th Dog.** In honor of all our beloved hounds that have passed on, the exhibitors and spectators were given helium-filled balloons on which to write the names of dogs that have crossed the bridge. At roll call the Hunt Master called the names of the dogs to be remembered to the line so that they could be "released" for the last time on the "T" in "Tally Ho." The release of the balloon symbolized the release of the dog.



**Balloons being released , symbolizing the release or "slipping" of hounds that have crossed the bridge.**

Our 4th dog, *Louisiana Fish Bait*, seemed to know how very important her run was to be. In a rainbow blanket, balloons above her, and to a recording of Sir Edward Elgar's **Pomp and Circumstance**, *Fish* raised her head, shook off the rain and made all the dogs she was representing proud by completing a beautiful faultless run.



**The 4<sup>th</sup> Dog, Louisiana Fish Bait, running the course for all of our departed hounds.**

We had an entry of 41 dogs for the AKC trial. And despite the rain, no one seemed to mind and the dogs seemed to relish the challenge. Even our judges, Karen Arends from Texas and Christie Beetz from California, smiled all day.

**Open Stakes winners were:** 1st - *Olympia*, 2nd - *Chip*, 3rd - *Hope*, 4th - *Niska*, 5th - *Rasta*

**The Open Veteran Stakes winners were:** 1st - *Cosmo*, 2nd - *Envy*

**Field Champion Stakes winners were:** 1st - *Yousha*, 2nd - *Nick*, 3rd - *Kaboom*, 4th - *Lady Bug*, 5th - *Savion*

The AKC Best of Breed was awarded to *Yousha*, the winner from the Field Champion Stakes.

We then ran our JC's and Q's.

The awards were presented by AHCA President Brenda Brody for the AKC trial winners. We also shared a birthday cake celebrating Debbie Peterson's birthday. The cake was aptly inscribed "Aged to Perfection" (Perfection being Debbie's kennel name).



**From the left, Brenda Brody (AHCA President), Nicci von Broembsen (AHCA 2010 National Lure Coursing Chair), and on the right, Deborah Bahm, owner of "Yousha" (insert).**

Now the moment had arrived for the run off for Best in Event. The ASFA winner, *Kahlia*, and AKC winner, *Yousha*, took to the field to compete for this coveted award. The overall best running Afghan Hound in the Gold Rush 2010 National Specialty Lure Coursing Championship went to **FC Paschdou's Yousha FCh BII GRC ORC DC**, proudly owned by Deborah and Maurice

Bahm and Sally and Don Papin, who came all the way from Louisiana to participate in our coursing event.

**Awards of Merit**, awarded by me, went to the following people, who combined, made up the BEST COMMITTEE EVER! Cathy Lursen Powers was the Trial Secretary for the National on Sunday and, despite the rain, kept all her paperwork dry and appeared totally unflappable. Lynda Hicks was the All Breed Trial Secretary who took 70 gate entries and the trial ran on time and the paperwork was perfect. Ginnie Koscinski was point person for me in California and nothing was too much trouble for Ginnie. She was truly amazing. Dick Koscinski, James Hicks, and Ed Powers backed up their ladies and pulled off all the grunt work. Dick was Chef on Saturday. He BBQd the hot dogs. In addition to all the other "stuff" that Dick and Ed did around the field, they also performed duty as our Hunt Masters. Kathy Kelly made it all happen with the loan of her lure machines, and with Greg Witt ran the lure for both trials as well as setting up the courses. And they were both smiling at the end of two days of hard work! Jo Ann King lent us the use of her motor home to be used as a Club House, which certainly helped for preparing the lunches, and Jo Ann was a great back up for helping before and during the trials. Thanks to Jen Erickson (clerking and candid photos), Stephanie Norris (who judged on Saturday and donated her fee back to the AHCA, and clerked on Sunday), Claudia Jakus (clerking for the All Breed, Trophy Secretary and transport liaison, plus being my roommate). Ann Sterner (Sunday lunch coordinator), Ulrike Reinisch (who handled paddock master with a smile in the rain), Debbie Peterson (paddock at All Breed and Inspection), Emilie Peterson (clerking), and Kathy Bunic (runner). A special thanks for Ms Jane Bunic who spent all day waiting for her Rescue run, which was canceled due to rain. After her ring appearance later in the week she qualified for her certificate as a Bunny Chaser! I hope you like it Jane! A big thank you to our judges: Saturday, Charles Roberts (Oregon) and Stephani Norris (Ohio). Our judges on Sunday were Karen Arends (Texas) and Christie Beetz (California). Thanks also to AHCA President Brenda Brody for braving the weather to hand out the Awards. Thank you Max for living on the computer and building the CaliforniaGold2 web site. It was a great tool for many of us.

Thank you Judy Bloom for giving me the privilege of chairing the 2010 Lure Coursing National Championship Trial and to all the exhibitors who exhibited with such sportsman-like behavior, and made it such a pleasure to chair this event.



**The Prizes and Ribbons**

**Performance Excels at 2010 National Specialty**  
**Submitted by Lynda Hicks**



Shown is Judge, Chris Pinkston with the winning Afghan Hounds. From left to right are: *Sevion* - DC L'Rhel Suni Asia's Timestep, CD, RA, MC, LCX, TDI, CGC - Triathlon High in Trial - Owners James & Lynda Hicks; *Tabitha* - Tabitha, CDX, RE, CGC - 2nd in Triathlon, Rally High in Trial - Owner Sharon & Jerry Pearson; *Sabrina* - FC Sabrina CDX, RE, SC, CGC - 3rd in Triathlon, Obedience High in Trial - Owner Sharon & Jerry Pearson; *Middie* - CH Swiftwind Midnite Moon Shadow - 4th in Triathlon - Owner: Laurel Deptuch; *Miranda* - Ch. Procyon Omineca of Mijkelh - Agility High in Trial - Owners Fred & Lynn Haywood.

It was very exciting to see Performance Events (Triathlon, Obedience, Rally and Agility) show an impressive increase of 24% over last year's entry, and with a record entry in every discipline! How wonderful for our hounds to get a chance to show their intelligence and versatility, and yes - often - sense of humor!

Our Nationals week started on a rainy Sunday, with Lure Coursing, an event also well-attended, and covered elsewhere in this publication. Monday morning dawned clear and beautiful, and the day started at 8 AM with Obedience. There were several qualifying scores, and Sharon and Jerry Pearson's lovely rescue girl, *Sabrina*, took High in Trial honors. Rally immediately followed - again with several qualifiers and several new titlists. *Tabitha*, owned by Sharon & Jerry Pearson earned High honors in Rally.

The real show-stopper for the morning was the performance of Sharon showing *Tabitha* and *Sabrina* as an Obedience brace! Anyone who has tried showing a brace in conformation would appreciate this Obedience brace. They worked beautifully together and completed all the exercises with a qualifying score!

Monday afternoon, following Sweepstakes, brought the 8 Triathlon competitors to the ring for the Conformation portion of their competition under Christine Pinkston. Triathlon had twice the number of entrants than ever before and covered the gamut of our sport, including 4 Champions (3 of which are Dual Champions) and two rescue Afghan Hounds.

Agility, the final performance event of the Nationals, was held off-site on Wednesday morning at nearby Western Agility Group (WAG). The facility was lovely on beautifully maintained and manicured grass, and an enthusiastic gallery of spectators watched the agility performances. We were honored to have two well-known Afghan Hounds competing, one being a MACH 2 and the other a MACH 5 (MACH is Master Agility Champion - think of a MACH sort of like getting a Grand Championship - and each time the requirements are reached again, the number is increased). There were two very impressive "Double Q's" (meaning the dog received a qualifying score in each section of the event). Ultimately, High in Agility went to Lynn Haywood and her lovely *Miranda* with two perfect 100 scores.

Triathlon placements were calculated and announced prior to Best of Breed judging on Thursday. We were very proud that our *Sevion* won High in Triathlon for the 2nd year in a row, with some very accomplished competitors.

Huge thanks go our fabulous (and often very patient) judges, Alvin Eng for Obedience and Rally, Ann McQuillen for Agility, and Christine Pinkston for Triathlon Conformation. Also a huge thank you to AHCA Nationals Show Chair Judy Bloom and Co-Chair Janet Riggs for lending so much support to the performance events; and to Ulrike Reinisch for acting as chairperson of the Agility trial. A special thank you also to WAG for providing the Agility facility, equipment, and two master course builders; and to the wonderful and hardworking members of the committees, Kathy Bunic, Dick Hafner, James Hicks, Claudia Jakus, Diane Kroll, Stephani Norris, Debbie Peterson, Patricia Silverman, Nicci VonBroembsen, and the many others who stepped forward to help make the events run smoothly.

Congratulations to the winners of these events!



## 2010 NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE'S CRITIQUE

Submitted by Judge, Christine Pinkston

It was a stunningly beautiful afternoon in Sacramento when the AHCA Sweepstakes classes were called into the ring. A special thanks to ring stewards Linda Jackson, Betty Stites and Donna and Ken Amos who did a wonderful job in keeping things flowing and organized, and to Judy Bloom for producing such a great event with attention to every detail, and to Sue Busby for her tireless efforts.

There was depth of quality in each of the Sweepstakes classes. The exhibits were well presented and well trained with a few exceptions in the youngest classes who, I understand, were having their first dog show experience and were getting some "on the job" training. These babies improved with time in the classes and on into the following days. Even though this was an auspicious occasion, I appreciated that the exhibitors were light-handed and easy on these neophytes instead of making them into little soldiers. I was also happy that the faces, saddles and necks appeared natural for their ages and were not trimmed or clipped.

### FIRST PLACE SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS:

**6-9 Months Puppy Dogs: Sura L.A. Link**

**6-9 Months Puppy Bitch: Sura Lies and Alibis.** Interestingly, these two littermates easily won their classes. Beautiful balance, pleasing angles, and good on the move. Both of these class winners were apprentice show dogs when they came into the ring and got better with time.

**9-12 Months Puppy Dogs: Elan Sebring Alcide.** Lovely puppy. Huge sense of self-importance. Efficient, balanced gait. Beautiful angles, pretty sweep to the rear and low hocks.

**9-12 Months Puppy Bitches: Valcor Stare If You Dare.** Very pretty bitch, lovely on the move. Beautiful head. Low hocks.

**12-15 Months Dogs: Shekinah Jakar Pamir The Seeker.** This beautiful dog also was awarded **Best In Sweepstakes**. He had an exquisite head and eye, a strong underjaw, lovely low hocks. He was evenly angled and used himself beautifully on the move with a lofty, effortless and ground-covering gait. He was every inch the Afghan Hound and should enjoy a spectacular show career.

**12-15 Months Bitches: Alphaville's Setting T'Fashion.** This bitch was also awarded **Best Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes**. Also athletic, as the Best In Sweepstakes dog, she was ground covering and had a commanding presence in the ring. Very smooth over the shoulders with low hocks and a nicely bowed rear. I also predict great things ahead for her.

**15-18 Months Dogs: Happen'z Brand New Star.** Pleasing head and eye. Good to the hands. Lovely shoulders and very nice mover.

**15-18 Months Bitches: Countrywinds Courtesan.** Nicely balanced bitch with exquisite head and eye. This bitch kept a beautiful frame on the move.

It was an amazing line up of class winners. Each youngster beautifully represented its age division. Each of them was very deserving and will surely go on to enjoy great show careers. But, on this sunny day full of wonderful dogs, **Shekinah Jakar Pamir The Seeker** and **Alphaville's Setting T'Fashion** would capture the moment. Beautifully moving, beautifully presented and every inch the stars one hopes to find at such a prestigious event.

### VETERAN SWEEPSTAKES:

**Best In Veteran Sweepstakes** was won by **Ch. Majic Tifarah Opening Act** from the 7 - 9 years dog class. This exhibit had a beautiful head and eye, a lovely open side gait, and was in spectacular condition. **Best Opposite Sex** went to **Jorogz Ruby Tuesday** who won from the same age division in bitches. She was a lovely bitch, beautifully balanced and was a good mover.

### TRIATHLON:

Congratulations to the owners of all of the Afghan Hounds who competed in the Triathlon. These exhibits prove that our dogs have brains as well as beauty. I applaud the commitment that is made to challenge these dogs to excel in multiple areas of competition. In the end, **DC L'Rhel Suni Asia's Timestep, MC LCX** was awarded **High In Triathlon** after the final compilation of points. It was a pleasure to have had these very talented owner/trainers and their dogs in the ring.





## 2010 NATIONAL BITCH CLASS JUDGE'S CRITIQUE

Submitted by Judge, Hank Nave

The Afghan Hound - a spirited and independent breed that pretty much rules our lives. Sometimes you just need a timeout. On my way home I had many thoughts. Some I will remember and some I will dismiss. And I know everyone will have an opinion and that's as it should be. It's human nature. If Afghan Hounds could speak any language, they would probably tell us their favorite thing to do would be lure coursing since that is the activity most would enjoy. Or, maybe they would tell us napping on the couch, playtime or begging in front of the refrigerator. Conformation would probably come in last. After all, how many really enjoy running patterns in a ring with a choker around their throat? Not very dignified.

I would like to send a big thank you to Judy Bloom and her committees and to the very capable ring stewards (so many) for all their help. Perhaps, after reading this, you might think it different from critiques you have read in the past - or not. If you were observant on the day, you would have noticed there were similarities that were evident in the Winners class. And some that were not. It wasn't a line-up of cookie cutters nor was it size. As any judge will tell you, it is impossible to be consistent with the entry on the day and still maintain qualities both in a standing outline and how they function. On any given day, you could see just about everything or anything. And I did and I'm sure you did too. Characteristics spelled out in our standard will dictate breed type but other virtues are just as important. Some would race around so fast you never could see a natural ease and freedom of movement. For me, that is one of the virtues and beauty of our breed. That's why I prefer to train on a loose lead. It may take longer and require a great deal of patience, but eventually they will get it and they may even have some fun doing it.

**6-9 Months Puppy Bitches & Reserve Winners Bitch** - The very first class. When I looked at them lined up, my first thought was - Oh brother, a little bit of both camps, Bell-Murray and Ghazni. Okay, which one will make the most impression. And one did. I chose **Sura Lies and Alibis**. She was the one that stood out for me. She wasn't sure what she was supposed to do yet but that's very typical of a puppy. She showed me some defiance and attitude in the Reserve class and still had quality that I couldn't deny. She has a bright future ahead of her depending on how its handled.

**9-12 Months Puppy Bitches** - The second class was pretty much the same. I chose **Valkor Stare If You Dare**. She had spurts of what she was capable of doing. She could elevate, maintain her top and still cover ground. Virtues I would like to see much more often. With more ring experience and maturity, I have no doubt she will hold her own with the boys when the time comes.

**12-18 Months Bitches** - This class was a little more consistent than the first two. I chose **Countrywinds Champagne Barbie** for her structure and balance. She could hold her shape standing and moving.

**Bred By Exhibitor Bitches** - I chose **Azari's Kill'N'Em Softly**. Again, the balance and movement were her biggest assets. She was a nice size, and she looked like a girl.

**American Bred Bitches** - I chose **Shenandoah Toast Of The Town**. Beautiful head and eye with breed type. Nice big feet, and a gifted presentation.

**Open Bitch & Winners Bitch** - I chose **Grazioso JP Indah**. She had a little too much coat and it detracted from her outline. I had to remind myself it was not all her fault. Underneath there was a square Afghan with balanced angles fore and aft, hence the side-gait, and she used herself well. It was a good day for her. Next day in breed, not so much.

I wasn't able to observe the dog classes as I had to leave Friday morning. However, I did observe the Best of Breed class and was very impressed with many of the exhibits, both dogs and bitches. For me, and from ringside, it was the best class with the most depth, and that is a plus for the future of the breed. I love to see a square and balanced dog with angles, hold a good top with elegance and detailing. Add some attitude and personality and you will always have a consistent winner. There will always be something you wish you could change. Remember, you can get too much or too little of just about anything that can throw the balance off. One other thing comes to mind and that is underjaw. I came away wishing there was a little more there on some of the exhibits. Before you start yelling, I'm not saying it's not out there. Just be aware. One other thing--tails. I saw some pretty weird ones. A beautiful tail will finish off the picture standing and moving and enhance the elegance you want.

This is a hobby that is multifaceted and it will bring out every emotion in us, and you will never have enough time to do everything you want. So try to keep it in perspective but have some fun too. It can be satisfying and rewarding to the soul all because of our four legged friends. After all, they are the reason we do it. Again, thank you to everyone, and good luck at the shows. Tomorrow is a different day and a different judge.





## 2010 NATIONAL DOG CLASS AND BEST OF BREED JUDGE'S CRITIQUE

Submitted by Judge, Reginald Nesbitt

The day was beautiful and Judy Bloom and her co-chair Janet Riggs did an impeccable job setting the stage for the Seventy-fourth Afghan Hound National Specialty Show. I had an outstanding staff of stewards assisting me in the ring. When Betty started to introduce me, I had this strange feeling come over me. Time stood still for a moment and I realized I'm judging the National Specialty Show. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever expect to receive this honor.

### 6-9 Months Puppy Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> & Best Puppy - **SURA L.A. INK** - Young black puppy with lots of rear, once he relaxed his parts came together. Nice dark eyes.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - **JANGEL'S TAKE IT TO THE LIMIT** - Black/Silver: Well presented but he could have used himself better.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - **CHICHIC'S JUST WATCH ME** - Blue: Leggy male with lots of promise. He needs to grow into himself.  
 4<sup>th</sup> - **AZARI-ARABICA FOOL'S GOLD** - Black Masked Red: Nice sound puppy.

### 9-12 Months Puppy Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> - **JOURNEY APACHE NATION** - Red: Not any trimming which was very refreshing. The neck transitions nicely into shoulder. Nice puppy to go over.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - **ELAN SEBRING ALCIDE** - Blue/black: Lots of style.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - **MAJENALA RETURNING ECHO** - Black/silver: Nice puppy.  
 4<sup>th</sup> - **PERFECTION NALIKAR BOOM TOWN** - Blue brindle: Nice puppy.

### 12-18 Month Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> & Reserve Winners Dog - **ALPHAVILLE'S SPECIAL EDITION WYNSYR** - Brindle: Lots of style. Transition from neck into shoulder was nice. He was foot sound and well presented. Needed more front extension initially, front improved when he slowed down. More balanced.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - **ALPHAVILLE'S SHYLO HERE I COME** - Brindle: Handsome, houndy and sound (Unfortunately, I only had one first place ribbon).  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - **HAPPEN'Z BRAND NEW STAR** - Black/Silver: Nice sound dog.  
 4<sup>th</sup> - **ALLURE'S HOW DO YOU LIKE ME NOW** - Black Masked Red: Pretty, but needs to grow-up.

### Bred-By Exhibitor Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> & Best Bred-by - **PISCO OF DEGA AFGHANS** - Red Male: Very handsome, houndy, energetic and foot sound. Nice expression (top three males).  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - **RAFFICA'S TAKING IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL** - Black/Silver: Handsome and houndy.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - **DJARUM'S SPARK OF MESSENGER** - Black/Silver: Nicely presented and used himself well.  
 4<sup>th</sup> - **SARS SUMMERWIND KEEPIN THE FAITH** - Black Masked Red: Loved the top knot. Very pretty.

### American Bred Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> - **BAAKARA'S REFLECTION OF MY HEART MOUNTAIN VIEW** - White: Shoulders were decent. Moved well when he kept both feet on the ground.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - **ZOSO'S COME FLY WITH ME SUMMERWIND** - Black/Silver: Very handsome.

### Open Dogs

1<sup>st</sup> & Winners/Best of Winners - **SHYLO THE OCTOROON** - Black/Silver: Very handsome, with good balance and he felt good to go over. This dog had good detailing over the top, good croup and I liked the way he used himself. He came together when asked to perform. Good mover. "All Afghan Hound and very spirited." I liked him a lot. Handler did an outstanding job pulling the dog together when it counted.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - **CAIRO'S REV IT UP** - Red Brindle: Presented well. He was solid on all four corners and square.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - **GRAZIOSO JP TOP OF THE WORLD** - Black/Silver: Presented well, well conditioned with a positive attitude. I did not like the trimming on the face and down the front of the neck.  
 4<sup>th</sup> - **RAFFICA'S LIVING ON THE EDGE OF AUGUST KNIGHTS** - Blue/Black: Moved well. Well presented.

### Best of Breed

I'm sorry I did not take notes on Best of Breed. I thought it would be too time consuming. I feel my cuts expressed my feeling about the dogs. With the new Select Dog and Select Bitch, plus the Awards of Merits, it is pretty informative about how I felt. Judges have their priorities. Hopefully, everyone could follow my judging and understand what qualities I valued. Our hounds are running animals, and their efficiency defines the total balance. It is most important to see how those parts work together. I saw dogs with a lot more rear than front. Many of the fronts were not extending. (Sidebar - please try to make this a priority when planning your next litter.)

Collectively all the Awards of Merit and Selects had qualities I could embrace. Good toplines, detailing, croups and foot sound. Heads and expressions were nice across the board and good bone without being course. All possessed good race pride and came ready to do what they do best. My Best of Opposite Sex (**CH. WYNSYR TAKING CHANCES**) was well balanced. Her ease of gait and her exotic expression caught my eye immediately.

I thought my Best of Breed (**CH. THAON'S MOWGLI**) set himself apart from the rest of the competitors by his balanced movement. He was a joy to go over and his transition of neck into the shoulders was smooth as glass. He had nice bone without being course, and nice hip bones. He was handsome, and his coat was like silk. He is a special dog.

A special thanks to all the exhibitors for their support. I had the time of my life. People ask me if I had fun. The word is not fun, its bigger, it's feeling fulfilled, and at the same time humbled that the membership saw me worthy to pass judgment on the breed to which I have been dedicated for the last thirty-eight years. I took the privilege very seriously. The experience will last a lifetime.

## 2010 National Specialty Winners

**Best In Sweepstakes** - SHEKINAH JAKAR PAMIR THE SEEKER. Owners: Amy L. Donnell & Tara Schultz & Leslie Stoffels

**Best Opposite Sex In Sweepstakes** - ALPHAVILLE'S SETTING T'FASHION. Owners: Rosemary Sutton & Paula Kenny & Yvonne Ljungquist

**Best Veteran In Sweepstakes** - CH. MAJIC-TIFARAH OPENING ACT. Owner: Leslee Greer

**Best Opposite Sex Veteran In Sweepstakes** - CH. JOROGZ RUBY TUESDAY JC. Owners: Eileen & Howard Laudermilch

**Winners Dog & Best of Winners** - SHYLO THE OCTOROON. Owners: Bill & Jennifer Pearce & Stephen Fisher

**Reserve Winners Dog** - ALPHAVILLE'S SPECIAL EDITION WYNSYR. Owners: Scott Pfeil & William Pfeffer, Gary Lennon

**Winners Bitch** - GRAZIOSO JP INDAH. Owner: Masato Ito

**Reserve Winners Bitch** - SURA LIES AND ALIBIS. Owner: Suzanne J. Neill

**Best Of Breed** - CH. THAON'S MOWGLI. Dog. Owners: Jay T. Hafford, James Blanchard & Ann Sterner

**Best Opposite Sex to Best of Breed** - CH. WYNSYR TAKING CHANCES. Owners: Lynn Mercer & D. S. Pfeil & W. Pfeffer

**Select Dog** - CH. RAFFICA'S VALYMIR SWEET VICTORY. Owners: Garret & Sue Games

**Select Bitch** - CH. WYNSYR CHINA DOLL. Owners: J W & Debbie Rogers & D. Scott Pfeil & William Pfeffer

**Award of Merit** - GRAND CH. STORMHILL'S SWEET DREAMS OF RAFFICA. Bitch. Owners: Garret & Sue Games & Sandra Frei & Terri Vanderzee.

**Award of Merit** - CH. MAHALI ARRIVA MEADOWLARK. Dog. Owners: Dave Cooley & J. Prosapio, S. Neill, C. O'Conner & L. Schanzle

**Award of Merit** - CH. JABIR'S SOUTHERN NIGHTS SC. Bitch. Owner: Christina Farrar

**Award of Merit** - CH. KASBAN SURA SPRING FLING. Bitch. Owners: Suzanne J. & Wm. R. Neill & Laura Mauldin

**Award of Merit** - CH. PAMELONS LATE NITE OF CAVU. Dog. Owners: P. & L. Patterson & G. Kramer & B. Hufnagel

**Best Bred By Exhibitor** - PISCO OF DEGA AFGHANS. Dog. Owner: Jaime Ganoza

**Best Puppy** - SURA L.A. INK. Dog. Owner: Suzanne J. Neill

**Best Junior Handler** - EMILIE PETERSON, Oregon

**Best Field Trial Bitch** - DC SARS SHYLO TOUCH OF GRACE, SC. Owner: Pamela Unterseh

**Best Stud Dog** - CH. ABACA SHACONE NATIVE SPIRIT. Owners: Abbe R. Shaw & Terry D. Chacon

**Best Brood Bitch** - CH. LYRIX REBEL SERENADE. Owners: Erin Davis & Dallas Nunnery



**Best Of Breed**  
**CH. THAON'S MOWGLI**  
 Owners: Jay T. Hafford, James Blanchard & Ann Sterner  
*(O'Brien Photo)*



**Best Opposite Sex to Best of Breed**  
**CH. WYNSYR TAKING CHANCES**  
 Owners: Lynn Mercer & D. S. Pfeil & W. Pfeffer  
*(O'Brien Photo)*



**Winners Dog & Best of Winners**  
**SHYLO THE OCTOROON**  
**Owners: Bill & Jennifer Pearce & Stephen Fisher**  
*(O'Brien Photo)*



**Winners Bitch**  
**GRAZIOSO JP INDAH**  
**Owner: Masato Ito**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



**Best In Sweepstakes**  
**SHEKINAH JAKAR PAMIR THE SEEKER**  
**Owners: Amy L. Donnell & Tara Schultz & Leslie Stoffels**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



**Best Opposite Sex In Sweepstakes**  
**ALPHAVILLE'S SETTING T'FASHION**  
**Owners: Rosemary Sutton & Paula Kenny & Yvonne Ljungquist**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



**Best Bred By Exhibitor**  
**PISCO OF DEGA AFGHANS**  
**Owner: Jaime Ganoza**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



**Best Puppy**  
**SURA L.A. INK**  
**Owner: Suzanne J. Neill**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



**Best Veteran In Sweepstakes**  
**CH. MAJIC-TIFARAH OPENING ACT**  
**Owner: Leslee Greer**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



**Triathlon High in Trial**  
**"Sevion"**  
**DC L'RHIL SUNI ASIA'S TIMESTEP CD, RA, MC,**  
**LCX, TDI, CGC**  
**Owners: James & Lynda Hicks**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



**Best Opposite Sex Veteran In Sweepstakes**  
**CH. JOROGZ RUBY TUESDAY JC.**  
**Owner: Eileen & Howard Laudermilch**  
*(Photo Courtesy of Ria Wagner)*



Happy Holidays  
From Your Topknot News Committee:  
Sue, Mary, Suzanne, Linda & Barb



**The Next Topknot News Deadline is:  
March 26, 2011**