

# Topknot News

Spring 2019

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



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the latest issue of Topknot News! This is the first, and as of now, the last issue that Toni Richmond will be doing as editor. Sadly, Toni has decided to resign her position on the AHCA Board of Directors and as Editor of Topknot News. We appreciate her service to the club and will miss her as a member of the Board. Her resignation as editor of Topknot News creates an opening for a new editor. Being a member of the Board is not a requirement for being editor of Topknot News. The only requirements are being an individual who is dedicated to the breed, a parent club member, and being willing to put in the effort three times a year to put together the publication and distribute it. So if you meet those requirements and are willing to take on the task give me a call and we can chat in more detail.

I would like to recognize our outgoing Board members whose terms expired on 1/31/18 - Erica Jantos and Anna Stromberg. They both contributed in many important ways during their time on the Board. At the same time, I wish to welcome our incoming Board members, Beth Anne Hall and Christine O'Connor. Being a member of the Board is totally voluntary, requires financial sacrifice, time sacrifice, and dealing with sometimes, very stressful situations. Thank you to Beth Anne and Christine for accepting the position and "stepping up" to serve the Membership and the Breed.

The 2019 Breeders cup will be May 3, 2019 in conjunction with the Afghan Hound Club Northern New Jersey Specialty in Erwinna, PA. Our show chairman David Giordano has worked very hard to make this a memorable event and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

Our 2019 National Specialty at Virginia Beach is rapidly approaching in September. All indications are for a well-attended event with a superb venue. If you have not made plans to attend, you need to do so soon, as accommodations are already becoming difficult to obtain.

Finally, the Board approved a proposal to hold the 2020 National at the Roberts Center in Wilmington, Ohio. Current plans call for the event to begin on September 26, 2020. More information on 2020 will be coming out soon. In addition to 2020 there is a group working on a proposal for the 2021 National to be held at the new Roberts Center currently under construction in Ocala, Florida. Our hope is to form a long term relationship with the Roberts center which will allow us to leverage the relationship and hold multiple Nationals alternating between the two locations. Obviously, this concept will require much additional discussion with many hurdles needing to be cleared for it to become a reality.

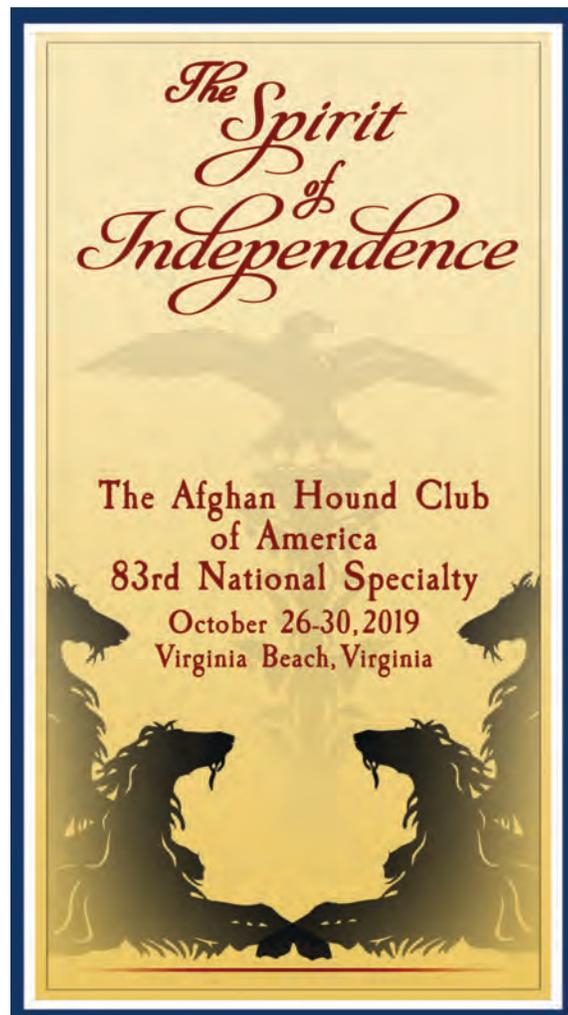
Dear AHCA Members:

Due to budget constraints, in my last Board meeting it was decided by majority vote to continue to produce the Topknot News, but in an abbreviated version until after the 2019 National Specialty. It was the feeling of the majority of the Board that Topknot News provided information that was essential to the membership and could be cut back in a fiscally responsible manner until our Treasury is healthier.

Consequently, this version has the essential news, without many of the extras that the last Topknot News team so thoughtfully provided. Obviously, I would have enjoyed producing a publication that was comparable to Russ Hasting's last magazine, but at this time, it would be irresponsible.

My plan was to showcase some of the fabulous donations from our Afghan Hound artist community that would be available at this year's Art Auction. This issue features on the front cover an oil painting by Michele Trifiro, and on the back cover, "Confetti" an oil painting by and from the personal collection of Terry d. Chacon and an acrylic painting by Lee Canalizo. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the artists. The paintings will be available at the Auction. We are still seeking donations for the Auction, and if the membership has pieces that they would like to donate to the Auction, please contact me. As this will be my first and only edition of Topknot News, it is my hope that the next editor will see fit to continue to feature pieces that will be available at the National Specialty Art Auction.

Thank you, Toni M. Richmond



## AKC BOARD OF DIRECTORS CLASS OF 2023 ELECTED

New York, NY - At the annual meeting of the American Kennel Club on March 12, 2019, the Delegates elected the AKC Board of Directors Class of 2023. The three Directors elected were:



•Dr. Charles Garvin, Delegate from the Dalmatian Club of America.

•Steven Hamblin, Delegate from the Pekingese Club of America.

•Daniel J. Smyth, Esq., Delegate from the Burlington County Kennel Club.

In addition, William J. Feeney (Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc) was elected as the Chairman of the Board and Patricia M. Cruz (Heart of the Plains Kennel Club) was elected as Vice Chairman of the Board at a meeting of the AKC Board of Directors, convened after the Delegates Meeting.

### About the American Kennel Club

Founded in 1884, the American Kennel Club is a not-for-profit organization which maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world and oversees the sport of purebred dogs in the United States. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its more than 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. More than 22,000 competitions for AKC-registered purebred dogs are held under AKC rules and regulations each year including conformation, agility, obedience, rally, tracking, herding, lure coursing, coonhound events, hunt tests, field and earthdog tests. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Reunite and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

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## A DOSE OF REALITY

by *Connie Butherus, AKC Delegate for the AHCA*

The situation regarding Afghan Hounds in the United States has changed significantly over the years. In the days of the high water mark of entries and breed popularity in the 1970s to now there has been a quantum change. The charts below provide a brief overview of the past several years. The trends are significant and can provide guidance as we go forward in producing quality and financially sound events in the future. The first numbers are the AKC popularity rankings of the recognized breeds from 2013 through 2018. In 2018 the Afghan Hound was raked 113 out of 192 breeds. The balance of the rankings follow below.

\*RANKINGS of the Afghan Hound 2013 to 2018. \*Source- AKC

2018- 113/192

2017- 93/190

2016- 113/188

2015- 100/182

2014- 98/184

2013- 95/175

\*REGISTRATIONS\*Source - AKC report Parent Club Registration Statistics. This report is a highly valuable and important tool for Parent Clubs. It was issued in early March of this year and sent to all Parent Club Presidents, Secretaries and Delegates. It was first released in 2017 for the 2016 findings and will be issued yearly in the future. The data below has been selected from this report and is not an exhaustive recording of all of the information contained in the report but rather the numbers which illustrate the past ten years breeding trend of the Afghan Hound in the US.

Registered Litters

2008- 136

2018- 68

Decline of 50%

Number of puppies registered

2008 - 767

2018 - 378

Decline of 50.74%

Breedings of individual (unique) dogs / bitches

2008 - bitches 131

dogs 108

2018 - bitches 68

dogs 58

Decline of 45.7%

ADDITIONAL DATA

Conformation class entries and the requirements for 5 Championship points at selected AHCA National Specialty shows is below. Sources: AHCA Specialty Catalogs, Sue Busby and Foy Trent Dog Shows.

The entry numbers below for selected AHCA Specialty shows are for the regular conformation classes in Dogs, Bitches and Best of Breed. These are the only entries that are used by the AKC to calculate the awarding of Championship points. These numbers reflect the density of the breed in a region. The numbers of majors available is targeted to be about 20% of the shows held in the region. The entry numbers from National Specialty shows held in a region are not used in the calculations as they can artificially inflate the totals for a breed. The numbers required for the earning of championship points is based on the numbers exhibited in a breed in the previous years. These numbers provide an important planning tool in assessing the number of Afghan Hounds (breed density) competing in region.

Shows held at repeat venues since 2000.

Conformation classes totals for Dogs, Bitches and Best of Breed only.

WesternColorado

2007 Regular Classes Entry 195 - requirement for 5 points - 14 dogs/ 15 bitches.

2018 Regular Classes Entry 96 - requirement for 5 points - 7 dogs/ 8 bitches.

Eastern Rhode Island

2003 Regular Classes Entry 195 - requirement for 5 points. 23 dogs/ 24 bitches

2016 Regular Classes Entry 108 - requirement for 5 points, 18 dogs/ 20 bitches

South EasternAtlanta

2012 Regular Classes Entry 132- Requirement for 5 points, 15 dogs/ 25 bitches

2015 Regular Classes Entry 115 - Requirement for 5 Points, 14 dogs/12 bitches

Eastern Lancaster, Pa.

2006 Regular Classes Entry 328 - Requirement for 5 points 25 dogs/ 27 bitches

2009 Regular Classes Entry 295 - Requirement for 5 points 27 dogs/ 25 bitches West Sacramento 2005 Regular Classes Entry 218 - Requirement for 5 points 27 dogs/ 25 bitches

2010 Regular Classes Entry 143 - Requirement for 5 points 20 dogs/ 20 bitches

Additional sites assessed

Mid West Ohio ( Robert's Center ) 75th Annual Show

2011 Regular Classes Entry 230 - Requirement for 5 points 15 dogs/ 21 bitches

Northwest Portland

2013 Regular Classes Entry 164 - Requirement for 5 points 15 dogs/ 12 bitches

Southwest Belton, Tex

2014 Regular Classes Entry 107- Requirements for 5 points 13 dogs/ 13 bitches

Central Midwest Purina Farms

2017 Regular Classes Entry 157 - Requirements for 5 points 6 dogs/ 7 bitches

Going forward it is critical that we are mindful of the emerging trends in the breed and plan accordingly. The numbers reflect the status of the breed. We need to be data driven as we plan for future events

## CANINE HEALTH REPORT by Anna Tyler

1 - Bob Jordan has set up the AHCA GoFundMe for Chylothorax Research. Currently the balance is \$1708.68. We appreciate all those who have donated to this fund. The link is: [www.gofundme.com/chlothorax-research](http://www.gofundme.com/chlothorax-research). Please consider making a donation!

2 - OFA has a Confidential Health Survey set up for Afghan Hounds. To participate in the survey or to view the results go to [www.OFA.org](http://www.OFA.org) and click on Health Survey and select Afghan Hound.

3 - Calvena Evetts' former husband has set up a Grant that could apply to Afghan Hounds - The William E Dean III Charitable Foundation. It appears that the health and well-being of Afghan Hounds would fit within the mission of this foundation. Dr. Diane Brown of the Canine Health Foundation is researching grant details and filling out the paperwork. The Grant can't be used for the same cause each year - so we are hoping to utilize Research one year and Rescue the next. The Grant calls for 501(3)(c) - one needs to be set up for Canine Health - fortunately one 501(3)(c) for Rescue has already been established.

4 - Martha Powell is filing the 501(3)(c) for the AHCA and this should be set up in early 2019.

5 - The 3rd Quarter Health Testing Results from the Canine Health Foundation are attached.

6 - We have three Chylothorax affected blood samples and 6 non-affected blood samples (from dogs related to the affected dogs) currently with Dr. Gary Johnson at the U of Missouri Vet Hospital. We need blood samples from 5 affected dogs to begin research. I personally am aware of several other affected dogs and we need them to participate by sending in their blood samples. We are so close. The AHCA will reimburse up to \$100 per dog, per blood sample for vet and shipping expenses.

7 - Angela Carolyn and Mary Currie organized a Silent Auction for Chylothorax at the 2018 National in Greeley, Co. that brought in \$870. Plus the Live Auction Mixed Media Art piece that Cynthia Byington donated to Chylo Research brought in \$500. This totaled \$1370 to the DAF fund for research. AKC is matching these funds for 2018. Great News! Thanks to all that helped make this happen.

## AKC CHF 4TH QUARTER DONOR ADVISED STATEMENT

AKC Canine Health Foundation Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc. Donor Advised Fund - 4th Quarter 2018 Statement (1/1/2018-12/31/2018) 1/1/2018

Balance - \$590.11

Contributions - \$1,500.00 -

PPCPP Contribution - \$564.29

Investment Earnings/(Losses) - (\$170.15)

MOU Grant Support - \$0.00

Management Fees - \$0.00

Research Support\* - \$0.0012/31/2018

Balance - \$2,484.25

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

*Thank you for your support of good health for dogs by working with the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF). Your donations, memberships and club fundraisers, and your regular participation in the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program (PPCP) enable CHF to award research grants that make a true impact on the lives of dogs. Please find attached your organization's 2018 fourth quarter CHF Donor Advised Fund statement dated 12/31/18. For 2019, the AKC is again providing dollar-for-dollar donations to CHF's general canine health research fund for any donations you make to canine cancer (up to \$250K), any donations from new and lapsed donors (last donation prior to 1/1/18) up to \$400,000, and for any Donor Advised Fund disbursements to any CHF research program area of your choice (up to \$350,000). To view CHF's new and active research for canine health, please visit the 2019 Research Grants Portfolio and updated addendum of new grants. You can also search active grants by research program area on our website. Please contact us or visit [akcchf.org](http://akcchf.org) to learn more about specific grants, research program areas, or to receive a list of projects of special interest to your breed or organization. You can also demonstrate your compassion and commitment to canine health by honoring or memorializing a special dog or person with an AKC Canine Health Foundation tribute card. We will send a card announcing your gift and your donation will help support canine health research and provide educational resources to dog lovers everywhere. Lastly, please consider joining CHF by becoming a member club. With your membership, you'll receive a membership banner suitable for hanging at dog shows and other events, or a wall plaque suitable for hanging indoors. Plus, you'll receive Discoveries, CHF's quarterly newsletter detailing the latest advancements in CHF-funded research. Thank you for your continued commitment to CHF's mission to help all dogs live longer, healthier lives. We appreciate your partnership, and we are stronger working together toward our common goal for healthy dogs.*

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

For questions please contact: Andrea Fiumefreddo, Director of Programs [andrea.fiumefreddo@akcchf.org](mailto:andrea.fiumefreddo@akcchf.org) or

Katherine Brantley, Director of Finance: [katherine.brantley@akcchf.org](mailto:katherine.brantley@akcchf.org)

Notice regarding AKC Canine Health Foundation Donor Advised Funds: Per Foundation policy, a minimum 5% annual distribution of your fund balance is a recommended standard for each donor advised fund to meet IRS regulations. Thank you for your help in keeping the Foundation compliant with these regulations.



**MENTOR REPORT** - by Christine Pinkston

A reminder to utilize the Regional Clubs when you place a dog outside of your immediate area. The clubs do not 'replace' your role but serve as another layer of support for the new owner. The clubs help to keep the breeder informed of the progress with the new home and, truly, can serve as a 'cheerleader' on site for the owner.

Clubs: Do Your Part to include the new owner in fun and social activities and provide easy contact for the new person when they have a question. Bringing new people successfully into the fancy is the goal. Being a partner with the breeder in the care and nurturing of a new home is ideal.

A recent success case in point is a family with their first Afghan Hound puppy. Sold responsibly by the breeder, on a Limited Registration. The breeder encouraged the owners to contact the regional club. Through including in social events, through numerous conversations and reassurances- the owners are joining the club, the breeder has changed the puppy's registration to Full Registration and the puppy made its debut at its first dog show. Thanks to Kim Kurtz for connecting these nice people with Tidewater and hopefully we can all do our parts to support new owners: pet homes and show homes.



**AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA 2018 NATIONAL SPECIALTY**

Winners Dog (5 points)

Best Bred-by-Exhibitor

ABACA SHYLO PERFECT STORM HP52303501 7/10/2016

Breeder: Abbe Shaw, Bruce Clark, Stephen Fisher, David Sorey, Bobby Ungar

By: GCH Alphaville's Shylo Here I Come X GCHB Karakush Storm In A D-Cup

Owner: Abbe Shaw, Bruce Clark, Stephen Fisher, Bobby Ungar



## GETTING TO KNOW YOU: SPOTLIGHT ON OUR BREEDERS CUP JUDGE: DARLENE ANDERSON, KULANA by Allan Reznik

### ***Did you grow up in a doggy household?***

Yes, I did. Growing up, my mother raised Pekes and Poms and I believe it was in 1960 that she imported a Skye Terrier.

### ***When did you see your first Afghan Hound? Was it love at first sight and did you know this was the breed to which you wanted to devote your life?***

I was a young teenager when I saw my first Afghan. I said that when I could afford one I would get one. However, my first breed was Borzoi, from the old Rancho Gabriel lines. They were beautiful but my heart was still with the Afghans. I got married in 1968 and when we got our first income tax check, I went and bought myself my first Afghan.

### ***Where and when did you get your first Afghan Hound?***

My first Afghan was from Elaine Resos of Ara Khan Afghans in 1969.

***What are the defining characteristics of the breed for you?*** The beautiful headpiece with that slight Roman nose. The prominent hipbones. The beautiful outline. The Afghan in motion.

***What qualities do you worry we might be losing in the breed?*** Watching Afghans as much as I have, I see we are needing improvement in our fronts. Backs are supposed to be short yet I see toplines all over the place, from short to long. Temperaments also need improvement.

### ***Name two or three dogs and two or three bitches that were most influential in your breeding program.***

I loved Coastwind Obsidian, Jubilan's Octagon, Phaedra's Lord Bacchus and Genesis BT Express of Cani to name just a few. The following bitches were not part of my breeding program but I loved Jaffna's Rachel, El Mari Ku Mari, Cani Summer Breeze, Kassan's Diza Sioux, Legends the White Doe and Tryst of Grandeur. There are so many more that I loved.

### ***Who do you consider the greatest Afghan Hound you ever saw?***

Oh, it's so not fair to ask me who was the greatest! Coastwind Obsidian and Ninth Turn Argus are two I was totally in love with, as they were among the first I saw as a young person starting out, but they still stand out in my mind.

***Who were your mentors in the breed and in the sport?*** I started with Kay Finch (Crown Crest) for a very short time. Then I found a job with Mary Moss of El Mari Afghans, and I learned a lot from Mary. She was very hard on me but she taught me a lot and to have an eye. It was while working for Mary that I first met William Paul Shelton, better known as "Bill." Bill handled Mary's Afghans for her and showed her beautiful Ku Mari. I have met many who taught me a lot in the breed.

***You have judged many Afghan Hound specialty sweepstakes over the years, and in 2019 you are doing our Breeders Cup. Do you have any plans to apply for your AKC judge's license?*** Yes, I definitely have plans to apply for my license.

***What advice would you give an exhibitor showing to you for the first time?*** My advice would be to smile when you come into my ring, and to relax and enjoy what you are showing to me. I am one of the easiest people to show to.



*'Born to Run'*



**Afghan Hound Club of America  
Breeders' Cup  
May 3rd, 2019  
Tinicum Park, Erwinna, PA.**

## WELCOME TO THE BREED TIFFANY RAPIER AND RICHARD TEUNIS by Toni Richmond

I met Richard "Shane" at the Tara Afghan Hound Club Specialty last month, and I am grateful that I had an opportunity to speak with him about his interest in the breed because he is such an interesting young man on so many levels. He had his own cheering section at the Specialty and we were all thrilled to watch him handle his lovely puppy, Jorogz Party Patrol (aka "Atlas") to Winners Dog (5 points) and an Award of Merit under Stephen Fisher. After hearing a bit about his life story, I thought it would be interesting to introduce Shane and Tiffany to the members and ask them to extend their welcome as Richard and Tiffany complete their application for Associate Membership.

Condo living in San Francisco is not exactly what most of us would view as an ideal environment for raising an exuberant Afghan Hound puppy, but this delightful couple has made it work to the advantage of both of their dogs, an eight-year-old retired greyhound racer named Darwin, and puppy Atlas. The dogs go everywhere with them and the busy streets of dog friendly San Francisco has been a great socialization tool for Atlas. According to Tiffany, Atlas gets plenty of attention from her community and loves to show off and strut his stuff when folks are looking. He is a real ham and loves people. Atlas started off going to weekly handling classes, where Richard and Atlas have learned the show routine together. I must say...they work well together as a team in the show ring. As Richard explains, he does the handling, and Tiffany does all the work (bathing, grooming, etc.). Not exactly an equitable arrangement in my book, but it seems to work well for them. Also of interest is that Atlas has become a certified therapy dog, who routinely visits hospitals and other facilities.

Tiffany is scientist by education and works in the healthcare field. Tiffany is also an Arabic linguist, which is how Richard and Tiffany met. Richard retired from the Army in November of 2018, after over 22 years of service. He served two tours in Iraq, his first tour in the communications field, and the second tour in engineering and rebuilding Iraq, with a focus on helping the Iraqis establish fair elections. Richard's father and his grandfather were also career military men.

When asked how they became interested in owning this breed, Tiffany told me that she was looking for a rescue Afghan Hound. Initially, they had no interest in showing. She was referred by a friend to Joanne Weatherly, who recommended that they consider a show quality dog. They knew that some breeders would be reluctant to sell a quality puppy to them because they are unknown and living in a condo might be problematic for the breeder. It took a year of searching, but eventually they were in touch with John Morton, a longtime friend of Joanne's and she knew he had a successful, well respected breeding program, who had a litter of twelve, by Ch. Jorogz' Sweet Cheeks out of Ch. Jorogz' Domino Partygirl. After two 5-point specialty majors and only two points to go, along with being ranked #4 nationally for Owner Handled Afghans, I think Tiffany and Shane are hooked.

Please welcome them into our Afghan Hound community.

Ps: Atlas has his own Instagram account, where you can follow his adventures. Just check him out on Instagram @Atlas.Unleashed.



**LIBRARY/ARCHIVES REPORT TO THE BOARD** by Helen Stein

**•Introduction to the Afghan Hound**

We have approximately 75 copies remaining of this publication, so I believe that we will not need reprint this year. When inventory reaches "reprint" levels, I will work with Sue Busby who had the last batch printed.

**•Library/Archives collection of memorabilia**

I am moving to Florida sometime in the next 6 months and 35 boxes of Library materials are moving with me. All Library materials except for a few DVDs have been packed and moved to a climate controlled storage area operated by our moving company. The inventory includes books, magazines, AHCA Meeting Minutes, scrapbooks, photos, slides and DVDs. I will not be able to access these boxes until they are moved to my new home -- estimated move date is around July 25, 2019.

I have quite a few AHCA files on my computer so I should still be able to look up some things.

The moving company will send me a separate billing for moving those 35 boxes.

**•Library/Archives and the National Specialty**

-I will work with Show Chair Erica Jantos on the plans for a Library booth at the National. Since the show ring will be indoors, I will be able to have several scrapbooks (including the large ones done by Sue Hamlin), and will also be able to have memorabilia on display -- such as the recent addition from Betty Stites of a small Kay Finch piece, and some hand painted clothing worn by Kay Finch in the show ring. An indoor venue is very good for displaying these things. If Erica can arrange it, I also plan to have a large-screen TV to display the DVDs. Any equipment rental costs would be charged to the Library budget, not the National Specialty budget.

-For the upcoming Premium List: I would very much like to be included as one of the proofreaders of the Premium Lists for each event. I doubt that much proofreading will be needed, as Erica is on top of things! But -- it is good to have extra eyes to look at the material.

- for the Catalog:

- I have a correctly formatted and correctly spelled listing of National Specialty Winners 1940-2018, and will send this to Erica by email. This should NOT need to be retyped.

-I would also like to help with proofreading the Catalog pages that can be proofed before entries close. It is particularly important to list Trophy Donors correctly, as well as the names of our Officers and of all the people who have worked for the club and worked on the show.

**Meeting Minutes**

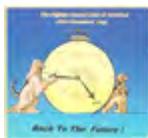
P&Ps call for copies of approved meeting minutes to be sent to the AHCA Library. To our new Recording Secretary: Eddie, please copy me in on Board and General meeting minutes!

If any Board member wants a copy of meeting minutes covering 2/22/86 - 9/5/07, I have a CD with that data and can send copies where needed.

**INVENTORY & WAYS & MEANS** submitted by Dorma Sue Busby

**Breeders' Cup Items**

**2014 Breeders' Cup**  
Travel Bags Royal Blue  
14  
**\$5.00**



**2016 Breeders' Cup**  
Catalogs 12  
**\$5.00**



**2018 Breeders' Cup**  
Logo Coaster set/4  
**\$5.00**



**2015 National Sales Items**  
Purple exhibitor tote bags  
**\$1.00**  
Catalog 12  
**\$5.00**



**2016 National Sales Items**  
Rolled Posters (4 )  
**\$ 1.00**  
Framed Posters (3)  
**\$5.00**



**2017 National Sales Items**  
1/4 Zip Shirts Green  
(embroidered dark blue)M-3 L-4 XL-9  
**\$5.00**  
Catalogs (marked) 10  
**\$5.00**



**2018 NATIONAL SALES ITEMS**  
Catalogs  
(marked) 20  
**\$5.00**



**Parent Club Logo Items ~ WAYS & MEANS**

Ways & Means	W/Parent Club Logo Items
PC Lapel Pins 14K gold plated	
Tie Tac or Safety Pin catch	\$15.00
\$10.00	Teal Bath Towels (2)

**Prices do not include postage**

# 2018 NATIONAL ITEMS

There are various sizes of each item. Inquire to Bob Jorden at [windcrest2@gmail.com](mailto:windcrest2@gmail.com) for availability and purchase.

Anything that is described as Bling does not have the description below beneath the logo. Everything else had the logo and,

## Rocky Mountain High Afghan Hound Club Of America National Specialty Sept 2-8, 2018 • Greeley, Colorado



**Bling T-shirt  
Various  
Colors  
\$50.00**



**Logo Fleece  
Vest \$60.00**



**Logo Fleece  
Vest \$60.00**



**Logo  
Turquoise  
Hoodie  
\$55.00**



**Logo  
Lightweight  
Hoodie  
\$45.00**



**Logo  
Turquoise  
Hoodie  
\$55.00**



**Baseball Cap \$25.00**



**Director Chairs  
\$60.00**

**Additional Items from 2018 National not pictured:**  
 Bling Lightweight Black Long Sleeve Hoodie \$45.00  
 Bling Lightweight Purple Long Sleeve Hoodie \$45.00  
 Logo Sweatshirt Jacket Turquoise \$55.00  
 Logo Sweatshirt Jacket Charcoal \$55.00  
 Logo Tee Shirt Long Sleeve Green \$45.00  
 Logo Tee Shirt Long Sleeve Charcoal \$45.00  
 Logo Tee Shirt Long Sleeve Turquoise \$45.00  
 Logo Tee Shirt Hoodie Long Sleeve Turquoise \$45.00  
 Logo Sweatshirt Hoodie Long Sleeve Charcoal \$55.00

**Additional Items from 2017 National not pictured:**  
 Logo White Tee Shirt \$15.00  
 Logo Green Jacket \$25.00

**Additional Items from 2018 Breeders Cup not pictured:**  
 Glass Holders \$5.00

## DIET-ASSOCIATED DILATED CARDIOMYOPATHY IN DOGS: WHAT DO WE KNOW?

*Reprinted with permission from Lisa M. Freeman, DVM, PhD, DACVN and Petfoodology*

Diet-associated DCM first came to light in cats in the late 1980s<sup>1</sup> and in dogs in the mid-1990s.<sup>2</sup> The association between diet and DCM in dogs has generally not been much in the news since the early 2000s, but over the past few years, an increasing number of DCM cases involving dogs appear to have been related to diet. The extent of this issue is not clear, not all cases have been confirmed to be linked to diet, and a true association has not been proven to exist. However, when one of the authors (RF) recently surveyed veterinary cardiologists about cases of possible diet-associated DCM in dogs examined in the past 2 years, information for > 240 cases was obtained, with responses received from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Israel, and Austria (unpublished data). Dogs for which breed was specified consisted of mixed-breed dogs (n = 134), Golden Retrievers (23), Labrador Retrievers (9), German Shepherd Dogs (8), Cocker Spaniels (7), and between 1 and 5 dogs each of 25 other breeds. Further, possible diet-associated DCM represented 16% of all cases of DCM diagnosed by the respondents during this period.

The recent announcement from the US FDA<sup>3</sup> alerting pet owners and veterinarians about reports of DCM in dogs eating pet foods containing peas, lentils, other legume seeds, or potatoes as main ingredients has raised concerns among the pet-owning public. Therefore, we wanted to increase awareness of this issue among veterinarians, review what is currently known about the possible association between certain diets and DCM in dogs, and discuss what veterinarians can do to help identify underlying causes.

**DCM and Diet in Dogs and Cats** Dilated cardiomyopathy used to be one of the most common cardiac diseases in cats. In 1987, Pion et al<sup>1</sup> published a landmark paper reporting that DCM in cats was associated with taurine deficiency and could be reversed by providing supplemental taurine. On the basis of that report and substantial subsequent research, the requirement for taurine in cat foods was increased, and taurine deficiency-related DCM is now uncommon in cats. However, it can still be seen in cats eating home-prepared diets or commercial diets prepared with inadequate nutritional expertise or quality control.

In 1995, veterinary cardiologists investigating the role of taurine deficiency in dogs with DCM suggested that certain breeds (eg, Golden Retrievers and American Cocker Spaniels) may be predisposed to taurine deficiency,<sup>2</sup> and a study in Cocker Spaniels subsequently showed that supplementation with taurine and L-carnitine could partially or completely reverse the disease.<sup>4</sup> Additional dog breeds potentially predisposed to taurine deficiency-associated DCM were identified, including Newfoundlands, English Setters, Saint Bernards, and Irish Wolfhounds.<sup>5–10</sup> Later, certain types of diets, including lamb and rice, low-protein, and high-fiber diets were associated with taurine deficiency in some dogs.<sup>5,7,9,11–14</sup> Research suggested that other ingredients (eg, beet pulp) may also increase the risk of taurine deficiency,<sup>15</sup> although the exact role of these ingredients was still unclear. In addition, the apparent breed predispositions suggested that genetic factors, breed-specific metabolic abnormalities, or low metabolic rates may also have been playing a role.<sup>8,9,16</sup>

### Current Concerns About Diet and DCM in Dogs

Beginning in the early 2000s, the number of dogs with taurine deficiency and DCM subjectively appeared to decrease. Recently, however, we have heard from veterinary cardiologists who had an impression that they were diagnosing DCM in Golden Retrievers at higher rates than expected and in dogs of breeds typically not thought to be prone to this condition. Subjectively, it also appeared that these dogs were frequently eating BEG diets

containing foodstuffs such as kangaroo, duck, buffalo, salmon, lamb, bison, venison, lentils, peas, fava beans, tapioca, barley, or chickpeas as major ingredients. Some of the affected dogs had low plasma or whole blood taurine concentrations and improved with taurine supplementation and a diet change. On the other hand, some dogs that did not have low plasma or whole blood taurine concentrations also improved with a diet change and taurine supplementation. Cardiologists and other veterinarians have been reporting cases to the US FDA, which is investigating the issue.<sup>3</sup>

Currently, it seems that in addition to those dogs with DCM completely unrelated to diet (eg, breed-specific DCM), there may be 2 groups of dogs with diet-associated DCM: dogs with DCM specifically related to taurine deficiency and dogs with DCM associated with separate, but yet unknown, dietary factors. Identifying the potential dietary factors contributing to DCM in these latter 2 groups may be challenging. From our discussions with veterinary cardiologists, it appears that many dogs in both groups have been eating BEG diets; however, the true percentages are not known. The previously mentioned survey identified 23 types of BEG diets being fed to dogs with DCM, including home-prepared diets, and not all diets were grain-free diets. Importantly, BEG diets have increased in popularity in recent years, and many dogs with DCM unrelated to diet and many dogs without DCM are likely eating these diets.

Multiple factors play a role in the increased popularity of BEG diets.<sup>17</sup> Regardless, the apparent link between BEG diets and DCM may be due to the grain-free nature of these diets (ie, use of ingredients such as lentils, chickpeas, or potatoes to replace grains), other common ingredients in BEG diets (eg, exotic meats, flaxseed, fruits, or probiotics), possible nutritional imbalances, or inadvertent inclusion of toxic dietary components. Or, the apparent association may be spurious.

The complexity of pet food manufacturing is often underestimated. Pet foods must contain all required nutrients in the right amounts and right proportions. Nutrient standards (minimums and, for some nutrients, maximums) are established by the Association of American Feed Control Officials. However, the effects of processing (or not processing) the ingredients must also be considered, along with nutrient bioavailability and the effects of all other ingredients in the food. Unfortunately, this may not always be done. In addition, extensive testing is needed on an ongoing basis to ensure rigorous quality control. Inclusion of exotic ingredients, such as kangaroo, alligator, fava beans, and lentils, adds another level of complexity to ensuring the diet is nutritious and healthy. Exotic ingredients have different nutritional profiles and different digestibility than typical ingredients and have the potential to affect the metabolism of other nutrients. For example, the bioavailability of taurine is different when included in a lamb-based diet, compared with a chicken-based diet, and can be affected by the amount and types of fiber in the diet.<sup>14,15</sup>

### Diet-associated DCM in dogs with taurine deficiency

Golden Retrievers have been reported, as a breed, to be susceptible to development of taurine deficiency-associated DCM,<sup>2,8</sup> leading some to suggest a breed-wide genetic propensity for diet-associated DCM. One of the authors (JAS) recently concluded a study evaluating 24 Golden Retrievers with echocardiographically confirmed DCM and low plasma or whole blood taurine concentrations that were followed up for 12 to 24 months after a diet change and the addition of supplemental taurine to their diet (unpublished data). Although the results are still preliminary, all but 1 dog for which follow-up data were available had substantial echocardiographic improvement. In addition, in all 9 dogs that initially had CHF, the heart failure resolved, and diuretic administration was substantially reduced or safely discontinued. All 24 of these Golden Retrievers were eating BEG diets at the time DCM was diagnosed.

Although taurine deficiency appears to be more common in Golden Retrievers than in dogs of other breeds, plasma and whole blood taurine concentrations should be measured in every dog with DCM because some dogs of other breeds with DCM have been found to have taurine deficiency. Even dogs of breeds that have previously been found to be genetically predisposed to developing DCM, such as Doberman Pinschers and Boxers, should be tested because taurine concentrations have been found to be low in some of these dogs also. In addition, taurine deficiency should be considered as a possibility not just in dogs eating BEG, very-low-protein, or high-fiber diets, but also in dogs eating vegetarian, vegan, or home-prepared diets.

The reasons for taurine deficiency in dogs are not completely understood but could be related to reduced synthesis of taurine resulting from an absolute dietary deficiency of the taurine precursors methionine and cystine; reduced bioavailability of taurine, methionine, or cystine in the diet; abnormal enterohepatic recycling of bile acids because of fiber content of the diet; increased urinary loss of taurine; or altered metabolism of taurine in the intestine as a result of interactions between certain dietary components and intestinal microbes.<sup>9,12–16</sup> In addition to the possibility of breed-related metabolic differences, there may be genetic factors that play a role in susceptibility to taurine deficiency, as appeared to be the case in cats with taurine deficiency.<sup>18</sup>

### Diet-associated DCM in dogs without taurine deficiency

Preliminary results of a study<sup>19</sup> performed by one of the authors (DBA) found that dogs with DCM that had been eating grain-free diets had more advanced cardiomyopathic changes than did dogs with DCM that had been eating grain-based diets. Unreported results of the study indicated that a subset of clinically and echocardiographically improved after a diet change. Notably, however, some dogs improved after a diet change from one grain-free diet to another, and this finding, along with the differences identified between dogs fed various BEG diets, suggested that DCM was not necessarily tied to the grain-free status of the diet. Taurine supplementation was prescribed for many of these dogs despite the lack of apparent deficiency, and it is unclear what role taurine may have played in their recovery.

Although DCM in some dogs without any apparent taurine deficiency appears to be reversible with a change in diet, with or without taurine supplementation, no cause has thus far been identified for non-aurine deficiency-associated DCM. Possible causes that are being investigated include absolute deficiencies of other nutrients, altered bioavailability of certain nutrients because of nutrient-nutrient interactions, and the inadvertent inclusion of toxic ingredients.

(continued on page 11)

For example, BEG diets could possibly be more likely to have deficiencies of nutrients other than taurine, such as choline, copper, l-carnitine, magnesium, thiamine, or vitamin E and selenium, that have been associated with cardiomyopathies.<sup>19</sup> Although pet foods are required to be nutritionally complete and balanced (unless they have a label statement that they are for intermittent or supplemental use only), that does not always provide a guarantee,<sup>20</sup> and deficiencies could occur if diets do not contain appropriate amounts of all dietary nutrients. Further, a deficiency may occur even if a diet contains the required minimum amount of a nutrient because of reduced bioavailability or interaction with other ingredients in the diet. This may be a concern for diets based on exotic ingredients, whose nutritional properties may not be as well studied.

Researchers are also exploring whether diet-associated DCM in dogs without taurine deficiency may be related to inclusion of a cardiotoxic ingredient in the diet. This could be an adulterated ingredient, as with ingredients containing melamine–cyanuric acid that affected pet foods in 2007, resulting in extensive recalls<sup>21</sup>; a heavy metal; a chemical sprayed on 1 of the ingredients; or even a natural chemical compound in 1 of the ingredients that has toxic effects when fed in large amounts.

Of course, the cause may be even more complicated, such as an interaction between gut microbiota and a dietary factor (eg, trimethylamine N-oxide).<sup>22</sup> It is encouraging that some recovery of cardiac function has been observed in some dogs following a change in diet, with or without taurine supplementation. However, research is needed to identify the underlying cause.

### Diet History

For many years, veterinary nutritionists have emphasized the importance of nutritional assessment.<sup>23,24</sup> Nutritional assessment includes 4 key components: body weight, body condition score, muscle condition score, and diet history. Body weight and body condition score are likely already a part of most clinicians' standard physical examination, and muscle condition scoring would be a valuable addition. Cardiac cachexia (muscle loss) occurs early in patients with CHF and should be detected at its mildest stages, when interventions are more likely to be successful.<sup>25</sup> Muscle condition scoring charts and training videos are available.<sup>26,27</sup>

The fourth component of nutritional assessment—diet history—may not be routinely collected but is equally important. A diet history, for example, can help identify issues that could be contributing to an underlying disease. For patients with recent-onset CHF, for example, the diet history may reveal that the owner changed to a new diet with a higher sodium content. Other diet-associated issues that can be identified from the diet history include anemia or thiamine deficiency caused by a nutritionally unbalanced home-prepared diet or diarrhea due to a contaminated raw meat diet. Veterinary cardiologists examining dogs with DCM were able to make an association with BEG diets because they were obtaining a diet history, and obtaining a diet history may help researchers identify patterns (eg, products made by the same manufacturer or by manufacturers using ingredients from the same supplier) that could eventually lead to determining the underlying cause.

A diet history can also identify an individual patient's food preferences, such as whether canned or dry food is preferred or whether specific flavors are preferred, that can be helpful for feeding when the patient is hospitalized. And, a diet history is useful in determining whether the patient's usual diet is appropriate after discharge or needs to be changed. For example, dietary modification will be required for dogs with cardiac disease that are eating high-sodium dog food or treats.

The diet history should include the main foods being fed. However, this is more than just "dry dog food" or "brand X dog food." It is critical to solicit information on brand, the exact product, and even the flavor, as these factors can make a big difference in the ingredients and nutrient profile. We recommend telling owners that their description of a product should be detailed enough that we could go to the store and buy the exact product they are feeding. If owners are feeding a home-prepared diet, the exact recipe should be provided.

Of course, pet food is often just the tip of the iceberg. The diet history should also include all treats; table food; rawhides, bully sticks, and other chews; dietary supplements; and foods used to administer medications. These other components of the diet can contribute large amounts of sodium and other nutrients to a patient's overall intake or unbalance the overall diet. In addition, these other components may contribute to adverse effects. For example, a Fanconi-like syndrome associated with jerky treats has been reported<sup>28</sup> but may not have been identified if complete diet histories had not been obtained for affected dogs. In addition, although diet-associated DCM is most likely related to pet food, it may possibly be a result of another dietary component (eg, treats, chews, or supplements) commonly fed to dogs eating these diets.

Use of a standard form, such as the generic form recommended by the World Small Animal Veterinary Association,<sup>26</sup> or a cardiology-specific form (Supplementary Appendix S1, available at [avmajournals.avma.org/doi/suppl/10.2460/javma.253.11.1390](http://avmajournals.avma.org/doi/suppl/10.2460/javma.253.11.1390)) will facilitate obtaining a complete diet history. We recommend all clinicians collect a diet history for every dog and cat patient at every appointment. Because many owners are unable to recall specific diet details at the time of their appointment, we recommend having owners complete the diet history form at home prior to the appointment so that they can provide exact details on all components of the diet.

### Recommendations

If DCM is diagnosed in a dog that is eating a BEG, vegetarian, vegan, or home-prepared diet, we recommend measuring plasma and whole blood taurine concentrations.<sup>b</sup> It is still unclear whether plasma or whole blood taurine concentration more accurately reflects myocardial concentration in dogs, so measurement of both plasma and whole blood taurine concentrations is recommended. However, if cost is an issue, measurement of whole blood taurine concentration should be prioritized because it is thought to be a better indicator of long-term taurine status. Importantly, reference ranges for taurine concentrations in dogs should be interpreted cautiously. Dilated cardiomyopathy has been diagnosed in some dogs, particularly Golden Retrievers, with whole blood taurine concentrations between 200 and 250 nmol/L, which would generally be considered within reference limits, although at the low end of the reference range. At least some of these patients, however, have responded well to a diet change and taurine supplementation. Therefore, reference ranges for plasma and whole blood taurine concentrations may need to be breed specific. Research in Golden Retrievers with taurine deficiency-associated DCM is ongoing, but a whole blood taurine concentration of at least 250 nmol/L is recommended for this breed.

We also recommend that all other dogs in the household that are eating the same diet be screened for DCM. Further, we recommend that owners of dogs with possible diet-associated DCM be instructed to save samples of all dietary components they are currently feeding, including not only the main food itself but also all treats, chews, and supplements. Ideally, this would include not just samples of the dietary components but also product bags or labels. With complete diet information in hand, the veterinarian or owner should report the case to the FDA, which can be done either online or by telephone<sup>29</sup> because this will help the agency identify possible underlying causes as quickly as possible. A recently published article<sup>30</sup> provides an excellent summary of information for veterinarians on reporting suspected animal food issues. If the dog is a Golden Retriever, the veterinarian or owner may also consider reporting the case to the Josh Stern Cardiac Genetics Laboratory,<sup>31</sup> which is currently evaluating possible genetic factors that may increase susceptibility to taurine deficiency.

For dogs in which possible diet-associated DCM is diagnosed, we recommend the owner change the diet to one made by a well-established manufacturer that contains standard ingredients (eg, chicken, beef, rice, corn, and wheat). In the authors' (LMF and JER) hospital, we recommend several specific products with a low sodium content that only contain standard ingredients.<sup>32</sup> We also emphasize that changing to a raw or home-prepared diet may not be sufficient to improve cardiac abnormalities and may increase the risk for other nutritional deficiencies or infectious diseases. For dogs that require a home-prepared diet or that have other medical conditions that require special dietary considerations, consultation with a board-certified veterinary nutritionist is recommended.

We also provide supplemental taurine for all dogs with possible diet-associated DCM. In dogs with a taurine deficiency, taurine supplementation is critical. In dogs with taurine concentrations within reference limits, it is unclear whether taurine supplementation is needed, and some patients have recovered with only a diet change. However, taurine supplementation may still have some benefits owing to other effects of taurine (eg, antioxidant and positive inotropic effects). Taurine supplements from manufacturers with a history of good quality control should be used. A 2009 study<sup>33</sup> identified certain brands with good quality control. In addition, ConsumerLab is expected to release a report in late 2018 on independent quality control testing of taurine supplements.

Although the optimal taurine dosage for dogs with taurine deficiency is not fully understood, we recommended 250 mg, PO, every 12 hours for dogs weighing < 10 kg (22 lb); 500 mg, PO, every 12 hours for dogs weighing 10 to 25 kg (55 lb); and 1,000 mg, PO, every 12 hours for dogs weighing > 25 kg.

Follow-up echocardiography should be performed in 3 to 6 months. In our experience, some improvements are typically evident in this time span. However, in certain dogs, it may take even longer for improvements to be apparent echocardiographically.

Finally, although an association between BEG diets and DCM in cats has not been recognized, we recommend collecting diet histories on all cats as well and especially in cats with DCM. If cats with DCM are eating a BEG, vegetarian, vegan, or home-prepared diet, we recommend following the same

## Summary

Pet food marketing has outpaced the science, and owners are not always making healthy, science-based decisions even though they want to do the best for their pets. The recent cases of possible diet-associated DCM are obviously concerning and warrant vigilance within the veterinary and research communities. Importantly, although there appears to be an association between DCM and feeding BEG, vegetarian, vegan, or home-prepared diets in dogs, a cause-and-effect relationship has not been proven, and other factors may be equally or more important. Assessing diet history in all patients can help to identify diet-related cardiac diseases as early as possible and can help identify the cause and, potentially, best treatment for diet-associated DCM in dogs.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**BEG** Boutique, exotic-ingredient, and grain-free

**CHF** Congestive heart failure

**DCM** Dilated cardiomyopathy

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## THERE ARE NO PEOPLE LIKE SHOW PEOPLE by Jeannette York

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*I wanted to share my story in an effort to thank several people in my local dog community.*

I have been showing Afghan Hounds for 20-plus years. In November of 2017 at the Southern Arizona Afghan Hound Club specialty weekend, I had an incident in the ring while I was showing in Best of Breed—and I survived because of my dog show friends and dog show strangers. Maybe the GAZETTE could ask for articles on how showing dogs has impacted their lives. Below is an example of how dog showing has impacted mine during a lifechanging moment.

It was a cold morning at the Tucson Fairgrounds, and my left leg above my knee was still hurting after trying everything to relieve the pain. I worked a full 40 hours in four days, bathed four Afghan Hound show dogs, and woke up at a crazy early hour to drive four hours to Tucson, Arizona, the morning of the specialty show. The excitement of going to the dog shows overran the pain in my leg, which I know most dog show people can relate to.

Because I am a breeder of Afghan Hounds and believe strongly in socializing my dogs, I took four of my hounds with me this show weekend. I do have a reputation of bringing several dogs to show—I just love being in the show ring and my dogs love it as well, as I train my dogs to believe it is the best place in the world to be. Time with mom.

My girl Ch. York's Boanne Catch Me If You Can, JC, CGC, RN, and I were ready to enter the ring. I was determined to compete as there is no other thrill for me. There were several specials in front of us and the judge did all of the examinations and it was time for the last go-around. I was running at the pace of others in the ring and showing my all by going as fast as I could while feeling the pain in my leg. Halfway around the ring I heard a snap, just like a tree branch, and I blacked out.

The next moment that I remember is waking up on the ground with the sun in my eyes. People started to gather with umbrellas, and the judge took off her jacket and placed it under my head. I asked where my dog was, and my friend Janice had hold of her. I looked to my right and asked my friend Christine, "Who won Best of Breed?" Christine was lying on the ground holding my hand as I screamed in pain and realized something wasn't right with my leg. My friend Kathleon knelt next to me and held my left hand and said, "Jeannette, your leg is broken."

I could not respond to that news. I turned my head back to Christine and said, "Who did you say won Best of Breed?" Christine said, "You did." I screamed, whoo, hoo! Then I said, "Do you think it was for pity because I fell down?" and she replied, "No Jeannette, your girl looked beautiful and she was deserving."

Friends gathered my purse, called my husband, and suggested I take off all of my jewelry before the ambulance arrived.

The ambulance came and rushed me to the hospital. I was heavily medicated for the pain as my femur broke in half while I was running. I was taken care of, but what about my dogs, what about my dogs? My friends gathered my tent, four dogs, crates, equipment and show van and took them to my friend Kathleon and Helen's house. Yes, they took all four dogs for several days until my husband flew down to get the dogs and my van.

My friends even went to the hotel where I was staying, to collect all of my belongings. My friend Chris followed the ambulance and, once in the emergency room, held my hand and every day, including Thanksgiving, came to see me in the hospital. There were so many words of encouragement, hand holding, and flowing tears. My friends brought me toiletries, clothes, cards, ordered items from the gift store and came to see me every day of the 10 days I was there. They would name the people who have had knees replaced, hips replaced, and are still showing today. I felt so loved.

I was told by my friend Ginnie that several people, people I didn't even know, made a big circle at the show when I was lying on the ground and they said a prayer for me. Cards from so many show people I know and didn't know.

People always ask me what do I get from showing dogs, money? No, I tell them friendships, friendships that are so strong, friendships that when you are in need they would do anything for you, at any time. To try and thank everyone in person would be too difficult. But, I hope you could publish this article as a thank-you to the members of the Afghan Hound Club of Greater Phoenix, Southern Arizona Afghan Hound Association, Afghan Hound Club of America, Tucson Kennel Club, and judge Paula Hartinger.

*P.S. I am a 20-year breast cancer survivor, where the cancer has gone to the bone. During these years of my fight, dog showing has been my escape from reality and has done so much for me. Since November 2017, I have had two surgeries on my leg and hip. I was told I would never run again, but I will prove the doctor wrong as my passion is too strong not to be in the show ring.—J.Y. afghansofyork@aol.com*



COURTESY AUTHOR

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR THE 2019 BUCKEYE BASH AFGHAN HOUND JUDGING LINE-UP

August 9, 10 & 11

## Friday

Midwest Afghan Hound Club

Sweepstakes: Tony Saia (Gulfport, FL)

Breed: Ramon Valenzuela Podesta (Santiago, Chile)

## Saturday AM

Lorain County KC

Breed: Barbara Dempsey Alderman (Moon Twp., PA)

Group: Barbara Dempsey Alderman (Moon Twp., PA)

BIS: Jim Fehring (Bixby, OK)

NOHS Group: Jim Fehring (Bixby, OK)

NOHS BIS: Roberto Perez Pico (San Juan, Puerto Rico)

## Saturday PM

Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio

Sweepstakes: (Becky Morisette, Macomb, MI)

Breed: Vicki Seiler-Cushman (Xenia, OH)

## Sunday AM

Lorain County KC

Breed: Roberto Perez Pico (San Juan, Puerto Rico)

Group: Ramon Valenzuela Podesta (Santiago, Chile)

BIS: Barbara Alderman (Moon Twp., PA)

NOHS Group: Roberto Perez Pico (San Juan, Puerto Rico)

NOHS BIS: Ramon Valenzuela Podesta (Santiago, Chile)

## Sunday PM

Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus

Sweepstakes: Sherri Meyer, Indianapolis, IN

Breed: Marla Meindl-Capozzi (Manorville, NY)

All held at same location near Oberlin, Ohio

## List of Approved Specialties for 2019 - by Amy Mero

### AHC of California - April 12, 2019 - 2 shows

#### Oak Park Canyon, Silverado, CA

Sweeps: Darlene Anderson

AM Show: David Samuelson

PM Show: Nancy Self

### AHC of Dallas - April 27, 2019 - 2 shows

#### Railroad Park, Lewisville, TX

AM Show

Sweeps judge: Clay Williams

Regular Judge: Marla Capozzi

PM Show

Regular Judge: Danielle M. Brown

### AHC Northern New Jersey - May 3, 2019

#### Tinicum Park, Erwinna, PA

Regular Judge: Terrence Wilcox (AUS)

### Afghan Hound Club of St Louis - June 1 & June 2

#### June 1

Sweeps Judge: Mr Johnnie Roe

Regular Judge: Rev. C.R. (Rick) Martin

#### June 2

Regular Judge: Bradley Jenkins

### Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago - June 7 - 2 shows

#### Pitcher Park, Joliet, IL

##### AM Show

Regular Judge: Thomas Kirstein

##### PM Show

Sweeps Judge: Barbara Hastings

Regular Judge: Russ Hastings

### Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club - June 8

#### Solano Fairgrounds, Vallejo, CA

Sweeps Judge: Nancy Lovelady

Regular Judge: Helen Stein

### Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland - June 14 & 15

#### Washington County Fair Complex, Hillsboro, OR

##### June 14

Sweeps Judge: Robert Keller

Regular Judge: Patrick Byrne

##### June 15

Sweeps Judge: Pat Hastings

Regular Judge: Janice Pardue

### Evergreen Afghan Hound Club - June 14

#### Washington County Fair Complex, Hillsboro, OR

Sweeps Judge: Gail Kramer

Regular Judge: Roberta Keller

### Colonial Afghan Hound Club - June 14

#### Showcase For Dogs, East Windsor, CT

Sweeps Judge: William J. Hansen (NZ)

Regular Judge: Karen DeVon

### Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club - June 15 - 2 shows

#### Showcase For Dogs, East Windsor, CT

AM Judge: Jackie Day (UK)

PM Sweeps Judge: Vinnie Schettino

PM Regular Judge: Honi Reisman

### Afghan Hound Assoc of Long Island - June 16

#### Showcase For Dogs, East Windsor, CT

Sweeps Judge: Dierdre Rahm

Regular Judge: Lucy Orlowski

### Potomac Afghan Hound Club - June 21

#### Richmond Raceway Complex, Richmond, VA

Sweeps Judge: Chuck Milne

Regular judge: Patricia Franklin

### Tidewater Afghan Hound Club - June 22

#### Richmond Raceway Complex, Richmond, VA

Judge: Lisa Warren

### Richmond Afghan Hound Club - June 23

#### Richmond Raceway Complex, Richmond, VA

Regular Judge: Thomas Kirstein

### Evergreen Afghan Hound Club - August 3

#### Argus Facility for Dogs

Sweeps Judge: Susan Paine

Regular Judge: Nancy Edgington

### Midwest Afghan Hound Club - August 9

#### Lorain Kennel Club Fairgrounds, Oberlin, OH

Sweeps Judge: Tony Saia

Regular Judge: Ramon Podesta

### Afghan Hound Club of Southwest Ohio - August 10

#### Lorain Kennel Club Fairgrounds, Oberlin, OH

Sweeps Judge: Floyd Gale

Regular judge: Vicki Seiler

### Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus - August 11

#### Lorain Kennel Club Fairgrounds, Oberlin, OH

Sweeps: Sherri Newkirk-Meyer

Regular: Marla Meindl-Capozzi

### Heartland Afghan Hound Club of Greater Kansas City -

#### Aug 16-17

#### Expocentre Drive, Expocentre Dr, Topeka, KS

Sweeps Judge: Bruce Coffman

Regular Judge: Michael Canalizo

Sweeps Judge: Billy Webb

Regular Judge: Lucy Orlowski

### Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club - August 23 - 2 shows

#### Washington County Fairgrounds, Lake Elmo, MN

##### AM Show

Sweeps Judge: Christine Pinkston

Regular Judge: James Dalton

##### PM Show

Regular Judge: JoAnne Buehler

### Afghan Hound Club of Austin - September 28

#### Bell County Expo Center, Belton, TX

Judge: Nancy Edgington

### Carolina Afghan Hound Club - October 26

#### Founders Inn & Spa, Virginia Beach, VA

Judge: Stefan Boieck (Ger)

### Richmond Afghan Hound Club - October 26

#### Founders Inn & Spa, Virginia Beach, VA

Regular Judge: Mary Fisher (UK)

### Tidewater Afghan Hound Club - October 27

#### Founders Inn & Spa, Virginia Beach, VA

Judge: Julie Roche

### Suncoast Afghan Hound Club - December 13

#### Orange County Convention Center

Judge: Lotte Jorgensen



## CAPC STUDY: LYME DISEASE SPREADING TO REGIONS ONCE THOUGHT LOW-RISK

*Condition in dogs could signal increasing threat to people, researchers say.* Reprinted with the permission of dvm360.com staff

The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) recently released a study that shows that Lyme disease is spreading to regions not previously thought to be at risk for tick-borne disease. States such as Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota, Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia and Tennessee have all seen an increase in the prevalence of Lyme disease, according to a media release discussing the study, which CAPC conducted from January 2012 to December 2016. Results from the study were recently published in *Environmetrics*.

"The results of this milestone study show increasing risk for Lyme disease in endemic areas and pinpoint regions in the U.S. where Lyme is spreading—areas not historically considered endemic," says Michael Yabsley, PhD, a professor in the Department of Population Health, College of Veterinary Medicine and Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia. "This expanding risk of Lyme disease demands heightened vigilance in protecting both our pets and our families."

New research from CAPC found that the prevalence of Lyme disease is trending up in areas previously thought to be at a lower risk for tick-borne diseases. (Image courtesy of CAPC)

The study was motivated by the increase in Lyme disease cases in the U.S. and, in particular, in states not traditionally considered Lyme-endemic, the release states. Results suggest that:

- Canine prevalence rates for Lyme disease are rising.
- Lyme prevalence rates are increasing most in areas where the pathogen has encroached recently.
- Lyme prevalence in dogs is rising in states traditionally not considered to be of high Lyme risk, suggesting that human risk may also be increasing in these areas, including regions in Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota, Ohio, Michigan and Tennessee.

Significant increases in canine Lyme prevalence have been seen in some areas that are not yet reporting significant human incidence. Researchers speculate that canine prevalence is more sensitive to changes in Lyme risk and could serve as an early warning system for changes in human risk.

The study was created to investigate regional trends in the prevalence of antibodies to *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the disease-causing bacterium of Lyme disease, according to the release. To conduct the research, the CAPC team analyzed more than 16 million Lyme tests from domestic dogs in the U.S. over 60 months. The serologic data was provided by IDEXX Laboratories.

"CAPC research shows the risk for Lyme disease is not static. The way it's changing varies spatially across the country," says Christopher McMahan, associate professor in the department of mathematical sciences at Clemson University, in the release.

Crucial in the fight against Lyme, Yabsley says, is year-round tick protection. Different species of ticks are active all 12 months of the year, and ticks that transmit Lyme are active at different times in the year in different regions, the release states. For instance, as you move further south, adult ticks are more active in the winter.

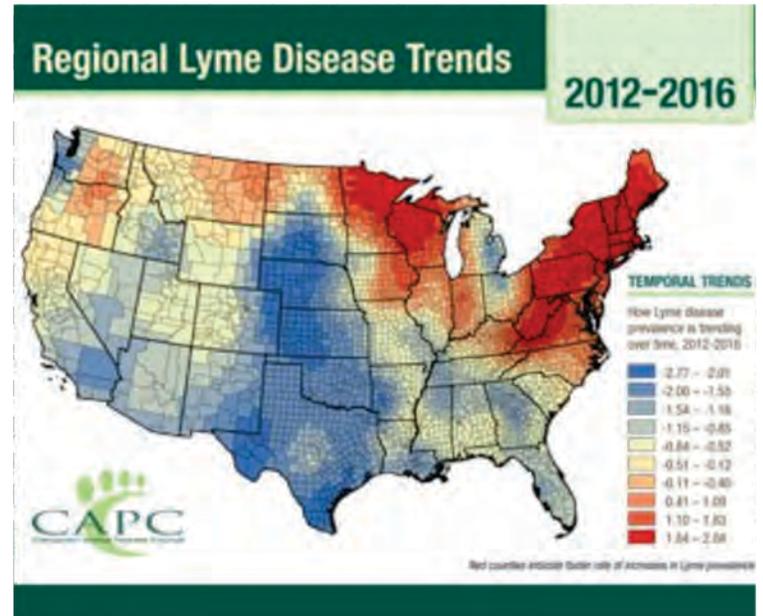
"I've been practicing for over 34 years in Nashville where many people don't think Lyme disease is a concern. But I've seen canine Lyme increasing in Tennessee for several years and regularly test and vaccinate for the disease," says Craig Prior, BVSC, CVJ, a veterinarian and former owner of VCA Murphy Road Animal Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee. "Many people tend to believe that if they don't go on hikes or spend time in wooded areas, they aren't at risk for Lyme. Ticks are everywhere

—including suburban and gated communities where deer, raccoons, opossum, birds and other hosts frequent back yards. That's why CAPC recommends

year-round tick prevention for dogs—and cats

—and regular screening to protect dogs from this debilitating disease that can be extremely hard to treat."

On [petdiseasealerts.org](http://petdiseasealerts.org), CAPC now provides monthly forecasts for Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. It also provides access to monthly canine test results in prevalence maps, a CAPC resource available free online at [petsandparasites.org](http://petsandparasites.org). With more than 21 million canine *B. burgdorferi* antibody test results collected between 2012 and 2017 in dogs, these maps allow veterinarians, physicians, pet owners and travelers to assess the risk of exposure across the United States and Canada.





"Confetti"  
painted by  
Terry d. Chacon  
16 X 20 oil on  
board from  
the artist's  
collection.



24" X 24" Acrylic Painting by  
Lee Canalizo