

Topknot News

Volume 2020 Issue 1 Spring Edition
The Newsletter of the Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.



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Table of Contents

Newsletter Ads & Deadline	3
President's Message	4
Letter from the Editor.	4
Committee—Agility	5
Committee—AKC Delegates.	5
Committee—Breed & Public Education.	7
From the President: Breeders' Cup 2020	8
Committee—BC 2020 Show Report	8
Committee—Canine Health.	9
Committee—Inventory/Ways & Means	9
Committee—Judges Education.	10
Committee—Library/Archives	10
Committee—Mailing List	11
Committee—National Events Site Research	11
Committee—National Specialty 2019 Final Report	12
Committee—Obedience/Rally/Versatility.	15
Committee—Regional Clubs	16
Committee—Sunshine.	18
News—Letter to the Membership	18
News—Crufts Qualifying Events	18
News—Outstanding Sportsmanship Award	19
News—The Afghan Hound on the AKC Website	19
News—Topknot News Adds Team Member	19
News—AHCA to Support Bloat Study	20
Cont Coverage of 2019 National Specialty	21
Article—Training for Trick Dog.	23
<i>GCHP Agha Djari's Fifth Dimension of Sura.</i>	24-25
Article—Grooming the Cottony Coat.	26
Article—Setting Up A Puppy Cam	26
<i>GCH Dragonfly Ecco Aries Dangerous Seduction.</i>	28
Article—Preservationist Breeding	29
<i>CH Hosanna Call Down The Thunder On Shining Mountain.</i>	31
<i>CH Windigo When Stars Align.</i>	32
Regional Specialty Results	33
AKC Registration Statistics	33, 35
<i>Le Nobel's Fly Like An Eagle At Overlook.</i>	34

2020 Committee Chairpersons

Agility - Mikki Razor
AKC Delegate - Connie Butherus
AKC Gazette Column - Harry Bennett
ASFA Delegate - Bob Jordan
Awards - James Donahue
Breed & Public Education - Anna Stromberg
Breeders' Cup 2021 - to be determined
Canine Health - Anna Tyler
Inventory - Dorma Sue Busby
Judges Education - Harry Bennett
Junior Showmanship - Alicia Jones
Legislative Affairs - AKC.org/governmentrelations
Library/Archives - Helen Stein
Lure Coursing - Eddie Kominek
Mailing List - Dorma Sue Busby
Membership - Jennifer Taylor
Meet the Breed - Anna Stromberg
Mentor Program - Christine Pinkston
National Events Site Research - Erica Jantos
National Specialty 2021 - Dorma Sue Busby & Becky Morisette
Obedience/Rally/Versatility - Lynda Hicks
Parliamentarian - Connie Butherus
Policies & Procedures - Jennifer Taylor
Regional Clubs - Amy Mero
Rescue - Martha Parks Powell
Social Media - Erica Jantos
Statistics - Carol Rivette
Sunshine Committee - Dorma Sue Busby
Topknot News - Brian Wood
Ways & Means - Dorma Sue Busby
Website Administrator - Eddie Kominek

Back Cover

The Official logo designed by Kay Finch graces the back cover. This is the only version of the logo approved for use.

Be sure to see the Winter 2012 issue of Topknot News (available on the Club site), for a tremendous amount of Kay Finch information. Many thanks to Mary Blacker, Betty Stites, Vicky Zayac and other contributors for this valuable gem!

2020 Officers & Directors

President - Helen Stein (2022)
First Vice President - Jennifer Taylor (2022)
Second Vice President - Russ Hastings (2021)
Corresponding Sec. - Dorma Sue Busby (2021)
Recording Secretary - Eddie Kominek (2022)
Treasurer - Robert (Bob) Jordan (2021)
Director - Connie Butherus (2023)
Director - D Scott Pfeil (2023)
Director - Anna Tyler (2021)
Director - Linda Jackson (2021)
Director - Beth Anne Hall (2022)
Director - Christine O'Connor (2022)

Newsletter Ads & Deadline

NEXT DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2020

Full Page Color Ad - \$75 - Basic Design is included!

Currently Covers and Inside Covers are reserved for Club Use.

Payment via PayPal to paypal@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org, via Credit Card email Club Treasurer Robert Jordan treasurer@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org for an invoice, via Check by mail to Robert Jordan, Treasurer, AHCA, 1494 Baker Rd, Martinsburg, WV 25404-9434.

Please send your email with Text & Attached image files, to Linda Kramer benitoafs@verizon.net.

Or you may submit your ad Print Ready: 8.75" x 11.25" - 300dpi - sRGB, as aPDF file. This size includes the bleed.

Member Address Changes

Please remember to notify Dorma Sue Busby of your address changes, or if you hear of a fellow Member who is ill or has crossed over the Rainbow Bridge, at barakiafs@peoplepc.com or 810-241-2529 mobile.

TN Corrections & Additions

Please see "2019 National Continuing Coverage" for more photographs of Award Winners!

2020 Rescue Calendars

Calendars are \$22, US postage paid, \$25 for International. Send checks to: AHCA Rescue, 251 Warwick Lane, Alabaster, AL 35007, or PayPal address: Affierescue@aol.com, making sure to include your Name & Address in the **comments**, as well as specify how many calendars you are ordering!

AHCA Website

www.afghanhoundclubofamerica.org

AHCA Rescue Hotline

1-877-237-3728

Next AHCA Events

2021—National & Regional Specialties

October 3-9 in Wilmington OH

2021—Breeders' Cup *to be announced*

Newsletter Team

Editor - Brian Wood - brian@shiningmtn.com

Proof Reader - Mary Blacker

Proof Reader - Megan Rice

Advertising - Linda Kramer

Advertising - Joanne Sternhell

Reporter - Karen Irazabal

Layout & Distribution - Stir Greer

In Memory

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of the following:

Members:

Floyd Gale (Beachbrook)

Leann Mann (Hallmark)

Non-Members:

Lin Valimiki (Atelier)

Condolences

Our deepest condolences go to Brian Wood (Shining Mountain) on the loss of his mother.



President's Message

Welcome to the Spring of 2020! It's not what you expected! As you read this, I'm hopeful that we'll all soon be getting back to a normal way of life with our family, friends and wonderful Hounds. As you know, the Afghan Hound Club of America Board has made the decision to cancel its eagerly awaited Breeders' Cup and subsequently to cancel the 2020 AHCA National Specialty. This is disappointing to all, especially for those with young ones who have now missed a Spring season to get puppies and young teenagers out into the world of shows, coursing, and puppy classes.

Like our ancient breed, we Afghan Hound folk are resilient and clever; we will find ways to enjoy and entertain our Hounds during this indefinite hiatus from dog shows.

The AHCA benefits from the work of our volunteers: Committee Chairmen, Officers and Board Members, many of whose reports appear in this issue. These Team Players are working to make your Club the best that it can be. I was pleased to read in the report from Delegate Connie Butherus that AKC has designated 2020 Year of the Breeder. Our dedicated breeders and owners will continue to preserve the Afghan Hound described in our Breed Standard, not bowing to fad or fashion, but continuing to preserve the Afghan Hound as he should be: "True to tradition throughout the ages".

All of us are looking forward to better, healthier times. As you work with your beloved dogs, as we begin to return to shows, lure trials, and performance events... remember to always be a **great** ambassador for the Afghan Hound. Be a good sport. Be helpful to newcomers, especially those questioning whether the Afghan Hound world will welcome them. Set a good example for your peers, the upcoming young people and the new family just learning about dog shows. Take the time!

Share your knowledge! Keep the best interest of your dogs in mind.

Take care and stay well,

Helen Stein



Letter from the Editor

Welcome new team member Megan Joy Rice!

This issue marks the 3rd issue with ads. Consider supporting the Club with your own ads, which make a big difference in our overall production costs. They transform the newsletter into a quality piece of memorabilia, adding historical value. Ads so far have included: wins, dog memorials, people memorials, new puppies, and celebrations of companionship. Certainly everyone can think of a good ad subject to share with the readership now and for years to come.

The Official AHCA logo is featured on our back cover, designed by Afghan Hound breeder and artist Kay Finch. Bill Shelton's 'preservationist breeding' advice is to 'breed a litter' in order to prevent extinction. Selma Kominek offers her thoughts on Preservationist Breeding in this issue as well. *Brian Wood, Editor*



Committee — Agility

Ron McClelland has agreed to judge our 2021 National Specialty Agility trial. “Snow” CH Simoon’s Snow Dance At Dawn AX AXJ MXP3 MJP PREF competed at the AKC Agility Invitational in December 2019 and earned the PC Medallion. Russ & Barb Hastings were there to see the final run Snow’s career. Snow competed at the age of 13 1/2. That is amazing. *Mikki Razor, Chairperson*



Committee — AKC Delegates

The Delegates have met twice since my last report to you, the Membership of the AHCA. Some important matters have occurred, others not so important as with all organizations. The goal is to address the need to know with a smattering of the nice to know and omit the other stuff.

The December meeting of the AKC Delegates was held in Orlando FL, in conjunction with the AKC Show as in the past. The Parent Club Committee continues to be very active in many areas relevant to the breed clubs. The breed preservation group has developed into a new subcommittee which will focus on breeders, breeding, mentoring and breeder education.

The first meeting of this group was held prior to the December meetings, with the second one prior to the March meetings. AKC staff attended and presented the results of a recent survey of active breeders. Canine College course development was discussed as well as the year end statistics.

It was announced that the AKC will now offer an award, of a free litter registration, to the Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Show at All-Breed and Group shows. This will also be offered to all Parent Club National Specialty shows. We also learned that the AKC has announced that 2020 will be the Year of the Breeder. There was a good deal of focus on the need for breed mentoring and breed education. The AKC plans to do a DNA White Paper this coming year...more to follow to be sure.

The Otterhound Parent Club has established a Frozen Semen Bank as a means of preserving and enhancing their gene pool. The Boxer Club is in the process of doing the same. This is something for other breed Parent Clubs to consider as well.

The 6 candidates running for the AKC Board of Directors participated in a Q & A Session. Of the 6, only two were first-timers. The other four had served on the Board or were seeking reelection. It is of interest that several of those who had multiple years as Board members repeatedly referred to “what needs to be done“. One must wonder why they had not addressed these matters during their multiple terms of service.

Registrations continue to grow which is always positive. Entries overall are up but mainly in companion and performance events. Conformation is static at best. The finances continue to reflect positive growth with investments doing very nicely. Not shabby!

The March meeting was the Annual Meeting at which the election for the AKC Board of Directors was held. It is usually the most well attended of the four quarterly gather-

ings. This time the attendance was noted to be down, no doubt resulting from the virus pandemic we are experiencing. Having served on the Nominating Committee for this election I was most interested in the outcome of the voting. It came as a surprise that the election was accomplished on the first ballot. The previous election in 2019 required four ballots to get the job done.

There was a one year term which had one candidate, Tom Davies, and as he was unopposed the election to the position was automatic. He had served several years as Vice Chairman of the Board, was not re-elected last year but subsequently appointed by the Board to fill an unexpired term due to a resignation in July of last year. It came as no surprise that shortly after this election the Board voted Tom as the new Chairman. If he wishes to continue after March 2021 he will need to again throw his hat into the ring.

Of the five candidates vying for the 3 four-year terms the Delegates elected Michael Knight (TX), Karolynne McAteer (NC) and Carmen Battaglia (GA). Davies, McAteer and Battaglia were all incumbents. So much for needing new leadership.

Passed: Individuals serving as Show Secretary are allowed to serve in this capacity for ONE All Breed show -or- ONE Group show per year. Obviously they can serve in this capacity for an unlimited number of Specialty shows.

Passed: All measurement equipment used to determine Disqualifications (wickets and scales) must meet AKC requirements.

Passed: Several Beagle Field Trial changes.

Tabled: A proposed change to the provision which currently requires an injury to have occurred for an Event Committee to disqualify a dog that attacked a person or dog at an event. The proposed change would expand this to include demonstration of aggression without causing injury. This issue elicited a great deal of discussion from Delegates representing breeds such as Terriers and Working Dogs. It is to be reconsidered at the June meeting.

The President's report addressed the increases in event participation, media hits, AKC TV, the AKC Orlando show and the core business...Registrations. It seems that most areas are showing increases, however Conformation is either flat or in decline.

Tributes were given to the outgoing Board Chair, Bill Feeney (CA) and Vice Chair, our own Pat Cruz (NY). Both were term limited and thus going off of the Board.

The Financial report was presented by a new, very new, face. It seems the immediate past CFO was no longer! No explanation was offered. In spite of this new wrinkle, the money picture remains very healthy. Investments gained 19% for FY 2019. Revenue was up 4%, Registrations continue its 6 year climb, sports and events increased 4% in spite of the flat, if not decreases, in conformation. Increases were also reported in expenses such as payroll, benefits and rent. The bottom line reported as \$126M in total assets. Again, not shabby!

A new marketing program was debuted. IF IT BARKS, IT'S AKC. These short humorous bites will hit the media market shortly. Very Clever! The presentations stress that we, the AKC, are the experts, having 135 years of knowledge of dogs.

From the Delegate Committees there were several items of importance to breed clubs. The Dog Show Rules Committee is sending forth a proposal to add an additional class to

dog shows, Bred By Exhibitor Puppy. Depending on how this is crafted, it could possibly add not one additional class but four: 6-9 Month, 9-12 Month, Dogs and Bitches. The driving force behind this proposal seems to be the awarding of an AKC medallion for completing the championship of a dog solely from the Bred by Exhibitor class. Although puppies can be entered in the existing Bred By Exhibitor class now, and are often known to win, this seems to have emerged as a burning issue.

At the Canine Health Committee the matter of the multiple fee for service commercial DNA Testing services was discussed. Caution is advised as currently there is no regulatory body nor is there a monitoring agency for these groups, thus the accuracy of the results can not be assured. National breed clubs were encouraged to have DNA sample collections at their Specialty shows. OFA is the repository for these samples which becomes an invaluable asset to researchers in need of them to conduct research in specific diseases affecting individual breeds.

The Health Statements from each Parent Club have been requested for several years. These are posted on the AKC Marketplace for each breed as a point of information to prospective purchasers of puppies. Over 170 parent clubs have submitted statements including the AHCA (one of the first!). However there remains a large number of parent clubs who have not done so. One wonders if they do not have a health statement or if they do not wish to comply. Some of the most popular breeds are among the missing.

The National Owner Handled competition will shortly have levels of achievement much like the Grand Champion designation. More certificates and medallions are in our future.

The next meetings are scheduled for June 8 and 9, that is if there are any actual June meetings. Stay well, keep well, do well, be well. Respectfully submitted, *Connie Butherus, Delegate to the AKC, Afghan Hound Club of America*



Committee — Breed & Public Education

Meet The Breeds 2019

It's always a puzzle when you try to organize volunteers and dogs for busy events in big cities. Our club is so lucky to have a very active Florida community of Afghan Hound fanciers as well as a weathered well-oiled New York/New Jersey crew stepping in and doing it all when new dates made it impossible for me to attend.

Orlando's AKC/Royal Canin week is nothing but an enthralling hellish marathon for everyone involved and we are deeply grateful to have the incredible McCulloch family who pulled the heaviest load this year with design, set up and manning the booth. Linda, Mark and Erin and their dog Bowmore were there all three days and I was glad to be able to break the booth down with them. It had a hunting theme and it got rave reviews! We had a multitude of volunteers—the Pembertons, Gary Larimer and others too many to mention and I thank each and every one of them. For next year I believe the design will become more like in New York and AKC will assist in backdrop making. I have also sworn that I will dedicate one day to the booth myself. Do or die. With so much to do at the OCCC the crowds never get unmanageable like can be the case in New York.

Fast forward to January and the new dates and new location at the Javitz Center for the

New York version. I was unable to leave Florida but AKC used Afghan Hounds as one of their pilot breeds and created a beautiful backdrop from some stunning photos of Sharon Ferraro's "Scarlett". This will make for an easier focus of dogs and communication with people rather than stressing over the display. The volunteers came from Long Island (Marla Capozzi, Sharon Ferraro and Theresa Morgan) and from New Jersey (Annette Smith, Dru Shepherd and Jennifer Casola). Longtime volunteer Diana Kassir and Joanne Anderson also attended.

MTB used to be held here back in its inaugural state but moved to The Piers. It is much easier for everyone to work out of the 10th Avenue location, and it is much more comfortable for dogs and volunteers. This one-day attraction draws an intense crowd.

I thank our Club for continued faith in me. We have an updated hand out which I will forward to the Board for review. The Updated Afghan Hound information given out by AKC is quite good now! We look forward to these events in 2020-2021 and we welcome anyone that would like to help and attend! *Anna Stromberg, Chairperson*



Breeders' Cup 2020

The COVID-19 Pandemic has required the cancellation of our 2020 Breeders' Cup. This is a great disappointment to all.

Because breeders and breeding stock are so important, we made every effort to allow this competition to take place—rescheduling it to be held in September with the National Specialty. Unfortunately, this did not work as the National was subsequently cancelled.

The Board of Directors of AHCA extends its thanks to Alicia Morrison-Jones, Chairperson of the Breeders' Cup, for her hard work in planning this event.

We also thank the members of the Afghan Hound Club of St. Louis for working with our show site Purina Farms, and for hosting what should have been a wonderful event.

To all of you who graciously donated to the Trophy Fund, we thank you as well. You have the option to apply your donation to next year's Breeders' Cup, or to receive a refund of your donation.

Thanks to everyone for your support!

Helen Stein, President



Committee — Breeders' Cup 2020 Show Report

The now-cancelled 2020 Breeders' Cup had an entry of 24 get.

Purina Farms canceled all events due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board had voted to change the BC date to be held in conjunction with the AHC of Greater Chicago in June, but has since cancelled this Specialty. A list of litter and entry money has been sent to our Treasurer for refund. And refunds of the trophy donations will be discussed with the Show's Trophy Chairperson. I have the ribbons, and I had ordered 36 tshirts, one which was sold for \$20, and others were reserved for purchase at the show. I'm looking for suggestions on

salvaging these shirts via additional printing or other means, and will contact the vendor. The ribbons can be sent back, to have a new streamer added with the new date and location. *Dorma Sue Busby, Breeders' Cup Show Secretary*



Committee — Canine Health

The AHCA sponsored Chylothorax Research by Dr. Gary Johnson has completed review and is under contract to start February 1, 2020. The Research Designation is "Searching for a Genetic Risk Factor for Idiopathic Chylothorax in Afghan Hounds" {Grant 02804-MOU}. It is scheduled from 2/1/2020 -1/31/2021. CHF will report to the AHCA at 6-month intervals.

The grant amount is \$15,000 plus \$1,389 for grant administration, totalling \$16,389. The William E. Dean Charitable Trust paid \$10,000. Initially the AHCA DAF was charged \$1800, but in January the CHF said that research sequencing would cost an additional \$4,589, which has been paid from the CHF DAF fund. The balance in the DAF is now \$1,350.62.

The AHCA Canine Health 501(3)c checking account is \$6,230.99.

We had 4 more non affected blood samples sent to U of Missouri Research.

AHCA Canine Health Report 2019, Fourth Quarter, Results of Health Testing

Advanced Cardiac—Normal 0; Degenerative Myelopathy—Normal 1; Cardiac—Normal 0; Blood Kit (DDB) Blood Draw Clinic—18 Kits; Thyroid—Normal 13, Equivocal 1; Patella—Normal Practitioner 1; Hip—Excellent 12, Good 10, Mild 0, Fair 0; Eye—Normal 10, Normal with Breeder Option 6; Elbows—Normal 1; Dentition—Full Dentition 0.

Regional Clubs which would like to organize their own Blood Draw Clinics should contact me, and I will send the necessary supplies. *Anna Tyler, Chairperson*



Committee — Inventory/Ways & Means

2019 & 2018 National items are now 50% DISCOUNTED. Below is the list of 2019 items, but please see the Club website for the list of 2018 Merchandise as well as inventory from past Breeders' Cups: www.afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/index.php/club-information/store Purchase on the site, or by contacting me directly. *Please note that prices do not include Shipping.*

2019 AHCA Catalog	<i>(Contact Erica Jantos if you did not receive your prepaid catalog)</i>					\$10
Slouchy T-Shirt - Charcoal			L (2)	2X (1)		\$15
Slouchy T-Shirt - Med Blue	S (1)			XL (1)	2X (1)	\$30
Stone Washed T-Shirt - Blue	S (2)	M (7)	L (1)	XL (3)	2X (5) 3X (1)	\$12.50
Stone Washed T-Shirt - Red	S (2)	M (8)	L (3)	XL (8)	2X (6) 3X (1)	\$12.50
Sweatshirt - Gray	S (3)	M (7)	L (6)	XL (12)	2X (6) 3X (3)	\$17.50
Sweat Shirt - Wine	S (1)	M (6)	L (8)	XL (14)	2X (5) 3X (3)	\$17.50

Full Zip Jacket - Gray - Mens	S (1)	M (1)	L (6)	XL (7)	2X (8)		\$32.50
Full Zip Jacket-Purple - Ladies			L (4)	XL (9)	2X (4)	3X (1)	\$32.50

The Jackets have the logo embroidered on the Upper Left Area. Sweatshirts and T-Shirts have the logo silk-screened on the Front. The 2020 Breeders' Cup t-shirts ARE available for a reduced fee of \$10 plus shipping.

We have these sizes available: S (5), M (5), L (8), XL (13), and 2X (4).



2020 BC Logo at left

AHCA Logo Items (Ways & Means)—*prices Do Not include postage*—as follows: PC Lapel Pins, 14K gold-plated, \$15, Tie Tac or Safety Pin catch; Mouse Pad, Black w/white logo - 89 available - \$5; Purple Towels, 13 available - \$25; Computer Travel bags, black, 18 available - \$50.00; Dark Blue Dress Shirts, Sizes available: M (3), L (4), XL (3), 2X (3) - \$40; Baseball Hats, Colors available are Pink (2), Black (4), Beige (3), Khaki (8) - \$20.

Contact me at barakiafs@peoplepc.com or 586-933-5682 (home) or 810-241-2529 (mobile). *Dorma Sue Busby, Chairperson*



Committee — Judges Education

We had 14 registrants for the JE Seminar at our National Specialty, whose names are available by request. I thank Jo Anne Buehler for all her help throughout, I thank Scott Pfeil and James Donahue for their management of the Hands-On portion, and Norma and Tom Cozzoni for organizing the Ringside Mentoring, all to enable me to be away from the ballroom and make for a smooth running seminar. I am also ecstatic to say that with collaboration, we presented a unified teaching of the breed.

In January, the Arizona Dog Judges Association held a Hound Institute in Phoenix and Christine O'Connor gave the Afghan Hound presentation. Lila Wadsworth was there to assist, and I thank both these ladies for the successful seminar in front of 14 attendees. This list of student judges in attendance is also available by request.

In March, Dianne Kroll will be making a breed presentation to interested judges in the Portland area.

I know how imposing it is to bring dogs when asked to participate in a Hands-On Workshop. This is so important having good and proper (and tolerant) dogs for the student judges to experience. I don't have everyone's names, but I send out a big Thank You to all who took the time and spent the time at our National, in Phoenix, and to those who will in Portland. *Harry Bennett, Chairperson*



Committee — Library/Archives

AHCA Member and AKC President Dennis Sprung sent several items for the Archives: material relating to the original AKC approval of our Breed Standard, which includes the original document filed with AKC. Because the AKC Library is converting many club documents to digital

storage, these original paper documents would possibly have been disposed. Thank you, Dennis, for “saving” these for our archives!

We have received from a donor several photos from the Hager and Sharon Watson estate: a collection of about 200 small photographs in random order—many are labeled with names of dogs, many are not. These will eventually be identified where possible and included in a scrapbook.

Donated by Patricia Gail Burnham and friends: A collection of notebooks (unknown content) from Conni Miller’s resource library. These may be a bibliography for one of Conni’s books or may be something else of historical value. AHCA members Jo Ann King, Ed Gilbert and Pat Gilbert will try to determine what this collection is, and whether it should be part of the AHCA Archives.

Thanks to all who stopped by the Library booth at the National to see the display of Kay Finch memorabilia which included: hand painted clothing, figurines, scrapbooks and videos.

Reminder: I am the recipient of the monthly AKC Stud Book reports for Afghan Hounds. An emailed copy is available at no charge to members of AHCA. If you are interested in being added to that mailing list, please contact me at BeanieSue@aol.com for further details. *Helen Stein, Chairperson*



Committee — Mailing List

I have been updating the Membership Directory from 2019 with any updates received from Members and have added all New Members voted in from the Board of Directors’ meeting in June 2019, October 2019 and the special conference call in March 2020. I am also working on Non-Members mailing list from the last 3 years’ Nationals and Breeders’ Cups. *Dorma Sue Busby, Chairperson*



Committee — National Events Site Research

Purpose: To solicit rates and quotes for multiple venues as potential National Specialty Show sites in a consistent and timely manner.

Goal: To compile competitive quotes, gain negotiating leverage, and thus insure that the Parent Club is fiscally responsible when choosing a site for single or multiple year contracts.

Procedure: as was done for the 2019 site, multiple requests for proposal were sent to various convention and visitors bureaus. An RFP is a solicitation by the meeting planner to potential suppliers (hotels, convention centers, venues). In the events industry, a group creates an RFP because it is interested in the procuring services: hotel guest rooms, meeting space, food and beverage, etc. Prospective locations are expected to submit proposals, or bids, for hosting an event. The information requested from all venues is the same in order to evaluate responses in a comprehensive and measurable apples-to-apples manner.

The hotels were requested to respond with the following Concessions:

- \$129 room rate
- Food and Beverage minimum is preferred over Room Rental fees
- 1 complimentary room per 30 nights
- No additional fee for dogs in the room
- One complimentary room for Chairperson's use during the entire event
- One free beverage ticket per person for awards Dinner

Hotels with adequate space to hold an AHCA event that met the following requirements were asked to submit a quote:

- Hotel to be within 30 minutes of a regional or international airport. Preference will be given to hotels that provide free or for-a-fee transportation for guests and dogs between hotel and airport.)
- Hotel to provide concession stand with light snacks, sandwiches and bar during scheduled events (approximately 4-6 hours per day depending upon the final schedule)
- Hotel will have a restaurant and bar available onsite or within walking distance.

When researching the 2019 site 20+ RFP's were sent - 2022 was limited to five. The selected areas had an interest in hosting our events or a strong AHCA base that has had an interest in holding a National, and were given 4 weeks to respond. *Because the AHCA is still negotiating with the Roberts Centre for 2021, they did not receive an RFP for 2022.* The response hotels from the select areas are as follows:

- Virginia Beach VA—Founder's Inn and Spa
- Lehigh Valley PA—Lehigh Valley Hotel, Surestay by Best Western
- Asheville NC—Crowne Plaza Resort Asheville
- Lancaster PA—Warehouse Hotel at the Nook Sports Arena
- Orlando-Kissimee FL—None. No hotels met the criteria.

The Full RFP, and quotes have been sent to Helen Stein and Russ Hastings.

Erica Jantos, Chairperson



Committee — National Specialty 2019 Final Report

1 HOTEL

The final room pick up at the host hotel totalled 541 room nights, with green signifying the National even days.

			Oct 23 2	Oct 24 50	Oct 25 65	Oct 26 66
Oct 27 68	Oct 28 67	Oct 29 76	Oct 30 78	Oct 31 28	Nov 1 27	Nov 2 5
Nov 3 5	Nov 4 4					

VA Beach had double the amount of room nights than the 2018 Greeley CO National, and more than 100 over the amount of the 2016 Rhode Island, National. Last minute drop off was significant; at one point 1000+ room nights were reserved, but that number dropped 25-30% within the month prior to the event. Our group is very difficult to book for, and this fluctuation must be kept in mind for future years, regardless the location.

VA Beach was perceived as a tourist destination by attendees, and this is clearly shown by the amount of pre- and post-event rooms. This is an additional point to consider when choosing future locations. Does the area give our attendees a reason to stay longer, thus more rooms for the group?

The hotel was well received by attendees, exhibitors and spectators alike. For a hotel that is new to Dog Show business, I feel this was quite an accomplishment. As a group contact the hotel was very easy to deal with, even with all the moving parts of an event like ours. Yes, there were issues, but our needs were addressed with the appropriate sense of urgency by the staff. The Founders Inn took great care to ensure that our attendees were well-cared for, thus enhancing a very special week.

Challenges for the hotel with a group such as ours, which we should keep in mind should we return to this site, include:

- PETA headquarters is located nearby in Norfolk VA.
- The hotel lacks electrical system adequate for our grooming needs. Two “power drops” were added at no charge, but these could run \$300+ per drop, per day. This must be budgeted for, or negotiated as included in the contract.
- The hotel’s set up/preparation for a dog show is extensive. While all the floors covered with plastic was a concern, it made for an excellent surface to groom on. This plastic took nearly 20 hours to lay down.
- Attendees felt that the bar/restaurant spaces were inadequate for gathering after events. Review the event schedule with the hotel to ensure that outlets are open for late-evening snacks and beverages.
- For 2019 we negotiated a free 2-bedroom suite for the length of the event (valued at \$1900) in addition to our 1 free room per 40 nights stayed.

With the 240 rooms at the Founder’s Inn, the secondary “Courtesy Room Block” at the Hyatt Place Virginia Beach was not really utilized. Only 5 room nights total were booked at the AHCA rate, likely due to price and distance from the host hotel. The area is flush with hotels, and in hindsight the second block was not necessary.

The Founders Inn is very eager to have us back. I have received quotes for 2021 and 2022. Dates are limited for both years, please refer to ‘site selection’ report for full details.

2 AHCA 2019 NATIONAL TEAM

We were very blessed with our Village of AHCA members. It felt like everyone wanted to be a part of what was 2019. We never had issues filling chairperson vacancies. Some dropped off, but finding replacements usually was done with a phone call. We should plan on adding a Live Streaming Chair and Reserved Sales Chair to manage these areas for future Nationals. This is expanded upon on below.

3 BUDGET

Unfortunately, I cannot speak to the budget as I have not received any financial report for the 2020 event. I will speak to areas that I feel that the Board will want further explanation.

Whether we used Rau or another company, the show secretary fees were going to be an expense. We need nearly 160 entries to break even, and rely upon catalog ads to bring us into the black. Our ad sales were not strong but should have brought us even for 2019.

Our show secretary costs are high due to items that are required by our P&P's. Should we recognize our donors? Absolutely! Should we have 6 pages of previous Conformation winners and still omit Performance and Companion winners? We have room for savings.

Logo Items Sales and Ways & Means will be an issue for the 2019 National. Unfortunately, we did not have the opportunity to run a presale model for the Virginia Beach National, that is, offering logo items on a presale basis via the AHCA website and Topknot News. We only order what had been sold plus 20-30% to be offered onsite. This is the model we ran in 2016, and it did well for us. Very little overage and it was a money maker. Most parent clubs are moving to this model, which takes the guesswork out of what the attendees will buy. I am submitting a P&P for the Board to consider on this point.

I think that fundraising over all had been very successful for the 2019 event. We took in a great deal of money via the website: \$4000+ in Sponsorships, \$2500 in Reserved seating and \$2100 in Reserved grooming. I understand that Reserved spaces are a hot button for our Members, and I was sensitive to the Members and attendees that did not agree with the practice. While many did not like it on paper, I did not encounter anyone at the event that felt slighted. I feel that the Reserved areas were well received and a very easy, no-cost money maker for our National events which should be put into yearly practice with its own Chairperson.

I will touch on non-monetary donations that made this event. We had multiple high value donations like the full-color catalog for the art auction that was donated by Toni Richmond and the amazing centerpieces for the Awards dinner donated by Beth Ann and David Hall. These donations were worth thousands and were the some of the large pieces that made this National special.

4 MARKETING

Hear ye, HEAR YE! Social media worked for us! Our National page has over 1600 likes, and with it our social media presence continues to grow and become more interactive. 2019 saw an all-time high of follower interaction. Attendees were turning to Facebook not only for up to date information, but to also ask questions and give feedback.

I will ask Eddie to make comments to the Board about live-streaming, its costs and the benefits. However, I can say that it was an unquestionable success. The images online were exquisite and high quality, and the numbers speak for themselves. We had live viewers numbering more than 150+ during many classes, and 1600 hours of footage, viewed between October 26-30. I am very appreciative for Eddie and his work on this project, especially considering he put this together 30 days prior to the show. In the future, live-streaming needs its own chairperson to coordinate equipment and volunteers assigned to each day.

The Show Secretary came in under budget based on 165 total entries: \$6666.98 total, with \$646.98 billed to the AHCA. Very few, if any, complaints came from exhibitors. Catalog corrections were minimal. Online entries were well-received by all. Rau printed the Lure Coursing premium lists and mailed them with the Conformation premium lists for an additional \$400. They were also available via their website.

5 JUDGED EVENTS

For Lure Coursing, Bob did an awesome job securing a great site at a reasonable distance from the host hotel. We had a soft entry, likely due to conflict with the ASFA

International Invitational. The ASFA event was announced well after our dates were set and announced.

We had no Agility entries, and I strongly suggest that we continue to partner with an area all-breed event preceding our National Specialty.

We had two Obedience Rally Triathlon entries. The jumps purchased for the event were sold after the event, resulting in the minimal loss of \$50.

Once underway, I think Conformation was a very successful event. The ring was ample, the ready-ring area was large, and vendor/spectator space was well received. Scheduling was early but enabled the required AHCA events to be well attended.

6 NON-JUDGED EVENTS

The event counts for the non-judged events are derived from the website. Reservations were taken on-site or via mail are not included in the tallies.

Vending was well-received, with 11 vendors. One, Leslie Hutto, did not show.

Canine Health and Education had 53 paid attendees. This event was recorded and is available for viewing on the AHCA YouTube page. Thank you again Eddie! The daytime light buffet offerings were well-received. People were there to learn, not necessarily there to have a nice meal. Having that evening open as a breather for either dinner with friends or bathing dogs worked well in the already full schedule.

The Art Auction had 25 paid attendees, was held at capacity, and was very well received. If we return to Founder's Inn, we will need to revisit the menu and offerings in order to accommodate more attendees, eg use dining room for food only and move the Live Auction to the Atrium area.

The General Membership meeting was attended by approximately 80 Members. The early judging schedule allowed for the awesome attendance.

The Gala Awards Dinner had 147 paid attendees. Connie Butherus runs a tight ship, even with a costumed crowd. The auction after the awards brought in another \$2000. Some centerpieces were removed before being auctioned off—the perpetrators were contacted and agreed to pay the auction amounts. Their email addresses were given to Treasurer Bob Jordan for invoicing.

Event meals feedback showed that they were well received, though there were some complaints such as “too many mushrooms”. One issue was lack of variety toward the end of the buffet at the Art Auction because some items ran out.

Respectfully submitted, *Erica Jantos, Head SPIRIT Rouser 2019 Specialty Show Chair*



Committee — Obedience/Rally/Versatility

Announcing two *Firsts* for Afghan Hounds !

The First Afghan Hound to earn the AKC Rally Master title, on November 17, 2019, is “Suzette”, MACH Popovs Purrfection At Cayblu CD RM SC MXG MJC RATO owned by Dr. Cathy Kirchmeyer of Milan MI, and bred by Faye Tromp.

The Rally Master title (RM) is awarded to a dog who is certified by at least two different

judges to have received qualifying scores in the Master class at ten licensed or member rally trials.

The First Afghan Hound to earn the AKC Temperament Tested Title, on January 8, 2020, is “Buckeye”, GCH CH Jolie Hyperbole CD BN JC CGC ATT owned by Mr Gary Larimer of Haines City FL, and bred by Sylvia Krupp & Jennifer & Jason Taylor.

The AKC Temperament Testing program was implemented in November 2019. You can learn more about it at www.akc.org/akctemptest/earn-title



Huge congratulations to the dedicated owners of these Hounds!

The AHCA is again scheduled to host four independent all-breed Rally trials in Leander TX on August 1 & 2. We have had large waiting lists for these events for the past 2 years, but have been limited due to space. I’m happy to report that the facility has increased its size, and we will be able to accept larger entries, which will increase our profit. Profits from these events are earmarked to go towards expenses for Companion Events at the 2020 National Specialty. Respectfully submitted, *Lynda Hicks, Chairperson*



Committee — Regional Clubs

I have received packets from, and approved shows for, 20 clubs. These shows are listed in date-of-show order. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that many will have been cancelled by the date of this newsletter publication. Please check with the AKC site when making exhibitor and spectator plans. *Amy Mero, Chairperson*

Club Name	Date	Reg. Class Judge
Tara AHC	CANCELLED April 18	Sandy Frei
	CANCELLED April 18	Gil Ullom
	CANCELLED April 19	Allen Reznik
AHC of Dallas	CANCELLED April 25	Robert Cotes

	CANCELLED	April 25		Pamela Arwood
	CANCELLED	April 26		Carol Smith
AHC of Northern NJ	CANCELLED	May 1		Dr Gyorgy Tesics
AHC of Greater Chicago	CANCELLED	June 5		David Samuelson
	CANCELLED	June 5		Stephen Fisher
Monterey Bay AHC		June 6		James Donahue
AH Association of Long Island	CANCELLED	June 12		Jean-Christophe Bouliguez
	CANCELLED	June 12		TBD
Evergreen AHC	CANCELLED	June 12		Nitsa Traylor
AHC of Greater Portland	CANCELLED	June 12		Frank Colonna
Nutmeg AHC	CANCELLED	June 14		Claire Millward UK
Richmond AHC	CANCELLED	June 19		Nancy Self
Potomac AHC		June 20		Nancy Edgington
Tidewater AHC		June 21		Rev Rick Martin
Greater Detroit AHC		July 3		James Dalton
Evergreen AHC	CANCELLED	August 1		Allen Reznik
Midwest AHC		August 7		Gil Ullom
AHC of Southwest Ohio		August 9		Shelley Hennessy
Heartland AHC of Greater KC		August 15		Stephen Fisher
		August 16		John Roger Morton
Greater Twin Cities AHC		August 21		David Miller
		August 21		Nancy Self
AHC of Denver		Sept 4		Rev Rick Martin
		Sept 4		Anna Tyler
Finger Lakes AHC		Sept 26		Sue Hamlin
AHCA National Specialty	CANCELLED	Sept 27	LC	Shelley Hennessy
	CANCELLED		LC	Holly Hamilton
AHCA National Specialty	CANCELLED	Sept 28	Sweeps	Michael Liss
	CANCELLED	Sept 28	OB/ RA	Catherine Thompson
	CANCELLED	Sept 28	AG	Ronald McClelland
	CANCELLED	Sept 29	Dogs	Mrs Pauline Hewitt AU
	CANCELLED		Bitches	D Scott Pfeil
	CANCELLED	Sept 30	BOB	D Scott Pfeil
AHC of Greater Columbus	CANCELLED	October 1		TBA
AHC of Southwest Ohio	CANCELLED	October 1		TBA
Midwest AHC	CANCELLED	October 2		Jan Reital
Greater Detroit AHC	CANCELLED	October 2		Peter Frost AU



Committee — Sunshine

Get Well cards have been sent to a number of Members. Sympathy cards have been sent to Tony Saia for the passing of Floyd Gale, to Lee Ann Mann's family, to Jody Santarelli's family, and to Ruth Weddle's family. *Dorma Sue Busby, Chairperson*

News — Letter to the Membership

The following was sent to all Members with an email address on file:

Dear AHCA Club Member,

The Board of Directors and Officers had a meeting on April 7th, 2020. We discussed cancelling the 2020 National. This decision was made by unanimous vote at this emergency meeting to cancel the National. We've been closely monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Federal/State recommendations. The AHCA has the highest concern for the good health of you and your Afghan Hounds and that of our Specialty exhibitors, guests, judges, event volunteers, and public welfare during the ongoing corona virus COVID-19 pandemic. This decision was not made lightly.

The 2021 National dates are October 3rd to October 9th, 2021. We will let everyone know the schedule for the 2021 National as soon as possible.

We will be contacting our Judges, confirming they are available for the 2021 National schedule. Our Show Chairman, Dorma Sue Busby & Assistant Show Chairman, Becky Morisette will remain the same. They will be confirming that all their committee heads will remain in place.

We will be contacting the Holiday Inn Roberts Centre and cancelling the event with them. We remind everyone who has reserved hotel rooms to call the hotel to cancel your reservation. The Hotel number is 937-283-3200, and the main Holiday Inn number is 888-465-4329.

This letter will be posted on the AHCA FB page, the Public FB page and on the Front page of the Parent Club website.

The Show Chairman and committees will be making our 2021 National even more special and exciting. The theme for 2021 will remain "Come Together".

Sincerely,

AHCA Board of Directors and Officers

News — Crufts Qualifying Events

The Kennel Club, England, has designated the AKC National Championship, sponsored by AKC and Royal Canin, as well as one designated AKC Parent Club National Specialty in each eligible breed, as the US qualifying shows for Crufts. Recipients of Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, Selects and Awards of Merit, and if offered at these events, Best Bred-by-Exhibitor, are eligible for entry in Crufts as a US International qualifier.

Each Parent Club may choose to designate one of their National Specialties as their Crufts qualifying show. Recipients of BOB, BOS, BBE, Awards of Merit, and Selects, may each be given an eligibility certificate to enter Crufts. Under UK law, dogs with

cropped ears are not eligible to be shown. Also, dogs that were docked on or after April 6, 2007, are not eligible to be shown. Because of requests from some clubs made in previous years, this letter is also being sent to Parent Clubs for breeds that are cropped and docked, in the event that an imported or American dog shown in its natural state qualifies. It is entirely up to your club whether or not you choose to participate. Precluded are any breeds the Kennel Club does not register. If your Parent Club represents a breed that is cropped and docked, and you do not want to be contacted in the future, please advise.

The Crufts Qualifying Certificate may be printed for each of your qualifiers. The certificate is valid for Crufts entry in either 2021 or 2022 and must be submitted along with each entry for Crufts to verify qualification.

Complete information on Crufts, including entry details, are available on The Kennel Club's website at www.thekennelclub.org.uk or from The Kennel Club at Clarges Street, London, W1J 8AB UK.

News — Outstanding Sportsmanship Award

For the 14th year, the AKC celebrates individuals who deserve special recognition for going above and beyond in the Sport of Purebred Dogs, and who embody the AKC Code of Sportsmanship while being an active and valued member of an AKC Member Club.

Program structure is up to each individual Club, which determines the selection process, and criteria. This program is meant to instill a greater appreciation for Outstanding Sportsmanship and to deepen our sense of pride in the Sport of Purebred dogs.

The winner is announced on the AKC website after being presented with the award and medallion by the AKC Member Club. The AHCA awards its recipient at the Awards Dinner of the National Specialty each year.

News — The Afghan Hound on the AKC Website

The AKC site updates were made to Overview and About the Afghan Hound; The AKC Marketplace Breed Traits-Personality and Description have been updated, after receiving approval from the Board and President.

New photos have been uploaded to be used throughout the AKC site, but currently only two of them have been approved by the AKC and in use. The same dark brindle puppy photo is seen multiple times on Marketplace. Hopefully new photos will be added soon (Board approval has already been accomplished). *Anna Tyler*



News — Topknot News Adds Team Member

Megan Rice lives in Atwater, California with her husband, Adam. She is a professional pet stylist and owns a grooming salon in their small town. She'd dreamed of having an Afghan Hound since she was a small child, but didn't get the pleasure until her adult life. While living in San Diego she worked with a lady whose family had an Afghan Hound

named Gandalf. Gandalf was the first Afghan Hound that Megan had the pleasure of grooming. Shortly after that she got an Afghan Hound of her own, and she's been loving every minute of it. Since then she has added three more Afghan Hounds to her home. She enjoys showing in conformation, lure coursing, Fast CATs, teaching tricks, obedience, and even does Scent Work with one of her Afghan Hounds.

News — AHCA to Support AKC CHF Bloat Study

The AHCA has received from Member Lisa Bryant's request for funding a bloat study:

Hello Helen and Anna,

I am writing on behalf of my Afghan Hound Janus (Ch Kurabi Na'il). He suffered and died from Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus (GDV) commonly called Bloat. He died despite that fact that I was right there when it happened. Despite the fact that I knew exactly what I was seeing and acted immediately. Even more devastating, he died despite the fact I was able to get him excellent emergency veterinary care in less than 15 minutes. I did everything possible to save him, and still he died.

As I shared my experience with others and on social media, it became painfully obvious that I was not alone in dealing with this horrible disease. The number of people who shared with me that they too lost one of their dogs to GDV is so long that it almost seems endless. It is a horrible disease that is killing our hounds while we stand helplessly by and scream to the heavens for help.

As a club member, I am requesting that the Club act to stop this horrible disease by financially supporting The AKC CHF's study of Gastrointestinal Disease. There are currently studies in progress on GDV that will benefit from financial support as well as potential studies waiting. I have copied the link to a current study of interest here: <http://www.akcCHF.org/research/research-portfolio/1935.html>

For Janus and every other dog taken too soon, I ask for the support of our Club to fund the research needed to end the nightmare called Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Bryant, *Kurabi Afghan Hounds*

In reply:

Hello Elizabeth,

I am so sorry to hear of your Janus passing. What a distressing way to lose him and I am very sorry. I think bringing GDV to the attention of the Afghan Hound fancy again is very important. Bloat has long affected our deep-chested breeds and has many PCs supporting research as the attachment refers to. This particular research study (01935-B) is open but is being supported by 8 PC or Associations for upwards of \$233,774. I think it would be very beneficial to ask what the results of these studies have been and share that information. If you would like to make a suggestion or motion for a certain amount to be donated to GDV research for the Board to discuss (the next BOD meeting is 3/26), you could send that to Dorma Sue for New Business. I would support that. I think it would be a good idea for you to try to get a GoFundMe started for others to donate to it as well—in Janus's name. It would be so worthwhile as GDV has affected our breed greatly.

The AHCA is currently supporting Chylothorax disease as it has affected the Afghan Hound more than any other breed and a great effort has been made to get this research started as it is the only one of its kind. Since GDV has been actively researched by many other breed clubs it is just a matter of donating to help with this research. Not to put one over the other but thankfully GDV has been researched for quite some time. I believe I heard at one point that they did find a breeder marker to test Borzois prior to breeding, but I could be mistaken about that.

Thank you for your input - let me know your thoughts regarding this suggestion.

I am sure Helen has some thoughts along these lines as well.

My condolences for your loss of Janus, Anna Tyler, *AHCA Canine Health Committee Chairperson*

The BOD voted on March 31st to send a \$1000 donation from the AHCA Canine Health 5013c checking account to the Grant #01935-B Abnormalities in Stomach's Ability to Contract Predisposes Large Breeds to Bloat.

Continuing Coverage of the 2019 National Specialty

Our Thanks to photographer Garth Gourlay for capturing all of the beautiful, award-winning Afghan Hounds at our 2019 Annual Specialty in Virginia.

Congratulations to the breeders, owners and handlers of these deserving wins!



Select Dog / Best NOHS GCH Jolie Show and Tell Sharja.
Owners: Alisa Vickers, Beth Phillips Collins and Corinne Joyce

Award of Merit GCH Kamy Heir to Poseidon of Spice Hill.
Owners: Teri Tevlin & Kiyoshi Yamagami

Award of Merit GCH Kurabi Gabina.
Owners: Duane & Connie Butherus & Elizabeth Bryant



Award of Merit GCHB Shylo Brykaar New Moon on Monday.
Owners: Bruce Clark, Stephen Fisher, Leslie Farkas & Robert Unger

Best Puppy Shylo Thunderball.
Owners: Bruce Clark, Leslie Farkas, Stephen Fisher, Robert Unger

Next AHCA National Specialty & Regional Specialties

October 3-9, 2021

Wilmington, OH





Article— Training for Trick Dog

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our local dog shows and dog sports have been cancelled, and we've been ordered to stay home as much as possible. Eager to find something to help occupy our time, I found that during this pandemic the American Kennel Club is offering trick dog titles to be earned via video submissions. So I thought we'd give it a shot. Our dog, Orzo, already has his Canine Good Citizen title so only 5 tricks are required to earn the Trick Dog Novice title. I worked on perfecting his Shake, High Five, Spin, Sit (hand signal - no verbal cue), and Go To Kennel cues.

I've found that with Afghan Hounds, free shaping the behaviors is what works best (at least with my dogs!). I try to make it their idea to do something and then reward them for doing what they/I want. Once it "clicks" they're eager to "choose" to do an action and get a treat. Another thing that I've found helpful with training a breed that doesn't necessarily view me as their boss, is instead of feeding a full breakfast throughout the day and treats) as rewards for choosing them to focus on me, and at er is left.

After multiple practice sessions, I took a video and submitted it to an evaluator. She filled out some forms, sent them to me so that I can physically evaluate them. Now we are moving on to working on Orzo's Intermediate title and two of my other Novice titles. It's definitely an interesting "Shelter in Place" time.

I'll use Shake as an example. I'm prone to pawing things in general, which makes that trick easier. I'll start training it with a closed hand so they can smell the treat. I hold that hand down and offer a paw. Sometimes they wait them out, but they eventually give. As soon as they start to give them a treat with my other hand. My Afghan Hounds chose to do the behavior and were reinforced, so it's more likely that they'll do it again.

Once they start lifting their paw I'll start fine tuning it by treating when they're getting closer and more fluid movements towards my hand. This is also when I introduce the verbal "Shake" cue. Once they're performing that consistently, I remove the treats from my closed hand and just put my hand out, palm up, and say, "Shake." Most dogs transition fine and will still offer their paw, but sometimes you have to wait them out a little bit again. The idea is to capture something that they're already offering naturally instead of physically forcing them to do something. At least with my Afghan Hounds I've found that to be the best approach. *Megan Rice, Pure Joy Afghan Hounds*



found helpful with training a view me as their boss, is in the morning, I spread it use their kibble (and some to do what I ask. It helps dinner time they get whatever

sions, I took a video and electronically. She filled out AKC, then sent them back mail them in. So now we Orzo's Trick Dog Intermediate Afghan Hounds' Trick Dog entertaining way to spend

Some of my dogs are more general, which makes that by putting some treats in a them, but not actually eat to them and wait for them to beginning you have to really tually will paw at the closed lift their paw I say, "yes" and

THE GRAND **Finnale**



GCHP AGHA DJARI'S FIFTH
DIMENSION OF SURA

THANK YOU, FINN, FOR THE RIDE OF A LIFETIME. OUR LOVE FOR YOU
IS IMMEASURABLE, AND HISTORY IS NOW YOURS TO HOLD.

Owners: Suzanne J. Neill, Jamie Souza Bartlett & Christine O'Connor | Breeder: Stefan Boieck
Exclusive Handler: Alicia Morrison Jones



THE TOP SPECIALTY WINNING AFGHAN HOUND

OF ALL TIME

65 BEST IN SPECIALTY SHOW WINS

#1 AFGHAN HOUND ALL SYSTEMS 2017, 2018 AND 2019

#3 HOUND 2019, #9 HOUND 2018, #16 HOUND 2017

2020 WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB - HOUND GROUP THIRD

THREE TIME WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB BEST OF BREED WINNER

WINNER OF 12 ALL BREED BEST IN SHOWS, 8 RESERVE BEST IN SHOWS

55 HOUND GROUP FIRSTS INCLUDING 9 HOUND SHOW BEST IN SHOWS

AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA BREEDER'S CUP WINNER
AND SIRE OF THE LAST 3 BREEDER'S CUP WINNERS

TOP AFGHAN HOUND SIRE 2016, 2018 AND 2019



Article— Grooming the Cottony Coat

As most anyone who has groomed Afghan Hounds knows, a cottony coat can be a real challenge. As with any coat, there are many factors to consider including whether you are on city water or well water, have hard water or a water softener.

I have only had the experience of keeping one cottony coat in show coat since I started showing. He was a handsome blue brindle.



I am by no means a professional groomer, but I did find a couple of things that worked well for me on this particular type of coat to make it look and feel silkier and to make it easier to manage—it was not so much the shampoo used, but the conditioner. I have very hard well water but do have a water softener. I had several trial and error grooming sessions before I got the results I wanted.

I bathed him in Laser Lights Lanolin Shampoo & rinsed thoroughly. I then mixed 1/4 cup of Drape, 1-2 capfuls of Silk, and a gallon of very warm water. I added about 1/8 cup of Laser Lights Protein Treatment (or any good quality collagen treatment) and mixed thoroughly. DO NOT RINSE!

Depending on how cottony the coat is, and how hard your water is you may have to adjust a bit or lightly rinse. Every few baths I use a good stripping shampoo! *Karen Irazabal RN, Azari Afghan Hounds & Chinese Cresteds*



Article— Setting Up An Inexpensive Puppy Cam

There are several reasons you may want to have remote viewing of a puppy room. The most obvious is so that you can check on a litter of puppies when at work or away from the house. It can also be useful as an educational tool to let others watch puppies being whelped and raised. It allows prospective buyers to check on puppy appearance and temperaments/behavior. It is even useful to check on puppies from your phone in the middle of the night without getting out of bed.

This article is about using a Windows 7 or newer computer running Google Chrome browser and a USB webcam. Apple Mac computers may work similarly; I don't know. Microsoft web browsers don't work. I use a Logitech Webcam Pro 9000 which is obsolete but doesn't use much bandwidth and shows good enough detail to count puppies and see what they are doing. The Logitech 9000 is available new on Ebay for about \$20. It has a maximum resolution of 1600 x 1200. My internet is not super fast, so modern higher resolution webcams may not work better anyway. Many webcams have a number of adjustments and features available with their software packages but are not available with YouTube.



Left: Because it is made to mount on the top edge of a laptop, provisions need to be made to mount it to a wall for use as a puppy cam. Thus the drilled hole in the middle of the mount for a wood screw. Right: Mounted eight feet off the floor, this camera can view a 6x8 floor area

You may need a USB extension cable to reach from the computer to the camera. After connecting the webcam and having the computer recognize it, go to the icon of the movie camera in the upper right of the YouTube screen. If you don't have a YouTube account, setting one up is easy enough. Again, go to the upper right hand corner of the screen in YouTube. Click on the <SIGN IN> icon. Click on <Create Account> and follow the instructions.

Once you click on the movie camera icon with the + sign in the middle, click on <Go Live> from the drop-down list. You will be taken to YouTube Studio. A dialog box will ask for a title for your live streaming event. You will be asked if the video is for kids. Answer 'no'. You have to click several more times and you will be live streaming.

You can post the link in Facebook or Instagram, or keep it more private by not doing so. Viewers can leave comments while viewing on YouTube. I always lost signal after 4-10 hours of streaming, probably because of my remote location, so I have to go back into YouTube and start over. YouTube always saves the last 2 ½ hours of your live stream in your uploads.

If you are away from home when the live streaming is interrupted, you can use an app like Splashtop to remotely restart the live stream from your phone. It costs \$25/year.
Brian Wood, Shining Mountain Afghan Hounds

RBIS Multi Group Winning GCH Dragonfly Ecco Aries Dangerous Seduction



MBIS MSBIS GCHG Exlysta Aries Ciel Noir x CH Sunlit's The One That Got Away

"Cardi-B" finished 2019 in the top 15 in EXTREMELY limited showing.

We are so proud of what this gorgeous young bitch has accomplished!

We are looking forward to what the future brings for this exciting RYDER daughter.

Owned and Bred by Lucia Brown and Philip Schafmayer



Article— Preservationist Breeding

I was asked to write about Preservation Breeding. This is quite the hot topic, as the AKC Delegates' meeting in September of 2019 had the P word floating about quite a lot with the fascinating and well done presentation by Bill Shelton and Doug Johnson on Preservationist Breeding.

When I think of the word “preservationist”, I think of our ancient, beautiful breed, and I think that I, along with other breeders, have a decently good understanding of what it means to “preserve” a breed, especially an ancient, beloved breed like the Afghan Hound. However, in this recent Delegates' meeting, the two esteemed judges had a new take on the “P” word, so I wanted to go over their interpretation, for good or bad, and then once again take us back to what is most important in our ancient breed. Ok, here goes!

So, what Bill and Doug had to say at the AKC Delegates' meeting was fascinating, but not altogether “off message” from what Dr. Bell had to say during his presentation at the AHCA National in Virginia Beach. The animal rights people had coopted a lot of our phrases for their greater good. For example, “rescue” was a term brought about by purebred dog fanciers in trying to place purebred dogs without a home, and this term was coopted by AR folks. The same happened with the word “dog pound,” which was turned into “shelter” and “mongrel” and “stray,” which were coopted to “adoptable rescue.” The AR folks have also made the word “breeder” into a bad word, so that now we are encouraged to use the term Preservationist Breeder when talking to lay people or puppy buyers, nay we leave a sour taste in their mouths. The word “purebred breeder” is now maligned, as the same politically correct masses run to the nearest “doodle” breeder, not realizing they are rewarding the very worst of us in the dog world. The AKC meeting talk also discussed not keeping the high volume breeders at too much of an arm's length as their influence with lobbyists could make this relationship, while somewhat morally repugnant, politically necessary. The presentation did bring up some excellent points, about some breeds being on the verge of extinction, like the Dandie Dinmont Terrier, and that if we as dog fanciers had the means and motivation, we should “adopt” a second endangered breed to breed and show. Lastly, I must say, as I prepared to watch this presentation, although well done, I did not think a talk on Preservationist Breeding would essentially be a way of relabelling responsible, ethical, good breeding, ie, to repackage it for the masses so they did not turn to their nearest shelter to provide them not only their new pet, but a moral refuge of sorts.

Now, for the actual meat and potatoes of this article. Real, “preservationist” breeding, is not just out-spin-doctoring the Animal Rights people. I mean, let's get down to it. The Afghan Hound is purported to be among the oldest of dog breeds. With that in mind, any breeder worth half a grain of salt has seen many an old photo of the old fashioned, patterned, more austere dogs of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. We have seen the old photos of Sirdar, Badhsah, Lakshmi, Westmill of Omar, etc, and we have all been impressed by their raw beauty. If, by the way, you do not know who these hounds are on a first name basis, I claim no superiority, but strongly urge you to go to the Afghan Hound Pedigree Database and spend a few, if not several hours, perusing the very old dogs' pedigrees, a very worthwhile endeavor. An informed mind is always superior, especially when we are dealing with living creatures like our beloved Afghan Hounds.

So, now, in the modern world, what does Preservationist Breeding mean? It means breeding hounds that to your heart and soul, fit the definition of Afghan Hound. What wins in the show ring and what is a true, typical Afghan Hound may be two different creatures. It is up to us to have the courage, the passion, the artistic flair to assess our hounds subjectively and objectively. We must not stray from this, otherwise, we will have lost the very essence of our breed. The wild top-knotted Rudiki, the gorgeous and patterned Far Away Loo, the haunting beauty of Samaris of Moornistan, all of these creatures should be lodged in our hearts when looking at our next generation. Does patterned mean "correct?" Absolutely not, if the rest of the hound is not superior, but remember, most of the early dogs WERE patterned. So coat for coat's sake is NOT the answer with our breed, especially with modern families being short on time, with multiple activities with the children, a hound that requires four hours of grooming every five days is absolutely not going to be the desire of the average family. To continue on the vein of Preservationist Breeding, some of the early dogs were spooky, yes, but some of the forefathers of the breed had what appeared to be exemplary temperaments, with Zardin allowing hundreds to pet him when he was presented to the Western world in the early 1900s, keeping up his Eastern decorum. There is also the story of Begum, who remembered her Afghani breeder years after she was sold to a British couple, running up to him at a market, very excited upon their reunion. So temperament is also part of preserving a breed. Please, let's not breed wall-climbers, that is incredibly damaging to our breed in every sense. In terms of athleticism, we have no Afghani mountains and foxes and antelope and hare to test our hounds on in the US, not really, aside from coursing. So, this venue, unlike the show ring, that only rewards "showmanship" for the good or bad, really differentiates hounds based on lure drive, speed, agility, and overall athleticism or ability. This is a very intangible, difficult to breed for trait. Anyone who thinks their hound, who will run after a squirrel in their back yard, would be a master courser, would potentially be sorely disappointed when they saw their hound outclassed in speed, agility, and ability, leaving their beloved pet many yards behind, desperately trying to stay sighted on this amazing plastic "bunny." Let's remember our breed is first and foremost a hunting breed. As much as we would like them to be the darlings of Rodeo Drive with elaborate collars, silk or crocheted snoods, velvet beds, silver bowls, etc, these are hounds created by millennia of selection in a very harsh homeland. To make them simply large lap dogs slaps the thousands of humans who have come before us in the face. Let's remember the ancient, glorious, beautiful, independent, confident, and funny creatures we live with and let's make sure we are all doing our part in preserving this breed for the next generation.

Thank you for your consideration, *Dr. Selma Kominek, MD, Neurosurgeon*

AKC COVID-19 INFORMATION

For Current Information on any AKC event status, dog-related pandemic info and other resources:

<https://bit.ly/2VIm3Fc>

or

<https://www.akc.org/dog-owners/coronavirus-covid19-outbreak-resources-dog-lovers/>

CH Hosanna Call Down The Thunder On Shining Mountain



*Hosanna Voices of the Wind x Silver level GCH Hosanna Love Unfailing
Youngest Afghan Hound to ever earn an AKC Championship:
6 months 15 days*

Judges: Pat Trotter, Col. Joe Purkhiser, Murrel Purkhiser

Bred by Lynda Farley

Owned by Brian Wood

The Stars Aligned Over Tennessee!



*Charlotte, Ch Windigo When Stars Align
GrCh Beaujon's Breaking News x Ch Windigo On The Wings Of Love*



Thank you to judges Ann Gallant, Joan Anselm, and Julie Roche for her most memorable wins!

*Bred By
Deborah Peters - Windigo
Linda Sue Zwirz - Zindajon*

*Owned by
Deborah Peters*

*Beautifully Presented By
Jennifer Pearce*

Regional Specialty Results

October 26, 2019 - Richmond AHC
Regular Classes - Judge Mary Fisher UK
BOB GCH High Kaliber's Just Do It
BOS GCHS Pahlavi Itz Not My First Rodeo
WD BW BBE Jolie Borrow Or Rob
RWD BP Kingsleah Blue Ice Bullet
WB Shekinah Athena Amira Criston
RWB Ruzka Azari The Enchanted One
SD GCH Agha Djari Fifth Dimension of Sura
SB Ch Pahlavi Marilyn Merlot
AOM GCH Grazioso JP Victory Mover
AOM GCH High Kaliber Lunar Epic
AOM GCH Mahlai Arriva Steppin Out
AOM GCH Kamy Heir to Poseidon of Spice Hill
AOM GCH Cynergy The Magic of It All at Ruzka

October 26, 2019 - Carolina AHC
Regular Classes Judge Stefan Boieck GER
BOB GCHS Just Meant To Be of Meadow Valley
BOS CH Thera's Quiet Man at Kattana
WD BW Mandinah Kalabaliken I Bender
RWD BBE BP Sunlit's King of Queens
WB Shekinah Athena Amines Criston
RWB Jolie Vespers
SD GCH Cynergy's The Magic of It All at Ruzka
SB GCHS Sura Tell Me Lies Zanza
AOM GCHB Shylo Brykaar New Moon on Monday
AOM CH Pahlavi Marilyn Merlot
AOM GCHS Exquisite Sign of the Mermaid
BOBOH CH Napier's Incognito of Spice Hill

October 27, 2019 - Tidewater AHC
Regular Classes Judge Julie Roche US
BOB GCH Agha Djari Fifth Dimension of Sura
BOS GCHG Sura Tell Me Lies Zanza
WD BW Mandinah Kalabaliken I Bender
RWD Agha Djari's Ricmar Radiance
WB Jorogz Domino Cocktail Party
RWB Windigo When Stars Align
SD GCH Shante Chandon
SB GCHS Exquisite Sign of the Mermaid
AOM GCHB Shylo Brykaar New Moon on Monday
AOM CH Napiers Incognito of Spice Hill
AOM GCHB Sura Albehaft Candy Crush
AOM CH Pahlavi Marilyn Merlot

AHCA RESCUE HOTLINE

1-877-AF- RESCUE

1-877-237-3728

March 14, 2020 - Potomac AHC
Regular Classes Judge Laurel Deptuch
BOB GCH Charteroak Traxx of Grandeur
BOS GCH Kurabi Gabina
WD Winterberry's Gaston
RWD Exquisite Court Jester King of Elation
WB BW Pahlavi Black Caviar
RWB Agha Djari's Trifecta
SD CH Mahali Windfall Dance with Dragon
SB BOBOH CH Aqua's Leap of Faith

Karen Irazabal, TN Reporter

Calling All Show Chairpersons

Please remit your show results to Karen Irazabal by email azariafghans@aol.com at the conclusion of your show for inclusion in Topknot News. Include photographs of award winners, your trophy table, club members, spectators, and other items. Show us what we missed, so that we will want to attend your next Specialty!

AKC Registration Statistics

On the following page you will see the final AKC Registration Statistics for our Breed. You can find these, along with the All-Breed and Hound statistics on the Club website as well.

Afghan Hound numbers continue to decrease to perilously low levels.

In 2019 a mere 65 litters were registered in the US, representing a total of 369 puppies. Only 241 of those puppies were registered.

We have so effectively reduced our breeding activity that an entry of 4 Afghan Hounds is now a MAJOR in several divisions in both sexes. FOUR!

Simply put, the Afghan Hound is at risk of becoming, if it is not yet assured of becoming, a "rare" or "vulnerable" breed.

These are terms that are used prior to the most definitive term—extinct.

Overlook and Le Nobel present Odette



Le Nobel's Fly Like An Eagle at Overlook

Aust Ch Calamus Night Black Jack x GCh Le Nobel's Luck Be A Lady

Breeders: Brian and Janet Lenobel

Owners: Barb and Russ Hastings-Overlook

Janet and Brian Lenobel – Le Nobel

“Look for her at Regional Afghan Specialties and select All Breed Shows once activities start again. Everyone stay safe”



Afghan Hounds

Metric	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Notes
Registered Litters	136	132	116	110	112	99	78	81	74	89	68	65	# AKC litters registered each year
Litter Complement	767	808	716	657	607	467	399	402	399	479	378	378	# Pups in each year's litters (known as the "Complement")
Average Complement	5.64	6.12	6.17	5.97	5.42	5.88	5.99	4.96	5.39	5.38	5.56	5.68	Average # of pups per litter
Individually Registered Pups (to date)	533	574	525	507	479	434	379	331	281	411	283	241	# Pups from each year's litters individually registered (to date)
Actual Return Rate (to date)	69.5%	71.0%	73.3%	77.2%	78.9%	74.6%	81.2%	82.3%	70.4%	85.8%	74.9%	65.3%	% Pups from each year's litters individually registered (to date)
Limited Registrations (to date)	19	25	29	23	31	25	21	10	12	19	15	14	# Limited Registrations from each year's litters (to date)
% Complement Registered Limited (to date)	2.5%	3.1%	4.1%	3.5%	5.1%	4.3%	4.5%	2.5%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%	3.8%	% Pups from each year's litters Registered as Limited (to date)
Revoked Limited (to date)	-	-	2	-	3	3	-	-	1	-	-	2	# Revoked Limited Dogs from each year's litters (to date)
Litters from Revoked Limited (to date)	-	-	2	-	3	3	-	-	1	-	2	1	Litters involving each year's Revoked Limited (to date)
Complement Bitches Bred	56	49	51	51	43	40	36	17	11	6	1	-	Bitches from each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
Complement Dogs Bred	43	40	31	40	28	23	15	16	6	5	1	-	Males from each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
Total Complement Bred (to date)	99	89	82	91	71	63	51	33	17	11	2	-	Total from each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
% Complement Bred (to date)	12.9%	11.0%	11.5%	13.9%	11.7%	10.8%	10.9%	8.2%	4.3%	2.3%	0.5%	0.0%	% of each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
Complement Bitches in Conformation	164	218	169	174	157	143	116	140	95	143	91	59	# Bitches from each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
Complement Dogs in Conformation	181	198	166	155	158	135	124	111	102	123	88	48	# Males from each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
Total Complement in Conformation (to date)	345	416	335	329	315	278	240	251	197	266	179	107	Total from each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
% Complement in Conformation (to date)	45.0%	51.5%	46.8%	50.1%	51.9%	47.8%	51.4%	62.4%	49.4%	55.5%	47.4%	29.0%	% of each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
Total Complement in Companion (to date)	13	12	9	15	12	19	7	8	6	10	1	-	Total from each year's litters in Companion (to date)
% Complement in Companion (to date)	1.69%	1.49%	1.26%	2.28%	1.98%	3.26%	1.50%	1.99%	1.50%	2.09%	0.26%	0.00%	% of each year's litters in Companion (to date)
Total Complement Placing in Performance (to date)	58	88	71	67	54	54	35	50	37	64	23	4	Total from each year's litters placing in Performance (to date)
% Complement Placing in Performance (to date)	7.6%	10.9%	9.9%	10.2%	8.9%	9.3%	7.5%	12.4%	9.3%	13.4%	6.1%	1.1%	% of each year's litters placing in Performance (to date)

Litter #s & Litter Related Stats

Metric	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Notes
AKC Dog Registrations	560	557	554	555	483	418	412	360	264	445	302	303	# Registered from AKC Litters during each year
FSS Registrations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	# of FSS Dog Registrations each year
Conditional Registrations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	# of Conditional Registrations each year
Open Registrations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	# of Open Registrations each year
Foreign Registrations	72	86	58	82	55	56	62	46	50	47	41	47	# of Foreign-born Registrations each year
Total Dogs Registered	632	643	612	637	538	474	474	406	314	505	343	350	Total Dog Registrations each year
Unique Bitches Bred (each year)	131	127	113	106	109	91	76	75	70	87	63	63	Unique # bitches bred each year
Unique Dogs Bred (each year)	106	102	94	91	99	81	69	69	58	72	58	55	Unique # males bred each year
Total Bred (each year)	237	229	207	197	208	172	145	144	128	159	121	118	Unique # bred each year
Unique Bitches in Conformation (each year)	588	574	588	566	508	499	439	400	375	385	360	348	Unique # of bitches in Conformation each year
Unique Dogs in Conformation (each year)	616	616	582	576	571	524	493	464	392	405	391	334	Unique # of males in Conformation each year
Total Unique in Conformation (each year)	1,204	1,190	1,170	1,142	1,079	1,023	932	864	767	790	751	682	Unique # in Conformation each year
% Change Conformation	-1.2%	-1.7%	-1.7%	-2.4%	-5.5%	-5.2%	-8.9%	-7.3%	-11.2%	3.0%	-4.9%	-9.2%	YOY % Change Conformation total dogs
Unique Bitches in Companion (each year)	30	22	30	23	22	20	22	22	18	30	25	26	Unique # of bitches in Companion each year
Unique Dogs in Companion (each year)	16	22	24	30	30	23	19	23	22	28	19	22	Unique # of males in Companion each year
Total Unique in Companion (each year)	46	44	54	53	52	43	41	45	40	58	44	48	Unique # in Companion each year
% Change Companion	-4.3%	-4.3%	22.7%	-1.9%	-1.9%	-17.3%	-4.7%	9.8%	-11.1%	45.0%	-24.1%	9.1%	YOY % Change Companion total dogs
Unique Bitches Placing in Performance (each year)	96	95	97	95	80	88	82	63	80	68	86	97	Unique # of bitches placing in Performance each year
Unique Dogs Placing in Performance (each year)	81	104	87	79	81	66	61	53	71	63	75	75	Unique # of males placing in Performance each year
Total Unique Placing in Performance (each year)	177	199	184	174	161	154	143	116	151	131	161	172	Unique # placing in Performance each year
% Change Performance	12.4%	12.4%	-7.5%	-5.4%	-7.5%	-4.3%	-7.1%	-18.9%	30.2%	-13.2%	22.9%	6.8%	YOY % Change Performance total dogs placing

% Change YOY

Registered Litters	N/A	-2.9%	-12.1%	-5.7%	1.8%	-11.6%	-21.2%	3.8%	-8.6%	20.3%	-23.6%	-4.4%	These %'s are calculated to show the change each year from the previous year.
Litter Complement	N/A	5.3%	-11.4%	-8.2%	-7.6%	-4.1%	-19.8%	-13.9%	-0.7%	60.8%	-31.1%	-2.4%	
Registered Dogs	N/A	1.7%	-4.8%	4.1%	-15.5%	-11.9%	0.0%	-14.3%	-22.7%	60.8%	-32.1%	2.0%	
% Change Relative 2008													
Registered Litters	0.0%	-2.9%	-14.7%	-19.1%	-17.6%	-27.2%	-42.6%	-40.4%	-45.6%	-34.6%	-50.0%	-52.2%	These %'s are calculated to show the change each year compared to 2008.
Litter Complement	0.0%	5.3%	-6.6%	-14.3%	-20.9%	-24.1%	-39.1%	-47.6%	-48.0%	-37.5%	-50.7%	-51.9%	
Registered Dogs	0.0%	1.7%	-3.2%	0.8%	-14.9%	-25.0%	-25.0%	-35.8%	-50.3%	-20.1%	-45.7%	-44.6%	



THE AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

EST. 1937