



Topknot News
Volume 2020 Issue 2
Summer Edition



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Cover Image

Our front/back cover image was taken by Event Photographer Dean Lake, showing some of the Afghan Hound entry at the 2019 National Lure Coursing Championship held in Limestone TN, at the farm of two of our Members, Selma & Eddie Kominek.

The varied terrain was caught in frame when Dean hooped it down into a hollow for best effect as the hounds came blasting after the lure! See more of Dean's photography at: deanlakephotography.zenfolio.com

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 Show Secretary - Sue Busby
Breeders' Cup 2021 - Amy Mero
Canine Health - Anna Tyler
Inventory Control - 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 Coordinator - Sue Busby
Meet the Breed - Anna Stromberg
Membership - Jennifer Taylor
Membership Directory - Sue Busby
Mentor Program - Christine Pinkston
National Events Site Research - Erica Jantos
National Specialty 2021 - Sue Busby
Obedience/Rally/Versatility - Lynda Hicks
Parliamentarian - Connie Butherus
Policies & Procedures - Lynda Hicks
Regional Clubs - Amy Mero
Rescue - Martha Powell
Social Media - Erica Jantos
Statistics - Carol Rivette
Sunshine Committee - Sue Busby
Topknot News - Brian Wood
Virtual Awards Banquet - TBA
Ways & Means - Dorma Sue Busby
Website Administrator - Eddie Kominek

2020 Officers & Directors

President - Helen Stein (2022)
First Vice President - Jennifer Taylor (2022)
Second Vice Pres - H Russell 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 C Tyler (2021)
Director - Linda Jackson (2021)
Director - Beth Anne Hall (2022)
Director - Christine O'Connor (2022)

Newsletter Ads & Deadline

NEXT DEADLINE: October 15

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 a PDF file. This size includes the bleed.

Member Address Changes

Please remember to notify Dorma Sue Busby of your address changes.

Also, if you hear of a fellow Member who is ill or has crossed over the Rainbow Bridge, please notify Dorma Sue at barakiafs@peoplepc.com or 810-241-2529 mobile.

2020 Rescue Calendars

Calendars are:

\$22, US postage paid, or
\$25 for International.

Send checks to: AHCA Rescue, 251 Warwick Lane, Alabaster, AL 35007;

or PayPal payment: 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 & Regional Specialties
June 18-20 in Windsor, CT**

Newsletter Team

Editor - Brian Wood - brian@shiningmtn.com
Proofreader - Mary Blacker
Proofreader - Megan Rice
Proofreader - Toni King
Advertising - Linda Kramer
Advertising - Joanne Sternhell
Reporter - Karen Irazabal
Layout & Distribution - Stir Greer





President's Message

Welcome to members old (no offense intended) and new! And welcome also to our guests who are reading this issue of Topknot News. While this should have been an exciting time of year with dog shows, Lure Coursing, Agility, Obedience and Rally Trials and of course the AHCA National Specialty...instead it's exciting for other reasons. I hope that every one of you is staying well and finding great things to do with your Hounds during this period of social restrictions.

What to do? Some Afghan Hound owners have taken advantage of the opportunity to earn AKC Rally Novice and Trick Dog titles online (see Lynda Hicks' article with excellent suggestions). And as some parts of the country are allowing small public gatherings, you may be able to find a FAST CAT title in your dog's future! Congratulations to Magnus, first FCAT Afghan Hound! And kudos to Elise, Kalamity and Suzette (whose formal names you shall read in these pages) for qualifying for the 2020 AKC Rally National Championship--also a VERY big deal!

We are looking forward to the next event of the AHCA -- the 2021 Breeders' Cup (BC)! This will be held at the Showplace for Dogs in Windsor, CT on June 18. The weekend (June 18-19-20) will also include four specialty shows held by Nutmeg AHC (host club), AHALI, and Colonial AHC. When the 2020 BC was cancelled due to COVID-19, and the host club for 2021 withdrew (to be rescheduled to 2022), Amy Mero and the Summer Splash specialty clubs promptly stepped in to fill the void. Although it's slightly outside of the prescribed date range, the Board felt that we should be accommodating to our host clubs who had their specialty plans well underway already. The 2021 BC event will feature an additional competition, so that all dogs that were entered in the 2020 BC will be eligible to compete in what will probably be a separate event. We'll keep you updated as plans are firmed up.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the two new Lifetime Members of the Afghan Hound Club of America, Sue Hamlin and Dennis Sprung. A Lifetime Member is one who has been a member for 20 years in good standing with the Afghan Hound Club of America and with the American Kennel Club, and who has contributed significantly to the AHCA. We are pleased to welcome Sue and Dennis to the list of Lifetime Members and to acknowledge their contributions over the years to the Afghan Hound Club of America and to the sport.

The Statistics Report by Carol Rivette and her team is an impressive summary of what our Afghan Hounds, and their breeders and owners, have accomplished. These top dogs in various fields of competition are traditionally honored during an awards presentation at the Annual Awards Banquet at the National Specialty. For 2020, Lynda Hicks is coordinating a Virtual Awards Banquet so that these top-ranking dogs will be recognized by the Parent Club. We also present an award to the top Junior Handler. This is a work in progress, so stay tuned for more details.

Finally, many thanks to Brian Wood, Stir Greer and the rest of the Editorial Staff of Topknot News for continuing to produce a really great publication. And our thanks to those of you who are spicing up our reading with your advertisements. We appreciate you and wish you much success with your lovely dogs!

My best to everyone,

Helen



Letter from the Editor

We welcome Toni King back to the Topknot News team. Members Sue Hamlin, Lynda Hicks, and Karen Irazabal have created pieces for this issue. We also have original contributions from Clinical Psychologist Carolyn V. Edwards Phd and photographer Dean Lake has provided the images on our covers as well as a helpful piece on hiring an event photographer.

My parents had a dog on the farm where I grew up from before I was born. After fifty years of having dogs, my mother said that she would not get another because she didn't want to grieve the loss of another dog. We all go through grief differently at various times of our lives. I know I have post-traumatic stress syndrome as a result of the deaths of some of my dogs. Carolyn Edwards has written an article on dealing with grief. I hope you find it helpful.

We welcome original articles! Sometimes we receive items that copyright law prevents us from reprinting. If you have an item that you would like to submit for consideration, please contact me via email.

Topknot News is seeking a volunteer to create an Index of past issues. By working our way back, one issue at a time, we can quickly create a listing of the many treasures held within our newsletter's past issues. Past issues are available on our Club website, and best viewed on a tablet or personal computer.

Brian Wood, Editor



News — Topknot News Adds Team Member

Toni King lives in Austin TX where she currently works as a Project Manager for the State of Texas. However, most of her adult life she worked in the entertainment business primarily as an entertainment accountant but also with extensive experience in film/video production both in front of and behind the camera. She has earned degrees in Radio/Television/Film Production, Commercial Music Management and Visual Communications.

Her hobbies include music and art having won awards in fine art. But her true passion is her dogs. She has been actively competing in all aspects of dog shows including obedience, rally, agility and lure coursing since the late 70's. She breeds the occasional litter under the name Bakura Afghans and is very proud to have co-bred the litter that produced littermates that were the #1 NOHS Afghan Hound in 2016, 2017 and 2018!



Committee — Agility

Because of the Shelter at Home Order, and the virus, most Agility trials have been cancelled thru July. I don't know if they will start up again or not.

Mikki Razor, Chairperson



Committee — AKC Delegate

It is not business as usual these days. This is also true of the AKC. Cancellations of events are posted daily; staff work from home and exhibitors yearn for an opportunity to get back in the ring.

We were informed several months ago that the June Delegates' Meetings were cancelled. However, that decision was reversed and we were then informed that the meetings would take place via Zoom. The schedule of meetings ran for nearly a 2 week time span in order to accommodate the many committees, sub-committees and general sessions. So we all went ZOOMING off into the electronic universe.

My first meeting was the Parent Club Breeders Committee. As the AKC has declared 2020 as the Year of the Breeder the committee is focused on breeder education and working with the AKC staff to enhance access to the large volume of breeder education materials that are available.

The June 12th Committee meeting addressed the following items:

Breeder Education information that is available such as the 11 free courses offered by the Canine College. Additional courses are in the pipeline.

AKC Dog Breeder Education Network is a Facebook page where breeders can post information and ask questions. The page is monitored and questions are answered by knowledgeable breeders. The Committee is working with the Canine College to increase the breeder education information available on this site.

Conducting interviews with older master breeders will be done as the committee goes forward. It is deemed important to capture the knowledge of these breed experts and have it available to the fancy.

A survey was done of all Parent Clubs regarding their mentoring programs. It was very disappointing to discover that of the Clubs who responded, few have such programs. The committee plans to develop a pilot program to address this need.

The mentoring of Juniors and Parent Clubs' programs to develop and support Juniors; Encouraging active breeders to become members of their Parent Clubs.

Finding ways to counteract the AR bias against responsible breeders.

My next Zoom meeting, Parent Clubs, was held a few days later as the various committees had been assigned individual specific time slots in order to avoid conflicts. In addition to the ten committee members, there were 118 Delegates who Zoomed in to attend the meeting.

The major topics addressed were:

Legislation impacting the dog community included the importation of dogs and the significant health issues they bring. There are over 2,000 bills being monitored by the AKC legislative staff at this time with 15 State legislatures currently in session.

The Pet Disaster Trailer project now has 88 of the trailers in place in 29 States with an additional 14 in the pipeline. 432 clubs have contributed funds to this ongoing project.

Best Practices for Parent Clubs Sub Committee is developing a survey of the Parent Clubs.....more to follow.

The Parent Club Committee will propose a Bylaws amendment to the AKC Board regarding local breed clubs becoming AKC Member Clubs. This was not permitted for over 20 years and now needs to become a By Law.

After the meeting the Committee held another Zoom conference regarding allowing Parent Clubs to hold two National Specialty Shows in 2021 as so many had been forced to cancel their show in 2020 due to the COVID-19. This request has the support of the Dog Show Rules Committee as well.

At the Coordinating Committee we learned that over 11,000 AKC events have been cancelled since the onset of the virus epidemic. It is interesting however that AKC dog registrations have increased 12%. Perhaps folks being housebound allowed them time to catch up on submitting their accumulated blue slips.

Nearly two weeks from the first meeting we had the actual Delegates' business meeting. Tom Davies, AKC Board Chair, began his remarks noting that we are in a new day for the AKC. Due to the cancellations there has been a loss of income to the AKC. Services continue as the remaining staff primarily work from home. For the first time in its history the AKC is holding a virtual dog show. (No Championship points will be awarded.) The Board has been very active during the shutdown and all hope for better days ahead. Three new Board Committees have been established: Communication, Judging Approval and Bylaws guidelines.

Dennis Sprung, President, noted that changes required by State and Federal Regulations are being followed. Reduction in staff became necessary due to the event cancellations and thus reduced income. He stated that the remaining staff are available to be of assistance to the dog community.

The AKC has a new CFO, Ted Phillips who delivered the money news. As previously noted, Registrations have increased by 7% for litters and 12% for individual dogs. Although income has decreased so have expenses. The investments reflected a 3.3% decline as of 5-31-20. Doug Ljungren, COO, stated that AKC Clubs are expected to comply with local, State and Federal regulators. He advised event giving Clubs to include information in their Premium Lists as to face coverings, social distancing requirement, etc.

The next meeting is scheduled for September. Will we Zoom again? Hold a virtual meeting or gather together as in the past? My money is on another Zoom event. Stay well. Stay close to one another but 6 feet apart.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Butherus, AHCA Delegate to the AKC



Committee — Awards

James Donahue is Committee Chair. Also, Barb Hastings & Lynda Hicks have been communicating about the 2019 Recognition Awards, which were originally to occur at the 2020 AHCA Awards Banquet (now cancelled due to the pandemic), and are discussing a virtual event, perhaps in October. Owners would submit photos and/or videos of top dogs, which would be gathered into an online presentation. Barb is gathering the list of award winners, and instead of asking about attendance at the Awards Dinner can inquire about visual assets instead.

Additionally, Lynda has the perpetual trophy for Top Combined Lure Coursing Afghan (which Lynda's dog qualified for in 2018.), which will go to Eddie & Selma Kominek's Afghan Hound bitch for 2019 accomplishments, which will be sent to the Komineks.



Committee — Breeders' Cup 2021

The 2021 Breeders' Cup will be on Friday, June 18, 2021, followed by four Regional Specialties, at Showcase For Dogs 121 North Rd East, Windsor, CT, www.showcasefordogs.com

Rooms at the Marriott Hartford/Windsor Airport—860-688-7500—28 Day Hill Rd, Windsor, CT are blocked off under "Afghan Hound Club" at \$106/night plus a one time \$50 pet fee. *Make sure you let them know if you do NOT have a pet.*

There is a hotel shuttle from Bradley International Airport. Drive time is about 15 minutes to hotel or show site from the airport.

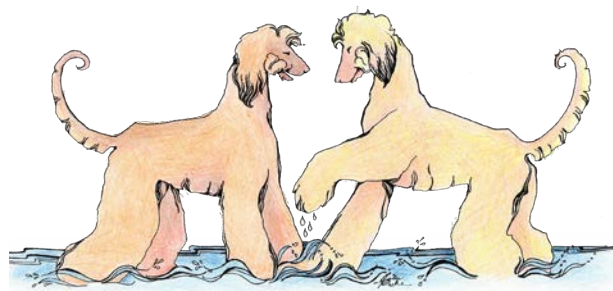
RV Parking is \$20/night at the show site. There are no hookups but dumping can be arranged with property owner, who will arrange for on-site dumping.

June 18, 2021 - AHALI - after the Breeders' Cup
Regular Classes Judge *TBD*

June 19, 2021 - Colonial AHC - AM & PM
AM Sweeps Judge *Mrs MaryAnn Giordano*
AM Breed Judge *Mr Stephen Fisher*
PM Sweeps Judge *Mr David Giordano*
PM Breed Judge *Ms Amy Sorbie*

June 20, 2021 - Nutmeg AHC
Sweeps Judge *Mrs Jennifer Taylor*
Breed Judge *Ms Claire Millward (UK)*

Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.
Breeders' Cup



Summer Splashin' With Puppies
June 18, 2021

Logo art by Julie Roche

Report submitted by Amy Mero, Show Chairperson



Committee — Breeders' Cup

Alicia has mailed the 2020 BC trophies to me, and the ribbons and t-shirts are being stored. The ribbons will be used for the 2021 BC, with updated streamers.

Dorma Sue Busby, Breeders' Cup Show Secretary



Committee — Canine Health

The AHCA-sponsored Chylothorax Research officially started February 1, 2020. The Canine Health Foundation will report Dr. Johnson's findings to the board of directors in July and that information will be passed on to the Membership.

The Researcher is asking for more Afghan Hound blood samples. Regional Specialty Clubs that would like to sponsor a blood sample clinic please contact me at Inisfree1@Charter.net and I will send the supplies.

The AHCA Canine Health would like to thank Pam Ristau and Cynthia Byington for their very beautiful and generous donations to the Chylothorax Research. Cynthia donated her incredible mixed media original painting for the 2018 National Art Auction.

Pam donated her beautiful original designed quilt of "Trace" for the 2019 National Art Auction.

We want to thank both Members for their donations of many hours of time, supplies and artistic ability to this very worthy cause. Your talent and generosity are very much appreciated!



The Canine Health Foundation Donor Advised Fund (DAF) account balance is: \$1,350.62 and the AHCA Canine Health 501(c)(3) checking account balance is: \$4,952.02

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 (2) XL (8) 2X (6) 3X (1)	\$12.50
Sweatshirt - Gray	S (3) M (7) L (6) XL (12) 2X (6) 3X (3)	\$17.50
Sweatshirt - Wine	S (1) M (6) L (8) XL (14) 2X (5) 3X (3)	\$17.50
Full Zip Jacket - Gray - Men's	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 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).

AHCA Logo Items (Ways & Means): AHCA Lapel Pins, 14K gold-plated, \$15, Tie Tack or Safety Pin catch; Mouse Pad, Black w/white logo (89) - \$5; Purple Towels, (13)- \$25; Computer Travel bags, Black (18) - \$50.00; Dark Blue Dress Shirts, Sizes: M (3), L (4), XL (3), 2X (3) - \$40; Baseball Caps: Pink (2)Black (4), Beige (3), Khaki (8) - \$20. *Prices do NOT include postage.*

Contact me at barakiafs@peoplepc.com or 586-933-5682 (home) or 810-241-2529 (mobile).

Dorma Sue Busby, Chairperson



Committee — Lure Coursing

AHCA events are still cancelled for the year but we may consider holding an ASFA trial in the Fall in Limestone TN depending on how the Summer plays out regarding the pandemic. Some trials are resuming across the country.

Lynda Hicks submitted the following from our AKC Companion Events:

The first Afghan Hound to achieve the AKC Fast CAT's most advanced title - FCAT - is Exquisite Crown Prince of Elation SC FCAT CGC. Magnus earned the FCAT title on February 20, 2020. Magnus is owned by Terilynn Thomas & Beth Anne Hall, and bred by Bonnie Peregoy, Beth Anne, and David & Hartley Hall. His owner Teri Thomas wrote the following:

My name is Teri Thomas, and I'm a proud new associate member of AHCA. I got my very first Afghan Hound almost three years ago. His name is Magnus, and he is so much fun for our family. Magnus has become a great lure coursing dog, and we enjoy watching him race a great deal as it his favorite thing to do. My interest in the Fast CAT evolved as I wanted to see just how fast he was capable of running. Magnus liked it so much that we continued with this type of racing, and Magnus has now earned his FCAT title. He is the first Afghan Hound to earn that achievement. Currently



photo by Mark L Baer/MLBaer Photography



photo by Margie Christianson

his fastest speed is 27.49 mph for the 100-yard distance. I thought that I would share this good news with you, especially since we could use some good news around now.

Seeing all the dog events cancelled has been extremely disappointing.

I am so happy to have been able to complete

the FCAT with Magnus in late February before everything shut down. We are missing all our "doggie" friends, and coursing events and hope all is going well for them! — Teri

Congratulations Teri & Magnus!

Eddie Kominek, Chairperson



Committee — Mailing List

The AHCA 2020-2021 Membership Directory has been completed and mailed.
Dorma Sue Busby, Chairperson



Committee — Membership

We are excited to continue to receive a large number of new AHCA applications. Breeders and exhibitors who have been in the breed well over the 7 year minimum have decided to join us! Our Associate Membership continues to grow and gain in popularity. Keep spreading the word and reaching out to new people in our breed.

Jennifer Taylor, Chairperson



Committee — Mentor Program

There is limited information to convey. Is sporadic inquiry due to fewer Afghan Hounds being sold, or are they being sold to experienced homes? Perhaps the new owners are being mentored by their Afghan Hounds' breeders, or perhaps they are self-educating via the many resources available online.

My contact information is available on the AKC site and on the back of every single AKC registration form. My role is to answer any questions that I can and to connect the inquirer to a friendly, knowledgeable and willing AHCA Member in nearest proximity.

Failing that, I connect them with another individual who fills the requirements and may not be a Club Member.

Calls and emails have included: a breeder looking for a mentor local to a new owner (unfortunately, sometimes the nearest person may be 3-4 hours away); a new home dissatisfied with the response and level of attention from the breeder; an individual requesting a mentor (no reply to my response); a breeder looking for a checkup visit local to the dog; and inquiries that result in successful connections.

I intend to review the list of those who have agreed in advance to be available as mentors but would appreciate it if those interested would take a moment to email me and indicate willingness to participate. Please include name, city/state, and best contact method/details for reaching you. I look forward to having my inbox flooded at criston@aol.com...Thanks in advance!

Everyone wants to ensure that these homes are a success story with our Afghan Hounds, and the Club appreciates your contribution.

Chris Pinkston, Chairperson



Committee — Obedience/Rally/Versatility

The AKC has created two new opportunities for accomplishing titles during this pandemic aimed at keeping dog lovers engaged and training their dogs.

In March, AKC approved Virtual Trick Testing Evaluations. Tricks are something FUN to do with your Dog and encourage interaction and bonding. AKC approved evaluations for AKC Trick Dog Titles via Video. My friend with Whippets, Sami Hirko, offered to evaluate tricks for free of any Afghan Hounds whose owners wish to submit them to her. Email, PM, or upload a video to your YouTube channel, and email Sami the required form to dediciwhippets@aol.com and she'll be happy to evaluate, emailing the results back to

you. For full details, go to <https://www.akc.org/sports/trick-dog/> Several Afghan Hounds have already achieved AKC Trick Titles through this program.

In April, AKC approved Virtual Rally Novice Titling evaluations. To test it out, I tried a video with one of my dogs, and received a Qualifying Score—now I just need to do 2 more videos (3 qualifying scores are required for a title). This Test program runs thru December 31, 2020. They've added some very good FAQ's to the website to help make your videos successful. For information, go to <https://bit.ly/31hG15D>

And I'm proud to announce that three Afghan Hounds have qualified for the 2020 AKC Rally National Championship. Each Afghan Hound received 3 qualifying scores of 93 or more in their class to qualify for this honor.

Novice Level:

Twyshire Lotus Elise, RN CA BCAT
owner Nora Mayfield

CH Deeses Kindred Kalamity at Suni, RA JC BCAT
CGC TKN
owners Debra Howard, Ruth Booker & Lynda Hicks

Master Level:

MACH Popovs Purrfection at Cayblu, CD RM SC MXG
MJC TA TD
owner Cathy Kirchmeyer

HUGE Congratulations to these Afghan Hounds!

The AHCA's four AKC All-breed Rally trials in Leander, TX took place on August 1 & 2. and were successful!

The 2020 AKC Rally National Championship will be held at the Orange County Convention Center, North/South Building in Orlando FL on December 11, 2020.

Lynda Hicks, Chairperson



photo by Mark L. Baer/MLBaer Photography of "ELISE"



Committee — Regional Clubs

I have received and approved Specialty Show packets for 8 Regional clubs, listed in the table below, in order of show date.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please check with the AKC site when making exhibitor and spectator plans, as cancellations may have occurred since the date of publication of this newsletter. While some clubs have held their shows or rescheduled at later dates, a number of shows have been cancelled.

Amy Mero, Chairperson

Club Name		Date		Reg. Class Judge
Midwest AHC	CANCELLED	Aug 7		Gill Ullom
AHC of Greater Columbus	CANCELLED	Aug 8		Joanne Buehler
AHC of Southwestern Ohio	CANCELLED	Aug 9		Shelley Hennessy
AHC of Greater Denver	CANCELLED	Sept 4	AM	Rev Rick Martin
	CANCELLED	Sept 4	PM	Anna Tyler
AHC of St Louis	CANCELLED	Sept 12	AM	Joanne Buehler
(moved from March)	CANCELLED	Sept 13	PM	William F Potter II
Lehigh Valley AH Association	CANCELLED	Oct 4	AM	Marla Meindl-Capozzi
	CANCELLED	Oct 4	PM	Richard Souza
Northern California AHC		Oct 23		Yancy Russell
Suncoast AHC		Dec 12		Dr Gyorgy Tesics



Committee — *Sunshine*

Sympathy cards have been sent to Scott Pfeil, Sandra Newton's family, and Jodi Santerelli's family.

Dorma Sue Busby, Chairperson



Committee — *Statistics*

Statistics in following report were compiled by Carol Rivette, Chairperson & Committee Members Cathy Kirchmeyer, Mikki Razor, Lynda Hicks and Claudia Jakus.

2019 Competition Statistics

<i>Award (including points)</i>	<i>Award Winner</i>	<i>Owner(s)</i>	<i>Breeder(s)</i>
The Top-Producing Sire 6 Champion Offspring	GCHG CH Agha Djari's Fifth Dimension Of Sura	Suzanne J Neill/Jamie Souza Bartlett/Christine O'Connor	Stefan Boieck
The Top-Producing Dam 4 Champion Offspring	CH Cynergy's Midnight Maddnezz	Toni M Richmond/Lin Valimiki	Toni M Richmond
The Top—Winning Dog in breed competition 1061	GCHP CH Agha Djari's Fifth Dimension Of Sura	Suzanne J Neill/Jamie Souza Bartlett/Christine O'Connor	Stefan Boieck
The Top-Winning Bitch in Breed Competition 296	GCHS CH Sawsan Bint-Bint Diba Von Haussman	Ramon Podesta	Lourdes Cofino
The Top-Winning Dog in Breed Competition Owner-Handled 920	GCHB CH Sura Fabelhaft Fifth Avenue CA	Nina Munoz/Suzanne J Neill	Suzanne J Neill/James Dalton
Top Junior Handler 57	Alexis Kujawa		
Top Lure Coursing Dog AKC 93	FC Kominek's Lucius SC LCX	Mike E Terry	Edward Kominek/Selma Kominek
Top Lure Coursing Dog ASFA 41	GCH DC Kominek's Narcissa MC LCX	Edward Kominek/Selma Kominek	Edward Kominek/Selma Kominek
Top LC Combined AKC and ASFA Total Points 110	GCH DC Kominek's Narcissa MC LCX	Edward Kominek/Selma Kominek	Edward Kominek/Selma Kominek
Top Agility AKC MACH Afghan Hound 1189	GCH CH Stormhill Cosifantutte She B'Dazzl'N MX MXB MXJ MJS MXF T2B2 BCAT	Robin Cohen/Sandra Frei/Robin Kletke	Lynn Vining/Sandra Frei
Top Agility AKC PACH Afghan Hound 14	CH Simoon's SnowDance At Dawn AX AXJ MXP3 MXPB MJP	Dwight Caswell/Nancy Caswell	J Plank/S Plank/R Penta/C Penta
Top NOTRA Racing Afghan Hound #1	Inisfree Sirae Duet Titan King's Ranch ORC	Nathan Wattenhoffer	Anna C Tyler/Cynthia Byington/Louise Paulson/Lorene French
Top LGRA Racing Afghan Hound 7.5	Inisfree Sirae Duet Titan King's Ranch GRC	Nathan Wattenhoffer	Anna C Tyler/Cynthia Byington/Louise Paulson/Lorene French
Top AKC Rally Afghan 90	MACH Popovs Purrfection At Cayblu CD RM SC MXG MJC RATO	Cathy Kirchmeyer	R Tromp-Pruyn/F Tromp
High in Rally Overall and High in Rally Master Advanced 311	MACH Popovs Purrfection At Cayblu CD RM SC MXG MJC RATO	Cathy Kirchmeyer	R Tromp-Pruyn/ F Tromp
High in Rally Excellent 256	GCHS DC Bakura Suni Formula One CD RA MC LCX2 BCAT CGC TKN	James Hicks/Lynda Hicks/Toni King	Lynda Hicks/Toni King

2019 Miscellaneous Statistics

<i>Dog</i>	<i>Owner(s)</i>
New Canine Good Citizen	
CH Oranje Vahalah Naranj Uptown Hooligan CGC	Jessica Match
Gabriel's Bit Of Dark Energy THDA CGC	John Patrick Busbee
Happen'Z Dreamgirl CGCA	Patricia L Rea
HBF Eustace Conway Last American Man CGC	Ainsley Suskey
Zoso's Sweet Sensation CD BN CGC	Kate E Maynard
CH Abica's Moonshine Minnie CGC	Mimi Yeager
DC Suni's Prairie Rose At Stardrift RN SC BCAT CGC	Lynda Hicks/Debra Howard/Ruth Booker/James Hicks
CH Aqua's Dance On Little Girl At Zen JC CGC	Ellen Klosson/Sharon Ferraro
CH Deeses Kindred Kalamity At Suni JC BCAT CGC	Debra Howard/Ruth Booker/Lynda Hicks
GCHB CH Sunlit's Lites, Camera, Action! Of Summerwinds CGC	Leanne Harriett/Rosemary Sutton
CH Oriana Bombay Star RA ACT1 CGC	William Zimmer/Allan Reznik
Komar's Wind'N Surf CGC	Christian De'Angelo Andrews
Pure Joy's Spaghetti And Meatballs CGC	Megan Rice
CH Aqua's Pretty Boy In High Heels JC CGC	Theresa Morgan/Sharon Ferraro
Blu Hill's Love Is Strong CGC	Debra Smith
Polo's Citywind's Bella Mia CGC	Terre A Moshe
Audrias RAS Ahead of the Storm CGC	Annette Smith
Exquisite Crown Prince Of Elation SC BCAT CGC	Terilynn Thomas/Beth Anne & Hartley Hall/Christopher Thomas
I AM The El Nino Factor CGC	Pamela Wall
New Barn Hunt	
GCH CH Mahrani's Wish U Luv At Stormhill CD BN RA JC RATN CGC	Mary Offerman/Terri Vanderzee/Sandra Frei/Sandi Nickolls
New BCAT	
Summerwinds White Diamonds BCAT	Joann King/Rosemary Sutton
DC Suni's Prairie Rose At Stardrift SC BCAT	Lynda Hicks/Debra Howard/Ruth Booker/James Hicks
DC Komar's Kiss N Tell MC LCX BCAT	David Desalvo/Vincent Vu
Canine Legend Sephora BCAT	Megan Rice
CH Deeses Kindred Kalamity At Suni JC BCAT	Debra Howard/Ruth Booker/Lynda Hicks
CH Suni Asia Starchaser By Sumahari SC CA BCAT CGC TKN	Mrs Colleen Randazzo/Lynda Hicks
GCH CH Suni's One Time Affair V Mazshalna RN SC BCAT CGC TKN	James Hicks/Vanessa J Bates/Donna M Bates/Lynda Hicks
Tiara's U Got The Look JC BCAT	Debbie Duvall
Zoso's Sweet Sensation CD BN BCAT CGC	Kate E Maynard
Komar's Sun'N Snow SC BCAT	Rhonda Greenhalgh
Elan Sebring Maximillion Of Pam-Mel SC CA BCAT	Pamela Hewitt/Melanie Hewitt
FC Kominek's Draco SC BCAT	Emily Killian/Lisa Killian
GCH CH Stormhill Cosifantutte She B'Dazzl'N MX MXJ MJB MXF T2B BCAT	Robin Cohen/Sandra Frei/Robin Kletke
Twyshire Lotus Elise BCAT	Nora Mayfield
Willow's Master Of All Villainy BCAT	Amanda Katrancha-Ward/Jeremiah Ward
Windigo Twyshire Swinging On A Star RN BCAT	Nora Mayfield/Deborah Peters
Charsada Go Above And Beyond BCAT	Kathleen OBrien/Brenda Burns
CH Oriana Bombay Star RA BCAT ACT1 CGC	William Zimmer/Allan Reznik

Polo's Divine Bella Blu BCAT CGC TKN	Sarah Evans/Aaron Eastlick/Lorianne Amadeo
Belladora CD BN RI BCAT THD CGC TKN	Nancy Mahaffey
Exquisite Crown Prince Of Elation JC BCAT	Terilynn Thomas/Beth Anne Hall/Hartley Hall/Christopher Thomas
GCH CH Sootaan's Let's Give Them Something To Talk About OA OAJ NF BCAT TKN	Ms Sue McDonald/Ylla Carson/William D Carson
Sootaan's Life Of The Party BCAT	Ylla Carson/William D Carson
CH Prohpechy's Tommy Bahama N Shining Mtn JC CA BCAT	Nina Munoz/Nancy J Shandre
New Farm Dog	
DC Asia Soraya Tazi Of Suni RE FDC SC THD CGC TKN	Claudia Jakus/Lynda Hicks
GCH CH Suni Time After Time At Oreia BN RI FDC JC THDX CGC TKN	Claudia R Jakus/Lynda Hicks/Stephen J Cerovski
New Scent Work	
GCH CH Pahlavi Firesteed SCN SEN SBN	Patricia Price/Karen Wagner
She Rides The Short Bus CD BN RAE JC NAP NJP NFP SWN SIA SEA	Dr Cheryl A Helsing
Wynsyr's Pin-Up Girl CD BN RAE JC NAJ ACT2 SWN	Dr Cheryl A Helsing
Thaon's Alchemy FDC SIA SCN TKP	Mary Sonnen/Jay T Hafford/James P Blanchard/Richard Sonnen
GCH CH Pahlavi Firesteed SWN SCA SIA SBA	Patricia Price/Karen Wagner
New Therapy Dog	
Kalani I'm Ready For My Close Up THD CGC TKN	Ellie Stonequist/Barbara Benson
New Time 2 Beat 2	
GCH CH Stormhill Cosifantutte She B'Dazzl'N MX MXJ MJB MXF T2B2 BCAT	Robin Cohen/Sandra Frei/Robin Kletke
New Trick Dog	
FC Twyshire Satin Chase CD RA SC CA BCAT CGC TKI	Nora Mayfield
CH Oranje Vahalah Naranj Uptown Hooligan JC CGC TKI	Jessica Matich
GCHS CH Komar's Wild Violette Skye SC CGC TKI	Beth Anne Hall
GCH CH Polo's Chanson Noire A Bakura BN RI CGC TKI	Toni King
GCH CH Just To Fall In Love Of Meadow Valley DN CGCA TKI	Sophia Pierce
FC Twyshire Love By Promise RN SC BCAT CGC TKN	Nora Mayfield
CH Utchati Jailhouse Rock CD RE JC NA TKN	Susan Scholtz/Lynne Miller
Suni Asia Starchaser By Sumahari SC CA CGC TKN	Mrs Colleen Randazzo/Lynda Hicks
Marru's Earl Grey Of Tradewinds TKN	Marlene R Hart
CH Oranje Vahalah Naranj Uptown Hooligan JC CGC TKN	Jessica Matich
GCHS CH Komar's Wild Violette Skye SC CGC TKN	Beth Anne Hall
Inisfree Sirae' Notorious Duet SC CAA BCAT CGC TKN	Julia Callaghan/Lorene French
Komar's Smok'N Gun SC CA BCAT CGC TKN	Julia Callaghan
Polo's Divine Bella Blu CGC TKN	Sarah Evans/Aaron Eastlick/Lorianne Amadeo
Charlie Hoitt TKN	Linda Hoitt
CH Deeses Kindred Kalamity At Suni RA JC BCAT CGC TKN	Debra Howard/Ruth Booker/Lynda Hicks
GCH DC Suni's Prairie Rose At Stardrift RA SC BCAT CGC TKN	Lynda Hicks/Debra Howard/Ruth Booker/James Hicks
Polo's Citywind's Bella Mia CGCA TKN	Terre A Moshe
New Utility Dog	
Circle of Hope UD BN RA	Gisela Bailey

Congratulations to All!



Article — Moving with Afghan Hounds

As many of my friends know, I recently moved from Washington state to Alabama with MULTIPLE dogs—a 2500-mile journey in the middle of a pandemic and we learned a lot along the way. There were three of us; Darla Hitchborn, my tenant Joe, and I; we had two mini vans and pulled a 16ft trailer.

We were traveling with eight Afghan Hounds (including three 15-week-old pups) and five Chinese Cresteds. We planned pretty well and though the trip was long, about 5 days, it was overall uneventful and we were lucky enough to see some really beautiful country along the way.

A few weeks before we started our trip, I bought a few more crates including some I found were made to fit side by side in an SUV. They are slightly narrower than a regular 400 but just as tall so we could fit four Afghan Hounds into each van perfectly. I had one 450 East Coast crate for my bigger boy. The Chinese Crested crates were still able to fit on top of the Afghan Hound crates and were easily accessed. We bungeed them to the larger crates to avoid them moving much. Water buckets or bowls were in every crate so that the dogs had access to water 24/7.



The dogs were put on a slightly different feeding schedule to try to avoid any car sickness or accidents. The vans were packed pretty tight when we added small suitcases for each of us, a case of water for us and 6 gallons of drinking water for the dogs and a small cooler in each. We put the bags of dog food and their bowls at the very rear of the trailer we were pulling, along with paper plates and utensils for us. We fed the dogs and ate our meal when we stopped for the night.



We didn't pre-book any hotels because we weren't sure how far we would get every day; I used my hotels.com app to find a hotel in next upcoming town or city when we started getting tired. We would also be sure to "gas up" and get whatever snacks and ice we wanted for the next day so we would have fewer stops.

We walked all of them in the mornings, then during two stops for gas during the day and again at night after their meal when we stopped. We learned quickly to hook leashes to crates so as not to be searching the



vans for them every time we stopped.

We had a few "glitches" along the way—we learned that not all phones, or apps give you the same directions, so we did get separated from the 2nd van a couple of times but thanks to cell phones we were able to meet back up. Also, we learned to save time by walking the dogs when we stopped for gas instead of also stopping extra at rest stops as the trip did have us going through the middle of nowhere more than once.

The three biggest successes were that we made the 2500 miles in one piece. In five days, we used social distancing and wore our masks when stopping for gas or checking into a hotel, and we didn't kill each other along the way (though it was tempting a couple of times) and we are still the best of friends.
Karen Irazabal RN, Azari Afghan Hounds & Chinese Cresteds





Article— *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*

“Tell me about the most physically or emotionally painful experience of your life.” Such begins my screening questions for loss and trauma that I ask every patient who presents for treatment. I’m a clinical psychologist and throughout my 30 plus years of practice, I’ve met numerous individuals who answer this question by describing the loss of a much-loved dog in excruciating detail—a loss that has sometimes continued to haunt them for as long as twenty to thirty years.

We in the Afghan community are certainly not immune to the pain of loss, whether we’re mourning a human or an animal companion. In fact, it is my hypothesis that perhaps we grieve more intensely because of our personalities. The moniker “dog people” conjures up mental images of a nurturing, empathic group of folks—people who are protective, sensitive and dedicated. Our passion for our glamorous, challenging, dramatic and charismatic hounds puts us at risk for periods of intense sorrow. And this grief can be played out many times during our lifetime since dogs are not as long-lived as humans—something I’ve always considered to be a design flaw.

Dogs play a major role in our lives; they’re not just animals, not simply pets. They show their hearts out for us in conformation, obedience, and agility, and fly over a coursing track because we ask them to do so. (A little bribery never hurts either.) They protect us and sense our moods. Draped on our sofas, their presence is woven into the fabric of our daily lives —These soulful creatures share our beds at night and become significant parts of our families. Is it any surprise that we become strongly attached to them and then suffer intensely when that bond is broken?

Attachment theory, developed by John Bowlby (1969), is a model that has been used to understand the human-pet bond. As early as the first month of life, an emotional connection (or attachment) develops between an infant and their caregiver as the newborn seeks out and clings to that significant person for a sense of comfort and safety. Each of us has our own ways of attaching to others (securely or insecurely) based on the quality of that early interaction. As adults, we still seek out attachments with human and canine companions. Unfortunately, this is a double-edged sword: The same affiliation that is a source of warmth, comfort and unconditional love during life can become a source of affliction after death. In fact, it has been demonstrated that the stronger our attachment to a lost pet, the more severely we grieve (Field et al, 2009). Sometimes the severing of these bonds can be quite traumatic, resulting in complicated grief, anxiety, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Bereavement and mourning are universal experiences and few of us make it through this lifetime without experiencing them. Bereavement is the state of being deprived of someone we love through death which delivers us into a state of mourning. The terms grief and mourning are used almost synonymously to describe a syndrome that has cognitive, emotional, physical and social components. Cognitive symptoms of grief include repetitive thoughts about the circumstances of the loss and the characteristics of the lost pet, difficulty concentrating, and some transient problems with memory. Emotional symptoms tend to express the depth of our sorrow through initial sensations of numbness giving way to sadness, tearfulness, mood swings, anxiety and depression. Physical symptoms are common, and there is frequently a loss of appetite accompanied by periods of sleeplessness. As a result of these unpleasant reactions, we tend to self-isolate, which can result in loneliness. For us, our lost dog is still very much alive; we struggle with ways to keep the memory from fading, for if it dims, we feel unfaithful to that beloved companion.

Initially, the experience of grief can be quite intense. Feelings of shock and numbness give way to intense states of anguish which then occur in waves. For example, when negative memories are triggered, sadness, despair, and longing can engulf us, and functioning becomes difficult for hours to days. These periods dissipate in frequency and intensity over time until we ultimately redefine our lost relationship.

Pet owners have told their therapists and veterinarians (Dimperio, 2020) that their grief after the loss of a companion animal is just as great and sometimes more powerful than the loss of a family member. This could be due to the types of roles dogs satisfy for us: a surrogate child, for example, or a surrogate partner and best friend. Since this loss is so considerable, it seems that the bereaved should be supported with the same types of ritual action we reserve for humans—funerals, burial services, and visits. But this is not the case in our culture. In fact, outside the dog community, the loss is usually minimized and largely ignored. As a result, people begin to feel embarrassed about expressing their feelings over the loss of a pet. This disenfranchised grief can be very impactful leading to complex bereavement. To

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be clear, most people recover from a loss quickly, but a small percentage (<5%; Adrian et al, 2009) find it difficult to accommodate to the situation and go on to experience functional impairment.

Complex bereavement is thought to be experienced when grief extends beyond 12 months for an adult and 6 months for a child (American Psychiatric Association, 2013, p. 789). It's important to recognize that these durational standards were written with the loss of a human relationship in mind. Still, it has been suggested that mourning the loss of a companion animal is typically longer than what is experienced after a human death (Hunt & Padilla, 2006). Symptomatically, in complex bereavement, we see a persistent longing for the deceased, a preoccupation with that relationship, intense sorrow, and a repetitive focus on the circumstances of the death. And for dog lovers the circumstances surrounding the end of life are particularly important.

Things like protracted illness, natural disasters and accidents can be traumatic. Having our dog go missing or stolen without resolution can be difficult to cope with. If our dog's illness and death were unexpected, we're left feeling unstable and unsafe. Then, unhappily, we must make decisions about euthanasia which can be contrary to many of our beliefs about caring for our animals. Since dogs are totally dependent on us for their care and well-being, we are the sole decision makers. And we often agonize over these decisions. The reason for this discomfort is that few circumstances in life provide us with completely right or wrong choices. So, we second guess ourselves, finding something that's a little wrong with any determination we've made. This, then, gives rise to feelings of guilt: Did I try everything? Was I selfishly thinking of myself? Did I give up too soon? Each of these questions can increase doubt and emotional suffering.

Although most people recover from loss without much deterioration in their functioning, a more severe pathological reaction can be experienced by others. Psychological trauma resulting from the death of a loved one can be fairly intense and evolve into the syndrome of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). A range of symptoms including feelings of detachment, irritability, hyperarousal, and re-experiencing phenomena like intrusive thoughts, nightmares and flashbacks can occur and be very debilitating.

When discussing psychological symptoms, it's important to consider how others react to the bereaved person who is in turmoil as well as the sufferer's own self-evaluation. The experience of complex bereavement or a trauma-related disorder does not render the person weak, neurotic or disabled. Sadly, a mental health stigma is alive and well in our society, and this stereotyping helps no one. We see the negative impact of stigmas every day in areas such as race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation. In the area of mental health, if shame and self-doubt accompany psychological symptoms, the individual often decides against seeking treatment although they could benefit from it considerably. What is true about the onset of symptoms is that people are the most negatively impacted by loss due to variables that are largely outside their control: things like temperament and personality, the person's history of loss, attachment style, amount of social support, and even brain structure and function. The psychological sequelae of loss is eminently treatable--which is why the identification and support of those experiencing these conditions is so important.

So, is there an upside? Absolutely. As painful as grief is, many people experience positive emotional and behavioral changes following the loss of their companion--a condition called post traumatic growth (Packman et al, 2017). Religious traditions, poets, novelists, and philosophers all talk about periods of growth after a painful experience. It has been reported that after a traumatic loss, people often change their perspectives on things like compassion, personal strength and appreciation for life (Collier, 2016). Our belief systems are transformed, thoughts become clearer, and life feels worth living again.

Our social support systems certainly minimize the impact of loss. In our own Afghan Hound community, I've observed people being supported in their grief by a beautiful memorial book of photos and ads compiled for our annual Nationals. Topknot Newsletter is encouraging memorial posts. On social media (Facebook) the bereaved post photos and eulogies of their beloved dogs and are strengthened by an outpouring of love and support from others who have experienced the same pain. Coping strategies are shared and there is a healing connection between people who care about and identify with each other. All these interactions facilitate the working through of grief and help the individual toward a positive outcome.

So when would it be time to consider professional intervention? When sadness, depression, or anxiety become the norm, or if disturbing mental images persist in bringing up frequent waves of distress, psychotherapy can be enormously helpful. Cognitive behavior therapy (CBT) gives the individual control over their emotions, behavior and physiological responses through changing distorted thoughts and amending dysfunctional beliefs. Additionally, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR) is an integrative treatment that is effective in helping the process of assimilating and accommodating

the loss (Solomon & Rando, 2007). EMDR can help resolve symptoms by accessing the natural healing abilities that we have within us. The goal is to process memories that elicit pain and lay down a positive future template for conceptualizing the loss. Treatment involves having the individual revisit the traumatic event while making a series of bilateral eye movements. As a result, memories become less intense and painful, and the traumatic event is re-conceptualized in a neutral or positive way.

Research has supported EMDR as the treatment of choice for trauma, but its mechanism of action is still obscure. Or to put it another way, science still has not settled on an explanation for why these eye movements will release a traumatic memory that was previously considered “stuck”. EMDR has been validated in numerous well designed studies which have been published in peer reviewed journals (Lipke, 2019), and a recent animal study showed that mice had conditioned levels of fear more fully extinguish when they engaged in EMDR-type eye movements than in any other type of learning intervention. The brain regions that were activated with eye movements involved a neurophysiological pathway from the superior colliculus (a set of subcortical structures involved in orientation through eye movement), to the thalamus (which is a relay station sending projections to all areas of the cortex), ending in the amygdala (which plays a role in fear; Baek et al, 2019). EMDR is helpful in the treatment not only of trauma, but depression, anxiety, phobias, and phantom limb pain. It must be administered by an EMDR trained mental health provider, and clinicians and patients find it uniquely effective.

In closing, it is my belief that the price we pay for all the pleasure, entertainment and love that we experience during the course of our Afghan Hounds’ lives is the sadness and grief we suffer at the end of their earthly existence. I, for one, think it is worth it.

Carolyn V. Edwards, Ph.D. is a Clinical Psychologist in practice in Illinois and she teaches in a graduate level program in Psychology. She has loved and been owned by Afghan Hounds for 40 years.

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“Dogs’ lives are too short. Their only fault, really.”

– Agnes Sligh Turnbull



Article— How Our AHCA Logo Came to Be

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

Although there were many (then and now) very artistically talented AHCA members, I suggested that Kay Finch be asked to design the logo image. Kay was certainly a first lady of Afghan Hounds; her winning Crown Crest dogs and distinctive ceramic sculptures were popular and well known. The Board agreed with my choice.

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

Prior to calling Kay, I had contacted Balfour (a company founded to create fraternity and sorority jewelry, later high school and college rings and, during WWII, military insignia) who would ultimately strike the initial gold membership pins, and Foley Dog Show Organization (AHCA’s show superintendent who would print the logo on ribbons and the catalog) to ascertain their criteria for the artwork needed.

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

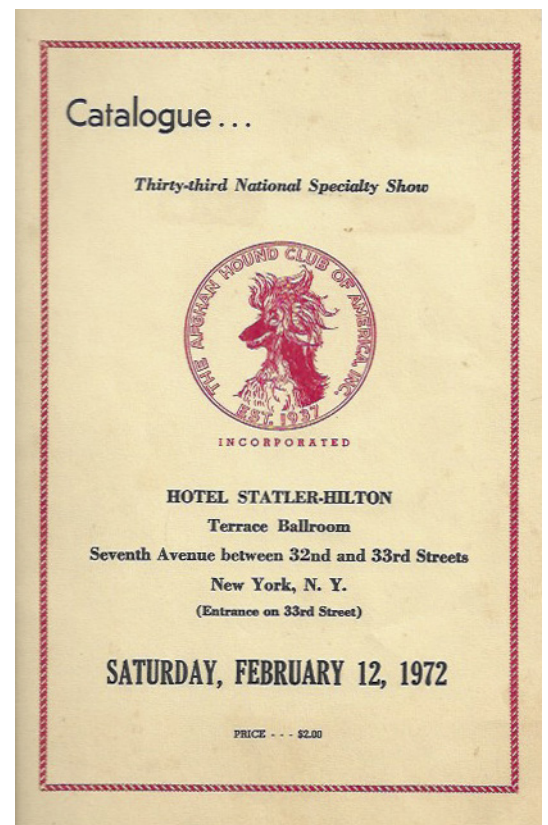
Kay replied that she was delighted to be asked, and shortly submitted a drawing of an Afghan Hound laying down playing with an Afghan Hound puppy (the image that the Greater Detroit AHC now uses). After sending a copy to Balfour, they determined the image was too large to reproduce well on something ultimately as small as the size of membership pins.

I again contacted Kay to ask if she could do a head study, and once more she complied by submitting such a drawing. Foley used that copy only for the 1972 National catalog covers and ribbons, as we were pushed for time, but Balfour was very explicit in rejecting that particular drawing (a 3/4 head view, which wouldn’t work on the reduction size they had to make). Again, I contacted Kay, explaining

more specifically what Balfour needed, and she graciously submitted the third drawing—an Afghan Hound head in profile—which we now use. Balfour was happy, Foley was happy and the AHCA Board was happy.

That’s the history of how our AHCA logo came to be. Those little gold membership pins/tie tacks cost only \$10. in those days, and were made available to Members in late 1972, and first used on the catalog and ribbons in 1973. In later years, when the cost of gold skyrocketed, they were discontinued, and a new less expensive enameled membership pin was struck. Subsequent medallions have been struck to give to Regional clubs as BOW prizes.

Susan Howell Hamlin (Ninth Turn)





Article— *Hiring Photographers for Events*

You're an Event Chairperson and you're looking for a photographer for your event. You're a volunteer and you work very hard supporting your breed club or kennel club. You've been working for years at whatever job needed doing and now you have the weight of the whole event coming at you. It's enjoyable but a ton of work. You start with the AKC then go on to appoint your staff and delegate jobs. Trophies, donations for trophies, your event secretary, your superintendent, stewards... the list goes on. If you are lucky, you have older high mileage folks around you advising you on what's next. A job that takes up 40-hour weeks and more.

So, you need show photographers. Performance events need an action/candid photographer and conformation needs at least one win shot photographer and at least one candid/movement photographer. You haven't hired a photographer before, so you think about what to do. Again, your advisors should know where to point you but if you don't have suggestions here's ways you might discern how to get the best photographers folks will love.

Photography is a field that is unregulated and unlicensed. Anyone can buy a \$300 camera and put out a shingle. If someone says they are a photographer, they are a photographer. They do not have to know the first thing about their camera. There are a lot of folks out there who know little more than where the power switch is on the camera yet use watermarks and have an online site. It's not their fault because cameras have gotten so smart that it's easy to shoot, at least outdoors, with the camera in autopilot making all the decisions. People don't know any better many times. Simply pressing the shutter button makes them honestly qualified in their estimation. And caring. They do care very much.

So, it's a mine field to shop. You don't have too many ways to tell if a person is a real pro. The easiest way to find a win shot photographer is to check online premiums for cluster shows. They'll have the official photographer listed with contact info right there. Bam. If you choose to go this route, it's a very safe way to find an established professional photographer. Cluster chairs generally do know exactly who has been in business for years with miles of experience to get the best shots. It does not matter where the photographer is from. We all travel. Call the photographer and ask. Work out terms and a contract. Book at least 6 months in advance or better yet a year.

Candid photographers are harder to discern because many times they are treated as vendors and not listed in the premium. Ask your win photographer for candidates. When you attend large cluster shows, pay attention to who has a vendor booth of candid shots.



Another good test is to go to the photographer's website and check their work. If someone is trying to get work and has absolutely no online samples of the type of work they want, run away. You would check a home before placing a puppy. You surely can check the work of the person you are entrusting the record of your event with. Do you like the quality of the work you see on the site?

The super or the venue will have a table and dressing for small dogs and a podium box for large dogs. It's something you should cover as well to make sure all comes together. All AKC win shots must have the AKC logo somewhere in the shot. Many times, it's part of the photographer's sign box, but it's another detail needed. Some photographers provide custom backdrops. Backdrops are only good for indoors so if your event is outside, you will need to decorate a spot to take the shots. Flowers, hay bales, pumpkins, hanging baskets, fern stands...are all common win shot decorations you can gather. Once I even shot in front of a lovely antique car. It was a brilliant show chair idea.

The photography field is so chaotic that you will run into politics. You might have an influential club member who hears you're looking for a win shot photographer; she has a cousin with a camera. Okay it was nice of her to help and you don't want to upset her. Ask questions about the cousin. Yes, she has a portrait business. Outdoor shots? She has 2 weekends of outdoor portraits taken with her new camera. Is her work online to see? How long has she been in business? She's just starting out but very smart..

See where this is going? I actually have seen a major East coast photographer replaced with a photographer like this at a major breed specialty. I didn't dare ask how it went but saw the influential club

member hovering every second with great industry. One way to weed out an amateur is to simply ask; do you own a sign box? Sign boxes are precious hard to come by and not owned by amateurs. If not, say 'we do require that so work on it and we will talk to you next year'. (The sign box is the essential thing a pro win photographer will bring to your event.)

Another pitfall that especially performance event chairs fall into: you want the best action photos at an extremely affordable price for your competitors so they will love you and enter your event before any others! You look for that genius unknown kid who can shoot in the semi-darkness of an ag center venue



and produce crystal clear images of a dog running at 25 miles an hour over jumps with the passion-invoking composition of Ansel Adams. With their new Costco camera. And they charge 79 cents a shot. Bzzzt. This is a unicorn. They do not exist. Sorry. This will fail. You will get the before-mentioned person who knows where the power switch is on the camera body because they believe in themselves and they care. Nope don't do it.

You really do want to keep your competitors happy though. Many entry level cameras and cell phones can produce a reasonable image in decent light. Outdoors certainly. Well-lit venues yes. Most venues are not well lit though and need a high-end camera to go the distance. But people do love a good memory. I have found personally that the higher the success, the more likely

the competitor will feel they have "arrived" and more likely to buy photos from a pro. There are so many cameras around now that for a meh day, a competitor is likely to take a cell shot. It's even becoming the style. That rough photo journalistic look. Everyone is used to cell phone shots anymore. There's nothing at all wrong with that.

Some people come to shows with consumer grade cameras to offer free pictures to people. Or sell cheap pictures on the sly from locked websites. It's an awful thing to police. How to navigate that problem? This is a mine field question debated everywhere and I am going to stick my neck out with a possible solution.

Many photographers have a rule: everyone is absolutely welcome to take pictures of their own dog ringside. That keeps all competitors happy with their cell phones and cameras. They have a memory to take home and don't need to buy a pro photo. It's easily proven in the catalog. Just look up the dog they own. Simple to figure out in 30 seconds.

Competitors need to be happy campers. Freelancers who say I'm giving away free pictures. Not charging. Impossible to prove. Too many secret locked websites you would never in a million years be able to find. They hand out a card when you're out of sight and done. If they are shooting over the shoulder of your win photographer or ringside candid photographer, your pro will go home without sales and not be able to make their bills. And cannot afford to come back to your event.

Generally, freelancers will stop when asked to pay a vendor fee. I will leave it at that as everyone has their opinion on the subject and it's such a hot topic. The shoot-your-own-dog rule allows competitors to enjoy photography and go home with that memory.

What pro photographers have to offer you is stability, quality, and even coverage. A professional photographer will have years of experience and own a high-end pro camera that can produce beautiful images in any light. We photograph everyone equally. Whether it's by appointment or blanket coverage, every single exhibitor in the building can equally get a photo. During and after the show, you can rely on a reasonable standard of turnaround of quality images that your exhibitors will all like. If we don't, we don't work anymore. And stability because we have miles of trial and error already done. And after all, if you pay the same for a pro shot and an amateur shot, the difference is you are paying for the product of a twelve thousand dollar camera rig



precisely driven instead of for the product of a hopeful-but-uneducated amateur with a \$500 Costco camera. Which would you like to have?

Be picky. Hire the pro. Navigate the minefield shopping for your event photographer. Offer the highest quality to your exhibitors. Professional photographers are becoming an endangered artisan in this unlicensed industry. I think one day we might disappear completely having been overrun. You will be happy with what you get from us. Thank you.

Dean Lake is a dog Event Photographer with 20 years in sports photography and 38 years in media. She competes in performance sports with her Golden Retrievers. In addition to serving as the Official Photographer for the 2017 AHCA National Specialty events, she has been the Event Photographer for the National Lure Coursing Championship in 2019 & 2017. Dean is known for her superb Agility photography, tack sharp Dock Diving images, and most recently when she was in Iowa to cover CAT/Fast CAT for aerial maneuvers in an on-site travel trailer during a surprise high-speed wind event. Dean, her dogs, and her gear are fine, but the trailer did not survive its maiden flight.



In Memory — Lifetime Member & Past President

Norman P. Kattelman, a longtime Afghan Hound fancier and a Lifetime Member of the AHCA, passed away on July 23 at age 94. Norm was President of the Afghan Hound Club of America from 1971-1973 and continued his deep interest in, and support of, the AHCA until his death.

Norm was also a founding member of the Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio, Inc. which was formed in 1953, and he remained an active supporter of that club as well.

Norm acquired his first Afghan Hound in 1953 and with his (then) partner Bernard Mansfield bred several litters of interest, incorporating some dogs that are well known in the history of our breed, dogs that few of today's Afghan Hound fanciers are privileged to have known. Some of the breedings under the Delhi Downs prefix included:

1953	Melek el Sayyad x Rudiki's Penny of Brucemik
1956	Majara Mihrab x Zaara Zuli of Ghazni
1956?	Zaamarakuri of Ghazni x Rudiki's Penny of Brucemik
1961	Dureigh's Golden Harvest x Delhi Downs Koh-I-Nana
1967	Mecca's Shoe Shine Boy x Delhi Downs Bathsheri
1969	Mecca's Blue Silks Karu x Delhi Downs Bathsheri
1971	Rajah's El Cid x Delhi Downs Alexis
1973	Mecca Tajma Khan of Tajmir x Delhi Downs Fedor



In Memory — Members & Fanciers

The Club extends its condolences:

to the family & friends of Richard (Richie) Sabatelle (Lynrich Afghan Hounds & Salukis),

to Devorah Hayman and her family on the loss of her mother,

to the family & friends of Roberta Connor (Hawklord Afghan Hounds), member of the AHC of Greater Milwaukee,

to the family & friends of Steve Tillotson (The Afghan Hound Times), and

to the family & friends of Sandra J Newton (Al Sirat Afghan Hounds), and

to Jay Hafford & Jim Blanchard on the loss of their loved one Sally Davis (Thaon Afghan Hounds).

Correspondence from New Lifetime Members

From Dennis Sprung:

Dear Friends,

Dorma's recent phone call has left me at a near loss for words. With fifty-two years in our wonderful world of purebred dogs, I hold a lifetime of blessings. Yet the honor that you have bestowed upon me is truly immeasurable, and beyond anything that a lifelong student of the Afghan Hound could ever anticipate. As I reflect on my life's passion for our unique and very special breed, I think of everything that Afghan Hounds have given me, especially the incredible community of which you are each a part. I will treasure this designation as Lifetime Member of the Afghan Hound Club of America with all of my heart. With deepest gratitude, as ever,

Dennis

And from Susan Hamlin:

I was so pleased and delighted to hear from Russ Hastings that I had been elected to Lifetime Membership. What a lovely and wonderful honor. Joining the AHCA in 1966, and elected as Recording Secretary in 1971, set me on a course which I have thoroughly enjoyed. The friendships made through the years have been invaluable. And to be so involved in an organization devoted to my favorite wonderful breed is very special indeed.

From childhood, I loved dogs and my involvement in dog activities as a teen led to my award as the 1952 Gaines Girl Show Dog Fancier. As a result, I was offered a summer job as a kennel girl, that led to a dog show in Vermont where I spotted my first Afghan Hound. That fateful encounter led to the purchase of my first Afghan Hound 10 years later. The rest as they say, is history.

Thank you ever so much –

Sue

The Afghan Hound in Limerick Form

The Afghan's a dog groomer's joy
The definitive Lord Fauntleroy
But with all that coiffure
One is never quite sure
If the "he" is a girl or a boy

This is one of 60 limericks which Mr Protsik has written over the last 13 years. It appears in the collection *Shaggy Dog Limericks*, by Ralph Protsik. and is used with permission, © 2020 by Ralph Protsik. All rights reserved. (*Mr Protsik's collection is available on Amazon, Editor*)

Reminder to Regional Clubs

The AHCA offers \$25.00 to any Regional club offering a trophy for Best Junior Showman at its Regional Specialty Show.

The AHCA also offers medallions for Best Junior Showman and Reserve Best Junior Showman at Regional specialty shows.

See the Regional Clubs booklet or contact Amy Mero the Regional Clubs Chairperson MaxMero@comcast.net for details.

Correspondence from AKC Canine Health Foundation

August 13, 2020

Dear Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.:

I am writing you to express my personal appreciation for your organization's support of the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) through participation in the 25th Anniversary Donor Advised Fund Challenge. As a contributor to this challenge, you can be confident that research funded by CHF is scientifically sound through CHF's rigorous grant review process. Funded research is closely managed from grant award to final deliverables and sponsors are regularly updated on progress. CHF would like to acknowledge your support with the attached token for use on your organization's website and social media. We will also acknowledge you with a listing on our 25th Anniversary webpage (akcCHF.org/25years) and in our 2020 Annual Report.

We are delighted to have you as a partner in the fight against canine disease. To learn more about the AKC Canine Health Foundation and to see a complete list of funded research, please visit our website www.akcCHF.org or call us at 1-888-682-9696. Thank you for contributing to our mission to improve the quality of life for dogs and their owners.

Sincerely,

Calvin B. Carpenter, DVM, MBA, DAACLAM
Executive Director
AKC Canine Health Foundation

Submitted by Canine Health Committee Chair Anna Tyler—Thank You Anna!

Registration Summary

Afghan Hound registration statistics were published in the last issue. There is a lot of information there, some of which I don't understand the significance. The row of 'Total Dogs Registered' is the statistic that correlates to historical numbers. There are so few Afghan Hounds being bred that although the year-to-year variation varies greatly, the average of the last four years is less than any single year since 1950.

Brian Wood, Editor



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**Dianne Wagman
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**Hounds N Herbs, LLC.
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717-804-9111**



From The Library

The AKC is a club made up of clubs, and the Afghan Hound Club of America application for membership was accepted by the AKC in 1940.

You can find more information about our Club's history by visiting:

AfghanHoundClubofAmerica.org

Select **CLUB** and then select **HISTORY** from the navigation bar.

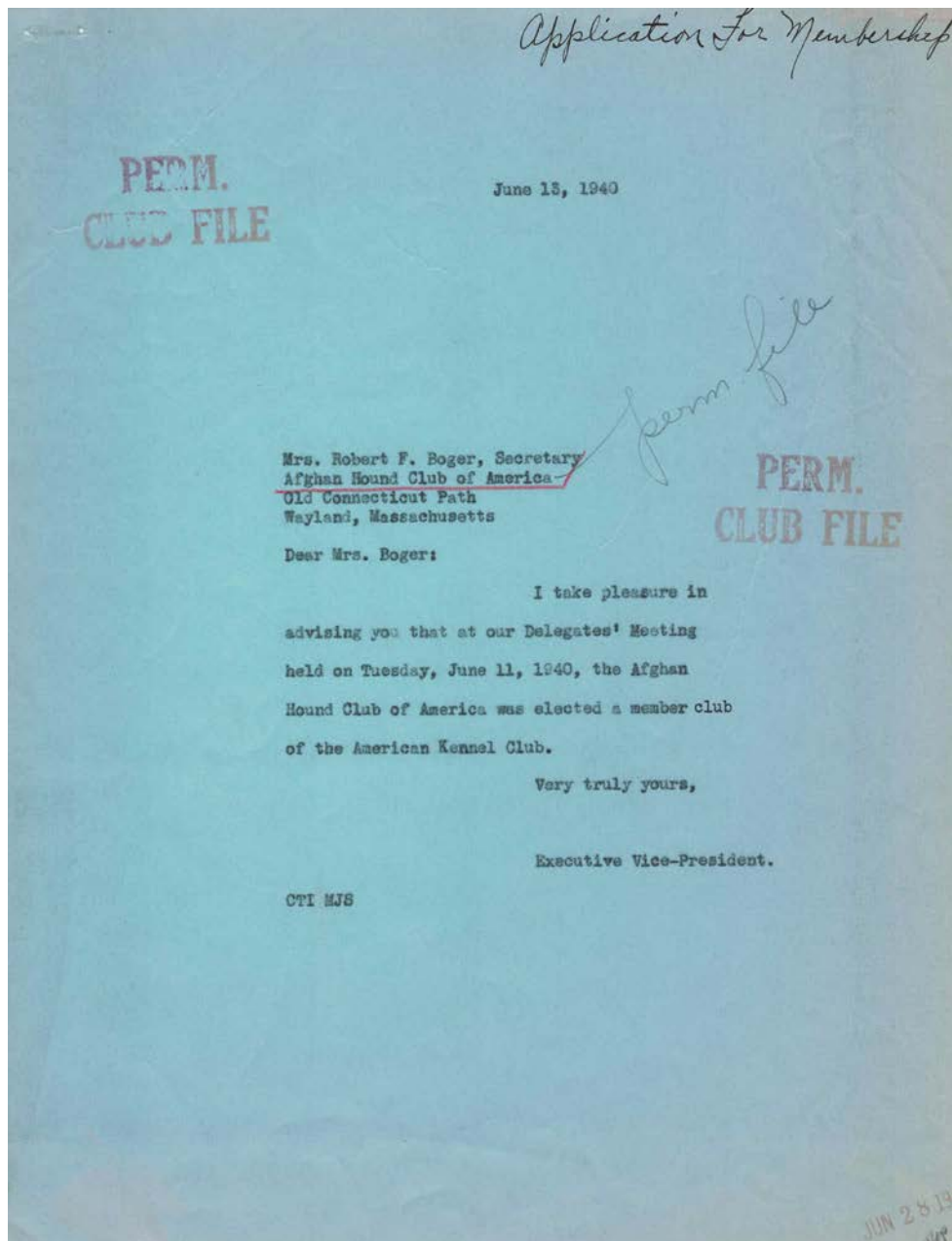
This card is one of many items maintained in the AHCA Library & Archives.

Thank You to Committee Chair Helen Stein for providing this look back at our history!

AHCA Meeting Minutes

Approved minutes are available for Members on the Club website.

Select the **Member** icon
Select **Meeting Minutes**
from the dropdown menu.



Highlights from the Board of Directors Meeting

June 10, 2020

- The 2022 Breeders Cup will be held in Tucson, AZ.
- The Social Media Code of Conduct (prepared by Social Media Chair Erica Jantos) was approved by the Board in 2019, reaffirmed in 2020 and will be included in AHCA Policies & Procedures. It will be available to view on the AHCA website.
- Nominating Committee was appointed as follows: Norma Cozzoni (Chairman), Connie Butherus (Board Liaison), James Donahue, John McKiernan, Ann Sterner, Mary Ann Giordano (Alternate).
- Board approved change to system for determining the Best Obedience Dog for the year. This change recognizes that few Afghan Hounds compete in the highest levels of Obedience, and allows an award to be given even if no dog qualifies under the (more limiting) Delaney System.