

# Topknot News

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

Spring 2011



***Gardener's Helper***

***Breeders' Cup Results Pages 8 - 9***

Visit the AHCA Website at <http://clubs.akc.org/ahca>  
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(P&P 318.1 The newsletter of the AHCA shall be entitled "Topknot News" and shall be published three times a year, each publication falling within six (6) weeks after the Board Meetings so as to include all news from that meeting.)

#### **2011 AHCA Officers and Directors**

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#### **Editor's Note:**

Welcome to the P&P Issue of Topknot News. No, not Policies & Procedures, but "Puppies and People!" Please enjoy the photos.

A special thanks to Suzanne Eaton Duay, Rita Hendrix, Jerry Bazar and Lee Bornstein who supplied this issue of TN with many of the wonderful puppy photos found throughout.

We also welcome Melinda Brown to the TN Committee. Melinda is our new distribution person.



**Barb Bornstein, Editor**

**Next TN Deadline is:  
June 18, 2011**

## **2011 Committee Chairpersons**

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Submitted by AHCA President,  
Brenda Brody

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The last six months have seen much participation from many AHCA members about the Board's decision to lower the time requirement from 7 years to 4 years for a membership application. A petition was sent to request a special meeting about this. In the process, I discovered that our By-Laws do not comply with NY State Not-For-Profit Corporation Law where our club is chartered, so many changes are on the horizon. In response, the board established a committee\* to address any necessary By-Law amendment proposals that will come back to the Board for balloting and approval.

The 2011 Breeders' Cup was just held in Virginia Beach with Jerry Bazar as chair. It was a very successful and beautiful event. All those in attendance had a wonderful time, particularly at the evening get together. See the featured section for the show results.

Jody Gardner, chair for the upcoming National Specialty in Ohio, was very visible in VA. She is gearing up for that event on September 25-29. The Holiday Inn at the Robert's Centre is the host hotel. Rooms are quickly filling so do not delay with your reservations (800-654-7036) or book online with the code AHN. Ask for the Afghan Hound rate of \$99 a night. The Columbus Afghan Hound Specialty and the Southwest Ohio Afghan Hound Specialty will follow the event. Plan to fly into Cincinnati or Columbus for the nearest airports.

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

*\*Editor's Note: See page 15 for names of committee members.*



***An Afghan Hound is the only thing on this earth that loves you more than he loves himself.***



## HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by Health Chair, Eileen Laudermilch

Written by Eileen Laudermilch RN CCRN, With Assistance by Dr. Irv Ingram DVM

### BLOAT... AN ONGOING BATTLE THAT NEVER ENDS

*This very important article was suggested by Sandy Frei, and at her request Eileen responded with the following.*

Afghan Hounds are one of the canine breeds associated with a high incidence of bloat. Bloat is an extreme emergency condition that requires prompt veterinary attention if the dog is to survive. This article is intended to provide some of the most up to date information.

Bloat and bloat with torsion is well recognized in the veterinary world. Because it has been a problem for so many years and is so well recognized, it is difficult to find any current research data. One of the latest studies by Dr. Lawrence Glickman VMD\*, professor of environmental health at Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, was done in 1998. Some of his research has dispelled some of the time honored beliefs regarding bloat and torsion otherwise known as Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus (twisting) or GDV.

GDV is defined as a “syndrome of dogs in which the stomach dilates (enlarges) and twists around the central axis which results in complex local and systemic pathologic and physiologic changes.” This means there is twisting with tissue damage and an entire cascade of events as a result. When the stomach twists it forms an obstruction of both the intake and output of the stomach. The dilatation in itself can also form an obstruction and the twisting can occur with and without stomach (gastric) dilatation.

The enlarged stomach causes compression on the major vessels returning blood to the heart—resulting in cardiovascular collapse. The organs are also affected by the pressure with the obstruction of the blood flow to the liver, pancreas, heart, intestine, stomach, and spleen. The loss of blood pressure contributes to decreased oxygen and nutrients to the tissues leading quickly to tissue death. The respiratory functions are also compromised due to the lungs’ inability to inflate fully. Once the cells of the tissues die, the cell integrity is lost and potassium and toxic byproducts are released into the bloodstream. After circulation is reestablished, these toxins run wild throughout the body and the dog can die from infection due to the overwhelming inflammatory responses of the body.

**Bloat can occur at any age but is most commonly seen in middle aged or older dogs.**

#### **SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:**

It is imperative that the owner recognize the signs of bloat and seek immediate medical attention. The recognized window for treatment is 1 – 2 hours for the best chance of survival. Bloat has a 20% to 45% mortality rate in treated dogs.

The single most prominent signs are nonproductive retching and progressive abdominal distention. Other signs include increased salivation, weakness, depression, shallow rapid respiratory rate, high heart rate, anxiety, restlessness, pale gums (indicating shock), whining, pacing, inability to find a comfortable position, a look of doom and collapse.

#### **RISK FACTORS:**

It is widely believed that drinking large amounts of water with meals, exercise before and after eating and stress all are high risk factors. Dr. Glickman found no direct link between activities. Validated risk factors included:

1. Feeding with an elevated food bowl increased the risk of bloat by 200%.
2. Dogs eating only dry food are at increased risk. The risk went down by adding canned or table food to their meal.
3. Avoid large meals; feed smaller meals 2-3 times a day.
4. Heredity is an unproven factor. However, Glickman’s study said that “having a first degree relative with a history of GDV is significantly associated with an increased risk of GDV.”

#### **DIAGNOSIS:**

Blood chemistries are generally not done pre-operatively due to the extreme emergency and will not change the treatment plan. Electrolyte and acid/base changes (due to impaired circulation and respirations) affect the heart and contribute to the shock state. If the diagnosis is in doubt, an abdominal x-ray confirms the gastric bubble.

**TREATMENT:**

Immediate medical therapy is needed to improve the cardiac function and IV fluids to combat shock followed by gastric decompression. Decompression is first attempted by passing a tube from the mouth into the stomach. Narcotics and a light sedation may aid in this treatment. In the hospital setting gastric decompression can also be attempted by a catheter into the stomach before the definitive treatment of surgery. An abdominal exploration is done and the stomach rotation is eliminated and also gastric decompression is done. Delay can result in stomach tissue death. However, surgery without stabilization of the blood pressure can result in death. After the stomach is untwisted, a gastropexy is performed. Gastropexy is the fastening of the stomach to the top of the abdominal wall to prevent reoccurrence. If a gastropexy is not performed, there is an 80% reoccurrence rate. This surgery is also recommended in dogs that have bloated without rotation as a preventative measure. The abdominal contents are then examined completely. Removal of part of the stomach may be required due to tissue death. If this is not done, the stomach can rupture in 7 – 10 days post surgery due to the tissue loss. Other organs must also be thoroughly examined. The spleen is frequently congested and also twisted and must be removed. Post-operative care involves cardiac function monitoring for at least 24 hours.

**PAWLA'S EXPERIENCE WITH BLOAT:**

While at the AHCA national in Sacramento in 2005 my bitch Pawla was then 9 years old. She had had an uncle die of bloat that was not recognized for several hours. I have always had the symptoms in the back of my mind. Pawla is a dual champion and at this particular show she had won BOS in Veteran's sweeps on Monday and then on Wednesday she won the Field Trial Bitch class. She was to go into the ring for BOB the next day. I fed my dogs about 5PM (the bowl on the floor of the crate) and then groomed the two other specials I had entered. This took several hours and Pawla just slept in her crate. When I was finished I took her outside to potty and she was happy and scratching the ground and barking at puppies. She was totally full of herself. I brought her in and they all went to bed

in their crates for the night. This was the only night where we did not have some evening activity planned. My roommate and I had just starting watching TV when Pawla started retching. I immediately pulled her out of the crate and she jumped onto the bed and continued retching, I grabbed a towel because I did not want her to soil the bedspread. Her retching was nonproductive. My roommate and I got her off the bed and I felt her abdomen. It was rock hard. I immediately knew she was bloating. The address of the emergency clinic was listed in the catalog...but no directions. I called the front desk but the person on duty did not speak English very well and was of no help as my anxiety level was rising. In what seemed like an eternity, (probably 10 minutes) I got directions from a resident and we were on our way. When I arrived at the emergency clinic, I told the tech that Pawla was bloating and the tech was doubtful. As soon as we were in an exam room with the veterinarian on duty, he felt her abdomen and got an immediate x-ray which revealed a gastric bubble. He then tried a tube but was unsuccessful. Pawla was taken directly to surgery. The stomach was rotated but had minimal bruising. The spleen was fine. The veterinarian said it was the earliest case of bloat he had ever seen. Pawla spent the night. I had to pick her up early the following morning and take her across town to a veterinary ICU where she could be closely monitored. I returned to the hotel. The lab work was fine and she did wonderfully. I was able to bring her "home" to the hotel late Saturday morning. All the care was top notch and I am truly grateful that I was in the right place at the right time. Pawla will be 15 in June!! Prompt recognition and treatment are the key factors of survival in cases of bloat and in GDV. Also, it is thought that because Pawla was in excellent condition for her age, this may have contributed to her survival. I hope this article is of some help. There are multiple sites on the web regarding bloat. However, be sure they are medically founded.

**REFERENCES:**

AKC Gazette and AKC Family Dog article on bloat. @ [www.akc.org/pubs/monthlyfeatured/article/](http://www.akc.org/pubs/monthlyfeatured/article/)

Veterinary book on Soft Tissue Surgery, Chapter 21.

[www.globalspan.net/bloat.htm](http://www.globalspan.net/bloat.htm) This is information written by globalspan.net using multiple references. Although it is summarized information, it cannot attest to accuracy. "Please consult with your veterinarian for medical information"

*\*Author's Note: Dr. Lawrence Glickman's degree (VMD) is from the University of Pennsylvania.*

*Editor's Note: Of the USA's 27 veterinary colleges, only Penn uses VMD. The others, all land grant colleges, use DVM.*



## JUDGES EDUCATION

Submitted by Chair,  
Harry Bennett

The AHCA is participating in several Judges Educational Seminars through this year. Some of these are June 30th in Belle Alton, MD, and mid-August in Western PA and Eastern PA. If anyone would be available and would like to provide Afghan Hounds for use on those dates and in those areas, please contact me at [harryonly@aol.com](mailto:harryonly@aol.com).



## DONATE TO THE CHF

Submitted by Sandy Frei

I just returned from the AKC delegate's meeting. I am the new delegate for the Seattle KC. You may receive this same info from Connie Butherus.

You can now donate \$5.00 to the Canine Health Foundation on your cell phone.

**Dial 20222**  
**Text DOG**  
**Confirm your donation**

The donation will appear as a \$5.00 tax deductible amount on your phone bill.



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## AHCA INVENTORY FOR SALE

Submitted by Inventory Chair,  
Sue Busby

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*Afghan Hounds are the most amazing creatures.*



## LIBRARY REPORT

Submitted by Librarian, Helen Stein

### *Introduction to the Afghan Hound*

To the Afghan Hound Club of America Membership:

In 1974 a committee was formed to produce a booklet that would be of help to new Afghan Hound owners and potential owners. During that period of extreme popularity of our breed, the AHCA felt that an educational tool was badly needed. This booklet, *Introduction to the Afghan Hound*, was used for nearly 30 years. We are pleased to announce that an updated edition of this fine booklet is now available.

Sue Busby has mailed a copy of *Introduction to the Afghan Hound* to all AHCA members in hopes that you will use them in mentoring newcomers to the breed. She has also sent 10 copies to the Corresponding Secretary of each Regional Club.

Additional copies are available and may be purchased by mail from either Sue or myself (Helen Stein), at a price of \$5.00 for a single copy (including postage) or in larger quantities at a price of \$2.00 per copy plus appropriate postage. Copies of Intro will also be available for sale at the National Specialty. Thank you for your support of Afghan Hounds and the education of their owners.

Ordering information: Make checks payable to: AHCA

Contact:

Dorma Sue Busby  
11950 Plumbrook Rd.  
Sterling Heights., MI 48312  
586-264-4292  
barakiakiafs@peoplepc.com

Or

Helen Stein  
61630 Toro Canyon Way  
La Quinta, CA. 92253  
beaniesue@aol.com



**Mary Blacker, Topknot News Assistant News Editor**



## 2010 NATIONAL INVENTORY

**POSTERS 18 X 22 \$ 5.00**

**SWEATSHIRTS \$ 5.00**

Brown—5 Small, 5 Large, 6 Extra Large, 2—2X, 1—3X  
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Green—1 Small, 1 Large, 3 Extra Large  
Black—1 Medium, 1 Large, 9 Extra Large  
Chocolate—1 Small, 5 Medium, 11 Extra Large, 3—2X

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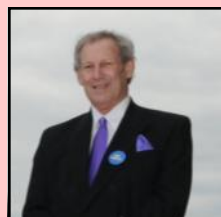
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# AHCA 2011 Breeders' Cup



## THANK YOU

**Submitted by 2011 Breeders' Cup  
Show Chairman, Jerry Bazar**



## BREEDERS' CUP SHOW RESULTS

**Submitted by Show Secretary,  
Dorna Sue Busby**

WOW! What a great weekend the Breeders' Cup 2011 and the Tidewater AHC had. Big entries, lots of old faces and beautiful Afghan Hounds. I wish everyone could have left a winner. But many did because of our fine sponsors: Animal House Professional Grooming and Magical Touch Professional Grooming were very important in the success of the weekend, giving free samples to all the exhibitors and gifts for the top winners. The support also of the other sponsors, The Afghan Hound Review and Hawaiian Tropic, was great (hope you all got those baseball caps, beach balls or floats) and the vendors certainly covered the room with all types of great products. Thank you all.

I also want to thank all the hard workers who helped to make the Breeders' Cup so successful, most importantly the judge, Jym Webb, who did a great job. Nancy Krysiak was wonderful in getting vendors and had it all organized and laid out when they arrived. Beth Collins ran our \$500 VISA Gift Card Raffle that produced a ton of Trophy Donations (108 of them) and to all the sellers of the Raffle tickets, you certainly made it a success. Sue Busby did a fantastic job as Show Secretary and always had everything running smoothly. A big thank you also to Karen Mundie. and the Tidewater AHC for their decorations at the show that made you feel you were at the beach (oh, we were)! Janet and Brian Lenobel did a wonderful job on the raffle table and worked very hard. I cannot forget Tony & Floyd (and their helper Lex) who did the party for the Breeders' Cup—you outdid yourselves again. You guys sure know how to PARTY!!!!

The success of this Breeders' Cup will not be measured by the financial part, but will be remembered because of the wonderful people who all worked together and all the exhibitors who are the backbone of the success of any show. Thank you to EVERYONE who participated! The entry all weekend certainly showed that the Afghan Hound breed is alive and kicking!

### Placements in the 6-9 Puppy Dog Class

1. #112 Affiniti's Aaric Von Haussman  
Owners: Nicole & Shawn Hollinger
2. #116 Mihdian's-Aloof Shake Rattle N Roll  
Owners: Joe & Linda Filippone, Martha Zehner & John Schoolcraft
3. #120 Riverview Space Odyssey  
Owner: Linda Guarino
4. #106 Polo's Moroccan Red  
Owners: Viki Chevalier & Lorianne Amadeo

### Placements in the 9-12 Puppy Dog Class

1. #146 Charteroak Epsilon  
Owners: Le & Carol Hedstrom & Gene Vaccaro
2. #136 Dragonfly Ecco's Inferno of Flying Colors JP  
Owners: Kazunari & Emi Shintaku
3. #132 Nopar's Jaguar At Baja  
Owners: Harold Perry & Anthony DeMarzo
4. #150 Kamy Heir to Poseidon of Spice Hill  
Owners: Teri Tevlin & Kiyoshi Yamagami

### Placements in the 12-15 Month Dogs

1. #158 Jolie Paparazzi  
Owners: Karen Clark & Jennifer Taylor

### Placements in the 15-18 Months Dogs

1. #162 Kasban Affirmed of Candida  
Owners: Roger Brown & Laura Mauldin
2. #164 Polo's Air Force One  
Owner: Lorianne Amadeo
3. #170 Kryslaur Lloyd of London  
Owners: Janet & Michael W Williams, Kristi Jones & Allan Saiko
4. #17 Kryslaur El Shazaam The Gray Ghost  
Owners: Mary LeFebvre & Jane Burgoyne & Kristi Jones

### Placements in the 18-21 Months Dogs

1. #174 Thaon's Mediterranean Dezire  
Owners: Lynn LaBahn & Jay Hafford
2. #176 A-Mer's High Noon  
Owner: Michelle Friesen
3. #178 Furbari Harvest Moon  
Owner: Marilyn Jennings

### Placements in the 6-9 Puppy Bitches

1. #121 Kasban Private Dancer  
Owners: Gayle Shannon & Laura Mauldin
2. #119 Kasban Dancing Queen  
Owner: Laura Mauldin
3. #107 Polo's Oolong to me in Myway  
Owners: Lorianne Amadeo & Maryann & David Giordano
4. #105 Polo's Ginger Spice  
Owners: Pam Dyer & Lorianne Amadeo

### Placements in the 9-12 Puppy Bitch Class

1. #147 Charteroak Starfire  
Owners: Gene & Michelle Vaccaro
2. #141 Winsong's Lotus Blossom  
Owners: Nikki Gardner & Lauryn Jones
3. #133 Amina Bint Wasfi Von Haussman  
Owners: Juan Milano, Rodrigo Quezada & Ramon Podesta
4. #145 Charteroak Tupelo  
Owners: Sharon Ferraro, Stephanie Morgan & Donald Schneider

### Placements in 12-15 Months Bitch

1. #169 Agha Djari's Burlesque  
Owner: Stefan Boieck & Jacqueline Gilles
2. #165 Cynergy's Moonlight N Roses  
Owner: Janice Buttler
3. #161 Gabriel's Dare to Dream  
Owners: Neva & Jay Johnson

### Placements in 15-18 Months Bitch

1. #185 Kryslaur Diva Tessah  
Owners: Dan & Debbie Gann
2. #187 Seychelle's Mata Hari From Kryslaur With Love  
Owners: Douglas Korus & Kristi Jones
3. #189 Kryslaur this could be Love  
Owner: Kathleen Lang & Kristi Jones
4. #183 Kryslaur Amerikas Once In A Blue Moon JC  
Owners: Dale Scott Kelly & Kristi Jones

### Placements in 18-21 Months Bitch

1. #195 Criston Enchanted  
Owner: Christine Pinkston
2. #191 Thaons Venetian Treazure  
Owners: Lynn LaBahn & Jay Haffoard
3. #193 A-Mer's High Society  
Owner: Michelle Friesen
4. #197 Furbari Moon Masquerade  
Owner: Marilyn Jennings

### 2011 BREEDERS' CUP INVENTORY AVAILABLE

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### 2011 BEST IN BREEDERS' CUP



**CHARTEROAK STARFIRE**  
**OWNERS: GENE & MICHELLE VACCARO**

### 2011 BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX IN BREEDERS' CUP



**CHARTEROAK EPSILON**  
**OWNERS: LE & CAROL HEDSTROM**  
**& GENE VACCARO**

*Photos by Garth Gourlay Photography*



**GIVING BACK  
MENTOR PROGRAM**  
Submitted by Chair,  
**Bobbi Keller**

As usual, most of the Giving Back members didn't respond to my request for reports. I did have a few contacts made through the website. There were 13 inquiries, and two nice reports that I've sent on to Barb for the Topknot News.

Some members seem to be confused as to how the program works. It's very simple. If you want to be a member of this volunteer group, contact Bobbi Keller at zafarahounds@comcast.net. Please give me your name, state where you reside, phone number and e-mail address. DO NOT list your home address. Your information will be listed on our website under "Newcomers Information," and ANY contacts from new people will be made directly to you. I don't screen anything. I just keep the list information current and send in these quarterly reports. If you're confused about what the program is about or have forgotten, please go the AHCA website "Newcomers Info" to see our stated purpose. It's not rocket science, we're there to help new people find a dog or help them with one they already have.



**Suzanne Eaton Duay**  
**Topknot News**  
**Proofreader,**  
**Ways & Means Chair**  
**&**  
**Mentor**

Last year's newcomer to the breed, Jared Garner, has come a long way with his involvement in Afghan Hounds during 2010. He has attended many weekly local all breed kennel club handling classes, a handling seminar conducted by Harry Bennett, and was a participant in a handling seminar led by George Alston.

Last fall Jared made his debut in the ring and loved it! He's been a regular handler at the Florida shows since then, showing not only Afghan Hounds, but also a Saluki. He's learning every moment he's around Afghan Hounds and their people and says he couldn't be happier! We're happy to have such an enthusiastic member of the Afghan Hound group in central Florida, too. Jared even hopes to get an Afghan Hound of his own soon - maybe this year!



**Lois Smith from**  
**Gainesville, FL writes:**



I have been mentoring a lady by the name of Jil Jones. She lives in Pace, FLorida. Jil bought a b/m apricot Afghan Hound about 10 months ago and named her Zoey.

Zoey was 4 months old when she went to live with Jil. Jil, who loved Afghans, contacted me to inquire about the care and feeding of little Zoey. Although she chose my number to call because I was closer to her than the others on the list, I have never met her, though we have spoken numerous times over the telephone.

Zoey has been the light of her life. Since she got her, she has been enrolled in puppy kindergarten, obedience, Rally and handling classes. She is 14 months old now. Jil called me the other day because Zoey is beginning to blow her coat and her saddle is coming in (however, not at the base of her tail). I give Jil advice on grooming products and things she can use as she is entering her in a couple of local shows in conformation (just to see how she does) and she wants Zoey to look fabulous. She is still going to Rally classes and having a wonderful time just being a beloved Afghan Hound. I am contacting Jil tomorrow and asking her to email a recent photo so I can forward it to you.



**Zoey Today**

I am always willing to do whatever I can for anyone who needs assistance or advice or grooming instructions, etc. If you would like any more information, I will happily supply it.



## AFGHAN HOUNDS IN AFGHANISTAN

By Topknot News Assistant Editor,

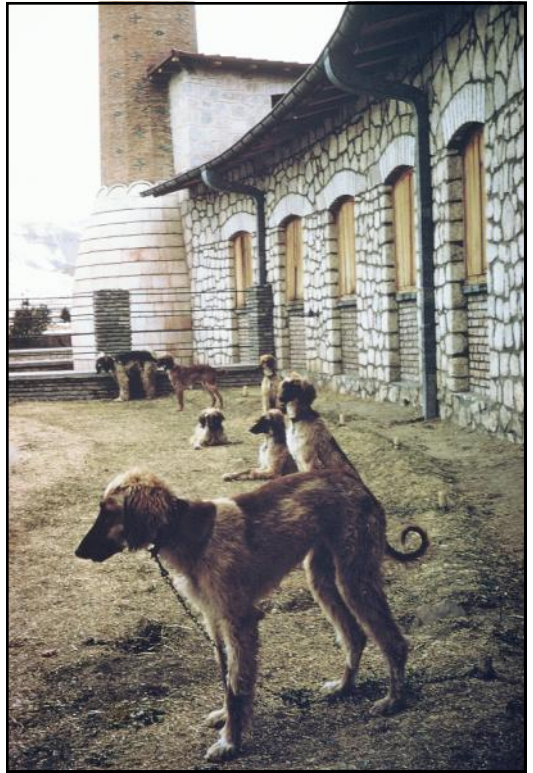
Sue Hamlin

Time has a way of distorting memory but when I ran across the picture of these Afghan Hounds, the story of its origin immediately popped into my head.

In fact, I thought I had mailed the slide to Karen Armistead in the late 60s, and maybe I did send a copy, but while going through some old papers, I knew it was meant to be shared.

In the late 60s, I was visiting my parents in Plattsburgh, New York. I happened to be standing in the lobby of my family's hotel (the Witherill Hotel), when a young couple approached with a question about Plattsburgh and its history. As our conversation progressed, I learned that the couple was on their honeymoon, and that the husband had recently returned from an overseas assignment in Afghanistan, as a member of the US foreign service.

In the course of conversation, I mentioned that I owned several Afghan Hounds. He then told me that he'd been invited to visit the king as a foreign service delegate. While there, he was taken to see the king's kennel and his Afghan Hounds. He told me he took many pictures while visiting Afghanistan, but thought I might enjoy this picture. We exchanged addresses, and within a couple of weeks, I received a slide of these dogs.



I thought fanciers would enjoy seeing these dogs as much as I did.

### **An interesting addendum:**

While shopping at the mall on February 17<sup>th</sup>, I returned to my car only to find a young man running around his van parked next to mine, peeking in the windows, yelling peek-a-boo, and generally acting like an idiot.

When he saw me, he blushed, then said he had returned from a year's deployment in Afghanistan the previous day, and was playing peek-a-boo with his son and daughter, whom he hadn't seen in over a year.

At that, I inquired if he had seen any dogs, particularly Afghan Hounds in the country. He told me that the day before he was to return home, his "terp" (interpreter) had pointed out some feral hounds a short distance from their camp. The dogs stayed their distance, but the terp explained that they were the native dogs. This young veteran could not get close but told me they resembled what he recalled Afghan Hounds looked like, and went on to describe them. They surely sounded to me like Afghan Hounds or some mix of them. Too bad he didn't get a picture!



## AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT

Submitted by Connie Butherus

AHCA Delegate to the AKC

The quarterly meeting of the AKC Delegates was held March 7 and 8, 2011. As this was the annual meeting and voting for the Board of Directors was the big agenda item, the meeting was well attended. It is always the best attended meeting of the year. As 394 ballots were cast it still represents less than 2/3rds of the member clubs having a delegate present and voting. Of the member clubs, currently 167 are parent clubs.

My first committee of day one was the Delegate Parent Club Committee of which I am a member. The committee is always very well attended by delegates and as usual SRO was the case. The next three hours were packed full of relevant agenda items for Parent Clubs and discussions abounded.

- Through the efforts of this committee and its highly effective chair (Pat Laurens), all major show superintendents will now permit a Jr. Showmanship exhibitor to substitute a dog to be exhibited without an additional fee. This has not always been the case, and the change was warmly received. Parent clubs are going to receive correspondence asking them to indicate what they are doing to promote Juniors. Karen Spey (Pointer Club), a committee member, will coordinate this project.
- The AKC's efforts to correct an entry in WIKIPEDIA entitled AKC and Health, has met with great difficulty if not outright obstruction. The corrected post with footnotes was posted 2-24-11 (AKC authored with input from the Health and Parent Club Committees). By 3-3-11 and 3-4-11 it had been replaced with the previous, less than complimentary entry. The AKC PR people are continuing to work on this.
- Breeder of Merit Program (BOM) is up and running. Our committee recommended that BOM Parent Club members go to the top of the AKC Breeders Classified listing. There was additional discussion regarding refining the requirements regarding health and recommended testing as this has great potential to impact canine health issues. Currently the program is based on self reporting and has no verification process in place. John Lyons (AKC/COO) stated that the program is not set in stone and is still evolving as it develops. More to follow as there is a great deal of interest in health and screenings.
- The AKC position regarding Parent Club membership requirements was addressed by COO John Lyons and Mike Liosis of AKC Club Relations. John stated that the AKC does not get involved in Parent Club issues such as this. Membership requirements are the purview of each Parent Club as long as they are not in violation of state law/regulation. Mike further expanded on the AKC role in approval of By-Laws. He noted that clubs must be very careful to abide by state laws/requirements regarding membership in the states in which they are incorporated. He urged all Parent Clubs to review their By-Laws for compliance. Both John and Mike confirmed the AKC has no policy or mandate regarding Parent Club membership requirements, but these must be stated in the By-Laws.
- The recent AKC Board moratorium on new licensed and member clubs, and the impact on local breed clubs was addressed. It was noted that population density, geography and breed demographics should be considered rather than a blanket moratorium as this may not be the best way to support or enhance participation in the fancy. Alan Kalter (AKC Board) stated that the intention of the moratorium is more of a "pause" to allow evaluation by the Board. For example, local breed clubs in lightly populated areas also having a low breed population may well expire prior to the end of the moratorium.
- The AKC has recently announced an electronic application for judges to access on their iPhone or iPads which includes all breed standards and photos of all AKC recognized breeds. Several parent club delegates noted that some of the photos were of "pure pets" and did not accurately depict their breed. Daphna Straus (AKC Business Development) stated the app\* was developed for public use and not intended as judges' education. The app was done by an outside developer and not the AKC. Parent Clubs can change the photos if they so wish and must sign a photo release for use of any replacement pictures (a copy of the Afghan Hound photo, release form and additional information have been sent to AHCA President).
- A proposed program to promote Parent Clubs was reviewed. This program would recognize Parent Clubs of Excellence and establish criteria by which Parent Clubs could earn this recognition. As your delegate I will be working on this new project with three other committee members and will keep you posted as to the progress regarding this new enhancement.

*\*Ed's Note: "In addition to its social media presence on Facebook and Twitter, the American Kennel Club recently joined the "app" world by launching its first-ever iPhone application called "AKC Dogs," currently available for \$2.99 in the iTunes app store."*

- The role Parent Clubs can play in promoting their breed, purebred dogs and the AKC was last on the agenda. Suggestions offered were:
  - Use the Breed website, but be sure it is accurate and up to date regarding events, dates, locations and contact persons.
  - Becoming more assertive in telling our “story” e.g. breed history, value of AKC registrations, legislative issues and the reasons for wanting an AKC dog.
  - Promoting our activities, kennel inspections, rescue, health screenings, and value to the local community.

The Delegate Canine Health Committee was my next stop. Major items presented were:

- CHIC Program was updated by Eddie Dziuk of OFA. There are 141 breeds currently enrolled representing 65,000+ individual dogs with 1700 having been added since Sept 2010. There are 155 breeds in the DNA bank. Dalmatians have 1000+ samples due to their research on uric acid stones. They have 50 pairs of littermates represented, one with and one without the affliction. It was noted that all AKC registered Dalmatians have uric acid in their urine.
- The new event center at Purina Farms has 46 national specialties scheduled in 2011 so far. The “Walk of Champions” is coming along nicely (\$100 per brick with 80% going to the CHF). Reminder regarding the importance of the Purina Weight Circle rebate program which generates \$ to the Parent Clubs and the CHF.
- The PUPS bill (puppy protection federal bill) was deemed to have value and probably a plus regarding kennel inspections (USDA). Concern was voiced regarding the past Katrina relocation of dogs and the translocation of specific diseases that went with the dogs to new locations. This exists also regarding imported dogs.
- CHF update included a review of the progress made in funding, grants review, approval, and new initiatives. The jumbotron billboard in Times Square NY is currently running a promotion for the CHF (as a PSA) eight times a day with a donation site (\$5.00 donation via a text message from your cell phone).
- The Parent Club CHF Health Conference is scheduled for August 12-14, 2011 at Purina Farms. Each Parent Club and Founding level club is permitted 1 attendee each. The focus this year will be canine cancers.
- The Breeder of Merit program – again and with a major focus on the health requirements (or lack of). Ed Dziuk offered to work with Parent Clubs and the AKC on this concern. It was stated that spot checks are now done to verify the information submitted. Concern was raised regarding low volume breeds (nearly endangered species) and the lack of health testing as the gene pool is so small.

The Delegate Caucus followed on the heels of Canine Health. The entire session was devoted to Q&A of the seven candidates for the Board. As many of the delegates had been instructed by their clubs, it is doubtful if many minds (votes) were impacted by this last minute performance. This session would have been of greater benefit had it been presented at the December meeting when the formal/prepared speeches were given and a very structured Q&A was on the agenda.

The questions from the floor were wide ranging and wanting answers (or at least opinions) regarding AKC & HSUS (Humane Society of the United States), downsize of AKC reps, the new moratorium, the future of the AKC, financial picture of the AKC, the public perception of the AKC, etc. As in their prepared speeches delivered at the December meeting, all focused on their experience in the dog fancy, business/professional background and their ideas, some better, some retreads and a few innovative.

The day was concluded with the Coordinating Committee at which the Delegate committee chairs review the action items coming out of their respective groups. Much of the information I had heard earlier in the two committees I attended. In an effort to ensure we are all hearing the same thing at the same time in the future, AKC staff will present their information to all delegates early Monday morning – before the committees meet. Thus the staff need to dash from committee to committee to deliver the message(s) will not be necessary. Good idea!

Many were concerned the Tuesday March 8 meeting would require several ballots to fill the three board positions from the seven individuals in the running. When none of the seven were elected on the first ballot, and no one dropping out of the running, it looked like a long day was in front of us. However, the second ballot did the trick and with 198 votes needed to elect, three of the seven were elected. Results were:

Robert Amen	230	Elected
Carmen Battaglia	202	Elected
Karen Burgess	41	
Steve Gladstone	223	Elected
Ken Marden	119	
John Ronald	139	
Dan Smyth	78	

*Continued on Page 14....*

Continued from Page 13...

Two amendments were approved. Neither was controversial and both passed easily:

- An update of the requirements for show veterinarians to better accommodate on-call vets and require clubs to inform them of their duties as well as to include the event committee in the process of removing dogs from a show. Also to eliminate paperwork and assign fiscal responsibility for the vet expenses.
- Create a common deadline for the show application and judges panel to reduce confusion. Both will now be 18 weeks prior to the closing date for the show.

Thirteen new delegates were seated at this meeting. It was my distinct honor to introduce our own Sandy Frei as the new delegate for the Seattle Kennel Club to the delegate body. The AHCA is growing in its representation. At this time, with the addition of Sandy, we also have Abbe Shaw, Bob Brown, Pam Arwood, Duane Butherus, Rich Glenn and yours truly as well as AKC President Dennis Sprung – and a newly elected board member, Bob Amen, has an Afghan Hound.

The Chairman, in his annual report, reviewed the progress the AKC has made in offering new titles and competitive events in which the fancy and our Canine Partners (mixed breeds) can engage. The President reviewed the initiatives and accomplishments of 2010 despite falling registrations. Both of these reports have been published and are available online at akc.org.

The financial picture as reported by the CFO is both good news and bad news:

- There is a deficit
- Registrations continue to decline and take down related income
- Number of events and entries are mixed and events lost \$11M in 2010
- Cost containment is in high gear
- Investments earned \$6.8M (10% return)
- In reserve - \$59M

The next meetings will be June 12 & 13 in Raleigh, NC

As always, I will be guided and vote as directed by our AHCA Board.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Connie Butherus  
AHCA Delegate to the AKC



### **2009 NATIONAL INVENTORY**

(Prices do not include postage)

<b>POSTERS</b>	<b>18 X 22</b>	<b>\$ 5.00</b>
<b>T- SHIRTS</b> (Logo Embroidered On)		<b>\$ 5.00</b>
BLACK - 3 Small, 3 Medium, 2 Large, 8 Extra Large		
PURPLE - 6 Extra Large		
<b>SWEATSHIRTS</b> (Logo Embroidered On)		<b>\$ 5.00</b>
GRAY - 7 Small, 6 Medium, 17 Large,		
29 XL, 1 2X,		
PURPLE - 2 Small, 12 Large,		
24 Extra Large, 3 - 2X		
<b>1/4 ZIP SUEDE SHIRT</b>		<b>\$20.00</b>
BLACK - 2 Medium, 7 Extra Large, 1 2X		
<b>2009 CATALOGS</b> (Includes Postage)		<b>\$ 5.00</b>
<b>5 MUGS</b>		<b>\$ 5.00</b>

**TO ORDER CONTACT SUE BUSBY:**

**barakiafs@peoplepc.com**

**PAYPAL/VISA/MC ACCEPTED**



## CRAZY DOG LAWS

Submitted by Marcia Morelli

We all love our dogs, but there should be a limit. Gary Mathews of a suburb of Pittsburgh apparently has had a long-term love for the canine star of the 1980's television series "Here's Boomer" – so much so that last year he petitioned the court to legally change his name to "Boomer the Dog." Yes really! Not surprisingly, the judge denied his petition, citing confusion in business and public records and possibly more serious consequences – to paraphrase – a 911 operator might not take seriously a call for help from someone identifying themselves as Boomer the Dog. Would you???

Mr. Mathews response to the judge's opinion – "DOGGONE IT!"



AHCA Membership Chair, Patricia Silverman

## BY-LAW REVISION COMMITTEE

A By-Law Revision Committee was established following the Special Membership Meeting held in Virginia Beach, VA on March 11, 2011.

The committee members are:

**Connie Butherus, Chair**  
**Jerry Bazar**  
**Lex Robertson**  
**Betty Stites**

Please contact any one of these committee members if you have recommendations or suggestions on the By-Law amendments.

See page 24 for the Special Membership Meeting notes:

## AGILITY REPORT

Submitted by Chair, Lynda Hicks

Pictured is the Top Agility Afghan Hound in 2010, for the second year in a row, who many of us had the pleasure to watch perform at our 2009 National specialty Agility Trial.

"Zinger"



**CH MACH2 Stormhill's Red Zinger JC MXF**

**Owners: Robin Cohen, Robin Kletke & Stormhill Kennels**

Afghan Hounds have earned 11 new Agility titles during January and February, 2011! Congratulations to these hard-working Afghan Hounds and their owners.

"Keno"

**CH MACH5 Bijan-Lyrix Megabucks JC NAP NJP MXF**

Novice Agility Preferred

Novice Agility Jumper Preferred

Owners: Robin Cohen & Robin Kletke

"Snow"

**CH Simoon's Snow Dance At Dawn NA OAJ**

Open Agility Jumper

Owners: Nancy Curtis-Caswell & Dwight L Caswell & Janet Plank

"Renee"

**FC Popovs Treasure At Cayblu SC NA NAJ AXP NJP**

Agility Excellent Preferred

Open Agility Jumper Preferred

Open Agility

Open Agility Jumper

Owner: Cathy Kirchmeyer

"Sabrina"

**FC Sabrina CDX RE SC NAP NJP NFP**

Novice Agility Preferred

Agility FAST Novice Preferred

Owners: Jerry Pearson & Sharon Pearson

"Tabitha"

**Tabitha CDX RE JC NAP NJP**

Novice Agility Jumper Preferred

Agility FAST Novice Preferred

Owners: Jerry Pearson & Sharon Pearson



## 2011 NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW

Submitted by National Specialty Show Chairman, Jody Gardner



Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for a very special event, September 25 thru 29, 2011. Our judges for this year's event are Mr. Tony Saia, Sweepstakes, Mrs. Debbie Petersen, Dogs and Mr. Kent Delaney, Bitches and Intersex. Two Regional Specialties will follow the national at the same location. September 30, 2011 The Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus, Regular Classes, Mr. Brett Hamilton, Sweepstakes Mrs. Mary Blacker. October 1, 2011 The Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio, Regular Classes, Ms. Shelley Hennessy.

This year's national will be held at the Roberts Centre / Holiday Inn in Wilmington, Ohio. The room rates are \$99.00 per night plus tax. Use the reservation code "AHN" when booking your room for our special rate. Reservations can be made

on line or by calling 800-654-7036. For more information on the Roberts Centre/Holiday Inn. Visit: [www.robertscentre.com](http://www.robertscentre.com).

For additional information on flights and airports, please visit the AHCA website at: [clubs.AKC.org/ahca/](http://clubs.AKC.org/ahca/). We will also be offering a full CHIC clinic at this national. What an easy way to get everything done at once. More information and forms will be forthcoming in the next Topknot News.

We are currently looking for Afghan Hound art for our art auction. If you would like to donate a piece, or two, please contact me. We will gladly pay the shipping for the piece.

This year's logo was done by renowned artist Marcia VanWoert. We are very pleased and excited that she is also doing the trophies for the 2011 National. If you wish to make a trophy donation please contact Jerry Bazar with your pledge. Jerry's email address is: [gbazar@aol.com](mailto:gbazar@aol.com).

We are still looking for people to chair committees. If you are interested in either chairing a committee or working on a committee, please contact me.

Please plan to join us for this milestone in history, the 75<sup>th</sup> AHCA National Specialty.

For additional information or questions, please feel free to contact us:

Jody Gardner / Show Chair Phone: 740-891-5046 or Email: [jmgafghan@aol.com](mailto:jmgafghan@aol.com)

Gill Ullom / Co-Chair Phone: 419-864-3016 or Email: [burrllom@earthlink.net](mailto:burrllom@earthlink.net)

Sue Busby / Show Secretary Phone: 586-264-4292 or Email: [barakiafs@peoplepc.com](mailto:barakiafs@peoplepc.com)

## TROPHY DONATIONS & RAFFLE FOR THE 2011 AHCA NATIONAL



The 2011 National is coming soon, and to get things started, the AHCA is asking for your trophy donation. With a \$50 donation, you will receive a free catalog (if not present, you will have to pay for shipping of the catalog) and your name will be listed in the show catalog as a participant for trophy donations. **But wait, with your \$50 donation, you get even more in return! A FREE raffle ticket for a drawing for a \$500.00 VISA GIFT CARD.** All you have to do to be eligible for the FREE raffle ticket is to pay your trophy donation (\$50.00) before June 30, 2011. The drawing will take place in July, however, you may still make trophy donations after that date, but you will not receive the free raffle ticket. If your donation is larger than \$50, you still get only 1 (one) free raffle ticket, and all rules as to payment still apply.

You may also purchase additional raffle tickets for the \$500 VISA GIFT CARD, \$20 for 3 raffle tickets. The drawing will be held in July at a Regional Specialty Show and if you are the winner, and are not present, the gift card will be mailed to you. All sales for raffle tickets and free raffle tickets end for the \$500 VISA GIFT CARD on June 30, 2011 and must be paid for by that date.

Make all checks payable to the AHCA,

Send your trophy donations to:  
Raffle Committee Chair, Jerry Bazar  
4600 Casper Court  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Any questions, please contact Jerry Bazar ([gbazar@aol.com](mailto:gbazar@aol.com)).



## REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW INFORMATION

**Submitted by Regional Club Chair, Bob Brown**

<b>CLUB / SHOW SECRETARY</b>	<b>SHOW DATE / SHOW LOCATION</b>	<b>REGULAR CLASS JUDGE/ JUNIORS /SWEEPS</b>
Richmond Afghan Hound Club Nancy Leuba	4/2/2011 The Pavillion Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Blvd. Doswell, VA 23047	Paul Gindlesperger – Regular Classes Paul Gindlesperger – Jr. Showmanship Teri Tevlin - Sweepstakes
Richmond Afghan Hound Club Nancy Leuba	4/3/2011 The Pavillion Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Blvd. Doswell, VA 23047	Lee Gindlesperger – Regular Classes Lee Gindlesperger – Jr. Showmanship Eileen Laudermitch – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of California, Inc. Blue Ribbon Dog Shows	4/15/2011 Oak Canyon Park 5305 Santiago Cyn Rd. Siverado, CA 92676	Thornton Keith – Regular Classes Pamela Unterseh – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas Clay Williams	4/30/2011 Southfork Ranch Parker, TX	Scott Pfeil – Regular Classes Scott Pfeil – Jr. Showmanship Bill Pfeffer – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas Clay Williams	5/01/2011 Southfork Ranch Parker, TX	Lynn Mercer – Regular Classes Lynn Mercer – Jr. Showmanship Gary Lennon – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey Judy Brandenburg	5/6/2011 Mercer County Park Old Trenton & South Post Roads West Windsor, NJ 08561	Ramon Podesta – Regular Classes Kelly Fitch – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of St. Louis Jan Henry	6/4/2011 Purina Farms Gray Summit, MO	Eugene Blake – Regular Classes Christine Pinkston – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago, Inc. Caroline Lewis	6/10/2011 Pilcher Park Rte. 30 & Gougar Road Joliet, IL	Sandra Frei – Regular Classes Darlyn Pfeiffer – Sweepstakes
Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club MB-F Inc.	6/11/2011 Solano County Fairgrounds Vallejo, CA	Edith Tichenor Hanson – Regular Classes Kathryn Carr – Sweepstakes Karen Riddle – Jr. Showmanship
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club Ms. Dale Boyd	6/17/2011 Knights Inn Newburgh, NY	Stephen Fisher – Regular Classes Kazunari Shintaku – Sweepstakes Sulie Greendale-Paveza – Juniors
The Afghan Hound Association of Long Island Dr. Barry Deitch	6/18/2011 Knights Inn Newburgh, NY	Jacqueline Quiros-Kubat – Regular Classes Jesus Llano – Sweepstakes Dr. Barry Deitch – Jr. Showmanship

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

Colonial Afghan Hound Club, Inc. Lois Smith	6/19/2011 Knights Inn Newburgh, NY	Tom Cozzoni – Regular Classes Norma Cozzoni – Sweepstakes Tom Cozzoni – Jr. Showmanship
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland Pending	7/8/2011 Southwest Wash Fairgrounds Centralia, WA	Pending – Regular Classes Pending – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship
Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club Inc. MBF	7/8/2011 Hamlin Fireman's Field 1503 Lake Road, Route 19 Hamlin, NY	Loraine Gyenge – Regular Classes Pending – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship
Afghan Hound Club Of Omaha Onofrio Dog Shows	7/15/2011 Qwest Center 455 N. 10 <sup>th</sup> Omaha, NE 68102	Douglas Johnson – Regular Classes Jerry Hastings – Sweepstakes
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Barbara Chace	8/5/2011 Argus Ranch Facilities For Dogs 35612 – 212 <sup>th</sup> Ave. S. E. Auburn, WA 98092-9014	Betty Stites – Regular Classes Jack Fahey – Sweepstakes Betty Stites – Jr. Showmanship
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Barbara Chace	8/6/2011 Argus Ranch Facilities For Dogs 35612 – 212 <sup>th</sup> Ave. S. E. Auburn, WA 98092-9014	Elizabeth Millward – Regular Classes Christine Pinkston – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship
Midwest Afghan Hound Club Holly Miller	8/13/2011 Lorain County KC Show Grounds 49979 St. Rt. 511 Henrietta Twp, OH 44070	Bobbi Keller – Regular Classes Bob Keller – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship
Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club Onofrio Dog Shows	8/26/2011 Washington County Fairgrounds 12300 N 40 <sup>th</sup> St Highway 5 & County Rd 15 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Garry Newton – Regular Classes Anna Tyler – Sweepstakes Garry Newton – Jr. Showmanship
The Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Dorma Sue Busby	9/02/2011 Best Western Hotel Whitmore Lake, MI	Stephen Fisher – Regular Classes Stephen Fisher – Jr. Showmanship JoAnn Jones – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan D. Curtis	9/8/2011 Island Grove Park 14 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North & D St Greeley, CO	John Roger Morton – Regular Classes John Roger Morton – Jr. Showmanship Mrs. Heather Lindberg – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan D. Curtis	9/9/2011 Island Grove Park 14 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North & D St Greeley, CO	Amy Sorbie – Regular Classes Rosemary Sutton – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus, Inc. Dorma Sue Busby	9/30/2011 Roberts Centre 123 Gano Road Wilmington, OH	Bret Hamilton – Regular Classes Mary Blacker – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship
Afghan Hound Club of Southwest Ohio, Inc. Dorma Sue Busby	10/01/2011 Roberts Centre 123 Gano Road Wilmington, OH	Shelley S. Hennessy – Regular Classes None – Sweepstakes Helen Stein – Jr. Showmanship
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc. Janet E. Lucree	10/15/2011 Holiday Inn Select 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA 30341	David Frei – Regular Classes David Frei – Jr. Showmanship Michael Liss – Sweepstakes

*Continued on Page....20*

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Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc. Janet E. Lucree	10/16/2011 Holiday Inn Select 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA 30341	Dr. Barry Deitch – Regular Classes Dr. Barry Deitch – Jr. Showmanship Michael Strockbine – Sweepstakes
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Eddie Kominek	10/22/2011 Piedmont Kennel Club Showplace 13607 Choate Circle Charlotte, NC 28273	Pending – Regular Classes Pending – Sweepstakes
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Eddie Kominek	10/23/2011 Piedmont Kennel Club Showplace 13607 Choate Circle Charlotte, NC 28273	Pending – Regular Classes Pending – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Austin, Inc. Deanna Delesandri	10/22/2011 Bell County Exposition Center Belton, Texas	Hank Nave – Regular Classes No Sweepstakes
Colonial Afghan Hound Club, Inc. Moss-Bow, Foley	12/02/2011 Trade Center at Courtyard By Marriott Fitchburg, MA 01420	Pending – Regular Classes Pending.– Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship
Greater Pittsburgh Afghan Hound Club	No Show in 2011	



**MAILING LIST**  
**BEST OF WINNERS MEDALLIONS**  
**VERSATILITY AWARDS**  
**Submitted by Chair, Claudia Jakus**

**Mailing list:** Per the board's direction, the mailing list has been merged and every parent club member as well as every non-member that has entered either a National or Breeders' Cup, or requested their name be put on the mailing list will receive both a premium for the National Specialty and the Breeders' Cup for 5 years following their last entry. Only the first name on an entry and the address will be used. If a dog is co-owned by additional people, only the primary owner will receive a premium list.

**Best of Winners Medallions:** Come on people-read your approval packet! It is now March and out of about the ten (10) Regional Specialty Clubs' request for Best of Winners medallions, I have only received maybe 1 or 2 at the most that have been correct. Either you forgot to ask for it, the premium is mailed without the application, or a note is sent without anything, etc. I will not mail your club the medallion WITHOUT an original premium or the application.

**Versatility Award:** If anyone feels they may have achieved three (3) titles, CH, CD, F.CH. RE, NA, NAJ, please contact me for clarification of the versatility award. [claudiajakus@comcast.net](mailto:claudiajakus@comcast.net)

**FACEBOOK**

**Submitted by Chair, Gary Lennon**

There are 593 fans on Facebook.

You are always invited to post items and events  
on the AHCA Facebook page.





## AHCA RESCUE REPORT

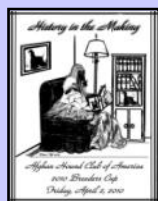
Submitted by  
Rescue Chairs,  
Russ & Barb Hastings

(Russ Hastings pictured)

The year 2011 started out with a large rescue under way. Thirteen Afghan Hounds located in Louisiana needed to find foster and forever homes. Because of the location of the dogs and lack of necessary homes in the area, it was decided to transport the dogs to the East Coast and Ohio, where we had homes approved to adopt many of them, as well as needed foster homes. Before the transport began, we also were told of two young Afghan Hounds in TN that also needed to be turned over to rescue, so it was decided to bring those with us as well. At this time, I am pleased to report that all but three of the dogs have been placed in forever homes. Those three are in foster homes, and we continue to look for homes for them. All of these dogs needed to be spayed and neutered, shots updated, but we were fortunate that all were heartworm negative. The main cost of this rescue was the transportation costs to move them.

There has continued to be a steady stream of dogs being turned over to us since this large group. Many of these dogs have been seniors. The most common reason for people needing to place their dogs is job loss or the state of the economy. It is very difficult to find homes for these dogs, though most are house trained, settled down and make wonderful pets. If you have a place on your couch for one of these seniors, please contact us.

On a happier note, we are pleased to say that all of the Rescue Calendars have been sold and delivered. We will again offer a calendar next year, as well as a book that is being put together to help offset the costs of the dogs we take in. The new book will be a group of stories, pictures, and antidotes on the lighter side of the Afghan Hound. We all know what characters they can be. If you have any amusing stories, cute pictures, depicting the life of the Afghan Hound, please feel free to send them to me. We will forward them on to the committee working on the book.



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## JUNIOR CORNER

Submitted by AHCA Junior Chair,  
Jody Gardner

Junior Showmanship 2010 was a wonderful year. In this past year there were 35 juniors who entered the ring with an Afghan Hound. I am always thrilled when I see new juniors entering our sport and our breed. I have had the opportunity to talk with some of these new juniors and they are all very excited about showing an Afghan Hound. Now mind you this is an admirable thing as Afghan Hounds are far from the easiest dogs to show in juniors. It takes a special kind of junior to step up to show an Afghan Hound, this is a junior that truly loves our breed. So with that in mind, if you are at a show and see a junior handler with an Afghan Hound, please take a minute and encourage them, praise them or stay and watch them in the juniors ring. Such a small act of kindness may keep a junior interested for life.



The competition for the title of best junior of the year is always a very close race. I am pleased to announce that the Best Junior for 2010 is Emilie Peterson. Emilie along with her dog "Mister" added several items to their accomplishments in

2010. Emilie worked hard and earned the points necessary to qualify for Westminster and showed "Mister" in juniors at the Garden. For every junior handler the accomplishment to show at the Garden is a dream comes true! Emilie also earned the title of Best Junior Handler at the 2010 AHCA national in Sacramento, CA. Congratulations Emilie and "Mister" on a wonderful year.

New junior support for 2011! The AHCA is offering \$25.00 to regional clubs that support junior showmanship at their regional specialty. This \$25.00 is available to any regional club that offers a best junior trophy at their specialty. To apply you must list the trophy in your premium list and send a copy of the premium list and the Regional Club Best Junior Trophy Support Application to the awards chairperson. The form can be found on the AHCA website in Policy and Procedures under the awards section. A check for \$25.00 will be mailed to the regional club from the AHCA treasurer.

In addition to the support of the AHCA for juniors, I personally will offer a Best Junior trophy for all regional clubs. To apply you must list a "Best Junior Trophy – Afghan Hound Art" in your premium list and send a copy to me at least one month before the date of your show. Please send the information to me at: Jody Gardner, AHCA Junior Chair, 333 Heather Dr. S. Newark, Ohio 43055. If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 740-891-5046 or email me at [jmgafghan@aol.com](mailto:jmgafghan@aol.com). As always, supporting or mentoring a junior, is a priceless reward.



*Whoever said you can't buy happiness forgot little puppies.*

**The Next Topknot News Deadline is:  
June 18, 2011**