

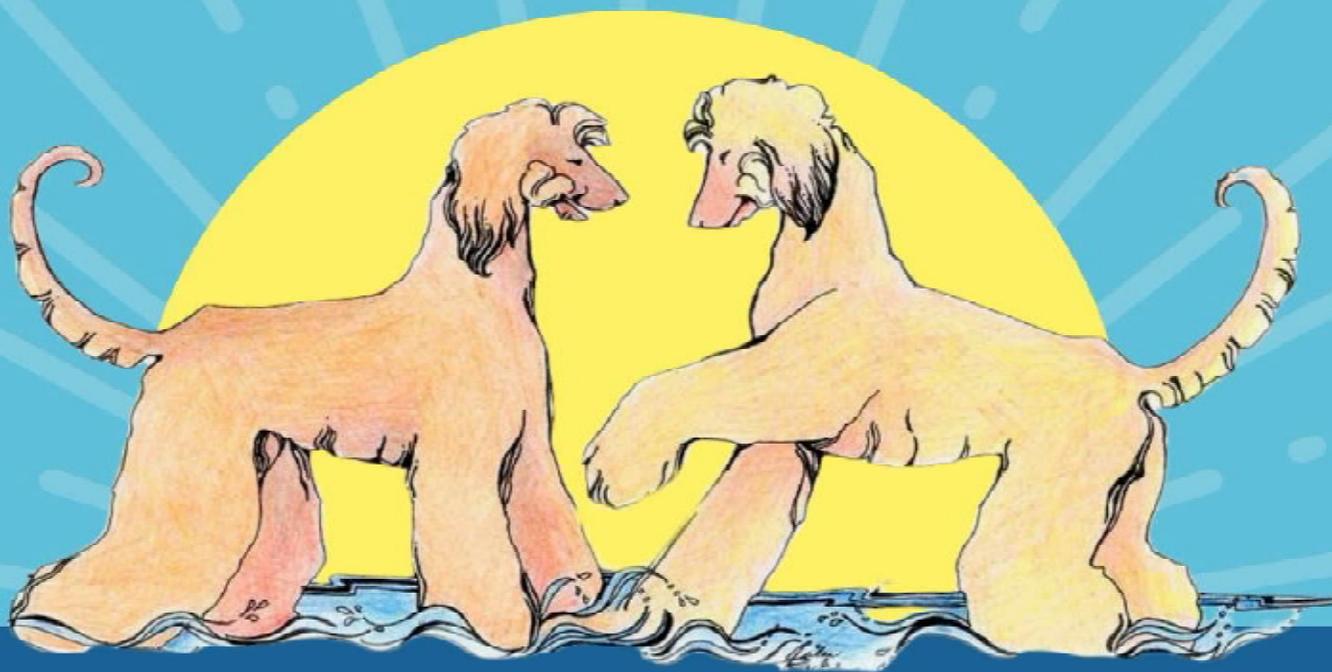
# TOPKNOT NEWS

Official Publication of the Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.

Spring Edition 2021



**SUMMER SPLASHIN' WITH PUPPIES**



# **BREEDERS' CUP**

The 32nd Annual  
Afghan Hound Breeders' Cup  
Showcase for Dogs  
East Windsor, Connecticut

**JUNE 18, 2021**

Details at:

[https://afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/index.php/  
competition/conformation/breeders-cup](https://afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/index.php/competition/conformation/breeders-cup)

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### ON THE COVER....

CH Exquisite Benevolent Prince of Elation CGC THD. "GABRIEL" painted by Linda Christie. Here is what AHCA member **Cheryl Brooks** has to say:

"Linda and I met through Afghan Hounds. I called a local boarding facility and the owner told of another Afghan in a nearby town. Linda called me, we met and became fast friends.

I talked Linda into going to Virginia with me to see some "Exquisite" puppies at the Hall home. We both came back with a puppy on one of our most unforgettable road trips. We have since enjoyed many travels to shows together while our puppies were being shown and cementing our friendship. The picture Linda painted from was taken the first weekend that Gabriel was shown. The painting was a true labor of love and a gift from one of my dearest friends."



*Cheryl Brooks and Gabriel.  
Photo by Josh Falkner*

# An Editorial Word

Hello Fellow Fanciers!

I am honored to accept **Helen Stein's** invitation to join the Topknot News team as editor. I have always respected the work the Afghan Hound Club of America does and the principles it stands for.



I know it has a rich history and I am proud to be a part of this Club. As a member of the AHCA and the newsletter editor I will do my best to continue this great tradition of showcasing our regal and sometimes silly hounds. Thank you for this expression of confidence.

I've worked as a newspaper reporter/radio news anchor and graphic designer and bring my experience to the newsletter. Hope you like the look!

My interest in Afghan Hounds started when I was about 12 years old. I picked up the original **AKC Complete Dog Book** from the library – just flipping through the pages I suddenly stopped when I saw this stunning creature! A glorious wind-blown head shot of a black masked red (which I now know was **Am. and Mex. Ch Crown Crest Zardonx**) I was captivated. That started my love affair. I read every single book, magazine I could get hold of to learn more about this extraordinary, exotic breed. I memorized pedigrees and read the “Bible” – **Joan McDonald Brearley's The Book of the Afghan Hound** cover to cover many, many times.

I've been showing Afghans in both conformation and obedience and also lure course - for almost 40 years. Yes, they do get into your heart and soul as you Affie lovers well know and the rest of us would love to read about. Please email me your stories, photos, thoughts and article ideas for possible publication at [editortopknotnews@gmail.com](mailto:editortopknotnews@gmail.com) Looking forward to hearing from you!

Finally a heartfelt thanks to Helen and the top notch Topknot News crew! Thank you all for making me feel so welcome, answering all my questions and all the hand holding and patience you've shown to accomplish the publication of this issue. SO very much appreciated.

Cheers!

*Virginia Katilus*

## 2021 Officers and Directors

President: Helen Stein  
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Second Vice President: Scott Pfeil  
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Recording Secy.: Eddie Kominek  
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Director: Jody Gardner  
Director: Beth Anne Hall  
Director: Lynda Hicks  
Director: Christine O'Connor  
Director: Christine Pinkston

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AKC Delegate: Connie Butherus  
AKC Gazette Column: Harry Bennett  
ASFA Delegate: Robert Jordan  
Awards: James Donahue  
Breed & Public Education: Anna Stromberg  
Breeders' Cup Show Secretary: Sue Busby  
Breeders' Cup 2021: Amy Mero  
Breeders' Cup 2022: Christine O'Connor  
Canine Health: Anna Tyler  
Companion Events: Lynda Hicks  
Inventory Control: Sue Busby  
Judges Education: Harry Bennett  
Junior Showmanship: Darla Miller  
Library Archives: Helen Stein  
Legislative Affairs:  
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Mailing List Coordinator: Dorma Sue Busby  
Membership: Jennifer Taylor  
Membership Directory: Dorma Sue Busby  
Mentor Program: Christine Pinkston  
National Events Site Research: Erica Jantos  
National Specialty 2021: Dorma Sue Busby  
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**NEXT DEADLINE: JULY 30, 2021**

Full page color ad: \$75.00 (basic design included)  
 Payment via PayPal to [Paypal@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org](mailto:Paypal@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org)  
 Send your email with text and attached image files to:  
 Advertising@topknot.news or submit print ready ad in PDF format  
 (8.75"x11.25" 300dpi sRGB note: keep content area to 8.5"x11"  
 otherwise it will get cut off.)This includes bleed.

**AHCA RESCUE HOTLINE  
877-237-3728**

**AHCA Website**

[www.afghanhoundclubofamerica.org](http://www.afghanhoundclubofamerica.org)

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**



Harry Bennett



Dorma Sue Busby



Connie Butherus



James Donahue



Lynda Hicks



Erica Jantos



Robert Jordan



Eddie Kominek



Amy Mero



Darla Miller



Christine O'Connor



Christine Pinkston



Martha Powell



Carol Rivette



Anna Stromberg



Jennifer Taylor

# *In Loving Memory of 'Our Beloved Slade'*

Owned and loved by Larry and Marie Herman



## **“Shylo Uptown Strutter”**

(April 13, 2012 – March 2, 2021)



**Gold Grand Champion and Canadian Champion**

Co-Owned by Bruce Clark and Robert Ungar

# President's Message



By Helen Stein

**F**or our first meeting of 2021 the Board welcomed new members **Lynda Hicks**, **Christine Pinkston** and **Jody Gardner**. Board member **Scott Pfeil** was elected to the position of 2nd Vice President, and the Board elected Jody to fill his vacated Board seat for a 1-year term.

The Board extends its thanks and best wishes to outgoing officers and Board members **Russ Hastings**, **Linda Jackson** and **Anna Tyler**, who have contributed greatly to the operations of the Club. Russ and Linda will continue to work with newly formed committees to review Membership Policies (Russ) and Budget and Audit Practices (Linda). Anna will continue her outstanding work as our Canine Health Chair, and as liaison with AKC for the AKC Marketplace webpage.

We have two new Committee Chairs: **Virginia Katilus** will serve as Editor of Topknot News, replacing **Brian Wood** who will remain on the Topknot News staff, focusing on ad sales. **Darla Miller** is our new Junior Showmanship Chair, replacing **Alicia Morrison Jones** who has resigned for personal reasons. We appreciate the work that Brian and Alicia have done with their committees and wish them success in the future.

A warm welcome to our newest member (and already a dedicated club worker) **Ramon Infante** who was accepted into membership in March, 2021.

We're all happy to be able to return to the sport that we love and I look forward to seeing many of you in June at the Breeders Cup and the Maturity Competition.

May you compete with pride, be respectful and kind to your fellow exhibitors, and enjoy your beautiful dogs. Best of luck to all!



## Condolences

It is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge the passing of the following Members:

- Dr. Ted Blackerby
- Sherri Newkirk-Meyer
- Lt Col. Wallace Pede
- Lois Smith

And the following Fanciers:

- Pat Gilbert
- Don Johnson
- Gary D. Sinck

These names will be listed in the Breeders' Cup catalog and the 2021 National Catalog.

Cards have been sent to family members.

A number of get well cards have also been sent out to members.

# Introducing...



Let me begin by thanking **Helen Stein** for asking me to serve as the Junior Handler Chair.

I am a small time breeder looking forward to

at least one more litter under the kennel name BluHill. I have been showing in the conformation ring for 30+ years plus volunteer with Afghan Hound Rescue of Central Ohio. Some might know me as part of Morgan's Market team along with **Maureen Anderson**. I am a retired teacher, guidance counselor, and administrator now residing in Ocala, Florida along with four Afghan Hounds and one retired Tibetan Terrier. Over the course of the years I have mentored/sponsored five young people in Junior Showmanship, two of which showed at Westminster and the Eukanuba shows in Long Beach and Orlando. It has been five years since my last junior aged out after showing two of my retired Afghans starting at age 10. Now I am excited to watch Annalee, a 9 year old, show our Ali in the ring.

Regarding my background, let me share what I hope to achieve as your new chairperson. To accomplish my goals, I first want to extend an invite to members out there who would like to join me in a small committee. I have already asked **Joann Buehler**, a junior showmanship judge and **Beth Ane Hall**, a friend and fellow advocate as a past mother of a junior handler, daughter **Hartley**. Would love to connect with others and invite those who might have a retired Afghan lounging on your

couch the thrill of going back into the ring one more time on the lead of a young person. I am especially looking for someone who is active in the performance ring to join us.

Here are my goals for our committee: (1) To highlight our junior handlers and share their stories in hopes to get youth and owners connected; (2) To encourage/ assist regional clubs and hound associations to offer junior showmanship at their specialty events; (3) Review the junior showmanship application for our national organization; (4) Organize events for our junior handlers; (5) Be a voice for our junior handlers at the National as well as AKC levels; (6) Review applicants for the AHCA scholarship, and (7) Solicit suggestions, support, etc. to increase awareness.

Looking forward to hearing from my fellow club members with ideas, willingness to volunteer and suggestions! Email [darlam723@gmail.com](mailto:darlam723@gmail.com) phone 513-706-2270 I encourage you to come join me ringside and cheer for our junior handlers in the conformation and performance rings.

Darla Miller

# AKC DELEGATE REPORT

By Connie Butherus

The March Delegate's meetings were conducted via Zoom as have all of these meetings since the onset of COVID 19. The upcoming meetings scheduled to begin June 1 will also be conducted via Zoom. Many of us wish we had stock in that company!

The March Delegates committee meetings were held in the week preceding the actual meeting on March 9.

This was the Annual Meeting and the election of the Board of Directors, Class of 2025 was on the agenda. The election of the four successful candidates was completed in one ballot. Usually it requires several ballots to get the job done. Not this year however. There were 372 ballots cast with 187 votes needed to elect as a majority vote is required. Elected, or more accurately reelected, for the four year terms were **Tom Davies, Dominic Carota, Tom Powers** and **Rita Biddle**. Tom Davies was subsequently reelected as Chairman and Dominic Carota as Vice Chair. The power of incumbency prevailed.

There were 11 new Delegates seated at this meeting and five new Member Clubs admitted. Of the five new Clubs three were Parent Clubs (Boerbels, Cesky Terriers and Miniature American Shepherds) one all breed Club (Carroll K.C.) and one dog training club.

The Chairman's report recounted the numerous events of the year since COVID upended many of

the traditional dog events. New programs were put in place and modifications to past practices were enacted which enabled events to continue.

The report of the President also noted the modifications and adaptations due to the impact of COVID-19. Donations continued to be made and the Orlando show was held as in prior years. Especially noted was the work of the AKC staff.

The CFO reviewed the financial picture which, in spite of the cancellations of numerous events remains positive. Registrations continue to

**...the financial picture which, in spite of the cancellations of numerous events, remains positive. Registrations continue to increase with dogs up 20% and litters 12%.**

increase with dogs up 20% and litters 12%. Revenue has increased 7% and expenses decreased 9%. Investments showed 13.69% growth.

There was one amendment voted on which addressed the required content of Premium List. There was discussion and concern regarding inclusion of the address of the Show Chair this being the only address which must be included. It was noted that the address could be a P.O. Box or an email rather than the home address in order to provide privacy. The amendment passed with 83% in favor.

AKC/TV presented an over-

view of its accomplishments since inception in 2018. The first live broadcast was Meet the Breeds held in New York City that year in February. Existing program offerings were cited, viewership numbers noted and plan for the future announced such as ESPN to broadcast 15 AKC events in the next three years.

The AKC educational arm, Canine College, continues to offer new programs and webinars. Programs offered for both the fancy and public were noted. Courses designed for breeders' education were reviewed.

In the open forum several concerns were voiced by the attendees, first was the problem of negative content posted on Facebook. It was suggested to use the AKC Sportsmanship code as a possible corrective action in dealing with an offender.

The allowing of mixed breed dogs to be shown in Junior Showmanship was also noted as a concern. It was suggested to limit this to the Novice class only. More to follow to be sure as this is not going to go away.

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# ASFA DELEGATE REPORT

By Bob Jordan  
**No report**

## THE TOPKNOT: LONG AND SILKY

By Harry Bennett  
*AKC Gazette Columnist*

The AKC standard of the Afghan Hound is very definite: “The striking characteristics of the breed stand out clearly, giving the Afghan Hound the appearance of what he is, a king of dogs, that has held true to tradition throughout the ages.”

These distinctive breed features are first claimed in the beginning of the AKC breed standard for the Afghan Hound, in the “General Appearance” section, and then further elaborated on in the body of the respective sections. It is so that the standard is written describing the Afghan Hound as a mature dog.

For the Afghan Hound to be a head above the rest, it means having a long, arched neck and high head carriage. This is *not* attained by a Marie Antoinette bouffant- nor, in present-day terms, a Marge Simpson hairdo. The standard describes a *long, silky* topknot. The head is surmounted by a *topknot of long, silky hair*. Listed as a fault is a head not surmounted with topknot.

The judge should be able to examine and to identify and evaluate the quality, amount, and hair texture of the topknot. This head hair may be worn differently on different dogs. In young dogs where there has not been enough length of life for it to grow long, this hair may stand straight up; and then with a little more age, it may fall forward over the face. As gravity will have it, the silky hair grows long, falling to either or both sides of the head. By hand the head hair may be drawn back, or even

drawn up, but without help, the silky hair will fall properly.

Please respect and appreciate that this regal breed wears a head of hair that is its “crowning glory” – not a clowning glory, and certainly not a crown of thorns. The latter must be left to the breeds of dogs where manipulation, accessorizing, and adornment of hair are tolerated.

## AWARDS REPORT

By James Donahue

On January 6, 2021, the AHCA hosted a virtual Awards Ceremony for the 2019 Honorees. These were the awards that would have been typically awarded at the National Specialty Awards Dinner. The physical awards (medallions and certificates) will be presented at the 2021 National Specialty Awards Dinner, in addition to the 2020 award recipients. The virtual ceremony, held via Zoom, was co-hosted by **Jason Taylor** and myself. We had a good amount of positive feedback afterward, and I know that the award recipients were thankful for the recognition.

I have been processing medalion requests as they come in. I know that several regional specialties have been approved recently, but I have not yet received their medallion applications. It is worth noting that the Omaha Club did not request medallions for their 2020 specialty (which ended up being cancelled at the eleventh hour due to COVID regulations).

I am working with **Sue Busby Terry Chacon** bronzes that she needs for the 2021 National specialty.

## BREED & PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT

By Anna Stromberg

*No report*

## BREEDERS' CUP 2021

By Amy Mero  
*Show Chairman*

### Placement Prizes

- 1<sup>st</sup> place in each class - cotton tote bag w/ logo screen printed on it
- 2nd-4th place in each class – tote bag from Burlington w/ Afghan head on it
- 16 oz squirt bottles w/ Logo label
- Logo magnet

### Sellables (by Pre-Order only)

- Men's t-shirts
- Ladies V-neck t-shirts both in colors: sapphire, black & red
- Grooming Apron w/ logo screen print colors: sapphire & khaki
- Beach towel w/ logo embroidered at one end color: white
- Tote Bag (different from 1<sup>st</sup> place) w/logo screen printed on it

### Best In BC

- Glass Wind chime (donated)
- Duffle bag w/ logo embroidered

### Best Opp in BC

- Glass Wind Chime (to be purchased from vendor who made donated one)
- Duffle bag w/logo embroidered

**Food**

I have sponsors for Breakfast cost, Lunch cost & Specialty cake cost. Having buffet style food is currently frowned up by the AKC due to COVID, so this may change as we get closer to the event; we may have to provide food in individual baggies (breakfast) or have a Food Truck

**Vendors**

Flyer has been posted on FB. Chair is **Christine DiRienzo**

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## MATURITY EVENT

By Dorma Sue Busby

**F**inishing the premium to be mailed out the 2020 Breeders' Cup entrants only. This event will follow the Breeders' Cup.

## SHOW SECRETARY REPORT

By Dorma Sue Busby

**W**e had 13 litters nominated for the 2021 Breeders' Cup to be held on June 18th, 2021. The breeders' judge's nominations ballot was sent out for voting. The ballots were returned by February 18th. Per the P&P's two parent club members plus a third all-breed or specialty club member are to count the ballots.

The chart shows the nomina-

tions and the voting results.

**Tony Saia** had the most votes for judging the Breeders' Cup. I contacted him and he accepted the assignment. I emailed him a contract which he signed and returned. I posted on Face Book and on the AHCA Group FB page the results of the Judge for the 2021 Breeders' Cup.

Entries are starting to come in. Entry fees are at \$25.00 thru March 18th, 2021.

The nominees have been notified of the final results.

Name	Kennel Name	State	1	or	2
Lucia Brown	Dragonfly Afghans	CT			II=2
Cynthia Byington	Siraè Afghans	MN			II=2
Beth Collins	Taza Afghans	ME	I=2		III=4
Maryann Giordano	MyWay Afghans	NJ	III=6		II=2
Joann Jones	Jovan Afghans	TX	II=4		I=2
<b>Tony Sia</b>	<b>Beachbrook Afghans</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>III I=14</b>		<b>II=2</b>



# BREEDERS' CUP COMMENTS

By Helen Stein

**A**s a follow-up to my letter to the Board dated January 2, 2021, the Board was given an outline of how income and expenses for all events are to be handled. This is to be discussed at the Board meeting, and will be further addressed by the Ad Hoc Committee for Budget and Accounting, chaired by **Jody Gardner**.

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# BREEDERS' CUP 2022

By Christine O'Connor

**T**his report began in January 2021 to allow us to track and manage priorities and tasks. Just a reminder, just like last time, SAAHA members must take ownership of the WHOLE weekend – it is our Breeder's Cup as well as AHCA and the Afghan Hound Club of Greater Phoenix and Afghan Hound Club of California (should one or both of the two clubs join the weekend.

### General Weekend Arrangements

<i>Individual</i>	<i>Assignment</i>
Christine O'Connor	Events Coordinator
Chris Leighton	Hotel & Logistics
Michael Albers	Finance
TBD	Hospitality
TBD	Decorations

**Dates:** I confirmed with the AHCA Regional Coordinator(Amy) that the appropriate dates are AKC calendar week 12 to avoid conflicts with existing specialty weekends. In 2022 this would be the weekend of March 26-27. If we were to duplicate the schedule we had in 2018, the Breeders' Cup would be Friday, March 25, with specialties following on Saturday and Sunday.

**Hotel:** There is concern that with Covid-19 hotels have minimal occupancy and with an older hotel this can compound issues. Chris will be checking on the Hotel Tucson to see where they are both in availability of those dates, the hotel's ongoing renovations, and the state of the hotel's rooms in the area where we had the event in 2018. We also discussed looking for other hotels (including the Windemere in Phoenix) and/or acquiring an arrangement with a nearby hotel which might not have the grounds but could offer better rooms for those who prefer that option. As was mentioned last meeting, we need to check out La Paloma and the new convention center hotel. Chris will be contacting the hotels as his schedule permits. Using either La Paloma or the TCC may mean pushing dates into April or May to get off season rates which would require indoor rings.

**Bathing:** We need to check out local self grooming businesses. I often use them in other cities. In Topeka, I went to a car wash that had a dog grooming room with 8 stainless steel tubs each with force dryers and grooming space. \$8 to self wash towels and products (yikes!) included. I was alone the whole time I bathed and groomed my special. I find this easier than many other arrangements and I could use my hydro-surge. It would be a way to avoid hotel issues and help small businesses. I think facili-

ties without their own tubs should encourage exhibitors to do this.

**RV Parking:** Just a reminder we need to make sure that there is some accommodation for this. (We had several in the parking lot last time).

**Rings:** We will seek to borrow TKC's equipment again as we did in 2018.

**Tents:** If the ring is outside we will need all local tents.

**Finance:** TBD

**Hospitality:** TBD

**Decorations:** TBD

**AHCA Breeder's Cup**

Chair: **Lila Wadsworth**

Co-Chair: **Christine O'Connor**

**Chair's responsibilities:** I want to remind you all that AHCA policy and procedures separate the Chair and Secretary's responsibilities. The Chair, in effect, provides the setting and logistics for the event which is run by the Secretary who reports directly to the AHCA board. Christine will again serve as trophy chair as we will need to solicit trophies nationally. We have submitted a logo idea and had some positive feedback especially about the idea of having contests around the logo. Charlotte has taken Christine's sketch to refine.

**Trophies:** Will discuss at our February meeting some possibilities.

**Event Promotion:** After this year's Breeders' Cup in June we will need to begin to promote the 2022 event. Dates and a schedule should be firmed up by then. We will need to do what we did in 2018 use the Facebook event page to remind Afghan Hound fanciers of the events. As Chris will remember every time we promoted the dinner we got reservation bumps. It helped with trophy donations as well.

**Logo:** Charlotte working on refining design.

**Show Secretary - Sue Busby:**



## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**OCTOBER 3RD**  
SUNDAY

**AKC LURE COURSING/ASFA LURE COURSING**  
- SHELLEY HENNESSEY & HOLLY HAMILTON

**OCTOBER 7H**  
THURSDAY

**PARADE OF RESCUE**  
**PARADE OF VETERANS**  
**PERFORMANCE EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**BEST OF BREED**  
- D. SCOTT PFEIL  
**AWARDS BANQUET**

**OCTOBER 4TH**  
MONDAY

**OBEDIENCE/RALLY**  
- CATHERINE THOMPSON  
**AGILITY**  
- RON MCCLELLAND  
**JUNIORS**  
- D. SCOTT PFEIL  
**WELCOME VENDOR PARTY**

**OCTOBER 8TH**  
FRIDAY

**AHC GREATER COLUMBUS**  
**AHC SOUTHWESTERN OHIO**

**OCTOBER 5TH**  
TUESDAY

**RESCUE MEETING**  
**REGIONAL CLUB MEETING**  
**SWEEPS & VETERAN SWEEPSTAKES**  
- MICHAEL LISS  
**TRIATHLON**  
- MICHAEL LISS  
**BREED EDUCATION**

**OCTOBER 9TH**  
SATURDAY

**GREATER DETROIT AHC**  
- JAMES DALTON  
**MIDWEST AHC**

**SHOW CHAIRMAN:**  
**ASST SHOW CHAIRMAN:**

**DORMA SUE BUSBY**  
**BECKY MORISETTE**

**OCTOBER 6TH**  
WEDNESDAY

**JUDGES EDUCATION**  
**DOG JUDGING**  
- PETER FROST  
**BITCH JUDGING**  
- D. SCOTT PFEIL  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**ART AUCTION**

For hotel reservations: 937-283-3276 or 800-654-7036;  
mention the Afghan Hound Club of American block code  
A8A to get the discount.

HOLIDAY INN & ROBERTS CONVENTION CENTRE - WILMINGTON, OHIO

# OCTOBER 3 - OCTOBER 9, 2021

provides the premium list, catalogue, and program; takes entries; supplies ribbons; oversees judge selection: and reports results. She also supplies a special memorial trophy for best in breeder's cup. What we all need to remember is the premium list is put out six months in advance of the event. (We will need at the very latest have our event schedule by mid August (the BC premium must be out by late September and available at the National).

**SAAHA Specialty(ties) - Chair: Chris Leighton**

As we discussed at our meeting, AKC changes allowing for two days of independent specialties and additional designated specialties, allow us two days this weekend if we want while maintaining our fall designated. We can have three (or more with other partners) of specialties and we can go both first and last to make it easier for our sister club(s) who may join us. We need to be thinking about that.

We have one set of trophies for this event already. We would need to acquire additional trophies. As we discussed last month, we need to come up with both regular and sweeps judges so please be prepared to submit names.

**Phoenix Specialty(ties)** - I did talk to **Marilyn Domhoff** (current AHCGP) about the event and the idea of asking California (with the new rule of being about to travel 200 miles outside your area, 300 miles with permission), She has the dates and will follow up with her members at their next meeting. Right now their priority needs to be their spring show. I told her we hoped to be able to firm up by the end of March. She and I had a discussion this month and they do want to participate but need to concentrate on pulling their March 2021 together since the cluster can-

celled.

(They have new dates, a site, are confirming judges and are using a local show secretary (hopefully a good candidate for our 2022 specialties)

**California Specialty(ties)** - I followed up in January with **Nancy Edgington**, current AHC of California president, giving her the dates and our expectations for working with them if they wanted to participate. I also told her the end of March for de-

**Some AKC pandemic changes work in our favor. ... Clubs can travel 200 miles out of their area (300 miles with permission.)**

cision-making. I had a February conversation with her and they are interested. They too are scrambling to put on their event scheduled in April 2021.

Here is what I outlined to Nancy:

Our discussion (and I have talked to Phoenix) has been to try and create an event that will draw as well as it did last time. Some AKC pandemic changes work in our favor. Specialty clubs can have two days of independent specialties. Clubs can travel 200 miles out of their area (300 miles with permission.) We are Southern Arizona Afghan Hound Association, and they are the Afghan Hound Club of California so my contention is we can measure from the closest border and ask permission if there is interest. (Never mind the back East mentality of these mileages!)

For SAAHA, our fall designated is important and the only reason we needed to have back to backs in the past. The new rules change this we can have two days of independents and still have our designated. We are open to try and get more specialties for more of a draw. We can even be the first club specialty and the last club to host a specialty. Lots of flexibility. Last time SAAHA set up the rings and tents, contracted with the hotel, and was on site from day before to the day after. We agreed on a common show secretary, one catalogue, and show secretary purchased ribbons. The host of the specialty supplied trophies, special ring markers/banners if they wanted, and hosted the lunch (SAAHA found vendors who actually supplied the food locally. The ground costs (\$216) were responsibility of the clubs hosting that day. The BC chair handled vendors and the clubs split the proceeds equally from vendor fees.

Last time we had one steward all three days. We can recruit non-afghan people if need be. Last day we all policed the area with SAAHA once again there to the end. We will try to minimize the visiting clubs labor in hopes that if only a few club members come it is still doable. The idea is to benefit both exhibitors and the involved clubs.

**Reporting** - At the March AHCA board meeting I will submit a report on the events (probably a copy of this) and have a preliminary discussion with them to perhaps pursue AKC permission for California participation. The idea is to try and attract a large entry for another fun successful event.

My current plan is to update this report monthly and start sharing with the other clubs as they begin to focus on this event.

# CANINE HEALTH REPORT

By Anna Tyler

1) The balance in the AHCA Canine Health Foundation’s Donor Advised Fund – (DAF account) as of March 31, 2021 is \$4,546.38.

2) The AHCA Canine Health 501(3)© checking account is as of the last BOD meeting - \$5952.02 + Martha found \$1758. in review + 2021 dues so far \$325. = \$8035.02.

3) If things open up and Regional Clubs would like to organize their own Blood Draw Clinics, I would be happy to send them the supplies needed to do this. Just let me know.

4) The Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club had a Spring Vet Clinic and a Chylothorax Blood Draw Clinic on April 11. Julia Callahan was our vet tech and pulled 19 healthy dogs’ blood that was shipped to the Researcher.

5) Unfortunately, there have been 2 more Chylo affected Afghan Hounds. At least one of these is sending in an affected blood sample to the Researcher.

## AHCA CANINE HEALTH REPORT FOURTH QUARTER 2020 RESULTS OF OFA HEALTH TESTING:

### ADVANCED CARDIAC

Normal-#0

### CARDIAC

Normal-#0

### THYROID

Normal-# 14

Comp-#0

### HIP

Excellent - #14

Good-#12

Mild-#0

Fair-#0

### EYE

Normal - 12

W/Breeder Option #6

### ELBOWS

Normal - #2

### DENTITION

Full Dent - 1

BLOOD KITS DNA - #2

## PPCPP

By Anna Tyler and Helen Stein

The Afghan Hound Club of America has received a check for \$220.01 from Purina for our club’s participation in the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program (PPCPP). Under Purina’s guidelines, the check that we received is to be used in funding education, health research and/or rescue efforts.

A matching amount will be sent by Purina to the Canine Health Foundation’s AHCA Donor Advised Fund (funds are designated by our club to support specific research grants). If you are a Purina Pro Club member and have designated the AHCA as your Parent Club, we earn points when you earn points.

As always, thanks very much to all who have participated in this program! We appreciate your generosity.

## AKC MARKETPLACE

By Anna Tyler

The AKC web site updates for the Afghan Hound breed in

“Overview and “About the Afghan Hound” have been completed.

The AKC Marketplace – “Breed Traits – Personality” and “Description” of the Afghan Hound have been updated as well. Board of Directors and President approval were given on the changes.

New photos have been uploaded to be used throughout AKC’s web site, but as of this time only two of them have been approved by AKC and gone live on their site. The same dark brindle puppy photo is seen multiple times through the Marketplace and hopefully, soon, the AHCA will have new photos added to these sections. BOD approval was given on these changes as well.

## AKC 2020 AFGHAN HOUND REGISTRATIONS

By Brian Wood

American Kennel Club has published the 2020 registration statistics for Afghan Hounds.

There were 56 litters registered, the fewest since that data started being tracked in 2002.

Individual registrations were 262 in 2020, half the number of 2012, and the fewest since 1944 in the middle of World War II.

# JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP REPORT

By Alicia Jones  
(2020 Chair)

I have posted the following information on the AHCA Facebook page regarding the Young Sportsman Scholarship. The deadline for submission is August 1st. The scholarship recipient will be announced at the AHCA awards dinner.

## The Young Sportsman Scholarship

This Scholarship is open to all young people (age 16-20) participating in conformation, and performance events with Afghan Hounds.

The Young Sportsman is a unique individual. This special person is able to balance school and the sport of dogs. This individual is a full time student in high school or college and participates in conformation, companion or performance events for Afghan Hounds. The variety of the activities is important.

A \$500.00 scholarship will be awarded to the Young Sportsman who has demonstrated outstanding characteristics in these areas.

Criteria for awarding scholarship:

1. Academic achievement and potential in dog related activities.
2. Level of activity.
3. Letters of recommendations.
4. Deadline is AUGUST 1st sent to the Junior Chairman.
5. This Scholarship is only awarded for further education.

### Eligibility Requirements:

1. Must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent legal resident.
2. Must be a student at an accredited institution (school transcript).
3. Must be between the ages of 16-20 years of age.
4. Demonstrate activity by completing Activity Form.
5. 650 word essay discussing experiences and interest in the Afghan Hound.
6. 3.0 GPA.
7. Nominated by a letter of recommendation from one (1) AHCA MEMBER NOT IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD and a letter of recommendation from one (1) advisor, teacher or person from a religious affiliation. A brief overview why they recommend the Young Sportsman for this scholarship.

*Thanks to Alicia Jones for all her hard work! The following supplement is from the 2021 Jr. Showmanship Chair Darla Miller. Any questions regarding the Young Sportsman Scholarship should be directed to Darla who can be reached at Darlam723@gmail.com - Ed.*

1. **Bobbi Kinley-Blewett** has graciously agreed to put on the junior showmanship seminar at the 2021 AHCA national specialty. I am incredibly excited for all juniors attending to have the opportunity to learn from Bobbi. I will pass along all seminar updates to the show chairperson as plans evolve.

2. As a reminder, there is an option to donate to the AHCA Young Sportsman Scholarship Fund on the annual dues notice. Please consider making a donation.

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# LIBRARY/ ARCHIVES REPORT

By Helen Stein

**No report**

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# PERFORMANCE EVENTS REPORT

By Eddie Kominek

**No report**

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# MAILING LIST REPORT

By Dorma Sue Busby

**No report**

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# MENTOR PROGRAM REPORT

By Christine Pinkston

**No report**

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Jennifer Taylor

Newest member (and already a dedicated club worker) **Ramon Infante** was accepted into membership in March, 2021.

First review: 09/30/2020

Second review: 03/16/2021

Sponsor 1: Nancy Edington

Sponsor 2: Connie Butherus

No new membership applications presented for review.

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## NATIONAL EVENTS SITE RESEARCH REPORT

By Erica Jantos

**No report**

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## NATIONAL SPECIALTY REPORT

By Dorma Sue Busby

### NATIONAL SPECIALTY 2021 REPORT

Now that we are into 2021 plans have resumed. Becky and I have met to review our committee heads and made a few adjustments. I have refiled for all of our events at this time. Lure Coursing and ASFA still needs to be filed.

**Trophies:** We have reviewed the trophy list and needed to order 2 more small stain glass head studies from Jimmy. We are working on the class placement trophies at this time. I contacted **Terry Chacon** to see where the 3" bronzes are and she shipped to **James Donahue**. I have made arrangements to have them picked them up in April or June along with the stain glass trophies. I have contacted **Garry Newton** and have made arrangements for them to be picked up and brought home by **Claudia Jakus** in April. This will save on shipping costs. We need copies of the paid bonzes from Garry Newton and Terry Chacon for our records.

**Finances:** Will discuss at the board meeting.

**Hotel Menus:** Angela has an assistant who has sent an updated menu for 2021. We have reviewed and made selections for all events. Still working on seeing what they have as vegetarian items.

**Hotel Rooms:** As reminder all hotel rooms for the Judges have been made. All Board members rooms have been reserved. Reservations are coming in at a steady rate. I do have alternate hotel information but would like not to post at this time.

**Premium:** I have begun work on the premium. Just waiting for more details from committee heads.

**Sales:** Becky is working on this with no definite details yet. Still early and waiting for catalogs from her supplier.

**Decorations:** Becky and I are planning on going to the hotel to see what they have available for us to use. Will have more details at the next Board meeting.

**Regional Clubs:** I have sent out an email to the Regional Clubs to confirm that they are still going to be at the end of the week. The **Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club** has filed for their show for Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. They have for their judge **James Dalton** and **Suzanne Neill** for Sweepstakes. Sweepstakes may be up in the air depending on the other Regional Clubs. We have spoken to Suzanne regarding this.

If you have any questions, please just let us know.

### NATIONAL SPECIALTY 2022 REPORT

**Robert's Centre** sent the contract for the 2022 National for review and signature.

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# **“Azari Afghan Hounds”**



## **“Azari’s Black Pearl”** *Sephira*

*The first Afghan hound in the world to achieve an A to Z Trick dog title and at only 12 months and two weeks old!*

## **“Ch Azari Ruzka Twilight Eclipse”**

*Esme*

*Multi Ch producer and dam to our two week old litter*

*Occasional puppies or retired show dogs available*



*Hope everyone has had a wonderful Easter or Passover Holiday*

[azariafghans@aol.com](mailto:azariafghans@aol.com)

**Facebook**  
**Azari Afghans or Karen Irazabal**

## PERFORMANCE EVENTS REPORT

By Lynda Hicks

2020 has been an interesting and challenging year for all dog sports.

The introduction by AKC of virtual titling was innovative and timely. The following chart shows that the virtual programs were well received. Titles which can be obtained virtually are indicated with an asterik (\*).

<u>Event</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
*Rally		
Novice & Intermediate	14	10
Rally Advanced	4	2
Obedience	8	2
Canine Good Citizen	26	17
Temperament Test	2	4
Farm Dog Certified	2	3
*Trick Dog Testing	18	26
*ACT1 & 2	1	8
Agility Titles	16	0
Scent Work Titles	20	0

Virtual programs established in 2020 have been extended thru 2021, and additional titling opportunities have been added, such as Home Manners, Fit Dog Program, Agility Jumpers levels 1 and 2, and Beginner Notice and Novice Obedience.

Detailed information on these programs are available on AKC's website at <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/sports/akc-titles-programs-can-home/>

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REPORT

By Lynda Hicks

I have revised the following contracts. Reviewed by Helen and looks good.

—JCA 1 CONFORMATION  
JUDGE CONTRACT # 1

—JCA 2 CONFORMATION  
JUDGE CONTRACT # 2

—JCA 3 SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE  
CONTRACT

—JCA 4 OBEDIENCE AND  
RALLY JUDGE CONTRACT

—JCA 5 AGILITY JUDGE  
CONTRACT

—JCA 6 LURE COURSING  
JUDGE CONTRACT

—JCA 7 JUNIOR  
SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE  
CONTRACT

## RESCUE REPORT

By Martha Powell

**No report**

## SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

By Erica Jantos

**No report**

## STATISTICS REPORT

By Carol Rivette

**No report**

## REGIONAL CLUBS REPORT

By Amy Mero

I have received packets from approved shows for 14 clubs since the last report. Listed in 'show date' order.

Club Name	Date		Reg. Class Judge
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Phoenix	Mar 20	Mar 21	Clay Coady Karen Archibald
Tara Afghan Hound Club	Mar 27	Mar 27	Allen Reznik Michael Koss
Carolina Afghan Hound Club	Mar 28	Mar 28	Yancy Russell Rachel Irvin
Afghan Hound Club of California	Apr 16	Apr 16	Diane Kroll Sylvie McGee
Potomac Afghan Hound Club	Apr 24	Apr 25	Duane Butherus Dr. Jerry Klein
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas	May 1 (2)	May 2	Robert Cotes Pamela Anwood Carol Smith
Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey	May 8	May 8	Nancy Leising Lorraine Gyerge
Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club	June 12		James Donahue
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club	June 20		Rev. Rick Martin
Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club	August 27	August 27	Luis Sosa Jan Swayze-Curry
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver	Sept 10	Sept 10	Rev. Rick Martin Anna Tyler
Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club	October 1	October 2	Sue Hamlin Michael Canalizo
Afghan Hound Club of America National	October 3-7	ASFA & AKC LC	Shelley Hennessy Holly Hamilton
		Sweepstakes	Michael Liss
		Dogs	Peter Frost
		Bitches & BOB	D. Scott Pfeil
Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club	October 9		James Dalton
Lehigh Valley Afghan Hound Assoc	October 10	October 10	Marla Capozzi Richard Souza

# WEBSITE ADMIN REPORT

By Eddie Kominek

**No report**

# UNFINISHED BUSINESS REPORT

Tabled from November 5, 2020 meeting

*Submitted by Connie Butherus*

Suggested members for Sub committees

The following is self explanatory.

I have tried to suggest members who are prudent and will contribute to the progression of the Club and not be on a mission or crusade. OBJECTIVITY is essential in addressing the tasks.

We will be appointing members to serve on these subcommittees at our BOD meeting tomorrow. I had committed to sharing suggested individuals for all of us to consider.

In multiple reviews of the membership roster I tried to seek balance in relevant knowledge, experience, geography and professional history. Hope you find this of help as we make these very important appointments. I have listed several individu-

# TOPKNOT NEWS REPORT

By Brian Wood

**No report**

*From Dorma Sue Busby:*

The mailing of Topknot News should be first class mail. Bulk mailing can take up to or more than three weeks to reach the recipient. I checked this information out at the Post Office. Also when the envelope is mailed bulk there is no stamped date indicating when it was mailed. The last Topknot issue was mailed on December 4th, 2020 and I received mine in February. We owe it to the members to get all mailings out in a timely manner.

# WAYS AND MEANS/ INVENTORY REPORT

By Dorma Sue Busby

Parent Club Logo items on sale! *PC Lapel Pins -14K gold plated; Tie Tac or Safety Pin catch \$15.00*  
*Mouse Pad Black w/white logo \$5.00*  
*Purple Towels \$20.00*  
*Computer Travel bags black \$50.00*  
Many more items!

Click over to the AHCA store and take a look!  
[afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/index.php/club-information/store](http://afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/index.php/club-information/store)

als from whom to select for each group.

The first subcommittee dealing with contracts was recommended as an outgrowth of an assessment for our practices related to the National Specialty post the Colorado show in which the Club realized a significant financial loss.

**Submitted by Lynda Hicks  
September 19, 2020**

New Business for Board of Directors

On June 7, 2017, the following motion was made and passed by the Board of Directors:

*“P & P changes were also discussed that would divide “Performance Events,” into two categories, including Performance Events and Companion Events to align with AKC’s categorization. Recommended that within the P & P, Obedience, Agility and Rally be moved to a separate header and number under “Companion Events.” These changes will be effective for the year 2017 going forward. . . Motion passed unanimously.”*

In keeping with the spirit of this decision, I would like to ask that the Board of Directors consider a reorganization of committees to more closely follow AKC’s guidelines

First, I propose that instead of having an “Agility Chair” and a “Obedience, Rally & Versatility” chair, that we instead have a “Companion Sports, Title Recognition and Family Dog Program Chair” which would include not only those restricted areas which have be included to date, but also the newer events now embraced by AKC (CGC, Therapy, Farm Dog, Trick, Dock Diving, etc.) but which are not officially supported

by our Club.

Secondly, In keeping with the same vein, I would also like to ask the Board of Directors to consider changing the “Lure Coursing” committee to “Performance Sports” Committee, again to include and support all AKC performance events which Afghan Hounds are allowed to compete in.

I feel that making these changes will embrace more opportunities and events that are offered by the American Kennel Club.

*(President’s note: This was adopted 3/16/21)*



*With  
Gratitude*

The Board of Directors of the Afghan Hound Club of America wishes to acknowledge and express their gratitude to David Sorey for his generous donation to the Club. This significant gift was made in memory of David’s husband Don Johnson. The memorial gift will be used to further the mission of the Club to protect, promote and preserve the Afghan Hound which they bred under the Dayspring prefix for over 40 years.

Our thanks to David and hope that your memories will be a blessing at this sad time.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Afghan Hound Club of America

# DOG SHOWS - COVID STYLE

By Michael Canalizo

Our dog sport rose to the crisis of COVID and after a long, drawn out dry spell, navigated the situation to find a carefully controlled return of dog shows. Fortunately, our shows fall under a slightly different regulation as we are not a sport with close personal contact. We were able to develop a secure way to hold events meeting all the social distancing, face covering and sanitizing guidelines that were mandated. Seeing our fancy at large subscribe to these precautions was indeed impressive.

The great effort of dog clubs, their members, the exhibitors and Judges made it all possible. Sometimes unexpected local regulations could change at a moment's notice and generally indoor venues were impacted the most. Smaller, specialty clubs seemed to be the first to come back. The larger events had problems to remain fiscally responsible if holding an event with no spectators... but some dipped into their reserves and found a way to make it happen.

Our sport is one that many find comfort in and given the opportunity to be distracted from the effects of the pandemic; isolation was a welcome moment. Some choose to avoid

any social gatherings. Some felt at ease to attend in a responsible way. It became pretty obvious that many took the chance to compete. Some out of necessity to derive an income as a vendor or handler...some just because they NEEDED to find a sense of normalcy in a very un-normal time. The major events that were allowed to put on their events did so at great expense to provide all the mandatory protections: temperature checks, waivers, sanitizing materials, social distancing markers, etc.

To the best of my knowledge the Dog Sport was successful in implementing these precautions and there have been no know "super spreader" events within our little community.

*Our own Darla Miller. Obviously Afghans do not respect social distancing*



# Those Tricky Afghan Hounds

By Megan Joy Rice

**D**ue to the Covid-19 pandemic, our local dog shows and dog sports have been cancelled, and we've been ordered to stay home as much as possible. Eager to find something to help occupy our time, I found that during this pandemic the American Kennel Club is offering trick dog titles to be earned via video submissions. So I thought we'd give it a shot. Our dog, Orzo, already has his Canine Good Citizen title so only 5 tricks are required to earn the Trick Dog Novice title. I worked on perfecting his shake, high five, spin, sit with hand signal (no verbal command), and go to kennel

commands.

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

get whatever is left.

After multiple practice sessions, I took a video and submitted it to an evaluator electronically. She filled out some forms and sent them to the AKC and back to me so that I can physically mail them in. So now we are moving on to working on Orzo's Trick Dog Intermediate title and two of my other Afghans' Trick Dog Novice titles. It's definitely an entertaining way to spend this "Shelter in Place."



# 10 Things Nobody Warns You About An *Afghan Hound*



When you first bring home an Afghan Hound, no matter how much you researched the breed, spoke to the breeder and read breed books, you never really anticipate how your life is about to change. These dogs are truly one of a kind. Here are just a few of the things that nobody warns you about when you get one of your own.

**1. When You Get an Afghan Hound You Become Invisible.**

When you are out on a walk everyone will want to admire your gorgeous Afghan Hound. They'll "ooh" and "aahh", snap pictures and ask you about your dog, sometimes without even bothering to look up at you. You could wear a huge black hat, heck, you could even be in your underwear and all people would notice was your beautiful dog.

**2. They Don't Believe in Fences.**

For long-legged, athletic dogs, a fence is merely a suggestion, a belief system. Most Afghan Hounds can clear a four foot fence in one swift leap. Sometimes, they will seem happily contained in their yard, but once they get the opportunity, they'll find the highest launch point along the fence line and leap over to the other side in pursuit of a cat or rabbit.

**3. It's Not as Much Fun to Snuggle Them in the Summer.**

On cold nights, it's wonderful to snuggle with an Afghan Hound. That long, silky fur feels incredibly cozy and warm. In the summer, however, you'll both quickly overheat. You can have their coat clipped in the summer of course, but they'll still be warm and fluffy. Some people can't sleep without their hound no matter how hot it is, it just becomes a comfort reflex.

**4. Afghan Hounds are Sensitive.**

If you move house, your Afghan Hound will likely be the last member of the household to fully adjust. They do not take kindly to change, and they're slow to trust strangers. Routine is a hound's safe space, as are their favorite people. Unfamiliar environments and unexpected noises make an Afghan Hound nervous, but they'll guard their beloved humans with their own life.

**5. Their Ears are Always in the Way.**

An Afghan's long ears make them all the more beautiful, but they will constantly fall into their food and water. There's really nothing more special than that moment when your Afghan walks up to you for pets and their wet ears drip all over you.

**6. They Look Good in Anything.**

The wet ear problem simply means that you have a wide variety of options for keeping your Afghan's ears clean and dry. They look extraordinarily elegant in hoods and scarves. Really anything an Afghan Hound wears becomes high fashion. That modelesque physique can make the silliest doggy pajamas look like experimental runway couture.

**7. An Afghan Hound Knows They are Beautiful**

Though they have all the typical dog tendencies, like rolling in dead animals and getting muddy, an Afghan has a sort of understated (ok, maybe overstated) natural grace. They are stunning and they know it. Unlike other dogs, they won't jump through hoops to prove their loyalty and they won't do just anything for a treat. They're the one breed of dog that knows they're "worth it" and it's obvious from the way they carry themselves.

**8. Afghan Hounds are Actually very Clever**

Many people believe that the Afghan Hound is at the bottom of the list when all of the breeds are ranked in order of greatest intelligence. The truth is, the top-ranked dogs are the ones that are bred to be highly motivated by food and easily biddable. Border Collies and Labrador Retrievers are easy to train, and they're

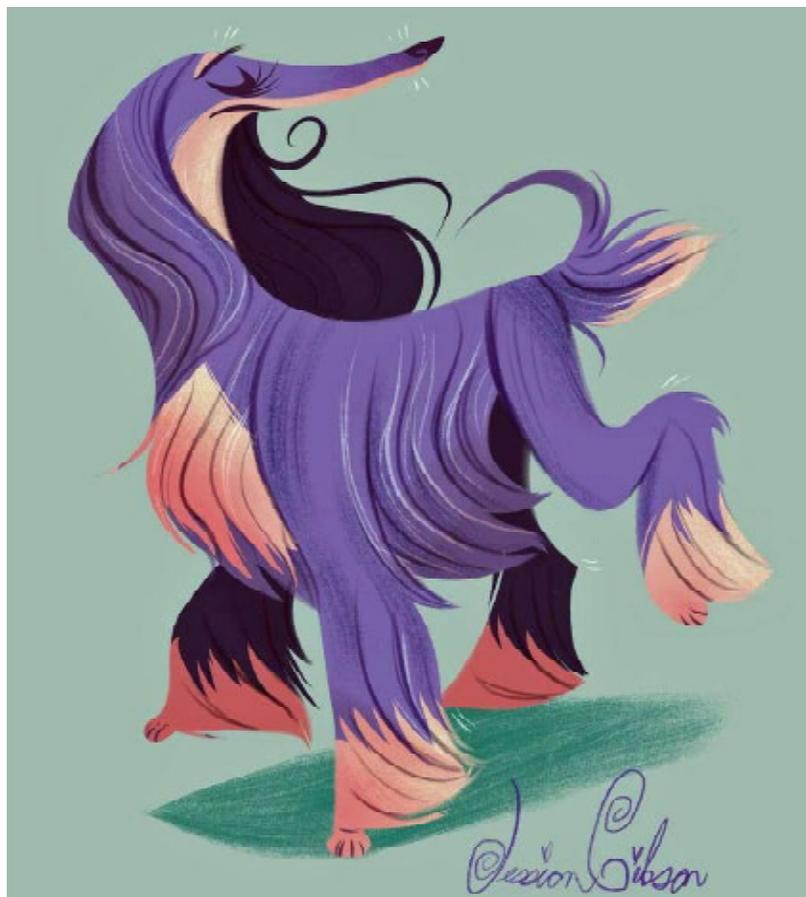
wonderful dogs, but that does not mean they are the most intelligent. Afghan Hounds were bred to hunt independently, leading their humans to prey. There's no easy way to define canine intelligence, but if it were defined by the ability to make decisions and learn new concepts quickly (when given the right motivation) the Afghan Hound would top the chart.

**9. They're REALLY Fast.**

Like all sight hounds, Afghan Hounds have a slight build and are able to run very quickly. However, nobody tells you that they don't just sprint for short distances, they are able to keep up a fast pace for miles. They were bred to have incredible endurance while hunting and it takes a lot to tire them out. They're also very sneaky, able to swiftly steal and eat an entire slice of pizza before you even notice it's gone.

**10. That Feeling You get when You look into their Eyes.**

Afghan Hounds have so much love and light in those big brown eyes. There's so much intelligence and personality behind them that you almost feel as though you're looking at a human being. It's something that you never quite get used to, even after years of living with one of these hounds.



*Reprinted with permission from Dogbreedcartoon.com January 31, 2018*

# Junior Showmanship Spotlight!



Judge JoAnne Buehler

By Darla Miller

I would like you to meet **Annalee Milam**, a 9 year old young lady, and CH BluHill's Girl on Fire, "Ali" a 7 year old Afghan Hound who was brought out of retirement, both from Ocala Florida.

Annalee is currently ranked NUMBER ONE Conformation Junior Handler with an Afghan Hound (*Canine Chronicle Statistics as of April 1, 2021*). She and her three older siblings are active Juniors in the ring and she has a fantastic, supportive family.

Asked "Why an Afghan?" her response was "I have always wanted an Afghan Hound since I was little" (like 3 years of age, she said). She saw them as elegant "unicorn like" in the ring. Then she met **Jennifer Pearce** who led her to meeting Ali. A quick bond and now here we are!

Annalee is responsible for bathing, grooming, and socializing with Ali. Overnight slumber parties are her favorite pastime. "What is the hardest part of showing an Afghan?" Her response was "I love showing Ali. Maybe the hardest part is being the first in line in the ring when we are lined up by speed but that is okay." This might be premature considering her age but I asked what her plans are for the future? Her quick response along with a big smile was "I was born to ride (that being her bike) and show Afghan Hounds."

Once you meet Annalee, you will also smile. She has gained the support of many down here in Florida: Jen, Tara and Alicia have become cheerleaders; and she has warmed our hearts here at BluHill.



*Annalee and Ali showing off her latest ribbon.*



*Jennifer Pearce giving Ali handling lessons.*

*Putting Ali through her paces*



Would you like to highlight your Junior Handler?  
Please submit pictures and short story to Darla  
Miller - Darlam723@gmail.com

# THE KING'S KENNEL

By Susan Howell Hamlin





*King Mohammed Zahir*

Time has a way of distorting memory, but when cleaning out a drawer, I ran across the picture of these Afghan Hounds at the royal kennel of Afghanistan, the story of its origin immediately popped into my head.

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

Afghanistan's last king, Mohammed Zahir Shah was born in 1914 in Kabul, was educated in Afghanistan, where many classes were taught in English. He was sent to France for further training, where his father had been a diplomatic envoy. When he returned to Afghanistan he helped his father and uncles restore order and reassert government control during a period of lawlessness in the country. He was the last king of Afghanistan, and

In the late 60s, I was visiting my parents in Plattsburgh, New York. I happened to be standing

*"He then told me that he'd been invited to visit the king ... While visiting, he was taken to see the king's kennel and his Afghan Hounds."*

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

his 40-year reign was one of the most peaceful periods in that country's history.

His realm was overthrown in 1973 by his cousin who successfully ended a centuries old monarchy and replaced it with a republican Afghan government. Zahir Shah died in 2007 at age 92.

I thought our AHCA club members might enjoy what Afghan Hounds looked like in their native country in the 1960s.

# ***SBIS GCHG Shylo Uptown Strutter***



Slade lost his Battle with Cancer on 3/2/21. His owners Larry and Marie Herman have been beyond committed in their support of Slade and are truly the best Parents that any Dog could hope for.

A Gold Grand Champion and a Grandson of SBIS Ch. Shylo Darktown Strutter, Slade only sired one litter which included BIS, SBIS Shylo Black and Blue All Over (Bruiser).

Bruiser's Son Ch. Shylo Thunderball has now sired his first litter and we're looking forward to getting back in the Ring with Slade's Great Grand Children.

## ***Shylo***

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[bruce@shylo.com](mailto:bruce@shylo.com)

# *“Shylo”*

*SBIS Ch. Shylo Darktown Strutter*

*Sire of:*

*Ch. Macara Uptown Girl*

*Dam of:*

*SBIS GCHG Shylo Uptown Strutter*

*Sire of:*

*BIS SBIS GCHS Shylo Black and Blue All Over*

*Sire of:*

*CH. Shylo Thunderball*

*Sire of:*

***11 Black Masked Red Puppies out of CH. Abaca Shylo Margarita Rita***



# MANAGING LYMPHOMA

By Brian Wood

When Ruby's puppies were two weeks old we discovered her lymph nodes were somewhat swollen in her throat. My veterinarian aspirated one of the glands and discovered Lymphoma, an always fatal cancer. At her recommendation, we put Ruby on a Paleo diet with cooked meat and cooked low carbohydrate vegetables, cooked chicken eggs, and a little yogurt. Because she was nursing, Ruby got about two pounds of 27-30% fat hamburger and about the same amount of cooked shredded vegetables (cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, cucumber, zucchini, celery, tomatoes, radishes in season, frozen green beans. No carrots, corn, peas, potatoes) each day, along with two jumbo eggs and yogurt. I noticed her eating dirt so she got two chewable vitamins per day crushed into her food. She also started an Super Artemisinin regimen of 3 capsules/5 days a week at bedtime (with two fish oil capsules) that possibly has

some anti-tumor properties.

By the time she weaned her puppies at three months, we had done quite a lot of studying about Lymphoma (not hereditary for one thing) and treatment options. I read one woman's blog about her German Shepherd. The oncologist had given her an estimate of \$6000 treatment. The actual cost was \$13,000 in a year and the dog died at the end of the year, probably suffering more from the treatment than from the disease. My hour-away oncologist said we could probably get Ruby a year and a half of quality life if I drove her in three times a week for infused chemotherapy treatments. That sounded like an expensive hassle ending badly. Since we did not expect Ruby to survive, we chose a somewhat economical route that we hoped would give her as many good days as possible. She went through a \$120 round of oral chemo (Lomustine) and the Lymphoma went into remission.

Lomustine is hard on livers so Ruby gets a 200mg Adenosyl supplement (made from milkweed) an hour before each meal to support liver function. Disappointingly but not unexpectedly her lymph nodes began swelling again. So she went through another round of Lomustine. At the same time, we started giving her a Coriolus PSP mushroom extract, 1600mg, twice a day before meals. I should have done that from the beginning. Something was working because seven months out, her lymph nodes were smaller than when we first discovered the swelling. Because yogurt has a lot of carbohydrates we switched her to AchievePro probiotics made for newborn calves. It also has ten different bacteria compared to only two with yogurt.

Ruby had four bad days in seven months. Three were because of infections due to her compromised immune system. Cephalexin antibiotics knocked out each of the infections. Ruby's fourth bad day might have been from diarrhea. Once she was done nursing, she went on less fatty meat. That was a mistake. I should have maintained a similar diet throughout. Trying to add fat later caused loose stools. She was eating about half what she was when nursing and is a little thin. She still enjoyed spending time with her two 8-month old puppies I had saved back. At eight months post discovery, she had ten pounds of fluid in her abdomen. It felt like she

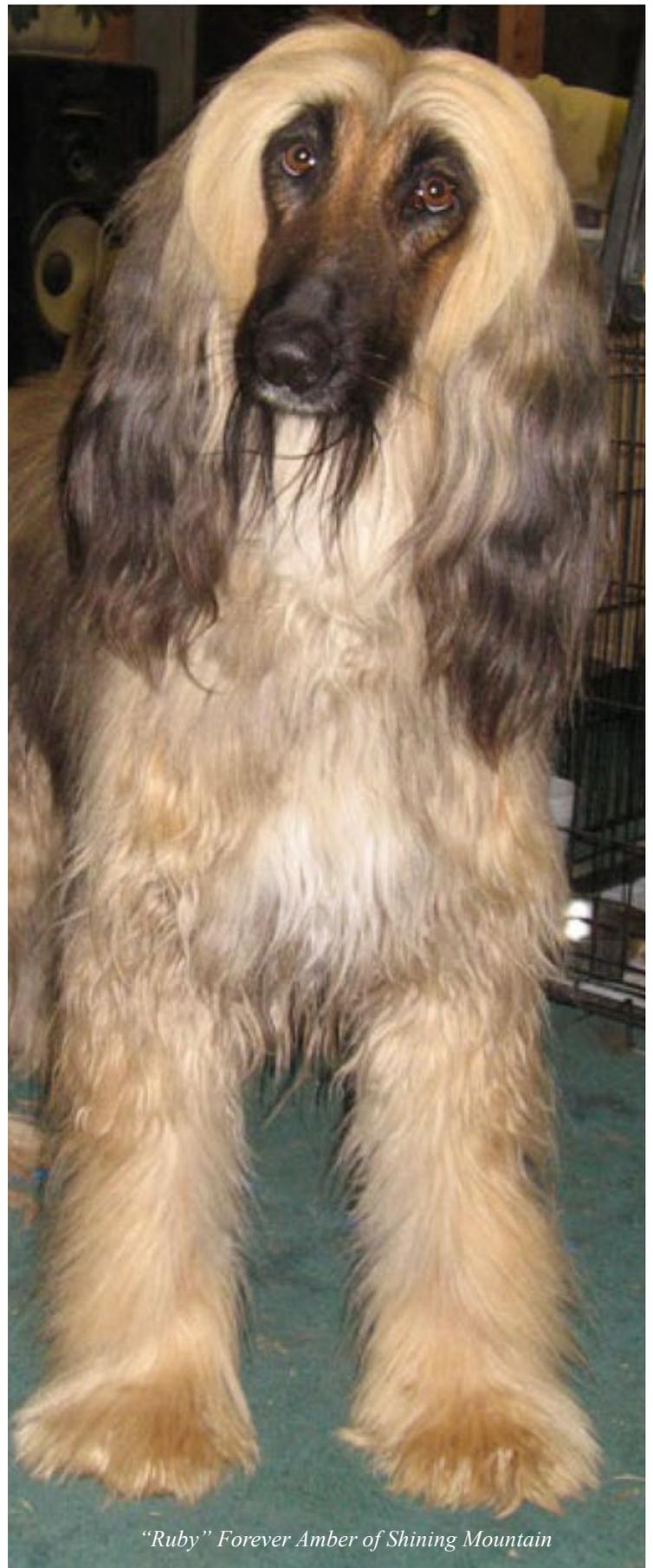


was two-months pregnant. This could have been because of liver damage from the chemotherapy or the cancer had gone into her liver, or something else for all I know. She went on Lasix and most of it had dissipated in a few days. She remained on Lasix for the duration. Then Ruby had a slight fever that didn't go down with Cephalexin, nor Clavamox. So Ciprofloxacin was added to the Clavamox and that seemed to work. She quit eating and didn't have any extra weight to spare. Somewhere in there she had a bout of watery diarrhea. I realized we hadn't used prednisone in her therapy. It is a rescue treatment for lymphoma, an appetite stimulant and a temporary treatment for protein loss. I don't understand protein loss it but was indicated in both her most recent blood and urine tests. The protein loss and abdominal fluid can be from inadequate liver function. It is possible the 2 rounds of chemo or the cancer itself had damaged her liver.

With prednisone, she felt better and started eating again immediately but went off her feed a day later. I tried to find something, anything that would be appetizing to her. I don't want her to starve herself to death. She brought in an empty cat food can to lick out, ignoring scrambled eggs and sausage. I thought I would just feed her cat food if she wanted. Then I remembered I had a case of leftover canned Pedigree puppy food from her litter. She ate about 2 1/2 cans in one day. The next day she ate about a half a can every four hours - feeling pretty good. I didn't know how much longer the pred would work its magic, but knew that when it quit working that would be the end.

Ruby had a great nine months since her lymphoma diagnosis, almost all good days. But her last week without eating much of anything took a toll. The prednisone was effective for a while but as expected, quit working as an appetite stimulant. I feel like I did the best I could for her all along. In the end she didn't have to suffer the indignity of deteriorating further.

*P.S.: I have a friend who is dealing with Lymphoma in a mature male Afghan Hound. She substituted .5ml CBD oil daily for the Lumostine chemo drug and her patient is doing well so far. - Brian*



*"Ruby" Forever Amber of Shining Mountain*

# *Ch. Singh Shekinah Minuet* *"Juliette"*



**Finished with 5 Majors at 9 months old**

Eugene Blake - Manatee KC

Jamie Hubbard - Manatee KC

Allen Odom - Gr. Panama City DFA

Dana Cline - Ochlockonee River KC of FL

Dr. Steve Keating - Ochlockonee River KC of FL

BW - 4 points

BW - 4 points

BW/BOS (over specials) - 3 points

BW/BOS (over specials) - 3 points

BW/BOS (over specials) - 3 points

**Bred by Toni Richmond & Leslie Stoffels**

**Owned by Helen Stein**

# First Afghan Hound to win new Agility Titles

On February 1, 2021, AKC added Jumpers Titles to the Virtual Agility Competency Testing (ACT) Program. These titles are two levels ACT1J and ACT2J.

By Lynda Hicks

On February 12th, super achievers **Shery Kinley-Alligood** and her lovely Pnina were the first Afghan Hound team to earn not only the new ACT1J title, but also the ACT2J title on the same day! Pnina earned four perfect scores of 100, with a remarkable average course time of 20.05 seconds.

Huge congratulations to this impressive team! We'll all keep an eye out for more great things from this great duo. The following are some comments shared by Shery.

\* \* \*

I grew up always involved in dogs – my parents bred German Shepherds and Afghans and I showed both breeds in Junior Showmanship. Pnina is from the first Afghan litter I whelped and raised. She finished her Championship and Grand Championship quickly, and we (my husband Gary, sister Bobbi and Bill Mines) were looking forward to her following in her dam, Anya's footsteps with a specials career.

Then Covid happened. No shows, no training classes. What to do with a crazy girl who is willing to work for food and praise? Yes, that is Pnina. Since I am very lucky to have all my own Agility equipment, I thought, why not? I have competed in Agility with my Belgian Sheepdogs and Belgian Tervuren, and decided this could be fun. So, we have actually been playing in Agility at home for

almost a year. When AKC started its virtual titling programs, and included Agility, it was very exciting. AKC posted course maps online and we went to work. Courses were built, phone in Gary's hand to record the Agility runs. Pnina loved it. Each virtual title needed to have two qualifying runs and these were evaluated by AKC judges. We received very encouraging and complimentary comments.

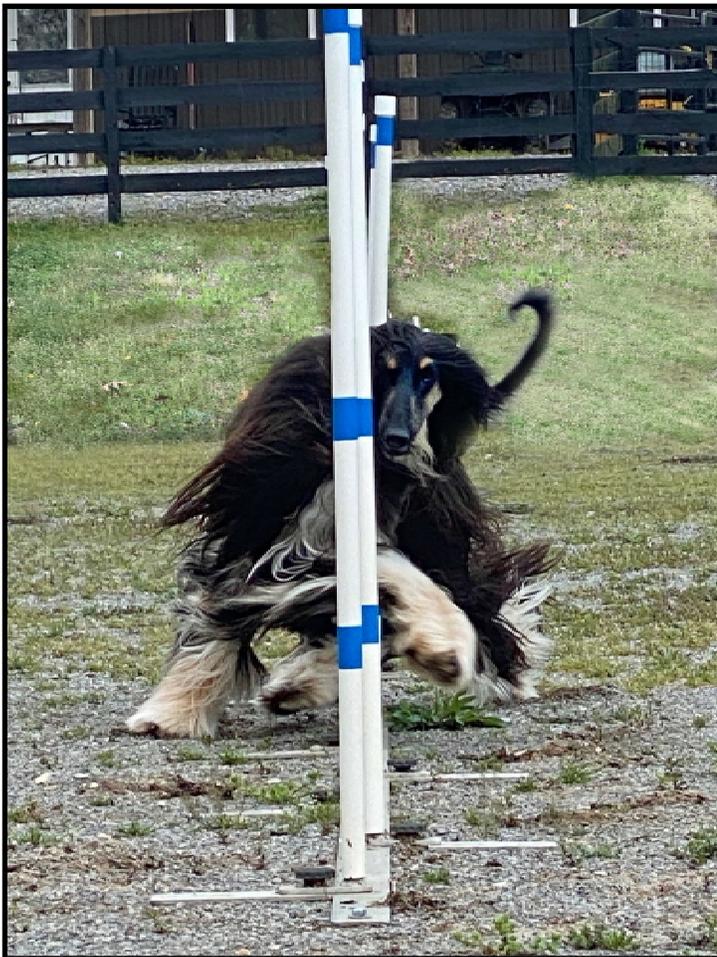
Although, as we all know, every dog is perfect in their own yard, at her first "real" Agility trial, she did show me that she was a true Afghan Hound and chose to do the course on her own terms – one lap of freedom, a quick visit with the judge, then returning to me to continue on.

The next Agility Trial she will be in is also offering FastCAT at the same location, so I am hoping we can get some of the energy out of her system prior to her Agility run.

As we continue on with our Agility training and try to get the Afghan Zoomies under control, we are keeping ourselves busy learning nosework.

Best of all - I love walking into all of these performance venues with my Afghan Hound!

- Shery Kinley-Alligood



**"Pnina"**

*GCH CH Spirit Ridge Some Kind Of Wonderful Of Celebre BCAT ACT2 ACT2J  
Breeders/Owners: Gary & Shery Kinley-Alligood, Bobbi Kinley-Blewett and William J Mines  
SBIS GCHS Boanne's Thunderation x MRBIS GCHG Multi Group Winning Canadian CH  
Spirit Ridge Something Royal of Rustic*

# Bi-Annual Parent Club Registration Stats Update - 2020 FINAL

By Mark Dunn

AKC Executive, Vice President

Vanessa Skou

AKC Executive, Breeder Development

This is the latest version of the Parent Club Registration Stats for your breed. This latest version includes everything we shared mid-year in 2020 updated to include all of 2020 data.

As with previous distributions of this data, please feel free to share the attached information with your club membership as you see fit in order to stimulate discussion about registration and possible changes or improvement initiatives per the original rationale for sharing (below).

Original rationale for this data sharing this information (from email dated 11/07/2017):

*Although registration numbers have been on the rise now for a number of years after nearly two decades of continuous decline, some breeds are not rebounding as well as others. The Board and staff have discussed this matter, and we are reaching out to each Parent Club to determine how AKC registration processes and procedures can be improved to better support breeders and to explore how AKC could further assist Parent Clubs in their mission to develop and steward their breeds. Additionally, the Board has asked that certain registration information be shared with each Parent Club in order to provide a statistical snapshot of the current state of each breed and to stimulate discussion within and between clubs and staff regarding possible improvement initiatives.*

## Important Notes:

As noted in the previous distributions of this information, the attached includes the counts of litters, litter complement, and dogs registered for each year since 2008. The reports also include the counts of unique dogs and bitches that were bred or that participated in a sport. Those counts are finite and will change only minimally over time and generally only due to cancellations of litters, dogs and/or awards. However, the reports also contain numbers that are “**To Date**” which will often change each time we produce these statistics (see definition below).

**Complement:** This is the count of pups from each AKC litter.

**To Date:** There are a number of rows that indicate “to date,” such as “Total Complement in Conformation (to date).” All rows with “to date” information are refreshed every time we reprocess this report. This is so you will have an accurate picture of the puppies produced in any given year. For instance, of the 1,694,337 million puppies produced in AKC Litters in 2008 (a.k.a., the Litter Complement for 2008), 48,795 or 2.9% have thus far gone on to participate in conformation as of Dec 31, 2020. Every time we update this chart, the system looks at all litters from 2008 to see if any additional dogs have started in conformation. Obviously, there will not be many 2008 pups entering Conformation or Breeding for the first time in 2020, but there will be many updates to the information known about pups born in more recent years.

## Unique:

“Unique” indicates the number of individual dogs participating in an activity such as breeding or exhibiting, counting each unique dog only once. For example, the same dog might have participated multiple times in a sport during a single year, but is only counted as one unique dog for that entire year.

## Event Categories:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Event Type</u>
Conformation	Conformation
Companion	Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking
Performance	Coonhounds, Coursing Ability Test, Earthdog, Farm Dog Cert, Fast CAT, Field Trial, Herding, Hunting Test, Lure Coursing, Scent Work

**“Competing In” vs “Placing In”** : While we are able to accurately count unique dogs participating (i.e., entering) in Conformation and Companion events, we do not have complete entry data for all Performance events for the time period. Therefore, you will notice that for Performance Events we provide counts of uniques *placing* in performance.

Again, please feel free to share the attached information with your club membership as you see fit in order to stimulate discussion about registration, how AKC registration processes and procedures can be improved to better support breeders, and to explore how AKC could further assist Parent Clubs in their mission to develop and steward their breeds.

**2020 Final**

**Afghan Hounds**

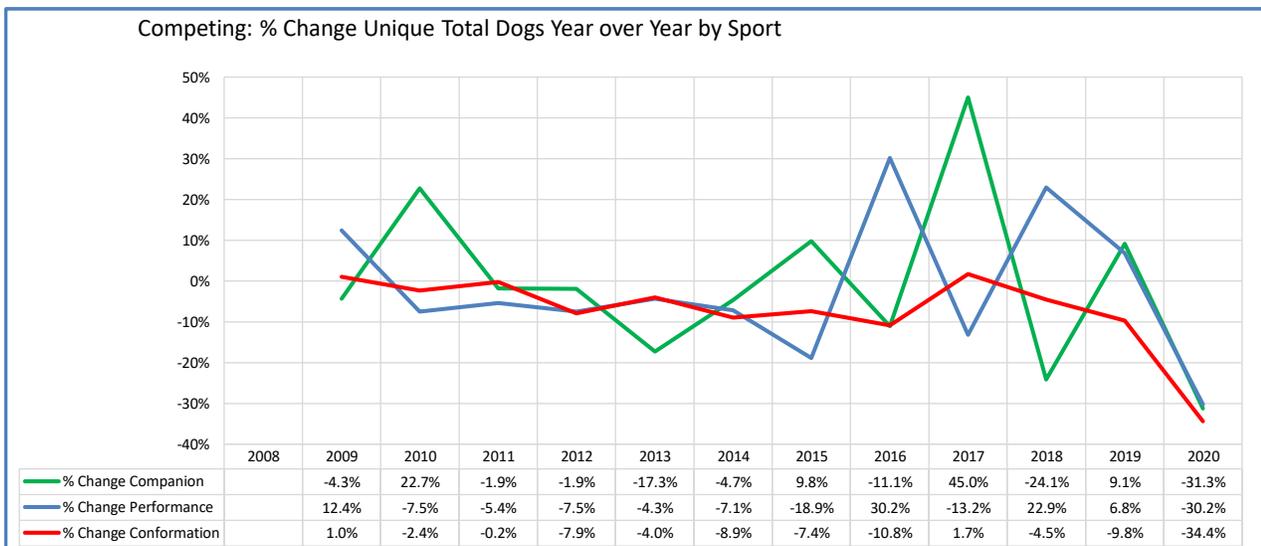
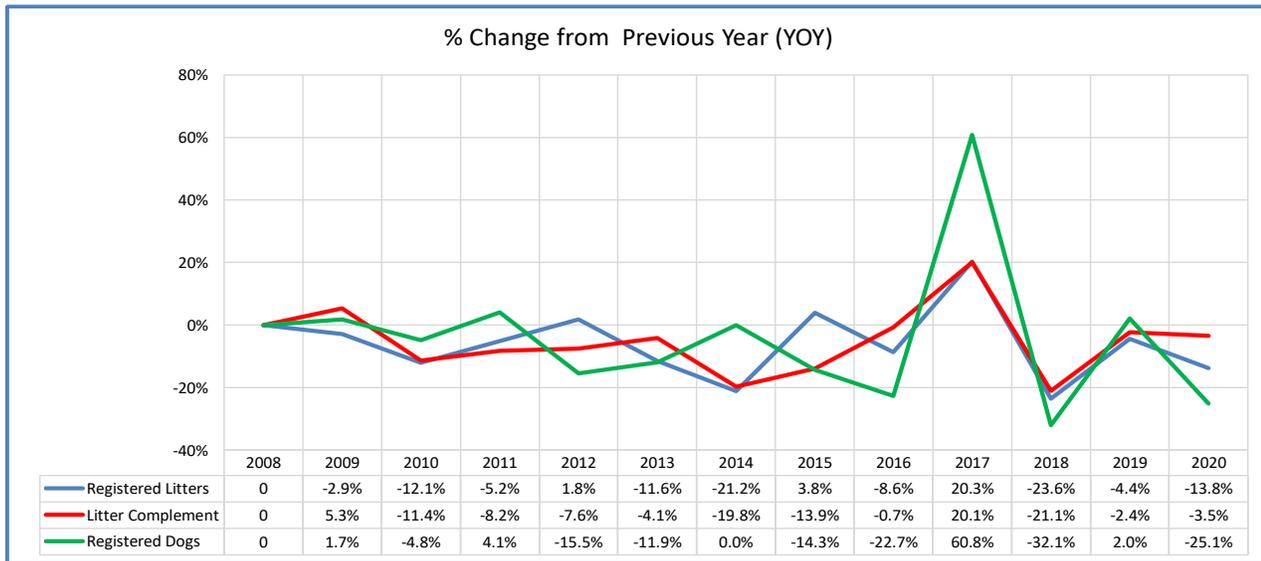
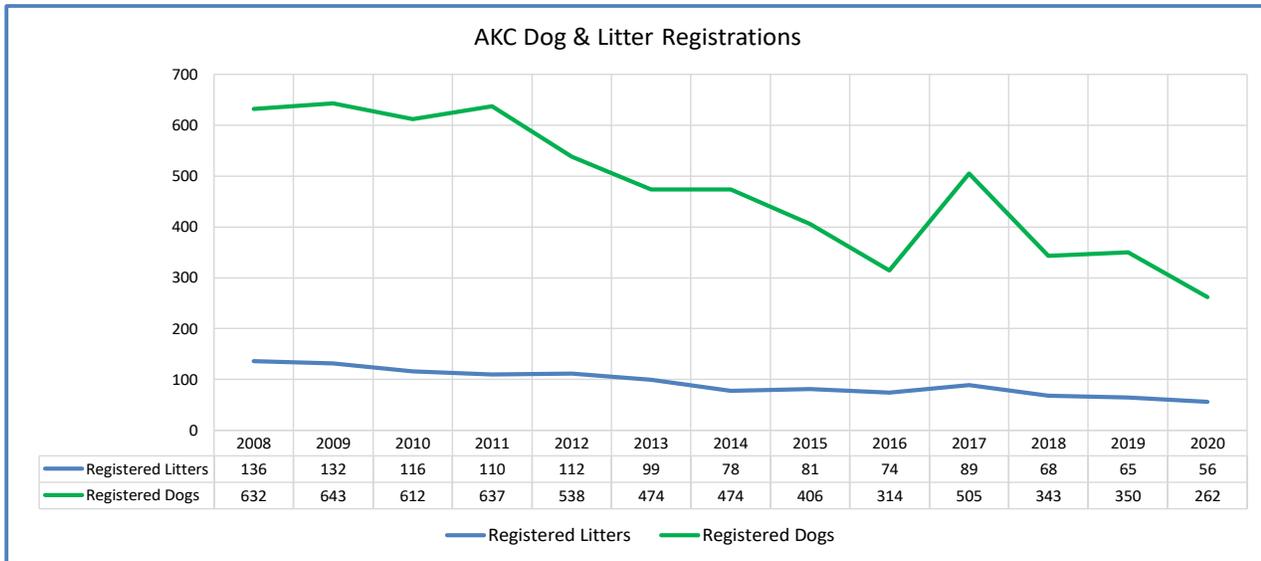
Metric	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Notes
Registered Litters	136	132	116	110	112	99	78	81	74	89	68	65	56	# AKC litters registered each year
Litter Complement	767	808	716	657	607	582	467	402	399	479	378	369	356	# Pups in each year's litters (known as the "Complement")
Average Complement	5.64	6.12	5.97	5.97	5.42	5.88	5.99	5.38	5.39	5.38	5.56	5.68	6.36	Average # of pups per litter
Individualy Registered Pups (to date)	533	574	525	507	479	434	379	331	282	412	292	278	208	# Pups from each year's litters individually registered (to date)
Actual Return Rate (to date)	69.5%	71.0%	73.3%	77.2%	78.9%	74.6%	81.2%	82.3%	70.7%	86.0%	77.2%	75.3%	58.4%	% Pups from each year's litters individually registered (to date)
Limited Registrations (to date)	19	25	29	23	31	25	21	10	12	20	15	21	21	# Limited Registrations from each year's litters (to date)
% Complement Registered Limited (to date)	2.5%	3.1%	4.1%	3.5%	5.1%	4.3%	4.5%	2.5%	3.0%	4.2%	4.0%	5.7%	5.9%	% Pups from each year's litters Registered as Limited (to date)
Revoked Limited (to date)	-	-	2	-	3	3	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	# Revoked Limited Dogs from each year's litters (to date)
Litters from Revoked Limited (to date)	-	-	2	-	3	3	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	# Litters involving each year's Revoked Limited (to date)
Complement Bitches Bred	56	49	51	52	43	42	38	26	17	15	7	1	-	Bitches from each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
Complement Dogs Bred	43	40	31	41	30	23	21	16	6	12	6	2	-	Males from each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
Total Complement Bred (to date)	99	89	82	93	73	65	55	42	23	27	13	3	-	Total from each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
% Complement Bred (to date)	12.9%	11.0%	11.5%	14.2%	12.0%	11.2%	11.8%	10.4%	5.8%	5.6%	3.4%	0.8%	0.0%	% of each year's litters that have been bred (to date)
Complement Bitches in Conformation	168	229	173	184	161	147	116	144	97	147	94	85	20	# Bitches from each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
Complement Dogs in Conformation	183	205	172	163	161	140	127	115	103	127	91	72	14	# Males from each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
Total Complement in Conformation (to date)	351	434	345	347	322	287	243	259	200	274	185	157	34	Total from each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
% Complement in Conformation (to date)	45.8%	53.7%	48.2%	52.8%	53.0%	49.3%	52.0%	64.4%	50.1%	57.2%	48.9%	42.5%	9.6%	% of each year's litters in Conformation (to date)
Total Complement in Companion (to date)	13	12	9	15	12	19	8	8	7	12	2	8	-	Total from each year's litters in Companion (to date)
% Complement in Companion (to date)	1.69%	1.49%	1.26%	2.28%	1.98%	3.26%	1.71%	1.99%	1.75%	2.51%	0.53%	2.17%	0.00%	% of each year's litters in Companion (to date)
Total Complement Placing in Performance (to date)	58	88	72	67	54	55	36	50	45	67	32	18	4	Total from each year's litters placing in Performance (to date)
% Complement Placing in Performance (to date)	7.6%	10.9%	10.1%	10.2%	8.9%	9.5%	7.7%	12.4%	11.3%	14.0%	8.5%	4.9%	1.1%	% of each year's litters placing in Performance (to date)

Metric	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Notes
AKC Dog Registrations	560	557	554	555	483	418	412	360	264	445	302	303	230	# Registered from AKC Litters during each year
FSS Registrations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	# of FSS Dog Registrations each year
Conditional Registrations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	# of Conditional Registrations each year
Open Registrations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	# of Open Registrations each year
Foreign Registrations	72	86	58	82	55	56	62	46	50	60	41	47	32	# of Foreign-born Registrations each year
Total Dogs Registered	632	643	612	637	538	474	474	406	314	505	343	350	262	Total Dog Registrations each year
Unique Bitches Bred (each year)	131	127	113	106	109	91	76	75	70	87	63	63	53	Unique # bitches bred each year
Unique Dogs Bred (each year)	106	102	94	91	99	81	69	69	58	72	58	55	47	Unique # males bred each year
Total Bred (each year)	237	229	207	197	208	172	145	144	128	159	121	118	100	Unique # bred each year
Unique Bitches in Conformation (each year)	619	610	624	609	544	535	468	426	406	405	387	373	241	Unique # of bitches in Conformation each year
Unique Dogs in Conformation (each year)	640	662	618	630	597	560	348	497	417	432	412	442	232	Unique # of males in Conformation each year
Total Unique in Conformation (each year)	1,259	1,272	1,242	1,239	1,141	1,095	997	923	823	837	799	721	473	Unique # in Conformation each year
% Change Conformation	1.0%	-0.2%	-2.4%	-0.2%	-7.9%	-4.0%	-8.9%	-7.4%	-10.8%	1.7%	-4.5%	-9.8%	-34.4%	YOY % Change Conformation total dogs
Unique Bitches in Companion (each year)	30	22	30	23	22	20	22	22	18	30	25	26	19	Unique # of bitches in Companion each year
Unique Dogs in Companion (each year)	16	22	24	30	30	23	19	23	22	28	19	22	14	Unique # of males in Companion each year
Total Unique in Companion (each year)	46	44	54	53	52	43	41	45	40	58	44	48	33	Unique # in Companion each year
% Change Companion	-4.3%	22.7%	-1.9%	-1.9%	-1.7%	-17.3%	-4.7%	9.8%	-11.1%	45.0%	-24.1%	9.1%	-31.3%	YOY % Change Companion total dogs
Unique Bitches Placing in Performance (each year)	96	95	97	95	80	88	82	63	80	68	86	97	69	Unique # of bitches placing in Performance each year
Unique Dogs Placing in Performance (each year)	81	104	87	79	81	66	61	53	71	63	75	75	51	Unique # of males placing in Performance each year
Total Unique Placing in Performance (each year)	177	199	184	174	161	154	143	116	151	131	161	172	120	Unique # placing in Performance each year
% Change Performance	12.4%	-7.5%	-5.4%	-7.5%	-7.1%	-4.3%	-18.9%	-18.9%	30.2%	-13.2%	22.9%	6.8%	-30.2%	YOY % Change Performance total dogs placing

Metric	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Notes
% Change YOY Registered Litters	N/A	-2.9%	-12.1%	-5.2%	1.8%	-11.6%	-21.2%	3.8%	-8.6%	20.3%	-23.6%	-4.4%	-13.8%	These %'s are calculated to show the change each year from the previous year.
% Change YOY Litter Complement Registered Dogs	N/A	5.3%	-11.4%	-8.2%	-7.6%	-4.1%	-19.8%	-13.9%	-0.7%	20.1%	-21.1%	-2.4%	-3.5%	
% Change YOY Registered Dogs	N/A	1.7%	-4.8%	4.1%	-15.5%	-11.9%	0.0%	-14.3%	-22.7%	60.8%	-32.1%	2.0%	-25.1%	

Metric	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Notes
% Change Relative 2008 Registered Litters	0.0%	-2.9%	-14.7%	-19.1%	-17.6%	-27.2%	-42.6%	-40.4%	-45.6%	-34.6%	-50.0%	-52.2%	-58.8%	These %'s are calculated to show the change each year compared to 2008.
% Change Relative 2008 Litter Complement Registered Dogs	0.0%	5.3%	-6.6%	-14.3%	-20.9%	-24.1%	-39.1%	-47.6%	-48.0%	-37.5%	-50.7%	-51.9%	-53.6%	
% Change Relative 2008 Registered Dogs	0.0%	1.7%	-3.2%	0.8%	-14.9%	-25.0%	-25.0%	-35.8%	-50.3%	-20.1%	-45.7%	-44.6%	-58.5%	

## AFGHAN HOUND SPECIFIC



*“Happy 15th to Punkin”*  
*“CAN CH Hammid’s Shaherazad Shamalan”*



**2 months**



**5-point AKC major at 5 years**



**1 year**



**15 years**



**3 years**



*Bred by Ronda Hamilton*

*Owned by Brian and Laura Wood*

# 84th National Specialty Show



**COME TOGETHER 2021**

October 3-7 2021 Wilmington, Ohio