

# Topknot News

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

Spring 2012



*Photo by Jhans's Graphics*

**BREEDERS' CUP PAGES 12-15**

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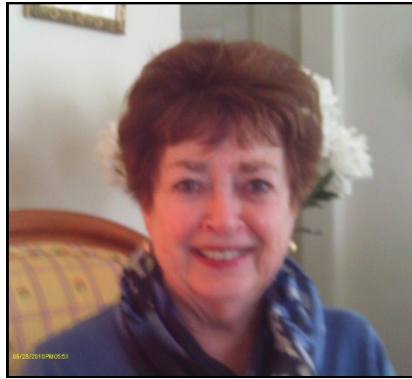
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(P&P 318.1 The newsletter of the AHCA shall be entitled "Topknot News" and shall be published three times a year, each publication falling within six (6) weeks after the Board Meetings so as to include all news from that meeting.)

### **2012 AHCA Officers & Directors**

President:  
Tony Saia  
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Bob Stein  
Second Vice President:  
Jody Gardner  
Corresponding Secretary:  
Becky Morissette  
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AKC Delegate:  
Connie Butherus

## ***Editorial - Spring 2012 Topknot News***



The more things change, the more they remain the same.

Although the officers and board change each year, the AHCA organization carries on. Since 1941, originally known as the *Bulletin*, morphing into *Afghanews*, the *AHCA Bulletin*, and finally ***Topknot News*** in 1998, the membership vehicle for the dissemination of news and reports has always been a fundamental part of keeping members informed and connected. (See Norma Cozzoni's retro on the AHCA newsletter.)

While suggestions have been made to present TN solely on the AHCA website or sent via email, those ideas were rejected in favor of a magazine type format, in addition to TN's availability on the website. Recent addition of color, more photos and articles all add up to make our TN a real keepsake. As your new editor, I am dedicated to keeping those things the same.

Barb Bornstein has done an outstanding job as editor. Trying to fill her shoes is a real challenge. Barb may have stuck her neck out when she agreed to carry on with layout and distribution - an enormous job, and I thank her (and Lee) from the bottom of my heart. Mary Blacker, a good friend from eons ago, will remain in the position of assistant editor. Suzanne Eaton Duay will continue the job she has so beautifully done with the final proofreading. Melinda Brown will make sure you receive TN with the huge job of distribution. Thank you all!

Last year, I had a great time at the circus. This year, Susan Zoppe's Royal Afghan Hounds will be playing in Elmira on May 1 & 2, and I have been invited to attend as her guest! Expect more about circus performing Afghan Hounds.

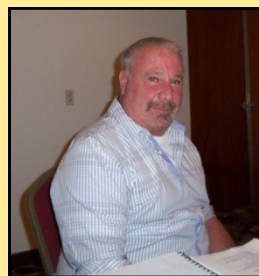
The rules are the same – deadlines will be strictly observed. Committee reports are an important component of TN, and should be sent to me via email, (shh3@cornell.edu) in a timely fashion. Submitted articles/photos are a welcome change of pace from the committee reports. You can also call me at 607-732-0793. This is *your Topknot News*.

Let's hear from you!

Sue Hamlin

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by  
AHCA President,  
Tony Saia

I would like to personally welcome all of our parent club members to the new publication of our *Topknot News*. I am very confident that every member will be fully satisfied with each issue, along with all the services that this newsletter provides to our fancy.

Our club and breed are confronting a time of many changes, and challenges, but with a well thought out plan, while making sure that all of us are always adaptable, we can achieve our goals. The world of Afghan Hounds is an exciting one and we must continue to bring into our group motivated people, that will ensure our club remains on the cutting edge of pure breed sports.

I'd like to give all an idea of what you can expect and what we hope to achieve over the next two years. We recently revised the Breeders' Cup requirements, are looking to have more performance events throughout the year, and of course are in process of putting together our national events for 2013 and beyond. We also plan on making our AKC Meet the Breed booth more informative and more meticulous. As many know we are in the process of transforming the website which will help to improve our ability concerning open communication within our fancy.

Before I close, I would like to thank all members who always help in any matter pertaining to the AHCA. We should be very proud of where we are today, but should be excited about where we are headed.

Fondly,  
Tony Saia  
President, AHCA

## **Membership Directory Deadline:** **Saturday May 10, 2012**

You must send your updates/corrections to your address, phone numbers, email address, etc., to Barb Bornstein or Linda Jackson so they can make the necessary changes in the new AHCA Membership Directory. If dues are not paid by May 10, you will be dropped from the Directory. Barb and Linda continually update the Mailing List and it is through the Recording Secretary/Treasurer Mailing List that you receive the new Directory, dues notice, Topknot News, ballots, and all other information pertaining to the AHCA.

Email to: **Barb: [dancingtree@trims.com](mailto:dancingtree@trims.com)**

**Linda: [linda0822@bellsouth.net](mailto:linda0822@bellsouth.net)**

## **2012 Committee Chairpersons**

**Agility:** Lynda Hicks *suniafghans@gmail.com*  
**AHCA Rescue Charitable Trust:** JoAnne Buehler *tazihound@his.com*  
**AKC Delegate:** Connie Butherus *gcb27@ptd.net*  
**AKC Gazette Column:** Harry Bennett *harryonly@aol.com*  
**Awards:** Claudia Jakus *claudiajakus@comcast.net*  
**Breed & Public Education:** Marcia & Dom Morelli *dmorelli@verizon.net*  
**Breeders' Cup:** Sue Busby *barakiafs@peoplepc.com*  
**Breeders' Cup 2013:** Becky Morissette *obsessionsafs@comcast.net*  
**Canine Health:** Eileen Laudermilch *herrhounds2@cox.net*  
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**Inventory Control:** Sue Busby *barakiafs@peoplepc.com*  
**Judges Education:** Harry Bennett *harryonly@aol.com*  
**Junior Showmanship:** Jody Gardner *jmgafghan@aol.com*  
**Legislative Affairs:** *www.akc.org/governmentrelations*  
**Librarian:** Helen Stein *beaniesue@aol.com*  
**Lure Coursing:** Max Ross *mrosshomestead@aol.com*  
**Mailing List Coordinator:** Claudia Jakus *claudiajakus@comcast.net*  
**Membership:** Sandy Nelson *karizmaafghans@comcast.net*  
**Mentor Program:** Christine Pinkston *criston@aol.com*  
**National Events Liaison - 2012:** Abbe Shaw *abaca101@aol.com*  
**National 2012:** Chuck Milne *milne\_chuck@yahoo.com*  
**National 2013:** Dianne Kroll *dianne.kroll@frontier.com*  
**Obedience/Rally/Versatility:** Debbie Petersen *afghan1@juno.com*  
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**Parliamentarian:** Connie Butherus *duaneb@ptd.net*  
**Policies & Procedures:** Sandy Nelson *karizmaafghans@comcast.net*  
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**Statistics:** Jo Ann Alft *jalft@netwurx.net*  
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**Ways & Means:** Sue Busby *barakiafs@peoplepc.com*  
**Webmaster:** Eddie Kominek *admin@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org*  
**Web Advisor:** Chris Kaiser *abiszet@att.net*



## PARENT CLUB ELECTRONIC REPORTS UPDATE

Submitted by Helen Stein

Dear Parent Club Studbook Subscriber,

The American Kennel Club strongly believes that sharing important proprietary information with its parent clubs regarding AKC registered dogs helps clubs make informative, educated and fact-based decisions regarding the future of their breeds.

Currently, this information includes the New Titles of Record Reports and the AKC Electronic Stud Book subscription. Our records indicate the following contacts listed for your club:

New Titles of Record parent club contact:

Claudia R Jakus: [ctbclaudia@comcast.net](mailto:ctbclaudia@comcast.net)

AKC Electronic Stud Book parent club contact:

Helen Stein: [beaniesue@aol.com](mailto:beaniesue@aol.com)

If your parent club has not yet done so and would like to subscribe to either the New Titles of Record or AKC Electronic Stud Book please e-mail your request to [reports@akc.org](mailto:reports@akc.org).

All requests to update your club's contact person for either subscription should be sent to [reports@akc.org](mailto:reports@akc.org).

### Annual Registration Statistics

In addition, we are also including the annual registration statistics for litters and dogs for your club's breed since they are no longer published in the AKC Gazette. We realize the importance to parent clubs of knowing the number of AKC registered dogs and litters for breed analysis so the following ten years of information for your breed are included in this letter.

### Annual Registration Statistics for Afghan Hounds

Year	Litters	Dogs
2011	110	637
2010	116	612
2009	132	643
2008	136	631
2007	137	648
2006	168	782
2005	153	673
2004	154	854
2003	154	707
2002	121	696

If your club would like to access the all-breed list of annual registration statistics, that information will now be archived on the Delegate Portal at <http://www.akc.org>. If you are a Delegate in need of a PIN to setup access for your My AKC account please contact Neil Singer at [nxs@akc.org](mailto:nxs@akc.org).

As with all proprietary data we share with our parent clubs it is under the agreement that this information is to be used solely by parent clubs and its members for educational purposes only and not to be shared with the public or other parties for any purpose.

### Electronic Reports Available

The AKC Electronic Reports department has a vast array of customized reports available, fees for these reports vary, with special pricing extended to parent clubs. For more information and pricing on the reports available, please email [reports@akc.org](mailto:reports@akc.org).

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me at 919-816-3682 or [reports@akc.org](mailto:reports@akc.org).

Sincerely,

Rob Garrett

Electronic Reports Coordinator



### **BREEDERS' CUP LIVE STREAMING STATISTICS** Submitted by Dayne Jordan

I have the final viewing statistics for the live streaming of the 2012 AHCA Breeders Cup in Mesa, Arizona.

Breeders' Cup Friday March 16th, 2012:

2238 Total views (non-unique)

1172 Total unique views

528 unique peak concurrent connected viewers  
(peak reached during Best in Breeders Cup Judging)

1.2 hours average viewing time per viewer

I have the viewer breakdown by country but due to the large number of countries I'll summarize:

US based viewers (including Canada): 77%

European based viewers: 12%

Australian based viewers: 8%

Unidentified locale viewers: 3%

(Could not determine country of origin)

PC or Apple/Macintosh desktop based viewers: 85%

Apple Iphone/Ipad iOS based mobile device viewers: 9%

Android or other mobile device based viewers: 7%

Live footage was recorded & archived real-time and available immediately following the live streaming.

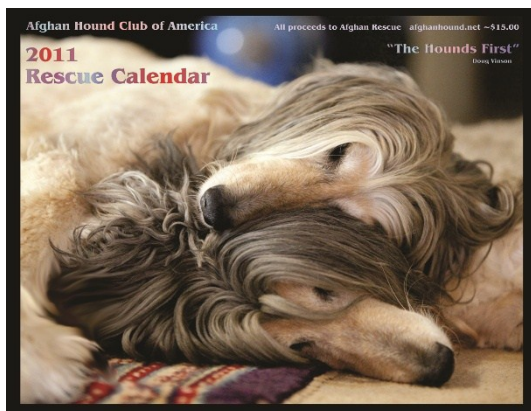
Video archive location:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3GYldhbbKlw>

As of March 22nd there were 455 views of the recorded video.

## 2011 AHCA RESCUE CALENDAR WINS AT DOG WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA COMPETITION

Submitted by Barb Hastings, Rescue Chair & Marilyn Danko



Each year on Westminster eve, the Dog Writers Association of America (DWAA) holds a banquet in NYC announcing the winners of their annual writing competition. On February 12<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Danko and Joanne Anderson received Maxwell medallions for the 2011 Afghan Hound Club of America Rescue Calendar which won in the graphics-posters, calendars, special publications category. These medallions are named in honor of the late Maxwell Riddle, past DWAA president who was known in his day as a great authority on dogs.

The following, promoting the 2011 calendar, is a reprint of Joanne's "Pets" column published 9/9/10 in the *Babylon Beacon* on Long Island:

"Move over *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue. The 2011 Afghan Hound Club of America (AHCA) Rescue Calendar is about to go to press. Never have there been more blonde bombshells or stunning pin-ups. The rescued dogs featured will take your breath away but, let's face it, I am biased. I happen to be editing the calendar for the second year.

Everyone has a favorite breed. To me there are dogs, and then there are *Afghan Hounds*. I was hooked around age five when we visited a family with a majestic Afghan Hound lounging in the kitchen. Over the last 30 years we have owned six of these beauties, often dubbed the "King of Dogs," so working on the calendar profiles is a labor of love.

Our national breed club publishes a calendar to raise money for rescue efforts throughout the US. Owners compete for a spot. This year my Edgar Afghan Poe wearing his Dracula cape is Mr. October. Next year my duo will be dressed in Mexican garb. Marilyn Danko of the West Missouri AHCA Rescue is a fabulous, photo magician. She and her husband share their farm with a pack of Afghan Hounds, many rescued. Marilyn is extremely qualified. At her "day" job for Northrop Grumman she updates coursework and graphics teaching Air Force students to fly B-2s (Stealth Bombers).

I was recruited after tragic circumstances. Randy Byal of Indiana edited the calendar for several years but in 2009 he died suddenly while walking his two beloved Hounds. One Afghan bolt-

ed in panic and was killed by a train. The other lives with Randy's twin brother.

After I learned Marilyn was working alone, I offered to help on the 2010 calendar. Actually the stories submitted for 2011 contain sillier Afghan antics. We have about 50 dogs (not counting the Rainbow Bridge). My job is to make their stories flow and to trim them to 250 words so we can squeeze in two per month, not an easy task when some proud parents send a thousand words. Ever shrinking drafts get emailed back and forth.

Afghans are high maintenance dogs - physically, because grooming and exercise are a commitment, and mentally because of their fragile psyches. Afghan Rescue is the breed's vigilant safety net. Presently, a Korean import on a base in Alaska hit the Afghan Rescue radar screen.

The calendar's shining stars are from various backgrounds. Some are re-homed when loving owners die. Ten year old "Gibson" was once in Vanity Fair ads and commercials but needed a new home when his owner became too ill to care for her dogs. Others come from hoarders, shelters, backyard breeders, even a dumpster. Five like "Shatow" were found roaming the Mohave Desert in dreadlock mats after authorities told a collector he had to downsize. Another 13 year old went to a kind man upstate because her military family was sent to Italy and the dog couldn't weather the flight.

Cinderella herself would rejoice in these Afghan rags to riches tales. Each victimized vagabond transforms when placed in the safe arms of those who understand and appreciate its potential. "Shorty" is an agility ace even though she was sold with an untreated fractured leg; "April Rain" was born with microphthalmia (one eye is smaller and virtually useless) but that doesn't stop her from tagging and tackling her dog pals; "Kronos" one of the 67 from the New Mexico hoarder goes to work each day with his veterinarian Mom.

I am inspired by the lengths Afghan devotees go to rescue these waifs. Erica Lampart flew from Switzerland to Los Angeles to save an Afghan Hound from the New Mexico seizure only to have the airport lose her new dog. After two hours of "Shamir" speeding down the runway, 50 policemen were able to corner him. "April's" Mom drove round trip from Missouri to Texas to fetch the partially blind pup, while "Winchester's" Mom traveled from Atlanta to Indiana to remove him from squalid conditions. Both dogs had been on Craig's List.

Once relaxed, Afghan Hounds become comedians, beautiful buffoons. "Jackson" rides with his blond head out the sunroof. "Emma" longs to launch a lingerie line. She steals bras, particularly black ones, and wiggles them on correctly. "Cisco" and "Spotty" had a terrible start. These brothers drag everything through the doggy door - Shop Vac, heating pad - whether you want it or not. Every remote, cell phone, even the Colorado E-Z pass has trademark teeth marks. Their loving owners just look at them and laugh.

To my delight many calendar Afghan Hounds are dogs I know. Some I named. "Kronos (originally "Frost" after the poet) is Edgar's Afghan Poe's brother. "Farrah" is a puppy I pulled from Hempstead Shelter and named in a Circle of Life tribute. Farrah Fawcett had just died, and in the '70s my first

*Continued on Page 7....*

Continued from Page 6....



Afghan's mother had been named for the actress. "Farrah" spent months living with Ulrike Reinisch, a veterinarian behaviorist in CT, where she got over her fear of other dogs. "Farrah" was groomed for this glamour shot by Anna Stromberg who handled this year's Westminster Best of Breed winner.

"Farrah" now lives in a Soho loft with two Terriers. Each day tourists ask for photo ops alongside her on NYC streets.

And then there is my sweet "Whitman," also from New Mexico. He'd been renamed "Theo" so at first his profile didn't register. He is a happy Adonis unscathed by his ordeal. "Theo" loves all animals and people. His new Mom sums him up when she writes: to quote Walt Whitman, his original namesake: "I have learned to be with those I like is enough."

At \$15 each, the 2011 Afghan Hound Club of America Calendars make gorgeous holiday gifts. They are the only thing that anyone on your list needs. To order: mail checks to AHCA c/o Barb Hastings, 4071 Gurnee Rd., Westfield, PA 16950 or go to [afghanhound.net](http://afghanhound.net). (2012 calendars available.)



### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT** Submitted by JoAnne Buehler

In 2011, the AHCA Board of Directors put a three person committee together to review the AHCA Charitable Rescue Trust. They produced a report which was initially signed by all three members, but then one member changed her mind and produced a minority report. Both were discussed at the Annual Meeting in Ohio last fall. As a result of this discussion, the Trustees asked me to contact Ed Sledzik, the attorney who initially set up the Trust, for his take on the reports. The Trustees, then took it upon ourselves to pay him personally for a written report. There was no cost to the AHCA nor the Trust. The Board voted at its meeting on March 17, 2012, that the report is available to any member in good standing by contacting JoAnne Buehler. JoAnne will mail them a hard copy of the report.



### **BREED AND PUBLIC EDUCATION** Submitted by Marcia & Dom Morelli, Breed & Public Education Chairs

The AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Dog Show was held at the Orlando Convention Center, Orlando, FL, December 15-16, 2011. In connection with the show, the AHCA sponsored the Meet the Breed booth for the Afghan Hound. We wanted to feature not just the beauty and elegance of the show Afghan Hound, but their athleticism and intelligence as well. With that in mind, we chose the theme, "*The Afghan Hound – More Than Just a Pretty Face*," and designed a booth focused on presenting the versatility of the breed. Half of the large 10" x 20" booth featured a mock fashion photography shoot, complete with model mannequin and Afghan Hound, representing the glamour of the breed. The other half presented the athleticism of the Afghan Hound, with a large flat screen television playing videos of lure coursing, agility and obedience on a continuous basis, along with photographic displays of the Afghan Hound performing in agility, obedience, lure coursing, therapy, as well as conformation. An additional display board traced the breed history of the Afghan Hound.

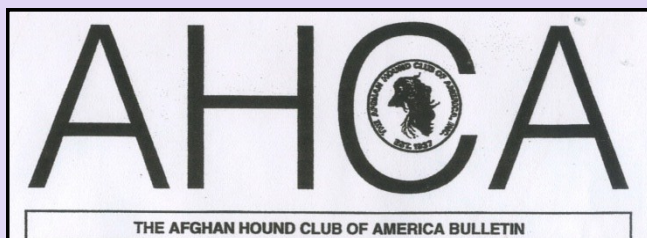
The booth was staffed both days by members of the local breed clubs. The main attraction, as always, was the dogs themselves. We were proud to showcase our breed with a wonderful representation of Afghan Hounds – old, young, champions, and rescues. All of the dogs were outstanding and made us so proud of this amazing breed. Special thanks to Janie Getz and Jasper (both days, what troopers!), Sonny Tremarki and Jim Reynolds with Oscar, Emilie Peterson and Mister, and Rita and Mark Hendrix, who brought their entire crew including their smooth, Suede. You can imagine the crowd's interest in her! We had several parent club members stop by to share their experience and expertise with the general public as well. Many thanks to all of you.

The booth was well attended and received by the general public, and most got the message that the Afghan Hound is definitely much more than just a pretty face. The coursing videos were of special interest to many. We came home exhausted after two days of nonstop activity. I'm not sure who was more tired, the dogs or us - but it was a good tired. By the end of the second day we practically had to awaken Bell and Spirit to feed them!! It was once again a very rewarding experience, and one well worth the effort. The fact that we were even able to find a forever home for one of our rescues was "icing on the cake."

Videos and photos of the Meet the Breed booths are now available for viewing on the AKC's website. We were surprised to find that there was no coverage of the Afghan Hound booth. In fact, our booth appears to be the only breed booth missing from the video coverage. It is a bit disappointing to not have your hard work and dedication acknowledged. We have asked AKC to look into this. Hopefully it was just an oversight. We have been told that if a video can be located it will be added to the website. Thanks, Michael.

Thanks again to all who helped make our booth a success. We reached a lot of people and that's what it is all about





## A RETROSPECTIVE ON TOPKNOT NEWS

Submitted by Norma Cozzoni

Recently, I was contacted by Sue Hamlin who asked me to write a retrospective on *Topknot News*. Over the years, TN has evolved from a simple newsheet into the classy magazine format we now enjoy.

The very first AHCA newsletter was dated August 1941. It was considered a real service for the members (as very little information about the breed was available at that time), hence the name "*Bulletin*." The second issue in 1942 carried a cover photo of the first AHCA sanctioned match, judged by Harry Hill, held at the Florsheim's Five Mile Kennel in Darien, Connecticut in September, 1942. The third issue, called "*Afghanews*," was dated 1943-44, and was the last printed in the 40s due to the war. These early publications contained photographs, which I think was most unusual for the time. The fourth publication, seven years later in 1951, was also titled "*Afghanews*." The fifth and last "*Afghanews*" was printed in November 1965. From then until 1971, there was no AHCA newsletter.

In 1971, new president Norman Kattelman and corresponding secretary Judith Felton, resurrected the newsletter and again called it the "*Bulletin*." From that time until 1998, the newsletter editor's position was incorporated into the corresponding secretary's job description.

When I became corresponding secretary in February 1987, I don't think I had any idea of what I was getting into. In THOSE DAYS (I just had to say that), everything was done by snail mail. That was time consuming on its own, but to produce a newsletter!!!!????!!

With the help of Dave Frei, and computer wizards, Detroit residents Suzie Lee and her husband, I was introduced to the computer world. After attending the Detroit specialty, I stayed to attend a crash course and became very good friends with a "MAC." Up till that time, I had thought a "MAC" was something you got at the Golden Arches!

The Spring 1987 newsletter was my baby! The Afghan Hound Club of America Bulletin (aka "*AHCA Bulletin*") carried a masthead that featured the club logo printed inside the "C". Although the so-called "new title" was not far different from the original "*Bulletin*," it was enough of a change at that time. I put all the report data on a disc, mailed it to the Lees, who did the formatting, returning the disc to me, which I then took to the printer. Upon completion of the printing, I returned home with stacks of copies to be collated, folded, stapled, addressed, stamped, and mailed. Depending how near the deadline, my entire family got involved, addressing and stamping in order to meet the deadline. At times I would go into my office and not come out in the best of moods. I can remember my daughter saying, "Oh no, the dreaded *Bulletin*."

At the end of the first year, a desktop publishing program was purchased so I could do the format production, but it still had to

go to the printer, then back to me, with the same old procedures getting it in the mail on time. The printing company eventually inquired if I would be interested in having them collate and fold, ready for pick-up. WHAT! Are you kidding? I was delighted to say the least - (as was my family).

During that time, very little input was received from members as far as interesting articles, other than from librarian Karen Armistead. It was a challenge to come up with subjects that held any interest for the members/readers.

It still amazes me what can be accomplished when you put your mind to it.

Writing this essay has been a walk down memory lane for me - looking through all the old publications still near and dear to my heart. Reading the reports I wrote about 12 Nationals for instance, and remembering the beginning of the Breeders' Cup. Changes took place as more and more of the so-called "new generation" of breeders/exhibitors joined the AHCA and became part of the Board.

There have been many great Nationals over the years, but the one that sticks in my mind was "**Fiesta By The Bay**" in November 1995 in California - not only for the environment and ambiance that a large outdoor ring provides, but the first World Congress took place. Along with that came the first "TOP DOG in TOPKNOTS," Dave Frei's brainchild, an international Afghan Hound seminar. The seminar topics included the AH standard, "creating" a show dog, AH structure, open field coursing, sighthound round table, seeing the Afghan Hound through the eyes of an all-rounder, and vet topics. Audience participation was encouraged. Five hundred reservations were received from 21 countries. One hundred fifty international fanciers from those 21 different countries outside the USA attended. A panel of international judges presided over an entry of 64 champions. The formal setting with so many sequins, bling, bow ties and tuxes really made it a night to remember!

I published my last AHCA Bulletin in the fall of 1997, but I remained on the Board until Fall 1998. In early 1998 Dave Frei was appointed editor of the newsletter, the first time the position of editor was a stand-alone from the corresponding secretary's job. There is nothing in the AHCA policies and procedures that say an editor cannot change the name of the newsletter. I have a feeling that the memories of "TOP DOG in TOPKNOTS" might have been the inspiration for new name *Topknot News*. You might want to ask Dave the next time you see him.

Since then, subsequent editors have kept that "catchy" name - the very appropriate *Topknot News* and tweaked each issue to bring TN to its current position today! My hat is off to all the editors. I know first-hand what a huge job it is, but it can also be very rewarding! So the next time you read an interesting article you think might be suitable for *Topknot News*, pass it on. The editor would love to have it!



## 2012 NATIONAL TROPHY DONATIONS

Once again it's time to donate to the AHCA National Specialty Show Trophy Fund. If you donate \$50, or more, you will receive a free catalog and be listed as a donor. If you donate \$100, or more, you will receive a free catalog and be listed as a special contributor.

Please send your trophy donation to:

Tony Saia, AHCA Trophy Chair  
8700 Jan's Court  
Boonsboro, MD 21713  
[beachbrookafs@yahoo.com](mailto:beachbrookafs@yahoo.com)



**CRAZY DOG LAWS**  
Submitted by Marcia Morelli

### Here's one of those stupid, frivolous lawsuits.

Southeastern Guide Dogs Inc. is a 13-year-old school that raises and trains seeing-eye dogs and provides them at no cost to the visually impaired. A minister and his wife, Rev. William and Carolyn Christian, sued the school after a blind man in training with his new guide dog and under the supervision of an instructor stepped on and broke Mrs. Christian's toe in a shopping mall. According to witnesses, Mrs. Christian made no effort to get out of the way because she said she "**wanted to see if the dog would walk around me.**" DUH!! The dog, of course, did; unfortunately, his blind master did not. Thirteen months after the accident, the Christians sued for \$160,000 in damages. After a ton of bad publicity, including a media award for the most frivolous lawsuit, the suit was withdrawn and the attorneys – perhaps a bit red-faced – donated \$1,000 to the school.

## EVENT AND JUDGING PANEL NOTICES ARE NOW AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL!

Dear Constance Butherus, Delegate for Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.,

The AKC is pleased to offer clubs the ability to receive all event and judging panel notices via email instead of receiving letters via the US Postal Service. We have heard requests from clubs regarding this and are very happy to be able to offer this new service to all clubs holding all events. As of today, over 1300 clubs have opted to receive all event/panel notices via email. You are receiving this notice because our records indicate your club has not yet opted to receive email only communications.

You will receive the email containing the judging panel notices the evening after your event or judge panel has been processed or updated by the AKC. You won't have to wait for the mail to get your updates.

This service has been very successfully in production with the Licensed Superintendents since March of this year and has been in production for all clubs since the beginning of August.

We hope you sign up for this new service using the information below – it gets the information in your hands more quickly and saves the AKC money too.

In order to use this service, your club must **confirm the email address for your Corresponding Secretary or Secretary on file** with the AKC.

The link below lists the email addresses on file for all officers and other club roles.

Please follow the link below and use the access code listed below to confirm all email addresses.

**Access Code:** 294098

**Link:** [http://www.akc.org/club\\_corr\\_pref?pin=294098](http://www.akc.org/club_corr_pref?pin=294098)

Please contact [clubcorrespondence@akc.org](mailto:clubcorrespondence@akc.org) if you have problems using the application. All active club officers for which the AKC has email addresses will receive an email from the AKC when your club has successfully opted into this program.

Thank you,  
Charley Kneifel  
AKC Chief Information Officer

**COAST TO COAST**  
**IT WAS INDEED A VERY GOOD YEAR - 1956**  
 by Marsha Hall Brown

*Ed. Note: This is the second part of an article published in the 11/11/11 issue of DOG NEWS. Permission has been given by publisher DOG NEWS and author Marsha Hall Brown to reprint it in Topknot News. Almost fifty-six years ago, a special report on Afghan Hounds was featured in Popular Dogs magazine. We print here only the second part, which pertains mostly to our breed, the glorious Afghan Hound. However, since a small section of Part 1 mentioned Kay Finch and since Taejon graced the cover of that issue of Popular Dogs, I thought I'd include that paragraph here:*

On the cover of the June issue of Popular Dogs was Kay Finch's record Best in Show winning Afghan Hound, Ch. Taejon Of Crown Crest. And inside the magazine was a treasure trove of news, records, announcements and the largest feature on Afghan Hounds to that date.



World famous dog man, **Percy Roberts**, writing in his monthly column, *Crossroads*, focused on three topics. He gave his opinion that "British tradition dies hard even to the running of dog shows," and that the American system of one judge presiding over a group competition was more efficient than the British system of having three judges come to a consensus. Roberts then discussed the advocacy of having a "field officer" at every show in the UK as well as the AKC shows in the United States. He argued "That the AKC has used rare judgment in the appointment of these officers serving in different sections of the country and is proved by the atmosphere at all shows where this system serves to settle difficulties when they arise."

Fifty-five years ago America was crooning along with Elvis to the tunes of *Heartbreak Hotel* and *Love Me Tender*. The first photograph of DNA molecules was published. The steamy nighttime soap, *Peyton Place*, was an instant hit on television. *The Wizard of Oz* was broadcast on the small screen for the first time and the biggest box office attraction at the movies was *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

And the June edition of *Popular Dogs Magazine* was even more than Wilber White Swan, Gregory of Kent, Percy Roberts, Ernest Chang and Seymour Weiss. There was a dramatic dog show story about a Pomeranian, a discussion of correct proportions in Working Dogs by Reginald Cleveland, reporting on the West Coast shows by Edith Izant and a special feature on Afghan Hounds.

*Coast Clips* reported that at the Pomeranian specialty show the day before the San Diego all-breed, Mrs. Eva Cohen put a puppy at its first show to Best of Winners. The following day Lew Starkey was judging. Bert Heath was ringside to see the same pup win the puppy class and before the winners ribbons were given he bought the dog for almost one thousand dollars. The Pom, originally owned by Blanche Rider, **Rider's Sparkling**

**Gold Nugget**, did not disappoint – taking Breed and then Group at eight-months-old. The next day the dog was sold again for a top price to Dickie Washington ... "as a pet first and incidentally as a show dog." Within two weeks the dog was titled and had a group 1 and a group 2 all before he turned nine months old.

In his column, *Roundup*, **Reginald Cleveland** discussed assessing the Working Group breeds and how important it was to see correct proportions by differentiating between the breeds that were to be square and the breeds that were to be rectangular. He maintained that the judge should "see" correct proportions as the group entered the ring thus keeping a firm focus on the whole dog and never the parts.

**Edith Izant** listed the winners at the 584 entry show at Phoenix. BIS was the Black Cocker, Ch. Ebony Don D repeating the win from San Diego. Ch. Harding's Faust, the Dobe, took Working, Mrs. Ruschhaupt piloted her own Peke, Ch. Shanling Sing Lee, to best in Toys, Ch. Falcon of Heying Teckel, the Smooth Dachsie, won the Hound Group and the Kerry, Ch. Vixen's Show Off topped the Terriers. The Non-Sporting winner was Mrs. Lona Jewett's Boston, Ch. Clasen's Carry On.

**Florsheim, Carlsen, McKean, and Withington**

As observers who are too often locked into a twenty-first century perspective on the Afghan Hound, we limit our appreciation of the breed and we limit our understanding of the significant contributions made by the "founders" of the breed in the United States. The special feature on Afghans in the 1956 issue of *Popular Dogs Magazine* can be a remedy for these shortcomings. First, in **Alys S. Carlsen's** article, *The Afghan Comes of Age*, it reminds us that the breed is one of the newer additions to the pure-bred dog lexicon in America. Alys S. Carlsen explains that the first registered Afghans in the AKC studbook were entered in 1926 from the Dunwalk Kennels. "Three litter mates bred by Miss Jean Manson of Scotland were a bitch named Tezin, and her brothers Bokhara and Bolan. In 1928 came the first American-bred registration by Valley Farm Kennels of Stamford, CT of the masked fawn bitch, Faida O'Valley Farm. She was by Sheik out of Zun." Then in 1932 the first of three repeat litters were whelped sired by the golden Ch. Westmill Omar out of the fawn bitch Asra of Ghazni. The breeder was George Thomas and the progeny from the litters totaled twenty Afghans. In the building of the breed in the twenties and thirties it was common to repeat breedings and they were often listed under different breeders. Carlsen continues by giving the example of the 1933 breeding of Eng. Am. Ch. Badshah of Ainsdart, to the fawn Zahera of Pride's Hill, which in repeat breedings over the next five years produced thirty Afghans, many of which provided a grounding for the future of the breed. While many other breeds in America had long established kennels with a diverse breeding base, Afghans were just making an appearance. They were not shown until the early 30s and did not come out of the Miscellaneous Class at the Morris Essex Show until 1935.





The first specialty show was not held until 1940.

In discussing the standard Carlsen also brings up an interesting point about the Afghan front, pasterns and pads. "A virtue not a fault is when the dog's front pads turn outward slightly – 10 – 15 degrees. This is created by a slight rotation of the pastern joint and not a bend of this joint. ...."on the inward swing, this pad comes in line with the direction of motion and action is over the two center toes. Without this slight out-turn, the action is over one center toe and the outside smaller toe, which is not efficient. The dog does not have a front leg muscle permitting pad rotation, as we do in our hands."

**Q. A. Shaw McKean** reminisces about his early Afghans and tells most importantly about his purchase of Badshah of Ainsdart. "I had the need of an outstanding dog of different bloodlines to breed to my bitches and told George Thomas to be on the lookout. It took three years but as soon as I returned to the United States on the *Europa*, George arranged to have the dog sent to me. "Loppy and I became the closest of friends. He lived in my house, opened my doors, sat with me when I read or wrote, and evaluated my visitors. He was a born showman and I believe the first Afghan to go BIS in the United States. (Author's note: *the BIS was at the North Shore Kennel Club in Massachusetts.*) He was a large dog, a pale brindle the color of smoke with magnificent movement and wonderful expression – he truly had the look of eagles." McKean was serious about exercise and physical fitness for his dogs. "Show your dogs fit and strong and forget the fluffy ruffles," was a tenet he had learned from his good friend, George Thomas. The two men were devoted to Afghans and in addition to showing their dogs they thought it would be great fun to race their Afghans over the brush hurdles at the Wonderland Greyhound Racing Park in Revere, Massachusetts. They got the management to give the dogs some training on the mechanical rabbits and it was "wonderful to see six or seven Afghans, some of which were champions, take the hurdles at top speed. But when the Greyhound Racing Association got wind of the intrusion, the Afghans were expelled from the track.

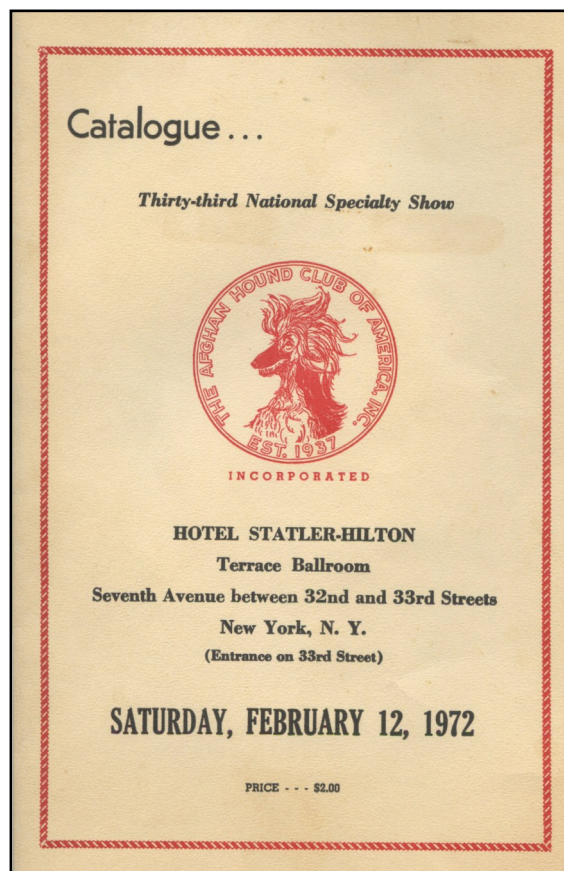
**Bill and Ginny Withington**, Afghan breeders with an appreciation for Obedience wrote, "Because of the Afghan's centuries of independence as free hunters, it is wise to start simple training when Afghans are very young. Gently but firmly teach them to walk on the lead, to come, and the command 'no.' They may fuss more than other breeds, but it is easier than to start out with one which is old enough to have become a typical Afghan 'master bluffer' able to resist all training." The Withingtons further explain that owners need to know the breed in order to prevent failures. For example, retrieving is foreign to the Afghan nature and will require more patience and persevering. They maintain that Obedience competition is not for all Afghans, but training to be obedient is a need for all comers and just may keep your dog safe from the unexpected.

**Marion Florsheim** - in her comprehensive article on the history and successes of Afghans in diverse parts of the world and in a variety of work contexts, discusses the contemporary use of the breed as hunters. "High tail carriage makes the Afghan valuable as a hunter in thickets and his high widely-set hip bone assembly is unique and affords his negotiating hilly country and uneven ground with ease because of monkey-like agility and motion. He has tremendous jumping power." She reports that in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Afghans are used to hunt jackrabbits. The

dogs can turn in their own length if they miss the kill and nothing can out-distance them on rough, sloping ground. They will hunt in tandem with Irish Wolfhounds: the Afghan grabbing the coyote and holding it for the Wolfhounds to close in. In the Michigan inland lake region of the lower peninsula, Afghans literally fly through the air leaping over fallen trees, low bushes and high grass in the pursuit of rabbits and partridge. In upper New York State Afghans have been employed to rid areas of foxes that preyed on small game birds. Their far-sightedness is of great value. In Montana, Afghans are used by mink and sable ranchers to guard stock and to hunt coyotes.

The breed has been presented in *Popular Dogs Magazine* of June 1956 as a "dog for all seasons." The breed's great beauty is just the first virtue to be observed. Its development in the United States shows it to be a breed of significant intelligence, robust health, and lasting popularity in the show ring as well as all places and events where breeders and owners choose to share their lives with their dogs.

So from the drama of the Pomeranian, Sparking Gold Nugget, to the writings of Edith Izant and Reginald Cleveland this celebration of June 1956 *Popular Dogs* ends with the extraordinary story of the Afghan Hound. It was, indeed, a very good issue in a very good year.



*Ed. Note: Pictured is the AHCA 1972 national specialty catalog cover. Do you notice anything different about the logo? Refer to the TN Winter 2009 cover story about the origin of the AHCA logo.*



## AHCA 2012 Breeders' Cup

Photos by Bill Kohler & Associates



### Best in Breeders' Cup THAON'S MARISKA (Bitch)

Ch. Thaon's Starpower Chic #78722 ex Thaon's Waterwitch Chic #78723

Breeder/Owners: Jay T. Hafford & James Blanchard



### Best Opposite Sex In Breeders' Cup

#### JOLIE ORION (Dog)

Ch. Winsong Hollywood Park ex Agha Djari's Zandalee

Breeders/Owners: Jason & Jennifer Taylor



**2012 BREEDERS' CUP  
SHOW RESULTS**  
**Submitted by Dorma Sue Busby,**  
**Show Secretary**



Pictured left to right: President Tony Saia, Judge Leslie Stoffels & 2012 Breeders' Cup Show Chair, Eileen Laudermilch.

**JUDGE'S CRITIQUE BY LESLIE STOFFELS**

It was a great honor to judge the AHCA Breeders' Cup in Mesa, AZ. The host club did an amazing job with great detail and organization. I thank all of you for your hospitality.

The entry was of high quality. I had many exhibits that were equally worthy of winning on any given day. My Best In Breeders' Cup was an exquisite example of our breed. For me, she was hard to fault. Our breed standard states "great style and beauty" which to me is the core quality of our breed that can never be overlooked. Her carriage and outline moving were flawless. Good size and very feminine with a long beautiful tail. My Best of Opposite Sex was equally deserving. He too exhibited the same great style and beauty with flawless carriage. He had a beautiful eye. It was hard to take your eyes off of him moving. Being a young dog he sometimes lost his focus but when he did move it was with great purpose and his stride was lovely. Thank you to all who exhibited to me.

**Placements in the 6-9 Months Puppy Dogs**

1. WINSONG JAMNA POETIC JUSTICE  
Breeders: Gary Sinck & Nikki Gardner  
Owners: C.A. Divoky & Richard Palcie & Nikki Gardner.
2. DEESES PRINCE PHOENIX OF NIRVANA  
Breeder/Owner: Denise Evans
3. DEESES KINETIC KAOS MASARRAH  
Breeder/Owner: Denise Evans

**Placements in the 9-12 Months Puppy Dogs**

1. JOLIE ORION Breeder: Jason & Jennifer Taylor  
Breeder/Owners: Jason & Jennifer Taylor
2. GWICH'IN PAPARAZZI VIZIONZ OF SUMMERWIND  
Breeder: Tracy F. Farmer  
Owner: Rosemary Sutton
3. POLO'S YODA ONE Breeder: Lorianne Amadeo  
Breeder/Owner: Lorianne Amadeo
4. CAVU TRAVEL'R N TIME  
Breeder/Owners: Jeanine Rendon, Betsy Hufnagel & Gail Kramer

**Placements in the 12-15 Months Dogs:**

1. JOROGZ' MOONLIGHT ON THE HORIZON  
Breeder: Sue Sachen-Burg  
Owners: Sue Sachen-Burg & Deanne Kriser & Colleen Ayling

2. JOROGZ' MOONBEAM  
Breeder: Sue Sachen-Burg  
Owners: Tom & Darla Deckard & Sue Sachen-Burg
3. KUHL BREEZE ILLICIT VOICES  
Breeder/Owners: Deborah Ridley & Loreen Wennberg
4. JOROGZ' EMBER SWEET BABY BLUE  
Breeders: Michael Schember, John Roger Morton & Gregory Byfield  
Owners: Terri Grimm & Michael Schember

**Placements in the 15-18 months Dogs**

1. GOLDDDRAGON SHYLO RESURRECTION  
Breeder: Mario Martinez Sanchez  
Owners: Stephen Fisher & Bruce Clark

**Placements in the 18-21 Months Dogs**

1. SHANTE' PRIME TIME SENSATION  
Breeder: Marilyn Domhoff  
Owner: Darlene Pallen-Deckard
2. SHANTE DEJA BLU  
Breeder/Owner: Marilyn Domhoff.

**Placements in the 6-9 Months Puppy Bitch**

1. THAONS CATWALK  
Breeder/Owners: Jay T. Hafford & James Blanchard
2. JAMNA WINSONG HEAVENLY DELIGHT  
Breeders: Gary Sinck & Nikki Gardner  
Owners: Lee & Barb Bornstein & Gary Sinck & Nikki Gardner
3. DEESES KINDRED KALAMITY AT SUNI  
Breeder: Denise Evans  
Owners: James & Lynda Hicks

**Placements in the 9-12 Puppy Bitch**

1. JOLIE PANDORA  
Breeders: Jason & Jennifer Taylor  
Owners: Greg & Linda Korstad
2. GWICH'IN DIVINE VIZIONZ OF SUMMERWIND  
Breeder: Tracy F. Farmer  
Owners: Rosemary Sutton & Tracy F. Farmer
3. PAMELON'S SOMEWHERE IN TIME OF CAVU  
Breeders: J. Rendon & B. Hufnagel & G. Kramer  
Owners: Pamela & Lonnie Patterson & J. Rendon & B. Hufnagel & G. Kramer.

**Placements in the 12-15 Months Bitches**

1. JOROGZ' DECEMBER MOON  
Breeder: Sue Sachen-Burg  
Owners: Billie Wilson & John Morton
2. ELF'S DOROTHY LUCRECIA  
Breeders: Joy Atkins-Miller & Roger Elgren  
Owners: Ylla C. & William D. Carson

**Placements in the 15-18 Months Bitches**

1. SHACONE ABACA WHAT ABOUT ME  
Breeders: Terry d. Chacon, Abbe R. Shaw & Judith A. Bloom  
Owners: Terry d. Chacon & Abbe Shaw
2. SHACONE ABACA PRECIOUS GEM  
Breeders: Terry Chacon, Abbe Shaw & Judy Bloom  
Owners: Bill & Jennifer Pearce & Terry Chacon & Abbe Shaw

**Placements in the 18-21 Months Bitches**

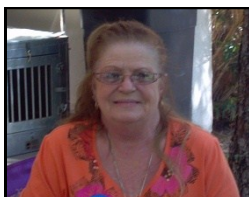
1. THAON'S MARISKA  
Breeder/Owners: Jay T. Hafford & James Blanchard
2. THAON'S SHAKIRA  
Breeders: Jay T. Haffor & James Blanchard  
Owners: H. & F. Andre & J. Hafford & A. Sterner
3. KZAR PRIME TIME DELITE  
Breeder: Marilyn Domhoff  
Owner: Kale Piland





**2012 Breeders' Cup  
Show Chair Report  
Submitted by  
Eileen Lauder Milch,  
Show Chair**

I am very pleased that the 24th annual Breeders' Cup was so well attended. I heard from several people that they had a great time. That was one of my goals. I chose "Sweet Treats" because puppies are all sweet treats. I planned for the day to be as lighthearted as our puppies. Our magnificent dogs are all a treat in our lives.

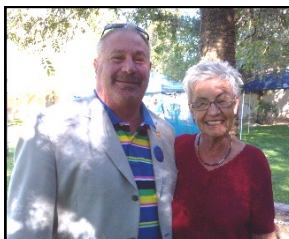


Denise Ross

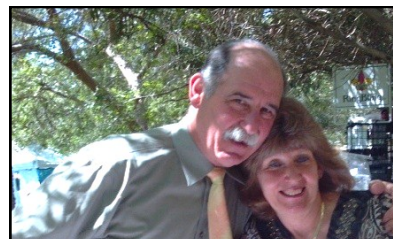
The dinner, held Friday evening, was well attended. A great deal of food was served, all with a southwestern flair. I hope that everyone had the opportunity throughout the day to reconnect with old friends and establish new ones. The centerpieces were cupcake holders with decorated cupcakes with Afghan Hound figures made of icing, in keeping with the theme for the day. Janet Williams designed the wonderful logo and the trophies were ceramic art by Denise Ross. I wish to thank the Afghan Hound Club of Southern Arizona and the Afghan Hound Club of Greater Phoenix for their assistance in making the entire weekend a memorable one.

The Best in Breeders' Cup winner was Thaon's Mariska, owned and bred by Jay Hafford and James Blanchard. Mariska qualified for the \$1000 bonus in that both her parents had CHIC numbers. Best of Opposite Sex in Breeders' Cup was Jolie Orion, owned and bred by Jason and Jennifer Taylor.

I had a great time personally and am happy that the entire Breeders' Cup was well received, and I hope that some of the attendees had a chance to see some of what Arizona has to offer.



Tony Saia  
& Brigitte Kaiser



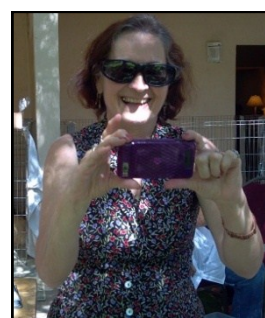
James Hicks  
& Linda Jackson



Dayne Jordan, Live Streaming & Gary Sinck, Announcing



Nikki Gardner, Gill Ullom  
& Jeannette York



Debbie Peterson  
& Camera



Sue Busby & Terry Chacon



Bill, Jen & Sharon Pearce







Patti Norsworthy & Betsy Hufnagel



SWEET TREATS



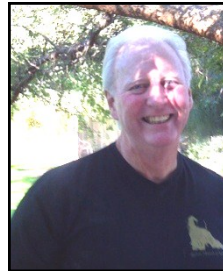
Rosemary Sutton



Lynda Hicks



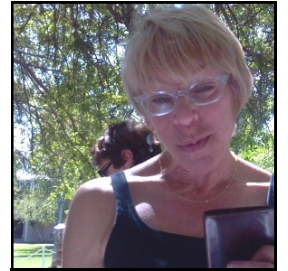
BC Judge, Leslie Stoffels at the dinner



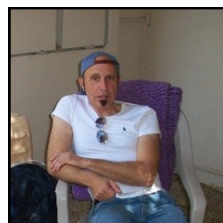
Chris Kaiser



Centerpiece



Patricia Silverman



Harry Bennett



Bob Stein & Dayne Jordan



Rachel Irvin & Gary Lennon



Brigitte Kaiser  
& AKC Delegate  
Connie Butherus



Eileen Laudermilch  
& Helen Stein





## **AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT**

### **Submitted by Connie Butherus**

### **AHCA Delegate to the AKC**

The March 12 and 13, 2012 meetings were held at the Sheraton Newark Airport. This was also the AKC Annual Meeting and elections for the Board of Directors, and with seven candidates running for three positions, the hallway politicking was in high gear.

Day one was devoted to committee meetings and Delegate caucus. I attended the Parent Club Committee first. This committee has a number of projects in process with committee members working on several subcommittees. I am involved with the group developing criteria by which to recognize in an official way Parent Clubs of Excellence. Others are working on guidelines for National Specialties, Jr. Showmanship recognition and the proposal which would address awarding points for RWD/B at National Specialties should the class entry be equal to or greater than double the requirements for a 5 point award for that sex in that region. The death of the Gazette and the elimination of the Awards Report have been of great concern. It was reported that 90 parent clubs have signed up for the fee for service replacement program to date. As nearly all parent clubs use this information to determine their awards and rankings, the loss of this valuable report has been a serious hit. The information is still available for a fee.

It was reported that Hartford Insurance Company will take into consideration the CGC designation in their homeowners insurance policies. For some dog owners, purchasing homeowners insurance has been a big hassle, with some insurers excluding specific breeds of dogs for fear of liability (bites). Dogs holding CGC designation are considered a better bet by Hartford, it was stated.

The Canine Health Committee was my next meeting. Items discussed were:

- CHIC – statistics
- Breeders of Merit program and health requirements
- Veterinary outreach.

The Delegate Caucus took up the balance of day one. The entire caucus consisted of Q & A with the seven candidates for the Board. Most of the questions were rather soft in content, eliciting equally bland responses. Even the more probing questions rarely received a meaty response. At the end of the session, a question from the floor finally hit the real concern. "Who do you intend to support for the Chairman of the AKC Board?" Up to that point, none of those running had tipped his/her hand regarding that concern. (Both Board Chair Menaker and Assistant Chair Davies were going off the Board due to term limits). As the leadership of the AKC can reside with the chair, it was the question most delegates had on their minds. Six of the candidates gave their usual non-informative responses. One was brave enough to give a direct answer citing specific reasons for his decision. BTW, he was elected the next day!

Upon arriving Tuesday morning, it was clear the candidates and

their supporters were in action. Let no delegate feel left out or un-greeted. Smiles, handshakes and pats on the back were in abundance. Many of the delegates had been instructed by their clubs regarding who to vote for, thus any last minute soliciting was a wasted effort.

The election required three ballots to get the three positions filled. On the first ballot, Pat Cruz and Tom Powers were elected. Second ballot yielded no winner. The third ballot resulted in Bill Feeney being elected. Both Tom Powers and Bill Feeney were selected by the Nominating Committee. Pat Cruz ran by petition endorsement. Congrats to the winners!

Amendments to be voted upon were next on the agenda. Of major interest was the Group Realignment proposal. This would increase the number of groups from seven to eleven. The Board would designate the Group names as well as assigning the specific breeds to those groups. The delegates are permitted to specify the number of groups – nothing further.

The amendment required a 2/3 majority to be adopted. The vote was a "Counted" vote aka a "stand up and be counted." The results were 231 in favor and 165 opposed – not a 2/3 majority and the proposed amendment failed. The concern that stimulated the entire proposal was the increasing number of breeds earning AKC recognition and now entering competition, thus the growth in group size. The rebuttal to that concern being the breed numbers of the new breeds are so low that often there is not a representative of the breed showing up in the group; thus no need to change at this time. Most believe this proposal will come up again in the next few years.

The Director of the Marketing Department gave an upbeat presentation regarding AKC actions focused on increasing revenue and registrations.

The CFO report outlined the money issues over the past year. The investments took the expected hit due to the market downturn: 2011 was better however than 2010. Events continue to lose, head count is reduced, however the reserve and endowment funds are healthy. A surplus is projected for the 2012 budget (We can all do our bit by individually registering the entire litter of our puppies).

After the meeting it was reported that Alan Kalter was elected Chairman of the Board. Although Ron Menaker will be a hard act to follow and deeply missed, Alan will be a great Chair!

Joining the Delegate body was another AHCA member, Russ Hastings, representing the Elmira KC. The Afghan Hound fancy is well represented these days.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Butherus  
AKC Delegate to the AKC

# AHCA INVENTORY ITEMS AVAILABLE

To order any of the inventory items contact:

**Sue Busby**  
 barakiafs@peoplepc.com  
**PAYPAL/VISA/MC ACCEPTED**  
 (Prices do not include postage)



## 2008 NATIONAL INVENTORY ITEMS

<b>1 DVD CONFORMATION SET</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>1 DVD PERFORMANCE EVENTS</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>5 DVD'S LURE COURSING</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>25 CATALOGS "MEMORIES"</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>

(Featuring all past winners from 1940 to current all events)

<b><u>TOP 20 INVITATIONAL</u></b>	
<b>CATALOG &amp; DVD, SET COST</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>



## 2009 NATIONAL INVENTORY ITEMS

<b>POSTERS 18 X 22</b> (Only 25 left)	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>T- SHIRTS</b> (Logo Embroidered)	<b>\$5.00</b>
BLACK - 2 Small, 1 Medium, 1 Extra Large	
<b>1/4 ZIP SUEDE SHIRT</b> (Logo Embroidered)	<b>\$10.00</b>
BLACK - 11 Extra Large, 1- 2X	
<b>2009 CATALOGS</b> (Only 9 left)	<b>\$5.00</b>



## 2010 NATIONAL INVENTORY ITEMS

<b>POSTERS 18 X 22</b> (UNFRAMED)	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>SWEATSHIRTS</b> (Silk Screened)	<b>\$5.00</b>
Black- 1 Small, 7 Extra Large, 2- 2X	
Brown- 5 Small, 3 Large, 4 Extra Large	
<b>T-SHIRTS</b> (Silk Screened)	<b>\$5.00</b>
Green- 3 Extra Large, 2 - 2X	
Black- 6 Extra Large	
Chocolate- 4 Medium, 5 Extra Large	
<b>BROWN 1/4 ZIP SPORT-TEK JACKET</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
(Silk Screened)	
2 Medium, 3 Large, 5 Extra Large	
<b>BLACK POLO SHIRTS</b> (Embroidered)	<b>\$5.00</b>
5 Large, 9 Extra Large	
<b>TOTE BAGS</b> (Silk Screened in Color)	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>NATIONAL LOGO CANVAS</b>	
<b>TOTE BAGS</b> (Silk Screened in Color)	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>NATIONAL LOGO &amp; VELUS LOGO</b>	
(Silk Screened in Color)	
<b>CATALOGS</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>



## 2011 NATIONAL INVENTORY ITEMS

<b>SWEATSHIRT FULL ZIP HOODIE</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>
BROWN: 2- S, 3- M, 6- L, 9- XL, 1- 2X, 2- 3X	
GREY: 1- XL, 1- 3X	
<b>T-SHIRTS</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
BLACK: 3- L, 8- XL, 1-3X	
LT. PURPLE 3- 3X	
<b>BASEBALL CAP</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
LT. PURPLE: W/LOGO	
<b>CATALOGS</b> (Only 15 left)	<b>\$20.00</b>



## 2010 BREEDERS' CUP

<b>T-SHIRTS</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
Beige 2- S, 3- L, 1- XL	
Light Blue 3- L, 2- XL	
<b>CATALOGS</b> (Only 6 left)	<b>\$5.00</b>





## 2011 BREEDERS' CUP

<b>T-SHIRTS</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
CAROLINA BLUE 4-S, 2-M, 5-L	
<b>CATALOGS (only 8 left)</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>



## 2012 BREEDERS' CUP

<b>T-SHIRTS (WHITE ONLY)</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
2-L, 5-XL, 3-2-X, 1-3X	
<b>CATALOGS (Only 8 left)</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>YOU CAN ORDER A CATALOG &amp; T-SHIRT TOGETHER FOR \$25.00</b>	

## AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA LOGO ITEMS



<b>BASEBALL CAPS (10 IN ASST. COLORS)</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>FLEECE BLANKETS</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
(LOGO IN GOLD THREADS) 10 FOREST GREEN	
<b>LAPTOP TOTE BAGS</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
(LOGO IN GOLD THREADS) 18 BLACK	
<b>DUFFLE BAGS</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
3 NAVY, 9 RED	
<b>14KT GOLD PLATED PC LAPEL PINS</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
TIE TAC OR SAFTY PIN	
<b>6 PAK COOLERS</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
12 PINK, 4 TEAL, 12 GRAY	

## LURE COURSING REPORT Submitted by Max Ross, Chair & Linda Jackson



### Future Lure Coursing Dates:

**October 13 & 14, 2012 Camden, SC**

**December 1 & 2, 2012 Camden, SC**

Contact Max Ross for more information at:  
[mrosshomestead@aol.com](mailto:mrosshomestead@aol.com)

## Afghan Hound Club of America 2012 Specialty Atlanta, GA Tentative Schedule October 28 — October 31, 2012

### Saturday, October 28, 2012

- \* AM - Lure-coursing - AKC
- \* PM - Lure-coursing – ASFA
- \* Welcome Party/Vendor Party

### Sunday, October 28, 2012

- \* AM - Agility
- \* PM (2:00) Sweepstakes Judging  
& Triathlon Conformation
- \* Regional Club Meeting

### Monday, October 29, 2012

- \* AM - Obedience
- \* PM - Dog judging
- \* Breed Seminar & Dinner

### Tuesday, October 30, 2012

- \* AM - General Membership Meeting
- \* PM - Bitch Judging
- \* Art Auction & Dinner

### Wednesday, October 31, 2012

- \* AM - Junior Showmanship  
Parade of Rescued Dogs  
Parade of Veterans
- \* PM - Best of Breed Judging
- \* Awards Banquet

## ABOUT MICHELE TRIFIRO



Well, I finally cornered Michele Trifiro, and son of a gun, I learned we have much to talk about. But on deadline, here's just a bit about Michele, her beloved hound Kabuki, and Kabuki's mouthy handler, Estelle. I wanted to provide some information about Michele, since she has agreed to provide an original cartoon for each issue of *Topknot News*.

Though Michele had no formal art school training, art has always been a special part of her life. She is a fine artist, a caricature artist and always a cartoonist! Before the Kabuki strip, while serving on active duty in the U.S. Army, in the 1980s and stationed in Europe, Michele had a cartoon strip published in *Stars & Stripes* ... and later, when she returned to the states, she dabbled as a political cartoonist for the *Patriot Ledger* in Massachusetts, but finds politics boring!

Michele left the army in 1985 as a Military Police Captain. She spent 12 years as the Director of Security and Safety for the Harvard University Art Museums, then after 9/11 she left to work for the government as a Navy Security specialist (8 years) and now, she is back in the academic world which she totally enjoys. She is currently Director of Campus Safety and Student Services at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA. (Ed. note - small world - my oldest granddaughter graduated Lesley U. in 2009)

Michele put pencil to paper creating her first Afghan Hound cartoon about 1996, naming her subject "Kabuki" after the real Kabuki (DC Sabra Social Butterfly, her first champion, still alive at that time and actively destroying her house).

Since then Michele says she has penned too many cartoons to count.



Let me tell you about Kabuki - she is a dominant bitch with an attitude problem. Kabuki is unstoppable, uncontrollable, overdramatic and irresistible! She will never grow-up and enjoys virtually every indulgence that life has to offer... usually at the expense of her caretaker, Estelle!

And then there's Estelle, a former Drill Sergeant and present day

hairdresser... a killing combination for the show ring! However, winning is not so easy for the overindulgent, bossy, combat-ready, no-slave to fashion, Estelle. For Estelle, life with Kabuki is never dull and bears a striking resemblance to hand-to-hand combat!

In the cartoon depicted here, the judge bears a striking resemblance to our Kent Delaney. When questioned if it were in fact, Kent, Michele answered with, "I was told Kent had a wonderful sense of fun and humor..... I thought I would test it!"

And so the saga begins.... Sue Hamlin

## AFGHAN HAIR

Submitted by Jeanine Rendon-Atkins

## AFGHAN HAIR

Afghan hair is everywhere  
And always in plain sight,  
I vacuum in the morning  
And well into the night.

Yet still more hair seems to appear,  
It comes from everywhere  
And clings to clothes and furniture  
Even blowing in the air.

You'd think by now they'd hairless be,  
A sad and homely story,  
Yet there they stand, lush gleaming strands  
In all their Afghan glory.

As we partake of food and drink  
On this a fun filled day,  
Let's hope that you and you and you  
Won't find a silky stray.

So please forgive for as I say  
They're lurking everywhere,  
And what I'm hoping not to hear  
Is, Yuck! An Afghan hair.

And even though my home has hair  
On carpets and my sheets,  
I hope as we all gather here  
Please!!!! Not in these sweet treats!



Do you know who Barb Bornstein is  
Taking a picture of?  
The answer lies within TN.



## **AGILITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Submitted by Lynda Hicks, Chair**

The total number of AKC Agility titles earned by Afghan Hounds in 2011 was 32. These included an impressive MACH 3 and MACH 4 earned by 2011's Top Agility Afghan Hound, CH MACH4 Stormhill's Red Zinger JC MXF TQX T2B, owned by Robin Cohen & Sandra Frei & Robin Kletke of Washington State.

The first AHCA independent all-breed Agility Trial held on October 21, 2011 at the Bell County Exposition Center, Belton, Texas was quite successful. We had a total entry of 459 runs, and a profit of \$1,900.65 to be used toward the Agility Trial budget for the upcoming National Specialty. A HUGE THANK YOU to the following AHCA parent club members who travelled from all over Texas to serve on the Agility Committee: Brenda Brody, Neil Brody, Wayne Jones, Dick Hafner, James Hicks, Toni King, Patricia Silverman, Nicci vonBroembsen, and Rose Mary Zednick.

Since this venture was successful for both clubs, Bell County Kennel Club has invited the Afghan Hound Club of America to hold an all-breed Agility trial on October 19, 2012. This trial is to be held along with BCKC's 2 trials. One is being held the day before at the same location by the Weimaraner Club of America in conjunction with their National Specialty. This event is currently in the planning stages; however we foresee another profitable event to lend support for future AHCA National Agility Trials.

The 2012 AHCA National Specialty show committee is currently finalizing plans for our Afghans Only Agility Trial in conjunction with the upcoming National Specialty. Look for more on that in the next Topknot News!!



## **JUDGES EDUCATION**

**Submitted by Harry Bennett,  
Coordinator**

On December 14, 2011 in Orlando, FL and during the AKC-Eukanuba Event, I presented a Seminar for the Dog Judges Association of America. The following registrants received certificates for their attendance: Pluis Davern, Darle Heck (Canada), Steve Herman, Graafin Ginger Leeuwenburg, Robert (Gene) McDonald, Jim Owens, Nancy D. Simmons, Gary L. Sparschu, and Ann Yuhasz. They had the opportunity to see the Afghan Hound entry at these shows and I expect that they will seek additional mentoring in their areas through this year.



## **SANKHYA BLUES IN THE NIGHT**

**"MISHA"**

**By Ann Cederna**  
**Submitted By JoAnne Buehler**



I struggled for many years with the decision to own a dog or have children. I never asked for it, but one day my husband Douglas came home with a puppy Afghan Hound, and told me it was my first new dog. She was soon named Misha, and for two weeks I panicked.

But after that period, I learned the great depth and gift that was to be found in my relationship to Misha. In some ways, through Misha I was tricked into finding out how wonderful Afghans Hounds are, and the realization that I could meet the responsibility of other beings and the challenges of parenthood. So Misha is largely responsible for the fact that we have two children, Kyra and Kaylen.

When we interviewed babysitters for our first child, Misha, who was typically nervous and anxious to get away from strangers, would park herself in between the new born Kyra and the potential nanny, sitting straight up, and glaring at the candidates. No one would get access to our pack without her buy-in. We actually sent some people away as we were not comfortable with her reaction, and we were worried for both our children as well as the candidate I suppose.

Also, one day many years back, my husband was walking Misha and they came across a woman with a dog. The woman fell in love with Misha and that started a long family relationship between people and dogs. The husband of this couple happened to be the principal of a nearby school, and this in the end is how and why we were able to enroll the children into the school at a time during which there was a 2 year waiting list. So once again, Misha somehow was essential in forming the kids' important paths and who they would become.

Misha never missed a trick. Douglas taught Misha to sit at the kitchen door and, on command, ring the moose bell which hung on the door knob, with her paw. This resulted in a treat. Then came the new family member, a 4 year old male Afghan Hound named Jet, who also wanted in on the action. So Misha sat nicely at the kitchen door and awaited the "ring the bell" command. Jet stood right in front of Misha, waiting for the treat to be delivered directly to his mouth. There they were in position, and Douglas gave Misha the command, "ring the bell, Misha." She rang Jet's back end instead of the bell! We laughed so hard.

Misha reminded us every day that it's good to get up, and go out, and be always ready for happiness and whatever the day would bring. Misha just wanted to be with us wherever we went, and we took her everywhere most every day. Recently, as Misha swiftly came down with cancer, she left us as quickly as she came. It is both hard and sad as it happened literally overnight. I never wanted to see that day come and I wasn't prepared for it. As I think through the recent past however, I am ever so thankful for having had Misha and for that life experience she provided us. I am also thankful for the blessed gift of that beautiful creature in our household and family for 13 years of our lives.





## CANINE HEALTH REPORT

Submitted by Health Chair,  
Eileen Laudermitch, RN, CCRN

Grants that were approved are the following (including the amounts). I feel that these 3 studies have the most potential in helping our breed.

1. \$1000.00 to grant #01542-A, ACORN grant from the University of Minnesota. "Rational Development of Targeted Therapy-Aurora Kinase Inhibition in Osteosarcoma Aurora kinases are essential regulators of cell division in all animals from yeast to man. The normal mechanisms that control these proteins may be lost in cancer; various human tumors express very high levels of Aurora kinases. I feel that this is also an important crossover to human studies. Unless canine research can show the importance to human studies, any hope of federal funding is lost. This was repeatedly stated at the Canine Health Conference.

2. The next study is by St. Vincent's Institute for Medical Research # 01657 and is an OAK study which requires a \$2500 donation. This study defines New Therapeutic Approaches for Osteosarcoma through Genome Wide Screening and Comparative Oncology. Because most tumors have already spread at the time they are found, this is a study for targeted therapy.

3. \$1000 to ACORN grant #01674-A, a study from Michigan State and concerns Molecular Basis of Congenital Hypothyroidism with goiter in Spanish Water Dogs. This was the only grant listed for hypothyroidism which is a concern for our breed. The grant total was \$4500 leaving a balance of \$1745.30.

The health clinics at the previous nationals in Ohio were not as well received as we had hoped. 19 dogs utilized the thyroid draw at a greatly reduced rate. We were aiming for a "batch" of 50 so that we could permanently change the "normal" range in Afghan Hounds to be more in line with our specific breed. Unfortunately we fell very short of the mark. The CERF clinic was offered also at a reduced rate. The Ophthalmologist cost us \$1000 for their participation, 30 dogs participated. No one used the hip x-rays. One nice thing is that it offered the convenience for foreign dogs to obtain their CHIC certification while here. In fact, when they are in this country, we need to promote their getting their CHIC number for future breedings.

The Health survey is in progress and I hope that all of you will take the time and respond back to me.

**Attention:** Online anonymous health survey coming soon. You can do all dogs, living and deceased. This will help us get true information regarding the health of our breed. Everyone should do this, including those who have pets. Remember, it is **completely anonymous!** Information regarding the link will be given soon, please share with everyone.

I am sure that all of you now know that at the Special Meeting, the CHIC requirement was changed by the general membership to give the winner of the Breeders' Cup a \$500 bonus if both parents have a CHIC number. I know that all trustworthy breeders will continue to test their dogs prior to breeding. The following is the year-end report for Hips and Thyroid. Eyes were re-

ported as a 100% pass rate, however I did not get the exact number.

For Hips: In 2011, 128 dogs were submitted for evaluation. Only 21.9% of these were made public. 124 were read as normal; this includes excellent (42), good (78) and fair (4). Only 4 were deemed abnormal. Mild dysplasia (3) and moderate (1). Since 1974, abnormals have been an average of 5.7% with 29.7% excellent, 57.0% good, and 7.2% fair. Dysplasia was 0.4% borderline, mild 3.5%, moderate 2.1% and severe 0.1%.

For Thyroid: 111 dogs were tested. 74 tested normal and 14 were abnormal. Of the abnormals, 10 were reported as autoimmune thyroiditis, and 4 were idiopathic hypothyroidism. Equivocal were 23. The number of dogs tested in 2010 were only 59; 42 normal, 4 abnormal (3 thyroiditis and 1 hypothyroid) and 13 equivocal.





## REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW DATES

Submitted by JoAnne Buehler, Regional Club Chair

**Regional Clubs Chair Update :** Please send your AKC Show Application and Compliance Report along with your other documentation to me when you apply for AHCA approval. You are welcome to e-mail everything to the address below, or snail/overnight to my work address:

**11301 River Road  
Potomac, Maryland 20854**

**Phone: 301-590-9056  
Fax: 301-299-0079**

CLUB SHOW SECRETARY REGULAR CLASS JUDGE SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE	SHOW DATE LOCATION
Afghan Hound Club of California, Inc. Blue Ribbon Dog Shows Pauline Hewitt – Regular Classes Kerry Pope - Sweepstakes	4/13/2012 Oak Canyon Park Silverado, CA
Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio, Inc. Dorma Sue Busby Pending – Regular Classes Pending - Sweepstakes	4/20/2012 Fort Rapids Indoor Water Park Columbus, OH 43232
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus Dorma Sue Busby Carol Reisman – Regular Classes Barbara Hastings - Sweepstakes Lucy Orłowski – Jr Showmanship	4/21/2012 Same Site as 4/20/12
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas Clay Williams Robert Godfrey – Regular Classes Phillip Schafmayer - Sweepstakes	4/28/2012 South Fork Ranch Parker, TX
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas Clay Williams Amy Sorbie – Regular Classes Christina Farrar - Sweepstakes	4/29/2012 Same site as 4/28/12
The Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey Judy Brandenburg Darko Petresiki – Regular Classes Linda E. Kolb - Sweepstakes	5/4/2012 Mercer County Park Old Trenton & South Post Roads West Windsor, NJ 08561
Afghan Hound Club of St Louis Jan Henry Lou Guerrero – Regular Classes Jerry Hastings - Sweepstakes	6/2/2012 Purina Farms – Exhibition Center Gray Summit, MO
The Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago, Inc. Carol Glowczynski David Cochrane – Regular Classes No - Sweepstakes	6/8/2012 AM Show Pilcher Park RTE 30 & Cougar Road Joliet, IL

**The Afghan Hound Club of America supports Regional Clubs by awarding Best of Winners, Jr. Showmanship and Rescue Medallions. Please contact Claudia Jakus for more information at: [claudiajakus@comcast.net](mailto:claudiajakus@comcast.net)**

The Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago, Inc. Carol Glowczynski Hobart Brown – Regular Classes Brenda Brody - Sweepstakes	6/8/2012 PM Show Same site as 6/8/12
Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club MB-F, Inc. Stephen J. Wheeler – Regular Classes Jack Fahey - Sweepstakes Joyce A Vanek – Jr Showmanship	6/9/2012- Designated Specialty Costa County Kennel Club Solano County Fairgrounds Vallejo, CA
Colonial Afghan Hound Club Lois Smith Chris Kaiser - Regular Classes Ria Wagner – Sweepstakes Dr. Berry Deitch - Jr. Showmanship	6/15/2012 Motel 6 51 Hartford Turnpike Vernon, CT 06066
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club Ms. Dale Boyd George Giles – Regular Classes Lucia Brown - Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship	6/16/2012 Same site as Colonial
The Afghan Hound Association of Long Island Dr. Barry Deitch Karen De Von – Regular Classes Linda Hicks - Sweepstakes Carol Smith – Jr. Showmanship	6/17/2012 Site PENDING maybe Same as above
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland Pending Secretary Peter Machen – Regular Classes Gail Kramer - Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship	7/6/2012 Southwest Washington Fairgrounds Centralia, WA
Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club, Ltd. MBF Rachel Irvin – Regular Classes Marilyn Jennings - Sweepstakes Homer R. Hastings – Jr. Showmanship	7/6/2012 Hamlin Fireman's Field 1503 Lake Rd. Route 19 Hamlin, NY 14454
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Patricia Shaw Gil Ullom – Regular Classes & Jr. Showmanship Kelly Ray – Sweepstakes	8/3/2012 Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs 35612 – 112th Ave. SE Auburn, WA 98092
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Designated Specialty with The Cascade Hound Club Show BaRay Events John Roger Morton—Regular Classes Dean D'Aquil— Sweepstakes	8/4/2012 Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs 35612—112th Ave. SE Auburn, WA 98092
Midwest Ohio Afghan Hound Club Holly Miller Sandra Frei – Regular Classes Col. Darlyn Pfeiffer – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship	8/10/2012 49978 St. Rt. 511 Lorain County Kennel Club Grounds Henrietta, TWP, OH
Memphis Afghan Hound Club Onofrio Dog Shows Pam Arwood - Regular Classes Sandra Stotzer -Sweepstakes	8/18/2012 Designated Specialty with Memphis KC The Southaven Multi-Purpose Arena Memphis, TN



Greater Twin City Afghan Hound Club Onofrio Dog Shows LLC Jose Luis Payro – Regular Classes Beth Collins - Sweepstakes Camille Goll – Jr. Showmanship	8/24/2012 Washington County Fairgrounds Lake Elmo, MN
Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Dorma Sue Busby Robert Godfry – Regular Classes John (Jack) Fahey - Sweepstakes	9/1/12 Best Western Hotel Whitmore Lake, MI
Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Dorma Sue Busby Lynn Mercer – Regular Classes Pat Sheets - Sweepstakes	9/2/12 Same Site as 9/1/12
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan D. Curtis Hank Nave – Regular Classes & Jr. Showmanship Holly Jorgensen - Sweepstakes	9/6/2012 Island Grove Park 14th Avenue North & D Street Greeley, CO
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan D. Curtis Honi Reisman – Regular Classes Linda Jackson – Sweepstakes	9/7/2012 Same Site as 9/6/12
Afghan Hound Club of Austin Carlos Chujoy Rita Figg - Regular Classes No Sweepstakes No Jr. Showmanship	10/20/2012 Bel County Expo Center Belton, TX
Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty Dorma Sue Busby Betsy Hufnagel – Dogs Helen Stein – Bitches & Intersex Anna Stromberg – Sweepstakes Rita Figg - Jr. Showmanship	10/28/2012 thru 10/31/2012 Sheraton Gateway Hotel 1900 Sullivan Road Atlanta, GA 30337
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc. Dorma Sue Busby Jan Reital – Regular Classes & Jr. Showmanship Susan Sprung - Sweepstakes	11/02/2012 Same Site at the National
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Dorma Sue Busby Ken Tippie – Regular Classes Nancy Alderman - Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship	11/02/2012 Same Site as the National
Colonial Afghan Hound Club Pending – Regular Classes Pending – Sweepstakes Pending – Jr. Showmanship	11/30/2012 Trade Center at the Courtyard Marriott Fitchburg, MA 01420



**FROM THE PAST**  
**Writings on the Afghan Hound**  
**by early AHCA Members**

*The following is reprinted, in part, from the American Kennel Gazette in December 1949 by Mrs. Robert F. Boger.*

Now we'll get to the color business. Any color is acceptable in Afghan Hounds. Our Standard says that white spots on noses and feet are not to be encouraged. These "splashes," according to experts, show retrogression in coloration. Often, when an Afghan Hound is "splashed" you will find that the pigmentation around the eyes and nose is pale. An Afghan Hound, whatever his color, should have a dark eye and a black nose, and dark lines around his eyes.

Some Afghans have 'winter noses' which are red, during the cold weather, and then they turn black during the warm weather. Don't ask me why, because I don't know, nor does anyone else. An English woman told me, many years ago, that brindles are not acceptable in England—they are thought to be not quite right—mixed with Persian greyhounds—she told me. I don't believe it, because some of the typiest Afghans I've seen have been brindles. The first Afghan Hound I ever saw was shown at the Eastern show in, I think, 1923 or 1924. He was imported by Mr. Goff, a friend of my father's, and he was a brindle. He died of ennui (boredom) —there were no Afghan Hounds where he lived in Massachusetts. Mr. Goff brought him from Afghanistan.

There has been propaganda about reds and creams with black masks. No Afghan could win, a few years ago, unless he was in the pattern—the blacks and brindles were automatically discarded as were the blondes without the dark masks and ear fringes. We all have our personal preferences as to color, and in breeding we try to achieve our goal. In Afghan Hounds, we cannot tell what colors will result from a breeding, and I'll bet my life on it. The reason that we can't prognosticate the colors is that we don't have enough generations and history back of our Afghan Hounds.

This Club has done a great deal to make judges conscious of the fact that color is of no importance—that structure is the main thing. Personally, I love blacks and brindles, but when I judge, I disregard color. Just remember that every once in a while you must breed to a black or a dark brindle in order to keep proper pigmentation. Do not underestimate the power of the blacks and the brindles.

*The following is reprinted, in part, from the American Kennel Gazette in November, 1950 by Charlotte Coffey, AHCA Secretary.*

The Afghan Hound is without any doubt one of the most ancient breeds in the world, so old that the Afghan Shikaris claim that this was the breed chosen by Noah to be taken with him on the Ark. And there is every evidence that the type has not changed down through the centuries.

In their native country, Afghan Hounds are highly prized and jealously guarded by the native chiefs who use them to guard sheep and cattle as well as to hunt deer and the smaller wild animals. And while those chiefs can be persuaded to part with one of their hounds for the proceeds from the sale, they have been frequently known to reacquire the sold animal by the simple process of theft.

In our country, however, Afghan Hounds are known chiefly for their magnificently beautiful appearance. And that they have much more to offer than great exotic beauty, is brought out in this story of an amazing performance of these dogs as told by an eye-witness writing under the nom-de-plume, "Mali" following a visit to the North West Frontier of India, as follows:

"Chaman, you must know, is one of our principal posts on the North West Frontier. A former Commander-in-Chief decreed that a post should be established at Chaman to be fed by a light railway from Quetta. Two mud forts guard the railway station, one on each side; each fort is manned by one company of Indian infantry, and one squadron native mounted levies, and by dogs!

"What strikes the newcomer entering either of the forts at any hour of the day is the large, extraordinary-looking creatures sprawling all over the place, fast asleep. In size and shape they somewhat resemble a large Greyhound, but such slight resemblance is dispelled by the tufts with which they are adorned.

"They are known here as the Baluchi Hounds, and they get their daily food ration from the commissariat babu; he is the only permanent resident of the fort. They will have no truck with any stranger, white or black.

"When 'Retreat' sounds, the pack awakes, yawns, pulls itself together, and solemnly marches out to take up position close to the newly arrived night guard. They appear to be under no leadership, yet as the patrols are told off, a couple of dogs attach themselves to each patrol, and they remain with their respective patrols till 'Reveille' next morning. Between a deep ditch and wall of the fort is a narrow path. Throughout the night, this path is patrolled by successive couples of dogs. Immediately one couple has completed the circuit of the walls and arrives back at the main gate, another couple starts out.

"When it is remembered that these extraordinary hounds have never had any training whatsoever, that their duties are absolutely self-imposed—for no human being has the slightest control over them—the perfection of their organization and the smoothness with which they carry out their tasks make mere men gasp! I have a deep respect for those 'hounds of Chaman.' I always will have.



*Continued on Page 26....*

*Continued from Page 25....*

***The following is reprinted, in part, from the American Kennel Gazette in February, 1951 by Charlotte Coffey, AHCA Secretary.***

There is some discussion these days on the size of the Afghan Hound. Our Standard says, "dogs, 27 in., plus or minus one inch; bitches, 25 in., plus or minus one inch" giving us some leeway in both dogs and bitches. It is interesting to note that the famous Ch. Sirdar stood only 24 inches, but he was such a magnificent Afghan Hound in every other way, his size was considered unimportant.

We must consider the purpose of the Afghan when we consider his size. In his native country, he is bred for hunting gazelles and snow leopards—a hard and grueling work that calls for stamina as well as great swiftness. He must have good, solid bones, great lung capacity, and sufficient size to give him the strength and endurance he needs to enable him to travel swiftly, and to kill his quarry when he catches up with it.

It is obvious that because of the burden of his own weight, an over-sized Afghan Hound cannot be capable of the great speed and endurance demanded of him; and by that same token, an undersized, light-boned Afghan Hound cannot stand up to the strain of the conditions under which he must work. So it is clear that there must be a nice balance between size and power in a true type Afghan Hound.

Ours is not a country of gazelles and snow leopards, and our Afghan Hounds are bred for the show ring. And unfortunately it seems that some of us have lost sight of the true purpose of the Afghan, and are inclined to feel that the bigger they are, the better they are.

Q.A. Shaw McKean, one of the first and best known Afghan breeders in this country, said in one of his excellent articles, "There is real danger in over-emphasizing the importance of size in Afghans. The result is that great, clumsy, coarse dogs are put up that could not possibly fulfill the purpose of the breed. Power and speed are more important than weight. A great, clumsy-looking animal is not an Afghan Hound."

***The following is reprinted, in part, from the American Kennel Gazette in February, 1952 by Charlotte Coffey, AHCA President.***

THE MATERIAL written below is an exact copy of an article which appeared in the English magazine, *Our Dogs*, April 13, 1951 issue. The quotation is from the Afghan Hound column written by Mrs. Molly Sharpe, Chaman Afghans, Scotland, and as far as I know, has not been reprinted in any of our other American magazines. I believe it will be of interest to Afghan folks, particularly our breeders.

"Miss Niblock, of the Khanabad Afghans, sent the following, which was compiled by His Excellency the Afghan Ambassador, Marshal Shaw Wali, last year. Miss Niblock's brother who was in Afghanistan fairly recently, asked Sir Giles Squire (who was the British Ambassador to Afghanistan in 1948) if he could help with some data on the Afghan Hound, and Sir Giles asked His Excellency to write out a few details. When Miss Niblock

wrote to the then Afghan Ambassador, she suggested he should visit Cruft's and see our English Afghans there.

" '1) The Afghan Hounds are used in plains, not hills.

" '2) The owners are very fond of their hounds. They feed them punctually, with meat, wheat bread, or bread mixed with milk. They do not beat them at all. They guard and protect them perfectly. They look after their comfort and ease, and treatment if they fall sick. Afghans are considered valuable; are washed thoroughly with soap, dried and brushed as well.

" '3) The varieties of Afghan Hounds are named after the colour of their hair, and are as follows: (a) Khir, Khaki; (b) Zar, brown; (c) Soure, reddish; (d) Spin, Tazi, whitish; (e) Kamar, pure white and reddish, which is known as Makhmal, is very much approved. Kamar is rarely found and is considered the first grade in the choice of colour.

" '4) The Hounds are not fierce or vicious by nature, and they do not attack men.

" '5) Afghan Hounds are classified in respect of their type of coat as follows: a) Luch, or long-haired all over; b) the type having long hair on ears, paws and legs, the rest of body being short-haired, glossy and smooth coat; c) the type having long hairs on ears, back and legs.

" '6) The Hound hunt singly, as well as in pairs.'

"It is to be regretted that there are no photographs to hand out at the present. These hounds are used for hunting deer, foxes, and rabbits."

You will note that in the above, there is no mention of the blacks which crop up with regularity in our breeding, and of which we have some very good specimens. In my talks with a friend who until a few months ago has lived for many years in Afghanistan, there was frequent reference to black Afghan Hounds. This leads me to believe that in compiling the above material (which meant working in several dialects) there was an omission or perhaps a misinterpretation of the black that my friend assured me was most important in breeding to insure good color. I shall, however, pursue this matter, and you may expect more on the subject in future columns.



***Pictured is Jr. Handler Emilie Peterson and her partner GCH Perfection's No More Mister Ice Guy, RA, CGC, JC at the AHCA Meet The Breed booth in Orlando, FL.***





**The question?**

**The Next Topknot News Deadline is:  
June 30, 2012**