

Regional Specialties

Send club information to
Neva Johnson
MEAN_NJ@cuisp.com

AHC of Greater Portland 7/11/03
Kent Delaney - Regular Classes
Georgeanne Bridges - Sweeps

AHC of Greater Milwaukee 7/25/03
Terry Chacon - Regular Classes
Judy Banker - Sweeps

Mid West AHC 8/22/03
Edgar Bajona - Regular Classes
Christine Anderson - Sweeps

Greater Detroit AHC 8/29/03
Rita Figg - Regular Classes
David Cooley - Sweeps

AHCA National Specialty 10/11-15
See details inside

Nutmeg AHC 10/16/03
Bobbi Keller - Regular Classes
Lex Robertson - Sweeps

Northern California AHC 10/18/03
Hank Nave - Regular Classes
Victor Barajas - Sweeps

AHC of Greater Houston 11/7/03
Terry Chacon - Regular Classes
To Be Announced

AHC of Greater Denver 2/12/04
Abbe Shaw Regular Classes & Jrs
Rudy Ayala - Sweeps

Anyone interested in
stewarding for the National
please contact
Connie Butherus at
908 735-9673 or
duaneb@ptdprolog.net

TOPKNOT NEWS

The Newsletter of the Afghan Hound Club of America
<http://clubs/akc/ahca> Summer 2003

Afghan Hound Breeders' Cup 2003

An outstanding group of young dogs was presented to me. Many of them had very nice heads with beautiful, dark, expressive eyes. Most of the exhibits had nice square bodies with level toplines, prominent hip bones and deep briskets and well sprung ribs. There were also many with correct tails, good tail sets and plenty of croup.

Most of the youngsters were sound coming and going and had more than adequate side gait. Their coats were well groomed and silky in texture. Almost all of them had good temperaments—only one had to be excused because I was unable to examine it. I found one dog with a bad bite. Some shoulders could have been smoother and some necks a little longer and more arched but most were pretty darn good.

Best in Breeders' Cup: TAZA KAIMAR ELEMENT OF TRUTH was a luscious blacked masked red bitch who screamed Afghan Hound. She had a beautiful head and eye, long arched neck, hard top, plenty of croup and good tail set and a springy, effortless gait.

Best Opposite in Breeders' Cup: STORMHILL'S SILVER STAR was a handsome black masked red dog with all of the above. It was tough deciding between the two. The bitch had a little more neck and reach from the side.

Thanks again to all of the exhibitors for showing me this group of proud, beautiful young Afghan Hounds. These dogs hold much promise for the future of the breed.

Gail Kramer

Library News:

Some nice additions to the AHCA Library were donated as follows:

Sandra Gahan sent two newsletters of the Afghan Hound Club of California, dated February, 1970 and May, 1974. The May '74 issue has a personal note from Kay Finch.

Linda Nothelfer donated two magazines in lovely condition: April, 1943 Popular Dogs which has a cover featuring Marion Florsheim and Rudiki. December, 1943 whose cover has a photo of Int. Ch. Rana of Chaman and Int. Ch. Rudiki of Prides Hill, both owned by Marion Foster Florsheim. Linda also sent two pages from magazines with these two dogs in the photos.

Thank you both for these additions, which I'm sure were difficult to part with!

Helen Stein
Assistant Librarian

Judges' Education

JE at the National will be on Tuesday, October 14 at 9 am. In addition to those actively applying, it will be open to interested breeders qualified to but not necessarily in the process of application to judge.

Contact Harry Bennett for information to register.

The following seminars are coming up:

American Dog Show Judges
Advanced Institute,
Indiana, PA 8/14/03
Blue Gray Cluster
Harrisburg, PA 4/16/04

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AHBC 2003

The 15th annual AHCA Breeders' Cup is now history. And who would have thought it would take place in almost 90 degree weather in—of all places—Seattle!! But while the temperatures were soaring, our BC judge, Gail Kramer, coolly and thoughtfully (at least from appearances) worked through her entry to find her most deserving final winners, Taza Kaimar Element of Truth, Best in Breeders' Cup, and Stormhill Silver Star, Best of Opposite Sex.

Obviously, an event like this does not take place without a lot of work from a lot of people. In particular, I would like to thank Sharon Watson and Wynne Kalish, BC show secretaries, for their hard work and patience in guiding me through this process; Connie Brunell, my most diligent trophy chairperson; Pam Levander, who arranged for the box lunches and the after-show wine and cheese party; Peggy Gainer, who was on her feet all day selling catalogs, tee shirts, and raffle tickets; Cindy Umphenour and Mark and Lisa Kirmse, who spent hours with me out in the hot sun setting up the ring and tenting; to my ring stewards, Larry Coleman and Robin Aaseby, who drove the almost 300 miles from Spokane specifically for this purpose; to Kathy Kolezar for handling the ordering of the BC tee shirts and the shipping of various other memorabilia for sale at the BC; to Julie Roche, who designed our fabulous BC logo—it was just EXACTLY what I had hoped for; and of course to all the exhibitors who traveled so far to enjoy the day together.

I would also like to offer a special thanks to Holly Leale, the owner of the Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs, and her congenial staff. These people were absolutely great to work with. They even set up their own EZ-ups and brought down lawn chairs for use by our fly-in exhibitors! Word is quickly getting out about these beautiful show grounds and I'm sure it won't be long before they are booked solid throughout the summer months.

Once again, it was my pleasure to serve as the 2003 Breeders' Cup chairperson and I hope everyone had as good a time on this day as I did.

Leslee Greer

RESULTS

DOGS 6-9 MONTHS

- 1 - D'Lorah's Tornado - V. Hiller
- 2 - D'Lorah Nightwind - V. Hiller
- 3 - D'Lorah Wind Dancer - V. Hiller

DOGS 9-12 MONTHS

- 1 - Baraki's Spirit of Freedom D.S.Busby & B. Cook

DOGS 12-15 MONTHS

- 1 - Stormhill's Silver Star - Stormhill Knls., M. & T. Vanderzee
- 2 - Jubilan's Somerset - J. Bloom
- 3 - Taza Lookin Truth in the Eye - B. Collins
- 4 - Stormhill's Hot Dam Her I Am - C. Presley & Stormhill Knls.

DOGS 15-18 MONTHS

- 1 - Aries Beaujolais - F. Mester
- 2 - Aries Marsanne Carousel - A. Gray & C. Anderson
- 3 - Cevan Paradis Carousel - C. & W. Evans & A. Gray

DOGS 18-21 MONTHS

- 1 - Kasban the Wizard of Suncrest - J. & A. Hastings

- 2 - Polo All About U - L. Amadeo & E. Zacarias
- 3 - Pamelons Sterling - P. & L. Patterson

The Seven Year Itch

BITCHES 6-9 MONTHS

- 1 - D'Lorah Wind Sprite - V. Hiller
- 2 - D'Lorah Wildest Dream - K. Schlag & V. Hiller
- 3 - D'Lorah Kimson Centerfold -K.Schlag & V. Hiller

BITCHES 9-12 MONTHS

- 1 - Abaca Sha-Cone Sydney - A. Shaw & T. Chacon
- 2 - Sha-Cone Abaca Adelaide - A. Shaw & T. Chacon

BITCHES 12-15 MONTHS

- 1 - Taza Kaimar Element of Truth - B. Collins & K. Carr
- 2 - Mahrani Spit-N-Image Stormhill - Stormhill Knls., M. & T.Vanderzee
- 3 - Kaimars I Saw You First - K. Carr
- 4 - Jubilan's Georgia Peach - D. Hammond & J. Bloom

BITCHES 18-21 MONTHS

- 1 - Ch. Kasban Dark Angel of Winsong - N. & L Gardner & L. Mauldin
- 2 - Sha-Cone Abaca Morning Mist - A. Shaw, T. Chacon & J. Bartley
- 3 - Ch.Sha-Cone Abaca Vanilla Sky - T. Chacon & A. Shaw
- 4 - Gwich'in Ziggy Zoe - T. & K. Farmer

Best in Breeders' Cup -

Taza Kaimar Element of Truth

Best of Opposite Sex - Stormhill's Silver Star

As stated in the catalog, "Any errors or omissions are solely Wynne's fault."
Wynne Kalish

Co-Show Secretary

I am old enough to remember Marilyn Monroe standing on a grating in NYC with her skirt blowing up. I believe the idea was that after 7 years marriage may get boring.

This might also be true of Afghan Hounds, I have records of titles earned by our breed from 1934 to 2002. I can sort them by owner, breeder, champions a kennel has, had, and first and last year a kennel finished dogs. That last sort resulted in the graph above.

The tallest bar falls at 7. That means that the largest number of kennels stopped after 7 years. I had always heard that if people stayed in the breed for 5 years they would continue. This evidence shows that the number is not 5 but 7. The last small bar is at 54 years. It represents the two parts of Grandeur together. Next is the two generations of Stormhill at 46. Also at 46 is Dureigh which was continuous.

Next is Pat Stephenson at 39. It seems she has been showing Afghans since her first birthday(!?!). It makes her the longest-running living breeder.

Isn't it interesting that the Parent Club chose seven years as the standard time to be in the breed before applying for membership?

Sharon Watson
Statistics Chair

KABUKI



180ch
This item is not for sale. It is a sample of the quality of the work that we do. It is not to be used for any other purpose.



Schedule at a glance:

Saturday 10/11 Lure Coursing
Welcome & Artist Night

Sunday 10/12 Obedience
Sweepstakes
Casino Night

Monday 10/13 Agility
Dog Judging
Breeder's Education
with Buffet Dinner

Tuesday 10/14 Rescue Meeting
Judges' Education
Bitch Judging
Membership Meeting
Costume Party & Tent
Decoration Contest

Wednesday 10/15 Parade of
Rescue and Veterans
Triathlon & Juniors
Best of Breed Judging
Awards Banquet

Thursday 10/16 Nutmeg Afghan
Hound Club Specialty
Stay 1 more day & enjoy the
foliage in beautiful RI !!
Lex Robertson is doing Sweeps
Roberta Keller Regular Classes,
Brood Bitch, Stud Dog & Brace
We will be having our usual
'Parade of Rescue' during lunch
break- always brings a few tears!
Amy Mero Show Secretary
1181 Pleasant St.
Brockton, MA 02301
508-584-8411

4 maxmero@comcast.net
P. 4 closing 9/26 at 5 pm

2003 Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty

The 2003 National Specialty is right around the corner!
Here is the information that can assist you while planning your journey
East.

Event Schedule with all the details:

10/11..Saturday- Lure Coursing (held on the grounds of the hotel)

Judges: Denise Como and Rita Figg

Saturday night is Welcome and Artist Night. There will be cocktails and
a cash bar . We now have a room for the artists to display their items
that looks out toward the ring via sliding glass doors. It is also locked at
night , so valuables don't have to be packed up at the end of each day
and brought back to individual rooms. This should be a big plus for
those vendors.

The tent for grooming will be set up for 8A.M. on Sunday.

10/12..Sunday- Obedience (held inside the hotel) a.m. Judge- James
Ashton

Sweepstakes (outdoors) 12 NOON Judge- Jan Swayze

Sunday Night... Casino Night at Mohegan Sun (Bus available)

10/13..Monday- Agility, 8 A.M. Judge- Kathy Rupprecht

Held at Canine Mastery, 102 Pond St., Seekonk, MA (20 minutes from
hotel)

Dog judging - 1 P.M. Judge- Ed Gilbert

Monday Evening... Breeder's Education Night- Michael Canalizo has
a special night planned, that promises to please even the most discrimi-
nating tastes. There will be something for everyone. DON'T MISS IT!!!
& with it Buffet dinner - Carol Penta will be taking these reservations.

10/14..Tuesday- a.m. Rescue meeting

Judges education- Harry Bennett, 9 A.M.

Bitch judging- 12 NOON Judge- Gene Blake

Membership meeting- 5p.m.-8p.m.

Tuesday Evening- Costume Party and Tent Decorating Contest

10/15..Wednesday- 8 A.M., Parade of Rescue and Veterans

Triathlon, Judge- Dennis Sprung Juniors Judge- Jan Swayze

Best of Breed, Judge- Gene Blake (Immediately following Juniors)

Awards Banquet- 6p.m. - cocktails 7p.m. - dinner

The schedule may be altered, but the events will be on the days described.

***There are several Golf Courses in the area for those so inclined. Check at the hotel desk upon arrival for specifics.

There will be a room with tubs for bathing dogs, along with warm water. A room adjacent to the bathing area will be set up with crates for drying of dogs. Bathing of dogs in individual's room will not be allowed. Fines will be given for any violation of this policy.

RV's must make reservations and check in with the hotel upon arrival. A \$30 fee is required.

~~The host hotel is booked at this point. However, call to put your name on the list in the event there are cancellations (this will most likely be the case as the date draws closer). Call the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Warwick, RI, 401-732-6000. Be sure to say you are with the AHCA.~~

~~***An additional hotel has been made available for those who still need reservations. The "sister" hotel is 3 miles from the host hotel.~~

Holiday Inn Express, 401-736-5000... The room rate is \$115/night. Be sure to mention AHCA...

Airport shuttle service is available from T.F.Green in Providence, RI (10 minutes from the hotel).

Be sure to get your current name and address sent to Helen Stein (BeanieSue@aol.com) to ensure that you are on the mailing list to receive a Premium list for the show.

All committee members are hard at work to make this National fun and void of hassles. Everything is on schedule and going well. If you haven't been asked to participate on a planning committee and want to be involved, write or call. We'll be happy to put you to work.

NOTE: Nutmeg AHC Specialty- Thursday, October 16th, same location as the AHCA!

Hope to see everybody in Warwick, RI this October.

Ride The Wave!

Shelly and Gene Vaccaro Show Chairpersons
gvaccaro@snet.net 203-888-9274

Carol and Bob Penta Assistant Show Chairpersons

The topic for the Breeder's Symposium has been set.

"Should Our History Become A Memory"

Please join us on Monday, October 13th, 2003, for an evening with some of the Afghan Hounds' most successful and influential breeders. Many of our pioneer breeder judges are gone. Those that remain are being invited to share with us their personal thoughts and experience on what, or how, the last 35 plus years have impacted the breed. They will be responding to your inquiries, as well as their concerns for what the past has contributed, and what fears they have for the future of our breed.

****Please send questions that you would like to see addressed to the Breeder's Seminar Chairman, who will relay them to the panelists for discussion at the seminar. This will be an open forum, which will be recorded for posterity.

Seminar Chairman:

Mike Canalizo
tophounds@aol.com

There will be a dinner first. The cost is \$20.00. This includes admission to the seminar and the cost of the meal (including tax and gratuity).

MENU:

Grilled Breast of Chicken Teriyaki
Tossed Garden Salad
Pene with Marinara Sauce
Vegetable Medley
Assorted Pastries
Coffee, Tea

Carol Penta will be in charge of the dinner reservations.
bpenta@worldnet.att.net

The premium list will be coming out in mid August. If you have any other questions or concerns - contact us at gvaco@snet.net.
See you in October!

Ride The Wave!

Shelly and Gene Vaccaro
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Legislative Update

Hawaiian Quarantine Rules are relaxed. Effective June 30, pets entering Hawaii may be released in five days or less if their owners meet several pre-arrival requirements. These include documentation of two rabies vaccinations, microchip implantation, and blood serum test results showing the rabies vaccinations were successful. However, due to rabies' long inoculation period, visitors will have to wait 120 days after the blood test is submitted before being eligible for the program. Paperwork must be submitted by pet owners at least 10 days before arrival.

July 14: The Santa Fe city council is considering a strict breeding ordinance that could severely impact a dog owner's ability to breed and show dogs.

In June the Illinois legislature passed dangerous dog legislation that also requires counties to impose animal registration and litter registration fees. Fanciers are encouraging a veto.

JoAnne Buehler
AHCA Legislative Chair
tazihound@his.com

2004 National Basics

Sandy Nelson is show chair, Anna Johnston is the Assistant Show Chair. It will be held in St. Cloud, Minnesota, at the Holiday Inn, October 3 through the 7th, 2004. The facility is over 10,000 square feet, 3 stories high, with skylights in the ceiling,

The Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club will hold its specialty on the Friday following the National.

MINUTES OF AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA BOARD MEETING

June 5, 2003

Auburn, Washington

Present: Harry Bennett, Abbe Shaw, Gill Ullom, Barb Bornstein, Jan Lucree, Janet Lenobel, Betsy Hufnagel, Helen Stein, JoAnne Buehler, Edith Hanson, Ed Gilbert, Claudia Jakus

Absent: None

Motion approved to accept previous minutes as corrected (misspelling).

Motion approved to accept presented treasurer's report.

Motion approved to give the Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club Parent Club consent to hold back to back Specialty shows on its Breeders Cup hosted weekend in 2004. The Futurity will replace the Sweepstakes classes on that first day's Specialty. A note was made to publish the named hotel and its directions on the Breeders Cup Premium List.

Motion was approved to direct our Delegate to vote in favor of an AKC rule change (not pertaining to our breed group or club but needing Delegate input) and also to make flexible the dates of the fourth quarter delegates' Meeting.

Harry informed the board that Jodie Gardner is now heading the Junior Showmanship Committee. Reggie Nesbitt has cultivated this club venue for a number of years and his continued input is appreciated.

Motion was approved to change the Lure Coursing fee at the National Specialty to \$21.00 for the first entry, \$15.00 for a pre- entry test only, and \$21.00 for gate entry test only.

Motion was approved to accept the proposal submitted by Sandy Nelson to chair the 2004 National Specialty in St Cloud, MN. We are welcoming bids for the 2005 National Specialty to be held in the Western Region.

Motion was approved to add 300.5 to Policies & Procedures to read: "The President shall be an ex-officio member of every committee and, as such, the President shall not chair any committee."

Motion was approved to add 201.12 to Policies & Procedures to read: "Every attempt shall be made to hold each board meeting in conjunction with an Afghan Hound Specialty and/or Breeders Cup."

Motion was approved to deny at this time Tidewater Afghan Hound Club's request for Parent Club consent to hold two Specialty shows in 2004.

Motion was approved to keep the wording on the Giving Back Mentor Program website as is and that participating mentors may use their own judgement in regard to referrals for puppies.

The Board recommends to all Regional Clubs and Afghan Hound Publications that from now on "(C with a circle) September 14, 1948, The Afghan Hound Club of America" is added to the end of any printing of the Afghan Hound Standard.

The Board has submitted the name of Georgiana Guthrie to the AKC for its annual Lifetime Achievement Award nomination.

RESCUE REPORT

Well the 3rd quarter is upon us now, it seems only yesterday we were beginning this job! We have had an interesting six months, and are pleased to say that things do seem to be going well at the moment. We collected almost enough money to take care of our Special Needs dog "Mozart", if there had not been some extra repair work that needed to be done after his main surgery, we would have covered his bill entirely from the special needs fund. He is doing well with his new family and has full use of his leg now! That is excellent news. Our thanks to all of you who sent a little extra on his behalf.

With summer under way, the number of rescues coming in seems to have decreased or at least leveled off. Our problem areas remain California, Florida and Maryland. Sandy Blount and Astrid Pryor have been doing more than their share in CA, and it seems that many of these dogs are seniors and have more medical problems than most.. Hope Leedom, and the Tampa Rescue Group have seen a large number of dogs come in to their area as well, so far they are holding up and getting some dogs placed before their place is taken by a new face. The area of most concern is Maryland,. The number of dogs placed in to rescue in this area has been rising in the past few months and we have a definite lack of foster homes in the area. The Tidewater Club is doing the best they can, but if you are in the area and would like to foster or help transport, please let me know.

We are grateful to the generosity of all those who donated to rescue in memory of Sandy Schwartz and to the 20 plus participants at the Rescue Parade in California (We have a picture of the participants and their dogs on our web site). If your group has a picnic or rescue parade, please send pictures to us and we will put them on the web site for all to see.

Looking forward to seeing every one at the National in October, we will again have a variety of yarn items for sale, as well as a few goodies that are being made just for rescue.

Russ & Barb Hastings
AHCA Rescue Chairs
helpafs@earthlink.net

See Page 9 for more Rescue

Delegate's Report

The quarterly meeting held on 3/10 and 3/11 was the annual meeting and election for the Board of Directors. There were four Delegates running for the three available positions.

The caucus consisted mainly of a Q and A session with the four hopefuls. Topics covered were:

- 1) The "mission of the AKC" as an elite club or an organization representing all dogs.
- 2) The need for a Breeders Department
- 3) Funding issues and the decline in registrations (down 1/3 since 1992).
- 4) Increasing reports of home owners insurance rejections throughout the US to dog owners.
- 5) Stud Book integrity and the role/use of DNA.

The Parent Club Committee discussed the following issues:

- 1) Three point major for Reserve Winners at National Specialties. 86 clubs have responded (71-yes and 15-no). A second letter as been sent to those not yet responding with a May cut off.
- 2) Show sites on the www – by October 03, AKC will begin this with "on line plans" by January 04 (note that this was stated prior to the crash of the new registration system – don't hold your breath!).
- 3) Special classes i.e., ASFA titles vs. AKC. Look for a change in policy with a cut off date. I'll keep you posted.
- 4) Parent Club Conference and CD/ROM.
- 5) Limited vs. Full registration and the default to Full if it is not designated by the breeder.
- 6) Judges education and the quality of the presentations.
- 7) Host clubs for National Specialties as well as Supported Entries must be licensed clubs or at least sanctioned clubs.
- 8) Registration papers now can be available for rescued dogs if the chain of custody of the animal is known. This allows the new owners of a rescued dog to have the registration papers if the possession of the animal is verified along the chain (new policy).
- 9) Errors in Parent Club videos can

be edited out by staff if Parent Club informs the AKC per Noreen Baxter (AKC Staff Liaison).

10) Breed flyers going out with registrations papers are being sent for 90 breeds. Three years ago it was only 16 clubs who had taken advantage of this offer from the AKC.

The Delegates meeting began with the four candidates each making a 3 minute speech. They spoke to the following:

- 1) Registration decline.
- 2) Public Relations program and public perception.
- 3) Breeders Education
- 4) Sound business managements needs
- 5) Registration system in need of revision.
- 6) The need for "new blood" in the sport.
- 7) One candidate pledged to be the "Voice of the Delegates".
- 8) Need for AKC Breeders program and the elimination of Puppy Mills (see HVGB report).

The results of the election were :

Dr. Battaglia	225 votes
Dr Haines -	203 votes
Mr. Kelly -	194 votes
Ms. Strand -	239 votes

There were 356 votes cast with 179 votes needed to elect. As all four candidates reached the magic number required to elect, the top three were declared elected as specified in the Bylaws.

The balance of the meeting was devoted to reports (Chairman, President and CFO), proposed amendments for vote in June, open forum and finances, finances, finances! The FY 2003 budget was approximately \$62 million, but the required reserve is apparently vastly underfunded. The increase in the event recording fee (new term is the Event Service Fee), is going up as predicted in the last few reports. The minutes published in the Gazette reflect all topics covered, most of which were included in the report of the Caucus and the Parent Club Committee.

ConnieButherus
AKC Delegate

610/03 Delegates Quarterly Meeting

The June 2003 Delegates Quarterly Meeting was held in Portland, Oregon. Unlike the weather for which Portland is well known, the sun shone and the temperature was in the nineties. Must have been the result of the warmth generated by the proceedings

The Delegate Caucus was moderated by Jim Corbett of the Tuatalin Kennel Club. The first item discussed was a request that the minutes of all Delegate Committees be made available to all the delegates so that they can report the committees' proceedings to their clubs. This request will be made to the AKC.

The next item discussed was the proposed by-law change which would allow the fourth quarter meeting to be held in either December or January. This would facilitate the Delegates Meeting to occur in conjunction with the Invitational to be held in January 2005 in Tampa. The By-laws Committee doesn't support the change because they feel the change is too restrictive; it should allow for wider changes. Mention was made that the AKC counts on delegates to help run the Invitational but it serves no benefit to clubs or delegates. We have had no input as to when or where the show occurs.

The third and main item discussed was the major problem encountered by the AKC when they attempted to switch computer systems for registrations. The delegates felt strongly that we should have been informed as soon as the problem was identified, instead of reading about it in dog publications. The delegates were concerned about the financial repercussions of the computer system failure and the financial soundness of the AKC. (The rumor was that the cost of the failure might be as much as 8 million dollars). Obviously, there will be a formal report from the Board, but in the meantime, President Cheure rose to address the questions. He reassured the delegates that the AKC is not bankrupt. There is an operating problem with the first quarter 2003 deficit, but the AKC has no debt, no inventory, no accounts receivable etc. The AKC is basically in good financial shape but obviously has some items to be addressed. The real concern is that the growth rate of expenses is greater than the growth rate of revenue.

The changeover to the new computer system anticipated that mainframe computing is becoming outdated. The AKC also wanted to be able to add the capability for on-line registration. The AKC had to develop its own system. In January 2002, litter registration went on-line. Fifteen months later, when the main frame was removed, the system collapsed. While the main frame was still running, it was doing some of the litter registrations. The decision to take down the main frame without adequately testing the new system

was wrong, and several heads have rolled.

Chairman Menaker, and President Cheure and newly appointed COO Dennis Sprung were in Raleigh personally helping to straighten out the mess. The backlog of registrations has been addressed and no longer exists.

The Parent Club Committee:

Show site directory: if information is sent to Lynette Saltzman by 7/1/03, it will be on the web site by 1/1/04.

AKC Titles and Events: Bill Speck reported that AKC does not recognize any non-AKC events as qualifiers to compete in AKC events. In other words, a title awarded by any group other than AKC would not qualify a dog to be entered in a field dog class at an AKC conformation show. This rule has always existed but was never enforced. It now will be, but will be phased in gradually. Of concern however is offering both ASFA and AKC coursing events at the same show. They must be separate – however the degree of separation has not been clearly stated yet.

Major points for reserve at a National: of 150 Parent Clubs, 133 responded to the questionnaire. 108 were in favor (81%), and 25 opposed (19%). A motion for the change will be made on the floor of the meeting.

Parent Club Conference:

Monies have been requested to hold another conference in 2004. The Board approved but requested that participants pay at least a portion of their expenses.

• The Owner-Handler Award - This award is made by agreement between Bayer and Animal Planet, and has nothing to do with AKC. Nevertheless, the Parent Club Committee has suggested to Bayer that "owner-handler" has always implied amateur owner-handler, and should be awarded only that way.

• Crufts has announced that the BOB, BOS, and Awards of Merit winners at National Specialties are qualified to exhibit at Crufts. The AKC has decided that no new breed videos and/or breed educational materials will be made. Any existing videos can be withdrawn by written request from a Parent Club.

• There will be a Parent Club Health Conference (AKC/CHF) in St. Louis Sept. 19-21st. Each Parent Club will be requested to send one representative.

At the Delegates Forum an informative and amusing skit was presented. The skit, a mock hearing, demonstrated how to hold an Event Committee Disciplinary Hearing; what to do and what NOT to do. Mr. Slay explained the most common reasons why hearings are overturned (usually because of procedural errors).

During the formal meeting, a great deal of time was devoted to discussions of AKC Registration Services and the difficulties incurred during the transition to the new computer system. President Cheure explained the problems and the steps taken to eliminate the backlog. He praised

the staff, many of whom worked ten hours per day, seven days per week for two months to deal with the backlog. Temporary employees were also hired, and the backlog no longer exists. Most of the problems with the Fairfax operating system have been solved but a few remain and new problems are still being discovered. AKC is interviewing for a new Chief Information Officer.

Jim Stevens, the CFO, reported on the AKC finances. First quarter 2003 had reduced income, but some of that will be recouped when the delayed registration fees are processed in the second quarter. Expenses were up, in part due to all the temporary help, and pension expense is up, as an earlier credit has been used up.

The proposed By-law change, to allow the December meeting to be held in either December or January elicited real debate. On the negative side, comments ranged from the fact that the Invitational has nothing to do with the Delegates Meeting, to the suggestion that the Invitational should be held in conjunction with our scheduled meeting, rather than the meeting be changed to accommodate the Invitational. On the positive side, the excellent publicity produced by the Invitational is beneficial to all in the sport. Also, when the invitational and the Delegates Meeting are in conjunction, the Canine Health Foundation has an excellent opportunity to hold its Gala, which raises between \$75,000 and \$100,000. The vote was taken and was 132 in favor and 70 opposed. The proposed change fell two votes short of the required 2/3 majority.

The other proposed By-law change was to allow a National Championship Stake for English Setters. This has the support of the English Setter Association of America, and it passed easily.

Two proposed changes to the By-laws were read and will be voted on in September. Both refer to Retriever Field Trial Rules.

Vacancies on Delegate Committees will be filled by election at the September meeting.

The Parent Club Committee moved a change in the Dog Show Rules to award a three point major to the reserve winners dog and/or the reserve winners bitch at one annual National Specialty. The major would be awarded if the number of dogs and/or bitches in active competition for their sex totals at least twice the number needed for a five point major.

Comments were made about an accounting of the Invitational, the new event service fee, which seems to be a recording fee by another name, and a request to have the Boards agenda publicized so that we can give input to the Board before action is taken.

The September meeting will be held in New York, September 8-9th.

Connie Butherus
AKC Delegate

From Rescue

Dear Barb and Russ,

Thank you so much for your beautiful card and note letting me know the names of the following very generous friends, both of you, Anne Evans, Carol Renza, Edmund & Margretta Kauffman, Bob & Carol Penta, Eugene Blake, Lynda Marx, Carol Duffy, Mike & Marlyn Gilley, Pam McQueen, and David Frei, who so generously made donations to the Afghan Hound Club of America Rescue Fund in my beloved Sandy's memory. There are no words to tell you how touched I was when I opened your card. Your efforts for the welfare of our beautiful Afghans is so admired by me. They are such a wonderful breed and gave Sandy and me many years of happiness. My Ch Sandina Sarafina is still very well at the ripe age of fourteen.

Please thank each and every one for their loving thoughtfulness.

Warmest wishes,
Glorvina

In the last month the Afghan world lost two long-time friends of the breed. Dr. Thomas Burger, Shantoma, and Shirle Malnes, Jedashi. They will be missed.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<u>Agility</u> - Claudia Jakus	248 625-9569	claudiaj@ix.netcom.com
<u>Awards</u> - Donna Amos	847 599-3505	k.d.amos@attbi.com
<u>Breeders' Cup</u> - Claudia Jakus 2004 Ch248 625-9569 Wynne Kalish & Sharon Watson ,Secs.716 483-3803		claudiaj@ix.netcom.com wynnek@bellsouth.net salem@netsync.net
<u>Budget and Finance</u> - Gill Ullom	419 864-3016	ullomg@nationwide.com
<u>Canine Health</u> - Midge Martin	847 437-5500	kaihorn@att.net
<u>Delegate to AKC</u> - Connie Butherus	908 735-9673	duaneb@ptdprolog.net
<u>Education : Breeders'</u> - Jan Reital & 858 756-2273 Sandy Frei 425 788-4794		Tifarah1@aol.com sstormhill@aol.com
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<u>Public</u> - Chris Pinkston 757 426-2018		criston@aol.com
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<u>Legislative Affairs</u> - JoAnne Buehler	301 590-9056	tazihound@his.com
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<u>Asst Librarian</u> - Helen Stein	702 450-6012	beaniesue@aol.com
<u>Lure Coursing</u> - Jan Swayze	404 235-3596	whippetguru@aol.com
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<u>2003 National</u> - Shelly Vaccaro	203 888-9274	gvaccaro@snet.net
2004 National - Sandy Nelson	763 424-7803	karizmaafghans@aol.com
<u>National Events Mailing List Compilation</u> - Helen Stein	702 450 6012	beaniesue@aol.com
<u>National Events Liaison</u> - Abbe Shaw	805 969-1234	abaca101@aol.com
<u>Obedience</u> - Claudia Jakus	249 625-9569	claudiaj@ix.netcom.com
<u>Parliamentarian</u> - Helen Stein	702 450-6012	beaniesue@aol.com
<u>Policies & Procedures</u> - Barb Bornstein & Harry Bennett	480 994-0150 904 720-0691	barb@trims.com harryonly@aol.com
<u>Publications - Regional Clubs - Rescue</u> - Selma Tenenbaum	718 731-0914	karaten@aol.com
	Harry Bennett 904 720-0691	harryonly@aol.com
	Russ & Barb Hastings 814 628-2707	hrh2@pennn.com
<u>Statistics</u> - Sharon Watson	716 483-3803	salem@netsync.net
<u>Topknot News</u> - Sharon Watson & Wynne Kalish	716 483-3803	salem@netsync.net wynnek@bellsouth.net
<u>Ways & Means</u> - Dorma Sue Busby	586 264-4292	barakiafs@peoplepc.com

The list of current chairpersons will appear in each issue of Topknot News and in the Membership List. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or just want to say "Thank you," chairpersons may be reached as listed. 9