



Topknot News August, 2007

**SPECIAL REPORT INSIDE THIS ISSUE: 2007 National Specialty Show
"Roundup in the Rockies"**



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	Schedule of Events
2007 National - Schedule of Events 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday, September 2 – Lure Coursing – AKC and ASFA Convention Center Available for Set-up (PM) Welcome Mixer & Cocktail Party-Atrium • Monday, September 3 – Agility (Offsite) Sweepstakes & Veteran Sweepstakes Vendors' Reception w/wine & cheese AHR Breed Symposium & Buffet Dinner • Tuesday, September 4 – Obedience followed by Rally Conformation Judging-Dogs Winners Dog Regional Clubs Meeting "Blackhawk" mountain mining town shopping, dinner & casino bus trip • Wednesday, September 5 – General Membership Meeting (AM) Judges Education Seminar "Rising stars" – Juniors Seminar & Pizza Party Canine Good Citizen Test Liberty Class Conformation Judging-Bitches Winners Bitch "Hound-Up" Western Bar-B-Q, Art Auction & Pool Party at Shylo • Thursday, September 6 – Jr. Showmanship Competition Parade of Veterans Parade of Rescue Triathlon Conformation Judging High Scoring Dogs in Obedience, Rally & Agility Best Junior Handler Best in Field Best of Breed Best Puppy & Best Bred-by Exhibitor Best Stud Dog & Best Brood Bitch Awards Banquet • Friday, September 7 – AHC of Greater Denver
2007 Officers & Directors 3	
2007 Committee Chairpersons..... 3	
Memorials 3	
Personal Notes 4	
Upcoming Specialties & Shows..... 4	
2008 National Specialty..... 5	
Breeders' Cup 2008 Show Chair Report 6	
Breeders' Cup 2007 Judge's Critique 7	
AHCA Library Report..... 8	
AKC Delegate Report 9	
AHCA Health Committee Report..... 10	
Rescue Report..... 11	
Board Minutes - May 19, 2007 11	

The 2007 National is almost here! We're going to have a great time, see old friends, make new ones, compete, learn, sight-see, shop and PARTY. Please everyone, travel safe and we'll see you in Denver.

A few items pertaining to the National – AHCA Rescue will be represented this year by Marilyn Danko filling in for Barb and Russ Hastings. They will be unable to attend because of their son's wedding. They will be missed, but I guess a child's wedding is more important (?!). At any rate, Marilyn will be manning the Rescue table. If you have a donation, please ship to:

Marilyn Danko
14765 Highway J
Hughesville, MO 65334

Congratulations and good luck to Barb and Russ's son on his nuptials!

On a sadder note, we lost a member of our Afghan family. Kathy Aure passed away unexpectedly the end of July. She was to have been Co-Mistress of Ceremonies at the awards dinner. Honi Reisman has stepped up to help her sister Fran with these duties and we know these two ladies will do a great job. We look forward to a fun evening!

Visit Our Vendors and Shop 'til You Drop!!!!

Laser Lites USA-Official Sponsor
Canine grooming products from Australia

Artwork by Terry d. Chacon
Bronze & Ceramic Sculpture, Giclee prints & Notecards, Jewelry

Artist Pam Patterson and Pat Kunich
Snoods, Clothing Artwork, Jewelry, Afghan Ornaments

Dede LaRue
Original Sculpture

Brigitte Kaiser and Chris Kaiser
Snoods and Wooden Sculptures

Lee Canalizo
Jewelry, Paintings, notes

Darlyn Pfeiffer
Vintage Statuary, Prints, Jewelry

Joey M Michelle & Robert Luzietti
Metal pictures, Paintings, Jewelry, Antiques and Collectibles

Juan Vasquez
Prints, Bronzes, Books, Figurines, Stamps

Connie Nibarger & Robert Nibarger
Urns, Ceramicware, Jewelry, Paintings, Sculpture

Linda Korstad
Sculpture-clay/Mixed Media

Mary Ann Giordano and Trudy Doll
Jewelry, Collage, Stationary

Raintree
Sculpture/Paintings/Jewelry/stuff

Betsy Hufnagel
Snoods

2007 Officers & Directors

President – Duane Butherus	Board member – Harry Bennett
First Vice President – Abbe Shaw	Board member – Le Hedstrom
Second Vice President – Brenda Brody	Board member – Dorma Sue Busby
Corresponding Secy. – Donna Amos	Board member – Debbie Petersen
Recording Secretary – Sandy Nelson	Board member – Sandy Weinraub
Treasurer – Linda Jackson	Board member – Helen Stein

AKC Delegate – Connie Butherus

2007 Committee Chairpersons

Agility/Versatility – Janet Lenobel	AKC Gazette Column-Georgie Guthrie
Awards - Terry Chacon	Breed & Public Education-Linda Shipley
Breeders' Cup – Sharon Watson & Wynne Kalish	
Budget & Finance – Gill Ullom	Canine Health- Edna "Midge" Martin/Sandy Frei
Canine Health Outreach – Eileen Laudermilch	
Complaints – Board of Directors	Inventory – Sue Busby
Judges' Education – Harry Bennett	Junior Showmanship – Jody Gardner
Librarian – Helen Stein	Lure Coursing – Janet Lenobel
Mailing List Coordinator-Claudia Jakus	Membership – Sandy Weinraub
Mentor Program – Bobbi Keller	National Events Liaison – Abbe R. Shaw
National 2007 – Stephen Fisher	National 2008 – Reggie Nesbitt
Obedience – Debbie Petersen	Parade of Rescue Medallions-Dorma Sue Busby
Parliamentarian – Helen Stein/Connie Butherus	
Policies & Procedures – Donna Amos	Publications Coordinator – Helen Stein
Regional Clubs – Harry Bennett	Rescue – Russ & Barb Hastings
Rescue Hotline – 1-877-237-3728	
Statistics – Sharon Watson	Topknot News – Cindy Chandler
Ways & Means – Sue Busby	Web Site – Chris Kaiser

MEMORIALS

BUD LEDBETTER

By Betty Stites

On February 19, 2007, the Afghan world lost Bud Ledbetter. Bud, with his wife Pauline, purchased their first Afghan Hound over 40 years ago. Usually handled by Pauline, they showed their dogs throughout the country, but more frequently in and around Oklahoma and Texas, using the Cimarron prefix. A life long Oklahoman, Bud lived, with Pauline and the Afghan Hounds, just outside Oklahoma City. Long an AHCA member, Bud served several years as President. In his real life he was the owner of Ledbetter Insurance, the family business started by his father. His amazingly varied interests included cycling, aviation (both he and Pauline flew single engine planes), wine collecting, gourmet cooking, and travel. Together they had traveled extensively throughout the world, bringing back wonderful tales and elegant treasures. They built an A frame cabin in the hills of coastal California, and had an interest in the historic Booneville Hotel in the California wine region. Bud treasured his vacation time at both of these retreats. <>

Since Pauline's death, Bud's love of animals had been bestowed on three well loved cats.

A quiet and thoughtful man, Bud gave stability to the AHCA during his presidency and was a wonderful friend to all Afghan Hounds and all Afghan people. He will be missed.

Kathy Aure

By Fran Reisman

Our good friend, Kathy Aure, died unexpectedly on July 26th, while on vacation in Hawaii with her beloved husband, Jack Marks.

Kathy and Jack had 6 dogs at home in Oakland, California including her last Afghan Hound, Zipper. Kathy had Afghans since the late 1960's both as show dogs and adored pets. She also had Standard and Miniature Poodles finishing many in both varieties. Many of us will remember Kathy sitting at the Afghan ring with a black standard Poodle at her side.

Kathy was Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. in Oakland, where she was the leader of the organization's labor and employment practice. For the AHCA she served on the board, and for years was the announcer for the National Specialty.

We will long miss Kathy's humor, her insight, her knowledge, all of which she shared with those of us lucky enough to be her friend.

Personal Notes

- Congratulations to Dick and Jan Reital on the birth of their granddaughter, Kaitlyn Cheyenne Reital, daughter of Trigger and Lindsey Reital.
- Congratulations to Anna Tyler on the birth of her grandson, Owen Tyler Griswold,, son of Thomas and Leanne Marie Griswold.
- Condolences to Neal and Brenda Brody on the passing of Brenda's mother, Hester.
- Please make the following corrections in your Directory:
 - Michelle Friesen - change her email address to mfriesen794@cox.net
 - Sandy Velozo-Walsh
 - New Address: 636 Reba Street, Forestdale, AL 35214
 - New Phone Number: 205-798-2951
 - New Email: sanmarw@charter.net
 - Betty Richards telephone number is 530-623-4162.

Upcoming Specialties and Shows

8-31-07 – Gr. Detroit AHC – Reg. classes & Jr. Show – Robert Cotes/ Sweeps - Eileen Wolfe

9-21-07 – Tara AHC – Reg. Classes – Terry d. Chacon/Sweeps – Suzie Donarico

9-26-07 – Finger Lakes * - See below on next page

10-7-07 – Lehigh Valley AHA – Reg. Classes – Delberta Gogulski/Sweeps – Lex Robertson

10-20-07 – Northern California AHC – Reg. Classes – Mr. Ed Gilbert/ Jr. Show – Mrs. Pat Gilbert

11-9-07 – AHC of Gr. Houston – Reg. Classes – Mr. Seamus Oates (Ireland)/Sweeps- Mr. Tim Robbins

11-16-07 – Southern Arizona AHA – Reg. Classes – Peter Machen/Sweeps – Vivienne Machen

11-30-07 – Colonial AHC – Reg. Classes – Honi Reisman/Sweeps – Toni Coppola

2-9-08 – Nutmeg AHC – Reg. Classes – Age Gjetnes/Sweeps – Holly Jorgensen

2-29-08 – AHC of Gr. Milwaukee – Reg. Classes – Georgie Guthrie/Sweeps – Alan Saiko

3-6-08 – AHCA Breeders' Cup** See below

3-7-08 – Tidewater AHC – Reg. Classes – Helen Furber (Australia)/Sweeps -Susan Bahary

3-8-08 – Tidewater AHC – Reg. Classes – Hobart Brown/Sweeps – Mrs. Sherril Wallack

3-9-08 – Richmond AHC – Reg. Classes – Val Hansen/Sweeps Janet Lenobel

September 21 through September 25 -2008 National Specialty – Frankenmuth, Michigan,

Judges: Jay Hafford, Alan Weinraub, Brenda Brody –more info available at the 2007 National

Followed by Gr. Detroit AHC September 26

*Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club is having a designated Specialty this year at Sampson State Park, Romulus, NY. This is in addition to our independent Specialty that we have each year in July at Hamlin, NY.

This is a four day show on September 27, 28, 29 and 30th, 2007 and is known as The Wine Country Circuit. It is a great location and a beautiful time of year in the Finger Lakes Region. Our designated Specialty is on Saturday, September 29, 2007, in conjunction with Onondaga Kennel Club. We will be using a separate ring that is reserved for Specialties.

In addition to the show we will be having a "Meet the Breed –Afghan Hound" demo and a grooming demonstration. These activities sponsored in part by the AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Program and Laser Lites.

The Judges are Jane Roppollo for regular classes and Andra O'Connell for Sweepstakes.



**The 2008 Breeders' Cup will be held on March 6 (Thursday), 2008 at:
Holiday Inn
8 Crawford Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23704
757-393-2573**

The room rate is \$72.00 plus tax. There is no charge for dogs in the room. When making reservations for the shows, the caller must use the Tidewater Afghan Hound Club name to get this rate. Rooms will be inspected randomly to make sure that they are being kept clean.

There will be a Welcome Get Together on March 5 in the evening--details to be worked out. The logo is attached and the Breeders' Cup will be called "Spring Fling"!

The Breeders' Cup will be followed in the same location on March 7 & 8, 2008. The following is the info as all judges have accepted and the info has been turned in to AKC awaiting Approval.

**Friday March 7/2008 Tidewater Afghan Hound Club
Helen Furber (from Australia) with Susan Bahary (CA)doing Sweepstakes**

**Saturday March 8/2008 Tidewater Afghan Hound Club
Hobart Brown (CA) with Mrs Sherril Wallack (Canada) doing Sweepstakes**

**Sunday, March 9/2008 Richmond AHC (different location)
Val Hansen –regular classes with Janet Lenobel doing Sweepstakes**

**Jerry Bazar
Breeders' Cup Chairman**

A critique from David Osuna on the 2007 Breeders' Cup. Thank you again, David, for a great job.

First of all I want to thank all the exhibitors for having selected me to judge their hounds, and the AHCA for their support. Hospitality was great, and the grounds and weather were fine.

I think it was a nice entry with very few absentees, and all together made for a great weekend along with the specialties.

There are 2 things that I consider of great importance in the overall quality of the entries, first thing, I found a great number of dogs with very good fore-chest/breast bone development, even in the younger puppies, I think this is a great step to achieve good fronts, I think we need to keep working in shoulders, assembly and it's repercussions, but having the forechests there, I think shoulders are in the way to improvement of the whole.

The second thing was dentition, I had very few dogs with missing teeth, very few pieces and only one that had a big number of missing pieces. I think breeders have put more emphasis to teeth and it shows, I do not remember seeing one bad bite at all. Temperaments were generally good with very few skittish or spooky ones, I would like to see a bit more arrogant attitudes, but then, as puppies, it might be early for them to show what they may develop into as they mature.

In the movement department, I had very few unsound dogs in the down and back, the majority of dogs were very clean and solid, as for side gait, this is where we need to work harder, mainly due to deficiency in shoulders, and/or lack of balance of front to rear, but we have a start with the fronts as I said before, now, working on the shoulders, I think we are not far from bettering the whole.

I was pleased that size is getting better, even though I know if I measured dogs many would be oversize, I know it is not by much, and with good overall structure and proportions it was not alarming to overlook the "little bit taller ones" although I did see one or two, just too big, and one or two too small.

I found a few with what I consider too much coat, the majority had nice coats, a few with texture that need improvement.

Trimming!!! Oh my God, I was upset to see so many dogs with terrible clipper jobs, and although I didn't make a scene out of it, I tried to make sure to point it out to the handlers, I didn't see or noticed clipped saddles, even though I know many had been put in artificially, at least they appeared more natural, but clipped faces and necks were terrible. I think we have fallen into a more cynical state of presentation and clipper work of this kind has become a common thing. As a handler myself and using the artificial grooming as well, and knowing that we want our dogs to be neatly presentable for the show ring, I would prompt exhibitors to at least learn how to do a better job.

My final lineup was very nice, and narrowed down to 3 dogs and 1 bitch for the top nods, the first dog had great structure and movement, needed a bit more self confidence which prevented him from a performance that asked for the win, the second dog didn't have as nice a head piece, but great structure and movement as well, yet, the handling needed to be a bit more precise and polished, the bitch had beautiful structure and balance in the stack and in the move as well, she was handed out to a different handler and didn't put out the same performance as with the original handler, she went BOS, my eventual winner could have used a bit more elevation in his movement that was very powerful and balanced, with great reach and drive, in the stack, there was nothing I could fault him on, his presentation was just about perfect all along. I wish I could have had an award for every one of these dogs, but at the end, I had to get to the minimal details and being it a dog show, their performance as well. All of these were great examples of the breed and I could put them in any different order on another day.

In closing, I think the breed has gone through ups and downs in levels of quality through the years, I believe that if breeders keep applying good knowledge and keep putting enough effort, we are on the way to another period of true high quality with our beloved Afghan Hounds.

David Osuna.

**Western Hound Association's
"The Hound Classic"
Locates to
(Orange County)
Silverado, California For 2008**

"You can't stop progress," said Lou Guerrero, WHA VP/Show Chairman, when he announced that the 2008 all Hound Show will relocate to the private Oak Canyon Events park for the April 2008 back to back shows.

"We were so pleased with our location at Hidden Valley in Irvine this past April, and were really distressed to learn that the property, as well as adjoining Raging Waters, had been slated for redevelopment next year. However, I feel the new location will prove every bit as exhibitor friendly as last year's site."

The new show site is 15 minutes from Orange County/John Wayne airport, and close to many of the hotels previously available to last year's exhibitors. In addition, it has level grass and asphalt areas for overnight and day of show parking. There are two large exhibition areas, permanent restroom facilities and a small lake on the grounds. The grass ring areas are surrounded by old growth California oak and sycamores, providing deep shade for grooming areas as well as picnic tables.

Oak Canyon adjoins 17,000 acres of privately owned ranch land that was opened to the public by the Irvine Company in 1993. It is located next to Irvine Lake, a 600 acre reservoir stocked with bluegill, catfish, trout and bass.

The Hound Class, the First All Hound Group Show in the country, held back to back shows last year and drew an entry of over 1200 dogs. This year's shows will be preceded by specialties on Friday, April 11th, 2008, including Orange Coast Rhodesian Ridgeback Club, back to back Southern California Whippet events and the **60th independent specialty of the Afghan Hound Club of California**.

The two Hound Classic Group Shows will follow on April 12-13, 2008.

For more information, contact:
Lou Guerrero imgx6@aol.com

Committee Reports and Minutes from the latest Board Meeting

AHCA Library report, August 2007

I'd like to say "thank you" to the many members who donated money to the AHCA Library along with their dues payments. Your generous donations help to pay for archiving all our records and photos, and transferring films and videos from old media formats to new. We've also purchased a Power Point projector that can be used by the Library and by the Judges Education chair at National Specialties.

Please visit the AHCA Library booth at the National Specialty in Denver. We'll have on display many photos of Afghan Hounds, from the 1930's to present, photos of past National Specialty show winners, and lists of videos available to rent from the Library.

If you have photos of Afghan Hounds that you would like to have included in the Library's collection, please contact me at BeanieSue@aol.com, or at PO Box 1177, Grants Pass, OR 97528. All photos will be returned.

The out-of-print *Introduction to the Afghan Hound* is available on CD (in pdf format), at a cost of \$5.00 including shipping. Order from the AHCA Library, or purchase it at the National.

The 2007 monthly AKC Stud Book Registers for Afghan Hounds are available by e-mail or as a printout through the AHCA Library. This information is available to all members of the AHCA in good standing, once they have completed a form as required by AKC. For further information, contact me at the address or e-mail above.

Many people have inquired about ordering Karen Armistead's video, *A Key to Movement*. This is available from American Dog Show Judges, Dr. Gerard C. Penta, 200 Lakeside Way, Greensburg, PA 15601 U.S.A.

Also, thanks to the following for their recent donations of material:

Lynn Vining, Video of the 1995 AHCA Breeders Cup

Anonymous Donor, one dozen back issues of Our Afghans

And thank you to the Afghan Hound Review for always including the AHCA when sending complimentary subscriptions.

Helen Stein
Librarian

AKC Delegate Report

June 10-11, 2007

Las Vegas, Nevada

Two hundred sixty three AKC Delegates decided to VIVA LAS VAGAS for the Quarterly Meeting. The venue selection, made by the AKC Board, raised some eyebrows when it was announced needless to say. However we had serious Club business to see to and made it our mission to cover the agenda items.

Day one was devoted to planning for the AKC Parent Club Conference, the Parent Club Committee meeting, Delegate's Caucus and information sessions regarding the issues of mixed breed dogs, proposed listing, proposed events and related concerns. Few seemed neutral about this concept which grew out of the AKC's Strategic Plan. More about this follows in this report.

The Parent Club Committee agenda was full and included the following:

- * Recruiting new members into Parent Clubs and the information supplied by the AKC.
- * A link to Parent Clubs rescue groups via the AKC web site must be requested by the individual Parent Club
- * BBE award(s) at the National Championship show will now allow entrants having points awarded from the Puppy classes.
- * New fees for specialty clubs
- * New X-pen requirements
- * Catalog sales at multi day specialty shows can now be sold 1 hour prior to judging on the first day of the event(s).

The above noted information sessions addressed the results of the Mixed-Breed Survey and presented the following questions for discussion:

- * What titles would mixed breeds be eligible to earn? Conformation titles would obviously not be considered!
- * Should clubs have the option to offer mixed breed events? Specialties would again, obviously, not even consider this option!
- * Should mixed breeds and pure breeds compete in the same or separate classes/ events? (Probably separate)

At the Delegate Forum additional information was presented:

- * Dogs/bitches must be spayed or neutered in order to participate. (Verification of this could at times prove interesting!)
- * Dogs would be "listed" or "enrolled" not registered.
- * Clubs will have the option to offer events/ classes. This will not be mandatory and NEVER offered by Specialty Clubs or at a National Specialty show.
- * Participation will be limited to Obedience, Agility, Rally, Tracking type events.
- * CGC certificates can currently be earned and would continue.

The Delegates offered many questions and comments which reflected a wide divergence in views and opinions. Should this proposal go forward it would be a major change in the AKC tradition, mission and activities. Some envisioned an opportunity to be inclusive, enhance legislative impact/influence and serve all dog owners. Others expressed serious concern(s) regarding the impact on the ILP program, the required Bylaws changes, IRS/tax impact, Articles of Incorporation in New York State and the possibility that the anticipated number of mixed breed participants may well not be realized.

The final decision will be made by the AKC Board-not the Delegates. To date a decision has not been made and we were told that we would be kept informed as this goes forward. I will keep the AHCA informed as new information emerges.

The actual Delegate meeting consisted of the required reports, votes on issues and amendments, Disaster Preparedness, discussion and an Open Forum.

A vote on an appeal from the Kalamazoo K.C. to an AKC Board decision regarding their Delegate's eligibility was the most controversial item other than the mixed breed issue. The Delegate in question had worked on the staff of the United KC and now continues as the UKC's consultant on legislative matters, receives a consulting fee from the UKC and was thus deemed by the AKC Board to be ineligible to continue to serve as an AKC Delegate. The UKC is a major competitor of the AKC in both registrations and events. This decision was based on the AKC Bylaws dealing the Conflict of Interest. A 2/3 majority vote by the Delegates present was required to overturn the AKC Board decision. A "stand up and be counted" vote was taken after lengthy pros and cons were delivered by a number of those present. The vote to overturn did not pass and the Delegate in question was unseated at the conclusion of the meeting.

The other pressing issue was the California proposed legislation (A.B.1634) which was a knife pointed at the heart of all pure bred dog fanciers. The Delegates unanimously passed a resolution urging the defeat of this ill-conceived proposal. (As of July 11 the bill was pulled from the Senate Committee by its sponsor.) Had this become law mandatory spay/neuter would have been required with very few practical exceptions permitted.

A full transcript of this meeting is printed for your reading pleasure in the AKC Gazette should you wish to read the entire proceedings.

"What happens in Las Vegas" does not always "stay in Las Vegas" as the TV commercial promises. Not when what happened was the AKC Delegates meeting!

Respectfully Submitted
Connie Butherus
AKC Delegate

AHCA Health Committee Report July 26, 2007

It is an exciting time for the AHCA Health Committee. I am so glad to have the opportunity to serve the health of our wonderful Afghan Hounds. In this time where more and more cities and states are clamping down on the rights of those involved in breeding and showing dogs, it becomes even more imperative that we concern ourselves with the health of the animals we bring into being. To that end, we are pleased that we are moving forward to join forces with other parent clubs and have applied to join the CHIC program of the Canine Health Foundation. Our Breeders' Symposium on Labor Day evening of the National Specialty week is hosting Eddie Dziuk as our speaker to explain the ins and outs of that program, as well as other exciting health opportunities.

Action item: We propose that the AHCA make a donation to the Afghan Hound Donor Advised Fund of the Canine Health Foundation in the amount of Mr. Dziuk's travel expenses, as his travel is paid for by the organization he represents.

We are most appreciative that the AHCA has generously donated \$1600 to the Morris Animal Foundation to further Dr. McAnulty's research on chylothorax in Afghan Hounds. We do have a report from Dr. McAnulty, updating the status of his study that will be available at the annual meeting. On this same topic, Purina is publishing an article about this research and vignettes of some of the cases involved in their magazine. Sandy Frei generously gave time to contribute material for this article.

Action item: We would like to propose that a \$ 200.00 donation be made to Jean Dodd's Rabies Challenge to further her work in this important area.

Please continue to support the donations to the health fund when you pay your annual dues. This allows us to continue to work for healthier Afghan Hounds.

Thank you for your continuing support of our work for the health of our breed. Thank you also for allowing me the opportunity to serve the AHCA and the fancy as your Health Committee Chair. My gratitude extends to my co-chair, Sandy Frei

Respectfully submitted

Dr. Edna (Midge) Martin
AHCA Health Committee Chairperson

Rescue Report

I am sorry to say that Russ & I will not be able to attend this years National. We will miss you all very much and feel bad that we can not attend. Our Son is getting married shortly after the Show and we feel it is in every ones best interest to stay home and deal with issues here! So, I am happy to say that Marilyn Danko and a group of her friends will be doing the Rescue table in our absence.

Following is our Rescue Report:

Things have finally slowed down for Rescue. The beginning of 2007 brought 72 dogs in to our system in a matter of two weeks. I am happy to say that most of these dogs have been placed in forever homes. California still has 12 that are in protective custody and can not be placed until the case is settled, but most of the 12 have homes waiting for them if they are released to Rescue. The Groups that took in the majority of these dogs were able to raise most of the money needed for their care, we are just beginning to see some of the bills from the California dogs. Thanks to the generosity of the Afghan community, we were able to help these dogs with out spending a large amount of our Rescue funds.

The second quarter brought in only 15 Afghans across the States and most of these have been placed or we are working on placing them. I hope that the future brings in smaller numbers of dogs, so we can sit back and catch up. I would like to extend a huge Thankyou to Lisa Bryant, who handled the dogs from Chambersburg, PA, and to Astrid Pryor who is still working on the dogs and pending litigation from Auburn, CA. These two ladies are what Rescue is all about.

We hope that you will all stop by our Rescue tables while at the National. Sadly, Russ & I were not able to attend, but we leave you in the capable hands of Marilyn Danko and her assistants. This is our largest fund raising project, so support rescue so we can support all Afghans in need.

Russ & Barb Hastings
AHCA Rescue Chairs

AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA, INC BOARD MEETING, May 19, 2007 Marriot Atlanta Airport

Attendees: Duane Butherus, Harry Bennett, Brenda Brody, Sue Busby, Linda Jackson, Sandy Nelson, Sandy Weinraub, Donna Amos, Abbe Shaw.

Not present: Helen Stein, Le Hedstrom and Debbie Peterson

Minutes Approved with clarification on Sect.5.5

HIGHLIGHTS OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- A thank you from Inland Empire Hound Club and they sent a check.
- Eukanuba National Championship – Donna has forms for the AHCA to support trophy.
- Solicitation from Louisville Kennel Club for help on anti-dog legislation that just went through in the City.
 - Board approved donation of \$100
- In the future Donna will forward letters requesting help with anti-dog legislation to the AHCA legislative committee chair for review

HIGHLIGHTS OF RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Minutes from February 24, 2007, have been distributed and approved with one clarification.
- Topknot News is going to go out next week

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Membership is currently at 371
- Full report available to members only in mailed hardcopy.

Board voted not to accept the funds from the Pedigree offering. Barb Hastings was not comfortable with the strings attached such as required membership in American Humane Association.

Board voted to support McAnulty's Chylothorax study by donating \$1,685 through the Morris Animal Foundation with the money coming from \$410 health fund check off on dues, \$900 from Purina weight circle program and the rest out of general fund.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Breeders' Cup 2008** – Potomac wants to have their show along with this and Tidewater. Extensive discussion on clustering of Tidewater with Richmond. **Tabled pending information**
- **Statistics** (Sharon Watson)– The AKC is changing as of the May issue to a CD each month instead of the Awards. It will be less expensive - \$65 instead of \$89.
 - In 2006 there were 32 regional specialties by 30 different clubs.
 - 2006 Titles:
 - Conformation – 64
 - Obedience - 5 CD, 2 CDX
 - Rally - 16 RN, 64 RA, 6 RE
 - Lure Coursing- 54 JD, 26 SC, 1 MC, 11 FC
 - Agility- 1 NA, 1 AX, 1 NAJ, 1 OAJ, 2 AXJ, 2 MACH, 1 NAP
- **AKC Delegate** (Connie Butherus) – See report in this issue
- **AKC Gazette Column** (Georgie Guthrie) - Sue Busby has copied the articles and put into a book format. She has sent them to Helen for the library.
- **Membership** (Sandy Weinraub):
 - Two new applicants:
 - Karen Mundie sponsored by Pat Warner and Sherry Licata
 - Becky Morisette sponsored by Reggie Nesbitt and Claudia Jackus.
- **2007 National Specialty** (Stephen Fisher) - Board proofread the premium list
- **Inventory** (Sue Busby) – There are items available from breeders cup.
- **Policies and Procedures** (Donna Amos)
 - Donna Presented a proposal to change P&P 400.8 to state “A 2” gold and white medallion will be offered to regional clubs for parade of rescue if the contribution of the trophy is recognized in the premium list of the regional club and the premium list sent to the Awards Chairperson who will receive all such requests.
 - Donna to send changes to P &P on obedience to Debbie to review.

Changes to the following P&P's were discussed:

- 306.2 **AFGHAN HOUND BREED EDUCATION:** Budget = \$500 for reimbursement of expenses directly related to Breed Education such as printing, etc. (5/04)
Registration fees for the Afghan Hound Breed Symposium must cover the cost of dinner plus tax and gratuities. Any fund raising efforts to cover expenses shall be matched up to \$500. (2/01)
- a) The Show Chairperson will determine the date and time of the Afghan Hound Breed Symposium and will arrange for the meeting room and basic dinner arrangements. (10/2)
 - b) The Show chair will consult with health chair and breed education chair and appoint a committee to head up the National breed symposium.
 - c) Financial considerations for the event are the responsibility of the National Show Chair. (5/19/07)
- 304.0 Canine Health: The Canine Health chair will coordinate with the Breed Symposium Chair on possible topics and provide assistance to the Symposium chair when topics are canine health related (2/07)
- **Regional Clubs** (Harry Bennett):
 - One P&P we have to address is the P&P that limits the number of specialties on any given weekend.
 - Change of date for the AHC of Greater Milwaukee.
 - Finger Lakes AHC has moved to the Thursday of the July 4th weekend.
 - AHC of Omaha has moved to July 20, 2007.
 - Tidewater has requested back-to-back specialty shows.
 - Potomac has requested that their 2008 show be in conjunction with the Breeders Cup in Portsmouth, VA.
 - AHC of Dallas has provided a complete change in officer list.
 - Carolina AHC is moving along well as a new club
 - AHC of Memphis made an emergency date change last year from its October date and will again keep the August date this year on the 17th.
 - **Rescue** (Russ & Barb Hastings) - The first Quarter of 2007 was rather busy for Rescue. This is normally a slow time, but not this year. With 15 dogs already in the system, we took in a total of 72 additional dogs. On average we take in 125 to 150 dogs a year, we have taken in half that number just in the first quarter. Most of these coming from a Breeder in California and a Puppy Mill in

Pennsylvania. The generosity of our Members and fellow Afghan lovers have helped us avoid financial ruin. I thank the people who gave and continue to give to support these dogs. We still have some in protective custody in CA, not yet being able to be placed before a court hearing and we have 4 in PA that are still waiting for adoptive homes. One of the girls in PA will need extensive surgery on her leg to correct past injuries that have left the leg deformed. We have made Spice a Special Needs Dog and are beginning to fund raise for her surgery. The Vet invoices are just now beginning to come in for the PA dogs, and while much fund raising has been done, most of these dogs bills are in excess of \$1000.00. I would guess that the PC National Fund will have to cover about \$3800.00 over what has been collected. (At the \$300.00 / dog limit)

I would also like to say Thank You for giving Rescue 10% of the profits made by the National....this year it covered the new insurance that we have to carry. I hope in coming years we will be as profitable.

We have also added a couple of new questions to our Quarterly Reports and I am happy to see that in areas where there are not rescues available, our volunteers have helped place 7 dogs for Breeders in their area, and have refer 24 people to Breeders in the area or to the PC Breeder Referral Chair. Hopefully this will continue and strengthen the relationship between Breeders and those that do Rescue.

- Ways and Means (Sue Busby)

190 - white enamel parade of Rescue Medallions suspended from red, white & blue ribbons, 50 - 1st through 4th place color medallions, 20 - 2005 throws, 9 Denim Shirts with the parent club logo (I, XL, XXL), 34 - computer tote bags, 7 - Navy fleece blankets, 75 - Constitution & Bylaws

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Election of New Members, Second Reading** – Jan Cryst, Michelle Friesen, Joan Beerman, Roger Brown, Jan Buttler, Leslie Farkas, Kristi Jones, Holly Jorgensen, Dianne Kroll, Betty Salmon, & Gayle Shannon.
All approved.
- Report from the AHCA Committee regarding the Osuna matter was reviewed. The suggestions given at the end of the report were discussed in length. This will be made available to membership at the annual meeting, along with recommendations
- Linda Shipley's request for a donation to the rabies study was discussed. Donna will query the Canine Health foundation to determine if there is a rabies study that we can contribute from our CHF Donor Advised Fund to a rabies study.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Board voted to change P&P pg. 119 701.4 from ten specialty and ten sweepstakes nominees to six specialty and six sweepstakes nominees
- 2008 National – September 21 – 25 Abbe reported that Reggie is looking into an agility facility. Delberta is working on Hotel situation.
- 2009 – National – Lancaster again. Tony would chair. Hotel is on hold. If approved he would like to deal with the hotel this summer.

The Board Voted to approve the proposal by Tony Saia for the 2009 National.

- **Nominating committee:** Board liaison will be Harry; 5 positions on the board and the AKC Delegate positions are open: Harry, Le, Sandy, Duane, Abbe, and Connie.
 - Chair: Reggie Nesbitt, Members: Katherine Carr, Tony Saia, Michele Trifiro, Alternates: Lucia Brown, Cynthia Byington
- **Membership Directory:** Sue Busby asked that a page be included in the membership directory of all the regional club corresponding secretaries and contact information. Harry will email it to Sandy Nelson who will include it in the membership directory.
- **AKC medallion** for outstanding sportsmanship. We will decide how we determine that at the Sept meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

This is my first effort at Topknot News. I hope I've presented all the news that should have been included. Please remember to send me updates – personal and informational – so that those can be included. I look forward to seeing everyone at the National! Travel safe and have a great time. And have fun with your dogs!

Cindy Chandler

***p.s. Thank you Wynne Kalish for your work at printing and mailing this newsletter!
Your help is much appreciated.***

The Board of the AHCA thanks Cindy and Wynne for their work on Topknot News. We appreciate their willingness to take on these time-consuming and exacting jobs.