

# Topknot News

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

Spring 2010

## GIVING BACK

Submitted by Chair, Bobbi Keller

*There are 59 AHCA Members and 22 Contacts in the Giving Back Program. Below are letters from members about their involvement with newcomers.*

**The following was submitted by Janet Williams from the Greater Twin cities Afghan Hound Club:**

In early October many of our members were showing at a local all breed show. There were new people there who had entered their puppies and had also entered and showed at our Specialty the August before. They have been working on their own, found their dogs on their own, are learning to groom and handle, attend every class they can find and finally felt ready to show. They live quite a distance from the Twin Cities, didn't get their dogs locally and we knew nothing about them until they inquired about entering our Specialty show.

So, here these gals were, showing a few puppies and having fun. They were approached by a person who is from our area and the bane of dog shows and the pure bred dog genre as a whole. She is rude, inconsiderate, dishonest and generally without scruples. Needless to say, those who know her stay away from her. She approached these new people and proceeded to tell them their Afghan Hounds were an "abomination", and an "embarrassment to the breed" and should not be shown. Many of our club members witnessed this and went out of their way to support these new gals and let them know this person was out of line and was not speaking on behalf of the rest of us. At the following club meeting the incident was brought to the attention of our general membership and we decided to write letters to the new people to encourage them to continue showing, welcome them to the community and invite them to join the club. They joined the GTCACH immediately. They also brought our letters to all their handling classes and told everyone what wonderful people must

make up the membership of the GTCACH. Although we came out heroes in the whole affair, the main thing is that we were able to dispel the bad opinions they must have formed about us, dog shows and the Afghan Hound community in general enough for them to join us. We convinced them that if they continued to show they would be among friends. Happy ending....

**The following was submitted by Nancy Krysiak:**



Last summer I received an email from a gentleman telling me he had been out riding his bike and saw a woman with 2 beautiful dogs. He asked her what they were and she replied "Afghan Hounds". It was love at first sight. When he returned home he did some research and found me. We talked for several days and I suggested that he attend the local dog show that weekend and talk to some of the Afghan Hound people.

He did go and he saw one of Anne Evans' dogs (Cooper). That was it for him. He talked to the woman, acquired all of Anne's info and got in touch with her. He arranged to go to a show in Ohio and there he picked up Isaac, Cooper's littermate. During this time I had discovered the woman he had seen was Ulrike so I put them in touch as well.

I had not heard from him for a while and in September Ulrike had told me she

thought he was going to return Isaac to Anne. When I got your note I contacted him myself and here is what I received:

Hi Nancy:

Yes I have Isaac. He had a hard time assimilating to me at first but he finally won my heart. He's a great dog and so much fun. I've enjoyed working and training him. He's come a long way since he arrived here. So have I.

When I first got Isaac I didn't realize how big he was. It was like having a small pony living in the house. He was confused

*Continued on Page 3....*

Visit the AHCA Web Site at <http://clubs.akc.org/ahca>

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

#### 2010 AHCA Officers and Directors

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#### Editor's Note:

A new policy affecting TN, and beginning with the next issue, is that any article submitted for publication from another source must now be accompanied by written permission from the publication where the article originally appeared. An attached email granting permission from that publication is acceptable. Once an article is printed it is customary for the author of that particular article to lose all rights to the article itself and the article becomes property of the publication where it first appeared. However, in some cases the author of that article must also grant permission along with the publisher.

If you do want to submit a reprint of an article previously published elsewhere, contact the organization (publisher) well in advance because it could take several weeks for permission to be granted.

Next TN Deadline is June 26, 2010

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*Giving Back Program continued from Front Cover....*

about where he was and I wasn't quite sure about how to work with my first dog. But we have worked things out and I can't believe I was ever thinking of giving him back. I am now able to walk him at the beach and in the woods without him being on a leash and without him chasing everything that moves. I lost him a few times in the beginning when he would chase deer but he always found his way back to me.

I am sorry about not getting back to you and I am glad you contacted me. My computer crashed a few months ago and I lost all my e-mail addresses and phone numbers. Again I want to thank you for taking time out of your life to give me very helpful information about Afghan Hounds. If you are ever up this way please stop in and say "hi" and bring Oden along.

***The following was submitted by Barb Hastings:***

I have been helping a family who adopted a Rescue Afghan Hound about 1 year ago. In the beginning there was much discussion on fencing yards and how high the fence should be. The family has a nice home in a subdivision with a 5 ft chain link fence - totally appropriate for the dog. These people are doing a wonderful job with the dog and he appears happy and content with them. I think now they like to stay in touch so they can share their dog's daily antics with someone who understands the breed and appreciates how comical an Afghan Hound can be. In the past year other mentoring has included advice on many things such as which kind of dog food is best, whether to clip the coat down in the summer to keep the dog cooler, and even if the dog can go swimming in a lake!

***The following was submitted by Pat Gilbert:***

I talked with four different people. One of them had an Afghan Hound for 15 years. She has other dogs but really feels incomplete without an Afghan Hound. She and I spoke and corresponded and I got her in the right direction for a mature hound. She wasn't stuck on having a puppy. That is still pending.

Please tell people if they choose to be a part of your program, they need to make sure their contact information is current AND they need to respond in a friendly and timely manner. We are in the public eye and need to remember that.

I got complaints from two people about snotty attitudes. The other complaint I got was from the former Afghan Hound owner that nobody got back to her. We were going to be her last phone call and message. Fortunately I called her back. In all fairness she did not tell me who she contacted apart from she did try the various rescues on the AHCA website.

**Note:** We cannot make corrections to Committee Reports; therefore, send your corrections directly to the Committee Chairs. They will contact us with your corrections for publication in their reports in the next Topknot News. Email all other corrections directly to the Editor at: [dancingtree@trims.com](mailto:dancingtree@trims.com)

**We are sad to report the loss of Peggy Swayze (Margaret VanHook Swayze). The great lady of Longlesson Afghan Hounds and Whippets will be missed.**

**LIBRARY REPORT**  
Submitted by AHCA Librarian, Helen Stein

**CRAZY DOG LAWS**  
Submitted by Marcia Morelli

Although I cannot confirm that these laws are still on the books, here are a few that were passed at one time.

In Illinois it was illegal to give a lighted cigar to dogs, cats or other domesticated animals kept as pets. It was also illegal to give a dog whiskey. I guess that means cigarettes and vodka were OK.

In Chicago it was illegal to take a French poodle to the opera. So if you're in Chicago with your Afghan Hound, feel free to visit the opera house.

**POLICIES & PROCEDURES**  
Submitted by Chair, Barb Bornstein

Policies & Procedures has been updated, placed on the AHCA website and sent to the 2010 Board of Directors. I have asked Claudia Jakus to sit on this committee as her eye for detail is invaluable.

Maintaining P&Ps is an ongoing task and Committee heads should visit the Policies and Procedures section of the AHCA website to view their committee guidelines and send their updates and revisions to the Board for approval. The Board will then contact me with the approved revisions for inclusion into P&Ps. P&Ps are updated following each Board meeting.

Also please notify me of errors that I may have made. Recently I inadvertently increased the Library budget by a whopping \$11,250.00 causing our Librarian to dance through the archives with glee. So you see I need all the help I can get!

**WAYS AND MEANS**  
Submitted by Chair, Suzanne Eaton Duay

The Ways & Means committee is off to a good start for 2010. We have commissioned an artist to produce a stylish and functional Afghan Hound themed item for everyday use with your hounds, and we hope it will be in production soon.

We are also in the design stage with an artist who will make a charming little item especially intriguing for the feminine among us!

Neither item has been available to the Afghan Hound community before, and we hope you'll like what we'll have to offer.

In addition to these two new items, please check Sue Busby's inventory report for availability of past National and Parent Club logo items.

September 29, 2009 - following up on a request received by the AHCA, I sent 5 photos of Afghan Hounds from the AHCA website to "Museum of the Dogs in the World": 1 puppy, 1 adult male, 1 adult female, 1 lure coursing, 1 Agility. I also sent a short "history of the Afghan Hound" from our Public Education materials. The unnamed person requested quite a bit more information which I did not send.

Responded to: [museum-der-hunde-in-der-welt@orange.fr](mailto:museum-der-hunde-in-der-welt@orange.fr)

*Introduction to the Afghan Hound:*

Available on CD for members, rescue groups and regional clubs; the CD includes other public education materials as well and may be copied by individuals who wish to share information about our breed. *Intro* itself is newly updated and includes more information on grooming and showing than the original edition contained.

~During the National Specialty in Lancaster approximately 40 copies were handed out at the AHCA Library booth; thanks to those who helped man the Library booth: John & Elaine McKiernan and Norm Kattelman.

~I also had copies of the CD available for distribution at the AKC Meet the Breeds booth in December in Long Beach; only a few copies were picked up at that booth.

~Bobbi Keller requested an update of activities from the people on her "Giving Back" mentoring program and I let her volunteers know that the CD was available. So far I've sent about a dozen CDs to those who responded.

~A printed and bound sample copy of *Intro* is available at the February, 2010, Board meeting and I will have price quotes for printing the booklet for distribution.

A nice addition to the Library from Barbara Dempsey Alderman was several copies of Afghan Hound magazines from the 70's and an October, 1965 "Afghan Antics" -- the newsletter of the Midwest Afghan Hound Club.

**LURE COURSING REPORT**  
Submitted by Linda Jackson



Our successful year in 2008 was followed by a good year in 2009. Three events were held in 2009 and made a profit of \$1,771.46. Three (3) events are also scheduled for 2010 and the first one will be on the weekend of May 15/16 in Camden, SC, followed by the weekend of November

13/14 and December 11/12. If any Members need information please feel free to call Max Ross at 904-635-0565 or email him at [mrosshomestead@aol.com](mailto:mrosshomestead@aol.com)

## 2009 AKC NATIONAL LURE COURSING CHAMPIONSHIP REPORT

Submitted by Lynda Hicks



*Photo Courtesy of Rebecca Neal*

The 2009 AKC National Lure Coursing Championships were held on December 5 & 6, 2009, at the Double-H Ranch near Florence, Texas, and was co-hosted by the Afghan Hound Club of Austin and Tulsa Sighthound Association.

We were thrilled to have the largest entry ever at the AKC NLCC (160) with 25 Afghan Hounds from all over the U.S., making this the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest entry of Afghan Hounds in an AKC coursing event in the U.S. for 2009. The Open stake was large enough to split into two stakes, making two 5-point majors available each day. The competition was very stiff, and entrants included 12 of the top 25 ranked Afghans.

Two fields were run simultaneously both days, and the dogs switched to an entirely different field for their 2<sup>nd</sup> day's competition.

### **Results were:**

#### **Day 1:**

Open stake A - 5 point major - and BEST OF BREED: YOUSHA - Paschdu's Yousha, JC (Papin & Bahm)

Open Stake B - 5 point major: KABOOM - Suni's Crimson Flare, JC (Hicks)

Specials Stake - EVER - FC Allure's Infinity MC, LCX (Norris)

Veterans Stake: RORY - DC Gabriel's Aurora Bear-y-Eris, SC, CGC (LeMaistre)

Breeders Stake - KABOM and MAGGI (Hicks)

Kennel Stake - CORY and EVER (Norris)

#### **Day 2:**

Open Stake A - 5 point major - EAGLE - Suni's Red Eagle Soaring, SC (Hicks)

Open Stake B - 5 point major – and BEST OF BREED: TUCKER - Suni's Delta Dawn, JC (Hicks)

Specials Stake - WHISPER - FC Allure's I Call Your Name, SC (Norris)

Breeders Stake and Kennel Stake - EAGLE and TUCKER (Hicks)

High Scoring Dual Champion (combined scores for both days):

CHICA - DC L'Rhel Witchwood Timetraveler,CD,RA,MC,LCX (Hicks)

The National Lure Coursing Run-offs began after the regular trial was completed on Day 2, on another (3<sup>rd</sup>) separate field. To qualify for the Finals, each dog must have either (1) won a Best of Breed either day of the regular trials, or (2) had the next-highest combined score from both days. The strength of the competitors was so great that there were two dogs tied for next highest score, so the finals run-off included four Afghan Hounds:

### **AFGHAN FINALIST QUALIFIERS WERE:**

YOUSHA  
TUCKER  
EAGLE  
KABOOM

After a beautiful and exciting Breed Finalist run-off, the NLCC Afghan Hound Breed Finalist for 2009 was YOUSHA, who was also winner of Best in Event at the 2008 Afghan Hound Club of America's National Lure Coursing competition.

**AHCA HISTORY BY DONALD A. SMITH**  
**Written in 1973 for the red book "Afghan Hounds in America"**  
**Submitted by Susan Howell Hamlin**

In 1926 – presumably at the urging of those who became the first registrants – the American Kennel Club opened its Stud Book to Afghan Hounds and adopted a brief, descriptive standard from British sources.

In the first five years thereafter the breed showed every sign of zonking out in this country. By the end of the first decade, however, annual registrations were soaring into the 80s, the breed clearly seemed here to stay and both the AKC and the fancy increasingly felt a need for some sort of national sponsoring body.

Toward that end an organizational meeting was held at the Westminster show in 1937 with about a dozen leading fanciers in attendance. A slate of officers was elected, but reportedly there was no activity or event (except the disappearance of the treasurer) until five of the group met a year later. These held another election, and from that point things began to move forward rather rapidly.

In May 1938, the club formally adopted a set of by-laws which placed the management in the hands of a seven-member "Executive Committee", which was elected by the membership and which, in turn, nominated and elected the club officers from among its own members.

The next major step of the infant Afghan Hound Club of America was to apply for membership in the American Kennel Club. The application was accepted by the AKC early in 1940, and Dr. Eugene C. Beck was named Delegate. In June 1940, the AHCA held its first match at the Florsheims' Five Mile Kennels in Darien, Connecticut, with handler John "Harry" Hill as judge. Later in 1941 the first issue of the club's "Bulletin" was published, featuring a story and pictures of the match.

### Organizational History

Although at the time the air was filled with the perennial complaint of "outs" that the club was doing too little too slowly. Actually a great deal was accomplished in the first few years – at a far faster pace and in the reverse order of what would be possible under today's more highly structured rules, regulations and policies.

This is not to say that all went smoothly and serenely. For the first dozen years, in fact, the scene was generally stormy and the existence of the club often hung by a thread. Among the members (and fanciers outside the club) there seemed to be a penchant for forming into factions and doing battle on almost every issue that came along.

One of the last major factional fights came in the late 1940s when a committee was set up to draft a new set of by-laws. When the draft was submitted there seemed to be no doubt that the proposed by-laws were much clearer and more business-like than the rather loosely written ones adopted in 1938. The committee and its supporters, however, managed to confuse the issue by linking the new by-laws to an advocacy of moving the club meetings and shows to places other than New York City. For both partisan and non-partisan reasons, there was considerable

opposition to this, and when the by-laws came to a vote at the meeting of February, 1949, the club found itself split right down the middle. The proposal was defeated through use of a parliamentary technique based on one of those loopholes in the old by-laws, but the aftermath was so bitter that it was another 20 years before anyone dared propose major changes in the by-laws.

In the interim the old by-laws provided a workable basis for club management and operations under the conditions which generally prevailed throughout the 1950s and 1960s, when there was an almost unanimous desire for peace and non-partisanship above all. At its meetings, the Board of Directors was almost invariably able to arrive at a consensus on policies and other decisions through informal discussion. The joint efforts of the President and the Secretary-Treasurer or Secretary and Treasurer in handling day-to-day operations were generally harmonious. It was not as exciting as the earlier years but it was an effective *modus operandi*.

One positive by-product of the 1949 by-laws battle was the realization that for the protection of its members the club should be incorporated, and a motion to that effect was passed at the same meeting. After the legal preliminaries – including amendments to the by-laws such as the one changing the name of the "Executive Committee" to "Board of Directors" – the Afghan Hound Club of America became a "Membership Corporation" under the laws of and in the State of New York.

Work began toward a new constitution and by-laws in the later 1960s. By then, it was found, the AKC had developed a suggested model for parent clubs, and this model with only minor modifications became the by-laws adopted in 1971. Along with much more specific rules and regulations, it provides for direct election of the officers by the members, and to meet the increased workload, divided the secretarial functions between a Corresponding Secretary and a Recording Secretary.

### The Standard

From the time the club was first organized, one item on which some fanciers wanted immediate action by it was a new or "clarified" standard. Indeed, the desire to have somebody to either defend or revise the sketchy Afghan Hound standard they had "bought" in 1926 may have been a major factor in the encouragement and cooperation the AKC extended to the club in its formative years.

World War II and other preoccupations, however, deferred any concrete action on the subject until February 1946, when the AHCA established a "Committee for the study of the Standard, looking forward to the day when it could be changed advantageously," with Mrs. William E. Porter as chairman. A few months later, Mrs. Porter circulated to the committee a "Tentative Standard" which she had drafted on the basis of the current English and American standards.

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*Continued from Page 6....*

The English were at the same time working on a revision of their standard, and it was Mrs. Porter's hope that a common standard could be adopted in both countries. Toward that end she sent a copy of her draft to England for comment. She never received any comments, but just prior to the membership meeting of the AHCA held at the September, 1946, specialty, she did receive a copy of the proposed new English standard which incorporated many features of her draft. At the meeting, therefore, she submitted the English standard, rather than her draft, and a second entirely different standard, illustrated by Mrs. Sylvester Bussen.

The only action taken on the two standards, however, was a vote to circulate copies of both to the membership in time for the February 1947 meeting. In February, though, the matter was postponed again to give everyone more time to make his opinions known to the Standards Committee. In the next several months, these opinions – mostly on relatively minor points – began to become heated, and so did the pressure to have a new standard to submit to the membership and AKC in 1948.

Accordingly, in August 1947, the Executive Committee named Charles Wernsman and Muriel Boger to work out an acceptable draft, which they did and which was approved with some revisions by the Executive Committee in October of that year. At the annual meeting in February 1948, this "Clarified Standard" was presented but discussion was tabled until copies could be sent to each member prior to a special meeting in April for voting on acceptance. At that meeting, with eight members in attendance and 25 voting by proxy, the new standard was accepted with very minor revisions and was then submitted to the AKC, where it received final approval on September 14, 1948.

Although its authors and others were forever insistent that it was not a "new" standard but the old one "expanded and clarified", it was really an entirely different document from the previous standard and from the various previous drafts. In most opinions, it was also a better standard, and after 25 years without revision or amendment, it continues to serve us today.

### Shows and Matches



The first five years (1940-1944) the AHCA specialty was held in June in conjunction with the Northern Westchester all-breed show. In 1945 wartime travel restrictions brought the suspension of virtually all outdoor dog shows and when activity resumed in 1946, the Northern Westchester Club had disappeared

from the scene and the AHCA specialty was held in September at Glen Cove, Long Island, in conjunction with the Interstate Kennel Club.

Prior to the 1946 show, however, the Executive Committee had made the decision and arrangements to hold an independent specialty in New York City in February on the day before Westminster. Although an attractive offer from Interstate was to lure the club back for a "Summer Specialty" at Briarcliff Manor, New York, in September, 1948, the 1947 show set the pattern for the "New York Specialty", which has remained a fixture up to the present.

For more than 20 years this event was very much the personal creation of Charlotte Coffey, who either handled or closely supervised every detail of its planning and arrangements. Its character and much of its success stemmed from Miss Coffey's own unique and daring concept of it, not so much as a national competition for Afghan Hound exhibitors, but as a dignified "exhibition of the Afghan Hound to the public", in a showcase setting, and at the time and place of peak interest in purebred dogs on the part of the national media and the public.

The first show in this long series was held in the Crystal Room of the McAlpin Hotel at 34<sup>th</sup> and Broadway on February 11<sup>th</sup>, a Tuesday, since Westminster then was held on Lincoln's birthday and the day before or after it. Charles A. Wernsman was the judge, and there was an entry of 70 dogs, although only some 40 of them were present and competing. The room was a relatively small one with a "sunken" central area surrounded by mirrored pillars serving as a show ring and with spectators and benching on the raised perimeter.

The show was held again at the McAlpin in 1948 with an entry of 57 and in 1949 with an entry of 93. Seeking a larger show ring, better visibility for the spectators, and a hotel management that would better allow dogs in the rooms, the event was moved to the Belvedere Hotel on West 48<sup>th</sup> Street for 1950. There the need to have the benching on the floor level above the show ring proved unsatisfactory, and it was back to the McAlpin for 1951. The McAlpin, however, was unobtainable for 1952, and a desperate search was made for a new site. The happy outcome was the Tudor Room at the Henry Hudson Hotel on West 57<sup>th</sup> Street, where the specialty remained for 15 years. Remodeling plans at the Henry Hudson forced a change of site in 1967, when the show went to the Hotel Biltmore, and since 1968 it has been held at various locations within the Statler Hilton - although space limitations there required shifting in 1970 from the Sunday before Westminster to the Saturday before.

From the very start the magic number for the parent club specialty had been 100 entries, but this goal was not reached until the 20<sup>th</sup> specialty and the 13<sup>th</sup> independent specialty in 1959. Within the next ten years, however, the emphasis suddenly reversed from how to get an adequate entry to how to accommodate an entry that could run to 200 and then 300 or more. The AKC having repeatedly ruled out selective limitations, thus has had to take the form of limiting entries on a first-come basis, plus the conversion of the show from a benched to an unbenched affair in 1969. The problem could be a continuing one, but thus far increases in the limit seem to have generally kept pace with the number of would-be exhibitors.

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The history of the AHCA in sponsoring matches is spotty, and much as this form of activity is to be encouraged for local clubs, it is perhaps doubtful whether they are really appropriate for a national parent club. Two were held by the club in its early days – one, as noted above, in 1941 and a second at the same site in September, 1942.

Thereafter, as far as I know, no other matches were staged until October, 1954, when a highly informal “fun match and get-together” took place in our backyard in Chappaqua, New York. The following year a much larger and better organized fun match was held at the Riverside, Connecticut, home of George and Betty Skinner, with John “Harry” Hill as judge and with top honors going to a puppy named “Shirkhan of Grandeur”.



In 1956 and 1957 it became a sanctioned match held at the Thomas O’Connors’ in Green Village, New Jersey, and in 1958 at the Tongrens’ in Bloomfield, Connecticut. In 1959 and 1960 it was held at the Magills’ in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania, in 1961 at the Duffys’ in Saugerties, New York, in 1962 at a picnic grove in Hillside, New Jersey, and the final one in 1963 at a park in Leonia, New Jersey.

At the time these matches were an annual event; there was no regional Afghan Hound club in the New York City area nor any nearer to it than Baltimore-Washington. The general understanding was that the AHCA, although it had nationwide responsibilities and membership, had its base in and show giving “franchise” for the New York area, and therefore had an obligation to provide activity for members and fanciers in that area comparable to what regional clubs provided in other parts of the country. The matches faded from the scene partly because, even though there were a good many parent-club members in the general area, they were too scattered to work together closely on the planning and handling of such events.

### Publications

Prior to the one you are now reading, the AHCA had two publications, each of which appeared sporadically throughout its history.

One was called “The Bulletin”, intended to be a yearbook and printed by offset, with illustrations and without advertising. Altogether only four issues ever appeared – the first in 1941, the second in 1942, the third a combined 1943-1944 issue and then, after a long lapse, a 1951 issue. As editor of the last I can testify that the work was more than anyone could cope with every year,

and without advertising revenue, the cost was more than the club could afford.

The other publication was called “Afghanews”, and it was a mimeographed newsletter appearing monthly – or as often as the editor could get around to it. Although records on it are almost totally lacking, it was published with some frequency during the 1940s, first under the editorship of Eve Miner and later Mrs. Bussen. The problem was the perennial one – the editor got no news or contributions – just complaints. So it, too, lapsed in the late 40s.

In 1952, “Afghanews” was revived under my editorship and with a slightly different format in which we tried to emphasize longer articles, breed statistics and news coverage of the parent club and regional specialties, and a few major all-breed show results. Altogether I managed to get out nine issues between December 1952 and April 1957. In 1958 Alys Carlsen became editor, and in 1959 the Waskows took over the reins and kept it going through, I believe, 1965.

As before, the editorship of “Afghanews”, continued to be difficult and time-consuming, but we felt it met a real need for the club, and for the fancy, in an era when there was very little in print about the breed. With the coming of several good breed books and of commercially published periodicals on the breed, much of the motivation for a regular parent-club publication is gone.

The one constant channel for printed communication by the AHCA throughout its history has, of course, been the “member Club” space provided in the AKC Gazette/Pure-Bred Dogs. As far as I know, this column has had only four authors over the years – Muriel Boger until about 1945, Charlotte Coffey until the end of 1953, myself until late 1971, and Herman Fellton currently.

### Officers

The key officers of the AHCA from 1938 through 1972 are shown in a separate tabulation. Although terms generally ran from February of one year to February of the next, the years given are those in which elected or re-elected. A full term was served in every case except in 1961, when Alys Carlsen was re-elected president and then found that for personal reasons she could not serve and resigned in May. The first and second vice-presidents declining, the third-vice-president got the job back.

In the early years of the club the presidency was looked upon as a largely honorary office, and a single term was the norm. As it became customary for the secretary-treasurer to succeed to the presidency, it evolved into a “working” office with a corresponding lower turnover rate.

### Conclusion

The Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc. now has behind it some 35 years of rich and varied history, filled with lively events and peopled with fascinating personalities. The foregoing is really only the bare bones of what is a well-fleshed and highly human story. For it is people that have made the club and will continue to make or break it – people motivated to give a lot of themselves, never for profit, sometime for vanity but most often by the desire to insure the welfare of a breed of dog and the effectiveness of an organization devoted to it.

**TOP AFGHAN HOUND SIRES**

Submitted by Sharon Watson

*This list is divided arbitrarily into groups which were shown at approximately the same time. The listing shows the placement, followed by the number of Champions produced and the name of the sire.*

**ALL TIME TOP SIRES 1934 - 2008**

1.	87	Ch Pahlavi Puttin' on the Ritz
2.	80	Ch Qamari Flying Colors
3.	72	Ch Genesis Red Cloud
4.	71	Ch Elmo's Tutankhamun
5.	65	Ch Coastwind Abraxas
6.	63	Ch Jorogz' Heart Breaker
7.	52	Ch Mecca's Falstaff
8.	45	Ch Camri's Black and Tan Rebellion
9.	44	Ch Boanne's Heart N' Soul
10.	43	Ch Shirkhan of Grandeur
11.	42	Ch Coastwind Jubilan Osiris
12.	41	Ch Kabik's the Challenger
13.	40	Ch Myriad Not a Cloud in the Sky
	40	Ch. Pahlavi Rhythm of the Night
14.	38	Ch Tahkira Hell Raiser
15.	36	Ch Coastwind Yev Rah Amid
16.	34	Ch Ali Khyber
	34	Jubilan's Octagon
17.	33	Ch Lyrix Hall of Flame
18.	31	Ch Crown Crest Mr Universe
	31	Ch. Rudiki of Prides Hill
	31	Ch Gazon Say What You Mean
	31	Ch Journey's Judgement Day
	31	Ch. Tarina Arctic Eagle
19.	29	Ch Coastwind Gazebo
	29	Ch Taejon of Crown Crest
20.	28	Ch Akaba's Royal Flush

**1934 - 1958**

1.	34	Ch Ali Khyber
2.	31	Ch Rudiki of Prides Hill
3.	29	Ch Taejon of Crown Crest
4.	27	Ch Ophaal of Crown Crest
5.	20	Ch Garrymor Zabardast of Arken
6.	19	Ch Crown Crest Zardonx
7.	16	Ch Badshah of Ainsdart
8.	15	Ch Majara Menelek
	15	Ch Crown Crest Rubi
	15	Ch Majara Mihrab
9.	14	Ch Majara Mahabat
	14	Ch Turkoman Nissim's Laurel
10.	12	Ch Agha Kush

**1959 - 1968**

1.	43	Ch Shirkhan of Grandeur
2.	31	Ch Crown Crest Mr Universe
3.	26	Ch Akaba's Top Brass
4.	24	Ch Hassan Ben of Moornistan
5.	23	Ch Crown Crest Vegas Ghamblr of Belden
6.	22	Ch Holly Hill Black Magic
	22	Ch Holly Hill Desert Wind
	22	Ch Sasha of Scheherezade
7.	21	Ch Mecca Tajma Khan of Tajmir
8.	19	Ch Shahmir's Sampson
9.	18	Ch Javelin of Camri
10.	16	Ch Beldon Bali Hi

**1969 - 1981**

1.	65	Ch. Coastwind Abraxas
2.	52	Ch Mecca's Falstaff
3.	36	Ch Coastwind Yev Rah Amid
4.	29	Ch Coastwind Gazebo
5.	28	Ch Akaba's Royal Flush
6.	27	Ch Khayam's Apollo
7.	24	Ch Sandina Spellbound
8.	21	Ch Zuvenda Renegade of Esfahan
9.	20	Ch Artemis of Province
	20	Ch Genesis Caelus of Jaffna
10.	19	Ch Jamaica's Rani Fafnir
	19	Ch Khayam's Ares

**1982 - 1986**

1.	87	Ch Pahlavi Puttin' On the Ritz
2.	72	Ch Genesis Red Cloud
3.	45	Ch Camri's Black and Tan Rebellion
4.	42	Ch Coastwind Jubilan Osiris
5.	41	Ch Kabik's the Challenger
6.	31	Ch Tarina Arctic Eagle
7.	26	Ch Sebring Soloflex
8.	24	Ch Persia's Sandrift
	24	Ch Scarabet's Majic Maverick
	24	Ch Sharif's Sky's the Limit
9.	22	Ch Elmo's Tyrone of Druid Glen
10.	21	Ch Blu Shah of Grandeur

**1987 - 1995**

1.	80	Ch Qamari's Flying Colors
2.	71	Ch Elmo's Tutankhamun
3.	63	Ch Jorogz' Heart Breaker
4.	44	Ch Boanne's Heart N' Soul
5.	40	Ch Pahlavi Rhythm of the Night
6.	34	Jubilan's Octagon
7.	31	Ch Journey's Judgement Day
8.	25	Ch Shylo Marquis Malachite
9.	23	Ch Cani Rising Star
10.	20	Ch Suraj Rhythm and Blues

**1996 - 2008**

1.	40	Ch Myriad Not a Cloud in the Sky
2.	38	Ch Tahkira Hell Raiser
3.	33	Ch Lyrix Hall of Flame
4.	31	Ch Gazon Say What You Mean
5.	26	Ch Gazon the Truth Be Told
	26	Ch Paladin the Darkman v Isameh
	26	Ch Sharja Second Seduction
6.	24	Ch Genesis-Ambelike Silvercharm
7.	23	Ch Genesis Legacy of Ambelike
	23	Ch Casbar- Mezra Color Me Bad
8.	22	Ch Tifarah's Hi-Flying Victory
9.	19	Ch Elmo's Hammurabi
	19	Ch Kashara Spoilsport of Qamari
10.	18	Ch Boanne's Dragonheart
	18	Ch Mahali Kendall Jackson
	18	Ch Polo's in the Air Tonite
	18	Ch Shekinah Coquina No Snow
	18	Ch Simoon's War Dance of Maya

**VAN ANDEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
LAUNCHES NEW CANINE CANCER STUDIES**  
Submitted by President, Brenda Brody

**CANINE HEALTH**  
Submitted by Chair, Midge Martin  
Co-Chair, Sandy Frei

*This is a health alert for those who may have Afghan Hounds with these types of cancer and is something we, as AHCA members, could participate in without donating money.*

The Van Andel Research Institute, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, is pleased to share that we have received a "Grand Opportunities" (GO grant) from the National Institutes of Health. This is enabling the Institute to expand its canine cancer studies, which started with a project investigating hemangiosarcoma in Clumber Spaniels 18 months ago, into a much broader research program.

We are launching a new center of excellence in canine genetics and genomics. The first and most important program is the Canine Hereditary Cancer Consortium (CHCC), which is headed by Drs. Jeff Trent (TGen), Nick Duesbery (Van Andel Research Institute), and Paul Meltzer (National Cancer Institute/NIH).

Samples from canine patients will not only allow the researchers to identify genes responsible for breed-specific susceptibilities (such as hemangiosarcoma in Clumber Spaniels and osteosarcoma in Greyhounds), but also to translate these discoveries into new and more precise diagnostics and therapeutics for both canine and human cancer patients. The ultimate goal is to take personalized medicine for dogs to unscaled heights! The CHCC has been developed to investigate five initial cancers in dogs, which also affect people. The first five cancers we'll be researching are:

- Hemangiosarcoma
- Osteosarcoma
- Lymphoma
- Malignant histiocytosis
- Melanoma (oral and digital)

In order to move forward, we need your help. The Institute will be studying only naturally occurring tumors, so we need the assistance of owners with dogs who develop any of the above types of cancer. We are requesting fresh (NOT in formalin) tumor samples when the dog has surgery, a biopsy or is euthanized. We also need 3 mls of blood in an EDTA (purple top) tube. If a tumor sample is not immediately available, (a dog who has had surgery, for example), a blood sample is still useful. If your dog is scheduled for surgery, please contact VARI ahead of time so we can FedEx a tumor collection kit to your veterinarian.

You can contact the CHCC at 616.234.5569. Consent forms and more information for veterinarians can be accessed and downloaded from our website, <http://www.vai.org>. In addition, we are collecting DNA samples from a wide variety of healthy, purebred dogs, for use as controls. Your help is greatly appreciated.



The Health Committee has been busy over the last few months. We have had lively conversations with the AHCA Board and with the Canine Health Foundation and with you, the members, who are devoted fanciers of our wonderful breed.

Thank you for continuing to participate in the CHIC program, and to test your dogs for genetic diseases. With the ongoing assault against purebred dogs, we must strive to show that it is easier to discover and weed out health problems in purebred dogs than it is in mixed breed dogs.

Too that end, Sandy and I have proposed using some of the already acquired (Donor-advised) funds to help sponsor 2 grants under the aegis of the Canine Health Foundation. One about Osteosarcoma and one about Hemangiosarcoma, cancers prevalent in Afghan Hounds that have robbed many of us of dogs before their time. Osteosarcoma is a cancer that infiltrates the bones, eating them away. It is very painful and frequently fast growing. Hemangiosarcoma is a bleeding cancer, frequently taking over the spleen and stomach and liver. By the time symptoms occur, it is usually too late to treat, though removal of the spleen sometimes gives more time and a better quality of life. If the dog survives that, he will live a bit longer and better. The usual prognosis is 12-16 weeks from time of diagnosis to death, mostly by a massive bleed.

In the workings of this effort, we have discovered that the Health Committee's duties are not up to date and we are in the process of amending the AHCA's Policies and Procedures to reflect the changes since we became partners with the Canine Health Foundation.

Another project we are working on is to surface with a kinder, gentler and simpler Health Survey, one that people will be able to do quickly and easily and still provide the information that we need.

Please take the time to become members of the Canine Health Foundation. It is really worthwhile. We will continue to update you about what's happening, and we appreciate your questions and input.

## HEMANGIOSARCOMA IN THE DOG

Jonathan F. McNulty DVM, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
University of Wisconsin

Hemangiosarcoma is a malignant cancer that arises from the cells lining the blood vessels, the endothelial cells. This tumor can arise anywhere in the body but has a strong predilection for the pericardium, heart and the spleen. Hemangiosarcoma occurs most commonly in middle age to older dogs, particularly in the larger breeds, but can occur in any breed. German Shepherds are the most commonly affected breed with Golden Retrievers and Labrador Retrievers the next most common breeds seen with this disease. However, many breeds of dogs have been reported with hemangiosarcoma and it can occur in any breed type.

Hemangiosarcoma is an aggressive cancer that tends to metastasize early in the course of the disease. The spleen is the most common site of origin and accounts for up to 65% of all canine hemangiosarcomas. Hemangiosarcoma is the most common primary cardiac tumor but may also be seen in the heart as a result of spread from other sites. There are 3 forms of hemangiosarcoma that are described. These are the skin form, splenic hemangiosarcoma and the heart base form of the tumor.

### Skin Form of Hemangiosarcoma

Skin forms of hemangiosarcoma have the potential to be the least aggressive and malignant and thus have the greatest chance of a cure by surgery. The skin forms are classed as either dermal or subcutaneous (also referred to as hypodermal). The dermal form of hemangiosarcoma looks like a red or black growth on the skin. It is associated with sun exposure and may be more common on exposed lightly haired skin or on areas with short white fur. Approximately 1/3 of these tumors will spread internally in a malignant fashion and so must be removed as soon as it is detected.

The hypodermal (subcutaneous) hemangiosarcoma lies under the skin (which usually looks normal). Up to 60% of these tumors will spread internally. The outlook is worse if spread is already detected by either radiographs or ultrasound at the time of the initial diagnosis. The treatment of choice for these tumors is usually surgery and chemotherapy. Survival times after surgery alone is approximately 6 months.

### Splenic Form of Hemangiosarcoma

Hemangiosarcomas of the spleen frequently go unnoticed until they get quite large. Often, a dog may present for collapse and an intraabdominal bleed is identified as the source of the collapse. This sudden bleeding can occur when the tumor grows spontaneously large enough to rupture and then bleeding occurs. Immediate treatment for intraabdominal bleeding is required if the dog is presented with collapse. This will entail stabilization with fluids and possibly blood and emergency splenectomy if bleeding is ongoing. These tumors are aggressive malignancies. 25% of dogs with a splenic hemangiosarcoma also have a heart base tumor. Many will have visible spread to the liver at the time of surgery. Survival times after splenectomy for hemangiosarcoma are approximately 2 months.

### Heart base Form of Hemangiosarcoma

The heart base form of hemangiosarcoma has life-threatening effects due to bleeding, similar to that seen with the splenic form. When these tumors begin to bleed outside the heart, the pericardial sac fills with blood and creates a condition called tamponade which prevents filling of the heart chambers and reduces the pumping action of the heart. A presumptive diagnosis is made by ultrasound, radiography and a needle aspirate of the pericardium. If the mass can be aspirated a more definitive diagnosis can be made. The main differential for a bloody effusion of the pericardial sac is an inflammatory pericarditis. Thus, it is necessary to see malignant cells on either a biopsy or fluid analysis before presuming that hemangiosarcoma is present. In some cases, the tumor may be lodged on the atrial appendage and be amenable to surgical removal. In other instances, the tumors are not resectable and the best treatment is to perform a pericardectomy or create a pericardial window to allow the blood to drain out and relieve the cardiac tamponade. 2/3 of cardiac hemangiosarcomas have spread at the time of diagnosis. Survival after surgery is approximately 4 months with surgery alone.

### Diagnosis of Hemangiosarcoma

Definitive diagnosis of hemangiosarcoma is made by performing histopathologic examination of tissue removed during surgery. A presumptive diagnosis can confidently be made in the case of a large splenic mass where obvious multiple gross metastases can be seen in other organs, usually the liver.

*It is important to recognize that, in the absence of obvious aggressive metastasis, a large splenic mass does not always indicate a dangerous malignancy.* In a case where the only abnormality seen at surgery is a splenic mass, it is possible that the lesion could be a splenic hematoma or a splenic hemangioma. These abnormalities can be cured by surgery and carry a good long-term prognosis. For this reason, we always recommend that a definitive diagnosis by histopathology be made of any isolated masses before considering anything drastic like euthanasia.

### Treatment of Hemangiosarcoma

The treatment of hemangiosarcoma can be either palliative or therapeutic. In palliative treatment, surgery is usually the sole choice of therapy. The goal of palliative therapy is to alleviate the acute problems, such as intraabdominal bleeding, to provide a short period of good quality life before recurrence or death. The short survival times after surgery alone make this approach less desirable for many owners. The therapeutic approach to treatment will necessitate adding chemotherapy to the surgical treatment. Chemotherapy protocols usually employ powerful agents that can have significant side effects. Survival times with surgery combined with chemotherapy will generally vary between 200 and 400 days depending on the stage of the disease at the start of treatment.

In summary, hemangiosarcoma is a serious malignancy with a poor prognosis for long-term survival. It is key not to mistake a benign splenic lesion for hemangiosarcoma. The longest survivals will be obtained by surgery and chemotherapy together. However, survival to a year after surgery would not occur with the majority of cases.

## COMMUNICATING WITH LEGISLATORS

### Part 1

Submitted by Legislative Chair, Betty Salmon

How often, in passing, have you heard someone say, "I'm going to write my Congressman?" Maybe you've even said it yourself at one time or another. Well, that's actually not a bad idea. If you have anti-breeder legislation being considered in your state, WRITE your state congressmen and senators. Or call them. Or fax them. Or, (and I know this sounds intimidating) schedule an appointment and meet with them. Here's a brief primer on how to do just that.

First, find out just who your legislators are! Their names may not come readily to mind. Your state (or commonwealth) is divided up into districts and your congressman is the representative for your district. Your senator is elected by your region as well. Go to "Google" and type in your state's two letter abbreviation and the words *state legislature*. That will probably bring up a site where you can choose to look up representatives or senators. The information is usually available to you by typing in your zip code or address, then pulling up the legislators for your district and region. Or, some states issue voter registration cards, and you may find your district/regional information on that. The Legislature's site will list elected individuals along with the designated area which they were elected to represent. The site will also have their contact information. You should probably bookmark this site.

So, now you know who represents you and how to contact them. When should you consider doing that and how do you go about doing so?

In a perfect world with no adversaries, I'd tell you to just drop by their office while the legislature is on recess and say "Hi" to them and/or their staff. Better to introduce yourself and your willingness to support them and their efforts now rather than when you need something from them. But most of us don't have the luxury of time being on our side. These bills have been pushed for several years by very effective lobbyists and/or zealots who have a well-financed national organization behind them with a nice-sounding name. When they are introduced in a new state the language is already provided, the lobbyists know what worked and didn't work before, and it's a race. If they've already been introduced in your state, the sponsors are anxious to move things along and get the credit for stopping evil puppy mills.

So, if circumstances are favorable, take that initial contact a step farther: stop by during recess to just introduce yourself to your Representative or Senator, thank them for their community service, tell them a little about yourself (I am your constituent, a breeder and active volunteer in your community), and mention your desire to be of assistance to them. Smoothly slip in your concern about the atmosphere created by the rapidly advancing animal rights agenda. Throw in only a sentence or two about your concern over the negative impact such legislation has on all constituents. Elaborate only if you are asked to do so. Otherwise, mention what you can that shows your knowledge and authority in the field of dogs (I'm concerned because I'm a

breeder for 25 years, professional groomer or trainer, shown dogs for 30 years, president of the XYZ club). Tell them if they have any questions in the future that they would like to ask someone with your background, they should call you. Smile again and stick your hand out to shake theirs again (it relieves any tension YOU may be feeling). Thank them for their time and leave promptly; trying not to trip over your shoes (did I mention you are dressed up—in business attire—for this impromptu visit?).

But I said to do that if you had the time. If you don't, and things are moving rapidly in your state, move to Plan B. And here's a cliff-hanger: tune in next time to learn a proven method for getting your side of the issue in front of either your legislator or his/her staff, *and* assure your contact information is handy to them in a place they'll remember. We'll also discuss how to phone or write your legislators. And we'll talk about who else you will need to contact and how to be sure your voice and message are noticed.

Remember, they're just people who have or have had other jobs in the community. Because no one is an expert in everything, they need support and help from people like you to do their job effectively. Always remain polite. They have to meet or speak with many people in a given day and their time really is valuable.

If you have a legislative issue to address and can't wait for the next installment of this article, please contact me directly by phone or e-mail and we'll work on it together.

[BettySalmon@columbus.rr.com](mailto:BettySalmon@columbus.rr.com)



## 2009 NATIONAL INVENTORY AVAILABLE

Submitted by Inventory Control Chair, Sue Busby

POSTERS	18 X 22	\$10.00
SWEATSHIRT'S		\$25.00
	GREY SM-7, MED-8, LG-21, 2X-5, 3X-1	
	PURPLE SM-6, LG-13, XLG-29, 2X-6	
T-SHIRTS		\$15.00
	BLACK SM-3, MED-21, LG-4, XLG-10	
	PURPLE XLG-8	
¼ ZIP SUEDE SHIRT		\$40.00
	YELLOW 2X-2	
	BLACK MED-3, LG-2, XLG-8, 2X-2	
LADIES FULL ZIP SWEATER		\$35.00
	RED XLG-2	
BATH TOWELS		\$20.00
	PURPLE, NAVY, RED, BEIGE 3 EA.	

ABOVE PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE POSTAGE

CATALOGS CAN BE ORDERED FOR \$20.00  
(INCLUDES POSTAGE)

To order contact Sue Busby: [barakiafs@peoplepc.com](mailto:barakiafs@peoplepc.com)

PayPal/Visa/MC accepted

**AHCA AKC Gazette Columnist**  
**Patricia H. Gilbert**

My first AKC Gazette column on behalf of the Afghan Hound Club of America was published in February, 2010. It was a tribute to Georgie Guthrie and Dick as well. He passed away not long after Georgie.

*"This article first appeared in the February, 2010, AKC Gazette and is reprinted with permission."*

**Tribute to Georgiana Guthrie (1923–2009)**



Even though it was a shock to all of us, we knew that Georgiana Guthrie, known to her friends as Georgie, was not one to linger.

Catherine Harker, a dear friend of Georgie's, wrote, "With great sadness, I confirm that Georgie died yesterday (Saturday, August 15, 2009), at about 6:55 pm. It was very quick and sudden."

Georgie was the Afghan Hound Club of America's breed columnist for the AKC GAZETTE for decades. She was an institution. She never did have a computer or e-mail! She did it the old-fashioned way, relying on a typewriter and "snail mail."

She was an incredible presence in the U.S. Afghan Hound world, not only as a breeder but also as a conformation judge. She and her Charikar Afghan Hounds were famous for over 50 years. She dearly loved them and had more than 20 at one time during her heyday. She was a dedicated breeder and exhibitor until the day she passed away. She was also instrumental in helping to establish the Pharaoh Hound in this country.

"Georgie was a fearless, independent, and intelligent woman ... quietly being the person she wanted and chose to be," wrote Harker.

Georgie chose many paths throughout her life.

In 1946, when she was 22 years old, she chose to marry Richard (Dick) Guthrie, an American bomber pilot. They moved to Biloxi, Mississippi. She deeply loved Dick and lived with him for more than 63 years.

The Guthries loved to hike in the Joshua Tree desert of California, as well as the deserts of Utah and Colorado. They covered much of Mexico as well.

Georgie was compassionate and passionate about land and animal conservation, and she specifically loved tortoises.

Not many people knew Georgie had a degree in anthropology. She was profoundly concerned about the plight of the American Indians. She raised funds and worked with the charity Southwest Indian Foundation in New Mexico.

A few months ago, my husband Ed and I sat at dinner with the Guthries. Even though we were at the Ibizan Hound national, the subject turned to Afghan Hounds. We talked about ideas for her column. We talked about the past and the future of the breed.

Georgie was very touched when I remarked that regardless of fashion or what anyone thought, she had a vision of the breed according to the breed standard. This has been very evident in the Charikar Afghan Hounds through the decades. Georgie never wavered in her commitment to the breed and always stayed true to her vision.

She was almost lost for words. She thanked me with a twinkle (or was it tears?) in her eyes. You could still occasionally surprise her.

I will miss sitting ringside with her. Her one-liners were always great.

God speed, Georgie.

*Sadly, late-breaking news brought the following addendum:*

Richard H. Guthrie, devoted husband to Georgiana, Afghan Hound judge and enthusiast, World War II veteran, attorney, and naturalist, passed away quietly on December 24, 2009. — Patricia H. Gilbert, Paradise, Calif.; [tazi1970@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tazi1970@sbcglobal.net)

*Editor's Note: A special thank you to Pat Gilbert who made it possible for us to reprint her tribute to Georgie as it first appeared in the AKC Gazette. Georgie was without doubt one of the most beloved people in our breed.*



**REGIONAL CLUB SPECIALTY SHOW INFORMATION**

Submitted by Regional Club Chair, Bob Brown

<b>CLUB / SHOW SECRETARY</b>	<b>SHOW DATE / SHOW LOCATION</b>	<b>REGULAR CLASS JUDGE/ JUNIORS /SWEEPS</b>
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas Clay Williams	4/24/2010 Southfork Ranch Parker, TX	Bob McKeon Stirling Greer
Afghan Hound Club of Dallas Clay Williams	4/25/2010 Southfork Ranch, Parker, TX	Pam Levander Robin Wochner
Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey Judy Bradenburg	5/7/2010 Mercer County Park, West Windsor, NJ	Dr. Raymond Kelly, Jr. Mr. Michael Switch
Afghan Hound Club of St. Louis Jan Henry	6/4/2010 Purina Farms Gray Summit, MO	Chris Kaiser Harry Bennett
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Chicago, Inc. Joan Baukus & Caroline Lewis	6/11/2010 Pilcher Park Joilet, IL	Edna Martin Robert Brown
Afghan Hound Association of Long Island Dr. Barry Deitch	6/18/2010 Tails-U-Win Manchester, CT	Richard Souza Robert Cotes judging Juniors Jen Erickson
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Portland Lyn Robb	6/18/2010 Washington County FairPlex Hillsboro, OR	Pending Pending
Colonial Afghan Hound Club Lois Smith	6/19/2010 Tails-U-Win, Manchester, CT	Jay Hafford Billy Webb
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club Dale Boyd	6/20/2010 Tails-U-Win Manchester, CT	D. Scott Pfeil Lorie Starinsky
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus Sue Busby	6/26/2010 Roberts Centre Wilmington, OH	Michael Koss Mary Ann Giordano
Afghan Hound Club of Southwest Ohio Dorma Sue Busby	6/27/2010 The Roberts Centre Wilmington, OH	Carol Duffy Judith Banker
Greater Pittsburgh Afghan Hound Club Laurentia (Rincy) Ebbert	7/3/2010 Mingo Creek County Park Finleyville, PA	Garry Newton Jym Webb
Greater Pittsburgh Afghan Hound Club Laurentia (Rincy) Ebbert	7/4/2010 Mingo Creek County Park Finleyville, PA	Jim Saarinen Bruce Clark

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

**See page 16, AWARDS for complete details to receive your Parade of Rescue Medallions.**

Finger Lakes Afghan Hound Club Barb Hastings	7/9/2010 Hamlin Firemen's Field Hamlin, NY	Barbara D. Arndt Melissa Williams
Afghan Hound Club of Omaha, Inc. Onofrio Dog shows, LLC.	7/16/2010 Omaha Qwest Center Omaha, NE	Lynn Mercer – Regular Classes Laurie Goodell - Sweepstakes
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Joanne Brown	8/6/2010 Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs Auburn, WA 98092	Lucy Orlowski – Regular Classes Lucy Orlowski – Jr. Showmanship Suzanne Neill – Sweepstakes
Evergreen Afghan Hound Club Joanne Brown	8/7/2010 Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs Auburn, WA 98092	Stephen Fisher – Regular Classes TBA – Jr. Showmanship Bruce Clark – Sweepstakes
Midwest Afghan Hound Club Holly Miller	8/14/2010 Lorain County KC Show Grounds Henrietta Twp., OH	Lucy Orlowski Leslie Stoffels
Afghan Hound Club of Memphis Kim Harwood	8/20/2010 Southhaven Multi-Purpose Arena Memphis TN	Bonita Visser – Regular Classes Debbie Schellhorn - Sweepstakes
Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club Onofrio Dog Shows	8/27/2010 Washington County Fairgrounds, Lake Elmo, MN	Debbie K. Petersen Nicole Gardner
The Detroit Afghan Hound Club, Inc. Sue Busby	9/4/2010 The Lower Huron Metro Park Belleville, MI	Pending Pending
The Detroit Afghan Hound Club, Inc Sue Busby	9/5/2010 Pending	John Roger Morton
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan D. Curtis	9/9/2010 Island Grove Park 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave. N & D Street Greeley, CO	Mrs. Betsy Hufnagel- Regular Classes Mrs. Robin A. Hug – Jr. Showmanship Mr. David F. Sorey – Sweepstakes
Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver Jan. D. Curtis	9/10/2010 Island Grove Park 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave. N & D Street Greely, CO	Mr. Michael Koss- Regular Classes Mr. Michael Koss – Jr. Showmanship Mrs. Beth Collins – Sweepstakes
The Afghan Hound Club of Austin, Inc. Deanne LeMaistre	10/2/2010 Double H Ranch Florence, TX	Steve Kelly – Regular Classes Renee Franklin - Sweepstakes
Richmond Afghan Hound Club Pending	10/8/2010 The Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Ed. Doswell, VA 23047	Paul Gindlesperger – Regular Classes Paul Gindlesperger – Jr. Showmanship Eileen Laudermilch - Sweepstakes
Potomac Afghan Hound Club Pending	10/9/2010 The Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Ed. Doswell, VA 23047	Lorraine Gyenge – Regular Classes Debbie Butt – Sweepstakes
Richmond Afghan Hound Club Pending	10/10/2010 The Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Ed. Doswell, VA 23047	Lee Gindlesperger – Regular Classes Lee Gindlesperger – Jr. Showmanship Pending - Sweepstakes

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Northern California Afghan Hound Club Janet Riggs	10/22/2010 Red Lion Hotel Sacramento, CA	Hobart Brown – Regular Classes Susan Bahary - Sweepstakes
Monterey Bay Afghan Hound Club Janet Riggs	10/23/2010 Red Lion Hotel Sacramento, CA	Richard Souza –Breed and Bitches Roberta Keller – Dogs Robert Keller - Sweeps
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Louise Carter	10/30/2010 Pending	Pending
Carolina Afghan Hound Club Louise Carter	10/31/2010 Pending	Pending
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc Jan Lucree	11/20/2010 Holiday Inn Select 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA	Pending
Tara Afghan Hound Club, Inc Jan Lucree	11/21/2010 Holiday Inn Select 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA	Pending

**Afghan Hound Club of Greater Houston                      No show in 2010**

## AWARDS

Submitted by **Claudia Jakus, Chair**

### Regional Clubs:

Things are running pretty smoothly since I took over this position late last year. Please remember—only send me an ORIGINAL premium for your BOW award or Parade of Rescue awards. I do not want your premium in PDF form as I will not print it and will not send the award until I have the original premium. I usually send the awards priority mail so you should have it within a couple of days of receiving your request. Unless I am out of town they often go out the following day. If for some reason the award is not there in time for your show I can always mail it directly to the recipient.

### Versatility Award:

Please remember if you have three (3) of the following titles, or are working toward these titles, I need to know no later than the 1st of September if you qualify for this award. You can have a CH, F. CH (ASFA or AKC), NA, NAJ (one or the other but not both to qualify for this award), CD, RE (one or the other but you cannot use both to qualify for this award) TD. If you have any questions please contact [claudiajakus@comcast.net](mailto:claudiajakus@comcast.net). Also, this is not limited to parent club members, but anyone owning an Afghan Hound can qualify—AKC dogs or ILP dogs.

### A GROUP EFFORT CREATES “PUPPIES” FOR SPECIAL NEEDS (See Rescue report on next page.)

This Limited Edition of 20 Giclee Prints of “Puppies” is a digital pastel Betty Solman created from a photograph by Sheila Robertson who also donated the rights to the picture. The printing was handled by Marcia Van Woert of Raintree Studios.

The purpose of the picture is to raise money for Rescue Special Needs. One of these prints was sent as a “Thank You” to the Town & Country Veterinary Clinic in Christiansburg, VA, for their financial generosity in treating Fenix. (See Rescue Report about Fenix)

If you would like to help Afghan Hounds in Special Needs, these prints are available for \$125. Contact AHCA member Betty Solman directly.



## RESCUE

Submitted by Betty Solman & Chair, Barb Hastings

These past few months have been about par for Rescue, as far as the number of animals surrendered or reported needing assistance. But, of those Afghans coming into Rescue, three had to be designated Special Needs due to the level of extraordinary care they required.

The first story starts on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, and continues through the Christmas holiday to today. We were notified of an Afghan bitch requiring emergency surgery that her current owner could not afford. She had ingested several items of clothing. The owner elected to treat her with fluids initially, in the hopes the crisis would “pass.” But Fenix wasn’t that lucky. Days later, the owner called the vet clinic back to say the dog was still throwing up anything she tried to eat, despite passing a sock. The owner waited another day before she was able to bring herself to sign the surrender papers to give Fenix to Rescue. By that time, this girl wasn’t a very good surgical candidate. But, the vets stabilized her as best they could, and went to work.

They found an intussusception that involved the entire jejunum, with contorted, “angry” bowel directly after the prolapsed/telescoped area. **She had eaten a second sock, a t-shirt, a pair of shorts and a bikini top!** After undergoing this major surgery, Fenix rose from the ashes and amazed all her caregivers by recovering enough to leave the hospital after a few days. She was fostered by the Carolinas club. Here she is pictured at the vet hospital.



The doctors and surgeon removed their fees from Fenix’ bill, charging AHCA Rescue with the operating room, facility and materials/drug charges only. While the remaining bill was still substantial, these wonderful, caring doctors of Town and Country Veterinary Clinic in Christiansburg, VA saved Rescue at least \$1000-\$1500.

**Fenix while still at the hospital.**

Ava is about 4 years old and was hit by a car. She is recovering from a pneumothorax (punctured lung), fractured nasal bones, and fractured bones in her foot. She has a few abrasions and lacerations but is recovering amazingly well. She is a very sweet girl and certainly deserves this second chance we are giving her. Her vet bills are over \$2,500 at this point. She is fostered by Linda Shipley.



AHCA Rescue first became aware of this boy’s dilemma when a call came in on the Hotline from a Good Samaritan. She had seen a badly matted, limping boy crossing an intersection in a Houston neighborhood on her way to work. Meanwhile, another Good Samaritan called a local rescue group to report seeing a dirty, matted boy in apparent distress running loose in that neighborhood. Volunteers were deployed both by AHCA Rescue and by a local neighborhood e-mail list, and they eventually located him and caught him. He was named Briar in honor of the intersection where he was sighted.



**Briar Matted**

It was initially thought a car might have hit him and broken his leg, so he was immediately taken to a veterinarian for examination. Fortunately, his leg was not broken! He was able to go back to his foster home to begin the two day process needed to free him from all the matting. He was a gentleman and very sweet during the long grooming ordeal. Later, a vet with orthopedic experience told us Briar’s leg had been injured when he was younger, and that injury had affected the leg’s growth. He suggested not treating the leg further, as it wouldn’t improve the function, would be painful, and Briar had adapted to his current circumstances. He doesn’t let this difficulty get him down. He has been friendly and appreciative for the comfort and care that he has received, and made many friends among his caretakers. He will require a home with no or few steps, and flooring that provides good traction. Judy and Garry Newton are fostering him for the Houston club.



**Briar,  
Broken Leg Freed.**

If you would like to help with Fenix, Ava’s or Briar’s bills, please send your donation to: **AHCA Rescue c/o Barb Hastings**, 4071 Gurnee Rd, Westfield, PA 16950.

We also are now able to take donations via PayPal. The PayPal Account is [helpafcs@verizon.net](mailto:helpafcs@verizon.net).

## **THE NEW GRAND CHAMPION**

**Submitted by Helen Stein**

*The following is a summary of the new Grand Champion title as originally written by John Wade, AKC Director of Judging Operations.*

### **GRAND CHAMPION JUDGING PROCEDURE:**

On May 12, 2010, the Grand Championship competition will start concurrent with the implementation of the 2010-2011 Schedule of Points. Competition for this new title will be judged concurrently with Best of Breed/Variety competition at both all-breed and specialty shows.

All Champions of record that are eligible to be entered in Best of Breed/Variety competition are automatically entered in competition for points toward the "Grand Champion" title when they are entered in the Best of Breed class at a dog show. Dogs and bitches that have earned their Championship and are moved up to the Best of Breed as well as winners from the \*Non-Regular classes would be eligible to compete on the day. Neither Winners Dog nor Winners Bitch is eligible to compete for "Grand Champion" points. Class dogs winning BOB/BOV or BOS will still allow the awarding of Select Dog/Bitch to eligible dogs in the ring. There are no additional entry fees or cost to exhibitors for participation in this competition at AKC events.

The Grand Champion competition is an extension of the traditional system to earn an AKC Championship on a dog. It is simple, similar in format to that used to finish a dog, and, because it focuses exclusively on competition at the breed level, it will add minimal time to the current judging process. The Best of Breed/Variety judge will award Best of Breed/Variety, Best of Winners, Best of Opposite Sex, Select Dog, and Select Bitch. This is simply adding two placements and two additional ribbons for the Select Dog and Bitch to be awarded. Judges may withhold any Grand Champion awards at their discretion.

### **Judging Procedure:**

1. Choose BOB, BOW and BOS
2. If quality warrants, choose a Select Dog (SD) and Select Bitch (SB) from the remaining Champions in the BOB ring (Do not consider BOW, WD or WB). Select awards from the eligible dogs in the ring, one of each sex and award ribbon to each.
3. Annotate the judge's book certification as to the eligibility and quality of the Grand Champion points being awarded or withheld. Please enter catalog (armband) number if awarded. If BOB, BOS, Select Dog or Bitch are not eligible or deemed not deserving mark as N/A (Not Awarded) and inform the exhibitor of your decision.
4. Award BOB, BOS, Select Dog and Select Bitch ribbons if determined to be of eligible and deserving of the Grand Champion title.  
(See: [http://www.akc.org/pdfs/judges\\_sheet\\_conformation.pdf](http://www.akc.org/pdfs/judges_sheet_conformation.pdf) for example of the revised judge's book form.)

I certify that in my opinion the Best of Breed \_\_\_\_\_, Best of Opposite Sex \_\_\_\_\_, Select Dog \_\_\_\_\_ and Select Bitch \_\_\_\_\_ are eligible and deserving of "Grand Championship" points on this day.

\* Non-Regular class winners that are not Champions of Record are not eligible to be awarded Grand Championship points and any points awarded would have these points disallowed administratively by the AKC. The Select awards have no relationship or correlation to Club Awards of Merit and judges should continue to review premium list or discuss with the club the criteria in making these awards.

### **GRAND CHAMPION COMPETITION:**

Who is Eligible for Grand Champion competition? The following categories of dogs are entered in this competition:

1. Dogs that are Champions of Record competing in Best of Breed or Best of Variety class. There are no additional entry fees or cost to exhibitors for participation in this competition at AKC events.
2. Dogs transferred to Best of Breed/Variety which according to their owners' records have completed the requirements for a championship but whose championships are unconfirmed. (The showing of dogs whose championships are unconfirmed is limited to a period of 90 days from the date of show where a dog completed the requirements for a championship according to the owners' records.)
3. Champions that win Non-Regular Classes and become eligible for Best of Breed competition. (Altered or spayed CH veteran class winners at independent specialties are eligible.)
4. Winners Dog and Winners Bitch are not eligible for Grand Champion competition. And their winning BOB/BOV or BOS will still allow the awarding of Select Dog/Bitch to eligible dogs in the ring.

At the judge's discretion, Grand Championship points may be awarded to:

1. Best of Breed or Variety
2. Best of Opposite
3. Select Dog
4. Select Bitch

Grand Champion competition will not continue beyond Best of Breed or Best of Variety competition.

### **WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO EARN THE GRAND CHAMPION TITLE?**

1. 25 Grand Champion points.
2. A minimum of 9 points won at 3 shows with ratings of 3 or more points (Major wins) under three different judges, and one or more of the balance of points won under a 4th judge.
3. At least one Champion of Record was defeated at three of these shows.

### **HOW ARE GRAND CHAMPION POINTS COMPUTED?**

1. Grand Champion points are only to be awarded to dogs the judge considers deserving.
2. Grand Champions points awarded to the Best of Breed/Variety shall count all dogs of both sexes competing in the regular classes and in Best of Breed/Variety competition.

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3. Grand Champion points awarded to Best of Opposite Sex shall count all dogs of their sex competing in the regular classes and in Best of Breed/Variety competition.
4. Grand Champion points awarded to Select Dog/Bitch shall count all dogs of their sex defeated in the Best of Breed/Variety competition as well as the dogs of their sex in the regular classes.
5. The entry of non-regular classes are not counted for computation of Grand Champion points to be awarded.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

1. On May 12, 2010, Grand Champion competition will be included in all shows offering BOB or BOV competition.
2. Premium lists - Other than prize listings, there is no requirement to address Grand Champion competition in the premium list since it is included in all shows that offer BOB or BOV. However, there is no restriction should superintendents and secretaries want to bring attention to the new competition.
3. Judging Schedule - No additional information is required.
4. Ribbons - BOB and BOS do not require an additional ribbon. Light blue & white ribbons for SD & SB. Flat ribbons or rosettes are equally acceptable. "Select" is acceptable wording however "Grand Champion Select" is acceptable and more descriptive.
5. Ring Markers - Just as with BOB, BOW and BOS, there is no AKC requirement to have SD and SB placement markers. These markers are provided as a service by the club or superintendent.

The Select awards have no relationship or correlation to Awards of Merit. Awards of Merit are club awards rather than AKC awards. As per page 8-10 of the current Show/Trial Manual, "The club may determine its own criteria for and the number of trophies or rosettes to be awarded." Some clubs have criteria that restrict dogs that have received BOW and BOS from receiving AOMs. Others have no restrictions. Clubs should review their current policies and determine their preference concerning GC award winners.

**A NOTE FROM THE TROPHY CHAIR**

**Submitted by the 2009 Trophy Chair, JoAnne Buehler**

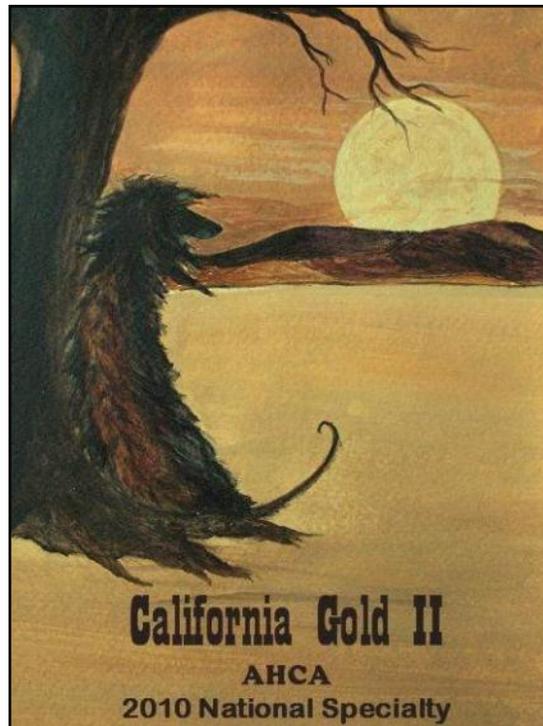
Carol Esterkin and Mimi Yeager names were inadvertently left off the acknowledgment pages in the 2009 National Catalog. Carol and Mimi each donated \$100 to our Trophy Fund for the 2009 National Specialty Show.

Occasionally when email files are sent across the internet names and portions of the files disappear. Apparently when the trophy donation list was emailed to our Show Secretary the files did not properly transfer.

Carol and Mimi, on behalf of the entire Show Committee our apologies and our appreciation for your contributions.

JoAnne Buehler  
Trophy Chair  
AHCA 2009 National Specialty

**CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH**



**2010 NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21**

**Location:**

**Red Lion Hotel  
1401 Arden Way  
Sacramento, CA 95815**

**Room Reservations: 916-922-8041  
Special Event Rate \$90/day  
Mention the "AHCA" Event to receive this rate**

**Judges:**

**Dogs & Intersex—Reggie Nesbitt  
Bitches—Hank Nave  
Puppy & Veteran Sweepstakes—Chris Pinkston**

**Show Chair:**

**Judy Anne Bloom  
916-485-0136 after 5:30 PM**

**Jubilann@aol.com**

## THE PURPOSE OF THE BREEDERS' CUP

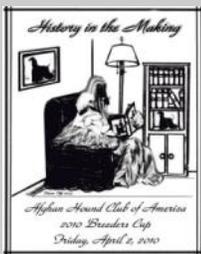
Submitted by Sharon Watson



In 1989 Duane Butherus presented the AHCA Board of Directors with a proposal to hold an annual Futurity. This proposal was accepted and now in 2010 the Breeders' Cup has been held for 22 years.

When Duane wrote the Breeders' Cup policies, he had the breeders in mind. At the Breeders' Cup it is possible to compare dogs from different pedigrees or even very similar pedigrees to see what

our dogs and bitches are producing. The catalog is arranged by litter, the youngest first. If you look in the catalog's pedigree section you may find litters sired by the same dog. You will then be able to evaluate what that sire produced out of bitch A, B or C and what certain bitch lines have produced when bred to a particular sire. You can observe which bloodlines have what you are looking for, or need, to incorporate into your breeding program and ultimately will help preserve the Afghan Hound breed. Do you need better shoulders or a different temperament? Do you see progeny in the ring that you like? Who are the sires and dams of those puppies? The Breeders' Cup allows us the opportunity to evaluate the current status of our breed and grants us insight into potential breedings for the future.



**Blue or beige Breeders' Cup T-Shirts with the 2010 BC Logo are available for \$20 each and includes postage.**

**Marked Catalogs containing entrants pedigrees are also available for \$15 each and includes postage.**

**To order contact Sue Busby**

**[barakiafs@peoplepc.com](mailto:barakiafs@peoplepc.com)**

**PayPal/Visa/MC accepted**

### Editor's Note:

**Topknot News would like to thank Glen Miller Photography who graciously submitted the Breeders' Cup photographs for publication in Topknot News.**

**All the BC photos may be seen at:**

**[WWW.Collages.net](http://WWW.Collages.net)**

**Event BC**

**Password 9595**

## 2010 BREEDERS' CUP JUDGES CRITIQUE

Submitted by Judge, Harry Bennett

I was very excited when I received the news that I had the nod to judge this 2010 AHCA Breeders' Cup. It is hard to believe that 19 years have passed since I had judged the BC before. What could I expect this time? What would I see? What had changed?

Before I get started, I want to especially thank Sharon Watson, Lorie Starinsky, Sue Busby, and Jody Gardner, who were in direct contact with me to make sure everything was right for me in this endeavor. I also want to thank my stewards Anita Richards and Betty Salmon who stayed with me through the several hours of my judging.

So I don't forget to say so later, let me say that I am happy to commend the many entries which were in incredible muscular condition. This does not go unnoticed. Overall, I found the soundness of the entry was very good. This is very important to me. However, when I moved the dogs more than once, it was not to remind myself of this but rather to spend time to think about the individuals otherwise. I was aware that generally speaking, bites and teeth were very good. I did notice some flaws in the mouths, different from what we've seen in the past, now these seemed more to be asymmetrical misalignment of the bottom incisors. Fortunately, I found these individuals (some quite good in many other respects) to be in classes where I had enough to choose from so I never had to consider these mouths into my placements. I also noticed very good broadness of the pelvis area on so many dogs which is a subtle but huge improvement in the breed in recent history.

In the baby puppy dog class, a nicely angled brindle ALPHAVILLE'S SPECIAL EDITION WYNSYR stepped forward to claim the class. In his youthful innocence, he managed to handle his limber, agile self quite well with some inherent demeanor.

The 9 - 12 month puppy dog class then lined up in the ring. This was a large class and as I moved through the class, I was amazed to find so many good dogs, enough that I could be particular about what I wanted. I found myself drawn to time and time again, MAHALI RUSTIC FRONT PAIGE NEWS and he had to be the class winner. He is a tall self masked blue brindle dog with admirable soundness and strength in his gait. He had good angulation and a good topline, both which were evident standing and moving. I loved his head, where its strength came from the proper dimension of, not width, but length, depth and beautiful underjaw. I found him commanding in this class. The other placements in the class were well deserving in their own right.

Now those dogs over a year and under 15 months came into the ring. Once again, for a large class, there were many good dogs making up this class. I decided I could stay committed to what I wanted. I was most attracted to the self masked cream KASBAN MIC DREAMY OF RIVERVIEW. This tall male managed a difficult ring with an effortless gait and was always the same dog moving as he was standing. His balance stood out to me. Again, all the placements were excellent, and if I knew I had allowed space, I'd go on about them.

The next class of dogs were those over 18 months and under 21 months. This class winner MOZART'S LLACUE'S ROCK ME AMADEUS is a tall black and silver dog which impressed me with his strength. He led the class with his proportions, carriage and movement.

After a half hour break I started the 6 to 9 month puppy bitch class. I always find this class endearing. I chose a heavily marked black masked red JAKAR SHEKINAH JUST IMAGINE. She is angular and athletic. I knew that she was a little monster even on her brief good behavior. I loved most everything about her and where she was slighted, I attributed to her immaturity.

The 9 to 12 month bitch class filled the ring. Once again I was amazed to find such depth of quality in this large group. I was torn between two bitches in particular and I finally chose the black and brindle RUSTIC SHADOW DANCER OF LAURELCREST. She was alert with high carriage. I loved her proportions in her very standard size. She handled herself with self confidence and consistency.

I don't know that I was ready for the next class. These 12 to 15 month old bitches came into the ring and I was taken aback by their beauty. It was like stepping back in time; 30 years ago, seeing the Bred-by Exhibitor class of bitches at Specialty after Specialty, where up to 14 GREAT bitches would compete among themselves, taking turns winning the points from that class, and spanning their accrument of championship points over a longer period of time by doing so. This 12 to 15 month class had top quality specimens. I was aware right away that many of these bitches were taller and bigger than I generally prefer, however, I found as I judged the class any size preference was well outweighed by the overall quality and greatness of these bitches. It was difficult to cut this class down to just placements. There were several bitches in this class beyond the four placements that are worthy of acknowledgement. I trust their owners know who they are. After much deliberation, I chose a very square blue brindle AGHA D'JARIS ZEN AT WINTERBORNE. She is feminine and lives in her own world. She is beautifully headed, beautifully structured, and carries a great topline. She had great rapport with her owner but it was all on her terms.

Finally, I had the last class of bitches which were over 18 months and under 21 months. For me a black and silver Ch. ALPHAVILLES MILK WHITE WAY took the class. She has incredible style and flaunts it. This bitch wears a beautiful patterning of coat.

When I brought my class winners back into the ring I knew I would put emphasis on foot soundness, consistency of movement and stack, carriage and well, GREATNESS. I loved all my class winners. After a long day, KASBAN MIC DREAMY OF RIVERVIEW had his maturity in his favor over the other males. He maintained full control of himself and the ring at all times. I really admired how his very balanced structure kept him the same at every moment. He was my choice for Best of Opposite Sex to the Best In Breeders Cup winner AGHA D'JARIS ZEN AT WINTERBORNE. I was totally moved by her the first moment I saw her in her class. Exotic, square, sound and regal. Sometimes she would let a trace of her sense of humor come

through but never allowed that to be caught off guard. I was totally taken by her. I only wish that it would have been appropriate for me to have taken her for a whirl around the ring myself.

Thank you all for giving me this opportunity. It was an experience I will cherish forever as I do the Afghan Hound.

### BEST IN AHCA BREEDERS' CUP 2010

*Photo by Glen Miller Photography*



### AGHA D'JARIS ZEN AT WINTERBORNE

Agha D'Jari's Wilson Of Xenos  
ex Agha D'Jari's Reflection Of Xenos  
Breeder: Stefan Boieck  
Owners: Jodi Allward & Stefan Boieck

### BEST OPPOSITE SEX IN AHCA BREEDERS' CUP

*Photo by Glen Miller Photography*



### KASBAN MIC DREAMY OF RIVERVIEW

Ch. Windsong Hollywood Park  
ex Ch. Kasban's Dream Girl  
Breeders: Eleanor & Seldon McCoy & Laura Mauldin  
Owners: Linda Guarino & Laura Mauldin

## AKC DELEGATE REPORT

Submitted by Connie Butherus, AKC Delegate for the AHCA

December 14 and 16, 2009, Meetings, Long Beach, CA

Monday, 12/14/09, was Delegate committee meeting day. These meetings are a very important part of delegate work, sometimes as important as the actual Delegate meetings. Delegate meetings develop initiatives and recommendations to the AKC Board. At the end of the day, the initiatives from the individual committees are bundled by the Coordinating Committee for presentation to the AKC Board. In the afternoon, I attended the Parent Club Committee, of which I am a member. Late afternoon, there is a Caucus of all delegates which is run by a Delegate. Tuesday AM is the Delegate Forum, which addresses issues upcoming in the Delegate Meeting or are of importance to the Delegate body.

### Monday AM, 12/14/09

**I. Parent Club Committee Planning Meeting:** We worked on the Parent Club Educational Conference scheduled for August 2010.

### **II. Parent Club Committee 12/14/09:**

- A. Parent Club Conference: Will be August 27-29. Each Parent club will be allowed one participant and a \$150.00 fee will be charged.
- B. Parent Club Code of Ethics Project: All Parent Clubs have been asked to submit copies of their Codes of Ethics and related documents. We are organizing the data on these documents which may well serve as a guide to clubs developing or editing their own Codes of Ethics.
- 87 clubs have submitted documents
  - Preliminary analysis is in hand and was reviewed
- C. Meet the Breeds in NY at the Javits Center: **BIG SUCCESS**
- 2 legislators, 9 legislative staff attended
  - 133 Parent Clubs hosted booths (Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey represented the AHCA)
  - 36,500 spectators in 2 days
- D. Meet the Breeds in Long Beach in December in conjunction with Eukanuba Show
- 160 Parent Clubs participated
- E. Group Realignment: Presented by Tom Davies, Chair of subcommittee:
- It was not the intention of Committee to kill the Group Realignment project
  - Would like the proposal to be committed - i.e., sent back for “massage and tweaking”
  - Committee thinks it is something we need as the groups will shortly be very large and unevenly composed.
  - Who’s going to push this?  
Ultimate responsibility lies with the AKC Board  
Committee will continue to function ad hoc
  - This probably will come back to the Delegates in March for a vote
- F. AKC Humane Fund: Just what is this fund and what is its function?
- Educate public on responsible dog ownership
  - Provide resources for the ACE Awards
  - Assist human service organizations to support dogs of persons in distress
  - Breeder and Rescue Grants program, awarding \$1000 per parent club for rescue situation (application on AKC website)
  - Donations are tax deductible
- G. AKC PAC (Political Action Committee): This fund’s purpose is to provide financial support to election funds of legislators who support AKC’s legislative agenda. The animal rights organizations are providing big \$ (millions!) to legislators who will vote supporting the AR agenda, and we need to defend our rights in practical ways – like this fund.
- Donations are not tax deductible
  - Organizations (clubs) cannot contribute directly but can bundle funds contributed by their members, so long as there is a paper trail to the contributor.
- H. Agility Trial Changes Sought: Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club requests a change in regulation to allow two agility trials on the same day at their National Specialty. This is being investigated and will require an AKC Board vote.
- I. Registration Changes: Due to the fact that only 55% of puppies bred by the fancy are registered, this could mean a potential of an additional 116,000 registrations if breeders would register their entire litter. Requirement that puppies be listed for full or limited registrations at the time litter is registered is thought to limit the program. The AKC Board has voted that puppies can be moved from limited to full registration or vice versa prior to the sale to the new buyer, with no age limit prior to transfer to the first buyer.

*Continued on Page 23....*

*Continued from Page 22...*

J. Grand Champion Program: The proposal was reviewed by AKC Staff, and a proposed amendment to allow spayed and neutered veteran Champions of Record at specialty shows to compete for Grand Champion Points was supported by the committee.

K. Working Dog Sport (Schutzhund):

- Working Dog Sport discontinued re AKC Board vote in November
- AKC will approve outside organizations to hold Working Dog events at AKC events
- Such events are subject to Parent Club approval by club/breed which has been historically associated with Schutzhund events

**III. Delegate Caucus:** The Caucus consisted of items presented from the floor. The value of the Caucus depends on the persons running it. Present caucus discussions tend to be “free-for-all” sessions which have a variable degree of value depending on the issue.

A. From the Floor:

- NBC Today Show aired a clip from the BBC show “The Trouble with Pure Bred Dogs.” We need to address these issues.
  - The Cavalier Parent Club organized a letter campaign to NBC. Meridith Viera did not address any counter issues or arguments
  - The AKC was apparently contacted prior to the show as they submitted a statement which was read. General opinion was that the AKC statement was of limited value to the viewing public when contrasted with the emotional punch of the BBC show.
  - We need to be more proactive and not merely reactive.
  - We need to change our strategy – not merely responding to attacks from a defensive position but initiating presentations supporting our position and challenging the AR organizations.
- Suggest Delegate meetings on Sunday-Monday rather than Monday-Tuesday = This is an old issue.
- Grand Champion Program – amendment allowing spayed/neutered veterans as discussed in the earlier meetings will be presented as an amendment at the Tuesday Delegate Meeting.
- Proposal to the AKC Board to delete term limits will be presented at the Delegate Meeting on Tuesday. This revision comes from the Bylaws Committee and would require an amendment to the current Bylaws.

**IV. Delegate Meeting**

A. Candidate Presentations: Each candidate was given an equal amount of time in minutes to make his/her case for election.

1. Carmen Battaglia:

Need to refresh our brand (as GE and IBM did)  
Maintain and grow registry – improve policy, programs and people  
Responsibility – change approach, go on the offensive  
Link rights and responsibility  
Relationships. Emphasize dog – human bond

2. Charles Garvin:

Good at group processes  
Will seek and use delegate input  
Is administrator of a large medical group in Ohio

3. Steve Gladstone:

Tough Questioner  
Devil’s advocate

4. William Newman:

Initiated mixed-breed program  
Will push new Business Plan

5. Pat Scully:

Emphasized background in performance events  
Need to emphasize ownership rights  
Increase registrations  
Need to improve our responsibility to customers  
Will provide continuity/stability/long-range planning

(Note: It is of interest that Gladstone, Scully, Battaglia and Garvin represent a total of 43 years on the AKC Board. Newman is in his first term)

B. Chairman’s Report:

1. Now 164 breeds. Added: Boykin Spaniels, Blue Tick and Red Bone Hounds
2. Star Puppy Program initiated. Will feed into CGC
3. Established Canine Health and Welfare Advisory Committee
4. AKC Canine Partners Program (Mixed Breed Initiative. Start Date 4/1/2010)
5. Reasonable operating profit
6. Big investment returns

*Continued on Page 24....*

Continued from Page 23....

C. Treasurer's Report: (thousands)

1. Operating Profit	\$1,035
2. Total Revenues - Down 9%	
• Registrations	Down \$3.7 M
• Pedigree Sales	Down \$927 K
• Royalties	Down \$658 K
3. Total Expenses - Down \$4 M	
• Payroll and Benefits	Down \$1.4 M
• Other Expenses	Down \$2.6 M
4. Investment Income - Up 9 M	
(+18% vs. -27% in 09)	

D. Voting:

1. BBE class changes – Dogs must be shown by owner/breeder in BBE class.  
Can be shown by others in subsequent classes. PASSED

*Rules Applying to Dog Shows  
Dog Show Classifications:*

CHAPTER 3

*SECTION 8. The Bred-By-Exhibitor Class shall be for dogs that are:*

- Six months of age or older as of the first day of the show;*
- Not Champions of record on the date of closing of entries for the show;*
- Owned or co-owned by any of the breeders of record as of the date of the show.*

*The person handling the dog in this class must be a breeder of record and an owner of record of this dog.*

*In any subsequent classes for which a dog from the Bred-By-Exhibitor class becomes eligible, there are no restrictions as to who may handle the dog.*

***This amendment was brought forward by the Delegate Dog Show Rule Committee.***

*This change brings the Bred-By-Exhibitor requirements in line with all other regular classes as defined by Chapter 11, Section 1 of these rules.*

2. Grand Champion Class Established – Much discussion regarding this name of the title which nearly killed the proposal before we were allowed to vote. At last the question was called and we could proceed.
  - a. Amendment to include as eligible spayed/neutered veterans in specialties. PASSED
  - b. Motion to establish the Grand Champion title with amendment. PASSED
3. Beagle Field Trial Rules Changes. PASSED
4. Proposed amendments on the following changes were read and will be voted on in the March meeting:
  - a. Telegram entries (As outdated as buggy whips!)
  - b. Veterinarian duties at shows
  - c. Protest process

E. Awards: John Lyons presented 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Community Service Awards to:

- Cumberland KC
- Rouge Valley KC

F. Offered From the Floor:

- Recommendation to the AKC Board to remove term limit requirements (from the Bylaws Committee)
- New breed admissions should be required to include a rescue contact
- September 2010 meeting will include a forum on legislative affairs
- The Ace Award Border Collie was discovered to have cancer as part of CHF screening. Caught early and treated.
- Request for printed Delegate Directory
- Kudos from all Delegates for Meet the Breeds

Meeting Adjourned

## AKC DELEGATE REPORT

Submitted by Connie Butherus, AKC Delegate for the AHCA

March 8 & 9, 2010, Meetings, Newark NJ

### A. Updated information regarding:

- Parent Club Conference
- August 27, 28, 29 – 2010, Raleigh NC Area
- Group Realignment to be referred back to the AKC Board for further study and refinement
- Code of Ethics Project  
92 clubs have submitted the requested documents.  
Cut-off date to be May 1, 2010

### B. New Discussion

- The AKC “Prime” program.
- This is a point of sale project to capture registrations in pet stores for AKC puppies (we were informed this program has been in effect since 2008). There was MUCH DISCUSSION regarding this issue and concern was voiced. AKC Staff projected a gain of 70,000 to 100,000 AKC registrations per year. However, so far approximately 6,000 puppies have been registered.
- Mixed Breed Program  
The requirement for spay/neuter of these dogs does not require proof nor does PAL (formerly ILP). It was suggested that proof be required before the earned title is awarded. More to follow – Bet on it!
- The Kennel Club (UK) and the BBC Program on dog breeding. In the UK the Kennel Club owns the Breed Standards and can modify them as it pleases. In the US each Parent Club owns its own Standard and controls any changes.
- The Kennel Club (UK) has changed some of its standards in response to the hue and cry – eg. 58 breeds now prohibit “Inbreeding”. Parliament is doing a study regarding the issue. The need is urgent for our Parent Clubs to elevate and educate our breeders and engage in public education.  
The biggest threat to breeders in the US is believed to be local legislation.

## II. Delegate Meeting

- As expected, the Delegates voted to refer the Group Realignment Proposal back to the AKC Board
- Two new member clubs were admitted
- Fourteen new Delegates were seated
- The amendment regarding duties and responsibilities of Show Vets and also the changes regarding protests were sent back to the Rules Committee due to unclear wording
- Rules amending telegram communications for entry changes were adopted
- Elected to the AKC Board – Class of 2014:
  - 396 ballots were cast with 198 votes needed to elect
  - Three positions were to be filled. This was accomplished with only one balloting (2009 election required 5 ballots!)
  - Results:

▪ Carmen Battaglia	175 votes
▪ Charles Garvin	238 votes – ELECTED
▪ Steven Gladstone	172 votes
▪ William Newman	217 votes – ELECTED
▪ Patricia Scully	218 votes – ELECTED

## AHCA NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

Submitted by Facebook Chair, Gary Lennon

The Afghan Hound Club America now has a Facebook page. Facebook is a great place for the AHCA to receive worldwide coverage on all AHCA events and events hosted by your Regional Club. Currently there are 261 worldwide fans, so we will definitely be noticed. As time goes on hopefully all of you who are on Facebook will become fans and contribute items to be posted especially all the events your clubs host. This is also a great place to refer people to about our breed, educational events, confirmation, obedience, agility, lure coursing, rescue, or any other Afghan Hound related items. As with anything, we can make this a success so please send me information to post at: [afghanhound@yahoo.com](mailto:afghanhound@yahoo.com)

Also, if you would like your pictures posted in an album, please forward them to me.

## HOW GOOD IS YOUR HISTORY?

Can you answer the questions below on the history of our breed? Many of the answers are found in "The Complete Afghan Hound" by Constance O. Miller and Edward M. Gilbert, Jr.

Name a famous Marx Brother who brought Afghan Hounds into our country. \_\_\_\_\_

Badshah of Ainsdart was also known as \_\_\_\_\_ .

America's first Best In Show Afghan Hound was \_\_\_\_\_ .

In 1934 he became the first Afghan Hound Champion. \_\_\_\_\_

She was the first Afghan Hound Bitch Champion. \_\_\_\_\_

Who was the World War II Naval Bomber Afghan Hound Mascot who was killed aloft in action on a South Pacific mission? \_\_\_\_\_

She ferried planes from field to field for Civilian Defense during World War II. \_\_\_\_\_

Who founded Prides Hill Kennels? \_\_\_\_\_

This Afghan Hound was imported from Afghanistan in 1934. \_\_\_\_\_

Which famous Afghan Hound lady's family received a letter of condolence on her passing from President Jimmy Carter's office? \_\_\_\_\_

This Afghan Hound was raffled as a prize to help raise money for the "Bundles for Britain War Effort" during World War II. \_\_\_\_\_

Name the Afghan Hound who was the foundation bitch for the "brindle" color in America. \_\_\_\_\_

This female Afghan Hound retired with 161 All Breed Best In Shows. \_\_\_\_\_

What year did Ch. Kabik's The Challenger win Best In Show at Westminster? \_\_\_\_\_

The first time this well known lady exhibited her Afghan Hound, she showed him on a clothesline rope. Who was she? \_\_\_\_\_

This winning Afghan Hound is also known as a winning poker hand. \_\_\_\_\_

The Afghan Hound first appeared in which group before the Hound Group was given separate status by AKC in 1937? \_\_\_\_\_

Felt's Thief of Bagdad was also known as \_\_\_\_\_ .

The first Afghan Hound Club of America National Special Show was held in what year? \_\_\_\_\_ What dog received top honors? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the date and year the Afghan Hound Standard was adopted by the American Kennel Club? \_\_\_\_\_

In what year did the AHCA National Specialty Show permanently move out of New York? \_\_\_\_\_

This grand lady is still known around the country today, not because of her Afghan Hounds but, because she created a special ceramic glaze. \_\_\_\_\_

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by President, Brenda Brody

We begin the new decade with new ideas for the AHCA. My first official request to the board was to propose a change to the Constitution. It would make the election for President a bit smoother as both the 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents would be elected simultaneously and thus avoid the resignation from the office of 2nd Vice-President mid term as did occur with me. Right now the President and 1st Vice-President are elected for 2 years every even year and the 2nd Vice-President is elected for 2 years every odd year so they are staggered. It would be better for all future elections if the 2nd Vice-President should choose to run for the office of President that all are elected for 2 years every even year. This would avoid the necessity of the resignation from the office and thus avoid the board choosing who would fill the office rather than through election by the membership. At the first board meeting Abbe Shaw was elected to fill the empty seat of 2nd Vice President vacated by me for the remainder of the year.

The other change is to allow the annual membership meeting notice to be sent in *Topknot News* rather than requiring it be mailed separately by the corresponding secretary. The time frame would not change; it just allows another means of who does the mailing.

You will be getting a ballot on these proposed changes to the Constitution very soon. I do hope you will agree and vote promptly, and positively, to implement these changes.

We have launched a FaceBook page and invite all to have a look and participate in the discussion there. Please realize the way of our future is through the Internet even though some of us may hate to admit it.

On our website we will begin another update of having the membership application and sponsor forms online and downloadable for any new perspective members to speed up the process.

Also included in this issue of *Topknot News* is a large quantity of information and the synopsis of the board minutes. Please take a look. We want your input as to a listing of breeders for the website so look for that and reply as we are going to put that as a list on the website to entice people to find members with puppies available.

Unfortunately the general consensus I keep hearing constantly is how our breed is dying. It isn't dying. We are here and are still active as breeders, exhibitors, pet owners, those who course, do agility and love to own Afghan Hounds and care about the health and well being of our breed. **WE** need to focus on the positive with what we have and not lament what was. Every time you say these negative things you are actually just putting down those of us who still carry on and yourselves too if you are still involved. I have no doubt that this club will go on as will this ancient breed we love and call Afghan Hound.

Let's make this a year to promote the Afghan Hound and our

club. When you talk to anyone about the breed, talk about what makes an Afghan Hound a wonderful dog. Sure all need to know about their high maintenance and unusual characteristics, but let us all consider to talk more positively about the fine things that we all enjoy about these lovable clowns.

I want to be accessible and I am available to the membership for any ideas, suggestions, issues or questions that might arise. And if I don't know the answers, I will ask to try to find out the answers. I look forward to the coming year and implementing some new ways of promoting the breed & our club.

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

## BREEDER'S ONLINE

If you would like to be listed as a breeder on the AHCA Website email your complete information directly to Bobbi Keller at [zafarahounds@comcast.net](mailto:zafarahounds@comcast.net).

You must supply Bobbie with detailed information such as your name, kennel name, contact information (email address and telephone number) and the state where you reside. Bobbie will then list you by state.



**AHCA ITEMS FOR SALE  
WITH GOLD THREADS**  
Submitted by  
Inventory Control Chair, Sue Busby

FLEECE BLANKETS	\$15.00
3 Navy, 7 Forest Green	
LAPTOP TOTE BAGS	\$20.00
20 Black	
DUFFLE BAGS	\$40.00
8 Navy, 9 Red, 2 Black	
LUGGAGE TAGS	\$ 5.00
Red, Blue & Grey	
AHCA LAPEL PIN, 14 KT GOLD PLATED	\$15.00
Tie Tac or Safety Pin	
FLEECE SCARVES	\$10.00
(AHCA LOGO IN SILVER THREADS)	
5 Blue, 5 Red, 2 Grey	
BASEBALL CAPS	\$15.00
Assorted Colors	

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE POSTAGE

To order contact Sue Busby: [barakiafs@peoplepc.com](mailto:barakiafs@peoplepc.com)

PayPal/Visa/MC accepted

**REPORT ON THE AMERICAN SIGHTHOUND FIELD ASSOCIATION DELEGATES CONVENTION**  
**Submitted by Debbie Petersen**



*A Silken Windhound, pictured next to the larger-sized Borzoi.*

*Editor's Note:*

*The Silken Windhound is a small to medium-sized sighthound with a moderately long silky coat. This breed owes its appearance, build, and the athleticism of a coursing dog to Borzoi and Whippet ancestors. The Silken Windhound can be any combination of coat colors and markings, from spotted to solid, black and tan, saddled, brindle and sable, pure white and reds to deep black and blues, and a rainbow of colors in between.*

Attending the American Sighthound Field Association Delegates Convention in San Jose, CA, on March 27th and 28th was quite an eye opener. It started with the usual business of roll call and reports, and it was obvious from the beginning that there was much controversy, not only among the members, but among the Board of Directors. The issue that polarized the membership was the board's approval of the Silken Windhound to run in limited stakes at ASFA events. The American Whippet Club and the Borzoi Club of America are affected most directly, and of course are the most adamant against their recognition. So much so, that the AWC has canceled their annual ASFA lure trial at their National Specialty.

There was an attempt to unseat the current President with nominations from the floor, and an attempt to overturn the ASFA Board decision to recognize the Silkens. Both attempts were unsuccessful, as the Silken support group was very organized and out in force. The keynote speaker on Saturday was Dr. Mark Neff, a geneticist with the Canine Genome Project. His talk was very interesting and informative. He explained that the Silkens were requiring DNA with every registration, and that they had all been verified. When I talked with him at a very informal dinner that evening, he agreed that DNA does confirm parentage, just like the AKC DNA does, but it does not confirm what breeds they are. Their background was not verified for the percentage of Whippet, Borzoi, Sheltie, or whatever was incorporated into the mix.

The AHCA Board position was to vote against acceptance of the Silkens, and that is how Ann and I cast our ballots. I am very opposed to recognition at this time of the Silkens, even for running in limited stakes. For a breed to be accepted as a breed, I believe that they should have been bred longer than 25 years, and that their studbook should be closed longer than 10 years. Also, all issues of the stud book should be resolved prior to their acceptance. There is still much speculation as to the correctness of allowing a purebred Borzoi and possibly "Long-haired Whippets" to be bred to Silkens after it's closing in 2000. Having the Silken Windhound Society be the parent club and the recognized registry is akin to having the fox watch the hen-house. I believe that they should be allowed to run in Lurcher stakes... the equivalent of mixed breed classes, until they have been bred for a longer period of time.

As to the issue of canceling our ASFA trial in conjunction with our National Specialty: I would love to support the AWC in their boycott of ASFA, but I feel that would only penalize our members, and not make a significant impact on ASFA. Therefore, I would advise our Board to continue with the ASFA trial for the 2010 national, but I would encourage everyone to support the AKC lure trial instead of the ASFA trial. Just put yourself in the shoes of our fellow sighthound breeders and imagine what you would feel like if someone started crossing our magnificent breed with another to create a new breed, and ASFA recognized them. Wouldn't you be fighting mad? Wouldn't you want the support of your fellow purebred breeders and exhibitors?

I want to thank the AHCA Board for asking Ann Sterner and I to attend this convention. I believe that it is important to stay informed and involved for the health of our sport.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Petersen

**REPORT ON THE AMERICAN SIGHTHOUND FIELD ASSOCIATION DELEGATES CONVENTION**  
**Submitted by Ann Sterner**

On March 27th and 28th I attended the ASFA, (American Sighthound Field Association) ACoD convention as a delegate for the Afghan Hound Club of America. The principle reason I was asked to attend the convention along with Debbie Petersen was to communicate the position of the Board of Directors of the AHCA on the Silken Windhound's Breed Registry acceptance by ASFA. In late 2009 the Board of Directors for ASFA, by a majority vote and not a unanimous vote, acted to accept the ISWS (International Silken Windhound Society) Breed Registry. This allowed the Silken Windhounds to run at ASFA events in limited stakes. This means that the Silkens do not get awarded points for ASFA titles, however, they are judged against each other and are scored and also receive ribbons for placements.

The issue that seems to polarize even the general membership of ASFA, as well as their Board of Directors, is whether to accept the Breed Registry of the ISWS. The principle issue is the appearance of one purebred Borzoi, (Kristull Jjuno of Chataqua) in the registry after the studbook closed in 2000. This Borzoi produced a litter in 2003, 2006 and 2007 of Silkens. Those opposing the acceptance of the registry find this a major problem by further proof that the Silkens are not breeding true. Other reasons against the acceptance of the registry is that it is just too soon and more time is needed to show the Silkens are breeding true in appearance. Even with the availability of DNA testing it does not prove that they are breeding true, however, a canine genetics expert says they are purebred dogs at this time. There seems to be a wide contrast in size and type based on regions of the country. It has been reported by Lisa Costell, of the American Whippet Club, that the AKC denied them acceptance and told them they would need decades of breeding Silken to Silken before they would be considered again. I am not sure if this is factual or just hearsay.

Since the ASFA Board already accepted the breed registry in late 2009, we were not sure if we would be voting on this issue until it was brought up under new business. A motion was made from the floor to reject the decision to accept the breed registry of the ISWS by the ASFA board. A hot discussion ensued and a two thirds vote was needed to pass the motion. A roll call vote was requested with the delegates from the Afghan Hound Club of America being first to cast their votes on this hot issue. Both Debbie Petersen and I voted YES on this motion based on the instructions to Debbie from the AHCA Board. The motion did not carry. It was approximately 26 YES and 45 NO.

So at this point, ASFA recognizes the breed registry of the Silkens but does NOT award them any points.

In is my opinion, that although this is a very important issue to all of us involved in purebred dogs, it should not affect our decision to hold an ASFA lure coursing event at our National Specialty in Sacramento. The AHCA has been a member of ASFA I believe since 1974. This issue is polarizing ASFA resulting in the resignation of two board members.

It will be years before AKC accepts the Silken's breed registry. The Silkens are not awarded ASFA points. These dogs love to run, their owners are dedicated to their dogs, and their "breed," and will continue to try to gain acceptance by AKC. All most all of the breeds currently accepted by the American Kennel Club have been from cross breeding "purebred" dogs at one time or another in history. Even Whippet and Borzoi breeders are not in agreement on the Silken issue.

The American Kennel Club will be sanctioning trials for mixed breed dogs. It is in my opinion that by doing so they are recognizing that in order for the sport of owning and exhibiting purebred dogs to continue, we must embrace all activities which encourage the positive interaction between dog owners and their dogs, whether mixed breed or purebred.

Respectfully,

Ann Sterner



#### **2011 Breeders' Cup Date Set**

A special Board Meeting Conference Call was held on February 14, 2010. The board voted to hold the 2011 AHCA Breeders' Cup March 11, 2011, in Virginia Beach, VA, prior to the Tidewater Afghan Hound Club Back to Back Specialty Shows.

Jerry Bazar will chair this event.

**The Next Topknot News Deadline is: June 26, 2010**