

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

Topknot News

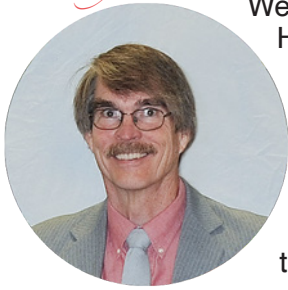


The
usual ... lots
of Cookies
Please!

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Volume 2019, Issue 3, "Winter Edition"

Letter from the Editor:



Brian Wood, Editor

Welcome to Joanne Sternhell who has become a new member of the Topknot News team. Her contribution has been eagerly accepted. Thank you to our National Specialty Show Photographer Garth Gourlay for allowing us to print his images. It is much appreciated. Well done to Afghan Hound Club of America Members who have not only brought new owners into the fancy, but also brought them to our National Specialty. The next deadline for Topknot News submissions is April 2, 2020. We hope you continue to enjoy the advertisements as an addition to our Club Newsletter and their value in supporting the Club, as a continuing effort of membership outreach, and in spotlighting the relevancy of the Club in all areas of the Afghan Hound fancy.

Newsletter Team:

Editor - Brian Wood brian@shiningmtn.com
Proof Reader - Mary Blacker
Advertising - Linda Kramer
Advertising - Joanne Sternhell
Reporter - Karen Irazabal
Distribution - Stir Greer
Layout - Stir Greer

Front & Back Cover:

Michele Trifiro of *Evensong Afghan Hounds* brings us the widely-loved and irreverent KABUKI.

You can find more of Kabuki's antics at www.facebook.com/KabukiCartoons.

View Michele's Fine Art at www.micheletrifiro.com.

Newsletter Advertisement:

Full Page Color is \$75 - basic design is included. *Currently Covers and Inside Covers are reserved for Club Use.* Please send your email with Text & Attached image files, to Linda Kramer benitoafs@verizon.net.

Or you may submit your ad Print Ready: 8.5" x 11" - 300dpi - sRGB, as PDF file. Add .125" bleed all sides.

Payment via PayPal to paypal@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org, via Credit Card email Club Treasurer Robert Jordan treasurer@afghanhoundclubofamerica.org for an invoice, via Check by mail to Robert Jordan, Treasurer, AHCA, 1494 Baker Rd, Martinsburg, WV 25404-9434.

Member Address Changes:

Please remember to notify Dorma Sue Busby of your address changes, or if you hear of a fellow Member who is ill or has crossed over the Rainbow Bridge, at barakiafs@peoplepc.com or 810-241-2529 mobile.

Corrections:

On Page 19 of the Summer Edition 2019, we omitted a Breeder/Owner from the Top-Producing Dam, CH CharterOak Quinta. The Breeders of CharterOak Quinta are Gene Vaccaro & Michelle Vaccaro & Evelyn Rechler, and the Owners are Gene & Michelle Vaccaro. Our Apologies, and Congratulations on the Honor!

2020 Rescue Calendars:

Calendars are \$22, US postage paid, \$25 for International. Send checks to: AHCA Rescue, 251 Warwick Lane, Alabaster, AL 35007, or PayPal address: Affierescue@aol.com It is **very important** that when paying by PayPal, you **must** include your Name & Address in the **comments**, as well as specify how many calendars you are ordering!

Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.

www.AfghanHoundClubofAmerica.org

2019 Officers & Directors:

President - H. Russell (Russ) Hastings (2020)
First Vice President - Jennifer Taylor (2020)
Second Vice President - *vacant*
Corresponding Secretary - Sue Busby (2021)
Recording Secretary - Eddie Kominek (2020)
Treasurer - Robert (Bob) Jordan (2021)

Director - Alicia Jones (2020)
Director - D. Scott Pfeil (2020)
Director - Anna Tyler (2021)
Director - Linda Jackson (2021)
Director - Beth Anne Hall (2022)
Director - Christine O'Connor (2022)

2019 Committee Chairpersons:

Agility - Mikki Razor
Archives - Helen Stein
AKC Delegate - Connie Butherus
AKC Gazette Column - Harry Bennett
Awards - Barb Hastings
Breed & Public Education - Anna Stromberg
Breeders' Cup - Sue Busby
2020 Breeders' Cup - Alicia Jones
Canine Health - Anna Tyler
Inventory - Sue Busby
Judges Education - Harry Bennett
Junior Showmanship - Alicia Jones
Legislative Affairs - AKC.org/governmentrelations
Librarian - Helen Stein
Lure Coursing - Eddie Kominek
Mailing List - Sue Busby

Membership - Jennifer Taylor
Meet the Breed - Anna Stromberg
Mentor Program - Christine Pinkston
National Events Liason - Brenda Brody
National Specialty 2019 - Erica Jantos
National Specialty 2020 - Sue Busby
Obedience/Rally/Versatility - Lynda Hicks
Parliamentarian - Connie Butherus
Policies & Procedures - Jennifer Taylor
Regional Clubs - Amy Mero
Rescue - Martha Powell
Social Media - Erica Jantos
Statistics - Carol Rivette
Topknot News - Brian Wood
Ways & Means - Sue Busby
Website Administrator - Eddie Kominek

Available: Introduction to the Afghan Hound

by: the Afghan Hound Club of America

A 45 page booklet written for the person who is thinking about getting an Afghan Hound, or the person who has bought his first puppy or acquired his first mature dog. This booklet should be part of the "care package" the breeder sends along with every Afghan Hound going to its new home.

Single Copy Price is \$3.95, 2-10 Copies \$3.00 each, 11-20 copies \$2.50 each, 21 or more, \$2.25 each.

The Next Two Nationals are in Wilmington, Ohio at the Roberts Centre!

The 2020 National Specialty will be Monday, September 28 - Friday October 2, 2020

The 2021 National Specialty will be Tuesday, October 5 - Saturday, October 9, 2021

Submissions to Host the 2022 National - Send Them In!

Submit your preliminary proposal to the Corresponding Secretary,
Dorma Sue Busby, for Review at the March 2020 Board Meeting!

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Judge's Study Guide

The PDF file of the Judge's Study Guide can be found on the website under "Breed"

Newsletters

Past Newsletters can be found on the website under "Club"

Membership

Applications, Associate & Regular, can be found on the website under "Club"
Online Payment is available!

Next Topknot News Deadline:

April 2, 2020 - "Rising Stars" Issue

AHCA Rescue Hotline

1-877-237-3728
1-877-AF-RESCU

In Memory

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of the following Members:

Ruth Weddle (Our Afghans founder & publisher)

Sandra "Sandy" L Weinraub (Sanallah Afghan Hounds)

Jo Allyce "Jody" Santarelli (S'relli Afghan Hounds)

Condolences

Our deepest condolences go to Lucia Brown (Dragonfly Afghan Hounds) on the loss of her husband.

Well Wishes

Our healing thoughts and well wishes to Lifetime Member Mary Blacker while she recuperates.

The rest of your Topknot News teams misses you!

President's Message:



As I sit here in Pennsylvania, looking out my window, watching the first snowfall of the Holiday Season, enjoying a glass of eggnog—with Kentucky Bourbon of course—I reflect upon both the past and the future. For those of us who love the Afghan Hound, reflection on the past often brings memories of those dogs who have crossed the Bridge and the joy they brought to our lives. As we think about the future, we consider the hope we have for the one resting in front of the fireplace. Or maybe, the new puppy to come, perhaps to be shown at our next Breeders' Cup in St. Louis.

This is my last President's message for Topknot News. The past two years have been a tumultuous time for our Club as we struggled with a financial crisis, but also a time filled with hope and pride as we enjoyed two wonderful Breeders' Cups and a National that looks to be one of our best ever. We have enjoyed a Board of Directors filled with excitement that explored new and creative ideas. Change is never easy or comfortable; this Board has faced the challenge and emerged successful. As our new Board begins its journey down that path, we will enjoy the guidance of additional members who have both the experience and the vision to continue these successes.

As each of you reflect during this Holiday season, I hope that you think about the future we face as lovers of the Afghan Hound. In many parts of the country our Regional Afghan Hound Clubs are struggling to survive. It takes four to make a major in many places. Some of us remember when it took forty for a major, but those days are past. Think about what you, as an individual, can do to help improve our breed and Club. We need to encourage new people interested in Afghan Hounds. Introduce yourself at shows, treat them with respect, offer to help, and give them an application for an associate membership. Encourage Junior Handlers who are showing an Afghan Hound. Support a Junior Membership to the AHCA. Lobby the Board to bring it forward to the General Membership.

I have never understood why anyone who loves the Breed would not want to join the Parent Club. When questioned, it is usually because of some isolated incident that happened years ago or something someone said. Encourage those folks to forget about the 2% bad and to embrace the 98% good.

It is time-consuming and expensive to serve on the Board, but time and expense is no reason to not get involved through committee work or by being active in a Regional Club. Don't wait to be asked. Be proactive and seek the opportunities to help. Seldom is a volunteer turned away. When you look back next year, it will be a great memory.

So as I reflect on the past few years and those to come, I am filled with good memories of the past. I look forward with great hope to the promise of what all of you can bring to our Breed and to our Club. Get involved at some level—doing something—it will be a fulfilling and rewarding experience.

I hope to see all of you next year and wish both you and your family, including the four-legged members, all the very best the Holiday Season and the New Year.

H. Russell Hastings, President, AHCA

From the Corresponding Secretary:

The AHCA 2019 Nominating Committee was Robert Stein, Harry Bennett, David Giordano, Russ Hastings, & Jay Johnson. The nominees were:

- President - Helen Stein (2 year term)
- 1st Vice President - Jennifer Taylor (2 year term)
- 2nd Vice President - H Russell Hastings (1 year term)
- Recording Secretary - Eddie Kominek (2 year term)
- Board of Directors - Connie Butherus (3 year term)
- Board of Directors - D. Scott Pfeil (3 year term)
- Delegate to the AKC - Connie Butherus (2 year term)

Article IV, Section 4(c) states that if no valid nominations are received by the Corresponding Secretary on or before November 15, 2019, the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected and no balloting will be required.

No additional nominations were received; this slate will be effective **February 1, 2020**.

Dorma Sue Busby, Corresponding Secretary

Upcoming Regional Club Specialties:

Name	Day	Date	Classes	Judge	City	State	Super/Secretary
AHC of Greater Phoenix	THUR	30-Jan-2020	Regular	Mrs. Sandra W Frei	Phoenix	AZ	Onofrio
AHC of Greater Phoenix	THUR	30-Jan-2020	Sweeps	Mrs. Sandra W Frei	Phoenix	AZ	Onofrio
AHC of Greater Phoenix	THUR	30-Jan-2020	Regular	Ms. Rosemarie Crandahl	Phoenix	AZ	Onofrio
AHC of Greater Phoenix	THUR	30-Jan-2020	Juniors	Ms. Rosemarie Crandahl	Phoenix	AZ	Onofrio
Potomac AHC	SAT	14-Mar-2020	Regular		York	PA	Rau
Potomac AHC	SAT	14-Mar-2020	Sweeps		York	PA	Rau
AHC of St. Louis	FRI	27-Mar-2020	Regular	Ms. JoAnne M Buehler	Gray Summit	MO	Foy Trent
AHC of St. Louis	FRI	27-Mar-2020	Juniors	Ms. JoAnne M Buehler	Gray Summit	MO	Foy Trent
AHC of St. Louis	SAT	28-Mar-2020	Regular	Jamie Souza Bartlett	Gray Summit	MO	Claudia Sharp
AHC of St. Louis	SAT	28-Mar-2020	Juniors	Jamie Souza Bartlett	Gray Summit	MO	Claudia Sharp
AHC of California	FRI	10-Apr-2020	Regular	Dr. Paul L Hewitt	Silverado	CA	Lea Plaut
AHC of California	FRI	10-Apr-2020	Sweeps	Dr. Paul L Hewitt	Silverado	CA	Lea Plaut
AHC of California	FRI	10-Apr-2020	Regular	Julie Roche	Silverado	CA	Lea Plaut
AHC of California	FRI	10-Apr-2020	Juniors	Julie Roche	Silverado	CA	Lea Plaut
AHC of Northern NJ	FRI	01-May-2020	Regular	Dr. Gyorgy Tesics	Erwinna	PA	Christina Farrar
AHC of Northern NJ	FRI	01-May-2020	Sweeps	Dr. Gyorgy Tesics	Erwinna	PA	Christina Farrar
Monterey Bay AHC	SAT	06-Jun-2020	Regular		Vallejo	CA	MB-F
Monterey Bay AHC	SAT	06-Jun-2020	Sweeps		Vallejo	CA	MB-F
Greater Twin Cities AHC	FRI	21-Aug-2020	Regular	Ms. Nancy P Self	Lake Elmo	MN	Onofrio
Greater Twin Cities AHC	FRI	21-Aug-2020	Regular	Mr. David R Miller	Lake Elmo	MN	Onofrio
Greater Twin Cities AHC	FRI	21-Aug-2020	SWPC	Mr. David R Miller	Lake Elmo	MN	Onofrio

Meet the New Topknot News Team Member:

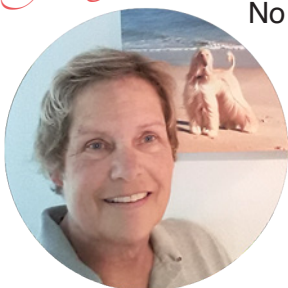


It was 1977 when a beautiful long-legged black masked red Afghan Hound puppy stole my heart. I knew from that moment on that there would always be an Afghan Hound to share my life and home with. In 1979 I met and married the love of my life my husband Mark. In 1982 we celebrated the opening of our Advertising Agency, creating advertisements, both on Radio, Television and Print media specifically for the Marine Industry.

I am proud and honored to be a part of the Topknot News Team.

Joanne Sternhell, TN Advertising

Agility Committee Report:



No Afghan Hounds were entered in the Agility Trial at our National Specialty.

The Afghan Hounds that earned an invitation to the AKC Agility Invitational are Piper, Suzette, Snow, Dazzle and Caedence. As of now I don't know if Snow is going. Snow went to the 2017 Invitational, and I believe was 10 1/2 years old at the time. I have no other information on her. Piper is owned by Janet Massey, and I don't know if Piper will be attending. The remaining three Afghan Hounds will not be attending.

Mikki Razor, Chairperson

AKC Delegate Report:



The next meetings of the AKC Delegates will be held in Orlando, Florida on December 12-13, 2019. These meetings are scheduled to coincide with the annual AKC Show.

At this series of meetings the Delegates who are running for the AKC Board of Directors will have the opportunity to employ their powers of persuasion in an hour long question and answer session followed by their prepared speeches to those in attendance.

I was on the Nominating Committee for this class of aspirants. The Committee interviewed 9 applicants over three days in September. We nominated three of the nine we had interviewed for the three four year terms and one additional for the one year term. Additional applicants wishing to enter the race had until November 1, 2019 to obtain and submit the endorsement of 50 supporting Delegates to be included in the slate. Two additional applicants emerged.

The Nominating Committee selected the following applicants for the 3 four-year terms:

- Jeffrey Bell, Delegate for the Ramapo Kennel Club (NJ), is the President of the Federation of Dog Clubs and very active in legislative matters.
- Michael Knight, Delegate for the Texas Kennel Club, has been very active in the leadership of this all-breed club and was the Chair of the Nominating Committee last year.
- Karolyn McAteer, Delegate for the Irish Setter Club of America, is currently on the AKC Board of Directors and is seeking an additional four-year term. She is the representative of the current Board to the AKC/CHF Board.

Selected for the 1 one-year term, which is the remaining balance created by a resignation, is:

- Tom Davies, Delegate for the Springfield Kennel Club (MA), has previously served on the Board, was Vice Chair and was reappointed by the Board this year to fulfill the balance of the term as noted above.

Two additional applicants have thrown their hat in the ring and are running by the above-noted petition provision:

- Carl Ashby, Delegate for the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, has previously served on the Board for two terms.
- Carmen Battaglia, Delegate for the German Shepherd Club of America, has served on the Board for several terms. He is known to many for his educational seminars on breeding.

The election will be held in March at the Annual Meeting. Between now and the big event our mail boxes will not be empty as the campaign materials arrive. Some will even receive phone calls requesting support. As always I will vote as directed by the AHCA Board.

In addition to the regular business at the upcoming meeting, reports, awards and issues of importance to be addressed. The Delegates will vote on several amendments. Of special interest are the following:

- Allowing dogs of acceptable Foreign registries to participate in the Miscellaneous Classes
- Removing the requirement that an injury must have occurred in order for an Event Committee to disqualify a dog that had attacked a person or dog if it deems the attacking dog presents a hazard to person or dog
- Establishing an additional class in performance for Weimaraners

A full report of the two-day session will be submitted to TN for its next edition.

Have a great holiday season and be sure to give your four-legged friends a special treat.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Butherus, AKC Delegate

Breed & Public Education Committee:



The Meet the Breed event in Orlando will take place at the Orange County convention center in Orlando FL on December 14-15, 2019. Members of the Suncoast AHC and the Sand 'N' See AHC will operate the booth with help from volunteers.

We always welcome volunteers, and our next event is in New York in January 2020. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to contact me via email, or reach out to me on social media. You do not need to bring a dog - you can just volunteer your time! We wish everyone a successful National!

Anna Stromberg, Chairperson

Canine Health Committee:



Blood Draw Clinic: Dr Gary Johnson of the University of Missouri (UMO) requests blood samples from healthy non-affected Afghan Hounds, in addition to affected, as they have so few samples to compare to. The Board voted at the July 20th meeting to have a Blood Draw Clinic at the 2019 National and again at the Breeder's Cup 2020.

Two forms accompany the samples: Step #1 & Step #2 forms. It is important to first get the Step #1 OFA CHIC Blood Collection Kit, which includes the bar codes that allow the CHIC OFA to keep the DNA for future research. The short health history can be updated as needed simply by emailing Eddie Dzuik at CHIC OFA (edziuk@offa.org). The Step #2 form's more detailed health history background (pedigree needed) accompanies the blood sample which is sent to Dr Johnson at UMO, which stores all the blood vital to the current Chylothorax Research.

This is the time for us to make an effort to get as many blood samples as possible for our data banks, which is very important for the Chylothorax research as well as future research, as other PCs have hundreds of samples banked for their breeds.

2019 AKC CHF PC Health Conference: I proudly represented the AHCA at the biennial AKC CHF Parent Club Health Conference in August of this year. The AHCA has supported the CHF from the start, and CHF is guiding the AHCA through the first-ever research into Chylothorax. Your donations—money, blood samples and health history data—are vital.

The free webinar series, a rich CHF resource, is available at akcCHF.org/vetvine.

The biennial PC conferences gathers researchers, PC representatives, veterinarians, and at least one veterinary student from each vet school to interact and discuss the latest discoveries in canine health. Next year is the 25th Anniversary of the CHF, the largest funder of canine health research in the world, currently funding \$10+ million in 23 research program areas. Membership Matters! I would like the AHCA to become a CHF Member. Club membership is \$200, includes a banner with AHCA on it to display at our events.

Update on Chylothorax Research: Dr Brown at the CHF has requested a formal research grant proposal from Dr. Gary Johnson (UMO). Once received, it will go before a joint research review committee at the CHF. If the research review committee approves the proposal, then Dr Brown will send it to the Board for a final signature. If the BOD approves it at that time, CHF will need the first installment of \$7,080.00. paid immediately upon the final approval of the grant. The second payment of \$4,700.00 will be paid 6-months after grant approval date – to total \$11,800.00.

A \$1212.82 check from 2018 Purina Circles was received! Also, I am so grateful for all the GoFundMe donations, the Regional Club and individual donations and to the ladies (Angela Caroline, Amy Gibbs, Mary Currie and several others) who made and donated items specifically for the Chylothorax Silent Auction at the 2018 Art Auction. They made these items only for the Chylo research and it was very beneficial to the AHCA CHF Donor Advised Fund (DAF) health research fund. We remain short of our goal, still needing donations to complete the payment and to build up the AHCA DAF. The current balance of the DAF is \$7482.46.

Also, in consideration is the William E. Dean III Charitable Foundation grant that is pending decision. We hope to learn of the award decision in November. Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Tyler, Chairperson

Inventory Committee and Ways & Means:



The 2019 National items are available now, and 2018 items are discounted. All items are available for purchase at afghanhoundclubofamerica.org/index.php/club-information/store or by contacting me directly. *Exception: contact Erica Jantos for your 2019 Catalog if you did not receive yours.*

2019 AHCA Catalog									\$20
Slouchy T-Shirt - Charcoal			L (2)		2X (1)				\$30
Slouchy T-Shirt - Med Blue	S (1)			XL (1)	2X (1)				\$30
Stone Washed T-Shirt - Blue	S (2)	M (7)	L (1)	XL (3)	2X (5)	3X (1)			\$25
Stone Washed T-Shirt - Red	S (2)	M (8)	L (3)	XL (8)	2X (6)	3X (1)			\$25
Sweatshirt - Gray	S (3)	M (7)	L (6)	XL (12)	2X (6)	3X (3)			\$35
Sweat Shirt - Wine	S (1)	M (6)	L (8)	XL (15)	2X (5)	3X (3)			\$35
Full Zip Jacket - Gray - MENS	S (1)	M (1)	L (6)	XL (7)	2X (8)				\$65
Full Zip Jacket - Purple - LADIES			L (4)	XL (9)	2X (4)	3X (1)			\$65



The Jackets have the logo embroidered on the Upper Left Area. Sweatshirts and T-Shirts have the logo silk-screened on the Front.

AHCA Logo Items (Ways & Means) —*prices Do Not include postage*—as follows: PC Lapel Pins, 14K gold-plated, \$15, Tie Tac or Safety Pin catch; Mouse Pad, Black w/white logo - 89 available - \$5; Purple Towels, 13 available - \$25; Computer Travel bags, black, 18 available - \$50.00; Dark Blue Dress Shirts, Sizes available: M (2), L (4), XL (3), 2X (3) - \$40; Baseball Hats, Colors available are Pink (2), Black (4), Beige (3), Khaki (8) - \$20.

Contact me at barakiafs@peoplepc.com or 586-933-5682 (home) or 810-241-2529 (mobile).

Dorma Sue Busby, Chairperson

Judges Education Committee:



I would like to add a discussion for recommendations to judges of Afghan Hounds. As it comes up occasionally and nonetheless not unimportant, JoAnne Buehler and I have had several conversations about the practice of In-Ring Judging Observations with regard to the Afghan Hound. We would like to discuss this with the Membership and submit a suggestion that the AHCA send a "Recommendation Letter" to all AKC Approved and Permit/Provisional Judges DISCOURAGING ANY In-Ring Observations. We believe ours is a breed particularly uncomfortable with the additional person in the show ring, with or without conversations during that time. Briefly, the practice often triggers compromising behavior of dogs, cheating them of a valid evaluation, and sometimes it will totally take them out of the competition due to their distraction or discomfort. It is not fair to the exhibitors as only the exhibitor suffers the cost: entry amount paid and then the recovery of the dog from the circumstance. The practice also takes some of the Judge's TIME away from the exhibit to deal with the observer, no matter HOW LONG THEY HAVE BEEN JUDGING. The etiquette of In-Ring Observance is not always followed. It is an interference of the normal procedure, and we all know how Afghan Hounds hate that! Thanks.

Harry Bennett, Chairperson

Lure Coursing Committee:



The AHCA is holding an AKC Afghan Hound Breed Specialty Test & Trial on November 29th, 2019 at Flintrock Farm in Reidsville, NC. Other Parent Clubs will be hosting special trials for their breeds as well. The Premium List will be out soon for this.

Eddie Kominek, Chairperson

Mentor Program Committee:



Reminders to all...Be HONEST, Be KIND.

People acquire an Afghan Hound for different reasons. Their aspirations are VALID whether their dog is "just a pet" or a show dog. Imagine how pure the motivation of a person who gets pleasure from just showing their dog. Imagine that this is where we all started. Remember how very valuable our pet homes are.

People recently came to me for help with a co-ownership problem. Their words, over and over again, were, "He's our house dog." The breeder/co-owner decided after the sale that this dog turned out NOT to be a "pet". The owners were agreeable, and cooperated, making their "pet" available to the breeder for showing. The "pet" finished fast and attained his Grand CH and did some group placing as well. All the while, the custodial owners let him go on pre-arranged weekends, sometimes going themselves, then bringing their sweet dog home.

At some point, the breeder/co-owner picked up the "pet" for a 2-weekend outing, then did NOT return him, saying he'd have one more weekend out and then he'd come home. "Okay," said the pet owners. Except...that did not happen. Instead, the breeder sent the dog out of state and afterwards informed the owners of the "pet" that their dog would have a big specials career and would NOT be coming home for a year or more.

The details of the options and actions taken subsequently are not important to this report. But what IS important is the impression that this entire incident made on these good people, who loved their dog, who were good custodians of their dog, who tried to cooperate and be respectful of the breeder's wish to show the dog, who were lied to and then deprived of their housedog, their "pet".

To me they said, "We hate this dog show thing. We never want anything to do with this sport again, and will never co-own any dog again. Ever."

I assured them that most breeders are not like this, and please don't judge the sport or breeders by this horrible experience. But the damage to the sport was done: for the "pet" owners, for their friends who knew the story and their pain, and for everyone that they subsequently told. The ending to this story is still being written.

But, in all things, please Be Honest.

Christine Pinkston, Chairperson

Obedience, Rally & Versatility Committee:



The number of Afghan Hounds participating in a variety of AKC Companion Sports, Title Recognition, and Family Dog Programs continues to rise.

Titles earned by Afghan Hounds thru August 2019, compared to 2018, has risen 8% overall. Titles issued to Afghan Hounds has risen over 50% during that time in a number of Companion Sports (Scent Work, Barn Hunt, CGC, and advanced CGC, Trick Training, Therapy Dogs, and Dock Diving). Titles issued in Rally have remained reasonably consistent but Titles issued have tripled in Obedience, increased from two in 2018 to six in 2019.

The very first AKC Dock Diving title was issued to GCH Just To Fall In Love Of Meadow Valley DN CGC TKN, owner-handled by Sophia Pierce, and bred by Ria and Tom Wagner.

A record five Afghan Hounds will be receiving the AHCA Versatility Award this year, beating the previous record of four, set in 2013. From the inception of the award in 2002, through 2019, there have been only 23 awards presented. Significantly, more than 20% of the awards presented overall will be presented at the 2019 Awards Banquet.

The AHCA hosted four independent all-breed rally trials in Leander, TX again this Summer, on August 3 & 4, and made a profit for AHCA of \$1,484.69, surpassing the profit earned from the 2018 trials by \$388.42.

Lynda Hicks, Chairperson

Regional Clubs Committee:



I have received packets from & approved shows for 4 Regional Specialty clubs; these are listed in order of date of show.

Afghan Hound Club of Greater Phoenix - January 30 (2 shows, 1 day)

Potomac Afghan Hound Club - March 14

Afghan Hound Club of St Louis - March 27 & March 28

Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey - May 1

Greater Detroit Afghan Hound Club - July 3 *pending approval*

*Midwest Afghan Hound Club AM - September 28 *pending approval*

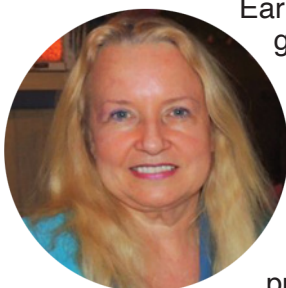
*Afghan Hound Club of Greater Columbus PM - September 28 *pending approval*

*Afghan Hound Club of Southwestern Ohio - Sept 30 *pending approval*

The asterisk (*) denotes the show will be held in association with our 2020 National Specialty in Wilmington, OH.

Amy Mero, Chairperson

Rescue Committee:



Early Fall has been packed with activities for AHCA Rescue preparing for the National in Virginia Beach with anticipation. We will have our usual Rescue table, hoping to raise money from the raffles and silent auctions to fund our activities. In addition, I hope to raise awareness about the benefits of Rescue for the Afghan Hound breed. Frequently I get the opportunity to talk to people who are not familiar with the Hound and what makes the Afghan Hound so special. So many Members have offered to donate items for the table that I think it's going to be a wonderful display.

Marilyn Danko and Joanne Anderson are working on our annual Rescue Calendar. It promises to be another spectacular showcase for our wonderful rescues and the great people who adopt them.

Currently, we have two rescues being fostered in Missouri, who are from California, originally. They are on our website, and I'm hoping to place them very shortly.

If anyone is interested in helping with transport or fostering of our rescues, I would appreciate you emailing me at Affierescue@aol.com, texting or reaching out via Facebook Messenger. I maintain a spreadsheet which helps me locate someone in the particular area of the country where I need help. So, if you would like to be on the list to be contacted when the need arises, please let me know. And, thank you! Respectfully submitted,

Martha Parks Powell, Chairperson

Website Committee:



The website is holding up well. Sales through the website to date (just 2 weeks before the National) are currently at \$21,917. Sales for 2018 were \$6099.

Eddie Kominek, Chairperson

Did You Know?

Associate & Regular Membership Applications
are available on our website!

Apply Online or Print & Submit!

Application Fee can be paid online as well!



The Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty Report

By H. Russell Hastings

Photography by Wyldewood Fotos

The 83rd Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty, held in Virginia Beach, VA began on Friday October 25th as the Board of Directors conducted their third meeting of the year. Our theme for this National was "The Spirit of Independence". It was held inside at the beautiful and recently renovated Founders Inn and Spa on the grounds of Regent University.

Actual competition was slated to begin on Saturday, October 26th with Agility. Unfortunately, there were no Agility entries so actual competition at the AHCA National did not begin until Sunday. However, we were able to enjoy observing two Regional Specialties: Richmond Afghan Hound Club, judged by Mary G Fisher (UK) and Carolina Afghan Hound Club, judged by Stefan Boieck (DE). These two renowned International judges kept us all on the edge of our seats as they expertly evaluated the mostly-American entry. A third Regional Specialty, the Tidewater Afghan Hound Club show, was held on Sunday and expertly judged by Julie Roche.

The National competition began on Sunday as the first "Tally Ho" was heard on the Lure Coursing Field in Dendron, VA. Coursing was judged by John Arvin of Barnegat, NJ and Donna Richards of Denver, NC. Best in Event and AFSA BOB was GCH DC Kominek's Narcissa owned by Eddie and Dr Selma Kominek. AKC BOB was FC Kominek's Lucius owned by Mike Terry. After completion of Coursing the Junior Handling competition was judged by Erika Peters of Leesburg, VA. Best Junior Handler was awarded to Alexis Kendall Jones showing GCHG Sunlit's Queen of Everything CGC. After Junior Handling, the party started as the many vendors hosted a Trick-or-Treat welcome party in their individual booths which surrounded the main show ring.

Monday morning, and each morning after, began with the performance of our National Anthem by James Donahue on flute. It was a stunning rendition that was both moving and memorable. Judging of Rally and Obedience was conducted by Lynn Currie of Chesapeake, VA. Highest Scoring in Rally was CH Zavin's Fast Love, RI BCAT JC CGCA CGCU owned by Beth Erisman-Thomas, Steve Cory, Michael Quinn and Tabitha Thomas. Highest Scoring in Obedience was CH Polo's Oolong to Me N Myway RN owned by Cynthia Robicheau. Conformation judging continued as our Sweepstakes judge Mr Harry Bennett of Jacksonville, FL evaluated thirty-six exhibits. He awarded Best in Sweepstakes to CH Majestic's Sharja Spanish Harlem owned by Patty Kageals and Linda Shipley. Awarding Best of Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes to Agha Djari's Ricmar Radiance owned by Rick Martin. With Sweepstakes completed, Mr Bennett continued judging nine Veteran Sweepstakes entries where he awarded Best in Veteran Sweepstakes to GCH Kamy Heir to Poseidon of Spice Hill owned by Teri Tevlin & Kiyoshi Yamagami with Best of Opposite Sex in Veteran Sweepstakes going to GCH Jakar Advice for the Modern Girl owned by Katrina Hatch. Once Veteran Sweepstakes was completed, Mr Bennett concluded the days judging by awarding the Triathlon Winner to Just Amira of Meadow Valley RN owned by Cynthia Robicheau.

After completion of judging the annual Afghan Hound Club of America Rescue meeting was held, chaired by the Chairperson of AHCA Rescue Martha Powell. This meeting was followed by the Annual Regional Club meeting chaired by AHCA Regional Club Chairperson Amy Mero. During this time Anna Tyler, the AHCA Health Chairperson coordinated a Blood Draw to obtain critically needed samples for the AHCA sponsored Chyllothorax research. The final activity of the day was our annual educational event, chaired by Anna Tyler, consisting



of a presentation by Dr Jerold S Bell DMV, Tufts University. Dr Bell's topic was "The Genetic Health of the Afghan Hound: Practical Information for Breeders and Owners. After three hours we were all begging for more as we gave Dr Bell a standing ovation. Dr Bell's presentation is available on YouTube at <https://tinyurl.com/vboacbj> for anyone wishing to view it. That concluded the day's events which resulted in a free evening for all. This is something our members have been asking for so they could enjoy a night out with friends. Feedback on this change in scheduling was very positive.

Conformation judging continued in earnest on Tuesday morning as judge Robert Stein of Venice, FL entered the ring to begin Regular Classes by judging thirty-three dogs. Mr Stein awarded Winners Dog to Kingsleah Blue Ice Bullet owned by Yasumi Okada and Reserve Winners Dog to Jolie Borrow or Rob owned by Jennifer Taylor and Pegi Berryhill. Mr Stein continued his judging by awarding Best Veteran Dog 7-9 years to GCH Xandali Bon Vivant owned by Catherine Harker, Lisa Bettis and Charles Fairleigh followed by Best Veteran Dog 9-12 years to GCH Kamy Heir to Poseidon of Spice Hill owned by Teri Tevlin and Kiyoshi Yamagami. After completion of Dogs judging Mr Gene Vaccaro of Oxford, CT entered the ring to evaluate thirty-two bitches. His pick for Winners Bitch was Sunlit's Queen Anne's Lace owned by Adrienne Scott and Tara Richardson followed by Reserve Winners Bitch Pahlavi Black Caviar owned by Karen Wagner. Mr Vaccaro then judged the 9 to 12 year Veteran Bitch class awarding Winners to CH Windigo on the Wings of Love owned by Deborah Peters. During the day Judges Education was conducted by Mr Harry Bennett with hands-on and ringside mentoring taking place. The hands on exercises were coordinated by Scott Pfeil and James Donahue.

Following the day's judging the Afghan Hound Club of America conducted their annual meeting. It was a spirited meeting with considerable business conducted.

The day turned to night and the activities continued as everyone dressed for dinner and our annual Art Auction. Toni Richmond was responsible for securing the many beautiful art objects that were all donated by the Afghan Hound community. This is not only an enjoyable evening but also a critical fund raising function as the National Specialty would not be financially viable without the money raised. The auction was conducted expertly by Mr. Jason Taylor and a good time was had by all. In addition to the voice auction, a silent auction was held.

Wednesday, the last day of this year's National, began as Parade of Veterans and Parade of Rescue commenced. Four Veterans each entered the ring with their biographies being read to the onlookers. This brings tears to everyone's eyes and the announcer even had difficulty reading many of the stories. Veterans were followed by two Rescue dogs with their histories, as far as the owners know, being read with tears being shed by many as they went around the ring.

Next began Best of Breed judging by Mr Robert Stein. The judge sorted through sixty six Specials, Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and three Veterans. He confidently handled the large entry, splitting them into small groups and making preliminary cuts. Several finalists were run off together; in the end Best of Breed was awarded to GCHB Pahlavi Marilyn Merlot owned by Dr. Patrick Turman, Jeff Bracken and Karen Wagner. Best of Winners was Kingsleah Blue Ice Bullet owned by Yasumi Okada with Best of Opposite Sex going to GCHG Pahlavi Itz Not My First Rodeo owned by Karen Wagner and Anne Arrant. Select Dog and Best NOHS was GCH Jolie Show and Tell Sharja owned by Alisa Vickers, Beth Phillips Collins and Corinne Joyce with Select Bitch GCHG Sunlit's Queen of Everything, CGC owned by Tara Richardson and Alicia Jones. Five award of merits were presented to GCH Kamy Heir to Poseidon of Spice Hill owned by Teri Tevlin and Kiyoshi Yamagami, GCH Xandali Bon Vivant owned by Catherine Harker, Lisa Bettis and Charles Fairleigh, CH Coastwind Suez owned by Richard Souza and Michael Dunham, GCH Kurabi Gabina owned by Duane & Connie



Butherus and Elizabeth Bryant, and GCHB Shylo Brykaar New Moon on Monday owned by Bruce Clark. Best Puppy was Shylo Thunderball owned by Bruce Clark, Stephan Fisher, Leslie Farkas and Robert Unger. Best Bred by Exhibitor was Jolie Borrow or Rob owned by Jennifer Taylor and Pegi Berryhill. The final awards were Best Stud Dog awarded to GCH Kamy Heir to Poseidon of Spice Hill owned by Teri Tevlin and Kiyoshi Yamagami, Best Brood Bitch awarded to GCHG Sunlit's Queen of Everything, CGC owned by Tara Richardson and Alicia Jones, Best Brace to FC Kominek's Maid of Sapphires SC owned by Edward Kominek & FC Kominek's Lucius owned by Mike Terry, and finally Best in Breeders Class, a new class at the National, was awarded to Sunlit's King of Queens owned by Tara Richardson, Pam Winkelmeier and Alicia Jones.

As the day ended, everyone gathered for the Annual Awards Dinner. Master of Ceremonies was our AKC Delegate Connie Butherus. Awards that were presented honored top Afghan Hound in conformation and performance events, Top Breeders and the Top Jr. Handler. We presented a Lifetime Membership to Lila Wadsworth for her over 70 years of involvement with the Afghan Hound and our club. She is a past President of the AHCA and a past National Show and Breeders' Cup Chair. As an Afghan Hound Breeder, Judge, and supporter, she is recognized throughout the world as a proponent of the vdOM line and for her kennel "House of Oranje". This is the highest honor the Afghan Hound Club of America can bestow on a member and Lila is more than deserving of the honor.

The AHCA presented the AKC Good Sportsmanship Award to Lynda Hicks for her service to our club and breed. Our Show Chairperson Erica Jantos was recognized for her outstanding effort in making this an event to be remembered. The Club recognized outgoing BOD member Alicia Jones and outgoing President H. Russell Hastings. It takes a village to make an event like this a success and everyone who helped is to be congratulated on a job well done. It is also important that we support and thank our contributors and sponsors.

The evening came to an end; as we said our goodbyes we all committed to meeting again in Wilmington, OH at the Roberts Centre in late September 2020 for the 84th Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty.



Please Join Us in Ohio in 2020!

The National will be at the Roberts Centre in Wilmington, OH. The Host Hotel is Holiday Inn at Roberts Centre, 123 Gano Rd, Wilmington OH, 45177, phone 937-283-3200. The hotel is conveniently located.

Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty 2019

— Judges' Critiques —

Sweepstakes & Triathlon - Mr Harry Bennett:

My approach going into this 2019 National Sweepstakes assignment was remembering back on the three elements that drew me to the breed in 1970; keen, piercing expression, that high and mighty demeanor, and Afghan Hound movement. These thoughts were instilled in me when I stepped into the ring.

The winner of the 6-9 Puppy Dog class was Pahlavi Northern Dancer. I want to include here his sisters Pahlavi Black Caviar and Pahlavi Winx that were 1st and 2nd in the corresponding bitch class for the same reasons. I found their black eyes; shape, size, set, and expression thereof to be off the charts in this entry and anywhere for that matter. To be so young and to exude such arrogance, confidence, and stateliness was impossible to not acknowledge. Both winners were square, sound, and pretty precise in movement for their age. Both carried good toplines and individually they were the very same moving and standing. I found in both these young classes that my placements all showed potential but in their young lives one week can make a difference in respect to the timing of being presented at such an event.

Ecco Dragonfly Aries Ciel Rouge La Nuit was a single entry in the 9-12 Puppy Dog class. I found him interesting and unusual, but somewhat awkward at his age. I'll be interested to see him older. It crossed my mind that he probably had a sister that would be more collected at this point but then there were no entries in the corresponding bitch class.

The winner of the 12-18 Dog class was Agha Djari's Ricmar Radiance. I found him to be a very strong young male, sound, square, well-balanced and very good-moving which I believed will only improve with maturity. He went on to be my choice as Best of Opposite Sex.

The 12-18 Bitch class enjoyed complete quality throughout. I had the best time judging and sorting through these bitches to place them exactly how I wanted and with no compromise. I can't hide the fact that I was immediately moved by one entrant in particular, my eventual class winner and Best in Sweepstakes choice. Majestic's Sharja Spanish Harlem possessed all the named striking characteristics of the breed. I loved seeing an early impression of baboonish appearance that she would so easily take to a higher level of elegance and regal bearing. I was impressed with her structure and her sound and effortless gait. She showed all the strengths of a leader. I wanted this moment to never end.

It was an honor to have so many Veterans brought to see me. My winner was GCH Kamy Heir To Poseidon Of Spice Hill. He is fabulous to go over possessing so many details. This dog is a true Olympian, at 9 1/2 years of age, he is at the peak of condition and ageless. He is a testament of quality lavished in maturity. My choice for Best of Opposite Sex was GCH Jakar Advice For The Modern Girl. She also was admirably fit and thoroughly enjoyed her outing. Did I mention I love her roman nose?

There was only one Triathlon entrant for me to judge and she was Just Amira Of Meadow Valley RN. It was notable that her maturity and activity have served her well.

Finally AHCA's very first Breeders Class. Judging this, I stayed focused on the consistency of certain details throughout each grouping, still keeping in mind my crucial elements for the breed and chose Sunlit's King Of Queens to represent. Exotic expression lives on here. Thanks to all, Harry Bennett.

Bitches - Mr Gene Vaccaro:

Thank you to The Afghan Hound Club of America Specialty and those Members who selected me to judge Bitches at this prestigious judging event. On October 29, 2019, I had an exceptional entry full of wonderful depth of quality to evaluate. I find it extremely gratifying to see breeders continue to dedicate themselves to preserving the breed with such integrity. Gene N. Vaccaro

6-9 Month Puppy Bitches - Pahlavi Black Caviar - This class consisted of some lovely youngsters, with the winner exhibiting lovely conformation, balance, carriage, and great promise. This puppy was also my Reserve Winners Bitch.

9-12 Month Puppy Bitches - Jolie Vespers - Nice size female with good length of leg, foreface, topline and croup.

12-15 Month Bitches - Aqua's Don't Go Breaking My Heart - A nicely-balanced puppy, good shoulder and return of upper arm.

15-18 Month Bitches - Calloway Sebring FireCracker - Good eye shape in a well chiseled skull, with a balanced profile, and good front and rear angulation.

Bred by Exhibitor Bitches - Malisco's This Is Me - The winner of this class was very feminine, in good physical condition with commanding movement.

Open Bitches - Sunlit's Queen Anne's Lace - A beautiful, 'typey' bitch with great hound qualities; she fits our standard nicely with a hard, well-toned body, balanced-easy movement. Ultimately, she was my Winners Bitch.

Dogs @ Intersex - Mr Robert Stein:

I would like to thank Erica (Show Chair), the Board and Members who contributed to make this a very special National. It reminded me of the glamour that used to be associated with National Specialties of the past. My Stewards also did a great job.

What I look for in our breed: Balance with good length of leg. I want them to be light on their feet, not overdriving from the rear. I am looking for correct heads, good shoulders, good slope of croup and a tail of good length, carried up but of course not over the back. I want tails not overly-curved and with a ring or curve.

I found many really good dogs that I did not use in my finals but that were very worthy. I will comment only on my top awards as there is not enough space to go further.

Winners Dog/Best of Winners - Very balanced blue or blue brindle dog, moved well - easy winner.

Reserve Winners Dog - Also my Best Bred by Exhibitor - Lovely cream dog with good pigmentation, beautiful type. Love to see him when mature.

My Best Puppy came from the 6-9 class and was very pretty; good standing and moving.

Awards of Merit - (5 Awards) - Top of my list were 2 Veterans that were extremely nice, maintaining their beautiful look standing and moving. The black and silver Dog became my Best Veteran and winner of the Stud Dog Class. There were also two lovely bitches, one very patterned and both with beautiful breed type; and there was a lovely brindle dog that was also very worthy. All 5 of my Awards of Merit had the Afghan Hound qualities that I was looking for.

Now to my "Final Four" - Any of these Afghan Hounds could compete in the USA or elsewhere. In my opinion, they were the cream of the crop.

Selects - The male is absolutely a beautiful type with his wonderful patterning, lovely head and balance. I was very happy to award him Select Dog. Select Bitch - She was very well balanced, beautiful head and a finished look about her. She moved very well without any extremes. I was proud to award her Select.

Now for the "Final Two" - My Best Opposite Sex (dog) is a beautiful breed type with lovely head and neck. Balanced when standing and moving and, although not a youngster, exemplifies what our breed is about.

Best of Breed (bitch) - Loved her. In my opinion, she is absolutely beautiful, has it all. Not only head and structure, but her style and attitude is wonderful. She took my breath away and absolutely could not be denied.

Any of the "Final Four" could compete very favorably with our "greats" from the past.

Thank you all for putting your confidence in me with the large entry and most of all with the great quality.

Thanks, Bob

*Thank You ALL
for bringing your beautiful Afghan Hounds
to the AHCA National Specialty!*

AHCA National Specialty 2019

Special Thanks to Wyldewood Fotos (Garth Gourlay) for permitting reproduction of the Win Photographs and select candids!



Best of Breed
GCHS Pahlavi Marilyn Merlot



Best of Opposite Sex
GCHG Pahlavi Itz Not My First Rodeo



Winners Dog, Best of Winners
Kingsleah Blue Ice Bullet



Winners Bitch
Sunlit's Queen Anne's Lace



Reserve Winners Dog, BBE
Jolie Borrow or Rob



Reserve Winners Bitch
Pahlavi Black Caviar

Specialty Photos cont'd...



Best Stud Dog, Best in Veteran Sweeps
GCHB Kamy Heir To Poseidon Of Spice Hill



High Scoring Rally Advanced
CH Polo's Oolong to Me N MyWay RN



High In Trial Triathlon Obedience
Just Amira of Meadow Valley RN



Best in Sweepstakes
CH Majestic's Sharja Spanish Harlem



Best Opposite in Sweepstakes
Agha Djari RicMar Radiance



HIT Rally
CH Zavin's Fast Love RI BCAT JC CGCA CGCU



BOS Veteran Sweeps
GCH Jakar Advice for the Modern Girl



Parade of Veterans



Parade of Rescue



UniHound
Photography



UniHound
Photography

2019 AHCA National Specialty ASFA @ AKC Lure Coursing

Many thanks to Julia Callaghan, Unihound Photography, for permitting use of these photos.



ASFA Best of Breed & Best In Event
GCH DC Kominek's Narcissa SC



AKC Best of Breed & NBIE
FC Kominek's Lucius SC

Tally Ho!



Coastwind

*Award of Merit at the Afghan Hound Club of America under Mr. Bob Stein
Ch. Coastwind Suez*



Reminiscent of her ancestor, Ch. Coastwind Ouija....

AGHA DJARI'S RICMAR RADIANCE

Multi BIS Ch. Agha Djari's Karkati's Comeback X Multi SBIS World Ch. Agha Djari's Leontyne

Breeders: Stefan Boieck & Nico Kersten

Owner: Rev. C.R. (Rick) Martin

Stepping out @ the National



**2019 A.H.C.A. B.O.S. Sweepstakes
Judge Mr. Harry Bennett**



**2019 Tidewater AHC R.W.D.
Judge Mrs. Julie Roche**

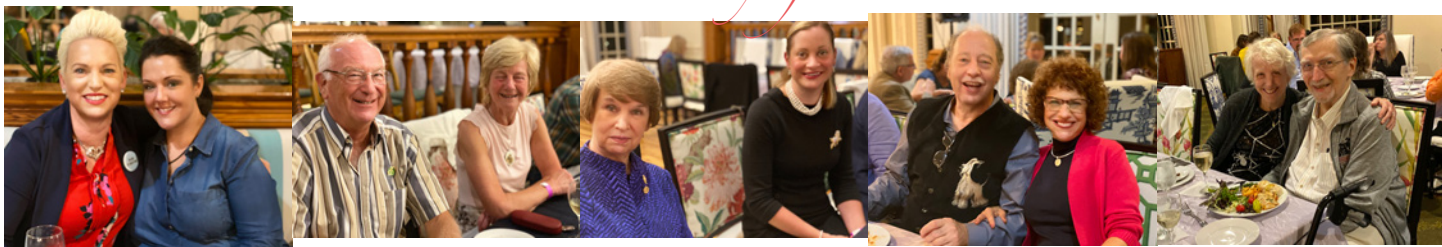
Handled by Teri Tevlin



The RAD Man @ 13.5 mo.



Founders Ball Photos courtesy of Martha Parks Powell



83rd Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty in Virginia Beach, VA



Breeders' Corner:

Breeders' Corner is a the spot to share your tips, your thoughts, and all things related to being an Afghan Hound breeder. Email brian@shiningmtn.com to contribute!

For a number of years, a suggestion to increase the shrinking population of Afghan Hounds continues to pop up: do more 'meet the breed' activities, whether organized or on an individual basis, getting our dogs out in public more. I could never understand how that would get more bitches bred with a resulting increase in AKC registrations.

Several years ago I was approached by a young woman in California about using one of my stud dogs. Neither Megan nor her bitch Sephora had ever been to a dog show. Megan had acquired Sephora as an adult from someone who was no longer able to take care of her. I was somewhat familiar with Sephora as she was descended from my Marco before I got him. Marco had come to our home after his breeder had retired him as a stud dog in their kennel.

As a show breeder, I was hesitant to work with Megan since Sephora was her first Afghan Hound and neither had experience with showing. But I agreed to attempt a mating, thinking I could provide long distance mentoring and see how it went. Megan shipped Sephora to Montana by air. Sephora's conformation was as good as I expected. She had a charming personality and a great temperament.

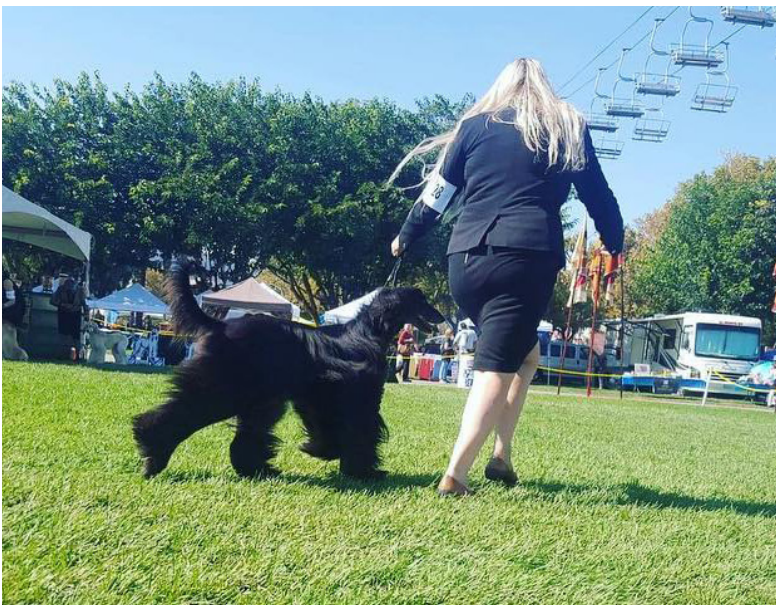
I was nervous about making sure she got pregnant because of the expense of just getting Sephora from California to Montana and back. Fortunately Sephora was fertile and whelped a smallish litter, nine weeks later. I encouraged Megan to show Sephora and she found some local shows. Having no experience handling nor even a handling class under their belts, the pair muddled their way through with help from judges and other exhibitors. Megan had kept a female from that litter and attempted showing her too. But as bad luck would have it the puppy didn't like to show.

A year went by and Megan asked to breed Sephora again. The process was repeated with a different Champion stud dog, and Sephora had an eight-puppy litter. Megan found homes for all the puppies while Sephora gained her BCAT lure coursing title and continued her show career.

As sometimes happens, one of the puppy homes didn't work out. After we discussed the alternatives, Megan drove many hours to retrieve the male puppy Orzo. She decided to keep him rather than find a new home. Megan has since joined the Northern California Afghan Hound Club. Orzo won a four-point major by going WD from the 9-12 month puppy class, and going Best of Winners, at the NCAHC Specialty weekend all-breed show in November 2019. Orzo has also begun lure coursing.

I don't know any other way of increasing AKC registrations of Afghan Hounds without first cultivating more Afghan Hound breeders.

Brian Wood, Shining Mountain



Excerpts from 2018 Afghan Hound World Congress Presentation:

Carol Beuchat PhD presented about the genetics of the Afghan Hound, and this excerpt is from her "The Amazing Secrets Hiding in Your Pedigree Database" which can be found on her website www.InstituteOfCanineBiology.org.

All of the genetic variation the breed will ever have is present in these founder dogs.

Genetic diversity is lost during breed formation due to selective breeding for development of type and concentration of the genes for those features. Dogs in the current population retain the genes for type, but will have lost genes for other traits and functions over the generations.

How do you measure the "size" of the gene pool? If a breed is founded on 20 unrelated dogs, the size of the original gene pool is 20. Unrelated dogs added later also count as founders.

The gene pool of a population will be less than the total number of founder dogs. (*Founder dogs: 13 Murray-Bell and 8 Ghazni. About 15 additional founders from 1930-1976*)

This is a graph of how the size of the Afghan Hound gene pool has changed over time. The triangles along the x-axis indicate unrelated dogs (i.e., new "founders") added to the population after 1925.

Just look at the blue line for now. This is the line for the "effective number of founders" (fe) - specifically, the number of unrelated dogs that would contain the same amount of genetic diversity as the actual population at a particular time. The highest value, fe = 16.5, occurred while the breed is being founded.

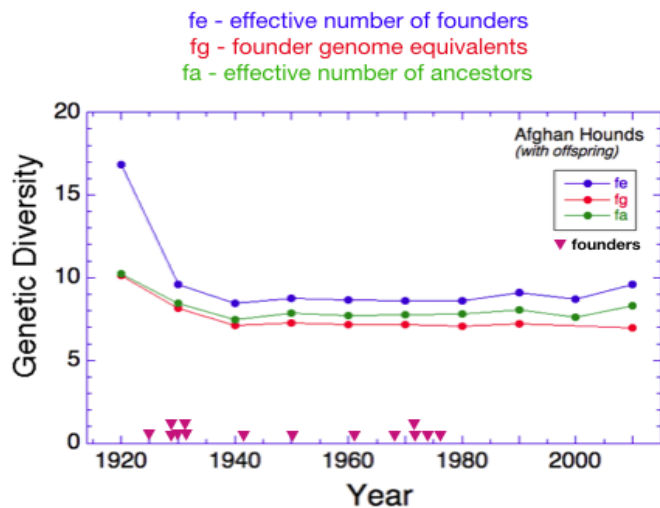
By 1930, genetic diversity had declined to fa = 9.5. In another decade, fa is reduced and after that it averages about 9.

Additional unrelated dogs occasionally introduced through the 1970s prevented a reduction in the size of the gene pool.

The size of the current gene pool is about 9.

Loss of Genetic Diversity

- * Genetic diversity as founder "equivalents"
- * Breed has the diversity of about 9 dogs



Canine Health Information Center

OFA Canine Health Information Center (CHIC)
Quarterly Reports are available on the website:

www.ofa.org

9 New CHIC Numbers were Issued in the 3rd Quarter:

DUET INISFREE SIRAE ESPRIT, NEW

AWBARI SUGAR MOONBEAM, NEW

STORMHILL KISMA STARWARS, NEW

TERLEZ WINNER TAKE ALL BY GOLD PHOENIX, NEW

JUST TO FALL IN LOVE OF MEADOW VALLEY, NEW

KINGSLEAH HEART OF GOLD, NEW

AQUA'S DANCE ON LITTLE GIRL AT ZEN, NEW

BOANNE-BURRLLOM'S FORBIDDEN SECRET, NEW

SCARLETT O'HARA DEL GRAN PAMIR, NEW

Thank You to All Owners Participating in Health Testing!

AHCA Recommended Screenings: Hip Dysplasia, Eye Exam, & Autoimmune Thyroiditis

Happy Holidays!



From Our Dogs to Yours!



Brian & Laura Wood - Shining Mountain Afghan Hounds

Excerpts cont'd...

Popular sires reduce the size of the gene pool because they deprive other males of reproductive opportunities.

They also drive up the average level of relatedness in the population because of the number of siblings and half-siblings that share a sire.

Popular sires are also the most significant cause of genetic disorders in dogs.

Most disorders in dogs are caused by recessive mutations that originate with a popular sire. Here's how this happens.

Every dog (every animal, even you!) carries recessive mutations that are harmless if there is only one copy of the defective gene.

In this little population of dogs, each has a different mutation (in red) at the arrows. (We'll pretend each has only one.)

Let's say that Hank (with crown!) wins the big dog show. He's on TV, he goes on tour, and suddenly he is in huge demand as a stud dog.

Hank passes all of his health testing - eyes, hips, and the DNA tests available for the breed.

He produces dozens of lovely, healthy puppies.

Many other potential sires are not used, and their contribution to the gene pool declines or might be lost completely.

Each puppy inherits half of its genes from its dam and half from Hank.

By random chance, half of the puppies produced by Hank will carry one copy of his recessive mutation.

They are not affected by it, because they inherited a normal copy of the gene from their dam.

Everyone is thrilled with the stunning, healthy puppies sired by Hank.

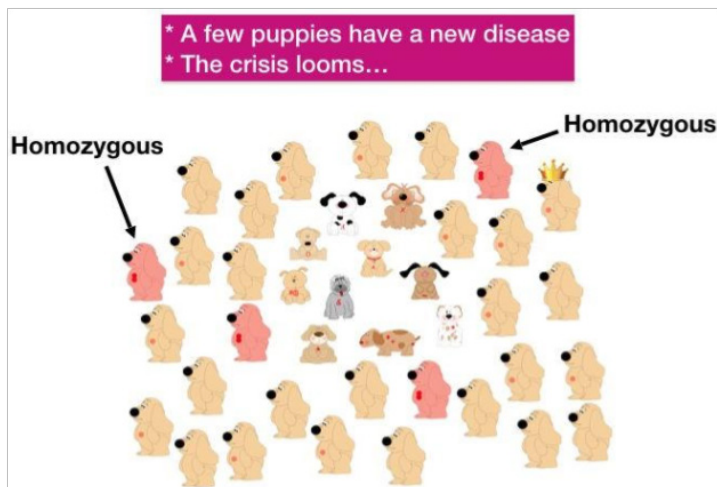
A generation later, some people have bred half siblings that share Hank as a sire.

Some of those puppies inherited a copy of Hank's mutation from both of their carrier parents, making them homozygous for the bad gene.

In this generation, a few puppies are produced with a genetic disorder, but not enough to sound an alarm.

In the next generation, however, Hanks mutation has now spread widely through the breed population, and there are many puppies suffering from this new genetic disorder.





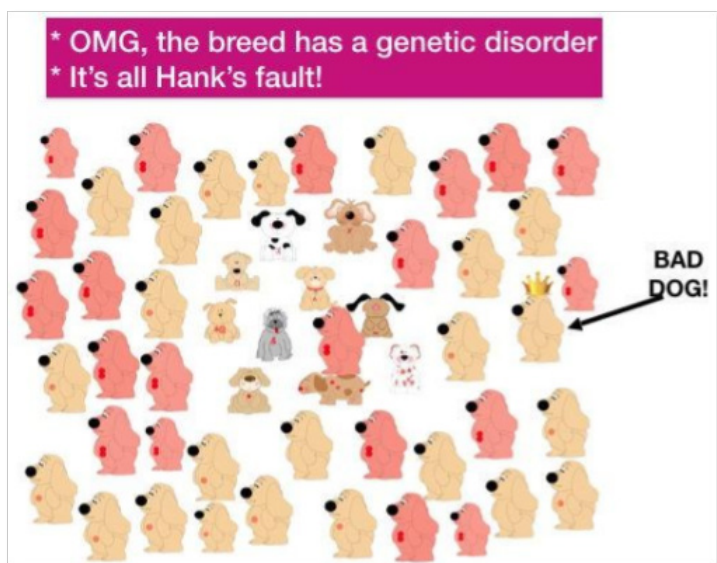
After reviewing their pedigrees, breeders trace the source of the mutation to Hank.

Hank is vilified, his owner shunned, and people start breeding around the disorder by avoiding his descendants.

Thousands of dollars are invested in a research study, the mutation is identified, and a new test is added to the list of "health tests" every dog is expected to have before breeding.

Of course, this isn't Hank's fault.

Genetic disorders from recessive mutations result when rare mutations become common in a population.



Popular sires produce many copies of their mutations and the result will be genetic disorders for the descendants that get two copies.

Usually, it is forgotten that Hank's mutation became a problem because he was a popular sire.

The next big winner will probably also become the next popular sire, and his unique mutation will be passed to dozens or even hundreds of puppies.

The cycle will continue, and a new genetic disorder will probably be produced.

We can completely prevent genetic disorders caused by recessive mutations. Don't create popular sires.

Many Thanks to Carol Beuchat PhD for allowing us to reprint these excerpts from her work!



Health Screening Clinics

An Upcoming Health Screen Clinics calendar can be found on: www.ofa.org/health-clinics

Registration Statistics

In 2018, only 68 litters of Afghan Hounds were registered with the AKC. For more statistics, see the AHCA website, under Breed/Health-Care/akc-registration-statistics

Hip Evaluations:

In 2017, out of 78 cases: 31 Excellent, 37 Good, 7 Fair, 0 Borderline, 3 Mild, 0 Moderate, 0 Severe.
In 2016, out of 97 cases: 47 Excellent, 44 Good, 2 Fair, 0 Borderline, 2 Mild, 2 Moderate, 0 Severe.
In 2015, out of 76 cases: 22 Excellent, 47 Good, 4 Fair, 0 Borderline, 1 Mild, 1 Moderate, 1 Severe.
In 2014, out of 112 cases: 42 Excellent, 58 Good, 5 Fair, 0 Borderline, 4 Mild, 3 Moderate, 0 Severe.
In 2013, out of 98 cases: 35 Excellent, 53 Good, 6 Fair, 1 Borderline, 2 Mild, 1 Moderate, 0 Severe.

Grand Champion Prohphecy's Marchesa



Gold Level GCH Prohphecy's Gucci Poochie Rado x Good Morning Sunshine of Shining Mountain



*Bred by
Nancy Shandre*

*Owned and loved by
Dr. Carolyn Edwards
DrCVE@aol.com*

On Dog Show Photography:

Member, Photographer, & Breeder of Afghan Hounds & Salukis, Warren Cook shares his thoughts with us. Warren and his wife Vicky have been photographing dogs since 1957. Their show dog photography is found at MyDogPhoto.com

TRUTH...Here I sit, having bred and shown and run Afghan Hounds in the field...Having been with Lyle Gillette while he was inventing lure coursing after he invented the current incarnation of open field coursing....Having Judged dogs in the field at speed, at turns, at run up, and catch...Having seen THOUSANDS of Judges evaluate my dogs and others', with the expectation of expertise proficiency competence (no, no Oxford comma here) to award the dog that could/should be able to leave the ring, be transported to a place of severe privation and climate, which could thereon survive.



What I have gotten, is someone who sees a photo of the Afghan Hound progenitor in its' natural state, and saying that he does not think that this dog could catch its own tail. Nonetheless, here is a photo of that dog as an adult, thus disproving the 'expert's observation, since this animal has grown to adulthood.

We live in an environment of hyperbole and imagination, and a vague recollection that we are participating in a sport where the victor should be the survivor.

Sometimes the hyperbole of what is presented subsumes the reality of what should, sometime is, there. We forget the real purpose of the dogs, and get involved in a process of awards for awards' sake.

The late Alex Carras would narrate Westminster, and every second or third dog was presented as '...One of the worlds's oldest breeds...' AKC even admits that we cannot take genotype as being immutable, whether in the long term, or within a few decades.

So, when we see a photo of the REAL THING, it is easy to be confused - because our perceptions have been seduced by popularity and advertising. This is the real thing.

I do not think it is unreasonable to wish for excellence in photos at dog show. I do not think it is always possible to achieve excellence under the conditions and time constraints of dog shows. A photographer is between 8 and 14 feet away from the dog, obviously not touching the dog, making recommendations to a probable stranger as to how to set the dog to look three dimensional in a two dimensional medium. Meanwhile, the trophy presenter is thinking of how much work he needs to do to break down the show, and the Judge is thinking "...Oh God; just get it over with so I can get off of my feet."Beyond that little tableau, we can inspect the photo in the back of the camera to access the success of the endeavor, and make changes in a re - pose if necessary. This, too, can and should

be expected. The customer's choice of photographer may be determined by the Kennel Club, but as limiting as that may be, the Members of the Kennel Club have some experience so it is likely that they have someone listed that can tell which end of the lens to look through, have some working knowledge of how to shoot under the afore - mentioned conditions, and will likely get the photos out somewhat 'tout suite'. A little trust, please, between the participants: The Handler likely knows what their dog is about; the photographer has likely shot several examples of the breed sometime in their lives. The only stupid question is the one not asked. The Judge still wants to get off of their feet.

Warren Cook, Santana

TYPE, MOVEMENT, and BALANCE ALIGNED
For a shining star who is hard to ignore!



WINDIGO WHEN STARS ALIGN "CHARLOTTE"

GrCh Beaujon's Breaking News x Ch Windigo On The Wings Of Love

Thank you to Charlotte's many fans
especially esteemed breeder judge Julie Roche
who awarded her at the Tidewater Specialty preceding the Nationals!

Bred by
Deb Peters - Windigo
Linda Sue Zwirz - Zindajon

Proudly owned by
Deb Peters
windigo_afs@att.net

Beautifully Presented
by
Jennifer Pearce

Specialty Show Results:

September 5, 2019 - AHC of Greater Denver
Judge Lou Guerrero
BOB GCHB Sura Fabelhaft Fifth Ave CA
BOS GCHB Shylo Brykaar New Moon On Monday
SD GCH Kuhlbreze Don't Hate The Player Hate The Game
SB GCHB Sura Fabelhaft Candy Crush
WD Shylo Spectra
RWD Ahava Saigon Charged N' Ready
WB BW Gabriel's Heaven Scent Joy At Kingscourt
RWB Kuhl Breeze Nefertari Star In The Night Sky.
BOB OH GCHB Sura Fabelhaft Fifth Ave CA

September 6, 2019 - AHC of Greater Denver
Judge Mrs Jan Swayze-Curry
BOB GCHB Shylo Brykaar New Moon On Monday
BOS GCHB Sura Fabelhaft Fifth Avenue CA
SD GCH Celestial Amigo
SB GCHB Kurabi Gabina
WD Agha Djari's Ricmar Radiance
RWD Shylo Thunderball
WB BW Gabriel's Heaven Scent Joy At Kingscourt
RWB Kuhn Breeze Nefertari Star In The Night Sky
BOB OH GCHB Sura Fabelhaft Fifth Avenue CA

October 6, 2019 - Lehigh Valley AHC
Judge Lucy Orlowski
BOB GCHB Pahlavi Running With Scissors
BOS CH Pahlavi Marilyn Merlot
WD CharterOak Trillion of Grandeur
RWD Aqua's It's No Sacrifice
WB BW Malisco's Not A Stranger To The Dark
RWB Marquis Muse Eurybie Of Simoon
SD GCHS Agha Djari's Fifth Dimension Of Sura
SB GCH Coupd'eTat Throwing Shade
AOM GCHS Exquisite Sign Of The Mermaid SC
AOM GCH Lafara's Rockin' On The River
BP Aqua's Leap Of Faith
BBE CharterOak Trillion Of Grandeur

October 19, 2019 - AHC of Northern California
Reg Classes Judge Mr Jaimie Ganoza
Sweeps Judge Mr Chuck Alarcon
BOB GCHS Agha Djari's Fifth Dimension of Sura
BOS Ch Coastwind Suez
WD Jubilan's Amaranth
RWD Calloway Sebring Fire And Rain JC
WB BW Agha Djari's Tanzanite
RWB Jangel's What's Up
SD GCH Countrywind's Craftsman CGC JC
SB Summerwind's-Gandhara Runway Hit
AOM GCH Niji Kahani Be My Lover
AOM GCHB Sura Fabelhaft Fifth Ave CA
BP Agha Djari's Tanzanite
BBE Journey-Lipizzan The Celebration
BEST Sweeps Envy Me California Dreamin' At Cairo
BOS Sweeps Pure Joy's Spaghetti And Meatballs

November 15, 2019 - Southern Arizona AHA
Reg Classes Judge Mr Jon R Cole
Sweeps Judge Steven L Klein
BOB GCH Shante Chandon
BOS GCHB Sura Fabelhaft Candy Crush
WD BW Jorogz' Party Zone
RWD Shante Winner Takes All
WB Jorogz' Party Escapade
RWB Maestro Marie of Fancy Floral
SD CH Kingsleah Heart of Gold
SB CH Jorogz' Miss Elegance of Ember
AOM CH Shante Mirror Mirror
BOBOH CH Shante Mirror Mirror
BBE Shante Winner Takes All
BP Maestro Marie of Fancy Floral
BEST Sweeps CH Shante Mirror Mirror
BOS Sweeps Shante Winner Takes All

November 15, 2019 - Sand 'N' See AHC
Regular Classes Judge Lex Robertson
Sweeps Judge Chuck Milne
BOB GCHS Just Meant To Be Of Meadow Valley
BOS CH Jolie HyperBole CD BN CGC JC
WD BW Azari Ruzka Chasing The Devils Tail
RWD Larger Than Life Of Meadow Valley
WB Hot Beach Kisses From Heaven
RWB Arabah Just A Little Respect
SD CH Just A Dream Of Meadow Valley
SB GCHS Sawsan Bint-Bint Dina Von Haussman Of Cofino
Best Puppy Azari Ruzka Chasing The Devil's Tail
BBE Azari Ruzka Always And Forever
Best Sweeps Arabah Just A Little Respect
BOS Sweeps Azari Ruzka Chasing The Devil's Tail

November 16, 2019 - Sand 'N' See AHC of FL
Regular Classes Judge Mrs Edith Tichenor Hanson
BOB CH Shekinah Athena Amira Criston
BOS BW WD Criston Argentine Tango
RWD BP Azari Ruzka Chasing The Devil's Tail
WB Aqua's Don't Go Breaking My Heart
RWB Arabah Just A Little Respect
SD GCH Cynergy's The Magic Of It All at Ruzka
SB GCHS Just Meant To Be of Meadow Valley

Karen Irazabal, TN Reporter

Regional Specialty Clubs

Please send your show results to
Karen Irazabal azariafghans@aol.com
at the conclusion of your show for reporting in
Topknot News

