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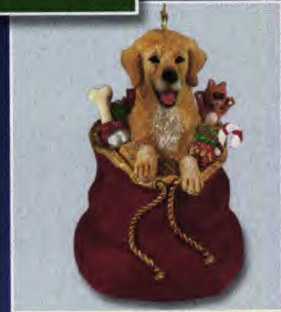
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JUNE 2005

COLUMNS/DEPARTMENTS

- 4 PUBLISHER'S NOTE
- 10 ON ALL FRONTS
- 14 BETTER BREEDING
- 16 THE JUDGE'S EYE
- 18 BEHAVIOR
- 20 HEALTHY DOG
- 44 AKC SHOPPER
- 79 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
- 81 BREEDERS'/BUYERS' AID
- 100 TIMES PAST

BREED COLUMNS

- 45 BREED COLUMNS SPOTLIGHT:
JAPANESE CHIN
- 45 BREED COLUMNS INDEX
- 46 TOY GROUP
- 57 NON-SPORTING GROUP
- 68 HERDING GROUP



Page 46

AKC® NEWS

- 6 AKC® UPDATES
- 84 DOG AND LITTER REGISTRATIONS
- 85 SECRETARY'S PAGE
- 95 MAY BOARD MEETING

ON THE COVER

SEALYHAM TERRIER
BY TARA DARLING



Page 30

FEATURES

24 THE CAPTAIN'S FANCY

Created by a retired army man, the Sealyham Terrier is a stalwart companion with an impish sense of humor.

By Seymour Weiss

30 FINDING THE WEAK SPOTS OF DISEASE

New research from the 2005 Western Veterinary Conference yields insight into common canine ailments and their treatments.

By Leslie Crane Rugg

34 BUILDING THE ROAD AHEAD

Developing goals—for your campaign and your career—is essential to long-term success.

By Tracy Libby

38 URBAN HOUNDS AND COUNTRY CANINES

No matter where we live—concrete jungle or sprawling

farmland—dogs encourage us to explore our environs. We invited readers to submit photos of city dogs and country dogs in their element, and here we present a few, select images chosen from many wonderful entries.



Page 34

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

About three weeks ago, a thrilling story, about a stray dog and an abandoned baby, came across the newswire from Kenya. The baby had been left in a bag in a forested area near Nairobi. It was estimated she had been there at least 48 hours. Then, sometime during day three, a stray dog came across the child, apparently carried her across a busy road, through a barbed-wire fence to a shed where she was nursing a litter of puppies. Two children playing nearby heard cries and told their mother, who rescued the baby and alerted officials.

The infant was taken first to the police station, then to the Kenyatta National Hospital, where she was examined, found to be healthy, and was bathed and fed. She weighed seven pounds, four ounces.

The dog was also carefully cared for, by the Kenya Society for the Protection and Care of Animals; she was bathed, treated for worms and an infestation of ticks. Sadly, all of her puppies died, for unknown reasons.

The little drama drew responses and inquiries from every part of the country. Thousands asked how they could adopt the child—now named Angel—and the dog, who is being called Savior.

Certainly, the child's abandonment and the loss of the puppies are

How a backyard "wild man" can also be a gentle and compassionate healer is one of life's sweet mysteries.

bitter elements in this sweet story. But perhaps most amazing is the dog's behavior. What makes this wonderful species do the things they do?

I know a handsome Doberman Pinscher who is a *wild man* playing in his yard, but is the most gentle, calm animal on earth when he visits as a therapy dog at a local rehabilitation hospital.

I know a Cocker Spaniel who, *without special training*, alerts the onset of epileptic seizures in the woman who owns her.

And I know a Golden Retriever who, a year ago, "threw" herself between an oncoming car and a toddler who had wandered into the street at just the wrong moment. (The dog's hip was badly bruised; the child was unharmed.)

You probably know special dogs like these, too.

We may never be able to fully explain dogs' unselfish, compassionate, heroic behavior. But we can acknowledge and honor it. Every year, the American Kennel Club invites nominations for its Awards for Canine Excellence, recognition of extraordinary actions and achievements by exceptional dogs. To better understand the program, and to nominate a purebred dog you own or know, go to the web site at akc.org and click on "ACE."



KENT DANNEN

George Berger, Publisher
gpb@akc.org

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Publisher GEORGE BERGER

Managing Editor ERIKA MANSOURIAN

Features Editor ELIZABETH BARDEN
ACKERMAN

Associate Editor TANYA BIELSKI-BRAHAM

Breed Columns Editor BRONWYN TAGGART

Book Publications Coordinator SARAH TURNER

Copy Editor BUD BOCCONE

Associate Art Director ROSEMARIE SILVER

Creative Production Manager RUSSELL BIANCA

Creative Production Designer MEGHAN LYONS

Designer JONAH GOODMAN

Associate Director, Production ROCCO BUCHICCHIO

Associate Publisher JOHN WOODS

Advertising and Circulation

Administrator ALICE SURIANI
aas@akc.org
212-696-8260

Represented nationally by: J.L. FARMAKIS, INC.
48 Topfield Road
Wilton, CT 06897
203-834-8832
bill@jlfarmakis.com

ROY MCDONALD
ASSOCIATES, INC.
2336 Harrison Street
Oakland, CA 94612
510-832-6300
ian@roymcdonald.com

Editorial Advisory Board: NOREEN BAXTER
JAMES CROWLEY
CURT CURTIS
DARRELL HAYES
GORDON HELDEBRANT
MARI-BETH O'NEILL
RONALD RELLA

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e-mail: gazette@akc.org

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AKC® UPDATES

AKC MISSION STATEMENT • MAINTAIN A REGISTRY FOR PUREBRED DOGS AND PRESERVE ITS INTEGRITY • SANCTION DOG EVENTS THAT PROMOTE INTEREST IN, AND SUSTAIN THE PROCESS OF, BREEDING FOR TYPE AND FUNCTION OF PUREBRED DOGS • TAKE WHATEVER ACTIONS NECESSARY TO PROTECT AND ASSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THE SPORT OF PUREBRED DOGS

HIGHLIGHTS: MAY 2005 BOARD MEETING

The Board approved an amendment to Chapter 1, Section 6, of the Regulations and Guidelines for AKC's Hunting Tests for Retrievers, to clarify the educational requirements for first-time judges and to specify a continuing education requirement. The changes are effective September 1, 2005.

Three amendments were made to the Standard Procedure for Non-Slip Retriever Trials. One clarifies the placement of blinds in marking tests. The second clarifies the uses of "dry guns" during marking tests, and the final amendment explains the uses of lead and collar during the Derby Test. These changes are effective September 1, 2005.

The Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Spaniel Trials were amended, effective January 1, 2006, to provide for Amateur Field Championship Stakes, an Amateur Field Championships, and a National Amateur Championship stake for Cocker Spaniels and English Cocker Spaniels.

Black Russian Terriers were added to the list of breeds with jumps set at three quarters of the dog's height at the withers in obedience trials, effective July 1.

The registry in Bosnia-Herzegovina (Unija Kinolokih Saveza Bosne-Hercegovine) was added to the list of registries with pedigrees for AKC registration.

The following Delegates were approved: James Channon, of Warsaw, Virginia, to represent Spinone Club of America; Patte Klecan, Albuquerque, New Mexico, to represent American Bouvier des Flandres Club; and Ferdinand Reinlieb, of Enterprise, Florida, to represent West Volusia Kennel Club. ♦



Black Russian Terrier

ISABELLE FRANCAIS FOR AKC

UPDATES UPDATE

OPEN YOUR OWN RDO ACCOUNT

As we reported last month, the AKC has sent out a call for all clubs to hold an event in September celebrating AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day.

Now, a new online event-entry system allows clubs and other organizations to open an account and enter their own event information. All events are subject to final approval by the AKC, but the new entry system ensures your event information is accurate and up-to-date.

Responsible Dog Ownership Day events may be counted as one of the public-education requirements on your dog-show event application—plus, it's lots of fun!

Activities may include Canine Good Citizen® tests, companion event demos, ID clinics, breeder-referral and rescue information, raffles, games, among other exciting and educational events.

Clubs planning to hold events should register online by August 1 at akc.org/clubs/rdod/index.cfm. The first 500 to confirm the details of their event will receive a resource packet of materials to help clubs stage an entertaining and informative event.

Events will be listed on the AKC web site, searchable by state, beginning on July 1. ♦



LABRADOR RETRIEVER/MARY BLOOM ©AKC

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The AKC Canine Good Citizen® program rewards responsible dog ownership and is the national gold standard for recognizing good canine behavior and a dog owner's commitment to basic training.

The 10-step CGC test not only encourages owners to begin a journey with their canine companions that epitomizes the human-animal bond, but is used as a yardstick for canine manners by the government, the insurance industry, law enforcement, and beyond.

Since the program's inception in 1989, the AKC has issued more than a half million CGC certificates to both purebred and mixed-breed dogs. Nearly 30,000 dogs are tested annually, and CGC is often the steppingstone to obedience, agility, rally, tracking, and performance events.

The state legislatures of Colorado, Delaware, and Texas have recently passed resolutions recognizing the importance of responsible dog ownership, citing the CGC test as the official measure of that commitment. In all, 21 states and the U.S. Senate have bestowed this official recognition.

CGC has been used as a model for similar programs in England, Australia, Japan, Hungary, Denmark, and Canada.

CGC is turning up as a tool in many areas where dogs and humans need a framework for forging a bond and measuring behavior. For example, Petco is adding CGC as part of its training curriculum, while police departments, animal-control agencies, therapy-dog organizations, and 4-H groups use it in education and professional programs.

In an age of liability lawsuits and breed-specific legislation, even insurance companies have come to recognize the value of AKC Canine Good Citizens. We applaud Nationwide Insurance for allowing owners with previously banned breeds to be considered for homeowner's insurance if their dog passes the CGC test.

With the new CGC evaluator testing program bringing a

higher standard to the program with trained, AKC-approved evaluators and an enhanced testing protocol, we look forward to more government agencies, businesses, and pet owners adding AKC Canine Good Citizen to their vocabulary when talking about responsible dog ownership.

Sincerely,



Ron Menaker
Chairman

CGC CONQUERS AMERICA ONE STATE AT A TIME

Colorado and Delaware have joined a long list of states to recognize the importance of responsible dog ownership by passing AKC Canine Good Citizen resolutions.

"With an increase in breed-specific legislation being introduced at the local level, it's wonderful to see so many states acknowledge that responsibility for a dog's behavior rests with the owner," says CGC Director Mary Burch.

"We thank our evaluators in Delaware and Colorado for their tireless efforts, as well as the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs, Delaware Representative Wayne Smith, and Colorado Representative Al White for recognizing the importance of responsible dog ownership."

Says Smith, "I'm glad to help recognize the important work being done through the AKC Canine Good Citizen program, and I'm proud to be supporting its effort to promote responsible dog ownership in the state of Delaware."

The Colorado resolution was passed with the help of local dog advocate Shannan Koucherik. "The CGC test provides an opportunity for any dog owner to achieve nationally recognized certification for their pet," says Koucherik. "By passing this resolution, the Colorado legislature is recognizing the importance of the animal-human connection."



Evaluator Gina Lash works with one of 30,000 dog-and-owner teams who passed the 10-step CGC test in 2004.

The Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs, the Colorado legislature, and other organizations celebrated the passing of the resolution with a "Colorado Capitol Honors Canine Good Citizens" event in April.

CGC resolutions have passed in 21 states: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Washington. ♦

AKC UPDATES

FIELD REP SOUGHT

The AKC is accepting résumés for potential Conformation Executive Field Representatives.

Interested persons must have extensive experience as exhibitors, handlers, or breed judges. Strong experience with all-breed and specialty shows, including service as a show chairperson, is desired.

Superior knowledge of AKC rules, regulations, and policies is required. Must have excellent written and oral communications skills, and the ability to use a computer. Frequent overnight travel is required; candidates must be willing to relocate.

Qualified persons should forward a résumé and cover letter to AKC, Human Resources (CFR), P.O. Box 37905, Raleigh, NC 27627-7905. ♦

CHF DONORS SEEING DOUBLE

The AKC Canine Health Foundation board of directors has announced that, as of mid-May, \$280,000 had been raised during the "Double the Dollars for Dogs" endowment campaign. The AKC will match all contributions.

"We are ecstatic at being over halfway to the goal in such a short time," says Ron Menaker, honorary chairman of the campaign. "It truly shows how committed dog lovers are to the health of our canine companions."

In late 2004, the AKC Board authorized a donation of up to \$1 million to the AKC/CHF Endowment Fund. An initial installment of \$500,000 was given outright, and an additional \$500,000 in matching funds is available from the AKC for all new donations earmarked for the endowment through December.

"What a thrill it is to know that our supporters are so committed to the longevity of breed-specific genetic research," says Wayne Ferguson, AKC/CHF president and chairman of the endowment campaign. "I want to see each and every name of our friends and colleagues on the list at the end of the year."

To see the "Double the Dollars for Dogs" Endowment Challenge Honor Roll of Donors (October 1, 2004–April 30, 2005), visit akchf.org. ♦



Scholarship winner Wyatt Delfino judging Juniors at the 2003 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

JUNIOR SCHOLARS: SHOW-QUALITY STUDENTS

The AKC has awarded 58 Junior Scholarships to students from 26 states. The total \$100,000 in 2005 scholarships for high school, college, and graduate students ranges from \$1,000 to \$5,000 each.

"The Junior Scholarship program is a special way for us to honor the hard work and dedication of the young fanciers who are tomorrow's leaders of our sport," says AKC Assistant Vice President Mari-Beth O'Neill, who oversees Junior Showmanship. "From their current goals of competing and earning titles to their aspirations of becoming veterinarians, journalists, teachers, and professional handlers, this year's winners have shown a real commitment to the sport of purebred dogs."

The AKC evaluated 138 candidates based on academic history and potential, and their involvement in the sport. Applicants were also required to submit an essay describing their experience in the fancy and the significance of the sport in their lives.

Scholarship recipients are a cross section of the fancy, representing the full spectrum of AKC events and dog-related community service. Some are third- and fourth-generation exhibitors, others found their way to their first dog events by chance.

2005 JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Charlotte Anderson (Wis.), Jennifer Battista (N.Y.), Leila Bicos (Calif.), Emily Bisso (La.), Krystle Bounds (Md.), Kathleen Burns (Ohio), Kimberly Carpenter (Calif.), Kristen Carpenter (Calif.), Kaitlyn Candies (La.), Tyler Cegler (Mont.), Rebecca Clas (Md.), Laura Coulter (Ill.), Jennifer Crank (Ohio), Katrina Davis (Ohio), Wyatt Delfino (Calif.), Jenna Dell (N.Y.), Joseph Esch (Conn.), Jennifer Fish (Wash.), Heather Grodi (Mich.), Jenny Gleis (N.C.), Caitlyn Glick (Ala.), Rebecca Helmke (N.Y.), Adrienne Hill (Calif.), Allison Janz (Wis.), Allison Johnston (N.C.), Adam King (Ind.), Anna Kodet (Wis.), Peter Kubacz (N.J.), Jake Kurczek (Wis.), Brandon Lenk (Va.), Anne Marie Lyons (Texas), Allison McGuigan (N.J.), Chad Malinek (La.), Christopher Mathews (Fla.), Rebecca McDaniel (Ill.), Marion Mossman (Hawaii), Jenny Murtough (N.Y.), Kara Nelson (Calif.), Kristen Nelson (Calif.), Holly Niece-Tuttle (Colo.), Whitney Perry (Mass.), Stacey Pfeiffer (N.Y.), Karen Potter (Mich.), Eve Rivinus (Ore.), James Reiser (Wis.), Amber Short (Wash.), Brandi Smith (Ala.), Thea Steele (Wash.), Graham Swayze (Ky.), Richard Terella (Pa.), Gabrielle Tesarz (N.C.), Lisa Toth (Mo.), Nicholas Urbanek (Pa.), Sarah Weise (Ill.), Haley Whitcomb (Fla.), Elizabeth Wilkins (Minn.), Shannon Wilson (Wis.), Meagan Withrow (Calif.)

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Snoop's Story...

Last July a loving dog owner could've lost her best friend had it not been for the **AKC Pet Healthcare Plan**.

While she was moving stones in her garden, her dog Snoop climbed up on the playhouse like many times before. But when the 8-year-old dog went to lie down, she fell backward onto the stones below.

Snoop yelped and could only drag her legs. After seeing three different veterinarians, Snoop had surgery to repair three ruptured discs.

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www.akcpethealthcareplan.com



STAYING ON TOP: Breeder Tips to Manage Your Dog Numbers for Success BY BOBBIE KOLEHOUSE

You bring home *the* dog. She's a lovely, perfect puppy in every way, and then she grows up and isn't so perfect. But you love her anyway and keep her as a pet.

You learn a little more and are sure your next prospect is the foundation of your breeding program. Sound and typey enough, she finishes her championship and you breed her. All her puppies are exceptional, you think, and you keep not one but three. That's when *dog numbers creep* sets in. And experienced and novice breeders alike can find themselves smothered with too many dogs.

In her book, *Reaching for the Stars*, the late British Labrador Retriever breeder Mary Roslin Williams devotes a chapter to how breeders become trapped by a combination of kennel blindness and emotions. You also need to be able to recognize adequate, good, very good, and exceptional specimens.

Breeders today face more zoning ordinances caused by increased human population pressures. State laws regulating breeding of dogs, together with the ever-rising cost of caring properly for them, often limits how many dogs most people will have in their kennel.

Goals, physical requirements, laws, and personal resources all come into play. Breeders need to consider these factors to create a plan to achieve their goals but avoid burying themselves under too many dogs.

So how do you know if you have too many dogs?

Vickie Von Seggern raises smooth and rough Collies as well as owning a boarding, grooming, and training facility in northern Wisconsin. Active in purebred dogs since 1970, she is a founding member of her local humane society, belongs to the Collie Club of America, and has served as president, on the board, and as show chair for the Paper Cities Kennel Club in Wisconsin. She feels few breeders have the time and space to raise litters and grow

out dogs required for a serious breeding program.

"The hardest part for many newcomers is letting go of a puppy they raised for show who didn't quite turn out. Many times, they keep and even finish these dogs, who don't really have what they need for their breeding program.

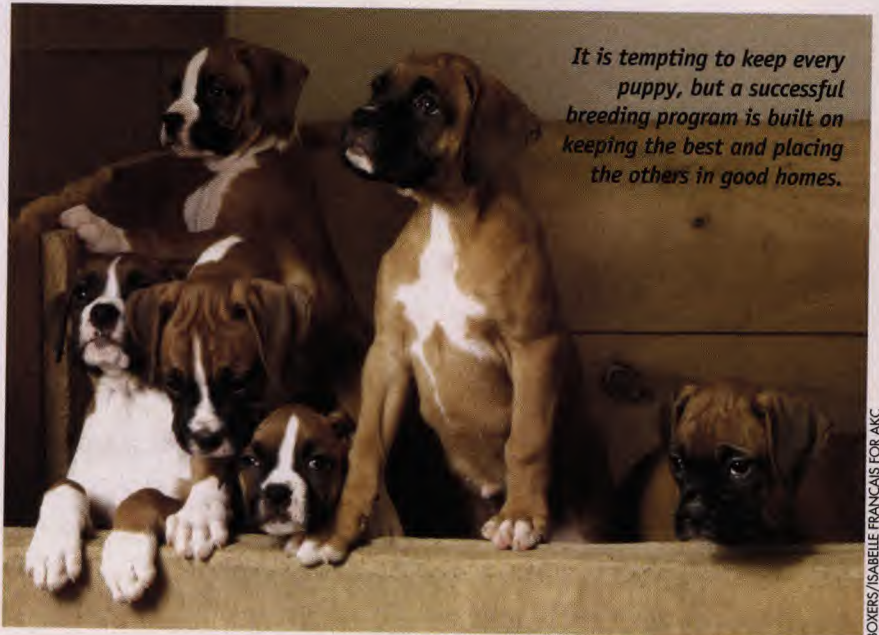
Von Seggern says she keeps the number of dogs she can comfortably care for and afford. "Collies tend to

roles, such as AKC Delegate, and in her community animal-welfare organizations.

"Clear goals help you understand what to keep, that the 'pick' puppy might not be in this litter," she says. "Poms have small litters and there might be only two puppies born. Sometimes neither should be kept."

Having goals requires you to really know your breed and if the puppies fit the standard.

"A successful breeder can likely accomplish more with fewer dogs," Kranzfelder adds. "Once their gene pool is producing consistently, the numbers can be reduced as they refine their goals."



It is tempting to keep every puppy, but a successful breeding program is built on keeping the best and placing the others in good homes.

BOXERS/ISABELLE FRANCAIS FOR AKC

have large litters and often I'll have a couple that don't sell as puppies," she says. "I train and socialize them as part of the package. If you don't train them, you will have trouble placing them."

Von Seggern argues the importance of giving newcomers to the fancy mentors: "People need to listen and watch and be in it for the dogs. The dogs must always come first in this sport. We are keepers of our breeds."

Marge Kranzfelder, a Pomeranian breeder in California, says she's found that clear goals and flexibility help limit her numbers and still allow her to be successful. An avid fancier, Kranzfelder has been active in her breed club in a variety of

Kranzfelder suggests you might have too many dogs if you apologize about them because they are not groomed or if you cannot afford routine veterinary care for them. It is important you learn to make decisions with your head, and not only your heart, she advises.

"Financial analysis brings us to reality," she says. "How many good-hearted dog people have gotten into predicaments over this?"

English Springer Spaniel breeders Jason and Michelle Givens, who train and handle gundogs for a living, manage their numbers with the objective of providing the best environment for each dog. "We ask ourselves, are we going to work with

this dog at all?" says Michelle. "If not, do we want to breed her?"

Springer field trials are very competitive, she adds, and many won't make it, but will make good companion hunting dogs.

The Givens's first concern for selection is temperament and health clearances. So while a dog might not be a top-flight field trial dog, she may have the health and temperament they want in their breeding program.

Sometimes these bitches, and even competition dogs, are placed in good homes with breeding agreements. "The dogs get fantastic homes, the home gets a really nice dog that they wouldn't normally have gotten because we would have kept her, and we still retain the dog's genes for our breeding program," Michelle says.

Following are suggestions to help you manage your dog numbers.

- Have clear goals.
- Know your breed, its history, and its standard.
- Think through your breeding plans so each move you closer to your goals.
- At least once a year, go through your kennel and place the lesser dogs in good homes.
- Spay and place bitches by the time they are 6 years old.
- Constantly measure new puppies against the older pups you kept from a previous breeding and keep the best one of them. The cream of the cream.
- Breed quality. Don't be tempted by the champions "numbers" game. Aim for better than the mediocre champion.
- Be a lifelong student of your breed.
- Know and respect your limits in time, space, emotional, and financial resources.
- Always consider the dogs' well being and understand that your quality of life affects your dogs. ♦



COURTESY YALE UNIVERSITY

Ph.D. in Drooling

Continuing a tradition since the late 1800s, Yale University named Mugsy, a Bulldog owned by Robert Sansone, as the new Handsome Dan XVI, the university's mascot, in New Haven, Connecticut, Tuesday, April 26.



A congratulatory **PAWS UP** to the Columbia Poodle Club of Portland, Oregon. Next month, the club will celebrate its 50th anniversary and will host a show on July 14 to 18. Have a great time!

PAWS UP also to Helen Lovell, of Revere, Massachusetts, who was injured while protecting her Pug. The 63-year-old Lovell was walking Benjamin one night when a man with a knife approached and demanded she turn over her cherished pet.

When Lovell refused, the suspect slashed her in the hand and chest. Lovell was taken to Whidden Memorial Hospital in Everett, Massachusetts, and treated for superficial wounds. Now police are searching for the man who slashed her.

By the way, 10-month-old Benjamin is just fine.



Agility for a Cause

In late March, the Southern Berkshire Golden Retriever Club (SBGRC) of Massachusetts and the American Bullmastiff Association (ABA) raised \$48,000 for canine health research by hosting an agility competition. Half of the money raised will be donated to the Golden Retriever Foundation, and the remainder will be donated to the ABA's donor-advised fund in the AKC Canine Health Foundation.

The event, dubbed "Agility for a Cause," was the brainchild of three agility competitors, Shirley LaFlamme, Maggie Lukiewicz, and

Gayle Watkins, who wanted to use the popularity of AKC agility to raise money for canine health research. "Each of us had lost dogs that we knew to cancer, so we were determined to increase the amount of money going to health research, in order to honor these dogs," Watkins says. "Shirley had already been running one-ring trials to raise money for Bullmastiff health research, so she provided the blueprint—we just needed to expand it. Our goal was to put on a major, three-day trial and to donate all profits from the trials to foundations supporting research into Golden Retriever and Bullmastiff health problems."

The trials were held March 25 to 27 at the Eastern States Exposition Grounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts. Due to some scheduling complications, the trial unfortunately ended up on Easter weekend. As a result, it did not fill and the organizers only ran three rings. This reduced their net entry

More than 3,000 entries jumped at the chance to be a part of the event's inaugural.



PETT BASSET GRIFFON VENDEEN



BULLMASTIFF/BOTH PHOTOS FRANK JANSEN

MIT's Broad Institute offered blood testing for osteosarcoma during the event.

income to only \$28,000 but through the generosity of sponsors, exhibitors, and dog lovers around the country, the trio raised an additional \$20,000 in other ways and met their goal of making a significant donation to both foundations.

The trial was also a popular and educational success, with 3,595 entries over the three days. In addition, the group hosted the MIT Broad (pronounced *brode*) Institute's researchers who are studying osteosarcoma. Owners brought 300 dogs to have their blood drawn to contribute to this study. In addition, the organizers had representatives of both the Golden Retriever Foundation and the Canine Health Foundation at the trial most days, providing an opportunity for exhibitors and visitors to talk about the work of the foundations they were supporting.

"We believe that 'Agility for a Cause' is the largest agility event held in the United States to benefit canine charities," Watkins says. "Agility brings in large sums of money to hosting clubs each year, and we would like to encourage other clubs to donate part or all of their proceeds to support canine charities."

Because the group is thrilled with the success of the first event, they are already planning next year's event, tentatively scheduled for April 20 to 23, 2006. ♦



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BETTER BREEDING

Too much of a good thing? The pros and cons of so many dog shows

By Patricia V. Trotter

The proliferation of dog shows and ensuing devaluation of the American championship title is a subject of increasing concern to breeders. As the number of dog shows has increased exponentially in the last two decades, so has the number of champions able to finish as a result of the lowered point scale and fewer dogs per breed being exhibited at any given show.

Certainly there are a few popular breeds that still have high point scales due to the entry numbers, and probably these breeds benefit from this situation. However, consider that in my own breed—the Norwegian Elkhound—it took 16 bitches for a major in the state of California in 1974. These were the glory days of the breed, when an all-breed show such as Santa

Barbara drew 53 Elkhounds and 129 Afghan Hounds, with neither breed needing the benefit of specialty or support shows. Today, few specialties, other than the Norwegian Elkhound Association of America's biannual national, ever draw such an entry, and all-breed shows are hit even harder by the dwindling entries in many breeds.

THE LAW OF AVERAGES . . .

Subsequently, dogs who can beat the same three inferior dogs twice during a long weekend become titled and achieve their majors, then minor out. Although some titles were attained this way from time to time in the past, it was not the widespread situation we are seeing today. For one thing, there just weren't that many dog shows, so more dogs in a given breed appeared at the shows

that were available. The law of averages indicates that the more dogs you have to beat to attain the title, the more likely the titleholders are of higher quality.

The correct evaluation of which animals should be selected for breeding stock and which ones should not is vital to the cause of our breeds. If the dog show becomes strictly a place to display dogs rather than serve the cause of aiding in the selection of breeding stock, where do well-intentioned new breeders go to get the answers?

Exactly what long-term effect this current state of affairs has on a breed's gene pool is unclear. Unfortunately, newcomers to the breed get an inflated opinion of the worth of certain animals and begin breeding programs based on them. A recent conversation with a novice exhibitor alarmed me because his thinking is going in that direction. Not only is he considering such an animal as foundation breeding stock, he plans to special it.



All beautiful, only one winner: While the abundance of dog shows is great for us in the sport, we cannot lose sight of the fact that shows are more than places to display great creatures—they are also supposed to aid in the selection of breeding stock.

SO MANY COMPETITIONS TO CHOOSE FROM, SO LITTLE TIME

It is hoped that this person in time will realize that not every dog that does a little winning belongs in the gene pool. Only the best of each generation should get that worthy honor. The expansion of the dog show to include activities such as agility and rally obedience is heartening because it allows the novice pet owner to participate in the wonderful world of dogs while learning more about the process. In time one might come to realize that it is possible to love lesser-quality animals without breeding them.

A recent lecturer at a judges' breed seminar awed us all with both his love and knowledge of his breed. A top-winning exhibitor whose dogs have captured all-breed and specialty honors alike, this gentleman surprised the audience when he stated that he was not a breeder. Instead, he seeks out the quality dogs of master breeders and then conditions and pilots them to the top. Furthermore, he seeks out the best of his breed's competition in campaigning these dogs, and this, of course, contributes to the overall improvement of the breed by educating fanciers. Studying dogs of quality is how breeders learn to improve their own stock.

Better competition raises the bar for all, lesser competition lowers it. Do we really want a dog-show world where every dog becomes a champion? Or do we want to protect the championship title for the future good of the sport? If so, how do we do it? The idea of entitlement is hard to get around once it becomes accepted. Should the AKC consider tightening up the point count even if it results in cries of outrage and fewer champions? Should we consider tiered shows such as those in the other countries where only a select few shows can award the challenge certificate, which is equivalent to our championship points?

The withholding process is a tool that the American dog show provides to monitor lack of quality, but it is such a negative thing. Judges are reluctant to implement it due to its



SCOTTISH TERRIER/MARY BLOOM ©AKC

Companion events, like rally, give people more opportunity to show off their dog.

unpopular reception and depressing message that truly discourages would-be fanciers. Only a few have the knowledge and courage required to face this ordeal. However, raising the point count is not negative but is merely setting a higher standard. Naturally, there would be lots of

objections to this, especially in breeds where point counts are already high.

The positive aspect of it is that exhibitors would learn to support certain shows, encourage stronger competition instead of running from it, and meet with fellow fanciers in their own breed more often. When more dogs come together for the evaluation process, it broadens the database for all of us. Certainly there are both pros and cons to the issue of adjusting the point count.

Nonetheless, we must be realistic and accept that in continuing to devalue the championship title, we risk the permanent loss of its credibility. Because posterity has no way to determine whether a championship title was truly valid at a given time in the history of the sport, future generations of dogs could pay the price for today's negligence. ♦

Pat Trotter is approved to judge more than 40 breeds and was the winner of the Hound Group's AKC Breeder of the Year honor at the 2003 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

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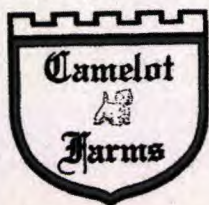
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THE JUDGE'S EYE

Take a breath, stand tall, and get ready to judge your first Best in Show! By Anne Rogers Clark

Are you looking forward to judging your first Best in Show? I recall that when I was just starting to judge, after retiring as a professional handler, I used to sit at the superintendent's table and read the standard of each breed as it won its respective group.

This was very helpful and led to a funny story. As a joke, a well-known professional handler wrote a letter that went as follows: "I recently showed a Komondor for BIS under Mrs. James Edward Clark and did not win! I made inquiry and found that as usual Mrs. Clark had asked for the standard of each breed as it won its group. When she asked for the Komondor standard she was given the Kuvasz standard by mistake. Of course when she judged my dog, she was appalled by its apparent matted

condition, and as she is insistent on correct coat and body condition, she did not use my dog!"

As a judge readying for your first Best in Show judging assignment, you, of course, must have some background in purebred dogs and can look at your assembled seven canines with a knowledgeable eye, particularly if you have just read up on each standard. Hopefully, even at the smaller shows, you will have some worthwhile dogs to peruse.

After seeing the dogs standing, watch them circle the ring, hoping that the one or two that appealed to you will make the same picture moving as they did standing.

FROM SEVEN TO ONE

Carefully examine each of the seven dogs. Make note of apparent

disqualifications and proceed accordingly—yes, you do sometimes get a dog on the Best in Show level who should not be there. Also make sure when you are moving your individuals no one is suddenly lame. You may not judge a lame dog!

Move each dog in your own pattern, unless because of television coverage there are special requests from the producers. Personally, I always prefer a triangle, if space and time permits. I then ask the dog to step and stand on its own at the end of its triangle.

After going over and moving each dog—go back down the line and check eye color, muscle, topline, coat texture, if you wish to. Recheck a table dog on the table; do not bend down to it on the floor.

I do not ask dogs to come out and show on their own in an individual manner, as it is not fair to some breeds. For instance, no Bloodhound is going to come out and stand on his own with his tail up, they just do not do this!

And, if you want to look at the Pekingese's head again, ask the



In any Best in Show lineup there are some dogs who are obvious contenders, but sometimes there are those who should not be there.

ALL PHOTOS MARY BLOOM © AKC

person showing the dog to pick it up so that you can look into its face.

Let your hands speak for you when examining an entry—not going back to faults, but reassessing good points.

Check mouths correctly for each breed. Count teeth and open the jaws on a Doberman Pinscher, same with a Rottweiler and a German Shepherd Dog. Run your thumb over the teeth on a Pug. Do not look at a Pekingese mouth unless it looks lacking in underjaw or catches his lip.

Look at both sides of a parti-colored dog. Whippets, Smooth and Wire Fox terriers, and many of the spaniels are often marked more



Check the mouths and teeth of breeds whose standards require the exam.

attractively on their off-judges side. Markings can give the topline a dip when it is not there, or shorten or lengthen the back—they confuse your eye!

Correctly span the Border and the Parson Russell terriers on the table when you examine them. Pay attention to feet, a very important part of the anatomy of the dog. After all, each breed has feet according to its use in the scheme of things.

Finally, make use of the ring to its best advantage. Judge under the tent when it is very hot or wet and rainy.

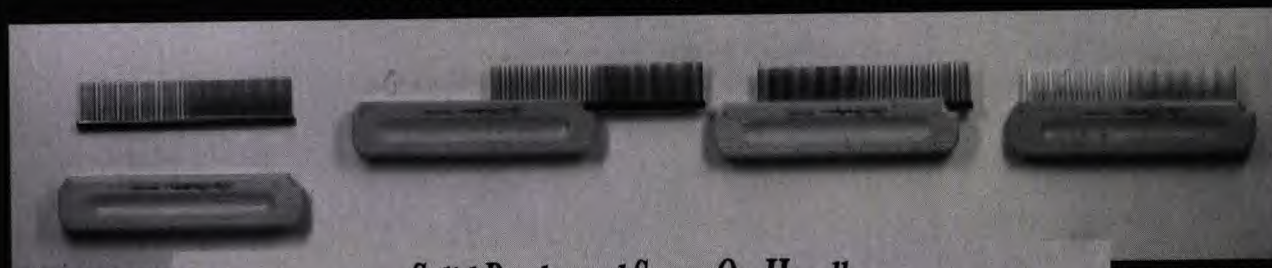
Enjoy your job—it is the easiest and most fun one at the dog show! You have only seven dogs to consider, and if you have good group judges you will face the happy task of choosing the one you like best! ♦

Anne Rogers Clark judges all breeds. She has judged throughout the United States and abroad. She is the co-author of the International Encyclopedia of Dogs.



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When considering a new breed even seasoned dog people may get lost between intentions and reality

By Margaret Gibbs

Memories caught up to Steve S. at age 37. He wanted his daughter to have a dog like O'Reilly, the high-spirited terrier who had been his childhood companion. Steve's wife had never had a pet, but it seemed like a good idea. Off they went to look at puppies, returning to their townhouse with a small bundle of crackling terrier energy.

On the other side of town, Joe and Anna B. were scanning Internet rescue and shelter sites, looking for a needy dog who would get along with their grandchildren. They had successfully raised several Labrador Retrievers over the years, and when they saw a photo of an alert 2-year-old Chesapeake Bay Retriever on a web site, they contacted the shelter.

The dog was described as playful and sociable. This was the dog for them.

Two good families were about to experience what can happen when the past collides with the present. Let's fast-forward a few months.

Rather than daily romps in a yard they don't have, Steve's family finds that the puppy requires more exercise time than they have. The brunt of responsibility is on his wife, who also juggles a part-time job and several after-school activities with their daughter, who describes the puppy as a *royal pain*. The neighbors, just a wall away, have used similar words.

The grandparents with the shelter dog are having problems, too. Their motor skills, stamina, and strength

are no longer what they once were. They're finding it easier to just let the dog do what he wants, resulting in destructive chewing and unruly, antisocial behavior.

Although we feel good when prospective owners have lived successfully with our breeds, it's no guarantee that the process will work as well the next time around.

Whether we're breeders, rescue volunteers, or obedience instructors helping families select a new dog, current lifestyles and abilities must be weighed against past experience. If a different type of dog would be a better match, it's up to us to give appropriate suggestions.

BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF AND YOUR DOG

Doing this requires knowledge of various breed-specific behaviors and how they might express themselves in a particular home. It also requires us to be critical of our own breeds. We may think we're dissuading people, but if nothing but personal enthusiasm shines through,



Terriers, like this Parson Russell, have boundless energy and are only a good fit with people whose lifestyle can accommodate a spunky breed.

DIANE LEWIS



While a couple may have been suited to retrievers their entire lives, these exuberant, intelligent dogs can be tiring when the couple becomes elderly.

whatever we say may be having the opposite effect.

This is easier to understand with first-time owners. We know they often want a dog like one they've seen on television or in a movie. What we might not have noticed is that conformation shows and obedience and agility trials are increasingly being televised. Prospective owners see the best at their best and want the same. They don't understand the committed lifestyle and breeding that goes into the process.

A surprising number of prospective owners also are researching breeds via web sites, magazines, and books. The common caveat we often include, that "this is not the breed for everyone," is usually tucked into wonderful descriptions of breed history, intelligence, devotion, and so on. Everyone wants an intelligent, devoted dog with an interesting heritage; so, of course, this is the breed for them.

Sometimes personal experience is the best teacher of breed differences. Marcia K. had bred German Shepherd Dogs for nearly 25 years when she decided she really wanted a breed that was less vocally territorial. She liked the social attitude of the sporting breeds, and the size, ease of grooming, and alert intelligence of the Brittany especially appealed to her. She purchased a show-quality female and was delighted. There wasn't a smidgen

of territoriality as the puppy began to mature.

Then, in late adolescence, the puppy discovered birds. Marcia knew the breed's working heritage but not exactly how it might express itself in a nonhunting environment. The puppy's increasing

passion for birds and interest in outdoor stimuli irritated her. She had assumed, as with her German Shepherd Dogs, that maturity would increase focus on her rather than on the environment. A trait that was a priceless asset to a hunter was annoying to her.

She's looking again at the Herding Group, this time considering a Border Collie, which is rarely a territorial barker. Marcia is learning how easily breed-specific traits affect even seasoned dog-lovers. Even more interesting is that Marcia can't recall reading or hearing much about one breed's territorial barking, another breed's lack of it, and precisely how strong working genes can express themselves in nonworking homes. She's discovering that the right dog in the right home at the right time is more complex an equation than we often think. ♦

Margaret Gibbs has an M.A. in clinical psychology, and is a professional dog trainer, behavior counselor, author, and lecturer.





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Canine Neonatology: What to Expect When You Are Expecting

By Jeff Grognet, DVM

Breeders can promote puppy survival by providing superior care to bitches before and during whelping and by nurturing puppies optimally from the moment they are born.

A healthy bitch is the foundation of every successful breeding venture. To assess the health of your bitch, have your veterinarian perform a prenatal examination to evaluate her general health with a special focus on her reproductive structures—her birth canal as well as her mammary glands and teats.

Nutrition is as important to health as health is to reproduction. You need to feed your bitch to meet her nutritional requirements both during pregnancy and throughout lactation.

Traditionally, female dogs are fed a high-quality adult diet for the first four weeks of pregnancy, then transitioned to a growth diet suitable for pregnancy and lactation. New research suggests that starting a growth diet at the time of breeding can improve litter size and neonatal viability.

Diets for pregnancy and lactation should have a protein level between

27 and 34 percent and contain at least 18 percent fat.

EATING FOR 3, 5, OR 12

Your bitch should be in ideal body condition at whelping—you should see her “waist” (narrowing behind her ribs) and be able to easily feel her ribs under a light fat cover. If she is too thin, she may lack stamina at whelping time. If she is too heavy, she may have a lot of fat in her birth canal, which may increase her chances of having dystocia (difficulty whelping).

In the last few weeks of pregnancy, you should isolate your bitch from visiting dogs and dogs that have been to shows to prevent her from being exposed to infectious agents. Canine herpesvirus poses a particular threat since it can cause abortions and puppy death if bitches contract it during the last three weeks of gestation.

When the moment of whelping arrives, you need to be prepared. Do you know exactly how many puppies your bitch is carrying? A radiograph can give you this information. Do you know how a normal whelping should proceed? (Review the below sidebar for indicators of a whelping problem.)

BE PREPARED

A bitch can suffer from dystocia if her pup is too big or if it is presented in the wrong position. The most common reason for dystocia, however, lies with the bitch herself—her uterine muscles



COLLIES/DIANE LEWIS

THE UMBILICAL CORD

What should you do with the umbilical cords? Some resources suggest leaving them alone, other experts want them dipped, and still other resources go to great pains to describe exactly where to tie them off. Because no one can agree on how to handle them, it probably doesn't matter which option you choose, but you must keep them clean to avoid infections.

WHEN TO SUSPECT A WHELPING PROBLEM

1. Your bitch has been obviously straining for more than 30 minutes without a delivery.
2. Your bitch has been exhibiting weak contractions for more than one to two hours with no sign of progression.
3. Your bitch has delivered one or more pups but nothing has happened for over two hours (even though it can be normal for a bitch to take a long rest, she should be checked).
4. Your bitch has not yet whelped but is passing a green discharge.

Though normal once delivery is under way, lochia should not be seen before a puppy is delivered because it is a sign of placental separation.

5. Your bitch appears to have stopped whelping but you suspect (or know) she still has more puppies in her uterus.

are too weak to push her puppy out. In this case, medication may be needed to help whelping proceed normally. Calcium increases the strength of the bitch's uterine contractions and oxytocin speeds them up. If these drugs don't work, your bitch will require a cesarean section.

If pups are born naturally and are not active within a minute, or if they are born by cesarean and are not awake, you need to revive them. First, wipe out or suction their mouths to remove excess fluid. Then, dry the puppies (vigorously) to stimulate breathing and prevent chilling. You want a puppy to cry to get his lungs fully inflated.

NEW PARENTAL GLOW

After the thrill of whelping, you need to turn your attention to post-natal care. Puppies have poor temperature regulation for the first four weeks of life. The ambient temperature of their surroundings must be high enough to maintain their core body temperature at 97 degrees or higher. If a puppy becomes hypothermic, his immunity, nursing, and digestion are negatively affected.

When a pup doesn't nurse regularly (for whatever reason), he may develop hypoglycemia (low blood sugar). To support a pup that is chilled and not eating, you should give him a sugar solution followed by a balanced milk formula.

Puppies are susceptible to infectious diseases because their immune systems are incompletely developed. Nature has provided a temporary solution to this problem. A bitch's first milk, called colostrum, is rich in antibodies and it provides protection against infectious organisms. Though perfect in theory, this system has one snag—pups must consume colostrum before they are 12 hours old. After this age, they cannot absorb colostrum antibodies into their bloodstreams where they are needed. ♦

Dr. Jeff Grognet is a practicing veterinarian in British Columbia, Canada. He writes extensively for dog magazines and teaches a course on canine reproduction on the Internet.

Veterinary News and Notes

In an effort to help animal breeders better manage reproduction-associated diseases and improve pregnancy success rates, the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine has launched a new service focused solely on small-animal reproduction.

"We will offer cutting-edge methods to diagnose and treat both reproductive diseases and infertility cases in male and female animals, mostly dogs and cats," says John Versteegen, DVM, Ph.D., who heads the service in partnership with his wife, Karine Onclin, DVM, Ph.D. Versteegen is a founding member of the European Society for Small Animal Reproduction and of the European College for Animal Reproduction.

The couple moved to Gainesville last summer from Belgium, where they had worked at the University of Liege.

Among the tools they plan to offer breeders are a variety of hormone tests, as well as vaginal smears, vaginoscopy, uterine endoscopy, and endoscopic uterine drainage.

"We also will be able to provide sonography of the reproductive tract, including sonographic detection of follicular growth and ovulation to improve fertilization and artificial insemination success," Versteegen says, adding that the service's main activities will include pregnancy monitoring through Doppler ultrasonography, endocrine testing, parturition monitoring, and neonatal care.

Jackie Kensler, a Border Terrier breeder from St. Augustine who is active in the Border Terrier Club of America, was Onclin's first UF client.

"Both female dogs I brought to Dr. Onclin had failed to be successfully bred under previous attempts," Kensler says. "Because of Onclin's breeding-management program, one was successfully bred and delivered four puppies."

Because breeders go to great



CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIELS/ISABELLE FRANCAIS FOR AKC

lengths and expense and emotional investment and frequently transport their dogs long distances in hopes of arranging a successful mating, this facility has real benefits. "It behooves us to invest that little extra to make sure we have an optimum opportunity to succeed," Kensler says. "I hope other breeders will take advantage of this incredible opportunity to utilize the *crème de la crème* we have in this caliber of professionals right here at UF."

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Thinking Outside the Cage

By Jane Brackman

Kennel design is a major undertaking, and how you build your kennel may determine how your dogs react to it.

While many kennels already provide enrichment programs that incorporate novel stimuli and socialization, the quality of the stimuli is frequently overlooked. Kathryn Lord, a University of Massachusetts graduate student in the department of organismic and evolutionary biology, says there are three ways to enrich your kennels: placing floor mats with different textures, providing furniture that encourages problem-solving, and introducing recorded novel sounds

WHAT'S MINE IS MINE AND WHAT'S YOURS IS MINE

The course of nature, such as the onset of olfaction and vision, is preset. But nature is mediated by circumstances. What those are and when they begin could make the difference between being a successful working dog, a happy pet, or having a short life in a shelter.

For example, food hogging during feeding time is a successful evolutionary strategy if a pup wants her fair share of the chow. But at some point, it can turn into any number of unacceptable adult behaviors, from bowl aggression to fear of other dogs. One way to

it's worth it to pay attention to kennel design.

BE A GOOD LISTENER

Pay attention to what your dogs have to say about kennel design. For instance, kenneled pups who sleep on heated concrete floors, when given a choice, prefer a fleece pad. When given the opportunity, they'll choose where they want to sleep, too. Lord says, "I found it interesting that when a raised bed was in the middle of the space, pups slept on top; when it was in the corner they slept underneath."

Puppies sleep in piles to maximize body heat. When beds are provided, they normally stop piling at four weeks. She noted that without beds, pups sleep in a pile for as long as 8 weeks. Lord suspects that the extra four weeks is for additional security, not warmth.

OVERSEE PLAY DATES

The quality of play isn't given enough attention either, according to Lord. Certain kinds of kennel furniture, when provided after 4 weeks of age, can encourage problem-solving activities and reduce aggressive games, experiences that may impact adult behavior later on. For example, pups who had truck tires in their kennel runs had fun with mazes and climbing games and spent less time play-fighting. At the end of week 6, they were less fearful, more exploratory, and better able to solve

novel problems than pups raised in kennels without tires.

GIVE MOTHER QUIET TIME

Lord continued, "The mothering experience should be a positive one as well. If the dams are well provided for, they will help provide a less stressful environment for their pups. Don't neglect mothers just because they appear calm. Some mothers are not as



SAMOYED/KENT DANNEN

that mimic the environment the adult dog will be expected to work in. She believes, however, that the time they are provided may be just as important.

"Canine behavior is a synergism between genetics and the environment," Lord says. "People dealing with kenneled puppies need to take both into consideration, and should never forget that the two are inseparable."

decrease food competition is, as weaning ends, give pups their own feed pans, and put blinders up that would prevent them from seeing one another. (Visualize a voting booth and you'll get the picture.) Lord says that puppy food-bowl competition doesn't lead to aberrant behaviors in all adults, but it's better to err on the side of caution. If even one pup out of the litter has the potential for problems,

overt about their stress as others and don't show the stress in the same way."

Make nesting material available so she can create her own maternal environment before giving birth. Also, providing a secure enclosed area where mom can get away from her nursing offspring when she wants to can help reduce maternal anxiety.

DOGS NEED A CHANCE TO MAKE CHOICES

Anyone who lives with dogs knows they like a predictable, scheduled life. "Mine bark to go outside, whine to come back in, and remind me when dinner is late," Lord says. "As expected, I react promptly, which, I imagine is the reason why people are so easy to train."

Lord thinks that when shelter



Be careful that feeding time doesn't evolve into a number of unacceptable behaviors, such as bowl aggression.

dogs, who, under most circumstance have no control over their environment, are given even one way to be in charge of what happens to them, aberrant behaviors like barking, fear aggression, or excessive licking may be abated enough to give them a better chance at adoption.

To test her hypothesis, she is studying socially challenged dogs, courtesy of the Pioneer Valley Humane Society, in Greenfield,

Massachusetts. She's installed computerlike devices in their kennels so that the dogs can decide when they want a reward. Right now she's using food, but eventually, depending on how successful her pilot study is, she plans to design a paradigm in which the dogs can control access to something, like going from one area of the kennel to another.

A little bit of control can build confidence in an otherwise frightened shelter dog. A confident dog is a happy dog. And a happy dog is more likely to find a loving owner. ♦

Jane Brackman is the former executive director of Guide Dogs of America and the author of two books, including The Dog in the Picture.



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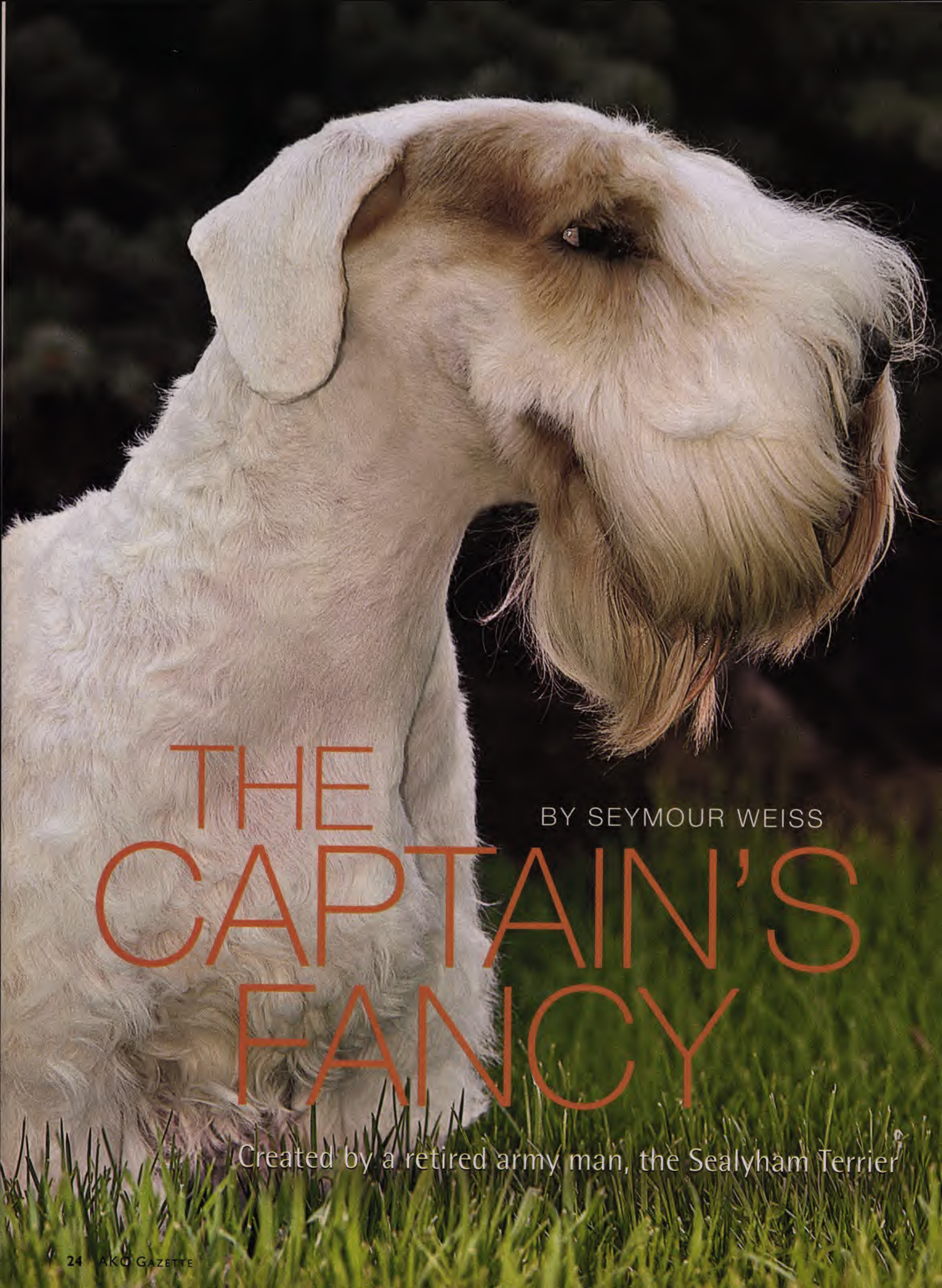
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They're Back!



THE
BY SEYMOUR WEISS
CAPTAIN'S
FANCY

Created by a retired army man, the Sealyham Terrier

Before dog shows were established, a terrier's primary credential to earn a place to live and regular meals was its ability to dispatch a wide variety of small vermin for work and sport. While most terriers developed slowly, some were created at the behest of an individual and assumed their familiar form and function with relative speed. Such a one was the droll, white-coated Welshman we know as the Sealyham Terrier.

The Sealyham Terrier was the creation of a former military officer. When Captain John Edwardes retired from the army in 1848 at the age of 40, he returned to his family's estate, Sealy Ham, in Haverfordwest, Wales. One of Captain Edwardes's priorities on his return to civilian life was the development of his own breed of terriers as an adjunct to his pack of Otterhounds. The captain's requirements for his strain of terriers were simple. First and foremost, the dogs had to be "dead game," capable of taking on the most savage creatures found in the district, particularly the badger and the otter. This terrier's performance afield was far more important to the captain than his looks. However, the white color was sought after to avoid the Otterhounds mistaking the terriers for the quarry and worrying them during the hunt. As the breed came closer to its modern form, selective breeding removed the body markings seen in the breed's early years. Today, Sealyhams that are not solid white will have marking on the head and ears of tan, lemon, or badger. The effect is quite striking.

Origins and Speculation

Although the Sealyham's origins are relatively recent, a considerable amount of discussion has centered on the breeds used to develop the Sealy. The truth is that no one really knows which breeds were ancestors, because Captain Edwardes did not keep detailed records. In this, he was like many other rural sportsmen of his time. The captain may not have bothered because he was only interested in how the dogs worked—it may never have occurred to him that anyone else would ever want to know where his dogs came from.

An excellent chronicle of the Sealyham's history is to be found in *Terriers of the World: Their History and Characteristics*, by Tom Horner. This admirably detailed review gives rare insight into the genesis of the Sealy, along with its subsequent development.

At the time of the Sealy's beginnings, Horner explains, there existed a race of white terriers in south Wales; this proto-breed may have played a part in breed development. Sometimes called Cheshire Terriers, the dogs were white, smooth-coated, and sported many characteristics today associated with Bull Terriers. One can often encounter modern Sealyhams that show incomplete pigment in their eye-rims and pigment spots on the skin, characteristics closely associated with the white variety of the Bull Terrier. If the old Cheshire Terrier was indeed genetically linked to the Bull Terrier and went into the making of the Sealy, the pigment could be taken as reasonable evidence of the commonality of these breeds.

The Dandie Dinmont Terrier has often been mentioned as an important progenitor of the Sealy, but this is questionable. While both breeds are low-stationed and exhibit great substance, one must remember that the Dandie emerged from the Scottish-English border—a long way from Wales. It is highly unlikely that the Dandie had much of a presence in Sealy country during the last half of the 19th century. Travel was exceedingly difficult during this period and breeds developed in relative isolation, cut off from one another by rivers, mountains, and other natural barriers. So Dandies would have had next to no chance to breed in the area. Additionally,



John Edwardes wanted a breed that would be keen for the chase, a match for the fierce badgers and otters near Haverfordwest, Wales.

is a stalwart companion with an impish sense of humor.

Clockwise from top: Barberry Hill Bootlegger, 1924, by Gilman Low; Margaret Magnificent; Bobby's Girl, with Peter Green handling.

Dandies are sufficiently different in coat, head properties, temperament, color, and body shape to cast serious doubt on any strong link between Captain Edwardes's breed and Piper Alan's breed. (As a Dandie fancier and breeder for over 25 years, I personally doubt the hereditary presence of the Dandie in the Sealyham's family tree.)

In the literature of the dog fancy, references to the Dandie and the Pembroke Welsh Corgi as progenitors of the Sealyham abound. However, it was commonplace for one 19th century commentator-author to plagiarize the work of his peers, so that if one highly respected Victorian dog writer made an observation, many others echoed his ideas orally and in print. (Independent research did not always happen.) So the number of references to an idea is little indication of its validity. And again, probably the Pembroke Welsh Corgi's only physical similarities to the Sealy are its short legs and overall size.

There is support for the Sealy's carrying the inheritance of the Wire Fox Terrier and the West Highland White. Some physical similarities of early Wires and Sealys lend credence to this liaison. Horner explains that Captain Edwardes was friendly with the Marquis of Bute, who had considerable land holdings in south Wales at the time. The Marquis was also a friend of Colonel Malcolm, of Pottaloch, credited with being the father of the modern Westie. Breedings to blend the best of both breeds could have been done, notwithstanding the great distance between the home turf of the two breeds.

Suffice it to say that the genesis of the Sealyham Terrier is like an intriguing maze. Many possibilities exist; all have their supporters and naysayers. What is known of the breed's early history is that

Captain Edwardes put many puppies out to "walk" (run with the pack) and followed up on them as they reached their first year. As unsettling as it may be for us to contemplate, it was the captain's custom to check up on these youngsters with his rifle at the ready. If any dog showed the least hesitancy in going to ground or engaging an opponent, it normally didn't get a second chance. While we may abhor the harshness

of Captain Edwardes' methods of preserving terrier attributes, there is no question that by this method, courage became a proverbial part of the Sealyham's personality. It is said, however, that in the closing years of his own life, Edwardes softened toward dogs he may have deemed lacking in gameness. Undoubtedly, this amnesty of attrition helped increase the breed's numbers.

From Field to Show Bench

Long before the introduction of contemporary earthdog trials, the American Sealyham Terrier Club (ASTC) had a well-developed program to preserve the working qualities of the breed. During the first half of the 20th century, the ASTC mounted trials and awarded working certificates for dogs who met the trial requirements. The rules required dogs to face and draw quarry (and nothing in the rules allowed for caged rats—in those days it was all up close and personal). In John Marvin's *The Book of All Terriers*, a photo shows a Sealy facing a very hostile opossum. It was a great matter of pride for a dog from show ring breeding to be able to prove itself in the breed's traditional work. The ASTC deserves full marks for having promoted this program before earthdog events gained widespread popularity.

The breed's first appearance in the show ring came in October 1903, in (appropriately enough) Haverfordwest. It didn't take long for interest to spread beyond the confines of south Wales, and in 1908 the Sealyham Terrier Club was formed. Just two years later, Sealys made their debut at The Kennel Club's championship show at the Crystal Palace in south London. Full recognition followed a year later.

As often happens, the breed has changed physically since



TOP: AKC COLLECTION; LEFT AND FAR LEFT: FROM THE OFFICIAL BOOK OF THE SEALYHAM TERRIER

ISABELLE FRANCAIS



its days as a working terrier. With its now smartened-up appearance and infectious charm, the Sealy quickly earned a loyal following of dog lovers and serious fanciers. The breed's fame soon crossed the ocean, and eventually circled the world. Sealys first reached the United States in 1911 and earned AKC recognition almost immediately. Also in 1911, the Sealy made its initial appearance in an American show ring in San Mateo, California. On May 15, 1913, the American Sealyham Terrier Club was formed in New York City.

As with his introduction to English dog lovers, the Sealyham met with great popularity in America soon after its debut. The breed's heyday came during the 1920s and '30s. Top awards at the AKC Sesquicentennial, Westminster, and Morris & Essex put Captain Edwardes's breed into a glittering spotlight. Four of the breed captured the ultimate prize at Westminster, including Ch. Barberryhill Bootlegger (1924), Ch. Pinegrade Perfection (1927, also BIS at the AKC Sesquicentennial in 1926), Ch. St. Margaret Magnificent of Clairedale (1936), and Ch. Dersade Bobby's Girl (1977). This acclaim, combined with the patronage of famous owners such as Gary Cooper, Cary Grant, Humphrey Bogart, Richard Burton, and Alfred Hitchcock, whose own Sealyham Terriers sometimes appeared in his films, added to the breed's evolving success story.

Sealys Today

It is a great credit to this breed that it has reached the heights of show ring success in spite of modest numbers. Sealyhams of quality excel in the show ring, often topping the highly competitive Terrier Group and going on to many all-breed Bests in Show.

While the Sealyham retains his beauty and personality, the breed has slipped in popularity since those early days. Breed popularity, like fashion, is both fickle and cyclical. In 1932, there were 369 dogs registered—not even the breed's most popular year. Registrations dropped off over time, but jumped a bit in the late 1970s, after

Ch. Dersade Bobby's Girl won Westminster. Currently, the breed ranks 146th out of 153 AKC recognized breeds, in terms of the number of dogs registered, with 76 new, individual registrations in 2004 and 29 litters.

Many who would enjoy having a Sealyham in their lives deny themselves the pleasure because of a reluctance to tackle the breed's grooming requirements. Like other double-coated terriers, Sealyhams are properly trimmed with finger and thumb for best results, and brushed and combed regularly. Rather than considering this need a liability, it should be regarded as a time of wonderful bonding between owner and dog and the path to great pride of ownership in a well-presented animal. Breeder, trainer, professional handler, and peerless ambassador for the breed, Margery

Good believes that regular grooming is an important factor in good health care. Developing ear infections or skin conditions can be caught during routine grooming, and treated before they become serious problems.

Of course, there will always be the pet owner who just won't tackle a Sealy's grooming needs. For them there is always pet clipping. The results are not as handsome as for a show dog, but a pleasing appearance can result—and for a pet, it might be all that some owners require. But either way, a consistent grooming schedule is essential to the dog's health.

Good reminds handlers and groomers that Sealys are *not* the hardest dogs to condition. Just pick a good-coated one, do your



Sealys should move well, with surprisingly big, long, powerful strides, with elastic movement that is strong, yet not rigid.



Modern Sealys participate in all sorts of events, including agility, obedience, and therapy work, as well as earthdog trials.



COURTESY STERLING PHOTOGRAPHY AND DAVID PAUL

homework, and enjoy the pleasure of a job well done, because if you can present a Sealy well, you can do anything! And a note for judges: With the eyebrows and fall combed beautifully forward for the ring, a Sealy's forward vision is limited. Therefore, kindly alert him to your presence, requesting his attention. Sealys are happy to give you what you want if they understand.

The breed is blessed with robustness, facing few health concerns, according to ASTC president Sharon Yard. Good agrees, saying that the breed is generally healthy and long-lived, with the major cause of death being old age! It is routine for a Sealyham to live to age 15 with only routine veterinary care. Of the few issues, Yard cites lens luxation as a concern, so all Sealy owners are encouraged to register their dogs with the ASTC for the purpose of gathering information on the condition. Good adds that the condition usually appears in dogs aged 6 to 8 years. If it is found and treated promptly, a dog's sight may be saved. Glaucoma is often associated with lens luxation. SIGHT Registry for Sealyhams has been set up to research and find the DNA marker for the condition. Another relatively rare health issue is demodex, in which the immune system is unable to control the skin's reaction to demodectic mange mites normally encountered in the environment. Staph often occurs as a secondary infection, but antibiotics can reduce

the infection, while oral medication gets the mites under control. Recurrence requires repeated courses of treatment. Finally, an occasional case of bladder stones is observed. Modern prescription diets or surgery to remove stones successfully treat the condition.

There are many ways in which Sealyham Terriers stand out from the other terriers. ASTC breed columnist for the AKC GAZETTE Karen Bay points to what she sees as the essence of the breed: "[The Sealy is] a short-legged terrier with a docked tail, fold-down ears, and a harsh white coat whose conformation and temperament both may be characterized chiefly by the word *strength*. The words *strong* and *power/powerful* appear a total of 10 times in our relatively brief standard. Reading those words in context, you have no doubt how earlier fanciers wished to portray the Sealyham. The physical aspects, plus the character and temperament of the dog should depict 'power and determination.'" Good finds them classy, stylish, and substantial, neither clumsy nor coarse, with elastic movement that is strong, yet not rigid. They move surprisingly well, with big, long, powerful strides. To Good, Sealys exhibit smoother lines, and smoother transitions between body parts than most short-legged terriers. She says Sealys have a purposeful look and an air of commitment. Yet, they have a sense of humor about how to achieve that purpose.

The Sealy temperament is one of the hallmarks of the breed. They could be one of the best-kept secrets in dogs. Good calls them generous, affectionate, cute, funny, and loyal. Always ready to gratify an owner's wishes, they never cling. While they have their own minds, they always enjoy pleasing people. She believes that if more dog lovers were aware of the breed's many assets, Sealy popularity would soar. Bay adds that, "Owners learn to appreciate the Sealyham character, knowing that in addition to the obstinacy, usually accompanied by a playful gleam in the eye, this



TARA DARLING

breed has an immense capacity for loyalty and love of family and home." Yard says that in the home, Sealys are typically laid-back "couch potatoes." A Sealy of typical temperament makes the best companion. As if this were not enough, you haven't lived until you've seen a Sealyham sitting up and begging! No breed I know of does it better.

So why don't we see Sealys everywhere, especially since they were once so popular? Yard observes that the breed declined in popularity after World War II, when many Sealys sported long, profuse furnishings. Undoubtedly, the prospect of keeping such a dog neat was viewed as a daunting prospect to many.

Good notes that though there are few registrations each year, most litters are registered, which is good news for the breed. The Sealy fancy is a close-knit community of breeders and a high proportion of the dogs registered are also being shown. Further, as Sealys make better companions than kennel dogs, most show dogs also double as pets.

Of current breed quality, Good feels that even if there are few really fabulous dogs being shown, the overall look at a specialty entry reveals that grooming has improved and that quality is enhanced across the board. The limited gene pool makes diverse breeding selections difficult, but responsible Sealy breeders are working hard to maintain good quality within the small population of dogs.

As for the near-term prospects of the breed, Bay says that, "This small group of breeders is painfully aware that the Sealyham is at the point where every litter counts and every single puppy has the potential for contributing to the future of our breed." Good adds that she has seen several very beautiful youngsters who will improve the breed and carry it forward. Good feels that these will not only stamp the breed for the future but will also be ambassadors, allowing more people to see and appreciate Sealyhams.

For the long term, Good praises the Sealy fancy, whom she describes as "...good people devoted to the betterment of the breed. Together we will attack the few [health] problems. We will each aspire to breed better examples according to the standard and according to our own preferences. Standardization is good, but some diversity is necessary to maintain an adequate gene pool. Breeders will cross international boundaries more than ever before to diversify and



KENT DANNEN

improve. In the process, we will share each others' knowledge and insights and forge ahead for all Sealyhams."

In order to raise the profile of the breed, Bay urges, "In addition to making every effort to breed conscientiously, it is also our obligation to place the puppies in homes where they will not only be loved, but also out and about with owners who want to exhibit or obedience train, enjoy the new-found fun of rally, or take on the challenges of agility. A Sealyham can be a wonderfully intuitive therapy dog, warming to both children and the elderly. Earthdog and tracking contests are equally fun for owners and Sealy. And a Canine Good Citizen® title must be within every Sealyham's capabilities."

So this is the Sealyham Terrier, a breed that deserves a return to at least some of its earlier acclaim. This breed is a marvelous companion, a terrier that can still work, and very often a peerless performer in the demanding environment of the show ring. To those fortunate enough to have Sealyhams in their lives, no other breed could be nearly as satisfying. For those who have yet to make the acquaintance of these unique charmers, what are you waiting for? 🐾

A longtime breeder, exhibitor, judge of the Terrier Group, Junior Showmanship, and Best in Show, Seymour Weiss is an award-winning dog writer and editor living in Brooklyn, New York.

Finding the Weak Spots of Disease

For veterinary health professionals, the learning doesn't stop when they graduate, or even after the first few years of practice. Each year, veterinary medical professionals get together to share case histories, research, and new techniques. The Western Veterinary Conference (WVC), which meets every February in Las Vegas, highlights the most current research, and offers hands-on training. This year, from February 19 to 24, vets, their technical and administrative staffs, community animal-health personnel, and veterinary school students attended more than 800 seminars and 30-plus laboratory sessions. Here are some of the highlights.

At the core of every WVC are the information-packed seminars. A special PennHIP (Pennsylvania Hip Improvement Program) training seminar launched the 2005 sessions, offering six credited hours of lecture on the subject of canine hip dysplasia, plus hands-on practice with the PennHIP radiographic procedure. Participants were able to observe and then perform the technique using both actual and model bone. Contrary to other X-ray techniques, the PennHIP method looks for signs of degenerative joint disease (DJD) by comparing laxity (looseness in the joint) among three different views: distraction, compression, and hip-extended (see next page). The distraction view indicates the true looseness of the hip and, therefore, the greater probability for the presence or development of DJD. The looser the joint is, the greater the wear on cartilage and bone as they

NEW RESEARCH FROM THE 2005
WESTERN VETERINARY CONFERENCE
YIELDS INSIGHT INTO COMMON CANINE
AILMENTS AND THEIR TREATMENTS.



GOLDEN RETRIEVERS/ISABELLE FRANCAIS FOR AKC

Young dogs and senior dogs alike stand (or lie) to benefit from new developments in all areas of veterinary medicine.

compress in unstable ways. That instability is much more damaging to the joint than the motion within a hip joint that fits together well. The joint is built to move in exact paths, and extra bumping and grinding causes tissue damage that, over time, causes inflammation and degeneration of the joint. Veterinarians and technicians came away from the training seminar with a video and manual for future reference.

It seems as though every few years a hot topic materializes, perhaps because of overwhelming research findings, rising popular interest, or an extraordinary global event. In the recent past, the veterinary community has had to respond to the phenomena of bioterrorism, the spread of zoonotic diseases, developments in immunology and vaccines, and changing pharmaceutical practices. All of these issues were addressed at the conference.

Diseases that Jump Species

While the scariest of emerging cross-species diseases do not involve transfer between canine and human, avian influenza from Asia and the Far East (which affects poultry and people), West Nile virus from Africa and the Middle East (infecting poultry, equines, and humans), Hendra virus from Australia (bats, horses, human), and Monkeypox (rodents, including prairie dogs, and humans) from Africa have all created epidemic, if not pandemic, threats. Cause for concern is not that these diseases exist, but that they have begun to spread with increasing frequency after being localized, in some cases, for centuries.

Corrie Brown, professor of Veterinary Pathology at the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine, highlighted four factors that she feels are particularly significant in contributing to the blurring of species boundaries for disease. She put the responsibility squarely on modern society, pointing to "increased movement of people and animals, changing environments, crossing species boundaries, and changes in lifestyles and animal husbandry." The problem with globalized travel is that people and animals don't travel in a vacuum; they bring with them what Brown referred to as "bodily ecosystems with all their microflora and potential pathogens." Likewise, the growth of suburbia into previously unpopulated areas has disturbed and destroyed natural animal habitats, prompting native species to cluster where people now live. Brown cited white-tailed deer and their accompanying spirochete-infected tick population as an example of "novel disease possibilities." Antibiotic-resistant bacteria are an example of the impact of misused



The distracted X-ray view (top) shows greater hip laxity than the compressed (middle) or hip-extended view (bottom).

X-RAYS COURTESY PENNHIP

medical technology that now affects both agriculture and aquaculture: organisms in farm animals and farmed fish present serious health problems to those who consume them or, by mistake, their waste products.

Despite these societal conditions, the zoonotic diseases common to people and their dogs have remained fairly stable in number, with well documented symptoms and treatments. Brown identified familiar bacterial and fungal zoonotic diseases found in the United States, including sarcoptic mange, caused by *Sarcoptes scabiei*; "walking dandruff," accompanying *cheyletiella* mites; ringworm, originating from *Microsporium canis*; sporotrichosis, caused by *Sporothrix schenckii*; toxoplasmosis, caused by *Toxoplasma gondii* (often arriving via cat feces, or on fresh pork, lamb, or venison); visceral larva migrans such as roundworm; and visceral leishmaniasis, derived from *Leishmania donovani*. Brown noted this last disease as an exception to the rule. "It was recently found in hunting dogs in numerous locations throughout the eastern United States, and its mode of entry and mechanism of spread are not yet understood," she reported.

On the viral and bacterial front, rabies has reemerged as a threat, Brown says, as a consequence of "recent trafficking of rabid wildlife, in particular raccoon, throughout the Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions." Leptospirosis, spread via urine from rats and already-infected animals, remains a public health concern, particularly in areas with contaminated water. Plague, normally seen in Western and Southwestern prairie dogs and ground squirrels, has begun to affect people and

their pets who vacation or settle in outlying rural areas. Brown also mentioned the less well known *Capnocytophaga canimorsus*. This normal bacterial flora found in the mouths of dogs and cats may cause serious health hazards for people who have had their spleens removed, contracted Hodgkin's disease, have the bleeding disorder idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, are taking steroids, or drink alcohol excessively.

A Vaccine for Rattlesnake Bites

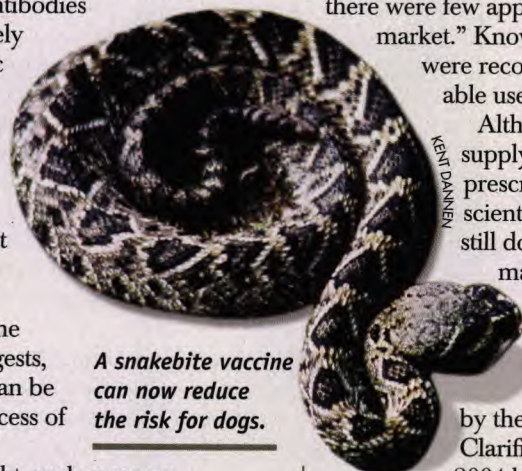
A threat of a different nature to dogs has finally been neutralized in the form of a rattlesnake/copperhead vaccine. Research results were reported at WVC by Dale Wallis, senior staff veterinarian of Red Rock Biologics, the biotechnical company that formulated the vaccine and tested it during a year of clinical use in California. Approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the new

Crotalus Atrox Toxoid (CAT) is named for the western diamondback rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*) whose venom provides the chemical basis for the vaccine formula.

Wallis found that "canine antibodies generated by this vaccine also recognize and bind several major proteins in many other North American rattlesnake venoms." According to Wallis, RRB's challenge studies have shown excellent protection against the red diamond, western, and western diamondback rattlesnakes; good protection against the pigmy and timber rattlesnakes, the copperhead and massasauga; fair coverage for the eastern diamondback rattlesnake; and likely coverage for the sidewinder.

For more than a hundred years, antivenin antidotes were the only available treatment, given after a snakebite had occurred, in order to reduce the damage of the venom. Wallis qualified the therapeutic usefulness of antivenin in terms of its timing and effectiveness. She said, "Prompt therapy (within four hours) will reverse many of the systemic effects of envenomation but has limited effect on local tissue injuries. Irreversible tissue destruction can occur within 20 minutes of a bite." In contrast, CAT eliminates those crucial time issues. An already inoculated animal will have developed antibodies now at the ready to immediately negate both local and systemic necrosis. A vaccinated dog gives veterinarians an optimal chance to treat toxicity and infection. The vaccine has a positive efficacy and safety record, but Wallis clarified that antivenin may still be a useful aid for a vaccinated dog, depending on the severity of the snakebite, because, as she suggests, "Vaccine-induced immunity can be overwhelmed by venom in excess of a dog's current titer."

Vaccination protocol is weight- and exposure-dependent: Dogs weighing less than 100 pounds should be given two doses, four weeks apart, and heavier dogs should receive three doses, each a month apart. Titer results indicate that immunity lasts approximately six months. Therefore, boosters may be recommended once or twice a year, based on when and how long a dog may



A snakebite vaccine can now reduce the risk for dogs.

be snake-exposed. In test situations, side effects were statistically negligible: Less than half of one percent presented site reactions. Out of almost 25,000 vaccine inoculations, only seven dogs reacted with either mild vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, or pain. Dogs as young as 6 months and as old as 11 years were inoculated, as were dogs as small as 2 pounds and as large as 175. At this point, CAT can be considered an effective aid against envenomation.

Veterinary Pharmacology

In the arsenal of medicinal tools available to veterinarians, drugs rank high. Modern-day pharmacological and pharmaceutical manufacturers have revolutionized veterinary medicine with their animal health programs, adhering to federal regulations and guidelines in the formulation, testing, marketing, and usage of chemical-based drugs. Mark Papich, Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at North Carolina State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, provided a contrasting picture of the past in which he noted that "historically, veterinarians have been known for preparing concoctions, mixtures, and remedies for their patients because there were few approved veterinary formulations on the market." Known as compounding, these procedures were recognized as an often necessary and justifiable use of available medications.

Although the large drug companies now supply veterinarians with virtually all prescriptive traditional/western-scientific/study-based drugs, compounding is still done by some veterinarians and pharmacists. The problem is that the practice of compounding from bulk chemical drugs was deemed illegal by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) and only partially redeemed in 1994 by the Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act (AMDUCA) and again in 2004 by the FDA's revised Compliance Policy Guide (CPG). In the former policy statement, veterinary drug compounding was approved on a case-by-case basis; in the latter, enforcement issues were questioned.

In reality, Papich pointed out, sometimes compounding is a necessity. He argued in its favor from the standpoint

NEW PRODUCTS

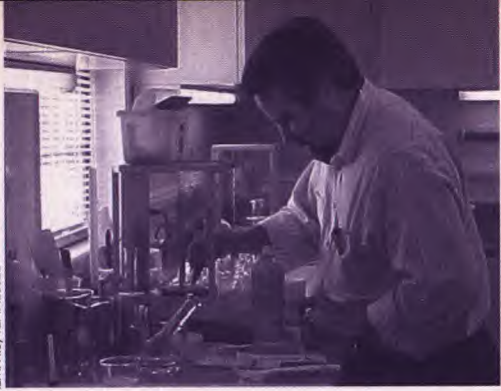
The bounty of information at this year's Western Veterinary Conference was not limited to academic sessions. An equally important aspect of the conference was the exhibition hall where, this year, 462 companies that manufacture, service, and supply veterinary hospitals and offices with medical, dental, and surgical equipment and instruments, clothing and caging, food and pharmaceuticals presented their wares. While the subject matter of many academic seminars can be fairly standard (i.e.,

treatment of diabetes mellitus, canine corneal degeneration and indolent ulcer, cytology of lymph nodes), the commercial exhibitors often come up with the more unique presentations.

This year's special interest exhibits proved to be among the most compelling, starting with the appearance of a cloned cat and her genetic donor. Genetic Savings Et Clone, a company claiming to be the world's only pet cloning institution, was promoting its Veterinary Partner Program, an outreach to veterinarians to become part of GSC's

professional cloning service for pet owners. Currently, pet owners pay a fee to have GSC cryogenically preserve and store DNA tissue from a pet for possible later cloning; a separate larger fee is paid for the cloning process. To date, GSC has produced three feline clones as part of its research program but expects to train its veterinary partners to perform future cloning.

Another cutting edge product of a more traditional nature was offered by Apothept. This accredited prescription veterinary pharmaceutical company has



Although a wide range of medicines are now available for veterinary purposes, not all medicinal needs can be filled. Vet schools are starting to offer training in veterinary pharmacology and compounding.

that “despite advances in new drugs available for animals, many unmet needs still remain.” In many instances, the reasons for compounding come down to ease of administering and dispensing drugs, often based on their palatability. Most conflicts with, and side-effects caused by, compounded drugs have been reported in birds, cats, and exotics rather than canines.

What became clear from the WVC sessions dealing with compounding issues was the need for a standardized veterinary pharmacy core curriculum in veterinary colleges. These sessions generated greater enthusiasm for board certification. Gigi Davidson, director of Clinical Pharmacy Services at North Carolina State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine, drew attention to the lack of current programs for students interested in a veterinary pharmaceutical specialty. She listed only two veterinary colleges with pharmacy residency programs (the University of California at Davis, and Auburn University), and two professional institutions that awarded diplomate status to professional pharmacists with established careers in teaching hospitals or community service (the International College of Veterinary

developed flavored medications for pets, a boon both to veterinarians who prescribe medicine for their patients and to pet owners who must successfully administer it. Apothept has focused on liquid forms of medication for two reasons: Pills are harder to get down and liquids absorb more quickly, hastening the recuperative process. Apothept accommodates traditional as well as herbal and holistic medications with a menu of 29 flavors, including grilled tuna, chicken potpie, red Angus beef, fish chowder, crispy bacon, peanut

butter, cheddar, roasted lamb, chopped liver, mother’s milk, banana bread, apple, cherry, lemon meringue, and celery.

On a more technical note, Merck & Co., Inc., in conjunction with Merial Limited, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Merck Veterinary Manual with its latest edition. This indispensable reference book provides clinical information on all specialty fields as they pertain to domesticated, laboratory, and exotic species. The ninth edition adds greater

Hospital Pharmacists, and the American College of Veterinary Pharmacy). The ICVHP has recognized 15 diplomates; the ACVP will offer its initial exam in October. At UC-Davis, one resident is about to graduate, and the Auburn program has had no residents since the mid-1990s.

Traditionally, vet schools offer research-oriented graduate programs in veterinary clinical pharmacology, not training programs in veterinary pharmacy. Davidson explains, “Only graduate pharmacists (not veterinarians)

can enter the two veterinary pharmacy residencies. Only graduate veterinarians (not pharmacists) can enter the veterinary pharmacology residencies.”

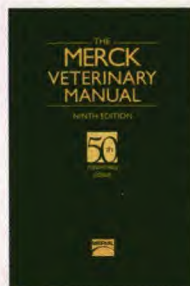
As Davidson asserts, “Because of the lack of standards for pharmacy compounding and lack of veterinary pharmacotherapy education, many pharmacists are providing compounds for veterinary patients without any knowledge of the complex physiological and regulatory issues surrounding drug therapy in animal patients,” unless they work cooperatively with veterinarians. Until the time when experienced licensed veterinary pharmacists gain the respect of both the giant pharmaceutical houses and federal government regulatory agencies, questions about compounded products will continue to be asked.

Our understanding of common canine ailments is constantly being refined, and with that knowledge, we can treat them more effectively. Whether with new drugs, vaccines, or preventive measures, veterinary professionals will continue to improve our dogs’ lives. 🐕

Leslie Crane Rugg is a regular contributor to animal magazines, including the AKC GAZETTE and AKC FAMILY DOG.

detail about emerging epidemic diseases such as West Nile virus and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (mad cow disease). Among the 35 new chapters are expanded facts about biosecurity, human-animal bond, pain management,

pharmacology for the practicing veterinarian, and poisoning/toxicology. As a public service provided by Merck and Merial, the eighth edition of the manual is available free online at www.merckvet-manual.com/mvm/index.jsp. ♦



Developing goals—for your campaign and your career—is essential to long-term success.

By Tracy Libby



THE BUILDING

“He’ll never be a show dog!”

Leon Goetz, one of the top owner-handlers in the country, recalls the skepticism expressed by friends as he worked to ready a young Australian Shepherd for the breed ring. When TJ arrived at Goetz’s Texas home at 5 months old, he had a very soft temperament, and for several days Goetz could hardly lay a hand on him. TJ refused to stand for an exam and would regularly hide his head between Goetz’s knees—refusing to allow anyone to touch him. While other owners and handlers chuckled and looked on with amusement, Goetz became more determined to succeed. “I loved this dog. We had an immediate bond,” says Goetz, “and I wasn’t about to give up so easily.” He had high hopes, and he immediately went to work developing a plan and setting a goal that would take TJ to the top. Goetz knew that turning his goal into reality would require more than wishful thinking. It would require a plan, a commitment, and an endless reserve of patience.

First Things First

Setting goals, say the experts, is one of the most important yet neglected aspects of any program, be it



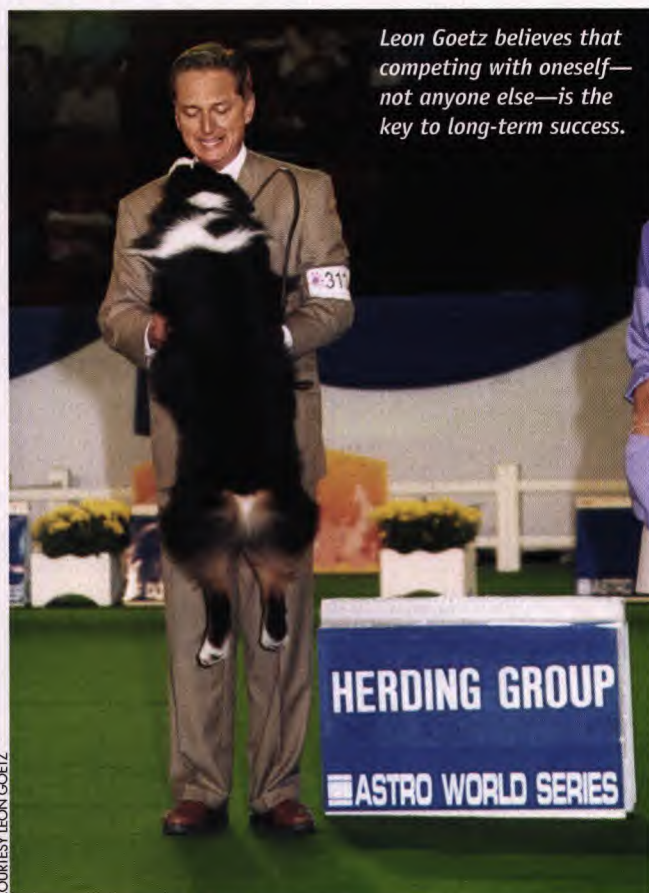
AHEAD ROAD



dog shows, sports training, or weight loss. Goals force us to prioritize; they provide incentive and motivation; they build confidence; and they provide a blueprint for success.

Regardless of whether your objective is a Companion Dog title or an Obedience Trial Championship, a class win at a local show or Best of Breed at a national specialty, defining your goals will maximize the probability of success. Setting goals isn't difficult, but certain guidelines help:

- Goals must be realistic.
- They must be specific.
- They must be developed for both the long and short term.
- You must make a sincere commitment to your plan.



Leon Goetz believes that competing with oneself—not anyone else—is the key to long-term success.

For Goetz, the journey to the top with TJ was filled with great experiences and memories that will always remain dear. "I was determined with TJ," says Goetz. "I didn't know any better and I refused to accept defeat or disappointment. TJ did not want to be a show dog but we had an immediate bond, and I learned early on that he would do anything for me if I asked him." Goetz and TJ spent countless hours at group and private handling classes with instructors going over him until he would stand for examination. Goetz attended seminars, read anything and everything that pertained to dogs and dog showing, worked hard at grooming and conditioning TJ, and sat ringside observing judges and handlers.

At the age of 6 months, TJ, also known as Ch. Silverwoods Texas Justice, won a 5-point major at the prestigious Houston Astro World Series shows and Goetz never looked back. Overall, TJ racked up an impressive career record, including number-one Australian Shepherd and number-seven herding dog in 2000; national specialty Best of Breed in 2001; Best of Breed at Westminster in 1999 and 2001; and a Group III win at Westminster in 2001. TJ remains the only Australian Shepherd to place in the Herding Group at Westminster. "Success always comes easier when we work first at competing with ourselves, always making an effort to improve grooming and handling skills, presentation, and conditioning," says Goetz. "Trying to beat someone else is never going to result in long-term success."

Assessing Potential

Experts say the hardest yet most important aspect of goal setting is learning to be realistic and honest when assessing the potential of your dog. Not all dogs are created equal, and some dogs simply do not have, and never will have, the genetic makeup to excel as competition dogs—regardless of how much you hope and pray or bargain with the devil. Some dogs are competitive at a class level but are not capable of asserting themselves and excelling at a group level. Some dogs are prone to injuries. Others are sight- or sound-sensitive and unable to cope with a chaotic show environment.

"Each time I buy a dog, I'm hoping he will be competitive and able to achieve an Obedience Trial

Goals should be realistic and fun. Set mini-goals that further your long-term plan.



BORDER COLLIE/MARY BLOOM ©AKC

any success plan because when you define your destination, you create the future in advance.”

To develop and achieve realistic campaign goals, Savoie says they must be realistic as well as exciting. “They should be just out of reach, but not out of sight, something within your grasp if you put the effort into it.” Savoie recommends establishing definite long-term goals (yearly and career goals) as well as short-term goals (daily, weekly, and monthly). A career goal, for example, might be designed to help you breed and show the best dogs you can over the course of your life, not for a given win on a given weekend. A long-term or yearly goal is your road map. It should pinpoint your final destination, such as competing at an invitational or international show. Short-term goals allow you to monitor your progress, provide motivational success, and should be designed to bring you incrementally closer to your long-term goals. “Think of them as places on the road map that tell you that you’re on the right route and that you’re getting closer to your destination,” says Savoie.

To move step by step toward your long-term goal, set up specific short-term goals. Do you have to forgo some luxuries so you can afford to train with the best professionals or attend seminars? Do you have to undertake a serious fitness program that includes weight training so you can perform at your best? Do you have to schedule daily training and grooming time to ensure you work with your dog regularly? Do you have to work within a budget to finance entry fees, travel expenses, and so forth?

Savoie also recommends writing down your long-term goal. “When you define your destination by writing it down,” says Savoie, “you really begin to design your future.”

For example, if your long-term goal for the year is to compete at a national specialty, write the date and location of the show on an index card: February 13, Madison Square Garden, New York City. Post the card on your tack box, refrigerator, bathroom mirror, car visor, or some other place where you’ll see it often. Even when you are not consciously reading the card, your mind will absorb it and eventually accept it as a mission.

The Rewards of It All

No one enters a show and says, “Gee, I hope I lose today.” Everyone wants to win, but when your goals are based solely on winning, you may be setting yourself up to fail. *Outcome goals* usually involve comparisons with somebody else, such as beating another handler or finishing number one in the country, according to sports psychologist Dr. Daniel Gould, director of the Institute for the Study of Youth Sports, Michigan State University. With these types of goals, you are vulnerable to elements beyond your control, such as judging, weather, injuries, excellence in other dogs and handlers, and just plain luck.

Performance goals are improvements based on your own performance, such as personal targets or skills to be acquired. For instance, you might set a goal of learning to

Championship,” says Bobbie Anderson, author of the book *Building Blocks for Performance*, and a 35-year fancier who has put more than 75 AKC titles on dogs, including seven OTCHs and 135 Highs in Trial. “But there will always be things

that are beyond my control.” As a

result, Anderson is constantly reassessing and reevaluating her goals for each dog. “My biggest goal is to train a dog to love working and showing and to get the best from the dog that he is capable of giving. If his best is a 188 in the obedience ring, I’m happy with that. If his best is a 200, I’ll strive for that.” Anderson adds that dogs are not machines, and you need to be realistic enough to know when to be satisfied with something less than you had hoped for.

Defining Your Destination

“If you fail to plan, you plan to fail,” says Jane Savoie, author of the sports psychology books *That Winning Feeling* and *It’s Not Just About the Ribbons*. “Goal setting is the key to



relax in the ring or to groom and present your dog in a more professional manner. Although you may, for whatever reason, fail to place in the ribbons, the compensation is that you can draw satisfaction and self-confidence from having reached a personal milestone.

Some experts recommend steering clear of outcome goals because they are based on winning and losing. Gould, however, says there is nothing wrong with wanting to finish number one in the country or win Best in Show, as long as those goals are kept in the right perspective. The key, he believes, is to be realistic in your expectations and to balance your performance and outcome goals. "You can't take a dog out of the backyard the day before a show and expect to win Best in Show at Westminster," says Gould. "You'll be setting yourself up to lose. You need to be aware of what goes into conditioning and training a canine athlete and winning at that level, and you need to make a commitment to that goal." He adds, "There isn't an Olympic competitor who said they didn't want to win a gold medal. We know world-class athletes set outcome goals and most corporations set some pretty specific financial goals. But people get into trouble when they focus only on their outcome goals. If you do set an outcome goal, spend the majority of your time taking care of business, which is your performance goal. If you can succeed there, it will lead to your outcome goal."

"I train to win," says Louise Fox Meredith, a 35-year veteran of the sport of dogs, a member of the 2003 AKC World Obedience Team, and three-time qualifier for the AKC National Obedience Invitational, "but I don't go in the ring to try to beat another handler. My goal is to train every exercise to the best of my ability and to get the most out of the dog that I can. I always strive for a perfect 200 score, but it seldom works out that way." Meredith adds that she constantly reevaluates and reassesses her personal goals—always striving to be a better handler and trainer. "Some of my dogs have been really difficult to train," she says. "Twister [Ch./NOC/OTCH Highland Limited Edition, UDX] was a very soft dog and not easy to train. I had one dog with horrible mouthing problems and that nearly kept us from getting an OTCH. But you persevere. You set a mental picture of exactly what you want to accomplish, and you constantly adjust your goals and your training for each dog, but you don't give up."

Commitment

Part of developing a plan is learning to deal with the setbacks that inevitably occur in the sport of dogs. There will always be bitches who don't conceive, show prospects who don't pan out, injuries, blown coats, people who

disappoint you, schedules that move more slowly than you like, and dips in your performance that look like the Grand Canyon. "The key is understanding that setbacks are normal," says Gould. "You need to be flexible. Five steps forward, three steps back, you're still two steps ahead."

Gould suggests looking at your goals as a stairway to success, each one being one inch high and representing a performance goal. As you proceed up the staircase toward your goal, you might experience setbacks that move you back a step. Gould recommends reassessing and reevaluating



Anderson's goal is to get the best that a dog is capable of giving, whatever that is.

BORDER COLLIE/COURTESY TRACY LIBBY

your goal, maybe even revising or lowering it. You might come up with alternate strategies that prevent you from dipping even lower. "Rather than moving up one inch at a time, move in quarter inches," says Gould. "Make baby goals. They will keep you moving forward, or even maintaining, but they also prevent you from quitting. Reassess, reevaluate, and don't panic."

If you want nothing more than to attend a few shows every year, put a championship on a dog, and have a bit of fun, your goals will differ from someone who has dedicated their life to achieving excellence in the sport. Your level of commitment, say the experts, is often the difference between success and failure.

Whatever your personal challenge, Gould suggests identifying exactly what it is you want, setting your plan and priorities, acquiring the necessary knowledge and skills, and doing whatever is required to realize your goal. If you can discipline yourself to do that, you will increase your chances for success. 🐾

Tracy Libby is the co-author of Building Blocks for Performance. She exhibits Australian Shepherds in obedience and conformation.

URBAN HOUNDS & Country Canines

26th
Annual
AKC Publications
Photo Contest



FIRST PLACE *color* **Carol A. Beuchat**
Mission Viejo, California

"I'm a biologist, and I was fortunate to spend several years in South Africa studying birds. I went out to a field behind my house in Cape Town, early one morning, with my South African-bred English Springer Spaniel and my camera, hoping to find something interesting to photograph. Just as the sun was coming up, the light illuminated the dew on the grass and the hot breath of my dog, and I captured this lovely moment."

No matter where we live—concrete jungle or sprawling farmland—dogs encourage us to explore our environs. With their whole bodies, they reveal aspects that might otherwise remain unnoticed—such as the endless joys of peoplewatching from a sixth story window, or a pleasantly slick surface to slide down, or the rapture of rolling in mulch. They peek out from their own perspective and open new vistas to us. They make any space their own, running, hunting, playing, snoozing, sniffing, and observing. It seems that they're at home no matter where they are, as long as they're with us. They make us feel at home, too.

We invited readers to submit photos of city dogs and country dogs in their element, and here we present a few, select images chosen from many wonderful submissions. We also asked the winners of our top prizes to tell us more about their dogs, or the stories behind the pictures, and here is what they told us. (For contest rules, see the July 2005 AKC GAZETTE or www.akc.org/pubs/photocontest.)



SECOND PLACE *color*
Carol Susan Detmer, DVM
Saint Paul, Minnesota

"I'm a large-animal veterinarian. I take a lot of photos of my patients and my own pets. I was taking care of my boss's cows and Australian Shepherds while he was on vacation. Tucker (here) isn't actually the best cattle dog, but I had him sit nicely for this photo. All of us at the clinic drive trucks, and in order to drive a truck, you have to have a dog. He's a truck dog."

THIRD PLACE *color*
Phillip DeZwarte
Portage, Michigan

"We had just gotten our Alaskan Malamute puppy, Strider—8 weeks old in this shot—a couple of days before. He would sit outside in the mulch, and he wasn't super coordinated yet, so he'd just fall over. Hammer, our 137-pound, 5-year-old male (not related) is so calm, and will let the little one do anything. I sat for 15 minutes, focused on Hammer, waiting for Strider to come into the shot. And then he fell over on him! Hammer didn't move."



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FIRST PLACE *black & white* **Debby Palleschi**
Saco, Maine

"We got our Smooth Fox Terrier, Mosi, at 8 weeks old, from a breeder in New Hampshire. I work in the Old Port area of Portland, and my co-workers bring their dogs to work, so they said I could bring my puppy. Right away, he started patrolling the office, and watching the tourists six floors down. My husband happened to be freelancing at the office the day this photo was taken, and he had his digital camera. So he caught Mosi at work, on patrol. Mosi still goes to work with me every day, two and a half years later, and he does his rounds. It's his beat."



SECOND PLACE
black & white

Ellen Perlson

Petaluma, California

“I have five Corgis, and I take them to a beautiful dog park here in Petaluma. These two are best buddies. The one on the left, UCDX Cezanne’s I’m Not Just Scribblin’, CDX, OA, OAJ, W-FDX, W-DD, HC, VC, VGC, is 8 years old. The other one is his nephew—Ch. Cezanne’s Red White ’n Boo. I just took them to the park one day and started snapping away.”

THIRD PLACE
black & white

Steve Bartlett

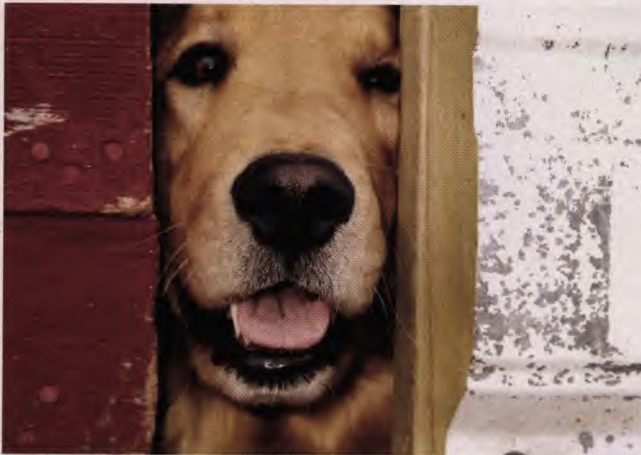
Covington, Washington

“Dixie was just a year old in this shot, taken a year ago. It was a beautiful, sunny morning in February, very cold, so she curled up in the sun like any reasonable dog would. Dixie’s a show Pointer, but she can relax with the best of them!”



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Samantha Stanke Alice, North Dakota
Golden Retriever



Christine Muenich River Falls, Wisconsin
Bernese Mountain Dog



Melissa Markis New York, New York
Pug



David A. Hughes Sandy Hook, Connecticut
English Setter

HONORABLE MENTION



Kim Salazar Salt Lake City, Utah
Boxer



Loisann B. Huntley Old Lyme, Connecticut
Shetland Sheepdog



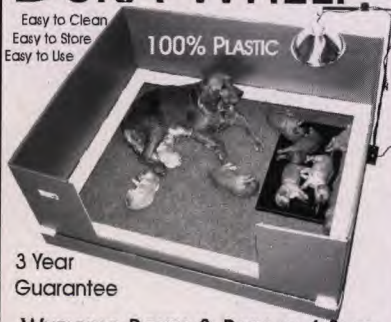
James L. Magowan Anchorage, Alaska
Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers



Gun Otter Lawrenceville, Georgia
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BREED COLUMNS

SPOTLIGHT: JAPANESE CHIN

Highlighting a breed column of general interest each month

My Retirees

I remember as a child visiting my grandparents in a lovely retirement community. Their home was surrounded by green grass, had fun activities available daily, and featured good, healthy food and soft, warm beds. I asked my parents if we could live next door, and was told it was only for the elderly. What a disappointment that was.

I have always believed that retired champions have a place of honor in my breeding program, and that they should always have a place in my home. But several years ago I spoke to a longtime friend who asked if she could finally adopt my 8-year-old champion male Chin. She had admired him for years, had followed his show career, and made a compelling case that he should come to her house for his retirement. Before I realized it, I was thinking back to my grandparents' wonderful retirement community.

Making a decision to place a retired champion was not easy: These are members of my family, they have lived with me since their birth. I agonized over it for weeks before relenting. My husband finally helped me see the right path. I asked him how I could possibly let a dog go to another home, a dog who loved me, depended on me, and whom I loved. He told me simply, "Because you know he will be cared for, treasured, loved, and happy." I wasn't convinced. "Yes, but how do I know he will adjust to someone new?" I asked. His answer was equally simple, "Because they know when they are loved, and you'll know it, too."

My friend and I worked out an arrangement for her to take my retired champion for two weeks. If all went well, I'd visit at the end of that time and see how they were getting along. We tried it, and to my surprise it worked better than well—it was great. When I arrived, my champion barely acknowledged me. He went running about, claiming people and things he had recently come



KENT DANNEN

to know. He was happy, and it was settled that he had a new home.

I've been fortunate in the years since then to have found two homes for my retired champions. Both families routinely remind me to keep them at the top of my list when a retired Chin becomes available. I've placed two in each of these homes over the years. The retirees currently range in age from 9 to 13, and all are in good health. The families feel honored that I have shared my beloved Chin with them, and I am honored that they have taken my dogs into their hearts.

It's never an easy decision, and certainly it isn't right for every breeder or every Chin, but when I visit my retirees I realize it has clearly been the right decision for each of them. To me, as a breeder, these families waiting for my retired champions are more precious than gold. To my retirees, these families are home. —Michele C. Blake, 1517 Promontory Ridge Way, Vista, CA 92081; chinlvr@aol.com ♦

BREED COLUMNS INDEX

TOY GROUP

- 46 AFFENPINSCHERS *
- 46 BRUSSELS GRIFFONS
- 47 CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIELS *
- 48 CHIHUAHUAS
- 48 CHINESE CRESTEDS
- 49 ENGLISH TOY SPANIELS
- 49 HAVANESE
- 50 ITALIAN GREYHOUNDS
- 51 MALTESE
- 51 MINIATURE PINSCHERS *
- 52 PAPILLONS
- 53 PEKINGESE
- 53 POMERANIANS

54 PUGS

- 55 SHIH TZU *
- 55 SILKY TERRIERS *
- 55 TOY FOX TERRIERS
- 56 YORKSHIRE TERRIERS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

- 57 AMERICAN ESKIMO DOGS
- 57 BICHONS FRISES
- 58 BOSTON TERRIERS
- 58 BULLDOGS
- 59 CHINESE SHAR-PEI
- 60 CHOW CHOWS
- 60 DALMATIANS
- 61 FINNISH SPITZ

62 FRENCH BULLDOGS *

- 62 KEESHONDEN
- 63 LHASA APSOS
- 64 LÖWCHEN
- 64 POODLES *
- 65 SCHIPPERKES
- 66 SHIBA INU
- 66 TIBETAN SPANIELS
- 67 TIBETAN TERRIERS

HERDING GROUP

- 68 AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOGS
- 68 AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERDS
- 69 BEARDED COLLIES *
- 69 BELGIAN MALINOIS

70 BELGIAN SHEEPDOGS

- 71 BORDER COLLIES
 - 72 BOUVIERS DES FLANDRES
 - 72 BRIARDS
 - 73 CANAAN DOGS
 - 73 COLLIES
 - 74 GERMAN SHEPHERD DOGS *
 - 75 OLD ENGLISH SHEEPDOGS
 - 75 POLISH LOWLAND SHEEPDOGS
 - 76 PULIK
 - 77 SHETLAND SHEEPDOGS
 - 77 CARDIGAN WELSH CORGIS *
 - 78 PEMBROKE WELSH CORGIS
- *General Interest



Affenpinschers

*CHANGES IN RESCUE

Some 13 years ago the Affenpinscher Club of America was involved in rescuing dogs from two puppy mill auctions. At the time it seemed like a good idea: Our breed was numerically small enough that it had the effect of temporarily depriving a couple of mills of breeding stock. In the years since then, we've been doing what we can where we can. Our rescue efforts have centered on the occasional dog who ended up in a shelter, or placing club members' dogs due to the owner's illness or death.

Times have changed. We still have a population of aging club members—myself included—who may need help placing dogs as their situation warrants, but thanks in part to televised dog shows, more people have become interested in our breed. People are impulse-buying Affenpinschers from pet shops and puppy mills. When they find out it's the wrong dog for them, these owners are apt to send the dog to a shelter, or the animal may be passed from home to home until he ends up in a shelter anyway.

Recently the Affenpinscher Club of America has spun off rescue into a separate entity called the Affenpinscher Club of America Rescue Trust. Contributions are tax deductible, as the trust is classified as a 501(c)(3) public charity. Donations may be made to the ACA Rescue Trust and sent to Terry Graham, 8386 Avalon Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32305. Contributions also can be made by credit card at our rescue web site,

www.affenrescue.org. (While you're online making a donation, check out the dogs who might be right for you.)

The effectiveness of our rescue program depends on how much money we can raise. Not only does the trust incur the expense of basic care—spay/neuter, vaccinations, teeth cleaning, heartworm tests, fecal exams—but they also have to pay to get dogs out of shelters. The trust totaled up the average expense per dog and came up with an adoption fee of \$350 to cover its costs. Gifts to the trust have been made in memory of friends and beloved dogs, and there's a silly fund-raising "dog show" with stuffed animals at our national specialty. The more money we raise and the more foster families we have for rescue, the more dogs we can save.

I'm banging the drum for funds and help because I believe in rescue. You see, I own a rescue dog. Buddy came to us as a result of one of those puppy mill auctions I mentioned in the beginning of this column. We fostered him and ended up keeping him after a veterinary specialist determined he was hydrocephalic and would probably live to be only 18 months old. He'll celebrate his 14th birthday this month, and we have never regretted taking him in. —*Sharon Irons Strempski, 2 Tuckaway Lane, Danbury, CT 06810* ♦



Brussels Griffons

ARTIFICIAL COLORING

Discussions on the various Brussels Griffon Internet lists often supply topics for this column. A case in point:

recent heated discussions about the use of artificial coloring, especially on the reds. The purists who breed for nice, rich coat color and hard texture deplore the enhancement of color by any means, while others mistakenly see the use of chalk or daffy as a necessary part of grooming.

The impact of artificial coloring is most apparent in the specials ring, where the dogs are often handled by pros who have come from the terrier ranks. Coat conditioning, flat-work, trimming, and presentation of the Brussels Griffon is similar to that of the terriers, and those who are talented enough to present in the terrier ring are often hired to handle our Griffons. Terrier grooming and presentation being what it is, the natural progression is to find similar techniques being used in the Griff ring. When asked about it, one professional handler remarked, "Would you go to the party without your makeup on?"

Yet many a Griff has been finished in his natural coat color, be it naturally light tan or Irish Setter red. Rather than pondering the various shadings allowed by the standard's simply stated "reddish-brown," judges who are knowledgeable in evaluating breeding stock recognize the importance of the overall dog. The question has been raised as to the role of the judge or the AKC rep in stopping the practice of artificial coloring. Judges are not forensic detectives, and the AKC is a breed registry, not the police. When applied skillfully, artificial color is not readily detectable. A judge who walks away from the table with red-stained hands has a decision to make regarding that particular dog, but it is unlikely that he is the only one in the ring with color enhancement—

ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the *AKC GAZETTE*. Each columnist is appointed by the breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard, helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's history and function, and focuses on breed-specific health issues. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to the fancy in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of their breed. The breed columns rotate by group so that each breed's column may appear four times a year. When a column is of general interest to all fanciers, the editor flags its title with an asterisk.

and there are *so many* more important qualities to consider.

The issue of color in the overall scheme of things was defined for me recently when I attended several breed seminars given over two days. Breed experts repeatedly admonished potential judges to consider the overall dog for type, soundness, balance, and conditioning, before weighing in the color factor. We were reminded time and again that color might be only a tie-breaker between two otherwise equal dogs. Even the experts in those breeds where color is part of the very essence of breed type, such as Dalmatians, insisted that rewarding properly placed spots or markings on an inferior specimen while ignoring soundness, balance, and conditioning is putting the cart before the horse.

Interviews with judges reveal that, in most cases, a judge who suspects color enhancement deducts an arbitrary number of the 12 points allowed for color in our standard. In such cases, the judge assumes the coat is not an acceptable color or it wouldn't need to be doctored. This seems reasonable, given that the only certain means of detection would be to dunk each specimen in a bathtub as they enter the ring! Judges are urged not to reward color enhancement, but also to consider breed type in the more difficult-to-attain areas of eye size, pout, layback of nose, front assemblies, and substance. —Anne K. Catterson, 17120 Cole Ave., Riverside, CA 92508; annecatt@aol.com ♦

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels



*THAT PROVERBIAL CORNER

Most experienced breeders have heard someone speaking of a well-known bloodline proclaim,



CAROL BEUCHAT

Affenpinscher

“Such a pity they have bred themselves into a corner!” More often than not the statement comes from a relative novice, their voice wavering between real concern and downright contempt, and relates to a rather successful kennel. Ever present is the temptation to reply, “Yes, and it’s a corner you would give your eye teeth to get into!”

That said, most breeders whose goal is to develop a recognizable family of typey, sound, and healthy dogs are going to hit a rough patch eventually. Their actions at this juncture are what separate the dedicated breeder from the dabbler who merely chases prizes.

A tight linebreeding program has consistently proven effective in setting type and reducing variation. Yet, even with the most auspicious beginnings, a fancier may reach her fifth or sixth generation and realize that something has gone awry. The dogs all look similar, with no glaring faults, but have lost a bit of what made the bloodline special in the first place.

Smart breeders are aware of a genetic drift toward the norm, rather than toward the extra and the ultra. They may plan a judicious

outcross, ever mindful that unwanted characteristics might accompany the traits they are trying to capture. Often, a more distant form of linebreeding may be employed, staying within the family while moving the common ancestor further back in the pedigree. Both methods may take several more generations to bear fruit, possibly requiring breeding the crosses back into the tightly bred part of the bloodline.

Real master breeders do not abandon their entire program each time a problem arises. “Throwing the baby out with the bathwater” is an over-worked cliché, but so many do just that when they are in a constant state of flux—spaying bitches, neutering dogs, importing, outcrossing, and always going in search of the greener grass. The result can be a stream of dogs bearing a

common kennel name but having no phenotypical nor genotypical features in common. Cavaliers do not have a huge gene pool to begin with. “Starting over” may be nothing more than heading down a different road with the same genetic material.

There was a point in time when I asked a friend, arguably one of the most famous breeders of our day, if she ever looked at her dogs and thought they were better 10 years ago. “Oh, most certainly,” she said (much to my relief). She went on to explain that one breeds through it, making adjustments and being brutally honest in selection. “Breeding the best to the best” is often misinterpreted. You breed your best to the best that is *compatible*, based on your experience with your own line.

Dashing to the top winner, even the top producer, with eyes on the prize and no forethought or study into what the entire genetic package may bring, is an invitation to mediocrity. By fluke, you will occasionally produce the really good one, but the goal of a real breeder is knowing that the good ones can reproduce themselves—or better! —John D. Gammon, 400 Idlewood Dr., Clarksville, TN 37043; Ravenrush@aol.com ♦



Chihuahuas

SPARRING PART TWO

“Bring your dogs to the center of the ring.” When a Chihuahua exhibitor hears this phrase, it usually means the judge has found exhibits who exemplify the standard physically, and she wishes to determine if they have the outgoing temperament that has always been a breed trademark. Sandra Goose-Allen once said, “The Chihuahua is the most terrier-like of the toy breeds; that is the quality that makes them stand out in the [Toy] group.” Mrs. Goose-Allen recently judged the Chihuahua Club of America national specialty in Chicago. In her Best of Variety rings, she brought out male and female pairs to spar. This variation on sparring points out something I have always believed: *Our females should be just as outgoing as our males!*

A Chihuahua puppy learns the sparring behavior from his mother at a very early age. When breeding a litter the temperament of both parents should be considered carefully, but it is the mother who controls the pups’ early experiences. When a mother plays with her puppies and ultimately weans them, she is actually teaching them to take care of themselves. The games she plays are not unlike martial arts *katas* or routines, which may be used in later life for defense, acquisition of food or territory, and interaction with other canines. These games also teach fundamental canine signals to the young ones—their basic education, so to speak. This period is the time for us to assess the puppies’ temperaments. It is also a time to nurture and assist the puppies in developing the characteristics so prized in the breed.

Chihuahua puppies should have interaction with humans from the earliest stages of life. By the time they open their eyes, the touch and smell of humans should be almost as natural as that of their mother. Once

the puppies begin to play and show their natural inquisitiveness, we can insert human interaction into their games. This interaction is not only preparation for a show career, it readies a pup for his role as a cherished family member. At this stage, I like to use cloth toys and squeakers to play with the pups. It accustoms them to paying attention to items that will be used later in lead training and free stacking, and to associate those items with pleasurable activity.

You need a sense of humor and a lot of patience to train young puppies. If you don’t enjoy it, the puppy won’t enjoy it. Do not make training sessions too long, as young puppies tire easily. Try to make each training session different; routine can get old fast. Simple grooming also should be incorporated into these early sessions. If at all possible, try to train puppies with each other and with older, more experienced dogs. This takes two or more people working together, but the benefits are well worth it. When working young puppies on the lead, let them play with each other. This is the beginning of controlled sparring, and the prelude to free stacking. In reality, free stacking is getting the dog to spar with you, the handler.

—Bruce E. Shirky, 11489 S. Foster Rd., San Antonio, TX 78223; bshirky@texas.net ♦



Chinese Cresteds

BREEDING FOR FUN AND ...?

Generally speaking, Chinese Cresteds are easy whelpers. They are also excellent mothers, and their demands on the human assistant are minimal. So when San Dee, a 5-year-old champion bitch, went into labor, she and I were both relaxed and anticipating the usual trouble-free experience.

The first baby arrived, a small, hairless boy, but instead of attending to him, San Dee left him dangling, still in the sack. Taking the baby out and quickly dealing with the cord, I

could tell he had inhaled fluid. I called for Nudie, my Crested midwife; between her licks, and my rubbings and swingings to clear his windpipe, we were finally able to “jump-start” this little one.

Waiting for the next one stretched on for four hours, and we headed for the vet. X-rays showed two more puppies high up in the horns of the uterus. San Dee has had two litters previously with no problems. But this time the chemical that causes the placentas to release from the uterus apparently didn’t kick in. For the first time in over 30 years of breeding dogs, I was facing a cesarean-section delivery.

San Dee was sedated, spread-eagle on the table, and the incision was made. One live male puppy was located and then a baby girl—live, but sluggish. I continued to rub life into the babies while my vet stitched mama back together. Forty minutes later, a slightly dazed mom, three puppies, and I were headed home.

For the next few days, mom nursed and cleaned the babies. Then, on day eight, I came in to check on things and found mom lying on the littlest boy. Even though I revived him, by bedtime he was gone. Strange behavior from a Crested mother—did she intuitively sense some unseen defect? I’ll always wonder.

On day 10, I returned to the vet with my charges. Even with an Elizabethan collar, San Dee’s stitches were disappearing and gaps in the incision were visible. I discovered I was the unlucky owner of a dog who was allergic to the suture material. The stitches were rejected by her body, and she had been only two stitches away from eviscerating.

San Dee was put back together with stainless steel wire—her belly looking like a robotic porcupine—and she was given antibiotics. The job of raising the two remaining babies was now mine. Feeding every two hours around the clock, keeping tiny bodies warm and clean, making sure they were “pottied” regularly—I gained a healthy respect for what mama dogs do. Two and a half weeks later, San Dee’s wire stitches were removed and she was reunited with her babies. The puppies

suckled, but there was no milk: A human was still required for feeding.

Now, at almost eight weeks, everyone is alive, healthy, and happy (although human mommy has aged a decade or two). Financially, this venture was a disaster—hundreds of dollars spent, and probably no income. One pup will go to the neighbors who helped feed so I could continue to teach school, and the other will probably stay with us since San Dee can't have any more babies. In addition, the whole experience was physically and emotionally exhausting. Why, then, would anyone go to all this trouble? The answer is two beautiful, healthy babies, happily playing in the whelping box. I don't need any more than this—they are priceless.

—Sue Klinckhardt-Gardner, 40607 20th St. W., Palmdale, CA 93551; Tamoshire@qnet.com ♦

English Toy Spaniels



IS THAT A KING CHARLES SPANIEL?

Time and time again I am asked whether my dogs are “King Charles Spaniels.” I explain that, while they are called by this name in other countries, they are not to be confused with the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. Then I'm usually asked to explain the difference.

I feel that, because of the confusion, fanciers of both breeds should have more than a passing acquaintance with the traits of each. Although I can quickly detail their physical differences, I have never lived with and trained a Cavalier, so I decided to ask the experts about the difference in temperaments. Several breeders who share their homes with both breeds were kind enough to answer my questions. Some prefer the English Toys (Charlies), others prefer the Cavalier.

Caroline Gurtner, of France, says, “Cavaliers are different than Charlies in temperament. They are

more open to people and can leave you anytime with no regret. Charlies don't, and are like cement; close to you, watching all your movements.” She feels that Charlies are smarter than Cavaliers. “They do think on all sorts of subjects and are very sensitive about their environment.”

Cheryl Lorditch, of Jovan Cavaliers and English Toy Spaniels, has a bit of a different spin on the matter. She feels that “Cavaliers really want to please their owners and are much more outgoing.”

Vanessa Weber, of Kenjockey Toy Spaniels, points out that “Cavaliers can be a relatively busy breed and are more likely to dash off and investigate something than a Charlie. The Charlie is a dog who is likely to choose his owner. He is devoted and charming to those he knows well. In fact, he is apt to be quite a clown and enjoy moments of silliness when he is comfortable and at play.”

As far as training goes, I think everyone agreed that the English Toy Spaniel is a bit more of a challenge. Ron Stone, of Maynorth Kennels, says, “Charlies can be much more like cats, very independent and extremely bright, but equally stubborn. Charlies are total individuals, and you need a softer approach and coaxing to get them to show to their best advantage.”

Dawn Glaser-Falk has trained both Cavaliers and Charlies to agility titles. She agrees that the English Toys can be a bit trickier. She feels that the Charlie learns faster but is much less forgiving. When asked which titles she was proudest to have obtained, she did not hesitate to say the English Toy titles.

As to the conformation ring, most people said the English Toy Spaniel was quite a bit

harder to lead break and was less enthusiastic about the table exam. I think judges should remember the difference in temperament when judging our breed. They may not always show for the judge, as they are so attached to their owners.

Although these two breeds share a similar history and are often confused with each other, they are considerably different in personality—and it behooves us all to remember it.

—Janelle Smedley, 9784 N. Robin Lane, Hayward, WI 54843; tsmeds@webtv.net ♦



Havanese

GOT SILK?

At times we find Havanese being put up at shows—and indeed finished—who, though they are “cute,” unfortunately lack one or more of the critical elements of breed



KENT DANNEN

Chinese Crested

TOY GROUP

type. We are still a fairly young breed in AKC terms, and are still working toward improving everyone's understanding of correct Havanese type.

To hasten that process along, the judges' education committee of the Havanese Club of America has put together a series of print ads patterned after the catchy "Got Milk" ad campaign. The ads attempt to be amusing, appealing, and memorable. Ideally we will reach judges, as well as breeders and exhibitors, in our ongoing efforts to ensure the type-ness of Havanese being shown and rewarded with placements.

Hopefully you have seen some of the ads in this campaign. Each month a different one focusing on a specific critical element of Havanese breed type appears in *Top Notch Toys* magazine. For any of you old enough to remember driving down the highway and seeing the old Burma Shave billboard ads, the concept of short bits of information presented sequentially is quite similar. We began

the campaign with an ad reading "A Havanese with a level topline is like a Dalmatian with no spots" to emphasize one of the most unique elements of breed type: the sloping topline. In many breeds a level topline is greatly desired, but a correct Havanese absolutely must have a slight rise from withers to rump. The ad was illustrated with a Havanese drawn in profile while gaitting.

The second in the series addresses the correct coat for our breed, as we still see a wide variation in the quality of the coats being presented in the ring for judging. The illustration shows a Havanese with a silky, flowing coat. The tagline reads, "Known since the 19th Century as the Havana Silk Dog ... with good reason!"

We sincerely hope this series of ads is both entertaining as well as informative to the fancy. The real payoff will come when we see improvement in the dogs being presented and placed in the ring. Stay tuned for several more ads in this campaign, as we continue to address other critical elements of breed type.

If your club would like to include one of our judges' ed breed study groups in conjunction with an upcoming show, full contact information is available through the HCA web site at www.havanese.org, or you may contact me directly at the e-mail address given below.

—Cherie Belcher, 901 Carriage Hill Blvd., Conroe, TX 77384;

cherie@tejanohavanese.com ♦

Italian Greyhounds



Teri Dickinson, DVM, and lure courser extraordinaire, is our guest columnist.

RUN LIKE THE WIND

Jump, scream, squirm. "We want our turn—*now!*" Three small dogs leap, twirl, and try to pull my arm

out of the socket. Sure it's annoying, but who can do anything but smile in the face of such unbridled enthusiasm? What's all the fuss about?

Lure coursing. There is nothing my IGs would rather do. To the uninitiated, it might look like a bunch of skinny dogs chasing a plastic bag, but to the hounds and handlers it's much more.

Lure coursing is the modern alternative to the age-old contest between sighthounds and their quarry. Sighthound breeds evolved as hunting companions to man; their function was to pursue game by sight. (Irish Wolfhounds are the largest members of the sighthound family; IGs are the smallest.) In an effort to preserve the historic function of hounds, lure coursing was created about 30 years ago. Two organizations currently sanction lure coursing events, the AKC and the American Sighthound Field Association (ASFA). Rules are similar in both organizations, and dogs can earn field championships and other advanced titles.

Every weekend, all over the country, sighthound aficionados gather in parks, soccer fields, and hay meadows to hold lure trials and watch the hounds do what they do best—run like the wind. The course is created by running a string around a series of pulleys staked into the ground. (Envision a fan belt, except this "belt" is usually about 700 yards long.) The lure, which the dogs think is the bunny, is usually a couple of white plastic bags. The bags are attached to the string, and a battery-powered motor pulls the string around the pulleys. The hounds run in groups of three, with other members of their breed. It's environmentally friendly, fun for people, and great exercise for the dogs. What could be better?

Training IGs for lure coursing isn't complicated: The dogs course by instinct. When a sighthound sees something moving, his innate desire is to chase it. This instinct is nurtured in young puppies by the owners, who play with the pups by pulling a bag on a string in front of them. As the puppies get older they are allowed to run short practice courses,



Italian Greyhound

LESLIE PARSONS

and then introduced to running a course with another dog. It's important that coursers respect the other "pack members," and don't try to play with or otherwise bother their fellow hounds.

Proper physical conditioning is a must for coursing hounds, as is a reliable recall at the end of the course. Many owners walk or jog with their hounds, or work them alongside a bicycle. Some hounds will condition themselves by running free in the yard or at a park. When the courser is at least a year old, is in good physical condition, and has demonstrated that he will run a full course with another hound, he is prepared to enter a lure trial.

Many IGs are extremely successful at lure coursing. Perhaps you have a future star! If you're interested in trying it out, you can find more information on the AKC web site, www.akc.org/events/lure_coursing/index.com, under "Events."—T.D.

Thank you, Teri! —Lilian S. Barber, 35648 Menifee Rd., Murrieta, CA 92563; iggylil@earthlink.net ♦



Maltese

KANSAS CITY, HERE WE COME!

The American Maltese Association invites you to attend our 40th national specialty show, September 8–11, at the beautiful Sheraton Overland Park Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas. Overland Park is located 20 miles south of downtown Kansas City, Missouri, in the "Heart of America." Besides offering warm and friendly Midwestern hospitality, sophisticated Kansas City usually impresses the first-time visitor with its beautiful neighborhoods, rich architecture, and more fountains than Rome!

Our national specialty kicks off with the "White Excitement Party," where longtime breeders and newcomers gather to share their excitement, knowledge, and experience with the

Maltese at a great party in the breed's honor! The next day will begin with a seminar on the AKC Canine Good Citizen® program. After the seminar, there will be CGC testing for any Maltese entered for that day. Entries can be obtained from show secretary Jim Parrish at www.parrishdogshows.com or by contacting me at the e-mail address given below. The deadline for entries sent to me is the same as the closing date of the specialty, Wednesday, August 10. The AKC web site, www.akc.org/events/cgc/training_testing.com, has information on training your dog for the CGC test.

The third day of the specialty will feature obedience and sweepstakes. Our judge for the obedience classes will be Dee Dee Rose. Judge for the AMA sweepstakes will be Mary Day. Mary has bred and shown Maltese for many years, and we are proud that she will be selecting our sweepstakes winners.

On Thursday evening the AMA will present its judges' breed study group seminar at 8:00 P.M. at the hotel. Information about this seminar can be obtained from me, in my capacity as judges' education chair, at the e-mail address below.

On Friday, the Junior Showmanship classes and conformation classes will be judged by Larry Abbott, president of the AMA and also a longtime breeder of Maltese. Larry will have the very enjoyable task of selecting winners from this year's competition, the best Maltese our breeders can present. You will not want to miss this!

Friday evening, after the competition is over, the American Maltese Association presents its awards banquet. This is a fun event, featuring the presentation of the year's awards as well as an exciting auction—always overflowing with wonderful Maltese items to bid on!

Registration forms for the AMA specialty will be available on the web site at www.americanmaltese.org. You must register to attend functions such as the White Excitement Party, the seminars, or the banquet. You need not register if you are just planning to come and watch the specialty on Saturday and Sunday. Whatever your connection to Maltese—breeder,

owner, exhibitor, fancier, or you just like little white dogs—everyone is welcome. Please do plan to join us for a great Maltese event in September!

—Vicki Abbott, 1060 Pecan Dr., McKinney, TX 75069; LVABBOTT@imagin.net ♦



Miniature Pinschers

*PREVENTING CANINE CANCER

I recently arranged to have two of my girls, ages 8 and 9, spayed. They had not been bred in years, and there was no sense in having them continue with their heat cycles. You know how it is: You mean to get them done and then—oops!—they're in season, so you wait until they're finished and then you're in the middle of show season or some other priority event, and the spaying just does not get done.

Well, this time it *did* get done. But rather than simple spays on older dogs, they both had to have full mastectomies, and little Robin had to have four breast glands removed. This was because very tiny, BB-sized cancerous tumors were found during the presurgical exam. Fortunately, the vet and vet tech doing the procedure were top-notch. The aftercare provided for my dogs was also impeccable, which was lucky as I did not get them home until the following week.

I plan on devoting a full column in a future issue to this type of tumor, with more veterinary terminology, but until that time I urge you to have your intact aging females examined by your vet. When you know you have bred your female for the last time, get that spay done immediately. My girls are bouncing back to their wonderful Min Pin selves, and hopefully will be with me for many years to come. I may have been fortunate in that all the tumors were removed, but they said Robin had "thousands." (They must be like little caviar eggs.) Perhaps there will be no recurrence in the remaining glands, and we will be

TOY GROUP

lucky again. Tumors manifest themselves differently, depending on the type. Not all females will be “pouchy” and not all tumors will be BB-sized. Waiting makes all the difference between a simple spay and more complex, hugely invasive, painful mammary gland removal.

We tell our pet puppy owners to spay or neuter right away to prevent mammary tumors or testicular cancer. Please, learn from my experience and take steps to prevent this from happening with one of your older female dogs, of any breed.

On another topic: Westminster 2005 was a thrilling event for exhibitors and spectators alike. This year’s Best of Breed winner in the Miniature Pinscher competition was Ch. Maraven Pop Secret, bred by Mary Ellen Hatfield and Sally Williams, owned by Roy and Jo Kusumoto, of Las Vegas, and expertly handled on the East Coast by Kelly Marquis. I was able to speak with Kelly before she dashed off to another show cluster, and her first comment was how much she is going to miss this little dog, who has been very much a buddy and companion animal for her these many months, and not just a dog she shows. Secret is the first Miniature Pinscher for the Kusumotos, but not the last. We all wish them much future success in the show ring and congratulations on their success at the Garden!

—Faith K. Gordon, 15 Elkhart St., Lackawanna, NY 14218; maud-minpin@aol.com ♦



Papillons

DEFINING THE SILKY COAT

There are many kinds of coats worn by Papillons, but there is only one type that is correct: a silky coat. As the breed standard describes it, the Papillon coat is “Abundant, long, fine, silky, flowing, straight with resilient quality, flat on back and sides of body.” How is *silky* defined?

Being a former clothing designer,

I can tell you what silky fabric is and compare it to the correct Papillon coat texture. There is nothing like silk fabric to wear and to touch. Silk feels cool on the body and crisp to the hand. But the true test of silk is how it appears to the eye when light hits it. Silk has a soft sheen with a subtle reflective quality, unlike any other type of fabric.

Note that having a silky coat does not mean one that is extremely soft or *overly* fine in texture. That type would be called “cottony.” It would mat profusely, and absorb dirt instead of repelling it. This incorrect soft coat, which mats into knots if left unbrushed, can be seen on all Papillons behind their ears. It does not have the weight, body, or sheen required to be considered silky. On an entire body, it would be too bushy, flyaway, cottony, dull, and lacking in substance.

A Papillon with too harsh a coat texture (due to a thicker hair shaft) could have an appearance more like a Pomeranian. When this incorrect harsh texture is combined with an overly abundant, profuse coat, the look is quite coarse. If the dog has an undercoat, the coat will have a tendency to stick out and have a wooly appearance. Sometimes such coats are “doctored up” with corrective shampoos, sprays, towel wraps, and creme rinses, but they will not have the correct flowing, silky appearance no matter how expert one’s grooming skills may be. Some handlers also will attempt to “sculpt” this type of coat texture. They “carve out” necks, “straighten” bad toplines, “shorten” long bodies, and even “shrink” big heads, giving smaller ears a larger appearance.

You will also see some adult



KENT DANNEN

Papillon

Papillons with a short, thick coat. This coat type may give the false impression of being correct because it has a shine, but it doesn’t have the length, nor does it lay as straight as the correct coat. Note that this type of coat should not be confused with a young puppy’s coat that is still growing.

One of the worst types of Papillon coats is the curly coat. Many breeders attribute this to the spaniel ancestry behind our breed. Some bitches develop different coat textures after a litter and may get waves in their coat then.

Aside from coat texture, there are two schools of thought on the correct length. Some breeders say you can’t have enough coat, others say there should be some amount of daylight seen under the chest. I feel the Papillon is a medium-coated breed and should not have a coat that drags to the ground. I also feel that you should breed for correct coat, rather than trying to create it with clever grooming techniques.

To purchase the Papillon Club of

America's illustrated *Standard of the Papillon*, by artist Nancy Pinke, contact Sandy Schumacher, 4308 14th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405 or at sandy.schumacher@mpls.frb.org.

—Roseann Fucillo, P.O. Box 163, Allendale, NJ 07401; cilloette@yahoo.com ♦



Pekingese

William H. Blair, longtime board member of the Pekingese Club of America and PCA Delegate to the AKC, is our guest columnist this month.

PCA PROCEDURES

For a number of years the Pekingese Club of America has functioned under regular operating procedures that, while carefully thought out, differ from those used by some other clubs. I believe readers should understand the rationale behind these procedures, and also some other rules I feel should be considered by our club.

Awards of Merit. So many clubs are giving Awards of Merit today as simply an opportunity to hand out another almost meaningless prize or ribbon. Originally, the Award of Merit was to be given only to a competing dog or bitch whom the judge would have been delighted to have given BOB if the actual BOB winner were not present that day. It is therefore wrong to deny an Award of Merit to the BOS just because he or she has already won an award. Also, the Award of Merit should never be given to another Special that is not really *extra special*.

Veteran Regular Classes. The original purpose of dog shows was to exhibit a specific breed so breeders could choose stud service and breeding stock to improve their next generations. Even with present scientific advances, it is not possible to breed a fixed bitch or altered dog. Yet it is now permitted—I personally believe very wrongfully—for independent specialty shows to give a regular Veterans class wherein fixed bitches and altered dogs may compete. Our parent club does

not present Veteran regular classes at its shows. Veterans who are whole may compete in the regular classes and in Specials. Of course, it is very nice to see some top-winning veterans of the past, and these can be seen in the Veterans Sweepstakes. (The Pekingese Club of America also does not hold a Parade of Champions, which some other parent clubs present in order to show the development of various lines.)

I recently completed 40 years on the PCA's board of directors, and 35 years as the club's Delegate to the AKC (although I expect to leave that post in the near future). I leave you with these thoughts:

No Term Limits for Secretary or Treasurer. It has been an unwritten law for the past couple of decades that the PCA president would not remain in office for more than three to five years. Yet it would be very wrong to limit the term of office for either the secretary or the treasurer. It takes at least a year or two for these officers to learn how to handle all their responsibilities, and until now they have been allowed to serve as long as they perform their duties.

Three-Year Term for AKC Delegate. There should be a provision for shortening the term *if* the Delegate does not attend the regular quarterly meetings. Generally, Delegates take at least two or three years to get to a point where they are able to properly represent their club. It takes that amount of time to become well enough known to other Delegates so as to be elected to a committee. If the Delegate is elected to an AKC Delegate committee, extend their term so they can complete their service on that committee.—W.H.B.

Thank you, Mr. Blair. —*Leonie Schultz*, 19726 Rainbow Ridge Rd., Bergton, VA 22811; edenhill7@aol.com ♦



Pomeranians

FRAGILITY IN POMS

I truly dislike some of the terms that are often used to describe Pomeranians, such as *delicate*, *fragile*, *frail*. Yet conscientious Pom

breeders realize the need to caution people about handling small dogs, especially puppies.

Pom puppies are adorable, feisty, and cute as heck. It's natural for people—especially children—to want to hold them. We don't believe in discouraging this, though I realize some Pom people won't allow children anywhere near puppies. Diplomacy is necessary, along with a few simple guidelines. We explain that Pom babies are tiny, jumpy, and very "sudden," and that a puppy can leap from a lap before you can even wink an eye. Tell the child nicely to sit on the floor and hold the puppy tight (but not *too* tight). Guide the youngster, and there should be no problems.

Adults usually consider this guidance necessary only for children. Not so, as a grown-up with a small puppy in his lap is often the worst offender, never even considering that the baby can take a flying leap out of the lap onto a hard floor! This is one of the horrors of breeding dogs: No matter how cautious we are, how dedicated in handling and caring for our Poms, accidents will happen. Our first emotional response when this occurs is to blame ourselves and begin the awful process of thinking, "If only I had done this" or "If only I had *not* done that" and, the worst, "*It's my own fault!*"

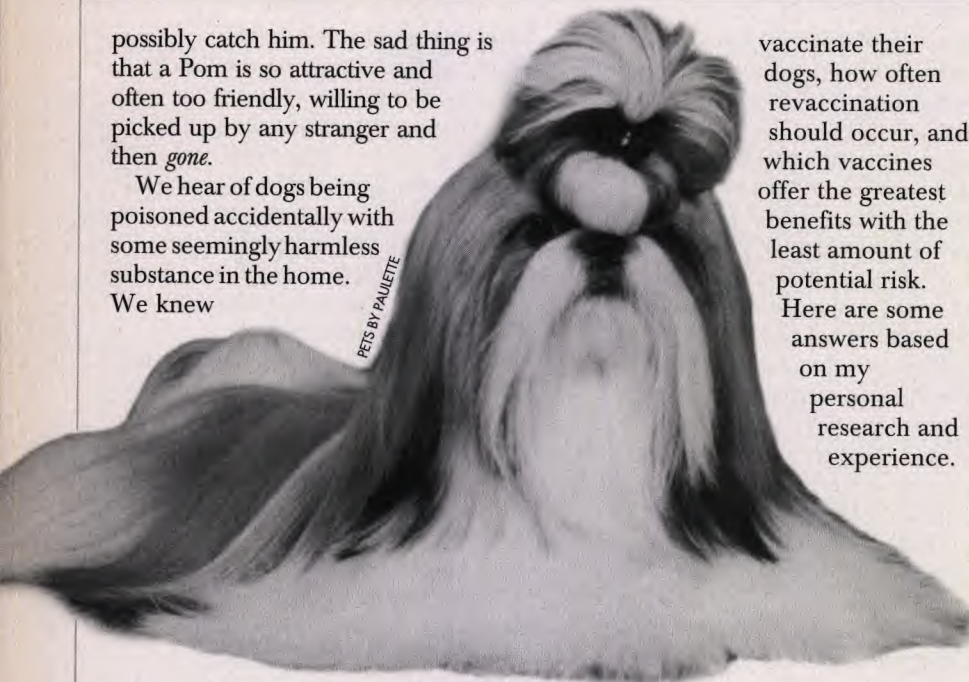
Just recently I was taking a little champion girl from her sleeping place (upper level of the stack cage in our bedroom) to go outside to exercise with another little Pom. This is a routine we follow several times every day. She wriggled very quickly from my arms and fell with an awful *thud* to our hardwood floor! She shrieked and was obviously in pain. X-rays at the vet's revealed a badly dislocated back leg. She was anesthetized briefly while the joint was moved back into position, and then wrapped heavily to keep the leg immobile for the next six weeks. She is fine now, and not uncomfortable, but do you think I wasn't in a heavy guilt depression?

Over the years we've heard of all sorts of accidents. Often a little Pom will dart outside when the door is opened for a visitor, disappearing before your very eyes, before you can

TOY GROUP

possibly catch him. The sad thing is that a Pom is so attractive and often too friendly, willing to be picked up by any stranger and then *gone*.

We hear of dogs being poisoned accidentally with some seemingly harmless substance in the home. We knew



Shih Tzu

of a little Pom who swallowed a penny. The owners didn't know it until it was too late: The zinc in the penny became toxic to the little dog, and they lost him. We've heard of dogs breaking off a bit of a seemingly harmless piece of rawhide and choking on it, or strangling on a piece of bait. Some of you old-timers may recall a very famous Pom breeder of long ago who was showing a dog when one of the show attendants accidentally dropped a clipboard on the little Pom, who died instantly at ringside. These horror stories are not intended to scare you but just to alert everyone to the dangers lurking everywhere.

Till next time, smile a lot, and mean it! —*Olga Baker, 4916 43rd St., Dickinson, TX 77539; jeribeth1@earthlink.net* ♦



Pugs

PUG HEALTH PART TWO

Pug owners want to know for which diseases they should

vaccinate their dogs, how often revaccination should occur, and which vaccines offer the greatest benefits with the least amount of potential risk.

Here are some answers based on my personal research and experience.

Are vaccinations safe for my Pug? Generally, yes. Vaccinations help prevent diseases that often may prove fatal or have severe, long-term side effects. With vaccines we have virtually wiped out the widespread outbreaks of diseases that were once common, such as parvovirus. Unfortunately, some negative reactions to vaccines can occur in Pugs, just as in people. The more common minor reactions include temporary swelling of the injection site, or a slight fever in young puppies. More moderate reactions in Pugs often include the development of hives, swelling of the muzzle, vomiting, or generalized itching. Pugs also seem to have an unusually high rate of severe reactions, including sudden respiratory difficulties and anaphylactic shock. But overall the proportionate number of these severe reactions is quite low.

Which vaccinations should my Pug have? That depends on the prevalence of various diseases in your area and the individual habits of your Pug. It is generally recognized that there are “core” vaccines and “noncore” vaccines, based on geographic location. In most areas core vaccines include distemper, adenovirus type 2 (CAV-2), and parvovirus. Some clinics may add

one or more other vaccines to the “core” list if a disease is highly prevalent in the area, such as Lyme disease in the northeastern United States. The noncore list might include vaccines such as that for bordatella, the primary disease agent in kennel cough. If your Pug is never boarded or exposed to large groups of other dogs, you might choose to skip this vaccine.

How often should my Pug be revaccinated? This is the hottest question in veterinary medicine, with no universally accepted answer. Vaccines are labeled for yearly revaccination because in most cases 12 months is the longest time that manufacturers have tested to prove the effectiveness of their products. Recent laboratory and field studies have indicated that perhaps vaccines last longer than 12 months in some dogs, but it is still unclear as to how long each specific vaccine lasts on a consistent basis. Studies are ongoing, and guidelines have been issued recently by a number of veterinary organizations. It is important to understand that these are *guidelines*, not recommendations or requirements. Consult your veterinarian for specific recommendations for your dogs.

What about leptospirosis and Pugs? The leptospirosis vaccine is thought to have the highest incidence of severe reactions, but leptospirosis can be a deadly disease. It is generally contracted through contact with infected body fluids, and is prevalent in wild canine populations such as coyote and fox. The illness could be transmitted if your Pug should come into contact with either the urine of an infected animal or wetland areas, such as ponds or streams, where an infected animal has urinated.

Whether or not to vaccinate can be decided by asking two questions: Is the disease prevalent in your area, and does your Pug frequent any area where exposure is a concern? As always, vaccination decisions should be made by discussing your Pug's individual habits with your veterinarian.

—*Brenda Belmonte, 815 Jenkisson Ave., Lake Bluff, IL 60044; Brenichpugs@sbcglobal.net* ♦



Shih Tzu

*REVERSE SNEEZING

One topic that crops up frequently in conversations with novice Shih Tzu owners is reverse sneezing, which is fairly common in Shih Tzu and other short-faced breeds.

The first time you experience an episode, it can be very frightening. The dog begins honking loudly, or snorting and gagging, and appears to be choking or suffering from an asthma attack. In fact, the dog is making these noises because he is violently pulling air *in* through his nose—the reverse of what takes place with a sneeze.

No one is quite sure what causes reverse sneezing, although it is probably due to a temporary spasm of the throat muscles, possibly complicated by an accumulation of mucus or a slightly elongated soft palate. Some people believe that overweight and excitement can aggravate reverse sneezing.

Reverse sneezing causes no ill effects, apart from distress to the owner. The dog behaves perfectly normally before and after an episode. Although a bout of reverse sneezing will eventually end with or without your intervention, you may be able to cut it short by placing your finger over your dog's nostrils, forcing him to breathe through his mouth.

If your dog often experiences episodes of reverse sneezing, or if episodes occur with increasing frequency and the dog is failing to thrive, you may want to have him checked by your veterinarian. In rare cases, similar symptoms can be caused by more serious breathing problems such as stenotic nares (narrowed or "pinched" nostrils) or a collapsing trachea (which involve the collapse of normally rigid nasal or tracheal cartilage), or by infected or enlarged tonsils.

Generally, however, reverse sneezing is as innocuous as the "puppy sniffles" found in many

Shih Tzu during the teething phase.

—Jo Ann White, 5136 36th St. W,
Bradenton, FL 34210;
joawhite@juno.com. ♦



Silky Terriers

*TEMPERAMENT AND SOCIALIZATION

The best way to breed good-tempered dogs is to start with two dogs with good temperaments. What happens to puppies with temperament problems? They do not make good show dogs or breeding animals—or, more importantly, good pets—and are not good advertisements for the breed. If placed very carefully with people who can handle their "quirks," they can have good lives, but they also can be the ones who end up requiring multiple placements.

After breeding for temperament, puppies still require careful socialization. From the time they are minutes old, puppies should be handled carefully and often by their immediate human families. I do *not* recommend the handling of tiny puppies by casual friends. That could be stressful for mom, and you don't know where people have been or what they may have been exposed to. (We would never want to expose new puppies to the chance of disease.) Most of the time mom and babies can be handled and played with at the same time, and mom will let her babies know how much she enjoys interacting with her humans. This should continue as they grow.

Some breeders are no longer weaning their puppies; they are leaving that up to mom. I have seen puppies still with their mom and siblings at 4–5 months old—usually not all day, but at least at night and at play times. (As in humans, some are ready to break the ties sooner than others.) The puppies do not really nurse very much; often they will try and mom will let them know if she will not allow it. This method seems to work very well, as long as you do not want to place the puppies too soon. (Adult teeth don't

usually come in before 5 months old, so final decisions about keeping or placing puppies can't be made until then anyway.) Being kept with mom and the rest of the litter helps teach puppies how to interact in dog society, which may help them learn to interact well in human society. The lady who got me thinking about this said puppies do seem to be better companion dogs with this weaning method.

After the puppies are pretty well weaned, the puppy pen should be moved to the busiest area of the house, where the pups can see strangers come and go, where they see the TV, hear the radio, see other pets in the home, and where you can drop your hand in and touch them as you walk past. In good weather they can move outside with mom, and then on to car trips, visits to dog shows, and wherever their lives will take them.

In the end, a dog with a good temperament is usually descended from dogs with good temperaments, has been handled often from birth by his human family, has been tutored by his dog family for as long as possible, and has been exposed to a large variety of experiences, sounds, and people. It requires research, time, energy—and love. The results can be wonderful. —Vicki Bratton, 720 A Street SE, Auburn, WA 98002;
Tumbelle@earthlink.net ♦



Toy Fox Terriers

TFT MOVEMENT PART TWO

The Toy Fox Terrier in movement should be a picture of effortless grace. He should never leave the impression that moving about is a struggle, and there should be no jarring motion. Bouncing motion at the withers indicates excess effort being expended.

The nicely angulated TFT will appear well coordinated in respect to front and rear movement. When the front reaches as directed by the standard, the rear quarter must drive from behind. That is, the properly

constructed TFT rear quarter is able to reach well under the dog, push off, and follow through, extending the leg rearward so that the area from hock to foot extends backward beyond the vertical. This requires a properly angulated rear quarter whose upper thigh is well developed with pliable muscle. There should be good length of femur and equally well-muscled second thigh to create a well-bent stifle joint. The hock should be short, with the point of the hock just clear of a vertical line drawn down through the buttocks.

When the TFT is constructed in this manner the front and rear angulation are able to work in tandem, and movement is effortless and light. The TFT is a relatively light-bodied dog, and his movement should reflect that.

Evaluating movement also requires that action be observed as the TFT moves away and returns on the down-and-back. With the type of construction previously described, the TFT should move away with rear legs able to reach well forward and back. There should be just enough lift of the rear paw off the ground to show the pads as he moves away. There should be little or no deviation of the hocks from their straight line of advance.

As speed increases there can be a very slight inclination of the hindquarter toward the centerline. Do note, however, that the inclination is slight—if it occurs at all. The TFT *does not* single track in motion.

On the return, the straight front legs of the well-constructed TFT reach directly forward without excessive lift to the forearm. There should be full extension of the entire foreleg, but the paw should not be raised to any excessive degree above ground level. Excessive lift of the foreleg is “goose-stepping,” as described in the March TFT column.

Controversy has always existed as to which view of movement is more important in evaluating soundness: profile, or down-and-back. I feel certain that nothing said here will resolve the difference of opinion but, having observed TFT movement for a considerable number of years, I have arrived at some conclusions as to which is of greater consequence in our breed.

If our point in judging and

breeding is to improve a breed, we must place greater emphasis on characteristics that are lacking. Shoulder angulation, length of upper arm, and well-defined upper and lower thighs of the rear quarter are areas where the TFT as a whole could improve. The straighter-angled TFT normally has little deviation from the straight line when he comes and goes. It is in profile movement that the dog lacking in angulation fails. There is less reach in front and considerably less follow-through of the hindquarter behind. Movement is less effortless, and the ground covered with each step is reduced. At this point in the breed's development, attention given to the construction that allows good reach and drive—i.e., sufficient angulation—should be paramount in overall evaluation of movement.

—Richard G. Beauchamp, 1241 Knollwood Dr., PMB 4, Cambria, CA 93428; tsar.r@thegrid.net ♦

Yorkshire Terriers



A STANDARD OF MOVEMENT

Some of the members of the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America feel our standard needs to be updated—not changed, but updated. It is hard for me, as a veteran with 25 years in the breed, to understand what is actually missing. In my humble opinion, our charter members devised a good standard. There are perhaps a few “housekeeping” word changes that could be addressed—but the real issue is that of *movement*.

Our standard does not describe movement. Is it necessary to do so, if that movement does not deviate from the norm? Do new judges and new breeders still study *The Dog In Action* or *Dogsteps*? I have always thought that a standard was the pattern we use to describe type, and structure as related to that type. Doesn't the description of the breed explain how it should move? Breeders and judges

need a good general knowledge of structure and movement, and how they apply to each particular breed in both form and function—form coming from the structure, and function coming from the history of that breed.

The standard gives an excellent description of the Yorkshire Terrier's body and structure. In the first paragraph, under general appearance, it says: *The body is neat, compact and well proportioned. The dog's high head carriage and confident manner should give the appearance of vigor and self importance.* Under the topic of body, it says: *Well proportioned and very compact. The back is rather short, the back line level, with height at shoulder the same as at the rump.* Then, under “Legs and Feet,” the standard says: *Forelegs should be straight, elbows neither in nor out. Hind legs straight when viewed from behind, but stifles are moderately bent when viewed from the sides.*

If we look at the picture of this dog in our mind's eye, can we not picture the movement of the dog? We have a confident toy terrier with a high head carriage (nicely laid back shoulders). This dog is very compact, not slight of body in any way (mentioned twice in the standard). The back is rather short. The legs are straight from the front and the rear and the angulation is moderate. It is actually a very good picture of a small compact terrier who should move as he is described.

Whenever I present a judges' seminar for the Yorkshire Terrier, I always say that no one wants to breed an unsound dog, and no judge wants to put one up for a win. Assuming that everyone knows structure and movement, we discuss type and what makes a Yorkshire Terrier a Yorkshire Terrier.

Soon our board of directors, and ultimately the members of the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, will embark on the task of possibly updating the standard to include movement. Will this help breeders to breed better dogs, or judges to choose better specimens? We'll see. I'm thinking a brief paragraph about movement in the standard isn't going to teach anyone much. Hopefully, it will remind us to go back to the basics of movement. —Janet Jackson, 47719 Avocado Ct., Indio, CA 92201; steppinup@dc.rr.com ♦

NON-SPORTING GROUP

American Eskimo Dogs



Guest columnist Linda Lea has owned Eskies since 1982—all of them rescues. She is a member of the American Eskimo Dog Club of America, and has been showing Eskies for others for the past five years.

A DOG JUST TO LOVE

A lot of folks have the misconception that a rescue dog is one who has been found in an alley somewhere, unloved and untrained—and sometimes that's true. It's a cruel fact of life that all too often dogs are abused, lost, or abandoned. But there's another type of rescue dog, one whose caretaker, for whatever reason, couldn't keep Fido.

I have been privileged to own five rescues—all American Eskimo

Dogs—four of whom are still with me. They have come to me from several different sources, and I wouldn't trade any one of them for all the gold in the world. My first Eskie came from the local humane society. She was not at all what I went there to get—but she was exactly what I needed. I learned so much from Tina about patience and unconditional love. Any good “mom” traits that I have come from her. Lady was next—a precious little ball of fur who had been abused and had a broken leg. Because of her background and her subsequent shyness, I had to learn to speak “dog”; I can't tell you how handy that ability has been. My next three all came from their breeders, who had to place these dogs for a number of different reasons and who were extremely careful about the homes the dogs went to.

Two of the truly wonderful things about rescued American Eskimo Dog are their intelligence and their never-ending desire to please.

There is always a transition period with a rescue of any breed, but when the rescue is an American Eskimo Dog that transition period is generally much shorter. Eskies have a knack for quickly picking up on the traits of their new caretakers—so quickly, in fact, that sometimes it's almost spooky.

I always recommend obedience training as a first step when adopting a rescue. It not only helps with the bonding process, it also gives both dog and caregiver a chance to get to know one another. With an Eskie, it quickly becomes a case of “Who's teaching whom?” They are patient with us, though, and will help us to learn the task at hand.

I have counseled many folks about the fact that the American Eskimo Dog is *not* a dog

who can be ignored. It is not a breed that can be relegated to the backyard. This is a breed that *must* be with his family, in the house. If that's not what you have in mind, then the American Eskimo Dog is not for you. But if you want a four-legged bundle of love and energy who will always have a smile on his face, will always be thrilled when you walk in the door, and will be your most loving companion for as long as he lives—well, the American Eskimo Dog may be just the right breed for you.—L.L.

Thank you, Linda. —Nancy J. Hofman, 13305 Silverbow Ave., Norwalk, CA 90650; aecountry@msn.com ♦



Bichons Frises

BICHON SPIRIT

Those of us involved in rescue have seen it over and over: You just can't keep a Bichon down. Recently I rescued two Bichons, and I was reminded—after 11 years of caring for Bichon, and more urine in my house than I care to admit—why I still love this breed.

These two Bichons were turned in to a local animal shelter by their owner. Both dogs had bad teeth, which is not uncommon among Bichons (especially rescued ones). Their coats were dirty, matted messes. Their toenails were so long it was uncomfortable for them to walk. The male, Clyde, about 8 years old, had ears so full of infection that the discharge had filled the ear canal and spread to the ear flap. The female, Bonnie, about 6 years old, had a bladder filled with stones—they were palpable—and a raging urinary tract infection, with urine scald on her backside and down both legs. These dogs had obviously been neglected for some time. As I drove them from the shelter to the vet, I had to open the car windows because they smelled so bad.

Clyde peacefully accepted being



American Eskimo Dog

NON-SPORTING GROUP

crated, but Bonnie barked the entire trip. The only other noise in the car was the steady *thump, thump, thump* of a pair of constantly wagging tails beating a steady rhythm against the sides of the crates.

Inside the vet's office, the tail-wagging continued. Bonnie and Clyde were eager to meet the other dogs in the waiting area. They welcomed the vet and dutifully accepted all the prodding and poking, which had to be painful—especially in Bonnie's case. That was when it dawned on me that what I really love about this breed is their spirit. The optimism, even cheerfulness, in the face of real pain and suffering—that's what makes this breed so resilient, even the poorly bred, neglected ones. You just can't keep a Bichon down! Ask anyone who is involved in Bichon rescue: With time, patience, and a little TLC, that sunny disposition usually will reappear. Better days are ahead—Bichons just *know* it. And they're right.

A rescued Bichon can be a good choice for someone who has decided a Bichon is for them. Puppies require a lot of time and work, but rescued Bichons are often young adults who have settled down a little—and some are even housebroken! Since Bichons commonly live 14 to 16 years, and often longer, a young adult will have a lot of life left. Bichons are easy to rehome; it is often said that a Bichon's best friend is the next person he meets. For more information on Bichon rescue, please visit www.bichon.org or www.bichonrescue.org.

—Nancy Muklewicz, 99 Shelley Ct., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007; bichon.nancy@att.net ♦



Boston Terriers

Trudy Sample, this month's guest columnist, is a past president of the Boston Terrier Club of America. She was one of the

founders of the BTCA health committee and is its former chair.

A HISTORY OF HEALTH TESTING

For over 100 years, breeders of Boston Terriers bred mainly to develop breed type. There was a high premium put on the appearance of the Boston Terrier (as there still is today). In 1994, *Time* magazine published a scathing criticism of dog breeding in a cover story called "A Terrible Beauty," accusing the dog fancy of breeding for the show ring with total disregard for the health of the dogs they produced. The AKC heard the criticism loud and clear, and the next year established the Canine Health Foundation to help improve the health of purebred dogs. Four years later, in 1999, the Boston Terrier Club of America formed its health committee, ushering in a new century of improving health for our Boston Terriers.

In 2000, the BTCA health committee initiated a comprehensive survey to ascertain which health problems were most prevalent in Bostons. We tried to determine what we could do to reduce the frequency of the most commonly reported problems, and how we might decrease their incidence in the breed. Three health problems were selected as very significant, and each was studied as to how debilitating the problem was to a dog, how difficult it was to correct, and whether we could hope to reduce the incidence of the problem through physical examination, genetic testing, or education. The health problems we selected were juvenile cataracts, deafness, and patellar luxation. Initially, these were dealt with by urging CERF testing for eyes, BAER testing for hearing, and patella examinations by a breeder's personal veterinarian.

Next, the health committee devised a four-pronged approach to reducing these health problems:

1. The BTCA board founded a charitable trust so members can make tax-free contributions for Boston Terrier health research.
2. The health committee initiated an education program to make our

breeders aware of what they could do to reduce problems in their lines.

3. A certification program, administered through the health committee, was established to recognize those breeders who are testing for the three targeted health problems in their lines, and whose dogs are regularly examined to certify the absence of these problems.

4. Our web site began emphasizing education and encouraging breeders to take action to reduce these health problems.

Health testing and education remain the cornerstones of our program. Each year more and more breeders are participating in health testing. Words like "BAER" and "CERF" fall easily from the lips of our breeders as they test their breeding stock and their puppies. We feel that we are making tremendous strides in the health of our Boston Terriers. Puppy buyers are becoming more sophisticated, and are asking for puppies who have been health tested. We know that selecting each generation for dogs free of genetic defects will yield big dividends to breeders and to puppy buyers in future years.—T.S.

Thank you, Trudy. —Ellen Dresselhuus, 4111 York Ave. N., Robbinsdale, MN 55422; LNDtoo@comcast.net ♦



Bulldogs

HALL OF FAME

Over time, a few people have stood out among the crowd for their years of contributions to our breed and to our parent club. In 1981 the Bulldog Club of America voted to honor such people when the first two inductees, Dr. Edward Vardon and Dr. Tom Williams, were named to the BCA Hall of Fame in recognition of their many contributions to the breed. Since then, others have been added to the list of honorees—all of them posthumously. This year the Bulldog Club of America voted to honor an

individual still living when they chose to induct Marie Andree into the Hall of Fame for her many years of service and dedication to the club.

Marie Andree started in Bulldogs in the late 1930s. Her first litter was in 1938. She is in the Bulldog Club of America Breeder Hall of Fame, having bred 13 champions. She has been an active participant in Bulldogs and in the club for many years. Marie has been a governor, a councilor, and an AKC judge, but her primary interest is in education, an area in which she has worked tirelessly through the years. In 2000, she once again headed the BCA education committee.

The entire Bulldog Club of America salutes Marie Andree, and thanks her for all the many services rendered in our behalf and in behalf of our breed.

Congratulations to Cody Sickle on being named the Non-Sporting Breeder of the Year by the AKC.

Cody has shown and bred Bulldogs for four decades and to date he has bred 101 champions. The recipients of the AKC's Breeder of the Year awards are chosen for their years of dedication to their breed. Breeders are the backbone of our sport: We in Bulldogs are proud that one of our own has won this prestigious award.

Before closing this month's column I want to wish Jean Hetherington a happy retirement from the AKC. I understand she will be on the road again, showing dogs on weekends while Bob stays home with the animals.

Remember that this year we will once again be nominating officers for the Bulldog Club of America. Nominations should always be taken seriously. Accepting a nomination is a serious commitment, and is not for the self-interested.

—Amelia Averill, 8 Willow Brook Rd., Hillsdale, NJ 07642; BoatswainA@aol.com ♦

Chinese Shar-Pei



ANOTHER CHANCE

Amyloidosis can attack any major organ in humans or in canines, but it is usually the kidneys that fall prey to this disease in Shar-Pei. We don't know what triggers it, but amyloid deposits are laid down in the kidneys and eventually compromise renal function.

Amyloidosis is thought to occur in those with compromised immune systems, and to date there is no cure and no definitive diagnostic test.

To that end, the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America established the CSPCA Charitable Trust (later renamed the Chinese Shar-Pei Charitable Trust) to fund research

for amyloidosis, familial Shar-Pei fever (FSF), and other health problems in the breed. The trust was established as a separate entity from the parent club. In April 1995, Lee Arnold was appointed by the CSPCA as chairman of the trust, where he has served for the past 10 years.

Fund-raising efforts among Shar-Pei owners quickly collected over \$25,000, which was matched by one generous family, and the total was matched by the AKC Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF). This allowed us to grant money to Dr. Gary Johnson of the University of Missouri for research. Earlier, a grant had been given to Cornell University by the Committee to Eliminate Amyloidosis. Sadly, neither research grant resulted in the isolation of DNA markers for amyloidosis or a test to diagnose the disease. Now, perhaps we have a second chance.

It was announced by the CSP Charitable Trust in its annual report that we had applied for a research grant for FSF and amyloidosis through the AKC Canine Health Foundation. Dr. Anne Avery, an immunologist at the University of Colorado, and Dr. Dan Kastner, at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), had submitted an abstract and proposal to the grants committee of the AKC/CHF. Action on this application was taken out of cycle through the efforts of Lee Arnold, and the grant, for a two-year study, was approved in March. The study will cost \$80,000, half of which will be matching funds from the AKC/CHF. The Trust will contribute \$40,000.

The purpose of the research is (1) to develop a clinically useful biological test that will identify affected dogs and puppies, and then monitor them on therapy, (2) to characterize some of the mediators of inflammation that cause the clinical signs, and (3) to characterize



Chinese Shar-Pei

GRACE FRITZ

NON-SPORTING GROUP

immune system disorders that have been described in Shar-Pei to determine if these disorders are related to familial Shar-Pei fever.

Simultaneous with these studies, a search is being carried out at the NIH for the gene involved in the disorder, which can be used to identify both carriers and affected Shar-Pei early in life.

We have great hope that with this second chance, the medical research community will find the answers we are looking for. It could benefit not only our dogs, but their human counterparts who suffer from amyloidosis as well. "Man's best friend" once again may prove to be just that! —Jo Ann Redditt, 3510 Washington Ct., Alexandria, VA 22302; orientpubl@aol.com ♦



Chow Chows

CORRECT MOVEMENT IS A MUST!

During a recent conversation, a fancier posed the question, "In evaluating the Chow Chow, is the assessment best made when the dog is standing or moving?" My immediate reply was, "Moving, of course!" This response was based on the summary statement of the standard for our breed, which reads: *Type should include general appearance, temperament, the harmony of all parts, and soundness especially as seen when the dog is in motion. There should be proper emphasis on movement which is the final test of the Chow's conformation, balance and soundness.* This statement is a very succinct definition of Chow breed type.

One of the most important and unique characteristics of our breed is the *stilted gait*. Due to the lack of angulation of the powerful rear structure of the Chow Chow, the dog exhibits limited reach and drive as he moves. The rear leg should appear to move straight forward and back from the pivotal point of the hip—similar to the way in which a person with a full-leg cast might move. This gait is best observed from the side. It is impossible to evaluate the Chow for this important characteristic if the dog is not judged in motion.

There was a period in the 1970s and early 1980s during which the

Dalmatian

Chow Chow was promoted as a "head breed," and many breeders and judges were encouraged to follow the principle of "more is better." Balance and movement were frequently overlooked as the focus remained on developing heavier, more massive heads. In an effort to return the breed to its original character, the Chow Chow Club formed a committee of key breeders to rewrite the official standard of the breed. This committee's efforts culminated in the standard that was approved in 1986. Thanks to the efforts of this dedicated group, the standard now more clearly reflects the requirement for balance and correct movement, and defines the characteristics of the desirable head. The *Illustrated Standard for the Chow Chow* pictorially depicts this standard, and should be used as a tool by breeders as well as judges. The *Illustrated Standard* is available on the Chow Chow Club web site at www.chowclub.org.

—Love Banghart, 3530 W. Rangeview Rd., Greeley, CO 80634; lkendr4300@aol.com ♦



Dalmatians

THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH PART TWO

Raising a litter of Dal pups is like performing in a circus. Breeders must have precision, some makeup, and a pair of clown shoes—*precision* to provide the exact physical and emotional care that puppies need, at just the right stage of their development; *makeup* to give the pups a colorful, challenging environment; and *clown shoes* to remind us that breeders have big shoes to fill.

In my last column I wrote about caring for the dam and her puppies during the first three weeks. Between weeks three and four, most breeders can tell whether or not puppies can hear just by watching them. If all the puppies are asleep



MICHAEL TOMIHAWA

and there is a sudden, loud noise, those who hear will wake up immediately. The deaf puppies will remain asleep. A pup who hears in only one ear may or may not wake up right away. Many breeders observe the puppies' reactions and continue home testing occasionally. The official brainstem auditory evoked response (BAER) hearing test is done by a veterinarian when the puppies are 5 to 6 weeks old.

When puppies are 4 weeks old the center of attraction changes from the dam to the breeder. The pups are teething, and the dam is beginning to lose interest in nursing them. It's up to the breeder to begin introducing solid food while allowing the bitch to nurse if she wants to.

I begin the weaning process by soaking a small amount of puppy chow to soften it, putting it into the food processor until the consistency is easier for small mouths to chew, then slightly warming a little goat's milk and adding that to the gruel. For the first day or two I put the food on a large rectangular cookie sheet so it's easier for the puppies to reach. As soon as the food goes into the puppies' area, it's one sniff and lots of gobbles. I'm always surprised by how quickly my Dal puppies begin lapping up their first meal. A few climb over their brothers and sisters to grab extra bites, walking through the meal in the process. When most of the gruel is gone from the pan, but partly sticking to the pups' paws and faces, I let Mom into the whelping "box" (a child's soft-sided wading pool) to clean them up. By now the litter looks like one big speckled blob of cotton candy.

The puppies' next step is to leap out of the pool and into an exercise pen. Weeks five and six bring visitors—as many as I can think to invite. The more socialization the puppies experience, the better. It's also a good time to introduce a small tunnel, different elevations of cardboard boxes or stepping stools, and toys in a variety of shapes and textures. By seven weeks I have taken the puppies into different rooms of the house and outdoors, and have allowed them to interact

with the resident adult dogs.

I love having puppies, but when the eighth week rolls around it's time for those I'm not keeping to go to their new homes. This is the hardest part of the whole litter experience. Here breeders become fortune-tellers as we try to predict what a puppy's life will be like with each person who calls. Our Dal pups deserve to have the best seat there is under the Big Top of life.

—Elaine Waldorf Gewirtz, 2243 Kelmscott Ct., Westlake Village, CA 91361; egewirtz@west.net ♦



Finnish Spitz

FSCA UPDATE

The Finnish Spitz Club of America held their spring supported-entry at the Terry-All Kennel Club shows in Brighton, Colorado, on April 16. Ed Sledzik judged the breed, and I judged the Puppy and Veteran Sweepstakes. Following the judging, the recently formed FSCA health and genetics committee announced the completion of their major fund-raiser, "Diet for Dollars," as well as a member's memorial contribution. They also announced the various programs they will be undertaking this year.

One of the projects the committee is planning is a health survey. Another is a fanciers' database at www.FinnishSpitzPedigree.net that will provide coefficients of inbreeding (COIs) for use by breeders. Although the FSCA does not have the capability of running coefficients of relationship (CORs) and COIs on test matings due to the amount of server space and memory needed, the committee will compile the test breeding numbers for members. The submission form for trial breedings/test matings is on the "Members Only" section of the FSCA web site, www.finnishspitzclub.org.

The health and genetics committee is also working with an ongoing

research study at the University of Missouri-Columbia in hopes of identifying a genetic marker for idiopathic epilepsy. The committee is asking for samples from *only* those Finnish Spitz falling within the study guidelines on "Ideal-Useful Families."

The FSCA board has approved the health and genetics committee's recommendation for an outstanding breeder "seal of approval." This involves recognition for members who sign a code of ethics that requires the following: completing any health surveys that are supported or endorsed by the FSCA (including being willing to disclose pertinent information on identified dogs); selling all dogs on a written contract that will include a "no surrender" clause; selling nonbreeding dogs on a Limited Registration and requiring spaying or neutering; willingness to take dogs back at any time; informing buyers of good health practices; testing breeding stock for cardiac problems and patellar luxation, and performing liver blood work, CERF, OFA, or PennHIP tests, and puppy temperament testing; demonstrating a minimum of five years of owning, showing, and breeding Finnish Spitz; and not breeding more than three litters in a calendar year.

In Brighton, the committee hosted the first of many seminars to come. Dr. Ed Eisner spoke on "Canine Dentition," and Dr. Mark Enns spoke on "Breeding Strategies for a Small Gene Pool." Then Ernie Lloyd gave a breed seminar on the Finnish Spitz, using the FSCA's new PowerPoint presentation.

The evening ended with another fund-raising social event—a "Canine Crawl" at the host hotel. The "Crawl" was a progressive dinner donated and hosted by various members. We snacked on appetizers in one room, then moved to another room for the main course, and then moved to still another room for the dessert. It was a fun way to end an informative day.

—Cindy Goodman, 2199 Government Rd., Clayton, NC 27520; kkolstar@aol.com ♦

NON-SPORTING GROUP



French Bulldogs

*CO-OWNERSHIP: A CAUTIONARY NOTE

The AKC advises against co-owning dogs, stating that “co-ownership agreements, in far too many cases, lead to problems. While AKC registration application forms provide for more than one owner,

buyer wants a pet and the puppy is not to be bred, the breeder should consider an early spay or neuter. To do otherwise is to take advantage of someone who does not fully understand what she is getting into, and who generally comes to regret and resent the co-ownership arrangement.

A different situation exists when an experienced breeder chooses to co-own a dog or bitch with a peer as a way of enlarging her accessible gene pool without having a house overflowing with dogs—but even this can turn friends into enemies. Any such arrangement requires a written,

If one co-owner feels the dog or bitch should not be bred because of temperament or health issues, and the other feels breeding should occur, how is this to be resolved? Who pays for any health tests and registries? Who gets the stud fee if a dog is co-owned, and who pays stud fees if a bitch is co-owned? Who decides what specific breedings will be done? At what age will a bitch be bred, how many times, and at what intervals? Who decides on puppy placement, and who gets the first-pick puppy? Who gets the money from the sale of puppies? Who whelps and rears the litters?

If a person fairly new to Frenchies, after owning and learning about the breed, decides that she would like to get a dog or bitch for showing or breeding, she might be better off finding someone who breeds dogs she likes and who has ethical standards she agrees with, and asking that person to help select an animal and serve as a mentor, rather than as a co-owner.

Finally, don't forget that if a co-owner is suspended by the AKC for any reason, transfer of ownership is barred, litters sired or whelped by the dog are barred from registration, and any show wins taken at AKC-licensed events may be disallowed for the term of the suspension.

—Jan Grebe, 4820 West 57th St.,
Shawnee Mission, KS 66205;
greebeez@aol.com ♦



KENT DANNEN

Lhasa Apso

we recommend that co-ownerships be avoided. It has been our experience that purchasing a dog ‘outright’ is preferable.”

A novice pet buyer, not interested in showing or breeding, can become ensnared in a co-ownership where the breeder retains “breeding rights” on the animal. This only benefits the breeder, not the person who lives with and loves the dog. Contracts that sell a puppy for a full price and also require that it be bred, and that the breeder get back puppies, can create a lot of extra work, expense, and heartache for the pet owner. If a

signed contract, with every detail and contingency spelled out well in advance. The contract should specify the following: Where and with whom will the dog live? Who decides who will handle the dog, and which shows to enter? Who pays the entry (and handler) fees? Who pays veterinary bills? Who buys the dog food, and what kind?

More important than show plans are breeding plans: Which health tests should the dog have before breeding, and what test results or other health problems would disqualify the dog from being bred?



Keeshonden

WORDS PAINT A PICTURE

How often have you read the standard of your breed? Once, twice, ten times, or more? Each time you read it, you may get something different from your review. Your interpretation may depend on dogs you have seen recently, a show you just attended, or a challenge in your own breeding program. In much the same way as an Impressionist

painting affects the viewer, a reader can be affected by descriptive words in the standard and by how frequently some words—colors if you will—are repeated.

Our breed standard describes the general appearance of the Keeshond with words such as *natural, alert, intelligent, well proportioned, and dark* (when referring to specific parts of the body such as eye-rims, muzzle, and ears). But one of the most frequently used descriptive words in the Keeshond standard is *moderate*.

The Keeshond neck is described as being moderately long, the belly moderately tucked up, the tail moderately long, and the descriptions of angulation and movement both include the word *moderate*. The Cambridge Dictionary defines *moderate* as “clearly within the limits of a range of possibilities, neither small nor large but between the two.” This is not to say we are looking for an average dog: Quite the contrary. The standard clearly calls for a “dramatically marked dog” with a “lion-like ruff,” thickly coated “trousers,” a “richly plumed tail,” and “fox-like expression.”

In the show arena, where extremes are rewarded because they call attention to the exhibit, the Keeshond standard wisely swims against that tide. Calling for a dog that will make an ideal and attractive companion, the standard directs the Keeshond breeder to produce a dog whose temperament is of primary importance, and goes on to say, “The Keeshond is neither timid nor aggressive, but instead is outgoing and friendly with both people and other dogs. The Keeshond is a lively, intelligent, alert, and affectionate companion.”

Breeders can guard against extremes by carefully observing their dogs to determine where they deviate from the characteristics described in the standard. If the deviation is extreme, then the breeder must choose either to balance that characteristic by offsetting the fault in the next breeding or to select against the undesirable trait. Can a muzzle be too short when many breeders are working with muzzles that are too long? The answer, if we are seeking

moderation, is yes. It is the task of the breeder to determine what she will present as ideal, and it is the task of the judge to evaluate that presentation and determine if it lies within a reasonable interpretation of the breed standard.

Our challenge as breeders is to stay within the parameters of the standard and to strive to produce dogs that express its intentions. We may hear other terms used, such as *cute, teddy bear, Pom-like, spitz-like, wolf-like*, and so on. These may be attempts to describe individual dogs or a certain type of dog. But these words are not in the Keeshond standard, and the standard is clear in its words and concepts. It is our blueprint now and for the future.

—Debbie Lynch, 340 Aspen Ct.,
Aurora, OH 44202;
dlnpconsult@yahoo.com ♦



Lhasa Apsos

THE ADVENTURES OF ISABEL

Isabel was born on the 500th anniversary of Columbus reaching the Americas. She neither knew nor cared that her namesake was a Portuguese queen. She assumed her place was on top of the world, be it flat or round. She was one of those special dogs who remind us why we love them and the breed.

Isabel was always the clown, never the fool, and she was intelligent. At her first dog show she sat silent—not a good sign for owners of a thinking Lhasa—and studied dogs of other breeds going through their paces in our ring. I commented to an observer that Isabel was teaching herself the gaiting pattern, and received a look that questioned my sanity. But in the ring Isabel anticipated me at every turn, and was defeated only by her own overexuberance.

Isabel relished climbing and “digging to Tibet.” Unfortunately, she sampled the fruits of the earth, and learned quickly—and painfully—

that rocks are not digestible.

Undeterred, she focused her passion on climbing, with Edmund Hillary and Harry Houdini as her idols.

Escaping from ex-pens became her forte, and putting lids on the pens only heightened the challenge. One day at work I answered the phone to my husband’s icy greeting, “I just rescued *your* dog from the street. I *told* you she needs to be in a crate.” I rushed home to find that indeed Isabel had escaped my escape-proof pen. She disassembled the lid, leaving the tops dangling inside the pen with the bungee cords still strapped over the top like high wires. To this day, I don’t know how she did it. Another time neighbors called to ask whether one of our dogs was missing. Isabel had sprung a gate and gone visiting for the afternoon. On another jaunt she took two bitches with her, who, not being blessed with Isabel’s cunning, were almost lost.

Isabel’s escapades at shows were legendary. She once escaped our setup to entertain the crew at the announcer’s stand. Another time we caught her climbing out of her pen and screamed, “*Isabel, don’t move!*” We failed to notice a woman standing ashen-faced and frozen in her tracks. Her companions could hardly tell us through the tears of laughter that the woman’s name was Isabel.

Isabel loved to play practical jokes. Her most memorable performance in the group ring was a solo gait behind the standard Poodle. As the judge signaled everyone to circle the ring, she jerked her head, slipped the lead and was off, with this hapless owner-handler in pursuit.

Isabel’s first nose-to-nose encounter with a small human was magic. Her eyes danced as she gave him a full face wash and then rubbed him dry with her whiskers. It was just before the group, of course, but nothing could distract her attention from ringside and that 8-year-old phenomenon of nature.

Isabel’s retirement consisted of supervising a childless couple who managed a large apartment complex. She interviewed prospective tenants and greeted everyone who walked into the office, giving special atten-

NON-SPORTING GROUP

tion to children. Her new charges expressed amazement at finding her perched in unlikely places. They commented, "She sure likes to climb up on things, but everyone who meets her loves her." —*Cassandra de la Rosa, 1312-11th Ct. SW, Olympia, WA 98502; dlrcas@msn.com* ♦



Löwchen

DON'T TOUCH THOSE SCISSORS!

At a recent show, a break in my stewarding duties gave me the opportunity to observe the Löwchen judging. With no personal interest in or connection to any of the entries, no preferences nor preju-

dices, I was totally open-minded. Yet as I watched the first entry come into the ring, it registered as an immediate disqualification. Why? The dog was so obviously trimmed, scissored, and sculpted that there was no doubt the grooming transcended the parameters set down by the breed standard.

Our standard says a Löwchen may be clipped to effect the lion cut that has been part of the breed for over 600 years, but that the dog may not be shaped nor scissored. That means clippers are used on the dog's rear from the last rib down to the hock, on the front legs from elbow to pastern, and on the feet. But scissoring any of the remaining coat is verboten. The reasoning is quite clear: Lions don't visit grooming salons or beauty parlors. The full fall of hair over the mane, forequarters, "stockings" on the front and rear legs, and the tip of the tail should remain au naturel—

and even a bit scraggly. That's how lions look.

The disqualification for overgrooming is there for a good reason. Löwchen breeders, and those with the best interests of the breed at heart, would like to see the breed remain just what it's supposed to be—a lion in miniature. Why in the world should it be shaped and sculpted into a Poodle wannabe? That's not its heritage. It's supposed to be a little lion, not a little topiary bush.

But unfortunately, this disqualification presents a dilemma for many judges. First, how does

one know for certain that a dog has been scissored? If artfully done, it may not be easily proven (although in this particular case it was positively blatant). And what if the scissored and sculpted dog is otherwise superior to his naturally presented competition? Trimming is, after all, a man-made fault. Hair grows out, but steep shoulders, cow hocks, roach backs, and the like do not improve with age. Is it better to reward a dog with a human-inflicted fault than one with a fault bestowed by nature? It's a tough question. But by conferring Winners status on a trimmed and sculpted dog, the judge inadvertently sends out the message that such a practice is OK and should be rewarded. Exhibitors, especially those new to the breed, may be quick to jump on the bandwagon, reasoning, "If sculpted dogs win, then to win I must sculpt my Löwchen." Wrong! (We can only hope.)

If trimming is allowed to continue unpunished, it will only escalate. And when that happens, the day will come when people will be asking, "How come there are three Poodles in the Non-Sporting Group?"

—*Alice Bixler, 14676 S.E. 56 Ave., Summerfield, FL 34491; alicelj@att.net* ♦



Miniature Poodle



Poodles

*CAVE CANEM

What is the purpose of a breed club? To protect in all respects the breed for which it was formed, and to educate the public about said breed!

I have been involved with Poodles—all three varieties—throughout most of my life, as my mother was one of several fanciers who owned and bred the breed when it first became popular. In the more than 60 ensuing years, I have enjoyed the Poodle as a challenge to breed and raise correctly,

enjoyed (as both a breeder and a professional handler) the preparation and presentation of the Poodle, and have enjoyed the Standard Poodle as a hunting and retrieving wonder dog.

In all of these years I have seen many other breeds take the liberty of breeding to *my* breed, the Poodle. These crosses, made to incorporate the Poodle intelligence, spark, and training ability into the other breeds, have resulted in Peke-a-poos, Cock-a-poos, Schnoodles (the Schnauzer cross), and so on. None of these crosses has prospered except in the puppy mills and pet shops. There has been no thought of creating a new and registrable breed until now, with the emergence of the Labradoodle.

Billed as a nonshedding, intelligent breed for all reasons, the Labradoodle allegedly has the hybrid vigor that would supposedly stamp out the heritable diseases of both Labrador Retrievers and Poodles. Jump-started in Australia as the perfect breed for the blind, a Labradoodle breeding program was instituted and the results followed for a proper length of time—and it has now been discontinued. The reasons: Not all of the nonshedding promises held true; the animals produced were a little too full of themselves to be trustworthy guide dogs; and the heritable disease of both breeds turned out to be very similar, and were inherited into each new generation of Labradoodles. These crossbreeds continue to be bred in both Australia and the United States, however, as they are very saleable and command huge prices. One or two thousand dollars per puppy is a very good price, particularly for a nonregistrable mixed breed.

Where will this trend lead our breed? In order to protect our breed from further exploitation, we must sell pet puppies on spay-neuter contracts to stop them from falling into the wrong hands. Do not ever allow your stud dog to be bred to a bitch of another breed. If you are a member of a breed club, this could put you in the position of having charges brought against you. Why? Because this is not respon-

sible behavior if you are protecting the Poodle.

It has now come to my attention that Golden Retriever-Poodle crosses have joined the ranks of the Labradoodle: Golden-doodles! Beware! —Anne Rogers Clark, 720 Cattail Branch Rd., Greenwood, DE 19950; sealark@dmv.com ♦



Schipperkes

Guest columnist Melanie Coronetz has shown Schipperkes and trained them in obedience. She is the author of *Schipperkes: A Complete Pet Owner's Manual* (1998, Barron's Educational Series, Inc.), and was also a prize winner in the GAZETTE's 1995 fiction contest.

URBAN SCHIPPERKES

One of the criteria breeders consider when placing Schipperkes is a fenced yard, but this isn't possible in an urban environment. Does that mean Schips can't become city slickers? Not at all. Schipperkes make wonderful companions for city dwellers. Life can be a great adventure for an urban Schipperke, if the new owner understands the quirks of the breed.

The saying "A loose Schipperke is a lost Schipperke" is true, especially during the dog's early years. The breed's natural curiosity, along with the dog's independent nature, can get him into trouble if he's running free. My 11-year-old Schip—who has her CD—still tries to pull me home whenever she hears a whistle. Asking her to heel at these times is hopeless.

It's important to put a secure collar on a Schipperke for walks in the city. I use the martingale-style collars made by Lupine. They will not slip off, and they offer good control without the severity of a choke. (A choke chain may be too harsh for some Schipperke necks.) A leather buckle collar can work if it's

the right size. I do not like mini-prong collars. They catch in the ruff and can open, setting the Schipperke free. A well-fitted halter is an alternative, but the buckle mustn't catch in the dog's coat.

Schipperkes need exercise, and in some city parks dogs are allowed off lead at certain times. A well-trained, older Schipperke might enjoy this privilege if his owner uses common sense. It's wise to avoid areas where big dogs romp; a Schip could get injured in rough play. Male Schipperkes, especially, forget how small they are, and often want to challenge bigger dogs. Schipperkes can get proper exercise on a 16-foot retractable lead. This will provide enough freedom for the dog to run and explore, but he will still be under control. Dog runs are another option, as long as they have a separate area for small dogs.

Urban Schipperke owners must be alert to street hazards such as discarded chicken bones or puddles, whose stagnant water can cause intestinal problems if ingested. Rat poison in parks poses another danger.

Many apartment buildings forbid dogs, and a prospective Schipperke owner should find out the policies in her building beforehand. Schips are watchdogs, and they will bark at strange noises. Breeders should recommend that Schipperkes going to city homes attend puppy kindergarten or obedience classes. It's a plus if the Schip becomes a Canine Good Citizen®, and a good way to impress a co-op board.

In New York, most taxis will pick up a person and a Schip, especially if the dog is in a soft-sided carrying bag. A case is also required for bus and subway travel, where dogs (and cats) must be confined.

In spite of these cautions, cities offer an infinite source of stimulation for this alert, curious breed. From dinner at a sidewalk café to a shopping spree at a dog-friendly department store, an urban environment can make a wonderful home for a Schipperke.—M.C.

Thank you, Melanie. —Virginia Larioza, P.O.Box 2324, Howell, MI 48844; raffineeskips@cac.net ♦

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Shiba Inu

MAINTAINING THE BREED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

“What was I thinking?” I asked myself back in 1991 as I looked around and discovered I was the proud owner of four Shiba Inu and was considering adding another. You’ve probably heard the famous slogan of Lay’s potato chips, “Betcha can’t eat just one”—many of us find it’s the same with Shibas. “Betcha can’t own just one” has become a familiar catchphrase between exhibitors and pet owners alike.

What is it that makes this breed irresistible? Think back to the first time the Shiba caught your attention: Why did you give the breed a second look? Shiba breeder Jane Chapin, of J-Ann Shibas in Cuba, Illinois, says, “Like everyone else, I thought they

looked like foxes. I thought they were so cute and I liked the exotic look about them.” Geert Jan Wagemans, of Jaklho Shibas, a breeder in the Netherlands, tells me he was hooked after seeing a picture. He says, “I gave this picture [of a Shiba] another good look and it was this ‘something’ what no other breed has. There is no other dog that can look like this. It’s mysticism. It is difficult to put into words.”

My own feelings were quite similar. I was contentedly exhibiting my lovely Keeshonden when I saw a Shiba puppy owned by a friend. I immediately became intrigued with this little red dog, my attention caught by his nice clean lines and muscular little body. At the time, the oriental appearance of the head subconsciously played into the appeal this creature had for me. But only after studying the Japanese breed standard and its history did I become fully aware of the idiosyncrasies of “type” that make up this breed.

Breed type has been explained as “those things about a breed of dog that make it uniquely different from every other breed of dog.” With the Shiba, it’s the way the eyes are positioned on the head in relationship to the ears; the pitch and placement of the ears, with nice back-skull; the bright-colored, harsh coat that is well-fitted without looseness; the carriage of the tail, reflecting the attitude and character of the breed and exuding boldness without

aggression; and an overall attitude of pride and dignity, yet with an inner calmness.

The future of any breed is dependent upon the integrity of its breeders—past, present, and future. The characteristics that attracted us to the Shiba Inu did not evolve by accident. Due to the breed’s near demise in the past, during the early 20th century breeders in Japan (its country of origin) created a distinctive “type” as a guideline for reestablishing the breed. The standard of the National Shiba Club of America is based on these same guidelines. As breeders today, we must hold ourselves accountable to preserve the qualities that will allow the Shiba Inu to continue to stand out among other Northern breeds. Only by doing so will we guarantee a future of continued appeal by this captivating breed.

—Patricia Doescher, 9435 Swamp Rd., Black Earth, WI 53515; hi_jinx@itlis.com ♦



Tibetan Spaniels

A COAT OF MANY COLORS

One of the most fun things about Tibetan Spaniels is the variety of colors they come in. From creamy white to pure black, and every color or combination of colors in between, all are acceptable according to the breed standard. Puppies are born very dark (except for parti-colored and black pups), and the breeder begins a guessing game of what color pups will be when they grow up. As soon as the hair is long enough to part, we begin peeking through the coat to see what colors are coming through. We love to see beautiful Irish Setter reds, rich black and tans, or spectacularly marked parti-colored Tibbies in the ring.

For many years the “LBD” or “little brown dog” has been the most common color, but several breeders are now working to breed quality



Shiba Inu

ISABELLE FRANCAIS

dogs in colors once thought rare. In Ann Wynyard's 1974 book, *The Dog Directory Guide to the Tibetan Spaniel*, she writes, "The main colours are called sable, particolour or black and tan. The two latter are the rarest and hardest to breed, though all three colours can appear in one litter, or the two parents of the same colour can produce puppies of another colour within the range!" She also notes that all colors are acceptable, even desirable, with one exception: "Liver and chocolate colour is undesirable because the pigment going with this coat colour is usually pink or liver, and the eyes pale to golden to tone with the coat."

Phyllis Mayhew also expresses this opinion in her 1971 book, *The Tibetan Spaniel*, writing, "Unfortunately, if bred from, these liver colours often breed other colours which carry the light eye and off colour nose and this fault will stick in the strain for generations. For this reason, liver coloured dogs should never be used for breeding."

In all colors, both authors stress that the coat should never resemble a Pekingese coat—it should not be extreme or obscure the outline of the dog. Neither should it be wavy, thick, or spiky. The top coat should be double, but not have a thick or felty type of undercoat. The key word in the breed standard is *moderate*. Both authors express the opinion that coat is a breed characteristic that breeders tend to exaggerate—and when overcoated specimens are successful in the ring, this validates an incorrect coat type.

I found it very interesting that in another book by Mrs. Wynyard, *The Dog Directory Guide to Owning a Tibetan Spaniel*, published in 1980, she comments on the lament that it is hard to finish a black and tan, tri-colored, or parti-colored dog. She describes these as difficult colors to show, and faults the judges for not looking closely enough at these colored dogs. (Markings on colored dogs may create optical illusions and it may be more difficult to see expression on some of them.) Phyllis Mayhew recommended that oddly marked, parti-colored dogs not be shown, and both Mrs.

Mayhew and Mrs. Wynyard stressed that only by showing the finest specimens of these colored dogs will they gain the recognition they deserve in the ring. As breeders and exhibitors, we are taking their advice to heart.

—Karen Williams, 151 Virginia St.,
Crestview, FL 32539;
delmartibs@yahoo.com ♦

Tibetan Terriers



KIWI TT ADVENTURES

One of the most valuable consequences of my almost 30 years of involvement with Tibetan Terriers is the friendships I've developed with the many wonderful people I've met in the breed. My recent trip to New Zealand with Laurel MacMinn, longtime breeder and exhibitor of top TTs, brought new friends.

Given New Zealand's spectacular beauty, the trip couldn't help but be extraordinary. It didn't hurt that the Kiwis (as New Zealanders call themselves) were in the middle of their summer while it was still a dark and rainy winter here. After a really, really long flight, we landed in Auckland at 5:00 A.M. After clearing customs we were met at the airport by an extremely hospitable—and patient—TT couple, Pam and Glen Peters. (Talk about above and beyond the call ...!) We became instant friends. They drove us to their house, fed us, and introduced us to their dogs. Immediately, we were deep in pedigree and structural discussions while admiring their very friendly TTs. Then they sent us off to explore Auckland. (Yes, it is true that I jumped off the Sky Tower, but let's not discuss that now—maybe never.)

The next day we went to a ribbon match at the local kennel club's show grounds. This is similar to our sanctioned matches—a good experience for young dogs and practice for their

owners. The club had purchased the land and built a wonderful building with the best footing I have ever seen for dogs. According to our hosts, these beautifully kept grounds are used for dog events most weekends. It would be wonderful if more clubs here had similar facilities. The building was being used that day for a "Meet the Breeds" event for the public. Even I saw a couple of breeds I'd never seen before. Everyone seemed to be having a great time, and we loved meeting all the TTs and their owners. Most of the Tibetans came from primarily English and Australian bloodlines, but Laurel found several who were related to her dogs.

Three weeks later, after driving all over both the North and South Islands and trying to experience as much of New Zealand as possible, we found ourselves being hosted by Louise and Brian Harris and their engaging Tibetan Terriers in Christchurch, on the South Island. In addition to providing us with a place to sleep, countless tourist brochures, and advice, the Harrises arranged for a visit for all of us—including their dogs—to Cloud Farm, the eponymous subject of a book by Jane Chetwynd.

Chetwynd lives on the highest inhabited farm on the Akoroa Peninsula, near Christchurch. We were thrilled to meet her after reading her book describing her experiences in purchasing and rehabilitating this special piece of land, but we were even more excited to meet her Tibetan Terriers. They absolutely thrived, running up and down the steep hillside, bounding from one rock outcropping to the next. I could easily visualize them in Tibet. If you are ever in New Zealand, I strongly recommend a visit to this isolated and harmonious place.

After all the wins, ribbons, and titles are long forgotten, the friendships will remain the very best part of why I'm glad to be involved in the world of purebred dogs. Thanks, Laurel, for a great time!

—Toodie Connor, DVM, 23200
Yeager Rd., Monroe, WA 98272;
ahealingvet@comcast.net ♦

HERDING GROUP

Australian Cattle Dogs



EVALUATING A LITTER ON LIVESTOCK

I am fortunate enough to have space for a few sheep and ducks, and I've been playing around with the livestock and my new litter of pups. Having never seen very young puppies on stock before, I had some preconceived notions of how things would go. I figured 6-week-old puppies wouldn't even consider messing with large sheep, and that perhaps the most I would see before I had to start making placement decisions would be the pups following the sheep as they moved. Unless you count the time at 4½ weeks when two of the pups sneaked off and chased the ducks, their first livestock exposure was at 5½ weeks with three lambs.

Three of the four puppies were initially thinking along the same lines as I: They looked at the sheep and took a few tottering steps toward them before something else (sheep droppings) attracted their attention. The fourth pup watched the sheep, and when they stopped moving she ran forward and started them going again. With puppies I tend to think something is coincidental unless it happens more than once. So I got the sheep moving again, and when they stopped, the puppy again ran forward and started them going. Her attention span was only two seconds long, but that looked like interest.

For the next three weeks the puppies went out to the sheep three or four times a week. Some days there was strong interest, and some days they just wandered around with no focus. That first puppy who showed interest stayed consistently interested

and her attention span got longer. Puppy Two, after a week of barely noticing the sheep were there, suddenly woke up one day and, in her first attempt at controlling the stock, went out and surpassed all of Puppy One's efforts. From that moment she stayed ahead of the others in terms of interest, confidence, and drive. Puppy Three caught up a few days later, but had on days and off days as far as interest went. Puppy Four, the only boy, met my original expectations, and by 9 weeks was watching the sheep closely and following them occasionally, showing much less intensity but more thoughtfulness than his sisters.

At this point I had to make some decisions, and I let puppies One and Four go. Puppy One had stayed consistent, but she was softer in temperament and more easily intimidated. Some people tell me that's good and I should have kept her, but we're talking cattle dogs. For my working pick I went with Puppy Two, the confident puppy who seemed able to handle the most pressure and who was continually building interest rather than just remaining consistent. Puppy Three

also stayed for further consideration, as she was consistently gaining in drive with the sheep and was certainly the first show pick among the girls. It is unfortunate that a decision must be made between the prettier one and the one who seems to be the better worker, so I hedged my bets. I will grow out both until I can do some preliminary health testing and start them on cows.

—Rebecca Elder, VMD, 4055 N. Rohrbaugh Rd., Seven Valleys, PA 17360; raecoo@aol.com ♦

Australian Shepherds



GIVING THANKS

Expressions of gratitude—and kudos—to everyone associated with the 2005 United States Australian Shepherd Association national specialty, held at the Lamar Dixon Expo Center in Gonzales, Louisiana. The show chairs and staff, headed by Jo Kell and Karen

Broadus, left everyone breathless in the wake of their endless activity.

The facilities were outstanding, the hospitality was purely Southern, and even the weather cooperated, with the humidity and intense heat held at bay while the Australian Shepherds competed with glee in obedience, herding, agility, and conformation. (Results are posted at www.rogersdogshows.com.)

Each year we are blessed to have many licensed judges, provisional judges, and those in the process of applying for their AKC judge's license attend our seminars. As judges' education coordinator for our national breed club, it is my responsibility to ensure that our national specialty judges' breed study group is impeccable in terms of the delivery



Australian Cattle Dog

GAY GLAZBROOK

of our educational information and materials. We are continuously striving to improve the program, and this year was no exception. We are committed to constant improvement in the judging of our breed, and to welcoming more converts to the Australian Shepherd fan club!

We had a delightful and brilliant group of dedicated judges attend our program in Louisiana. I think it is remarkable what judges do (and endure) to add another breed to judge. Louisiana is not a particularly inexpensive or easy destination to fly to from any other part of the United States, especially right after Easter and during the middle of spring break. (Think big bucks.) Most judges travel singly to these educational events, and incur several nights of lodging fees and taxes. Add a rental car to the budget, as not too many of our national specialty shows are held within walking distance of an airport. Did I mention the cost of food and incidentals? Don't forget that some judges still work for a living, so add in time off from work, dipping into vacation, sick leave, or personal days. If the judge has dogs, there are dog- and house-sitting fees—and the list goes on. The cost of the seminar itself might be the cheapest part of the entire trip!

I cannot convey enough gratitude to those judges and judges-to-be who have demonstrated their dedication by attending any national specialty judges' breed study group over the years—especially one for the Australian Shepherd. Your efforts in behalf of our breed are greatly appreciated. I know that in the not-so-distant future new members of the fancy will have the great good fortune to show their Australian Shepherds to you. I am convinced that you will have the knowledge and skill to pick the best dog for that day at that time. Thank you for taking the time to learn about our breed, and for caring enough to assist us in preserving in the Australian Shepherd the characteristics we so value.

Please mark your 2006 calendars now for next year's USASA national specialty, which will be held at Purina Farms, Missouri, on

April 8–14. We hope to see you there.

—Nannette L. Newbury, 20211
Melissa Lane, Salinas, CA 93907;
ByDesignCA@aol.com ♦



Bearded Collies

***BECOMING A MENTOR**

Simply stated, a mentor is a trusted adviser. No matter in what area of life we are looking to expand our knowledge, we seek out someone we feel has the information, experience, time, and—most importantly—the desire to help us learn all we can about a particular subject. It should be considered an honor to be asked to help someone learn about dogs, as the person is expressing his confidence in you to help him achieve the necessary knowledge for future success.

When serving as a mentor to a beginner in the breed, remember that there is something positive to be said about each and every dog. Perhaps a dog has outstanding pigment, although he may have a less-than-perfect head. Maybe he possesses a lovely shoulder layback, but the tail-set is a bit high. Of course there is no *perfect* dog, but some come closer than others to the breed standard. Make sure to point out the good features of each specimen you critique, as well as those you would prefer were better. Constant negativity is not a useful tool in mentoring.

When evaluating her own dogs for the beginner, a mentor should be willing to be upfront and honest as to what she would change about them. We all would like to think we possess only flawless dogs, but each one has something or other that we would change if we could. It doesn't make them any less loved, or take away from the things that are outstanding about them, but if you are to become a truly great mentor and breeder, you must be able to see each of the things that you would change. Being kennel blind doesn't do a breed any favors when it comes to improving

upon future generations. Mediocrity has a tendency to just keep reproducing itself over and over again.

As a mentor, you should also take time to listen to your student. No matter how long a person has been in a breed, there is always something to be learned from even the newest novice. It could be as simple as a different way of looking at something, perhaps giving you a new perspective on a topic. If you get to the point where you truly believe you know it all, it is definitely time for you to think about pursuing another line of "work."

Mentoring is one of the greatest legacies an "old-timer" can give to the next generation of breeders. We all started at the bottom when we began in a new breed, and if it weren't for those who cared enough about the future of that breed, many of us would still be wandering around in the dark—and our breed would be in serious peril.

For those who aspire to judge the Beardie, the Bearded Collie Club is proud to offer an outstanding judges' education program at our national specialty each year. For information on this year's opportunity, please contact Rosemary Schroeder at 513-553-3675, or e-mail her at rschroeder@fuse.net. —Susan B. Lybrand, 20 Woodmoor Dr., Lucas, TX 75002; brandmar@verizon.net. ♦



Belgian Malinois

MATCHMAKER, MATCHMAKER

Every Malinois person, whether involved in conformation, performance events, working activities, or rescue, knows the Malinois mantra: *A Malinois is not for everyone*. Malinois are active, high-energy dogs, not generally suited for the novice owner. Most Mal people know at least one horror story about a Malinois being acquired by the wrong person.

A woman calls Malinois rescue.

HERDING GROUP

She lives with her elderly mother, who is in her 80s. Although the woman has not had a dog since childhood, she has decided that she and her mother now need a “protection” dog. She has taken an online quiz to determine the “right” breed for her, and it says she should get a Malinois. She’s contacted a few breeders, but they haven’t been overly enthusiastic. She’s wondering if there are any suitable dogs available in rescue that she might adopt. Now comes the punch line: The woman gets a Malinois, it’s a match made in heaven, and she and the dog live happily ever after. The story of Margaret Kelly and Holly, the Malinois she acquired 6 years ago, is the exception that proves the rule.

When Margaret contacted rescue she was told about the high energy level, protectiveness, and other traits of the Malinois, but she was not deterred, nor was her application rejected out of hand. Rescue agreed that if the right dog became available she would be contacted. Amazingly, her wait was very short.

At the same time that Margaret was applying to rescue in Connecticut, the police in Gainesville, Florida, picked up a female Malinois running loose. They contacted Caroline Thurber, whom they knew through her assistance in acquiring Malinois for the police department. Caroline recognized the dog as coming from “working” lines, but was unable to locate the owners. (The dog had an injured leg, so it’s possible the owners abandoned her when she was no longer able to work.) Caroline agreed to foster the dog while Malinois rescue attempted to find her a home. Holly, as the dog was called, appeared to be about 6 years old, had beautiful manners and a quiet temperament, was well trained, and, best of all, did not jump up or pull on the lead due to her injury. Could this be the right dog for Margaret?

Caroline was about to drive to Atlanta to attend a wedding to which a relative from Connecticut was invited. Caroline brought Holly with her and prevailed upon the relative to fly back to Connecticut with the dog. When Holly and Margaret

finally met, it was love at first sight.

For several years, Holly’s main job was to sit on the sofa and watch the soaps with Margaret’s mother. When her mother passed away, Margaret decided to become more active with Holly and began doing therapy work with her. Advancing years and arthritis in Holly’s bad leg finally ended her therapy career, but she still serves as Margaret’s companion and best friend.

As my mother used to say about marriage, *There’s someone for everyone*. In spite of the “Malinois mantra” quoted earlier, I truly believe that—with the exception of a biter—there’s a home for every Malinois, and—with the exception of an irresponsible owner—there’s a Malinois for every person. The trick is finding the right match! —*Nancy Bennett, 29 Fieldston Rd., Princeton, NJ 08540; nancyb@ignet.com* ♦



**Belgian
Sheepdogs**

HELPING THE BELGIAN BUYER

The Belgian Sheepdog is not for everyone. Here is the advice I give to prospective first-time owners; you may find it useful when prospective owners contact you.

“The Belgian Sheepdog is a lively breed who must have daily exercise for his keen mind as well as his agile body. He is a dog who does not take well to isolation, and should be treated and included as part of the family. When the Belgian does not get these things, he often becomes destructive or aggressive. If you have decided you can meet these criteria and are now looking for a new Belgian puppy to bring into your life and heart, you are probably searching for the breeder who can supply you with the puppy of your dreams.

“Finding a good breeder can be hard, as there are reputable and disreputable people everywhere. There are some things a first-time

Belgian puppy buyer can look for, however, that will help in your search. The first thing any prospective puppy buyer should do is to learn as much as they can about the breed. Do your homework. Whether you are interested in a pet or a conformation show puppy, read the breed standard and learn it. Learn what is required of the breed, as well as any disqualifications that would prevent the dog from being shown. Go to dog shows and speak to owners and handlers. Look at and interact with dogs. Speak to breeders about what they are breeding for, and inquire about future litters. Don’t be afraid to ask as many questions as you can. Become very familiar with the breed before you buy that puppy.

“The next step is to find a reputable breeder. Hopefully, in your search for information you have met some people whose dogs you admire, or a breeder or two you are interested in. Visit these breeders if you can, and see how the dogs are cared for and where they are kept. Again, ask as many questions as possible. Breeders can’t predict the future health of their dogs, but there are some tests that might help a bit with this. Personally inquire about the tests they perform prior to breeding. Every dog they breed should have been X-rayed for hip and elbow dysplasia and tested for normal thyroid function. The dogs also should have had their eyes tested and certified, and they should be free of any known seizure disorder. The breeder should guarantee in writing that the puppy you buy will be free of these genetic problems, and should be ready either to replace the pup with another or to supply you with a refund if need be. If the breeder you are speaking to does not do these things, then it is time to find a breeder who does.

“Lastly, if you are looking for a conformation puppy, make sure he does not have any disqualifying faults before you take him home. The male conformation puppy should have both testicles, should be the proper color, and so on. Sometimes things change as the puppy matures but, in my experience, most often they don’t. Take

your time, ask questions, do your homework, and soon you will have the pup you have longed for.”

—*Peg Koller, 10 Classic Ct., Medford, NY 11763; pegkoller@optonline.net* ♦



Border Collies

MEET THE BCSA BOARD

The board members of the Border Collie Society of America (BCSA) are an interesting group of people with a wide variety of experiences with our breed. Here is a brief biography of each board member.

President *Michelle Olsen* has been showing dogs since the 1970s, beginning with Beagles in obedience, Junior Showmanship, and 4-H. Michelle has had Border Collies for 13 years, and owns two Border Collie rescues along with a young, smooth-coated Canadian import and a German Wirehaired Pointer. Michelle competes in obedience, agility, conformation, and herding, and recently acquired a new Border Collie puppy.

Vice President *Joyce Norris* obtained her first Border Collie in 1981. She breeds Border Collies under the Norwood prefix and her dogs have attained Champion, OTCH, MACH, HC, UDX, TDX, and ROMX titles. Joyce owns a grooming, obedience, and herding training business. Her own dogs participate in herding, obedience, agility, tracking, and therapy.

Treasurer *Wayne Koutsky* is a certified public accountant and an AKC obedience judge. Obedience is Wayne's first love, but he and his wife, Linda, have also titled their dogs in conformation, agility, and herding. Wayne shares his home with six Border Collies—five American-bred and one from the United Kingdom.

Corresponding Secretary *Laura Wright* has five dogs: three Border Collies, a Papillon, and a Lhasa Apso. She has shown multiple breeds in conformation, and also competes

in agility, herding, obedience, and freestyle. Laura brought home her first Border Collie seven years ago, and she enjoys the versatility of the breed—working cattle one weekend, and dancing in freestyle the next!

Recording Secretary *Kelly Lee Hagstrand* has had Border Collies for 10 years. She lives with three, two of whom are titled in obedience and agility. Due to time constraints, Kelly is currently participating in obedience only. Kelly believes there is a place in the Border Collie world for every dog sport interest.

Board Member *Beth Bartholomew* fell in love with Border Collies 12 years ago. She admires the breed's quirkiness, intensity, and special beauty. Beth has two Border Collies and an English Shepherd, all of whom are rescues. Beth did obedience with her English Shepherd and her older Border Collie, but now her focus is primarily on agility. Beth and her dogs are also doing some herding.

Board Member *Sally Davis* has a background in Basset Hounds; she

earned the second-ever TDX on a Basset. Border Collies came into the picture when Sally wanted a dog with the desire to play games with her. She has had three OTCH Border Collies, three with agility titles, one TDX, and two with herding titles. Sally's chief interests as a board member include health issues that affect the Border Collie breed, and a strong desire to keep the studbook open, as she feels it would be to the breed's advantage to have as large a gene pool as possible.

Past President *Denise Teal* started with Shelties in obedience 26 years ago and added her first Border Collie seven years ago. She has competed in agility, herding, and conformation with her Border Collies, and also trains and shows other people's dogs in herding.

Thanks to the BCSA board of directors for sharing their diverse backgrounds with the readers of the GAZETTE. —*Gerrienne Darnell, 11092 240th St., Council Bluffs, IA 51503; GerrienneDarnell@aol.com* ♦



TARA DARLING

Border Collie

HERDING GROUP

Bouvier des Flandres



HEADS AND TAILS

Last year the dog community successfully fought a proposed California ban on cropping and docking. (When the mayor of Hollywood garnered media coverage with his opposition to cropped ears and docked tails, one resident commented that he should focus instead on banning Hollywood's human residents from seeking excessive cosmetic surgery!) Over time, breeders of dogs whose working traditions include cropping ears and docking tails have faced challenges to their right to choose how to care for their dogs. The Bouvier standard specifically offers a choice, stating that "if cropped" the ear must be triangular in shape.

Why do breeders crop and dock? In the past, farmers realized that docked tails protected dogs from sustaining injuries caused by knocking tails against hard surfaces, catching tails in gates and barn doors, or from encounters with predators. Injured tail tips do not heal well. (Just ask Great Dane owners about split tail tips.) Liquid bandages may prevent infection, but the tail is still susceptible to another injury with a swift flip against a doorjamb. There are elaborate systems designed to immobilize the tail and prevent recurring injuries, including splinting the tail and taping it to the hind leg. But such injuries are not a concern when tails are docked.

The causes of ear injuries include hematomas from

shaking heads, predator attacks, embedded objects such as foxtails and burrs, and chronic infections. In some lines, hair can be heavy on the ear and inside it. These factors contribute to ear infections by setting up a closed environment covered by heavy ear leather. Cropped ears may prevent chronic ear infections by permitting airflow. If the ear is natural, the owner may need to be even more diligent with ear examinations and care. Both natural and cropped ears require trimming and plucking the hair inside the ear.

Cropping and docking are based on commonsense animal husbandry, with a concern for the safety and comfort of the adult dog. The practices were not based on appearance, but on practical solutions to ensure that the dog would not sustain an injury that might evolve into a serious illness.

Challenges to our right to choose to crop or dock are just a part of a movement whose goal is to limit our right to keep and enjoy dogs. A small number of dog people are doing yeoman duty to protect these rights. The American Bouvier des Flandres Club has stepped forward and named Patte Klecan as chair of the legislation committee to help us continue to participate in dog shows and breed litters. Perhaps you can carve out some time to volunteer for the committee.

Even if it is only a few hours, your

participation will help. Visit the ABdFC web site, www.bouvier.org, for information on the legislation that threatens our sport. Do it today, while we still have a sport to protect.

—Jeannette Nieder, R.D. 1, Box 251, Greenfield, NH 03047 ♦

Briards



PHYSICAL CONDITIONING

Every dog should be given the opportunity to develop the physical abilities that will allow him to respond easily to commands. A key ingredient is trust. Certainly performance dogs must trust you as trainer and master, but it is also imperative that they trust their own mental and physical abilities. The dog requires both physical and mental conditioning to develop that level of confidence, and that conditioning must come from training provided by you.

Before beginning any physical conditioning our dogs must have a full veterinary exam, including hip X-rays, eye tests, and so on. I do not like to begin physical conditioning until the dog is 2 years old. But we do train the younger dogs with an abbreviated routine in order to develop the confidence they will need for future, more intensive conditioning. For example, if we will be biking the adult dog to build muscle, we begin by teaching the puppy or young adult how to move safely beside a bike, always connected with a Springer bike attachment. Warm-up and cool-down periods are vital each time you do roadwork: Never scrimp on either one. We teach the young dogs to stop, turn left, turn right, and to back up. We may actually bike them for perhaps a quarter of a mile, round-trip, and work up to a distance of no more than a

Canaan Dog



KENT DANNEN

mile by the time they are 1 year old.

While training, we watch how the young dogs move. They should go at a clean trot, with a speed conducive to *proper* movement. If you look down on your dog in movement, you will clearly see his reach, drive, momentum, and balance. Always make sure the dog is moving efficiently. By understanding his optimal movement, you will also be better prepared to recognize any injury.

Once the dogs are adults, we slowly work them up to a distance at which they are happy and still benefiting from the exercise. I've found that four to six miles is usually enough. As we build their endurance, we watch for them to tire slightly. As soon as we see any sign of tiring, we encourage them to go just a little further. Usually we carry some small stones, which we toss well ahead of us into the tall weeds on the side of the road. Then we say, "Get the rabbit!" or "What was that?" As soon as the dog gives you that extra energy, encourage him and ask for "a little bit more." Once he has offered you more, you should stop for the day. We condition a dog every other day, and do it year round *as long as the weather and road conditions are safe for the dog.*

These basics apply with any form of physical conditioning you do with your dog. Many books cover specific conditioning and training relevant to your particular performance interests. A physically and mentally conditioned dog is a happy, healthy pet.

—Becca Weber, 7455 Sunwood Dr., Neenah, WI 54956 ♦



Canaan Dogs

STRUCTURE, MOVEMENT, FORM, AND FUNCTION

Novice exhibitors may think the faster a dog is moved in the conformation ring, the better, but that simply is not true for the Canaan Dog. When in search of a mate or looking for food, this natural dog would find it

necessary to cover much terrain without structural stress and the resultant fatigue. Movement is influenced by correct structure, and structural appearance—whether correct or not—can be dictated by movement. Therefore, in this breed with moderate angulation, a medium reach and drive at a moderate speed are most advantageous.

The correct movement of the Canaan Dog is a balanced, brisk, energy-efficient, ground-covering, natural trot, referred to as an "endurance trot." There should be no wasted movement, no motion that causes jerking of the shoulders, swaying of the topline, overreaching of the hind feet, or pounding of the front feet. The movement of the total body should be smooth and effortless.

Natural movement should allow the instantaneous changing of direction: For a herding breed such as the Canaan Dog, this is essential. Hackneying in front, or kicking the rear feet far out and up behind, are indicative of wasted motion and should not be seen in a Canaan Dog of correct structure. Pacing is inappropriate in a mature dog. Canaan Dogs single-track at higher speeds, but such speeds are not ordinarily seen in the ring.

The judge who asks an exhibitor to walk the dog or to move more slowly is the judge who is properly assessing the gait. In down-and-back gaiting, some young dogs move quickly away from the judge and may then proceed to "crab" or side-wind in an effort to see what the judge is doing behind them. Teaching the *walk* command at the beginning of training may help avoid that tendency. The handler may find it useful to begin moving the young Canaan Dog at a walk and then, as control is obtained, increasing the speed—but never to the point where the structural assembly is stressed or control is lost. The use of distractions, such as people or other dogs in the training ring, will also desensitize the dog to actual ring conditions.

Because the Canaan Dog is inherently reserved, in the ring there should be no excess of animation, which tends to upset the appearance

of the controlled, comfortable dog and may also be used to hide a defective gait. A self-assured presence is preferred. A dog who is poised and bold will carry his tail and head above the level of the topline as he moves. But some Canaan Dogs display more of the herding dog attitude—the observant, focused dog with a job to do—and will move with head and tail on a level with the topline. If gaiting is correct, that dog should not be penalized for such an attitude. Though presented in the conformation and performance arenas, the Canaan Dog should display the correct, untiring, natural movement that led to its survival in the desert.

—Donna L. Dodson, 29275 Pleasant Hill Rd., Kingston, IL 60145; knandog@aol.com ♦



Collies

THE COLLIE STANDARD

The official AKC standard for the Collie, as approved by our national parent club, is the blueprint of the breed. It should be the guideline that each and every breeder looks to when they set on a course of breeding Collies. There may be some who do not agree with each and every point, but when breeding or judging, it is *the* guide that should be followed.

When the Collie Club of America was formed in 1886, the first standard adopted by the club was actually the same standard used in England at that time. In 1898, when the club finally wrote its own standard, it was loosely based upon both the English and Scottish standards and incorporated both scales of points used in those two countries.

Over the course of 119 years, the American Collie standard has been changed only four times. As the show Collie evolved during the late 1800s and into the early 1900s, the biggest changes came in regard to size and head. Today we would

HERDING GROUP

cringe at some of the descriptive terminology of the original standard! "The skull of the Collie should be quite flat and rather broad, with fine tapering muzzle of fair length and mouth the least bit overshot, the eyes widely apart." We forget that there were many reasons for certain descriptions and terminology. For instance, the Collie standard puts great emphasis on head, eye, and expression. In the old days, when the Collie's function was herding or driving, the last thing the shepherd wanted was a dog who looked like a wolf!

Standard revisions are usually controlled by a handful of individuals and certainly reflect those individuals' views, interpretations, and prejudices, but in most cases there have been very excellent reasons for the changes. Typically, standard revisions came about as issues or problems arose. The first change in the American standard involved size. In 1898 the standard read, "Dogs 22 to 24 inches at the shoulder, bitches 20 to 22 inches. Weight, dogs 45 to 60 pounds, bitches 40 to 50 pounds." The problem was that most of the Collies of that time, including the ones being imported from Great Britain, were actually bigger and heavier than the standard allowed. Thus the size guidelines were changed twice over the course of the next 50 years.

Certain areas of the original standard were murky and in need of clarification. For instance, Collie gait was not described until the 1950 standard revision. Yet the description of gait was still incomplete until the 1977 standard revision, when "single tracking" was finally described. Collie colors also were not defined in early standards. When the original standard stated "color immaterial," it meant almost anything was possible. Though sables and tri's were mentioned in the 1898 standard, blue merles and whites (which had been exhibited for years) technically weren't even allowed until the standard revision of 1950!

Though the smooth Collie was first mentioned in the English standard

adopted in 1886, the next two standards made no reference to the smooth. It wasn't until the standard revision in 1950, that smooths were once again included! —Gayle Kaye, P.O. Box 24368, San Jose, CA 95154; Chelscolly@aol.com ♦

German Shepherd Dogs



This month's guest columnist is Ginny Altman, a retired medical professional and president of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America.

*GDV OR GASTRIC TORSION

There are a number of conditions that result in obstruction of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract and lead to the need for emergency treatment. The most common is bloat, also known as acute Gastric Dilatation Volvulus (GDV), or torsion.

GDV is a life-threatening condition that is not uncommon in the German Shepherd Dog. In this condition the stomach twists 180 degrees or more and pinches off its own blood supply. It also twists the opening into the stomach from the esophagus and the outlet from the stomach to the small bowel. GDV can come on quite suddenly as a rapid enlargement of the abdomen but can also be present in a more subtle way before abdominal bloating is observed. The dog may have repeated regurgitation of water or foamy saliva, or retching that does not bring up either food or water. He then may begin to salivate or drool. Initially the dog may appear restless, pacing about, unable to find a comfortable position. The dog may get up and lie down repeatedly and seek contact with his human companions.

When the full-blown syndrome is manifested, the dog is in acute distress. The dog may sit or stand continuously in an effort to relieve pressure on the diaphragm. The

torsion compresses the major blood vessel to the liver and the major vessel that returns blood to the heart. The ability of the heart to pump blood is compromised and the dog's blood pressure drops. Breathing becomes difficult due to pressure on the diaphragm and lungs. The tongue, gums, and the inside of the lips become very pale or blue, and the dog may collapse within minutes.

Once the condition is recognized, attempts to decompress the stomach should begin immediately. Air pressure must be relieved either by passing a tube down the esophagus into the stomach or by placing a needle into the stomach to evacuate the gas, and the dog's condition must be stabilized with intravenous fluids, antibiotics, and steroids. Exploratory surgery is often needed to untwist the stomach. In surgery, damaged areas of the stomach wall may be excised, and often the spleen will have to be removed. The stomach is then tacked to the abdominal wall in a procedure called gastropexy, in an attempt to prevent a reoccurrence of GDV. It must be noted that 20 to 40 percent of these dogs will die regardless of treatment. The risk increases to 40 to 60 percent if it was necessary to have part of the stomach removed for inadequate blood supply.

Following recovery from surgery, it is recommended that the dog's normal diet be divided into three or four feedings per day and that exercise be limited within the first hour or two following eating. But research studies have not correlated feeding habits or type of food with the development of GDV. The cause of GDV remains uncertain, although the greatest incidence is in deep-chested dogs. At one time it was thought that males were predisposed to this condition, but this has not been supported by recent evidence.—G.A.

Thank you, Ginny. Readers may contact me directly for the full text of this column on gastric torsion.

—Lanalee Jorgensen, P.O. Box 330, Greencastle, IN 46135; WallaceLL@fssa.state.in.us ♦

Old English Sheepdogs



FINAL THOUGHTS

This is the last in a series of columns concerning the history of the Old English Sheepdog, written in preparation for our breed's AKC centenary. The dogged historian in me has always rebelled at the idea that our OES can not be traced back further than a few hundred years, and now I've found proof that he has been with us from the very begin-

added] and they are always ready for a romp or an excursion or anything you want to propose."

There's more. Consider this newly discovered chapter in the Book of Genesis: "Adam and Eve said, 'Lord, when we were in the garden, you walked with us every day. Now we do not see you any more. We are lonesome here, and it is difficult for us to remember how much you love us.' And God said, 'No problem! I will create a companion for you that will be with you and will be a reflection of my love for you, so that you will love me even when you cannot see me. Regardless of how selfish or childish or unlovable you may be, this new companion will accept you

reflection of my love for you, his name will be a reflection of my own name, and you will call him *Dog*.' And Dog lived with Adam and Eve and was a companion to them and loved them. And they were comforted. And God was pleased. And Dog was content."

And now back to Eve's diary, as transcribed by Twain: "The animals are all friendly ... They all talk, and they all talk to me, but it must be a foreign language, for I cannot make out a word they say; yet they often understand me when I talk back, *particularly the dog*. [emphasis added] ... It shows that they are brighter than I am, and are therefore my superiors."

And that is my final word on the subject. —*Kathleen Rafferty, 300 Water St. #310, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783* ♦



DANA M. CHICHESTER

Old English Sheepdog

ning. Consider the following excerpts from *The Diary of Adam and Eve*, discovered and translated by Mark Twain.

First, from Eve's diary entry for Friday: "I had to have company ... so I made friends with the animals. They are just charming, and they have the kindest disposition and the politest ways: they never look sour, they never let you feel that you are intruding, they smile at you and wag their tail, *if they've got one*, [emphasis

as you are and will love you as I do, in spite of yourselves.' And God created a new animal to be a companion for Adam and Eve. And it was a good animal. And God was pleased. And the new animal was pleased to be with Adam and Eve. And Adam said, 'Lord, Eve has already named all the animals in the kingdom and I cannot think of a name for this new animal.' And God said, 'No problem! Because I have created this new animal to be a

Polish Lowland Sheepdogs



Julie Kennedy Cochrane, who breeds and trains Polish Lowland Sheepdogs in agility, is our guest columnist this month.

PONS IN AGILITY

The Polish Lowland Sheepdog is a true working breed. Often called the PON (the acronym for Polski Owczarek Nizinny), this medium-sized, shaggy dogs has excelled at herding sheep in Poland since the 13th century. The PON has a squarish, thick-boned frame and long, heavy, double coat that protects him from harsh weather and predator attacks. At first glance, the breed does not seem to have a body type suitable for agility. Yet the PON can excel at agility because of his exceptional intelligence, keen desire to please his handler, and need to "get it right."

Speed and accuracy are the keys to success in agility. The PON is a strong runner but will never be as speedy as those streaking Border Collies who seem to dominate the agility events on TV. Never mind: What the PON lacks in speed, he

HERDING GROUP

makes up for in accuracy. A PON trained in agility is so tuned to his handler that he rarely makes mistakes.

A beginning handler quickly discovers that she has as much to learn as her dog. Body language is more meaningful to the dog than hand or voice commands, so if you are pointing your hand towards a jump and yelling "over," but your feet are pointing towards a nearby tunnel, the dog will probably take the tunnel. He will be right, of course. Most agility mistakes are due to handler error.

For anyone thinking of doing agility with any dog, it is imperative to get some basic obedience training first. A dog must have a reliable sit, down, and stay in order to start agility training. Once a PON has learned obedience, he easily shifts into agility. Polish Lowland Sheepdogs are quick learners, and they often master the various types of agility equipment faster than other dogs in the class. The major challenge for a PON is to increase speed without sacrificing his natural accuracy. Weave poles were always the hardest for my dogs. They never missed a pole, but it was a huge effort to get them to speed through them. Yet my PONs managed to attain Novice and Open Agility titles and to compete on the Excellent level.

The rapport that develops between a Polish Lowland Sheepdog and his handler in agility is something special. This breed's concentration and enthusiasm for learning are amazing. But take care: The PON is so sensitive to correction that you must be careful not to overdo it, lest you crush their spirit.

I will confess another reason why I love to do agility with my PONs: You don't have to dress up, or groom your dog. At AKC events, the agility competitors always look a lot scruffier than those in obedience or the breed ring. Handlers wear running shoes, shorts, or sweatshirts. Without all the grooming, the dogs look more natural and don't mind getting dirty as they run the course. And we have a lot more fun, too!—J.K.C.

Thank you, Julie.—*Russell E. Tesarz, 205 Colonial Ave., Concord, NC 28025; retesarz@aol.com* ♦



Pulik

WINNERS AND LOSERS

Every once in a while something happens that convinces me the dog fancy attracts a fair number of folks who can't recognize what winning really is, because for them it's not about the breed, it's about *them*. Recently, Annie Clark wondered in a column she wrote for another magazine why it is that one does not see the evolution of uniformity and overall improvement one would expect to see coming from today's retired winners in the various breeds.

IT IS SAD BUT TRUE THAT THE AVERAGE STAY IN THE FANCY FOR A PERSON WHO BREEDS AND SHOWS DOGS IS ONLY SEVEN YEARS.

It is sad, but nevertheless true, that the average stay in the fancy for an individual who breeds, shows, and participates in local clubs and AKC-sanctioned dog shows is seven years. Originally, entry into the fancy was intended to be a lifetime commitment on the part of mostly well-heeled folks who could afford to make breeding decisions that would not necessarily result in a winning record short-term but would ultimately put them in a position to dominate four or five generations and 10 or 15 years later.

Seven years is not nearly enough time to acquire and then apply a working understanding of genetics as that discipline relates to sound decisions regarding which dogs to breed to produce a multiple BIS winner. Indeed, in Pulik seven years is hardly enough time to produce, finish, and finally campaign a puppy from a single litter. As a result, we often encounter individuals at ringside who seek immediate gratification, recognition, and status vicariously through ownership of a near-perfect

specimen they can stand next to in the winner's circle. It is rare that these types are actual breeders, and heaven knows their loss to the fancy would undoubtedly have at least a short-term negative economic impact.

Because this market exists, some breeders cater to this group and have historically taken a "mud-at-the-wall" approach to breeding, looking to quickly create the phenom who can fill the bill. Too many times we have seen beautiful representations of the Puli win a national specialty and then go on to produce no progeny of their caliber and, in some instances, even to set the breed back with some of the hidden genetic land mines they brought to the party. Check these dogs' pedigrees in each generation

going three generations back, and you will undoubtedly find they are all over the map. They will most likely mirror the simplistic philosophy that if one takes the number-one bitch in the country and breeds it to the number-one dog, one will get the next number-one puppy.

There is hope though! In Pulik, we are finally beginning to see consistency and uniformity. At this year's national specialty, two of the four award of merit-winning Specials had puppies from those same lines entered who won Best Junior in Sweeps, Best of Opposite Sex Junior in Sweeps, and Best Puppy in regular classes.

Though their Specials did not *win* on that particular day, their owner-breeders were not losers. In fact, in my book they were the biggest winners, and everyone in Pulik is bound to benefit eventually from their many years of dedication, ethical integrity, and hard work.

—*Tom Motter, 13725 S. Fort St., Draper, UT 84020; tmotterksj@msn.com* ♦

Shetland Sheepdogs



EVALUATING SHELTY PUPPIES

It must be nice to have puppies who grow up all of a piece—a breed where you make your picks at 8 weeks, then sit back and watch them grow into exactly the kind of dogs you predicted they would be. For better or worse, the life of a Sheltie fancier is rarely this dull. In this breed, the journey from promising puppy to mature, competitive adult is seldom smooth and uneventful. Head planes go off and come back; muzzle and underjaw disappear and reappear; bites, toplines, and movement change—from week to week, and sometimes from day to day. Adding to the excitement is the widely varying maturation rates of Sheltie puppies. Even within the same litter, one puppy may be “all there” at 7 or 8 months, while his once equally promising littermate now lacks body, muzzle, and coat.

Lacking a crystal ball, we must predict our puppies' future by relying on past experience and our knowledge of the dogs in each pedigree. We cross our fingers and make our best-informed guesses about whether an early-maturing puppy is likely to go oversize or coarsen, whether his very immature brother is likely to “come on,” and whether that currently horrendous front will improve. But even our best guesses can be wrong: We've all held on to pups we shouldn't have, and sold ones we should have kept.

If experienced breeders sometimes are befuddled when evaluating Sheltie puppies, it should come as no surprise that judges may feel equally puzzled. When one 6-to-9-month puppy “looks like a Special,” and the other is “a regular-size cutie,” as one judge put it, which is more correct? The answer is to judge Sheltie puppies as you would judge any other dog—against the standard and on the day. Our judgments in the conformation ring must not be based on what the dog might be in two weeks, or two months, or two years. This means not making excuses for sloppy movement in very young dogs. It also means not worrying that the

lovely 7-month-old who just barely measures in will go oversize before he finishes (or, worse, after). By all means, call for the wicket, but remember that “in-size” on the day is “in-size”: Whether the dog grows more in a week or a month is not your concern. On the other hand, don't get taken in by puppy bloom. Before you point to that glamorous youngster, be sure there's a correct dog underneath.

Breeder-judges must work extra hard to resist the urge to “look ahead” and to simply evaluate what is presented on the day, especially when it means putting up a dog one may not like as well, or at all, in another year. As a breeder-judge, I've found that judging the dog on the day sometimes means that the puppy I would most like to take home might not even win his class.

The very immature puppy who doesn't even garner a class placement may be the breed's next top sire or special. But so might the very mature pup you could have sworn would end up oversize and overdone. Luckily, judges can leave the crystal ball gazing to the breeders: An ability to predict the future is not a requirement for the job! —*Kim Schive, 493 Westford St., Carlisle, MA 01741; kschive@post.harvard.edu* ♦



Shetland Sheepdog

Cardigan Welsh Corgis



*GREEN PAWS?

Ah, spring and summer! With warm weather, a Cardigan turns his thoughts to gardening and yard improvements. My Cardigans dig holes randomly, prune my flowers mercilessly when I'm not looking, and keep the grass short by pounding paths through the yard. I even have dogs who supervise from afar when I mow. The Cardi's idea of a perfect yard is one with plenty of grass to romp on, dirt to excavate, and a muddy water hole.

As an indulgent owner, I go along with plenty of grass but realize that a

HERDING GROUP

water garden would be a disaster in my dogs' paws. I long to have a picture-perfect yard, but the fact is the yard is the dogs' playground and will never make the cover of *Southern Living*. Compromises must be made as I consider what might look good but also hold up to the short-legged antics of the Cardigans. I also need to consider what hazards I might inadvertently introduce if I don't choose wisely. This year I am especially concerned as I have a new puppy, and little Electra has already shown a typical Cardigan aptitude for pruning and digging.

Garden safety is often overlooked by pet owners, but it shouldn't be. With a little research—and a lot of back-breaking labor—everyone can have a pet-friendly garden. After doing their homework, owners should be armed with enough information to make the pets' area safe. First, owners should check their yards for possible hazards. These include poor fencing, improper chemical storage, leftover plant stakes or guide wires, and unsecured compost piles. Certain plants, wild and cultivated, can be poisonous to dogs.

Owners can take several steps to transform their yards into a pet paradise. First, repair the fences and remove any dangerous physical hazards. Keep hazardous chemicals—fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides—where neither pets nor children will have access to them. Evidence is mounting that some of these chemicals are associated with increased rates of canine cancer, so consider replacing them with more natural control methods such as marigolds, soap mixtures, and old-fashioned weed plucking. If chemicals must be used, spray only occasionally, don't let dogs into the area while the foliage is still damp, and be sure to keep pets from eating recently sprayed plants. Avoid using those products that linger in the environment. My Cardigans not only dig but often eat the dirt as well, so I particularly avoid anything promoted for long-term release.

Remove or relocate any plants you've identified as being poisonous

to dogs. If removal isn't an option, then pet-proof them by putting up an attractive fence. Relocate compost piles and get rid of any cocoa bean mulch, especially if it's fresh. Cocoa bean mulch is both tempting and toxic to dogs. For rock eaters (and we seem to have more than our fair share in Cardigans), avoid the use of small gravel for bedding or pathways. Use larger stones that can't be swallowed, or use untreated pine bark, cedar chips, or mulch.

As for my yard projects, the dogs and I have agreed to put in two new flower beds that will provide shaded nesting spots for them and color for me—but no goldfish pond. Tails, we all win! —*Kathleen Harper, P.O. Box 20715, Tallahassee, FL 32316; kharper@mailier.fsu.edu* ♦

Pembroke Welsh Corgis



HAVE YOU HERD?

The growth of Pembroke Welsh Corgi participation in the AKC herding program demonstrates the devotion of its fanciers to the heritage of this smallest herding breed. The Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America held its first herding trial in 1992 in Houston, with four entries—three in Herding Started and one in Herding Tested. Compare that with the entry of 136 in the three-day trial, including one day open only to Pembrokes, held in 2004 in Cookeville, Tennessee!

Exhibitors at Cookeville ranged from first-timers in the test classes to those looking for majors toward a herding championship. Pembrokes took their turns at ducks, sheep, and cattle. Ch. Cibola Rhapsodi Wants It All, HXAsd, had the honor of winning the first ever Pembroke-only major. Serious Corgi herders feel the Pembroke herding program had a long infancy, but that it has now come of age with that major at a specialty trial, something offered by only a very few other parent clubs.

The first Pembroke herding

champion, HC Pokies Country Gal, VCD1, achieved that milestone in 1996. The breed's second, HC Caralan Mrs. Thatcher, OA, NAP, NAJ, was crowned in 2004. Entries at the national specialty trials have increased dramatically each year, and in 2003 we held our first Pembroke-preferred trial. An Internet list was also started that year to promote herding for both Corgi breeds. There are three Pembrokes currently vying to become the breed's first Dual Champion (Ch. and HC). Twelve Pembrokes have earned a total of 18 HX titles, with five of those titles earned in 2004. It seems Pembrokes are being taken more seriously by the herding community these days and are no longer considered anomalies at herding trials.

Many Corgis and their people get their initial taste of herding through a herding fun day instinct test. While these tests are not always an indicator of future prowess, the experience often whets the appetite for more. But herding is time-consuming and expensive. One must have livestock and someone willing to instruct. One must learn about stock—generally the dogs know more about stock than do their beginning handlers!—while the Pembrokes are learning how to negotiate courses and follow commands. The results are well worth it, of course. Our jack-of-all-trades Pembrokes usually love to work livestock if given opportunities to do so. It is breathtaking to watch a breed do what it was developed to do, and do it well.

Cookeville gave people a chance to see many Pembrokes work on all types of stock at all levels of herding. It proved to be an outstanding educational event for all present. We invite you all to attend our next milestone—a two-day Pembroke-only herding trial at our national specialty in St. Louis, September 11–17. All events—herding, tracking, agility, obedience, rally, and conformation—will be held on site. Visit www.pwcca.org for more information. —*Lynda McKee, 43 Thornbush Ct., Hiram, GA 30141; Mckee0995@comcast.net* ♦

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Renton, Donna (p.d.s.) P.O. Box 801, Beaver Creek, OR 97004-0801. tawny@hevanet.com. 503-632-6903.

SOFT COATED WHEATEN TERRIERS

Schneidewent, Debbie (p.d.s.) Route 1, Box 482-1, Center Point, TX 78010. 512-634-2173.

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, Inc. 1945 Edgewood Rd., Emerald Hills, CA 94062. 650-299-8778. www.scwtca.org

SPINONE ITALIANO

Channon, Lois (p.d.s.) Risky Business Kennels, PO Box 307, Warsaw, VA 22572. 804-333-0309. spinone@spinone.com

TIBETAN SPANIELS

Bradbury, Pamela (p.d.s.) Dragonsong, 14408, CR 215, Grand Junction, MI 49056. 269-427-7567.

www.DragonsongTibetanSpaniels.com

Ponton, Billie and Wayne (p.d.) Batu, Brookfield, CT 06804. 203-775-5153. billbatu@juno.com

Salberg, Barbara & David Richman (p.d.s.) Britwalds, Reg., 145 Hallenbach Rd., Glen Spey, NY 12737. 845-858-1770. britwalds@earthlink.net

TIBETAN TERRIERS

Charlene Hari (p.d.s.) 5 Maybeck Dr., Poquott, NY 11733. 631-689-0281.

WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIERS

Di Liberto, Anne (p.d.s.) 4282 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314. 718-761-1235.

Diemer, Dawn F. (p.d.s.) Pandwyck, RR 5, Box 60, Sunbury, PA 17801. 570-988-0911.

WHIPPETS

Maytag, Mona (p.d.s.) Ampersand, PO Box 399, Dover Plains, NY 12522. 845-832-6711.

Reimer, Dianne (p.d.s.) SNOWCAP, 738 River Road West Trenton, NJ 08628. (609) 882-0436. snowcap-kennel@aol.com

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Walpert, Fred & Marcia (p.d.s.) 7363 Old Columbia Rd., Columbia, MD 21046. 301-596-2714.

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DOG AND LITTER REGISTRATION

The following figures represent the number of dogs and litters registered during April 2005, as compared with April 2004.

GROUP NO. 1—SPORTING BREED	—Dogs—		—Litters—		BREED	—Dogs—		—Litters—	
	2005	2004	2005	2004		2005	2004	2005	2004
Brittany	662	709	179	213	Fox Terriers (Wire)	79	116	48	43
Pointers	41	60	8	6	Glen of Imaal Terriers	2	2	1	0
Pointers (German Shorthaired)	1,099	1,140	264	296	Irish Terriers	11	27	13	7
Pointers (German Wirehaired)	114	134	26	31	Kerry Blue Terriers	39	54	20	20
Retrievers (Chesapeake Bay)	318	337	60	76	Lakeland Terriers	10	16	12	10
Retrievers (Curly-Coated)	18	9	3	3	Miniature Bull Terriers	13	23	9	5
Retrievers (Flat-Coated)	58	52	3	8	Miniature Schnauzers	2,099	2,350	1,022	1,014
Retrievers (Golden)	4,293	5,240	1,252	1,540	Norfolk Terriers	33	30	14	13
Retrievers (Labrador)	12,267	14,389	3,744	4,151	Norwich Terriers	79	70	32	22
Retrievers (Nova Scotia)	15	29	7	4	Parson Russell Terriers	124	135	57	76
Setters (English)	50	67	13	9	Scottish Terriers	332	362	165	148
Setters (Gordon)	64	80	16	13	Sealyham Terriers	5	7	3	0
Setters (Irish)	119	179	49	31	Skye Terriers	3	11	0	2
Spaniels (American Water)	18	14	6	2	Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers	202	211	82	106
Spaniels (Clumber)	32	19	3	4	Staffordshire Bull Terriers	75	78	21	20
Spaniels (Cocker)	1,496	1,916	737	904	Staffordshire Bull Terriers	54	70	29	39
Spaniels (English Cocker)	93	136	40	32	West Highland White Terriers	712	719	319	382
Spaniels (English Springer)	725	896	246	286	Manchester Terriers	41	43	30	15
Spaniels (Field)	8	10	7	0	Total Terrier	4,989	5,572	2,254	2,310
Spaniels (Irish Water)	25	7	3	3	GROUP NO. 5—TOY				
Spaniels (Sussex)	2	1	3	1	BREED				
Spaniels (Welsh Springer)	25	23	8	6	Affenpinschers	31	22	11	23
Spinoni Italiani	30	25	2	5	Brussels Griffons	168	158	88	81
Vizslas	319	335	70	91	Cavalier King Charles Spaniels	677	661	298	241
Weimaraners	718	891	222	265	Chihuahuas	2,169	2,490	1,474	1,540
Wirehaired Pointing Griffons	28	42	7	5	Chinese Crested	248	207	101	97
Total Sporting	22,637	26,740	6,978	7,985	English Toy Spaniels	21	22	14	14
GROUP NO. 2—HOUND					BREED				
BREED					2005				
Afghan Hounds	68	73	11	13	Havanese	344	321	125	107
Basenjis	168	190	17	17	Italian Greyhounds	244	245	116	110
Basset Hounds	748	1,031	343	385	Japanese Chin	125	172	67	69
Beagles	3,494	4,167	1,070	1,296	Maltese	1,266	1,374	869	924
Black and Tan Coonhounds	8	6	4	4	Miniature Pinschers	1,016	1,232	585	691
Bloodhounds	245	353	61	84	Papillons	576	651	297	308
Borzoi	62	86	8	10	Pekingese	340	413	178	246
Dachshunds	3,489	3,863	1,943	2,056	Pomeranians	1,830	2,180	1,243	1,382
Foxhounds (American)	3	3	2	1	Pugs	1,954	2,170	1,038	1,069
Greyhounds	11	16	3	1	Shih Tzu	2,607	3,006	1,381	1,508
Harrriers	5	4	1	1	Silky Terriers	127	133	88	85
Ibizan Hounds	11	2	4	2	Toy Fox Terriers	62	56	38	31
Irish Wolfhounds	78	101	16	22	Yorkshire Terriers	4,105	4,153	2,347	2,318
Norwegian Elkhounds	70	80	24	27	Total Toy	17,910	19,666	10,358	10,844
Otterhounds	1	1	0	1	GROUP NO. 6—NONSPORTING GRP				
Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens	28	44	10	3	BREED				
Pharaoh Hounds	8	15	0	0	American Eskimo Dogs	42	48	10	19
Rhodesian Ridgebacks	194	217	43	55	Bichons Frises	850	1,029	444	491
Salukis	23	33	5	7	Boston Terriers	1,365	1,506	675	691
Scottish Deerhounds	22	15	0	2	Bulldogs	1,844	1,910	631	654
Whippets	136	167	29	38	Chinese Shar-Pei	310	467	145	152
Total Hound	8,872	10,467	3,594	4,025	Chow Chows	147	183	63	71
GROUP NO. 3—WORKING					BREED				
BREED					2005				
Akitas	270	319	115	113	Dalmatians	86	93	20	29
Alaskan Malamutes	157	209	72	74	Finnish Spitz	6	2	5	1
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs	36	15	12	9	French Bulldogs	366	340	126	119
Bernese Mountain Dogs	332	342	105	118	Keeshonden	78	76	28	29
Black Russian Terriers	9	18	1	1	Lhasa Apsos	379	419	189	233
Boxers	3,237	3,701	1,135	1,150	Lowchen	6	14	1	4
Bullmastiffs	366	355	97	97	Poodles	2,913	3,249	1,658	1,750
Doberman Pinschers	983	1,122	280	311	Schipperkes	86	100	52	55
German Pinschers	9	8	5	0	Shiba Inu	147	182	85	104
Giant Schnauzers	95	105	23	34	Tibetan Spaniels	50	72	14	14
Great Danes	815	907	255	259	Tibetan Terriers	61	59	22	18
Great Pyrenees	183	271	89	106	Total Nonsporting Grp	8,736	9,749	4,168	4,434
Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs	51	81	15	11	GROUP NO. 7—HERDING				
Komondorok	9	7	2	4	BREED				
Kuvaszok	6	25	3	0	2005				
Mastiffs	649	635	167	172	Australian Cattle Dogs	132	127	47	53
Neapolitan Mastiffs	19	42	6	8	Australian Shepherds	553	584	201	213
Newfoundlands	320	368	88	105	Bearded Collies	46	59	12	13
Portuguese Water Dogs	117	127	24	29	Belgian Malinois	63	72	21	21
Rottweilers	1,513	1,812	457	639	Belgian Sheepdogs	35	26	10	6
St. Bernards	351	410	132	124	Belgian Tervuren	39	54	5	9
Samoyeds	113	171	22	37	Border Collies	171	235	49	38
Siberian Huskies	925	1,151	391	427	Bouviere des Flandres	89	76	18	17
Standard Schnauzers	60	53	12	15	Briards	25	19	5	2
Total Working	10,625	12,254	3,508	3,843	Canaan Dogs	12	8	4	1
GROUP NO. 4—TERRIER					BREED				
BREED					2005				
Airedale Terriers	216	285	81	69	Collies	481	584	169	199
American Staffordshire Terriers	151	204	38	41	German Shepherd Dogs	4,044	4,759	1,320	1,441
Australian Terriers	47	51	12	14	Old English Sheepdogs	130	163	49	39
Bedlington Terriers	24	12	5	5	Polish Lowland Sheepdogs	4	19	3	1
Border Terriers	98	102	19	29	Pulk	12	12	7	4
Bull Terriers	170	153	55	39	Shetland Sheepdogs	1,348	1,586	590	707
Cairn Terriers	317	393	151	175	Welsh Corgis (Cardigan)	97	98	23	19
Dandie Dinmont Terriers	5	3	3	2	Welsh Corgis (Pembroke)	940	1,137	426	475
Fox Terriers (Smooth)	48	45	13	14	Total Herding	8,221	9,618	2,959	3,258
GROUP NO. 20—MISC BREEDS					BREED				
BREED					2005				
Plotts	70	8	0	2	Total for Month	82,060	94,074	33,819	36,701
Total Misc Breeds	70	8	0	2					



Mel Cummin Goes to War

One of the unsung heroes of GAZETTE history was master draftsman Mel Cummin.

Cummin came to us in the 1940s, after years as a syndicated comic-strip artist. His experience in that hectic, deadline-a-day business served him well at the GAZETTE, where at a moment's notice he would furnish illustrations for every conceivable kind of dog story.

In this first installment of a two-part tribute to Cummin we sample his work from the World War II years, when dogs served and sacrificed alongside their masters. ♦



Left: Cummin's work was usually published even smaller than it is here. It's a testament to his drafting skills that the intricate detail survives drastic reduction. Right, top to bottom: A 1944 item about FDR's wish to breed Scottish Terriers inspired this caricature of the president and his

beloved Fala; Two takes on wartime food rationing on the home front—the strange-but-true story of a Dachshund forced to give up his morning coffee, and a report about dogs recruited to guard rationed beef against black-marketeers; The artist's view of an Army K-9 who got lost in Chicago and was brought to a shelter by military police to await recovery; A plan to outfit military K-9s with radio receivers brought out Cummin's romantic side; Tinker, the mascot of Ladd Field, Alaska. The Air Force supplied the Scottie with his own mukluks, faithfully rendered by Cummin. Right: Thanksgiving, 1943.

Next Month—The Fabulous '50s: Mel Cummin's Happy Days.



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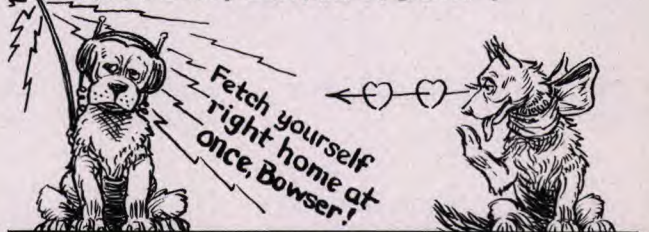
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Fibrous material, used liberally in dry feeds today, is one of these interference factors and has no place in rations designed for carnivores. The primary reason for the use of fibrous material is that it is industry's chosen method of firming the stool (artificially). The Abady Company's approach is entirely different. Firm stools are produced through the use of species-appropriate ingredients in a natural way thereby avoiding the anti-nutritional side-effects created by vast quantities of roughage. Significant amounts of roughage (the levels required to firm the stool artificially) speed up the transit time of the food through the stomach and the small intestine and slow it up through the colon (the opposite of the way in which species-appropriate ingredients are processed by the body). The increased transit time through the stomach and small intestine reduce the amount

of time the body requires to break down the ingredients and absorb the nutrients. In the small intestine the roughage physically interposes itself between the nutrients and the absorptive surfaces, blocking the absorption of nutrients into the bloodstream at those sites. **This is particularly meaningful because nutrients must be available in the right amounts and the correct patterns the instant the body calls for them to build or repair a bodily structure and any failure to deliver all of the needed nutrients or interfere with their availability can result in permanent damage to the animal.** The slowing of the food and fiber's passage through the colon (large intestine) creates a firm stool, but it also causes toxins to be retained in the ileum (lower part of small intestine and the colon) setting up the animal for torsion or bloat, if the toxins are of the paralytic variety, and many plant-based toxins are. Ingredients often included in dog food, such as beet pulp, soybeans, sorghum (milo), alfalfa, oats, potatoes, garlic and yucca contain these paralytic toxins, they are called saponins. **Saponins are also interference factors that are at the very least digestive tract irritants, they can inflame and corrode the digestive tract, cause hemorrhages in the stomach and intestines, interfere with nutrient absorption and damage the digestive organs themselves.** Without the smooth function of the digestive organs, efficient processing of food cannot take place. **Saponins interfere with growth by speeding up the rate of growth while interfering with the enzymes needed to break down and utilize protein, interfere with reproduction by lowering conception rates and causing resorptions and abortions, they also dissolve red blood cells causing anemia, and last, but not least, have caused bloat in every animal in which they have been tested -- including dogs.** Naturally, the inordinately large amounts of fibrous material and saponin-containing ingredients included in other products are excluded from Abady products. While industry is busy ignoring or denying the saponin/fiber/bloat connection advanced by the Abady Company, Purdue University has recognized an increase of 1500% in bloat and torsion since 1964 and suspects that a new ingredient in feed or a method of production may be at the root of it.

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