

The Basenji Club of America, Inc.



Bulletin

Board Newsletter

August 15, 2009

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*****2009 National Website*****

<http://www.basenji.org/nationalspecialty/2009>

National Counts

Sweepstakes - 99
Conformation - 261
Rally - 16
Junior Showmanship - 9
Obedience - 6

ON THE MOVE

Address, Telephone Number and Email Changes



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SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

The Bulletin Board Newsletter is published in conjunction with membership in the Basenji Club of America, Inc. Dues are \$15 for single members; \$25 for family memberships. All applications for membership require the signature of two BCOA members in good standing. Send membership inquiries to Linda Ehlers, 151 NW 251 Rd., Warrensburg, MO 64093. Phone 660-747-8552. E-mail < jerlin@wcbluc.net >.

DATES OF PUBLICATION

January & February; April & May; July & August; October & November

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

All submissions are requested by the 15th of the month preceding issue.

Send to:

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In accordance with the By-Laws any member in good standing may send comments on applicants for membership to the BCOA Secretary within a period of fourteen days following the date of the newsletter publication. Comments will be sent to these person(s) for reply, and all comments and replies will then be sent to the Board. * Indicates a junior membership. Please consider the date of publication of this newsletter to be **August 15, 2009.**

Submit Address and Email changes to

Laura Mae Hesse, Laurel Basenjjs
278 W Washington St.
Poynette, WI 53955-9449

(608) 692-0414

E-mail bcOA.treasurer@charter.net

**Basenji Club of America, Inc.
National Specialty Calendar**

2009 – Sept 1 – Sept. 6

Lexington, KY, Griffin Gate Marriott Resort and Spa
Specialty Chair: Wanda Pooley & Sally Wournos

2010 – Aug. 31 – Sept. 5

Greeley, CO, Island Grove Regional Park
Specialty Chair: Pat Bird

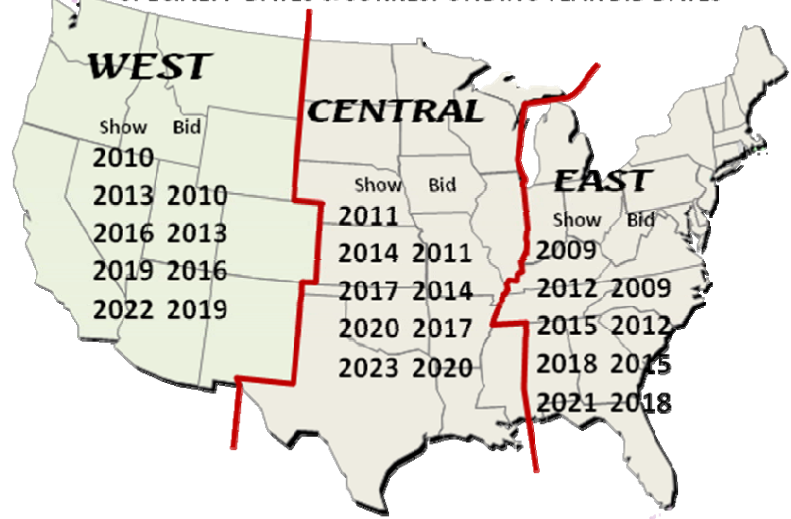
2011 – Sept. 20 – Sept. 25

Manitowoc, WI
Specialty Chair: Beth Straub

- All dates pending AKC approval

PERPETUAL SPECIALTY CALENDAR

SPECIALTY DATES & CORRESPONDING YEAR BID DATES



SUBMITTING EXPENSES TO THE BCOA TREASURER

Please note per BCOA Ballot 2004 – 48, published in January 2005 Bulletin Board:

“BCOA members incurring expenses covering BCOA budgeted items during the fiscal year shall submit invoices to the Treasurer on or before March 1st of the next year to be eligible for reimbursement. Expenditures incurred by members that are not covered by the Budget shall require Board approval. These bills shall be submitted to the Treasurer on or before February 1st of the next year. Committee Chairs shall be responsible for notifying committee members to submit receipts for expenses within this time frame.”

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

- **HELEN CRONENBERGER**
3923 Heights Way, San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 479-7524 <hcronenberger@satx.rr.com>
Denise Vertrees, Jo Lynne York
- **KATERYNA & TONY TAIDI**
3851 Goldfinch St, Palm Harbor, FL 34681
(727) 784-9750 <ktaidi07@yahoo.com>
Connie L. Camp, Janice O. Harrison

BALLOT 2009 – 37: APPROVED
Postmarked July 26, 2009

SUBJECT: DATE EXTENSION FOR ANNUAL ELECTION
Effective August 6, 2009

Because of the delay in the publication of the July Bulletin Board Newsletter, resulting in its not reaching the membership until July 22, 2009, in order to provide the full time of one month for BCOA members to submit other nominations for the 2010 Officers and Board of Directors, please send your vote on the following extension of deadlines given in BCOA By-Laws:

- By-Laws: Additional nominations must be postmarked by August 15.
- Extension: Additional nominations must be postmarked by August 29.
- By-Laws: Additional nominations must be received by Secretary by August 22.
- Extension: Additional nominations must be received by Secretary by September 5.
- By-Laws: The membership ballot must be postmarked by September 15.
- Extension: The membership ballot must be postmarked by September 29.
- By-Laws: The Inspectors of Election report the results of the election by October 31.
- Extension: The Inspectors of Election report the results of the election by November 15.

APPROVED: Auerbach; Bolté; Curby; Graves; Greenlee; Hesse; Phillips; Schreiber; Stargell; Webb

BALLOT 2009 – 38: APPROVED
Postmarked July 26, 2009

SUBJECT: DATE EXTENSION FOR ROUND 2 OF JUDGES
Effective August 6, 2009

Because of the delay in the publication of the July Bulletin Board Newsletter, resulting in its not reaching the membership until July 22, 2009, in order to provide time for BCOA members to submit other nominations for Stage 2 of the vote for Conformation Judge at the 2012 BCOA National Specialty, please send your vote on the extending the date for submitting other nominations from August 1 to August 15.

APPROVED: Auerbach; Bolté; Curby; Graves; Greenlee; Hesse; Phillips; Schreiber; Stargell; Webb

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APPROVED: Auerbach; Bolté; Curby; Graves; Greenlee; Hesse; Phillips; Schreiber; Stargell; Webb

BALLOT 2009 – 39: APPROVED

Postmarked July 26, 2009

SUBJECT: INSPECTOR OF ELECTIONS

Effective August 6, 2009

Please send your vote on approving Elizabeth P. Miller [Houston, TX] as Inspector of Elections for the Annual Election of BCOA Board of Directors and Officers for 2010.

APPROVED: Auerbach; Bolté; Curby; Graves; Greenlee; Hesse; Phillips; Schreiber; Stargell; Webb

BALLOT 2009 – 40

Postmarked July 28, 2009

SUBJECT: AKC LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Effective August 7, 2009

Please send your choice for the AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards in each of the three categories.

Conformation: Sandra Goose Allen; Jean Fournier; Helen Lee James

Companion Events: Sharon Anderson; Shirley Indelicato; Jill Jones

Performance: Jo Ann Frier-Murza; Jacqueline Mertens; Wayne Price

Majority Votes to: Jean Fournier; Sharon Anderson; Jo Ann Frier-Murza

BALLOT 2009 – 41: APPROVED

Postmarked August 5, 2009

SUBJECT: PRINTING BASENJI COLORING BOOK

Effective August 15, 2009

Please send your vote on the expenditure of one thousand five hundred and ninety-nine (\$1,599.00) dollars for the printing of 2,000 BCOA breed-specific coloring books to be distributed and/or sold at the discretion of the BCOA Board.

APPROVED: Auerbach [“This is the sort of very appealing project [that could be easily and completely covered with fundraising - and I do think we should pursue in this case.”]; Bolté; Graves; Greenlee; Hesse; Schreiber; Stargell; Webb

DISAPPROVED: Phillips [“Who would vote against coloring books for children? A fair question. My vote is actually immaterial because a majority of Board members had voted in favor of the ballot before I had the information I needed to make up my mind. Some of us had a question for the treasurer which she answered promptly within 2 days, but by then the motion had passed. This was a case when the majority of the board felt we needed to move quickly and that details could be worked out later. The idea behind the coloring books is to have them as a Public Education tool, so I would have preferred that the distribution be at the discretion of that committee rather than a Board responsibility, and I would have liked to have had a plan to recover the investment before we moved forward with this project. Both of those can be addressed after, but I think it's good discipline to have the plan in place before spending the money.”]

NO RECORD OF VOTE: CURBY

It's Where the Obama's Didn't Purchase Their Pup That Matters

No, they didn't get a shelter dog. So what?

The First Family's First Puppy is as pure bred as they come, a Portuguese Water Dog named Bo, a gift from Senator Ted Kennedy's family, who have three Portuguese Water Dogs of their own.

By accepting 6-month old Bo, who had been returned to the breeder by another family, you'd think animal rights (AR) groups would be pleased with the President's choice. Instead, PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) and the Humane Society of the United States were sharply critical of Obama because he didn't adopt a shelter dog, as if somehow dogs in shelters are suffering only because Obama chose a dog from a breeder.

To be absolutely clear – adopting a shelter animal is one way ordinary people can do something extraordinary, it's relatively inexpensive and you may potentially be saving a life. It's a great thing to adopt a shelter animal. However, I'm sick and tired of the AR groups blaming responsible breeders for the ills of animal shelters, as if they are somehow to blame for too many animals being given up and too few being adopted.

When I began writing this column nearly 15 years ago, most people considered shelter dogs and cats damaged goods, and were reluctant to adopt. That false perception is no longer accepted as fact. Shelter adoptions are up, and in many places way up. In fact, today, some communities even have shortages of adoptable dogs, so they 'import' them from other cities, counties or states where there's an abundance in packed shelters. Meanwhile, spay/neuters are up, and overpopulation is down in many parts of America. A complex web of caring volunteers rescue pure-bred dogs and pedigreed cats, yanking them from shelters (freeing space there for others), and bringing those rescued into home environments to be adopted.

When you subtract the dogs and cats considered unadoptable for behavior and/or health reasons, we're doing better than ever when it comes to adoptions. Still, YES YES YES – absolutely too many animals languish and die in shelters. I'm not disregarding that tragic fact.

Unfortunately, animal rights (AR) organizations have blasted Obama for not choosing a shelter dog. Obama's not alone. Joe Biden was attacked for purchasing a pure bred German Shepherd dog. In fact, according to these extreme AR groups, anyone who purchases a pure bred dog or pedigreed cat from a breeder is considered to be directly responsible animals dying in shelters. That leap of faith is simply wrong.

Pets purchased from conscientious breeders rarely land in shelters because, according to most contracts they must be spayed or neutered, and if anything goes wrong those pets are supposed to be returned to the breeder. That's exactly what happened to the Obama puppy that unfortunately turned out to be a poor fit for his first home. He was returned to the breeder, rather than dumped at the door of a shelter. If somehow, some way that puppy did land in a shelter, Portuguese Water Dog Rescue would have saved him.

In fact, the AR groups have it backwards – responsible breeders are a part of the solution, not a part of the problem. The problems begin with the idiots who breed animals for all the wrong reasons, they don't belong to a breed club or consider genetics in their haphazard breeding; they simply hope to make a buck.

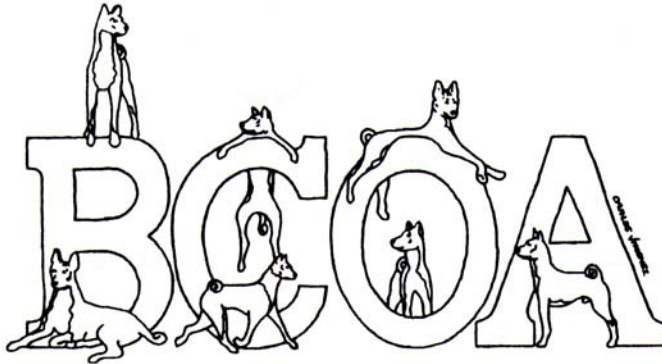
Totally at fault are the pet stores (whose supplies are from puppy mills and commercial warehouses) selling to anyone who has cash (credible breeders are discerning and interview perspective buyers).

Most of all, according to data, here are reasons animals most often land in shelters: it's owners who can't deal with a behavior problem and can't find or don't bother to seek suitable help; relocate but without taking the pet; people who rent an apartment or buy a condo where pets aren't allowed but are soon discovered so the pet losses; or increasingly they simply can no longer afford to maintain the pet. Increasingly, lots of dogs are confiscated from gangs and other 'bad guys.'

Dealing with all these issues is what we should all be working on – not worrying about the breeders who are acting responsibly.

If the AR groups literally had their way – based on their own statements – there would be no breeding whatsoever. Their mantra is to advocate all breeders go away and that each and every animal is “Bob Barkerized” (spayed or neutered). If that were to literally happen, Maine Coon cats would soon be as endangered as the Cheetah; and American Cocker Spaniels or, for that matter, Portuguese Water Dogs would be as threatened as the African Wild Dog.

Made to feel guilty, and pushed to do positive PR, the Obama's will make a contribution the Washington (D.C.) Humane Society. That's nice. But the Obama's have nothing to feel guilty about. If you purchase a dog from a pet store or a reckless breeder, now you should feel guilty. But that is not what the Obama's did. In fact, they didn't make any purchase since Bo was a gift from the Kennedy family. Rescuing an animal from a shelter is good, but so is choosing a loving and responsible breeder – these two choices are not mutually exclusive.



August 15, 2009

Bulletin Board Newsletter

Jackie Jones, Editor

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Treasurer: Laura Mae Hesse, Laurel Basenjjs
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