

MINUTES OF THE 1998 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BASENJI CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

The annual meeting of the Basenji Club of America, Inc. was held in the Holiday Inn at the Crossings, Warwick, Rhode Island on September 25, 1998.

The following members were present, of whom the total number was 118, constituting a quorum of the 903 voting members: Toni L. Ackerman, Ronald C. Anderson, Carol Lee Anderson, Lynn Arrand, Lisa Corell Auerbach, Linda Auld, Mark A. Baime, Fran E. Beckett, Beverly A. Bland, Damara Bolté, Judy Brader, Kim Brallier, Sandra L. Bridges, Kathryn R. Britton, Jan Bruner, Karen M. Butler, Connie L. Camp, Katie Campbell, Susan M. Campeau, Stanley A. Carter, Susan Coe, Patrick J. Cotter, Maria Cotter, Iris M. Craven, Elda R. Cross, Gerald T. Cross, Nancy Cunningham, Jon Curby, Christine Danker, Donna DeFlorio, Jann DeLee, Tom DeLee, Charles A. Denslow, John Donald, Robyn A. Dubbert, Lucretia P. Dye, Dani Edgerton, Elspet M. Ford, Diana J. Foster, Frances J. Foster, Michelle T. Gahgan, George W. Gavaletz, Teresa B. Gavaletz, Carolyn Noll Gerics, Judith Glass, Katherine L. Goldman, Anne L. Graves, Margaret Greenlee, Cindy Griswold, Margaret B. Grundman, Susan T. Harbison, Mark Hayes, Laura Mae Hesse, Evelyn H. Hirt, Bob House, Ann House, Karen Hutchinson, Elizabeth M. Jackson, Michael Jameson, Shirley J. Jones, Brenda L. Jones-Greenberg, Suzanne LaCroix, Tracey Leonard, Kenneth A. Lindberg, Phyllis LoBue, Sheila M. Lund, Pamela (Lund) Geoffroy, Elizabeth M. Lundell, Lisa Marshall, Patricia G. Marshall, Susan Kamen-Marsicano, Kristen K. Gawley, Bill McCann, Michael McNulty, Joy McNulty, Mark W. Meister, Catherine Meister, Barbara Shearer Moulton, Carol S. Mount, Paul R. Mount, Barbara Narehood, Dennis R. Narehood, Malinda A. Parker, Everett Pashley, Karen L. Pashley, Andrea L. Paysinger, Mary K. Quinnett, Jeffery Raines, Linda Raines, Deborah Ann Riva-Terista, Linda Ross, Stella Sapios, Andrew Sawler, Sharron Schmidgall, Denise Searcy, Sid Sher, Sue Sher, John Siverson, Angel Smith, Donna E. Smith, Sally Ann Smith, Laurie A. Stargell, Andrea M. Stone, Michael R. Swan, Carmella Troisi-Hoerr, Sandra K. Tucker, Carol Webb, June Weedy, Priscilla Weeks, Elizabeth A. White, Susan C. Wilcox, L. Jane Williams, Nancy Wilson, Dawn Wood, Thomas Wright, Tonda Wright, Sally Wuornos, Bruce Wuornos, Kari A. Wuornos-Winger, June C. Young.

President Margaret Greenlee called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Tracy Leonard moved, Sharron Schmidgall seconded, that the reading of the minutes of the 1997 meeting be dispensed with and that the minutes be accepted as published. Motion carried.

Secretary Anne Graces read her report. Carol Webb moved, Stella Sapios seconded, that the report be accepted. Motion carried.

Treasurer Margaret Grundman read her report. Tracy Leonard moved, Damara Bolté seconded, that the report be approved for audit. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

African Stock Project

L. Jane Williams reported the publication of the *African Stock Handbook*, a looseleaf book intended to have pages updated and added. It is available for \$10.00.

AKC Delegate

Jon Curby reported that the American Kennel Club has experienced a painful year, but did finalize the decision to move all offices to North Carolina. AKC held its first delegates' meeting outside New York City in over one hundred years, helping the media and the public realize the large number of people involved in running its

activities. The other important accomplishment of the last year has been the integration of the DNA profiles in the management of the registry in a few months significantly lowering the percentage of invalid registrations. AKC continues to work to get its computers up to date. Mr. Curby noted that the interaction between delegates and AKC officials has improved considerably in the last couple of years. He pointed out that sometimes pedigrees for descendants of recent African imports still are difficult to get, since the blanks in the ancestors of the Africans automatically stop the printing of a pedigree. Shirley Jones commented that recently such a pedigree came through quickly and without a problem.

Ethics Committee

Sandra Bridges proposed adding to the membership application and/or renewal form a space for prospective or renewing members to check that they will abide by the Code of Recommended Practices.

President Greenlee pointed out that AKC has consistently disapproved of such actions to By-Laws of member clubs; furthermore, if these are only on applications for new members, then new members would be held to these standards and old members would not.

Mrs. Bridges then asked if the membership renewal form could have a place to check voluntary compliance with the code.

Discussion of ways to add this followed: Sally Wuornos said that perhaps peer pressure would get breeders to sign if there is some way to show this in the *Roster*.

Sally Ann Smith noted that the name of what we have now is the Code of Recommended Practices not a Code of Ethics.

Kathryn Britton said that sometimes people become breeders by accident; if they have not sign, are they unethical by definition?

Carol Webb pointed out that ethical practices cannot be legislated; attempts to enforce standards such as in our Code will blow up in our faces.

Brenda Jones-Greenberg suggested a five-year apprenticeship for membership before being granted voting privileges.

Kathryn Britton spoke against such a restriction.

Connie L. Camp moved that the Ethics Committee (Sandra Bridges and Patricia Bright) work up a proposal on this matter to submit to the Board of Directors for consideration. Lynn Arrand seconded the motion.

Tracy Leonard proposed an amendment to the motion, which would now read: that the Ethics Committee work up a proposal on voluntary publication in the *Roster* [of members who signify compliance with the Code of Recommended Practices] and submit to the Board for official statement within six months. (The bracketed words were not actually stated in the motion but were clearly intended to define who would be published.) Ms. Camp having accepted the amendment, Lynn Arrand seconded it. A count of hands showed 51 in favor, 17 opposed to the motion. Motion carried.

Genetic Health Registry

Stanley Carter reported that the health registry is now basically a Hemolytic Anemia registry, since that is the only disease so far in which we can positively identify affected and carriers. All dogs tested in the Specialty tests have tested negative for HA. The committee is still discussing ways to form a registry for some of the other diseases, but this registry would necessarily be inconclusive until DNA and other tests have been developed. Dogs in the open registry have to be tattooed or microchipped.

Health and Research

Lisa Corell Auerbach reported that this committee met on Sept. 24, 1998, to discuss doing another health survey, using some new technical support from AKC, particularly in statistics. This might include analyzing

the incidents of reports of various diseases vs. actually having tested for them. The committee is updating the health pages for the web site.

The committee is considering submitting to the Board a proposal to allow mild iris-to-iris PPM as acceptable in getting a CERF.

Committee members extended their thanks to Betty White for extra-special help with eye and HA clinics on this day.

Ms. Auerbach asked for donations to Dr. Acland for the Baker Institute.

Hip dysplasia research for OFA continues with Gary Johnson; lack of pedigrees has slowed this down, but Wanda Pooley has helped with her extensive pedigree data base.

The last topic was Fanconi research. Dr. Johnson's project is coming to a close: the first gene thought likely to be the Fanconi culprit did not turn out; the second does not look likely, at this point. (The progress report discussing the results in detail will be published in the next *Bulletin*.)

Historian

Andie Paysinger said that there is no major change in the archives; she continues to laminate and store material sent to her.

She reported the discovery of a 1967 book *Jungle for Sale*, by Henry Trefflick, importer of Kindu and Kasenyi in 1941. In this book, he tells of other imports who were sold – a fascinating tale; Ms. Paysinger suggests looking for this book in used bookstores.

After spending some years in trying to get the archival historical pictures on videotape (over nine hours so far but not close to finished), she has recently been able to begin putting this material on CD-ROM. The quality of the pictures displayed on the screen is very good – in some instances, clearer than the originals – and the CD offers the advantage of quick access to individual pictures: no need to wind and rewind tape.

She asked members to remember the archives when thinking or hearing about appropriate material about to be discarded. She can help with postage and other delivery costs.

Judges Education

Lu Dye reported on seminars in Texas and Pennsylvania, as well as one which she asked Susan Coe to present.

Junior Showmanship

Lisa Marshall explained the schedule of points earned by Juniors and noted that results are printed in *The Basenji* magazine monthly and also are posted on the BCOA web site, with the annual tally in *The Bulletin*. She listed the impressive number of Junior in the top ranks, as well as those who qualified for Westminster, in the six years she has been keeping the tally. This year, two Basenji Juniors won regional competitions in the invitational sponsored by Pedigree, and both of them competed in the national level in San Antonio in August. All these competing Juniors have been good ambassadors for our breed.

Public Education Coordinator

Christine Danker noted that many of the AKC pamphlets have been reworked; samples were available in the hospitality room (at the Specialty) and from AKC.

She also commented on the Canine Ambassador program; details are available on the AKC web site.

Stud Dog/Brood Bitch Tallier

Katie Campbell brought Laura Pond's report and a request for corrections when necessary.

Web Page

Katie Campbell also brought George Woodard's report of over 3,500 visits to the BCOA web page. He has given local Basenji clubs an opportunity to have their own pages in the BCOA web site and several clubs have done so. The offer is still open, as is listing on the rescue pages. He aims to make these pages a good reference tool for fanciers and data repository, and he asks for members' input about what they would like to have on the pages.

Other committee chairs either were not present or submitted long printed reports. All reports will be printed in *The Bulletin*.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Tracy Leonard pointed out that sometimes a kennel name especially associated with a longtime and respected breeder is adopted by a person new to the breed and not associated with the breeder who originated the name. A petition has gone to AKC to give breed clubs the ability to retire kennel names.

She moved that the kennel name Reveille be retired. Bob House seconded the motion. He also commented that perhaps the Board of Directors should study this idea and make a recommendation. (In additional remarks, he praised the Bay State Basenji Club for their choice of site and management of this National Specialty. Enthusiastic applause.)

Dr. Leonard then amended the motion to include such names as Reveille, Serengeti, Akuaba, etc. Bob House seconded the amendment.

Andrew Sawler then proposed the amendment that the Board of Directors consider formulating a position on the issue of retiring kennel names, especially of breeders still living. Bob Barkan seconded this amendment.

Sally Wuornos reminded that AKC considers only the first word in a dog's registered name as the kennel name, so if someone uses a kennel name in the middle or end of a dog's name, this is not a kennel name in AKC's view. Perhaps if there is enough negative comment from enough different people and clubs, AKC could be inched from this position.

Discussion followed on definition and retirement of registered kennel names. The question being called, and a point of order being raised about what part was being voted on, the motion passed as amended.

Susan Kamen-Marsicano suggested following fund-raising practices of Cooper-Union College, which raises a big proportion of its budget and knows the most efficient ways.

A question about next year's National Specialty was answered that it is in Scottsdale, AZ, October 26 – 31. More information is available on the web site.

Charles Denslow asked for more help from the national club in rescue efforts. President Greenlee answered that we are quite close to issuing Guidelines for rescue groups, but that rescue will remain under the control of local groups.

Christine Danker told of the Borzoi national rescue group separate from the breed club, with its own 800 number.

The videotapers from Discovery Channel have unofficially told some BCOA members that the Basenji tapes will air in February 1999 on Animal Planet's "Breed All About It." Some report that other breeds have had

their sensible warnings about problems in their breed edited out and only the nice things left in. All should help to warn this may be too rosy a picture.

Tracy Leonard announced ASFA top coursing dog of 1997 is awarded to Charles Denslow's "GiGi," FC Cynosure Go Getter SC LCM2, with 231 defeats, multi-BIF awards and most Basenjis defeated in the year to date.

President Greenlee announced the BCOA Unsung Hero award is presented to Russ Jacobs, longtime loyal member and chair of the lure coursing committee, liaison with ASFA and one who has given most help in getting and keeping Basenjis in lure coursing.

The Treasurer reminded again that BCOA medallions cannot be awarded at specialties of local clubs; the medallions can be awarded at supported entries of all-breed shows.

After the President expressed a special welcome to BCOA members from abroad who had traveled so far, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Following the meeting, two awards were presented.

The CH Reveille Re-Up Award for Sire of the Year, was awarded to CH Akuaba's Tornado, for the most offspring reaching their championships in a calendar year.

The Diane Coleman Memorial Award for the Basenji defeating the most dogs in AKC shows in a year was awarded CH Zindika's Johnny Come Greatly.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne L. Graves, Secretary