

MINUTES OF THE 2005 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BASENJI CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

The BCOA Annual Meeting was held on Friday, September 30, 2005 in Eureka, Missouri. President George Woodard called the meeting to order at 6:53 p.m. Established that a quorum was present, with 91 members in room and more entering.

Board Members in Attendance: Carrie Jones, Damara Bolté, Midge Greenlee, George Woodard, Sally Wuornos, Wanda Pooley, Laura Hesse, Lisa Auerbach and Carol Webb.

Vickie Jacobs moved, Jane Tusten seconded, that we accept the minutes from last year's meeting as published without being read. Motion carried.

President George Woodard announced that Parliamentarian Chris Pickey was present.

President's Report

Treasurer's Report was read by Laura Hesse. Put on file for members' review and audit.

Gale Whitehurst read the **Archives Committee** report for Brenda Greenburg.

Lure Committee report read by Vickie Jacobs.

Award presented for #1 ASFA dog.

Also presented ASFA award for Best of Breed dog at BCOA national specialty ASFA trial to Ch. Hackers Hyde and Zeke bred by Ann and Dan Harrison and owned by Terry and Lisa Lemberger and Ann and Dan Harrison.

Bulletin Report read by Carmella Troisi-Hoerr.

Also noted that Peggy Welker, who has been a valuable assistant to the publication, is retiring from those duties this year. A big thank you to Peggy for all of her help.

Carmella was also asked to speak at the AKC Parent Club Conference to educate clubs about producing the *Bulletin*, it was a very well received session.

Web Page and PayPal

By the time dues are payable, it should be just a push button on the website.

The hope is that anything for which the club needs to be paid can be done through the website and PayPal.

George announced that he was transitioning the bulk of the website work to another member who will undertake an entire website redesign by the end of the year.

Jeraldeen Crandall presented the **Judges' Education Committee** report.

Lisa Auerbach presented the **Health Committee** update.

There are a lot of exciting projects coming up, working with a full genome scan.

Dr. Gary Johnson of the University of Missouri spoke regarding the projects.

Fanconi Syndrome (more detail after meeting in the health committee update). As the Canine Genome project completes, it becomes easier to locate a candidate gene.

Whole Genome Mapping. Working to find markers along chromosomes. Dr. Johnson is looking for very accurate health pedigree information. There was a bit of a false start when the National Institute of Health was going to work with Dr. Johnson's team, but there was some miscommunication. Despite this, they are hoping to start work in 2 – 3 weeks and be done by the end of the year.

Another helpful tool in these projects is www.caninephenome.org. Although they are not enrolling individual basenjies, hope to get that up to date in November. When it is ready to go, hope that people will give personal contact information, info on dogs, info on characteristics, as well as health information and send a sample.

BCOA Delegate Report was delivered by Jon Curby.

Vickie Jacobs asked that we include an “animal advisory” alert and page on the website to assist members and other interested parties to become aware and educated regarding upcoming animal legislation.

Sue Kite seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President George Woodard inquired regarding the status of the vote to grant points to RWD and RWB at National Specialties. This was voted down by AKC.

Other committee reports to be published in the *Bulletin Board*.

No unfinished business.

New Business

Moving the National Specialty must be a by-law change, which would require that the request be published, wait 30 days, membership vote and AKC must approve.

To bring this to a vote, 20% of the membership would have to sign a petition making the request (approximately 160 people).

Katie Campbell brought up the time of year as an issue – shipping dogs restriction, how we get to National Specialties and that there are a limited number of places where we can hold a National. If we can relax the rules, there might be people willing to work on specialties at other times of the year.

Carol Webb brought up that if one group has the National in September and the next wants to hold it in January, then there is very little time between them. In addition, that’s when we have bitched whelping, young puppies and that there would be champions in 12 – 18 month class and the younger dogs wouldn’t be eligible to compete yet.

Board agreed to take the question under consideration and discuss the pros and cons. Ultimately it is up to the membership to enact a change.

Mary DeWhitt brought up the question of reconsidering holding the African Stock Exhibition. The exhibition was originally designed to see the dogs brought back from Africa and to see them melded into the breed. At this point, are they not integrated? The original dogs are gone. Also feels that this is promoting a continued segregation of the “African” versus “domestic” dogs that was the opposite purpose of bringing these dogs into the studbook.

Lisa Auerbach feels that it is important to have an outside gene pool to dip into especially in light of the fact that they appear to be free of our major illnesses.

Carol Webb mentioned that there are three safaris/trips from Africa that hope to bring back dogs and would like to have them registered. However, if they cannot be registered, would like to see them on exhibition.

Sally Wuornos mentioned that the original trip is now 20 years ago. She would prefer to make it an option as opposed to a mandated event. That way, it would be up to the club to determine whether or not there is enough interest in that year.

Tracy Leonard would like to integrate the exhibition into ‘available slot’. Although someone did mention that this event takes about 5 hours, so it’s difficult to find a spot for everything.

Sherry Stevens mentioned that she feels we’re missing the point, that it’s becoming a competition instead of an exhibition.

Linda Pence stated she believed there was an increase in competition. She believes there is still a lot of interest. Carrie Jones would like to see it become optional as well. Would prefer to see how our blends stack up against all dogs, not just those of other Africans.

President George Woodard requested that there be a motion made before more conversation occurred.

Brenda Cassell mentioned another option, that the exhibition be limited to 50% and full Africans.

Sally Wuornos made a motion to have the African Stock Exhibition be an optional event. Mary DeWhitt seconded.

Parliamentarian advised that the required vote would be 2/3 of the quorum present.

Motion failed. (50 in favor, 52 against).

Julie Jones asked if we could have a list of the upcoming judges on the website. However, this is against AKC's policy; they fine clubs for 'advertising prior to approval' of events and judges.

The Unsung Hero Award was presented by Wanda Pooley to Janet Ketz a member who has, year after year, stepped up to work behind the scenes at National Specialties, assuring the success of various events, but especially the auction. She spends hours logging the donated items into the database, marking them with numbers, setting up the tables and assisting with its smooth running.

Wanda Pooley also presented gifts to those members who stopped on their way to the National to help her when her truck and trailer were in an accident on the way to the National this year. Lisa Marshall, Sally Wuornos, Bob and Sue Joyner, Karla Schreiber all provided assistance whether it be transportation, communication, etc.

One more award was presented to Sally Wuornos (VP) when George Woodard was unavailable due to a back problem. Sally stepped up and helped the club continue to function.

Unofficial awards: Diane Coleman award was presented to Ch. Arubmec's Sweet Spot. The Re-Up Award was presented to Ch. Nyanga Signet Sweet William.

Tracy Leonard made a motion to adjourn, Mary Woodcox seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Straub
Secretary Pro Tem