

B.C.O.A. BULLETIN BOARD - July, 1988

B.C.O.A. BUSINESS

BALLOT NO. 27 - PASSED - SUBJECT: NEW MEMBERS, circulated in accordance with the By-laws.

The following individuals have applied for membership in the BCDA. Their names, along with a request for comments, have been published in the February issue of the BULLETIN BOARD. No comments have been received by the Secretary. You are requested to approve the following applicants as members:

Herbert Cooke, VA; Debbie Gray, MO; Diane McCarty, MN; Mr. & Mrs. H. Gossier, Ontario; Al Swapp, WA; Kenn & Rosemary Brown, FL.

APPROVED: Bolte, Bridges, Camp, Coe, Curby, Grundman, Jimenez, Reed, Russell & Williams.

BALLOT NO. 28 - PASSED - SUBJECT: NOMINATING COMMITTEE

You are requested to approve the nomination of the following individuals to comprise the nominating committee for the BCDA officers to serve during the year 1988-89: Susan Coe, Chairman (PA); Mary Woodcock (MO); Joe Hill (CA). Alternates: Cecelia Wozniak (IN); Loretta Kelley (TX).

APPROVED: Bolte, Bridges, Camp, Coe, Curby, Grundman, Jimenez, Reed, Russell and Williams.

BALLOT NO. 29 - PASSED - SUBJECT: CHAIRPERSON, 1991 NATIONAL SPECIALTY SITE AND JUDGE

You are requested to approve the nomination of Pat Edgerton, Ohio, as the 1991 National Specialty Site and Judge Chairperson.

APPROVED: Bolte, Camp, Coe, Curby, Grundman, Jimenez, Reed, Russell, & Williams. DISAPPROVED: Bridges.

*Note, this should be tallier, not chairperson. **Should be tallier, not chairperson. ***I approve Pat Edgerton as tallier for the 1991 National Specialty. @Barbara Jimenez is already functioning in this capacity.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICANTS: In accordance with BCDA Bylaws, if any member wishes, he may send comments on any applicant to the Secretary of the BCDA. Applicants are listed with their two sponsors.

Terese Forster 3 Nantucket Court Madison, WI 53719-2207	Cecily Rappe 521 - 23rd St. Manhattan Beach, CA 90266	Dr. Mark & Judith Holiday PO Box 10415 Denver, CO 80210	Barbara Bradley 9 Fox Run Lane Lincoln University, PA 19352
Sandra Tucker Lucretia Hewes	Carol Webb Mary Watkins	Judy Cunningham Marti Reed	Jane Lodge Damara Bolte
Ms. Mickey Rubin 477 Cook Denver, CO 80206	C. Glenn & Peggy Eaves 7905 Nugget Lane Raleigh, NC 27615	Pam Miller Perkins 4887 Sweetbriar St. Baton Rouge, LA 70808	Anthony & Kathleen Tucci 1 Jerome Ct. Belleville, NJ 07109
Judy Cunningham Marti Reed	Dorothy Ammons Linda Hales	Jon Curby Vicki Curby	Tom Matunas Judy Matunas
Carolyn Lafond 712 Rosecrans Ave. Manhattan Beach, CA 92066	Carolyn Walters 3712 So. Beechwood Springfield, MO 65807	Laura Mae Hesse 278 W. Washington Poynette, WI 53955	Elizabeth Eytchison 211 Fairfield St. Oldsmar, FL 34677
Carol Webb Mary Watkins	Vicki Curby Jon Curby	Lucretia Hewes Sandra Tucker	Jean Kaufman Jean Phillips

Paul Flores
1236 Harker Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94301-3422
Sandra Bridges
Pat Cembura

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP

(Submitted by Francis Bercher, Junior Showmanship Chairperson)

With the March issue of the AKC Gazette, the show results begin for 1988. As in previous years, Junior Handlers showing Basenjis in Junior Showmanship classes will be given one point for each competitor defeated in tallying the BCDA's Top Junior Handler for 1988. Since not all shows offer Best Junior Handler class, these wins will not be included in the tally, though I am pleased to note these wins in this column. Any additions or corrections during the year should be sent to me as soon as possible. For the first three months of 1988, results are as follows:

JUNIOR HANDLER	#	JUNIOR HANDLER	#
Beverly Jean Arrand	5	Tara Kay Harris	11
Alyssa Coe	19	Lisa Wiedemann	2

At the Colorado Kennel Club Show on Feb. 21, Tara Kay Harris defeated 33 competitors for Best Junior Handler. Tara was last year's Top Junior Handler.

EDUCATION COORDINATOR REPORT - April, 1988
Mary O. Jenkins, EC

Since this is a new "chairmanship" for not only the BCOA, but all other Breed Clubs, I thought perhaps at least some of the members might be interested in knowing what has transpired.

First there was the appointment and confirmation of the appointment with all Board Members except one giving a positive vote. There was one abstention. I began thinking what procedures I would propose.

Since I am a judge and frequently apply for additional breeds, I write to the parent clubs for those breeds I plan to apply for next. The responses provide various material. Some in the past used to not reply at all, I would guess that all clubs now have something.

Some clubs have small printed brochures which contain the standard with some form of interpretive comments. There are clubs who have prepared elaborate brochures or booklets with a lot of drawings these are very educational. Some offer either the gift or a loan of the video.

First I proposed to prepare a small pamphlet where the standard would be presented, with a three column spread which would give each paragraph of the standard, what to look for and what to avoid. I had been on a committee to prepare such a pamphlet for the Norwegian Elkhound Club of America some years ago which has since been copied by several other breed clubs. This would be relatively inexpensive.

However, there is now a committee working on revision of our standard. How long it will be till this is completed no one seems to know. But, it seemed to me that this project should be delayed for the time being until we have some idea of when the standard revision will be completed. The same reasoning applies to considering a more ambitious pamphlet or booklet.

Anything at all costs some amount of money. When I inquired about what kind of a budget I could have, I found there was no money allotted in the budget. Subsequently, a revised budget allowed an expenditure of \$75.00 which I had specified as a bare bones minimum to cover copy work, envelopes, postage, etc. The package I have developed is pretty minimal. Even so, it costs about \$1.00 to send it to those who inquire.

While thinking about what kind of package I could prepare, I contacted a couple of members of the BCOA Board asking if they had any ideas or suggestions. Since they did not reply, I presume they have none. I also contacted Jeri Crandall who lives in this part of California and we arranged to get together to talk about the project. She has on several occasions prepared and given some excellent presentations on the Basenji at seminars. She brought copies of these and some other material with her which she passed on to me and all of this has been extremely helpful.

With Jeri's help and advice, we decided to use a copy of the standard with emphasis in bold type on key words in our standard. I took the various presentations she passed on and worked up somewhat of a composite three page paper covering a bit of history and interpretive comments on the Basenji. I prepared a bibliography to be included in the package. The last item is a visual aid which Damara Bolte prepared some years ago.

I took this material to the copy shop, and am now ready to respond to inquiries. I kept the number of copies to a limited number as it is not too difficult to have more made when needed.

The Gazette has begun presenting a list of Breed Clubs with name and address of the Education Coordinator, and I was prepared.

But.... So far I have had no inquiries from any would be judges. A couple of approved judges who live in Northern California and who used me as a reference when they applied for approval to judge the breed, asked for material and are kind enough to say they found the material helpful.

It has been suggested that I send a copy of this packet to each of the breeder judges who are members of the BCOA and I plan to do this. It has also been suggested that the packet be sent to judges who have been approved for our breed in the last two years. I can do that, but haven't yet.

There are many letters that have come to my mailbox from other than judges who have gotten my name from the Gazette listing. A few were interested in purchasing puppies. Even had a phone call a couple of nights ago from a potential puppy buyer. I sent them a reply with a copy to the Breed Club in their area for possible puppy sales. I had a letter from a Animal Shelter in Texas who apparently sent the same letter to all the other breed clubs asking for pictures, slides, and information to educate their employees on identification of the breed so as to make it easier for them to be helpful in returning lost pets to their owners. Very commendable.

I had a letter from a Canadian judge visiting in Texas for the winter who asked for a video tape.

Would be very pleased to receive comments suggestions or any other type of input from any of the members of BCOA. Be kind and constructive with your comments, won't you. Keep in mind that volunteer help does not get paid, and volunteer help, like good men, nowadays is hard to find.

LETTERS

Dear Penny:

I intended to write this letter a long time ago, but I have finally gotten shamed into sitting down and writing it. There has been a lot of talk among the obedience people in this area regarding the elimination of the BCOA's obedience awards and there is a strong feeling of betrayal. The problem is all we have done thus far is talk, letting the non-obedience club members speak in our behalf. If we continue this way, the other members of the BCOA will assume, rightly or wrongly, that the obedience exhibitors do not care about the awards. Personally, if my dog had the highest average score on the way to earning his title I would be thrilled to receive recognition from my national club.

To my mind the purpose of a breed club is to support its members in their quest to enhance the breed image. Anyone who takes the time, effort, patience and love it takes to train a Basenji, or any breed, to an obedience title is definitely helping to enhance the breed image. The three plaques that were awarded annually (if a club member earned them) were very little to ask but meant more than most of you know to those members who earned them. A spending limit could have been placed on these awards, or, if the club does not like the plaques, there are many other options which could be researched by an awards committee. For example as a member of the Schipperke Club of America I received a medallion when my dog earned his C.D. They also give medallions for all the members whose dogs receive Championships and Tracking Degrees.

The statement that the BCOA is not an award giving club is false. The BCOA has been giving these obedience awards for more than twenty years. I do not believe that the ballot discontinuing the awards would have passed if the impression had not been given that all the dogs who got obedience titles received a plaque. I hate to think with over \$7,000.00 in the club's checking account (as of the April/May/June Bulletin) that the 2 awards that were discontinued would break the club.

Remember, if you show, or plan to show, in obedience no one will know how you feel about this issue unless you put it in writing. It doesn't have to be long, just enough to let the rest of the club members know how you feel. The number of responses so far has been embarrassingly small.

Sincerely, **CHRIS HARTLEY**

Dear BCOA Bulletin,

May 4, 1988

In response to Ms. Bingham and Ms. Bruner:

Concerning my commentary on finding puppies sired by my stud in a pet store: We had no knowledge of the placement of these pups in an area pet store. We found out about this placement completely by accident. At the time we were told about this placement, only one of three males was left for sale in the store. (There was a fourth male - he was kept by the breeder.) The last pup was sold by the time we could make an attempt to go get him. Within two hours of the time we found out about this pup in the pet store, every Basenji Breeder, Exhibitor, and Owner that I could find (in person or on the telephone) had information on who and where the pup came from, the bitch's name, the family's address and phone number... not to mention a few choice words added for emphasis. Later, a friend of ours (who was seeking a Basenji), told us that a neighbor had bought one of the pups in question. This person paid \$400.00 to the pet store for a pup "just like the one on TV at Madison Square Garden" and "of top show bloodlines". (At that time, the winner at the Garden was Jazzman. The only things the two had in common was that they were male and red.)

The puppies' pedigree includes (alphabetically): Aleika, Arabrac, Asari, Betsy Ross, Reveille, Shadowbye, to name a few. (No offense intended to these respected kennel names!) By the common made by Jan and Jane about my problem, are they also indicating that these kennels - Aleika, Arabrac, Asari, Betsy Ross, Reveille, Shadowbye - are somewhat less than responsible for having grand-parents to this litter? My point is: You can only hope that the people (that you sell dogs to or allow stud service to) are completely honorable and that they will respond ethically to any given situation. You can only appraise a person at face value. Sure, you can write a fancy contract with anyone, but, a contract is only as good as the people that sign it. Nevertheless, this breeding did take place, the papers were signed, and I made a mistake. The only reason for my "Breast Beating" as you so aptly phrased it is to hopefully keep someone from making the same mistake as mine. You can bet your bottom dollar that this mistake won't happen in my household again.

Please note, as I'm sure you know, that most breeders begin/began their breeding programs by using their stud on a "less than perfect" bitch. (No one can honestly say that they've seen or had a perfect specimen of any breed. If they can make that statement: 1. They are kennel blind. 2. Why breed dogs, since you can't improve perfection?) I'm sure that most breeders have made this mistake at some point in time, but never made the effort to share the experience with everyone to prevent the reoccurrence of any of their pups in a pet store situation. They were very fortunate to have found and retrieved their pups prior to sale.

I can appreciate that Jane and Jan have each expressed their opinions from a standpoint of someone that has never had a problem. Now, take off your rose-colored glasses and see this from my point of view. What would you do in a similar situation? Would you pour your heart out to a hopefully sympathetic audience to prevent a future problem in the household of someone new to our breed? It's a real kick in the teeth to have people to carp about airing a little dirty laundry to inspire a preventative measure. I can only hope that my problem, however unintentional can help to solve a future problem by bringing this out into the open.

If anyone would like to have more details or voice opinions on this, please feel free to write to me or call me at home (6:30 pm to 10:30 EDT) at the address and phone number as follows: 411 Webb's Chapel Road, Denver, NC 28037 - (704) 483-4016

Respectfully, **CONNIE REID**

An Open Letter to All Basenji Fanciers:

I wish to address the recent comments made regarding the breeders who wrote about their experiences when they used their stud dog on a "pet" quality bitch. What you are about to read is not intended to defend or condemn anyone, but rather, hopefully, to enlighten everyone.

Connie and James Reid devote a lot of their time - in one capacity or another - with both their dogs and local allbreed club. They show conformation, lure course, and just recently put their dogs through temperament testing - and came through with flying colors. They are good, honest hard-working competitors and strive to do the best they can.

I was at the show where Connie and James were told about the puppies. They were at first shocked, then furious. After much talking it out with their fellow breeders, they had calmed down enough to start thinking about what they had to do next.

They did try to retrieve the puppies, but the last one had been sold before they could get to the pet shop.

Connie and James are sensible people. They hesitated at first, but after careful evaluation of the bitch, her pedigree and exhaustive explanation of all pros and cons of having a Basenji litter, they decided to go ahead and breed her. . . . We all know the rest of the story.

Connie and James have learned some unfortunate but hard lessons out of all this. They learned that no matter how careful you are you cannot be sure the people you are dealing with are being totally honest with you - whether you are dealing with stud service or selling a puppy. None of us can be 100% right.

The next lesson they learned was - don't admit your error in public. Out of their naivete they announced to the world they had bred to a "pet" quality bitch - now really, do you truly believe they are one-of-a-kind? No - for I know of breeders who openly discuss using their studs on "pet" bitches. (Not knowing the quality of these bitches - they could very well be "show" quality bitches who just never left the couch.)

Has this dampened their concern and enthusiasm? Not totally. Just recently they discovered Basenji puppies in another local pet shop. After careful investigation, they discovered that these puppies had a Champion sire from a "known" kennel (not in the Southeast). Thinking the sire's breeder would like to know, they called the party concerned. What were they told? . . . Well "the dog had been sold on a non-breeding contract(?) and it was out of their hands." In contrast, what did another breeder do when he discovered that one of his bitches had found her way into a "puppy mill"? It took a lot of work, but he finally retrieved her. Nuff said!

When you don't "go public" no one knows about your errors.

The question now is, are they totally discouraged about helping, or rather, involving themselves? Not hardly - for they learned recently of an out-of-state breeder, who due to personal circumstances, could not take a dog back. Connie and James took this dog in, conditioned him, made sure his temperament was stable, then proceeded to try placing him. They contacted most of the "local" breeders for help. As it happened a non-Basenji friend placed the dog - with a gentleman who went to the time and expense of purchasing a crate, etc. He was well informed before taking the dog.

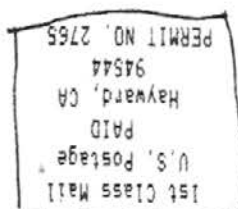
Now, before that dog was handed over, he was neutered (no non-breeding contracts here). I was present when the gentleman took possession of the dog - stitches and all.

As I stated at the beginning - I wish not to defend or condemn anyone. The Reids, however, for not having been in the Breed for many years, are people who are willing to see that they made an error and are willing to accept responsibility for it. They have officially joined the rest of us who have, at one time or another, in one way or another, made some type of an error in judgement. To those of you who can honestly say to yourself that you have never made an error in judgement - don't get too comfortable - your turn has apparently not come yet.

Do me a favor, though. When you do slip up, you don't have to announce it to the world, but please, at least admit it to yourself.

Okay, thank you for your time. Enjoy your dogs, have a good time at the shows and remember - there is always someone out there who has not made their mistake yet, and is more than happy to point yours out.

Best Always, L. Jane Williams



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