Annual Awards – Nancy Reimer
We finally got the remaining two awards from 2003 to their owners in early winter. I was very disappointed in the trophies and the company that made them. I don't feel that we should ever have glass trophies again.

I have contacted my statisticians and asked for the award winners for 2004. I expect to get that information within the month and begin work on this year’s awards.

Annual Versatility Awards & Versatility Hall of Fame– Karen Ackerman
Applicants vying for the AVA have submitted their applications and the winner will be notified this week. Secondly, the information for the Borzoi Lifetime Versatility Achievement Award will be put on the BCOA website as soon as the watermark is received for the certificates and the certificates can be issued.

Aristocrat – Maureen Bardwell
No report received.

BCOA Website – Jennifer Beach-Buda
No report received.

Club Archives –
No report received.

Club Education – Melanie Richards
No report received.

Club Historian –
No report received.

Club Inventory and Medals – Tom Carroll
13 sets of TSE medals were mailed during 2004. I set has been mailed in 2005 and 4 approved applications are in hand as of 1/18/05. Two championship mailings were made in 2004, to replenish chairperson's stocks. The largest mailing was, of course, for conformation championship medals.

Conformation Championship Medals– Chris Danker
Final numbers of Championship medals sent out for shows from Jan 04 to Oct. 04....as listed in the AKC Show Results March thru December issues.

A total of 120 first-listed member owned Borzoi were sent Championship BCOA medals. A total of 153 Borzoi finished in this time period.

Constitution & By-Laws – Kathleen Kapaun
We are still planning on having a draft for the board to review for the April meeting.

Futurity Event – Kathleen Kapaun
No report received.

2005 Futurity
Gazette Columnist – Jennifer Beach-Buda

No report received.

Health Committee – Virginia Jones

ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD DIRECTION/ACTION AND/OR APPROVAL:

A. The biennial CHF National Parent Club Canine Health Conference is scheduled for October 21-23, 2005 in St. Louis, Missouri. Each parent club can send one representative to attend the weekend seminars. I would like to request the board’s approval for me to be the club’s representative to attend this year. I'll need to send in the application information for who is attending as our representative prior to the next board meeting.

B. First draft of the health survey was received from Sue McGorray. I believe that it is a very comprehensive survey without being too long. I’m extremely pleased with the first draft and had only a few minor recommended revisions. I’ve attached my marked up copy for the board’s review and approval. A copy was also provided to Dr. Gary Nash for his review to see if there is anything we may have overlooked. My marked copy was also provided to the rest of the Health Committee for their input.

C. Mary Childs made a public announcement to the Borzoi News List that she would be providing ultrasounds for those interested at the Nationals in Texas and was bringing a technician with her to provide and read the ultrasounds. I have 2 significant concerns with her offer: The fist being that she will be offering a clinic in direct competition with the health committees heart clinic which could possibly reduce the number of participants and prevent us from reaching our minimum dog number requirement, the second is that the board needs to be aware that by law, a technician is not allowed to diagnose ultrasounds. This has the potential to hold the BCOA liable for something that a member is promoting/offerng that is not in keeping with legal requirements. With this in mind, I posted a note to the list that this ultrasound was not sponsored by the BCOA HC and that it is not part of our clinic offerings in Texas. I will leave it up to the board to take whatever appropriate action they choose in regard to legal or other ramifications of the clinic Mary is offering.

D. Since the membership dues deadline has now passed, I would like to know if I will be able to offer the new cloisonné pin to those who donated $50 or more to the health committee this year as a thank you for their substantial financial support. Please advise as to the projects status.

STATUS REPORTS:

2005 TEXAS NATIONALS CLINICS AND SEMINARS

[2] Application sent to AKC to request clinic rates for DNA clinic. Received confirmation of clinic rate of $30 per swab and clinic information sheet from AKC.

[2] Application sent to AKC to request CAR clinic rate for microchip clinic. Received confirmation of CAR, forms and all information required for the clinic.

[2] We have enough microchips and a universal scanner to manage the microchip clinic

[2] Contract signed and returned for ophthalmologist for CERF clinic. Copy of contract was mailed to Karen Mays for BCOA records.

[2] Seminar speaker has been changed from Dr. Keith Murphy to his assistant Dr. Kimberly Greer - (who is the individual we wanted for the seminar from the start anyway!) Updated info was sent to Barbara O’ for the premium & 1 stop shopping as well as to Helen Lee for the next publication of the BC.

[2] TO BE COMPLETED OVER THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

[2] CERF clinic rate application need to be requested with CERF

[2] OFA clinic rate application needs to be requested with OFA

[2] CERF, MICROCHIP, OFA & AKC information pamphlets need to be ordered for hospitality bags

[2] Need to obtain signed contract from Dr. Greer and Dr. Sonya Gordon (seminar speaker and cardiologist)

[2] Heart & Eye clinic and seminar information needs to be published to the public in the local area and with the local kennel clubs in order to boost participation in these 2 clinics in order to meet our minimum dog number required (for clinics). I’ll request that OFA/CHF/AKC publish info on their websites as well.

[2] We have 2 very nice raffle items for fund-raisers this year. One is being donated by a friend of Nancy Hopkins - a “Christensen” bucket of their products. The other is a Soft Crate, crate pad, 9x9 grass mat, “soft store” kibble travel storage bin, as well as items donated by Purina - spray bottle, large and small towels, kennel leads and grooming apron.
2006 WASHINGTON NATIONALS CLINICS AND SEMINAR:

Barbara Binder has volunteered her expert services to be our 2006 National Seminar/Clinic chairman. We spoke briefly this week about the timetable requirements for preparation and reporting of the events. She has been in contact with a cardiologist who she believes will be able to accommodate our heart clinic. In addition, he is willing to bring his portable ultrasound for those clinic participants who would like to have a more in-depth analysis of any murmur diagnosed through the auscultation exam for an additional cost of about $125.

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

Fourth quarter and year end CHIC reports were sent from the OFA totaling the number of borzoi registered with our borzoi CHIC data base for the year. The report included a break down by each of the required and optional tests listed as our CHIC requirements.

A status report was received from CHF for one of our financially sponsored research projects. It was for study #2434: Recombinant Thyrotropin (TSH): Standard for the Next Generation of Canine TSH Immunoassays with Improved Sensitivity - Principal Investigator: Duncan Ferguson, DVM, PhD - Research Institution: University of Georgia. Of the project's 11 objectives, 2 of these are now completed. Signed confidentiality statements prevent me from providing any further specific details included in the mid first year report in order to protect the sensitivity of the study materials and methods.

As of 9/30/04 the Borzoi Club of America, Inc. has 115 members declared for the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program. From January 1, 2004 through September 30, 2004, 47 members have submitted weight circles resulting in a total of $1,090.11 accumulated for the 2004 Program.

Judges Education – Shen Smith, Patti Neale
No report received.

Keeping In Touch – Edna Ogata & Phyllis Brettell
Halloween, Thanksgiving and holiday cards were sent to all KIT members. In addition, birthday cards were sent to P. Clements, L. Groshans, E. Thompson, M. Melamed, D. Dwyer and E. Forry. Two get-well cards were sent.

Membership Committee – Edna Ogata
Two warning letters were sent – letter indicated that the application was not complete. Two applicants have re-applied for membership and applications will be held until the procedure is completed.

National Show Committee and Guidelines - Barbara O’Neill
The National Specialty Policies and Guidelines are up to date.

2005 National Specialty - Barbara O’Neill
The 2005 Specialty information page was in the Fall issue. The Show Committee has been very busy planning this event to make Texas a memorable Specialty. Entries close March 30, 2005

2006 National Specialty – Barbara O’Neill
The following judges have been suggested for the 2006 National Specialty. Board approval needed before contacting.

Lure Coursing: Holly Hamilton, K.C. Artley, Gregory Ward
Junior Showmanship: Sandra Frei, Elaine Young, Asa Mays
Obedience: James Thompson, Chris Cornell, David Cox

In addition, the Show Committee needs Board approval. See separate page.

2007 National Specialty – Barbara O’Neill
Maureen Bardwell has been communicating with Kevin Miller on our needs for the 2007 National in Region 1. I have been sent a tentative proposal for May of 2007. Additional proposals will be accepted from Region 1 until April 1. The Board approval will come at the April Board meeting in Texas.
Rescue Committee – Dr Maureen Bardwell
Upon advice of the Club’s tax attorney, the Rescue Committee was authorized to eliminate the $5000 rescue umbrella held in the Club’s accounts at the November BCOA Board Meeting. For each year following 2004, rescue funds collected during any year will be donated to 501c-3 rescue organizations by the close of the tax year.

Cheques from the $5000 rescue umbrella were issued to:
(1) National Borzoi Rescue Foundation $1000 ($500 yearly donation plus $500 from rescue umbrella)
(2) Borzoi Rescue Southern California $500 (contact: Lorrie Scott)
(3) Borzoi Rescue Northern California $500 (contact: Nancy Joeckel)
(4) Colorado Purebred Animal Rescue $500 (contact: Margaret (Maggie) Rice)
(5) Seattle Purebred Dog Rescue $500 (contact: Jenya Campbell)
(6) Tony LaRussa’s Animal Rescue Foundation $500 for: long term care of abused Borzoi in CA
(7) The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals $500 (for providing multiple spay & neuter certificates for Rescue Borzoi)
(8) MSPCA--Western Massachusetts $500 (for providing long term care of abused Borzoi in MA)
(9) North Coast Greyhound Support $500 for longterm support of Borzoi Rescue Fundraising efforts

Although it was with a great deal of effort that this money was raised, I feel that these are useful causes who have significantly helped in Borzoi Rescue. I have received thank you notes from each of these organizations and would be happy to share these with the Board Members at our national specialty.

The current BCOA Rescue Committee has approximately $1500 left in its treasury (as well as some monies donated with the 2005 BCOA dues). A list of the 2005 dues donators will appear in the next Borzoi Connection. We hope to further increase our Rescue Balance by fundraising at the 2005 National Specialty.

22 Borzoi were picked up by the Houston, Texas SPCA and the SPCA was awarded custody of the dogs by the court system. These dogs were medically cleared and are in the process of being placed by the NBRF. The Lone Star Borzoi Club Rescue Committee has scheduled an auction for the benefit of the SPCA in Houston.

Standardized Trophies - Barbara O'Neill
Criteria for challenge trophy donations is on the agenda for this meeting

Ways & Means – Carol Enz
No report received.

2005 Yearbook
The 2005 Yearbook has 428 ads to date with more arriving. The goal is to make it available at the 2005 National Specialty.

Statistical Committees

Agility – Gale Snoddy
No report received.
Conformation – Christopher Neale
No report received.
Junior Showmanship – Barbara Lord
No report received.
LGRA – Carol Enz
No report received.
Lure Coursing – R.Lynn Shell-Whitlock
I have received a recent listing of new AKC Field Champions. There are 4 Borzoi which have achieved this title and I will be sending medals to them shortly.

The ASFA Convention of Delegates will be held on April 9-10, 2005 in Fort Worth, Texas. I will be in attendance once again.

NOTRA – Victor Whitlock
Two Borzoi received the Oval Racing Champion Title in 2004 (the 24th & 25th Borzoi to achieve the title):
B-24 BZ-312 1/25/04 Silver Digitalis' Black Silver of Ryhka Darling and Anuta
B-25 BZ-270 5/9/04 Scandium Deuterium's Scandium of Ryhka Darling and Anuta

There were several new rule changes to NOTRA for 2005, but they are mainly of a housekeeping and clarification nature. One that you may actually see is an addition of overriding precedence on the NOTRA titles awarded. Dogs used to keep an intermediate title, but will now carry only one NOTRA title as a suffix! Here is the section:

5.6 NOTRA TITLE Precedence
Only one NOTRA awarded title shall be listed as a suffix to the dog's registered name. The order of precedence is as follows:
A. Supreme Oval Racing Championship (SORC)
B. Oval Racing Championship (ORC)
C. Intermediate titles:
   Whippets:
   Oval Track Racer of Merit
   Oval Track Racer
   Other Breeds:
   Senior Oval Racer
   Junior Oval Racer

Obedience – Bonnie Nichols
No report received.

Open Field – Karen Ackerman
The open field stats have been sent to Helen Lee and Maureen Bardwell for publication in the next issue of the BC.

Register ofMerit – Barbara Ewing
As followup to the last Board meeting, Barbara O'Neill and I discussed using the latest "Borzoi Champions" book to verify titles for the ROM. We both agreed that copies of the information published in that book can be used to verify titles, but the ROM application still has to be submitted because of the signature release on the application. I will update the application to reflect this change, once approved by the Board.

Since the last meeting, I have received additional applications for ROM qualifying dams:

Ch Aashtoria Justyl Sapphire ROM-C
Ch Raynbas Azaliya SC ROM-C
Ch Majenkir Cinnamon Sugar, CD ROM-C
Ch Majenkir Defying Gravity ROMX-C
Kishniga's Jontue ROM-C
Ch Agridor's Alisa Astarte ROM-C
Ch Crescents Arctic Frost ROM-C
Ch Crescents Genian Equinox ROM-C

and sires:
Ch Vernor View Hart To Hart ROM-C
Ch Seabury's Damon ROMX-C

I received an additional application for a sire, but it is missing one title confirmation, and has been put on hold.
Effective January 1, 2005, Rally Obedience is an official AKC event. As such, these titles should be added to the list of titles recognized by the ROM program. I would propose the following point awards, keeping Rally in line with other obedience titles:

Novice 4  
Advanced 6  
Excellent 8  
Advanced Excellent 9  

Barbara O'Neill and I also discussed the fact that the ROM kit has never been mailed to the general membership. Not all members have access to the internet, and we both feel that it's necessary to make sure all members receive this information. If the Board approves the above changes, I will e-mail an updated copy of the kit to Lydia to include with the minutes of this Board meeting.