



## **Committee Reports August 2012**

### **AKC Gazette (Jon Steele)**

The AKC Gazette continues to be available only online. The current editor is now notifying columnists when the Gazette is published and I have forwarded the information to the Borzoi List when I am notified. The last two columns were a two part series written by Kristina Terra and I have waited till after the National to send the columns to the web master for BCOA because it was similar to the information that Kristina presented at the National. The next column for August is about judging some of the finer points of Borzoi. I continue to try to write columns that not only are an interest to borzoi owners but the fancy in general. The column can be a an excellent medium to help those interested in the breed as well as those that hold the future of our breeding programs through their adjudication. As always I welcome the input of our board.

### **Futurity (Joyce Katona)**

#### **Bronze Puppy Trophy**

I contacted both artists, thanking them for submitting a design for our consideration and informing them whose design we chose for our trophy. I told Leslie that there were a few things we would like to 'fine-tune' on the design, one of them being to make the ears smaller. I informed her that we have formed a committee to get all the little details just right and asked her to please let me know when she was ready to begin working on the adjustments. I reminded her that the first trophy of this design would be needed in April of 2013.

Leslie responded by saying that if we would be at Eukanuba this year, she could have the clay with her and she would make the corrections at that time so we would not be working from pictures which she felt could be deceiving. She said that she was traveling all summer and fall but was sure we could meet up with us somewhere if we would not be at Eukanuba. She offered to send me a wax to critique and asked if the ears were the only issue.

I reminded her that we have a committee of three and we all have to agree on the final design. I indicated that I didn't think all three of the committee members would be at Eukanuba to view the piece in person and suggested we try to work from photos of her adjusted clay piece and tweak it as we go along. I stated that initially, the only complaint was that the ears were too big.

After a bit of time passed, I wrote again asking if she had had a chance to tweak the ears on the puppy. I told her we were having a BCOA Board meeting soon and I would like to have something to report as to our progress. I asked if she would please get me any new photos she may have of the piece so that I could forward them to the rest of the committee. She said she would get me photos on Tuesday 7/31. I do not have them as of 8/2 so I will ask again. As soon as I get them I will forward the photos to the committee to discuss any further necessary adjustments.

## Health (Ginger Jones)

### **OVERALL COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

I now have 3 members who have joined the committee and bring with them a great deal of enthusiasm and fresh new ideas. They are: Leonore Abordo, Kasey Parks and Karla Smith, DVM.

### **BORZOI HEALTH SURVEY AND TEST STATISTICS:**

The total number of respondents in our OFA Borzoi health survey is now 920 participants, 2 dogs more than in my May report.

There are now 572 dogs listed in the open OFA DNA test database for Degenerative Myelopathy up from 555 dogs listed in my May report. 20% of the total dogs are indicated as other than normal (6 at risk, 109 carriers).

There are now 1018 dogs in the open OFA heart database up from my May report of 985.

There are 704 dogs in the open OFA thyroid database up from 694 in my May report.

I received the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter CHIC and OFA reports. The increase in the above number for the cardiac database are the results of the clinic conducted at the Nationals in May.

### **CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION & MORRIS ANIMAL FOUNDATION GRANT RESEARCH:**

1. Morris Animal Foundation – no updates as of this report.
2. I received the following email from Samantha Wright AKC/CHF Program Manager regarding my inquiry of the current grants review process status to see where Dr. Meurs Heart research proposal is in the midst of this:

*Hi Ginger,*

*Very nice to hear from you! At this time in the grant review process, we are collecting scores and comments from our external peer reviewers (here is the link to our 2012 scientific review groups: <http://www.akcchf.org/research/application-process/grant-review/>). Once score collection and analysis is complete, we will be scheduling conference calls with the review groups. In early September, our Grants Committee will present their funding recommendations to the CHF Board of Directors for approval. I hope to announce the 2013 OAK Grants around late September / early October!*

*I hope this helps! Please let me know if you need any additional information!*

*Warm regards,*

*Samantha*

*Samantha Wright*

*Program Manager*

*AKC Canine Health Foundation*

*Office 919-334-4022*

*Fax 919-334-4011*

*[sjw@akcchf.org](mailto:sjw@akcchf.org)*

*[www.akcchf.org](http://www.akcchf.org)*

*[www.facebook.com/caninehealthfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/caninehealthfoundation)*

*[www.twitter.com/caninehealthfd](http://www.twitter.com/caninehealthfd)*

3. I also just received the following request for participation in a very significant health research project being conducted at U of C Davis that affects ALL breeds of dogs. Below is the email note and the flyer is included with this report. At this time I would ask all the Regional Governors to distribute this flyer and her note to the members in their region via email asking for their participation.

*Dear Ginger,*

*The Bannasch Laboratory in the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis is researching the genes responsible for cleft lip and cleft palate in dogs. These are birth defects that result in the failure of the roof of the lip and/or mouth to properly form during development. Puppies born with these defects are often euthanized due to the amount of time and money required to care for them. In order to study these defects and develop a genetic test to prevent them, we are in need of DNA samples.*

*We are asking for the cooperation of your breed club through the distribution of the attached flyer to your members. We would greatly appreciate the participation of your club by getting the word out about our research and encouraging breeders to submit samples. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and we look forward to working with your breed club.*

*Sincerely,*

*Zena Wolf*

*Graduate Student- Bannasch Laboratory*

*University of California, Davis*

*School of Veterinary Medicine*

*Population Health and Reproduction*

*Davis, CA 95616*

[ztwolf@ucdavis.edu](mailto:ztwolf@ucdavis.edu)

### **HEALTH FUND RAISING:**

To date, the calendar fundraiser has earned \$1607 after expenses. I received email notification from Treasurer KC Artley that she had received a check for \$2007.37. I still have about 25 calendars of the 30 that the health committee purchases at \$20 each that have yet to be sold and will make these available for sale at the MBC specialty in August in Racine, Wisconsin and repost to the BCOA news list & Borzoi news list.

I would like to submit 3 pieces of very nice art work for the 2014 (2013 if possible) and beyond Nationals art auction with the proceeds to go to our CHF Borzoi Donor Advised Fund. I will be happy to work with the auction organizers to assure the separation of funds and identification of the items from the rest designated for the 50/50 auction. I am requesting board approval for this at this time.

### **ROM – HEALTH DESIGNATION**

The committee has been working diligently on developing a health initiative to be associated with the ROM program. We have been in regular touch with the ROM committee and some excellent ideas and discussions have taken place around this topic. At this time, both the health committee and the ROM committee are in agreement with proceeding with the following plan:

If any ROM dog has health clearances listed in the OFA database, the dog's name will be hyperlinked to the OFA website and/or will reflect the "CHIC" logo next to the dog's name. This hyperlink with unique text font will be reflected in the online list of ROM recipients. Barb Ewing has agreed to set up the hyperlink for this.

We then discussed future potential ideas for ROM requirements for possible consideration at some point in the future.

Some of these included:

- Requiring all dogs to have a CHIC number in order to be eligible for ROM participation – (we all seem to believe that this should be incorporated in the not too distant future – 2 to 3 years max)
- Requiring some or all progeny to have a CHIC number whose reports records are submitted for ROM accreditation towards their sire or dam – required number of progeny with CHIC numbers TBD
- Requiring all progeny to have clear results for any or a particular health issue in order for their records to be considered for ROM – both groups see pros and cons to this requirement. Placing too high a priority on only "perfectly clear health specimens" could potentially encourage breeders to funnel their breeding stock to a number far too small for the gene pool to support without other negative side effects. More thought and discussion is ongoing regarding this potential.
- Having two different ROM status identifications – ROM "H" and ROM "H excellent" – criteria for the ROM HX is still in the early discussion stages.
- These are just some of the ideas we are discussing. Whatever decisions the two committees agree upon, we plan to make any new requirements for health initiatives a phase in plan over time with sufficient member input and advance notification of when these criteria become requirements.

### **2013 NATIONALS CLINICS AND SEMINAR:**

It looks like I will be offering two health clinics at this year's nationals – thyroid and heart. I have one volunteer, Karla Smith, DVM to assist by drawing blood and I will attempt to find 2 others. Minimum of 3 people required to make this a successful clinic.

I've inquired to Dr. Meurs if she would like to provide our cardiac clinic and the health seminar about her research proposal based on the outcome of the grants review. I realize that this may be cutting things a bit close as the grant reviews will not be complete until September or October, however, the research grant is a two year grant giving Dr. Meurs only 2013 & 2014 to come before our membership at the national events and discuss her research, cardiac problems and what she has learned about the association in the borzoi breed as well as receive input back from our membership. If her proposal is not accepted, or if she is not able to attend, I will also contact Dr. Paula Henthorn, PhD at the University of Pennsylvania and inquire if she would be willing to provide a seminar on her current research project that the BCOA is supporting: Molecular Basis of Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia. (See attached report update) These are two great options.

There are several cardiologists at the University or at the Veterinary Referral Center in Malvern, PA so I should have no problem finding a cardiologist to support our clinic.

### **Judges Education (Patti Neale)**

There were three student judges at the National Specialty Judges Study Group.

Prudence Hlatky conducted the hands-on event on Friday night after the Seminar.

Prudence and Chris Neale organized ringside mentoring and the examination of various dogs during the daytime breaks in the judging.

There are no events currently planned for the rest of the year.

### **Lure Coursing (Tom Golcher)**

AKC:

2012 AKC National Lure Coursing Championship

Date: September 8 & 9

Location: Sampson State Park, Romulus, NY

Host Club: Lake Country Lure Coursers

Judges: Tom Cigolle, Jr., Jocelyne Gagne, Carmen Day, Dawn Ferris

For more information contact:

Event Secretary: Audrey Silverstein

410-868-6369 or [dinosmommie@yahoo.com](mailto:dinosmommie@yahoo.com)

The AKC's Position Regarding Club Events Held on Private Property

Event-giving clubs often conduct their activities on private property. It is the joint responsibility of the Club and the landowner to reach a mutual understanding regarding the obligations of both parties and the conditions for use. Reaching a mutual understanding should be done in a timely manner to allow both parties an opportunity to modify their plans without an undue hardship, should this become necessary. Once a mutual understanding is reached, it is expected that both parties will not modify their agreement except in the most extreme and unusual circumstances.

Because the AKC has an overriding interest in sportsmanship and fairness, there remains an expectation that, notwithstanding the foregoing, clubs would not agree to any terms promulgated by a private landowner which would run contrary to the rules, regulations, and policies of the AKC.

ASFA:

To make policies on the Web Site official and fall in line with the official version of the rule book being on the ASFA web site, Operational Policy RUL03 will now read: "The 'official' version of the ASFA Policies shall be the version on the ASFA website. That 'official' version shall be 'watermarked' with the ASFA logo and the word 'official'."

No further action by AKC or the ASFA affecting the sport of lure coursing has been noted.

### **Membership** (Pat Paris)

Complete application for Leslie Walenta, Shelby Bergstresser, Harry VanVliet, Frank & Wendy Erdman. Sandy Gillen, Theresa Euser & Dale Parks were voted into membership at the May meeting and have been sent packets (pin & letter)

First Readings: Ernest Cheeley, Frances Byrne, Harry Van Vliet, Betsy Nighthorse and Sabrina McGee.

I received a box of membership books for future members.

Peggy Hardee was refunded her dues as no one knows her.

### **National Specialty** (Barbara O'Neill)

#### **Futurity**

The 2013 Futurity has 16 new Litter nominations to date with 18 litters forwarded from 2012. There is \$1285 in the 2013 account, which closes November 14, 2012.

#### **National Show Committee and Guidelines**

The National Specialty Policies and Guidelines are up-to-date. The 2015 National will be in Region 6 and the proposal should be in at the 2013 Board meeting in Lancaster, PA.

#### **2012 National Specialty – Richland, WA – May 20-26, 2012**

Our thanks to Robin Riel, Jan Leikam, Patty Anderson, Ron Williams, Kathleen Kapaun, Carol Enz and all the members who made the 2012 National Specialty a very special event. The income and expense report is not complete and I am waiting for a few more invoices and checks to clear. I do not expect that we will have a large profit due to the size of our entry.

#### **2013 National Specialty – Lancaster, PA – May 12-18, 2013**

Joy Windle, Facility/Specialty Coordinator, has been busy filling out the show committee assignment list and they are coming up with great ideas to make 2013 very memorable. Please contact Joy at [joyousgard@me.com](mailto:joyousgard@me.com) and volunteer to become a part of the National.

The AKC application has been sent in and everything but the actual specialty has been approved. There are conflicts with two all-breed clubs and we are waiting for them to contact the AKC to release Borzoi. Our thanks to Deb Vidaver-Cohen for logo design, R. Lynn for designing the Specialty website at [www.borzoiclubofamerica.org/2013](http://www.borzoiclubofamerica.org/2013) and Shen Smith for setting up the secure trophy donation shopping cart at <https://borzoiclubofamerica.com/SSL-Trophy.htm>. We hope everyone takes a moment to check out all the classes still available on the trophy list at [www.borzoiclubofamerica.org/2013/trophies](http://www.borzoiclubofamerica.org/2013/trophies). Every little bit helps and it's not too early to choose your favorite class, whether it's in Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Field Events, Futurity, Juniors or "As needed." Don't forget to include a few words in memory of a friend, both two-legged and/or four-legged.

Remember, this is your National Specialty and even if you don't have a lot of time, there is always something you can contribute.

#### **2014 National Specialty – Albuquerque, NM**

With the 2014 National proposal approved by the Board, plans have started by Carol Enz, Facility/Specialty Coordinator, and her crew. A site visit has been arranged for September 7 at the Marriott in Albuquerque. A date will be established at that time.

#### **Club Inventory & Medals**

The sending of TSE medallions is up-to-date.

## **Rescue (Dee Jones)**

**In-Home Visits** - It's almost time to call for updates to the In-home Visit Volunteer List. Keeping the information current is important to the list's usefulness. Rescue encourages breeders to always do in-home visits before placing dogs. Just the fact that someone will come by to check things out can be a deterrent to the worst placements.

**BCOA Web Page** – I have requested that Lynn Shell place a button for Rescue on the club's home page. The current location is difficult to find, especially for those who are not familiar with the site. Shelter managers who get a Borzoi and go to the parent club's web site need to be able to locate "rescue," instantly. Lynn has said that she has plans to update the site in the near future and will take care of this then.

## **BR-NC (Nancy Joeckel)**

### *Dogs in Rescue*

All Borzoi placed through BR-NC Adoption are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, heartworm/lyme tested, and current on all vet care before placement. Adoption Applications are required, references are checked, and home inspection visits are done.

### *Shanti/March 2012*

Shanti was given up to a Seattle veterinarian who neutered him then surrendered the dog to us. Shanti is three-four years old. He is other-dog aggressive though very, very sweet and cooperative with people. Shanti has been fully vetted and is available for adoption.

### *Bella/April 2012*

One-year-old Bella, visually impaired, came from a Central WA owner who had to give her up due to a change in family circumstances. Bella had been extremely well socialized with small dogs and general social activity. She needed a home that would not treat her as disabled and that would give this bright, interactive girl a rich life. We have placed Bella with an Adopter who has much Borzoi experience, is home 24/7, and wants to provide the training and experiences that will enable Bella to thrive.

### *Dogs in BR-NC's Referral Program*

BR-NC's Referral Program gives owners/breeders access to excellent homes while they retain full control over all aspects of placing their dogs. In return, BR-NC receives a \$100 donation to help cover the expenses of the dogs we take into rescue.

### *Phoenix/September 2011*

Phoenix, a 1.5 year-old female Russian import, was listed through our Referral Program due to the owner's concerns about her playing too hard for their small dogs. Phoenix has not yet been placed, is in a stable situation, and is still available.

### *Other Dogs Assisted*

The Elma, WA breeder responsible for our three rescues so far this year has a new litter of 9 puppies as of early July. We (and NBRF in the past) have spent many dozens of hours trying to work with this breeder over the past two years. As of this point, she is not accepting any help from BR-NC with the puppies or her Borzoi adults.

## **NBRF (Liz Duncan-Bruge )**

All Borzoi placed through the National Borzoi Rescue Foundation (NBRF) are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, heartworm tested, and current on all vaccinations and vet care before placement. Adoption applications are required, references are checked, and home inspection visits are done.

NBRF has a total of 26 borzoi in rescue to date for 2012, with 17 being placed in forever homes, one being returned to its breeder, one breeder requesting assistance in securing her dog until she could make arrangements for transport, one elderly borzoi put to sleep with complications of cancer, after several weeks in foster care, knowing love, food, and a clean soft bed. Six others are still being fostered and waiting for permanent homes.

NBRF encourages ALL breeders to permanently identify their dogs and any puppies they whelp by either micro-chipping and/or tattooing. Also remember that microchips must be registered so dogs can find their way home!

NBRF is always looking for volunteers to foster a borzoi or help with transports. If you have room in your home and heart to help a rescue, and would like to be put on our foster and/or transport lists, please contact me at 618-214-0269 or <zanozaborzoi@aol.com> for information. Remember: Rescue concerns everyone and always, always, hug your hounds!

**Registry of Merit (Barb Ewing)**

Applications have been received for the following dams, who qualify for the ROM with the designation shown:

Ch Leicro's Russian Ztarshine	ROMX-C (upgrade from ROM-C)
Ch Aldemoor's Wyvern Catera	ROM-C
DC Svora's Scandalous, SC	ROMX
Ch Kirov Ev'ry Little Thing She Does RN ORC GRC	ROM
Ch Valeska Afterglow	ROM

The ROM list is going to be updated to show which ROM qualifiers have published health test results. Their names on the ROM list will be linked to their OFA pages. A link is not an indication that the dog has current health testing, it will be provided merely for informational purposes.

A committee consisting of Leonore Abordo, Carol Enz and myself has been charged with evaluating new titles and assigning point values as those new titles relate to the ROM. These include the AKC Grand Champion title, along with a number of new obedience titles. Input will be sought from the BCOA membership on these titles via the new BCOA internet list. This committee is also discussing future additions to the ROM qualifications that will require health testing.