

Region 1 – Maureen Bardwell

The four regional Borzoi clubs in region one had a very successful fall season with members participating in the Fall BCGNY and BCNE specialties and holiday events. Since the Centennial show is within reasonable driving distance of Region One, much of the current discussion of region one members revolves around participation in the events being planned for this year's show.

Along with traveling to Cincinnati, Region One members are planning the traditional BCGNY and BCDV spring specialties. Plans for matches for new puppies are also underway, and the BCNE will again have a Supported Entry at the Yankee Classic Cluster of shows in July. This should be an active year for those in the Borzoi fancy in Region One.

Region 2 – Kathryn Wright

No BCOA activity to report

Region 3 – R.Lynn Shell

I am aware of 2 BCOA TSEs in various planning stages. The first is from LSBC which is awaiting voting results for a Sweeps judge. The application has already been sent in and was tabled until the Sweeps judge could be named. Those results will be in this week (the 23rd). The 2nd TSE is being researched in terms of date. I had received an email from Veni asking if there would be any interest in one to be held in LA on Halloween weekend. I haven't heard more on it at this time.

I have heard from several people in regards to the dues reminder I sent out. So far all that have responded have said they will be sending in their dues. I had several emails bounce back - those with bad email addresses and those not online I will be contacting via post, and those should go out this weekend.

I do hope to visit CO for the RMBC specialty and the TSEs there in February.

Region 4 – Chris Bradley

Greetings to Region Four and all BCOA members,

I hope you all had a peaceful holiday season; and that 2004 brings you happiness and success.

To set the record straight: I <u>did</u> submit my Governor's Report as requested in October '03. I emailed it from a hotel in Boston, but, alas, it was not received. It was brilliant.

One of the highlights of the recent past was the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Invitational Show, held at the Long Beach Convention Center, in California. The grounds were beautiful, with large grassy lawns, ponds with islands, and palm trees around a grand lagoon. The Queen Mary and the world-renowned Aquarium were within walking distance, as were miles of walking paths hugging the Long Beach Harbor. Our Breed was beautifully represented by twelve Champion entries. Best of Breed honors went to Ch. Kenai Silver Glacier. And Best Bred by Exhibitor was awarded to Ch. Morozova's Rockwell JC. Judging from the applause, the crowd packed around ringside was pleased with the decision of Judge Ed Gilbert.

Borzoi were also represented with elegance and style at the "Meet the Breed" booth, artistically designed and fabricated by Michael McLain, Chet Weston, and Tony Chavez. They donated countless hours to produce a truly beautiful replication of a Russian scene. Chet and Susan Morawa dressed in Russian costume, posed with two adult Borzoi, and charmed hundreds of visitors, answered many, many questions. To quote Michael McLain: "I believe BCOA's booth was a considerable success, one of the very best, showcasing our breed with dignity in a beautiful setting, and drawing a great deal of attention from the thousands of people attending the events at the Long Beach Center. The Borzoi booth was awarded Second Place in the Hound Group (with the First Place winner from our group, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, going on to be awarded Best in Show). For those of us Borzoi folks who worked on the booth (a terrific group of eager spirits and capable hands, including Chet Weston, Susan Morawa, Sherry Neigum, Chris Bradley (and her brother, Mark) it was a great experience and I know we will always remember the endless stream of happy, interested people standing at the booth, asking questions and marveling at the beauty, grace, and calm of the dogs. ... The dogs were not only beautiful, but also wonderfully patient to be on display for many, many hours with hundreds of people approaching to ask questions. The Borzoi, as always, were simply superb and made a huge and excellent impression on all who visited". I would encourage you all to try to attend an AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show, if at all possible. It was most memorable for me.

Regarding the possible Borzoi Rescue in Northern California, Nancy Joeckel and Jacqueline Gregory of BR-NC (Borzoi Rescue – Northern California) have been in frequent contact with the Animal Control and Board of Supervisors of the County involved. I have thanked them on behalf of the BCOA, for their vigilance, planning, and preparedness in this situation.

Next events in Region Four include:

April 10, 2004 - Elk Grove, California Borzoi Club of Northern California Specialty Classes Judge: Dr. Richard Meen, Kishniga Borzoi Sweepstakes Judge: Mrs. Doreen Carlstad, Regius Borzoi Junior Showmanship: Ms. Sarah Lattus

July 23, 2004 - Lompoc, California Borzoi Club of California Specialty Classes Judge & Jr. Showmanship: Dr. Fred Edlin Sweepstakes: Mr. Ron Williams

For more future events, please contact the websites for BCOC and BCNC.

Region 5 – Irina Terra

Since I assumed the duties of Region 5 Governor on January 1st, I compiled a list of all current members in the Region and sent an introductory letter to each of them.

While attending the Rose City Classic in Portland, I called for an impromptu meeting on the show grounds on Sunday, January 18. There was a good representation of active BCOA members from our area, as well as some welcome guests from other Regions. The meeting was primarily introductory, and it was great to hear ideas of the membership about the future of Region 5.

Here are some of the ideas:

Our Region will host the 2006 National Specialty. Jan Leikam and Robin Riel have been researching potential locations in the Seattle area and in Eastern Washington. They have each done an impressive amount of work and preparation. Their efforts are most appreciated.

Several members expressed the desire to have BCOA Trophy Supported Entries in the future. The goal was tentatively set for the first TSE to be held in conjunction with the PSBC Summer Specialty in August 2004. The second TSE would tentatively be held on the Sunday of the Rose City Classic, January 2005.

It was also mentioned that the members would like to organize Judge's Education Seminars in our area. The Region 5 members are very enthusiastic and are looking forward to participating in and contributing to BCOA activities in the coming year.

Region 6 – Prudence Hlatky

State of the Region: This is the last Region VI Governor's report before the National. The next time you'll hear from me is in person in Cincinnati, where we're hosting the 2004 Centennial BCOA National Specialty.

2004 BCOA Centennial Specialty: Needless to say, we're very excited about having this prestigious event at the Kings Island Resort. Preparations are going full steam ahead and the organizers look forward to making this a National to remember. At a time when hotels discriminate against the dog fancy we're enjoying the rarest of the rare: a quality hotel welcoming dogs by offering reasonably prices rooms, a large grassy setting, lots of shade trees and a very dog-friendly setting conveniently located within 1 hour's flight or 8 hours drive for about 60% of the country. Bring along lots of ex-pens, as the majority of you will be able to set them up right outside your door.

We expect a large entry, numerous visitors from North America and abroad and detailed coverage by the dog press. Come join us for what we're working to make a wonderful event. For anyone who'd like to gain experience working at a national specialty, there's plenty of opportunities for volunteering and learning with us!

Borzoi Events: Region VI had several BCOA events this fall, including well-attended TSE's at Fort Wayne and Cleveland. Several Borzoi finished their championships as there were many majors and large entries. Congratulations to the many winners. The format we have been following for the past several years of having the regional club host one day and the BCOA host the other has been very successful. Ordinarily the entries in this region are only the small size, rarely having more than a point or two. The joint supported shows have provided opportunities to find those needed major entries.

Coming up is the TSE at the Detroit KC, with Barbara Ewing for regular classes and Joel Chaney for Sweepstakes. The day before is the MBC specialty, with Espen Engh from Norway doing the regular classes and Gary Nash judging Sweeps. And mark your calendar for Friday, June 4th, when the Greater Twin Cities Borzoi Club holds its specialty, judged by breeder-judges Hugh Ungerleider judging regular classes and Lydia Pruett the Sweeps judge. Later in the year we expect to be hosting other TSE's in Ohio and Indiana.

It is with pride that Region VI can claim as their own three of the top 20 Borzoi in 2003, including #1.

Rescue: Thankfully once again I can report that to the best of my knowledge there have been no rescues within Region VI. I hope this continues and that all our Borzoi enjoy the happy loving homes our wonderful breed deserves.