



The Dew Claw

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AIM: To keep our membership better informed and more closely related. While all articles and comments published do not necessarily represent the Club's views, we do not deny the writer's right to present them.

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ADVERTISING RATES: For Members only, to advertise puppies or stud service - CENTERFOLD (two pages) \$30; INSIDE BACK COVER \$15; FULL PAGE \$10; HALF PAGE \$5; plus \$1 for each photo.

New champions or show wins of Winners or better from major point shows are printed, without charge, as space permits.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$5 per year. Back issues, when available from the Secretary are 75¢. Extra copies of the current issue are \$1 each.

SUPPORT THE B.C.A. Send your suggestions and comments to any Board member and your news and anecdotes to the Editors.

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TREASURER'S REPORT - Patricia A. Long, Treasurer

March 1, 1978 through April 30, 1978

Opening Balance \$5,602.16

Income		Expenses	
Dues & applications	\$365.00	Dew Claw postage & address labels	\$131.97
Dew Claw		50th Anniversary premium list envelopes	16.08
Subscriptions	285.00	U.P.S. envelopes	1.47
Back issues	11.00	President's expenses	
50th Anniv. Donations	595.00	letterhead	14.70
'74 Rassemblement catalog	9.00	Misc.	
'78 Calendars	35.00	overpayment D/C sub.	10.00
Brochures	8.00	" on back issues D/C	1.50
	<u>\$1,308.00</u>	'74 Rass. Cat. postage	.41
Opening Balance	\$5,602.16	Secretary's expenses	
Income	1,308.00	Typewriter ribbon/stamps	37.36
	<u>\$6,910.16</u>	'78 Calendar postage	7.21
Expenses	226.80	Brochure postage	2.50
Balance	<u>\$6,683.36</u>	Bank Charges (exchange)	3.60
			<u>\$226.80</u>

NOTICE

ATTENTION ALL CANADIANS and other Briarders outside the United States.

All fees and prices quoted in B.C.A. publications are given in U.S. Dollars. When remitting money to the Club, please specify "U.S. Funds" on your check or include the exchange. Thank you.

A.K.C. DELEGATE'S REPORT

The Annual Meeting of the Delegates to the American Kennel Club was held on March 14, 1978. The following items of business were concluded:

- Messrs. William F. Stifel, E. Irving Eldridge, Robert C. Graham, and John S. Ward were elected to the Board of Directors of the A.K.C.
- The Treasurer, Haworth F. Hoch, reported a profit for 1977 of \$105,992. Increases in expenses for 1978 are expected to be met by the institution of the 25¢ Recording Fee on April 1, 1978 and cost efficiencies to yield a small profit in 1978.
- Chairman of the Board, August Belmont, spoke on the many accomplishments of John A. Lafore, who is retiring as President of the A.K.C. after over six years in office. The Delegates gave Mr. Lavore a standing ovation. (William F. Stifel was elected President at a meeting of the A.K.C. Board of Directors, immediately following the Delegates' meeting.)
- The Delegates approved a change in the Rules for Retriever Trials to allow a system of rotation (of starting sequence) for entries in Stakes carrying Championship points. My vote was affirmative.
- The Delegates approved a change in the Dog Show Rules to allow entries at a show by a relative of a judge at the show as long as the entry does not come under the jurisdiction of that judge. The relative must not be living in the household of the judge. My vote was affirmative.
- Mr. John Honig, Delegate of the Worcester Kennel Club and Secretary of the Collie Club of America, read a letter which has been sent to all members of the Collie Club. The letter covered an unknown virus affecting many Collies and other breeds around the country. (Later announcements identified the problem as the Corona virus and while rare and difficult to treat there does not appear to be an epidemic.)

Arthur M. Tingley
B.C.A. Delegate to A.K.C.

**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

ADDITIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP LIST (published in April '78 Dew Claw)

Joyce Awodey, 1528 Linden, East Lansing, MI 48823
Lynn Behrens, 2565 Jonquil Lane, Woodridge, IL 60515
Tim & Denise Frazier, 5311 Rauch Road, Petersburg, MI 49207
Don Mandeville, 4840 Corbin Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356
Kimberly Olson, 814 Terry Street, Monterey, CA 93940
Susan Rodsted, P.O. Tamborine Village, Queensland 4270, Australia

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Junior Member - Debera Steiner, 1007 Cedar Dr. N. Manhasset Hills, NY 11040

Voting Members

Mary Ake, 1300 Ridge Road, Littleton, CO 80120
James & Janet Bandle, 5016 W. Beloit Road, W. Milwaukee, WI 53314
Cindy Gray, 224 Willow, Chicago, IL 60614
Linda Hysell, 4312 Industry Rd., Rootstown, OH 44272
Stephanie & Steven Marcus, 41 Windgate Dr., New City, NY 10956
Richard & Gloria Merder, R.R. 2, Box 504, Jasper, IN 47546
Gerald Orman, 525 S. Boehne Camp Rd., Evansville, IN 47712
Marguerite Provencher, 105 Lake St., Haverhill, MA 01830
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Sharlach, 592 Haviland Rd., Stamford, CT 06903
Dorothy Siegal, 3 rue Lalo, 75016 Paris, France
Roger Taylor, 4312 Industry Rd., Rootstown, OH 44272
Michael & Jill Todd, 191 Stroik Dr., Saginaw, MI 48603

ADDRESS CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

C.W. Curnow, Jr., 4913 Joiner Court, Fair Oaks, CA 95628
Sue Erickson, Route 5, Box 145, Mankato, MN 56001
Nancy Frost, 1100 Hickory Lane, Owensboro, KY 42301
Nancy York, 651 229th Lane N.E., Bethel, MN 55005

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS- 2nd publication

Howard J. Blank, 58 West 58th St., New York, NY 10019
Miriam Gordon, 130 Tekening Dr., Tenafly, NJ 07670 - owner of Bellesprit Nabis du Nile
William & Margaret Payne, 1212 W. Water St., Elmira, NY 14905 owners of Bellesprit Noiraud
Joseph & Shirley Robinson, 26 Brooks Rd., Longmeadow, MA 01106 owners of Nome de l'Eminence
Susan Robinson, 26 Brooks Rd., Longmeadow, MA 01106

BOARD ACTION

CANDIDATE RESUMES - A motion, requested by the Nominating Committee to print and mail resumes of each candidate for officer and director in the '78 election to each member at an estimated cost of \$65 to \$70 was not approved.

Voting against the motion were: Ed Konrath, Ada Marley, Pat Long, and Diane McLeroth. Approving the motion were: Jayne Dubin and Bob Boelter. There being only one vote for further discussion, cast by Mary Lou Tingley, the vote stands.

BALLOT COUNTING - A motion by Diane McLeroth, to hire an outside professional firm to receive and count ballots, if balloting is

SECRETARY'S REPORT continued

required in the '78 election, in accord with the recent amendment to the By-Laws was approved.

Approving the motion were: Jayne Dubin; Bob Boelter; Pat Long; Ed Konrath; and Diane McLeroth. Voting against the motion was Mary Lou Tingley. Ada Marley cast the only vote for further discussion, and the vote stands.

(Note: A vote for further discussion by *two or more* members of the Board, automatically suspends balloting until all discussion has been heard.)

PROFESSIONAL FIRM TO RECEIVE AND COUNT BALLOTS - The Board voted to select a secretarial firm at an estimated cost of \$32 to \$40. as opposed to an accounting firm with an estimated cost of \$120 to \$150.

All members of the Board selected a secretarial firm with the exception of Jayne Dubin, who voted for an accounting firm.

PENDING ACTION - a motion to raise Dew Claw subscription rates to cover increased printing and mailing costs; and an alternate motion on mailing candidate resumes.

B.C. A. AWARD OF MERIT

The B.C.A. offers and Award of Merit to each of its members in good standing, who finishes a Briard to an A.K.C. Championship or Obedience Degree.

The Award will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Briard Club in August. Any member eligible for the award must file a request, at least one month in advance of the meeting, in writing, that the dog or bitch was owned or co-owned by a member of the Club; owned or co-owned by a minor child of such member, at the time it completed such championship or degree.

A foundation plaque, together with a plate indicating the name of the Briard, the title or degree earned and the date of the title or degree, will be awarded the first time a member applies for the award. Thereafter, a plate as described above, will be awarded for each additional title or degree earned by any Briard in the same family. This plate can be added to the original foundation plaque.

IF YOU HAVE A DOG ELIGIBLE FOR AN AWARD, PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY FOR AN APPLICATION FORM, if you have not already received the form in the mail.

NOTICE: B.C.A. ANNUAL MEETING, AUGUST 5, 1978, 9:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn - West, Toledo, OHIO

The Annual B.C.A. Meeting will follow the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening during the 50th Anniversary weekend. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss any business or suggestions you may wish to bring to the attention of the Membership.

If you have ideas or business, which you would like to have added to the agenda, please contact the Secretary or any officer or director on the Board.

Photography Contest

YOUR BRIARD COULD BE A 1979 CALENDAR DOG
OR A DEW CLAW COVER DOG!

In the past few years the B.C.A. has held a photography contest. The winning photos are used to make the B.C.A. calendar and some are printed in "The Dew Claw". Start taking photos today, or see if your favorite photo of your favorite Briard fits the requirements.

CONTEST DEADLINE: August 16, 1978

CONTEST REGULATIONS

1. All photographs must be positive prints - 8 X 10 preferred.
2. Black and white or color accepted...black & white preferred.
3. The Briard should be the focal point of the photo.
4. No show poses accepted.
5. Photographs must be taken by B.C.A. Members or Subscribers or members of their immediate family.
6. Limit your entry to no more than three photos.
7. Identify each photo on the back with entrant's name and address.
8. Photographs should be submitted in reusable photo mailers so they may be safely returned after publication.

SEND PHOTOS TO: Diane McLeroth
3030 Rockwood Dr.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46815

HELPFUL HINTS:

1. The dog in the photo should typify the Briard and should be the focal point of the photo.
2. If your dog has a dark coat, try using a flash (even outdoors) to highlight the coat - or try overexposing 1 f-stop or 2.
3. It is VERY IMPORTANT to have good light/dark contrast (a light dog against a dark background - a dark dog against a light background). Remember, the printer can not add contrast to the photo.
4. Photos will be selected on the subject matter but reproductive quality must also be considered.
5. Larger photos will reproduce better. If the printer must enlarge them, they lose quality and contrast. This is avoided in part by making enlargements from your original negative before submitting the photo.

Some photos may be held over, after the contest, for future use in the Dew Claw, but all entries will eventually be returned. If you prefer to have your photo returned immediately after the contest, please enclose a note to that effect with your entry.

DON'T DELAY!
START TAKING PHOTOS NOW!!

CLUB NEWS AND VIEWS

EAST SIDE STORY

PUPPIES: Marguerite Provencher of Haverhill, MA has happily announced the arrival of 8 beautiful tawny puppies out of her Ch. Mousse du Coteau d'Antigo sired by Luke Chien de Famille. She reports that two males and two females are available only to genuine Briard homes.'

CONGRATULATIONS also go to Marguerite Provencher whose Mousse du Coteau d'Antigo finished her championship on July 17, 1977 at the age of 13 months.

Cece Collins reports that Harriet (Ch. Phydeaux Theda Bara) now has a total of 17 champion offspring to her credit. Ch. Chateaubriard Mind Boggler (Jill Carruthers) and Ch. Chateaubriard Mint Julip (Patricia Edwards, DVM) are the latest additions to the list.

O.F.A. number FB-76 was given to Carol and Eugene Steiner's Ecar Lester Lobot in April. The Steiners bred Lester and they are justifiably pleased that he has been certified.

Our thanks to Marie Kokin for reporting the following show news.

Buck County K.C., May 6, 1978: Judge Denis Grivas reviewed the entry of 4/6/4 present. Best of Breed went to Ch. Jennie d'El Pastre owned by Mary Lou Tingley; Best of Opposite Sex to Ch. Nome de l'Eminence owned by Joseph Robinson; Best of Winners for 4 points and Winners dog was Chateaubriard Norman M. owned by Norman and Allyn Karshmer; and Winners bitch was Extasy of Alpen for 4 points, owned by Christina Ackerson.

Trenton Kennel Club, May 7, 1978, judge - Mrs. Eileen Pimlott. 6 dogs, 7 bitches and 5 Specials were present. Best of Breed went to Ch. Jennie d'El Pastre and Best of Opposite Sex was awarded to Ch. Bellesprit Midnight Cowboy owned by Michael & Kathleen Fitzpatrick. Best of Winners and Winners Bitch for a 5 point major was Le Beauchien's Marie Ange owned by David Tooker and Monroe Kokin. Winners dog for 4 points was Nestor de l'Eminence owned by June Shew.

Union Co. K.C., May 26, was judged by Mrs. Eleanore Evers, with an entry of 2/4/2. Best of Breed was Ch. Jennie d'El Pastre; Best of Opposite Sex, Winners Dog and Best of Winners was June Shew's Nestor de l'Eminence. Winners bitch for 3 points was Le Beauchien's Melisande.

Monmouth K.C., May 27, J. C. Seaver Smith, Jr. Entry 3/2/1 B.O.B. was Ch. Jennie d'El Pastre; B.O.S., B.W. & W.D. was Nestor de l'Eminence. Winners bitch was Marie & Monroe Kokin's Le Beauchien's Melisande.

Congratulations to Ch. Jennie d'El Pastre and the Tingleys. Jennie took a Group II on Friday at Union Co. K.C. and a Group I on Sat. at Monouth.

Congratulations also go to June Shew and Ch. Nestor de l'Eminence who completed his championship at the Monmouth show. Nestor is out of Ch. Tracy des Elfes de Malouse by Ch. Janus de la Ville Jumeaux and was bred by June.

NEWS & VIEWS FROM BETWIXT & BETWEEN

Time is flying and reassembly/specialty '78 is just around the corner. All the plans and hard work are falling into place and it will be great to see old friends and also meet some new ones. So don't forget to get your reservations in early so you'll be able to participate in the fun and the educational activities!

We have a new OFA number to report - Ch. Pa'Chick's Little Spitfire - is certified OFA FB-74. Gretchen is owned and handled by Janet Couture of Toledo.

Dave Behren's is making a record Briard obedience buffs will find hard to beat. He owns and has trained the first Briard to obtain a TD title. Now, his new puppy Ness, has just passed her tracking test in a match and hopefully will win her TD this spring!! Good luck Dave & Ness!!!

New Champion & Obedience Title:

AM. CH. PA'CHICK'S INTERLUDE - Kiki, owned and handled by Alice Clark, finished her American championship on 3/12/78 under Mrs. Lesley Kodner going WB, BW for 2 pts. Kiki is sired by Ch. Proud Rebel de Marha and out of Am. & Can. Ch. Pa'Chick's Unchained Melody.

CH. ILOTE DU LAC DE BETHMALE, C.D. - Lottie, owned and handled by Manny Littin, finished her C.D. on 4/9/78 under Miss Irma E. Dixon. Her sire is Roch Des Elfes De Malouse out of Roxanne Du Lac De Bethmale.

Show Results:

3/12/78 - Detroit Kennel Club - j Mrs. Kodner - e 3-3-10
BOB - Ch. Pa'Chick's Livin' Legend (Chas. & Pat Long)
BOS - Ch. Uziz Akshanit De Strathcona (Jerry & Stephanie Katz)
WD 2 pts. Silvermoon La Joie de Vivre, CDX (Christine & Roland Duval), WB 2 pts.,BW Pa'Chick's Interlude (Alice Bixler Clark)

4/1/78 - Western Pa. Kennel Assoc. - j Mrs. Heming - e 2-3-3
BOB - Ch. Pa'Chick's Impresario, CDX (Susan McCormick)
WD,BW 2 pts. Chateaubriard Norman M (Norman & Allyn Karshmer)
WB 2 pts.,BOS Ambriance Madrigal (Sandra Treleven)

4/9/78 - Livonia Kennel Club - j Mr. Kibler - e 2-4-4
BOB Ch. Pa'Chick's Impresario, CDX, BOS Ch. De Haute Couture Jeane D'Arc (Connie Stollings), WD 1 pt. Mon Ami Jean Philippe (Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Stevenson), WB 3 pts.,BW Michelle Belle De Strathcona (F. Charles & Bettyann Jankel & J. & S. Katz)

4/12/78 - International K.C. Show - j Mrs. Fisher -
BOB - Ch. Jabot Le Bonheur D'Hte Couture (Frances Taylor)
WD 2 pts.,BW Stonehill's I'm Bogie (Rob Ferber)
WB 1 pt.,BOS Beardsanbrow's N'Est Pas (David Behrens)

4/15-16/78 - Kent Kennel Klub (Canada)
WD 1 pt. each day Am. Ch. Pa'Chick's Midnight Madness (Dawn & Duane Laczkowski) BOB

4/16/78 - Lake Shore Kennel Club - e 1-2-0
WD, BOS Unique Noie de Vieille Ville (Cindy Gray)
WB 1 pt.,BW,BOB Stonehill's I'm Irma La Douce (Rev. Thomas Monahan)

4/16/78 - Key City Kennel Club - j Mr. Gilliland -
WD 2 pts.,BW,BOB Chien de Sel Nom de Guerre (Sue Erickson & Phil Gorsuch), WB 1 pt.,BOS Chien de Sel Nom de Plume (Sue Erickson)

4/29/78 - Progressive Dog Club of Wayne County - j Mr. Cresap -
e 3-2-3 BOB Ch. Silvermoon's La Tara (Judi Ziozios), BOS Ch. Pa'Chick's Impresario, CDX, WD 2 pts.,BW Montargis de Lindeau (Linda Loehr), WB 1 pt. Michelle Belle De Strathcona

4/30/78 - Ann Arbor Kennel Club - j Mrs. Seekins - e 5-3-1
WD 4 pts.,BW,BOB Silvermoon Marquis D'Lindeau (James & Judi Ziozios), WB 2 pts.,BOS Michelle Belle de Strathcona

Don't forget to send your donations in for the rassemblement/specialty and also to send in your registration for the eye clinic which is a very important part of our weekend. See you soon in Toledo!

Sue McCormick



AM/CAN. CH. PA'CHICK'S LIVIN' LEGEND (above) was given Best of Breed at the Detroit K.C. out of an entry of 16 (10 Specials) by judge, Mrs. Lesley Kodner on 3/12/78. "Chico" is owned and bred by Charles and Pat Long and is handled by Pat.

SHOW REPORTS

Mexican Champion MIEL MELESA DE STRATHCONA owned by Dallas Meggitt and Ann-Lisa Alderman completed the necessary wins to become a Mexican Champion on March 11 and 12. The Club Canefila de Baja California show was held in Ensenada, Mexico.

Conejo Kennel Club on Sunday March 12, under judge Eileen Pimlott had an entry of 0/4/0. BOB and WB for a 3 point major went to J. Bonne Chance de Beauxjolis owned by Jacqueline Drozinski and Don Mandeville.

South Bay Kennel Club, March 19, Henry Stoecker judging an entry of 2/5/0: BOB and WD, Force de la Nature de Capucine for 4 points. He is owned by Robert and Shirlee Kessler. WB, also for 4 points was Honey Girl de Beauxjolis owned by Patt Thomas and Don Mandeville.

San Gabriel Valley Kennel Club, Sunday, April 23, with judge Norm Wallace - entry of 0/3/1: BOB was Ch. Rejoui Turquoise de Capucine owned by Robert and Shirlee Kessler. WB for 2 points was Miel Melesa de Strathcona owned by Dallas Meggitt and Ann-Lisa Alderman.

Santa Ana Valley K.C. on April 30, with Fred Young judging an entry of 0/4/3: BOB was Ch. Rejoui Turquoise de Capucine owned by the Kesslers. WB was Beardsanbrow's Natanya for 3 points. She is owned by Jim Stewart.

BRIDE'S BRIARD - On April 29, Gingie Englehart was married to Ken Watt. Gingie having grown up with Briards always said she would have one walk down the aisle carrying flowers. Well, she forgot, but I did not. Bill and Sue Shipman were guests at the wedding and coincidentally, their Claude (Ch. Baron d'Yquem de Chez Ciel) was having his hair done a few blocks away from the reception. Claude made a grand entrance, carrying a bouquet and Gingie had a Briard at her wedding after all!

Please send any news and show reports to me at 31376 Broad Beach Road, Malibu, CA 90265 or phone 213/457-3155.

Joan Dugan

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LIFE WITH A BRIARD PUPPY - continued from page 14

become necessary as you make that small beauty a part of your world? Do you care? As the brightest four-footed friend you've ever known masters obedience lessons with a rapidity and enthusiasm that is totally remarkable, will you even remember your son's almost new, well-chewed hiking boot? As she personifies warmth, joy and sheer delight with living, or arches her lovely neck in a sunbeam, will you not just be grateful that such pure enthusiasm for being happy can be part of your life?

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NEWS COLUMNISTS NEEDED

The Aim of the Dew Claw is "To keep our Membership better informed and more closely related."

There are more and more regions of Briard population and interest developing and it has become increasingly difficult for our three hard-working, and sincerely appreciated, Regional Editors to seek out all the news and views which should be included in the news columns.

Most Briarders would like to hear about activities, interests and news from all areas, especially the newer regions. It would be nice to have every area of activity represented in the news, but this is not always easy with such widely separated editors. There is a growing Briard population in Colorado - the Northwest is enjoying increased activity - Texas has enough Briards now to have majors at shows - and there are other areas with news to contribute as well.

For these reasons, we are planning to broaden the news column, on an experimental basis in upcoming issues. In order to do this, we need someone in each area to be responsible for reporting the news in time for publication.

If you live in a region of Briard interest and activity and you would like to submit news, views and concerns for the Dew Claw, WE WANT YOU! Please contact Diane McLeroth for further information. Even if you are only considering the possibility, we would like to hear from you.



SILVERMOON MARQUIS D'LINDEAU took a 3 POINT MAJOR at the Macomb Kennel Club show on 2/12/78. Marquis is owned by Jim and Judi Ziozios and is handled by Judi. The judge is Mr. Glen Sommers, who awarded Marquis with Winners Dog and Best of Winners.

DICKENS

October 30, 1971 - April 1, 1978

To our cherished, beloved friend.

You gave to us--

In life:

Love gives naught but itself and takes not
but from itself.

Love possesses not nor would it be possessed;
For love is sufficient unto love.

In death:

For this I bless you most:

You give much still and know not that you
give at all.

Kahlil Gibran

Sorrow is not forever. Love is.



Till we meet again,
Your family,

John and Pat
Marianne and Bill
Martin

LIFE WITH A BRIARD PUPPY

BY VERA LINNEY

So you're looking for a new Briard puppy - and that captivating little black beauty with the velvet-soft fur, who hugs your arm with her front paws, gazes at you with shiny dark eyes and wriggles her whole body with the joy of life is obviously it. The grace and spirit of her paternal parent is outstanding, the beauty and good manners of her mother instantly apparent - they are such superb examples not only of their breed, but of the canine species, that you know you are indeed fortunate to be able to take one of their captivating progeny into your home.

And captivating she proves to be - her eyes dance as she chases the cat, steals your toast, and distracts the other dogs so that she can grab their food; her whole body wiggles with delight as she tears your nylons, pulls off your buttons, and learns to climb onto the dining room table just to check things out, and only momentarily looks puzzled by the resultant disaster! Her joie de vivre knows no bounds as she learns to swim in the drinking bowl, standing in it and paddling mightily as long as her size permits; then, as she grows, standing beside it, her increasing strength enabling her to send the water flying for at least several feet! Outside, she can tear through the shallow water at stream's edge, racing in ever-widening circles of delight through grass and water, until thoroughly soaked, and then, where better to dry off than on your bed?

But her tour de force, it turns out, centers around the combination of: 1) the puppy door, which provides the dogs with free access to a very large, semi-forested outside pen, and; 2) her strong, innate and unconquerable tendencies to transport, collect, and chew any and all miscellaneous items, which lend themselves to being used for such activities - and even some which don't.

Have you ever lived with a puppy, whose greatest pleasure seems to come from carrying things? Have you watched a baby Briard try to dance by carrying a Kleenex box or a six-quart basket in her mouth? Have you seen one struggle along carrying a three-foot long cedar branch in full leaf, shedding as it goes, which she then dumps - and chews - in the living room? Or actually go to sleep with some treasured item clutched between her teeth?

Have you searched high and low for your wallet, only to have it returned to you the next day - by mouth, slightly damp from exposure - from some mysterious outdoors hiding place? Or searched for your guest's car keys among the cedars - by flashlight? How about rescuing a shoe, belonging to your son's new girlfriend, who has never before even seen a Briard, let alone experienced one, from a snowbank in mid-winter, just as she is planning to leave and must put it on - well, as soon as you can melt the ice off it, anyway. And find your garden boot left drying on the back porch on the bedspread in the guest room; neglected slippers could be anywhere; and balls of wool wind superbly in and out and around trees and bushes - especially, it seems, if the knitting is still attached!

Consider well, all you who adore baby Briards. Have you contemplated the significant changes in your lifestyle, which could

continued page 11 ---

RETINAL ATROPHY IN BRIARDS

About two years ago some of the Briard breeders in England suspected that some of their Briards might have some kind of retinal eye disease. Since then, most of the Briard owners in England have been having their dogs' eyes checked for retinal atrophy. So far it has been found that:

- 1) There is retinal eye disease in British Briards. Most of the evidence strongly suggests that it is *Central Progressive Retinal Atrophy*, similar to that seen in Labrador Retrievers and Border Collies in England.
- 2) It is the opinion of a leading British geneticist that the disease is inherited (passed from parents to offspring), and this inheritance is dominant with incomplete penetration. This complicates the picture as some dogs who have the disease will appear not to have it and will pass it on to their offspring.
- 3) Many British Briards have Central Progressive Retinal Atrophy. It may have first been discovered in England because Briards are extensively inbred there. Inbreeding will increase the frequency of the disease, may increase its severity and may decrease its age of onset.
- 4) At least one dog exported from France to England has the disease. This suggests that the problem exists outside of England.
- 5) The Canine Eye Registry Foundation (C.E.R.F.) has reported that at least one Briard in the U.S. has retinal degeneration. Morphologic studies on autopsy of this dog are supportive of Central Progressive Retinal Atrophy. He was imported from England.
- 6) CERF has reported two suspicious cases of retinal eye degeneration in Briards in this country as well.
- 7) So far only 43 American Briards have been checked for Progressive Retinal Atrophy by a diplomat of CERF.

The diagnosis of Central Progressive Atrophy is usually made by ophthalmoscopic examination of the dog's eyes. The examination should be carried out by a veterinary ophthalmologist who is a diplomat (member) of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (A.C.V.O.), and he should use drops to dilate the pupils. If the Briard is clear, he should be rechecked every year. He may be clear one year and show the disease later in life.

It may be possible to detect Central PRA at an early age (perhaps as early as 6 weeks of age) by using an electro-retinogram. This is not feasible for routine eye examinations of large numbers of Briards as it is expensive and requires anesthesia. However, it would help detect mildly affected or carrier Briards.

The symptoms of Central PRA can be vague. In early stages of the disease only the central part of the retina is affected, and the dog may appear clumsy, bump into things or not be able to see stationary objects directly in front of him.

continued.....

RETINAL ATROPHY IN BRIARDS - continued

He will be able to chase a ball or other moving object and his night vision will not be affected. He may not show symptoms until he is quite old as the disease gets progressively worse. Complete blindness is rare but can occur.

Until more Briards in America are checked for PRA and more knowledge of the mode of inheritance of Central PRA in Briards is obtained, the medical committee of the BCA suggests the following:

- 1) Have your Briard checked for progressive retinal atrophy especially if you plan to breed him or her. Dogs over two years of age should be checked yearly.
- 2) Notify the B.C.A. Secretary or Medical Committee Chairman of the results.

B.C.A. Secretary
Diane McLeroth
3030 Rockwood Drive
Ft. Wayne, IN 46815

Medical Committee Chairman
Evy Wegienka
1009 Cottonwood Street
Woodland, CA 95695

- 3) If you are a Briard breeder and find any of your dogs are positive for retinal eye disease, notify your puppy buyers.
- 4) If your Briard is positive for retinal eye disease, notify the breeder of your dog.
- 5) Do not breed an affected Briard.
- 6) Do not breed a Briard whose sire, dam or any grandparent is affected. Find out from the breeder of the dog.
7. Avoid excessive inbreeding.

Evy Wegienka, Chairman
B.C.A. Medical Committee

* *

THE OTHER RING - continued from page 17.

The dog should not stand up between each turn. He must learn to adjust his position to the handler. The verbal command is "HEEL" followed by lots of praise. If the dog needs adjustment, the handler should correct the dog by placing his left hand on the dog's rear to place him in correct position, while saying "SIT STRAIGHT". The handler must be careful not to change or pivot his own position.

We urge people to show in obedience at our Specialty on August 6. For dogs to earn legs toward degrees we must have at least:

6 competing in Novice; 6 in Open; and 3 competing in Utility.
Please note: This means COMPETING, NOT JUST ENTERED!

Our judge for obedience will be Hugh MacLean. He is most gracious, an experienced judge and has been selected to judge at very important trials, like the World Series of Dog Obedience. He also truly enjoys judging Briards.

Send your obedience news to me at 1701 Strathcona, Detroit, MI 48203.

Stephanie Katz

THE OTHER RING

CANADIAN UTILITY DOG

CAN. CH. SILVERMOON LA JOIE DE VIVRE, AM. C.D.X. - CAN. U.D. owned by Christine and Roland Duval completed his Canadian Utility Dog degree on May 7, 1978. His scores were: 181 & 4th in the class; 184½ & 4th in the class; 195½ & 2nd in the class; and 189 & 1st in the class. Congratulations to the Duvals and their handsome Briard! Naturally They are delighted and Christine plans to show him at the B.C.A. Specialty and hopes to earn his American U.D. as well.

We are sorry to hear that Christine Duval is scheduled for surgery on her feet and will not be able to work with "J" for 6 weeks. However, she has not let it dampen her plans for the summer. Get well soon Christine - we are looking forward to seeing "J" in Utility in Toledo!

At the Shows

"Imp", Ch. Pa'Chick's Impressario, CDX, was handled by Sue McCormick, his owner, in Open B at Pontiac K.C. to a 181. At Oakland Co. K.C. "Imp" scored 177½ in Open B, and at Sportsman's Dog Training Club, he took a 180½ in Open B.

"Kahlbah", G'Verete Kahlbah de Strathcona, U.D. was handled by Jerry Katz to a 192 in Utility at Sportsman Dog Training Club and at the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Kahlbah scored a 196 in Open B. At Cobo Hall in Open B, Kahlbah scored 190½.

It is with deep regret that we report the sudden death of Jack Godsil, famed obedience trainer. Many of us have read his publications and benefited from his techniques. Bob Seef, his associate will continue to run obedience clinics throughout the country.


Just a few words about the difference in training between a top obedience dog and a good one.


FRONTS AND FINISHES

If we study the results of our scores in trials, we will soon realize that a good score of 192 would have been an excellent score of 197 or more if not for the points taken off for crooked sits and sloppy finishes. Some judges take only ½ point off for this, others will take a whole point off. These errors quickly add up and take a toll on the final score. Although in a trial this is considered a "dog error" not a "handler" error, we find it a gross "training error". Our Briards are all bright and eager to please. Just require them to sit straight and they will.

To practice this, work on ¼ turns and sits to the right and left, then go on to 1/8 turns and sits. The dog will quickly learn to perfectly adjust the position. Remember, just a "little bit off" in the sit is not something to be accepted - it means "a little bit off" on the final score.

Perhaps the figures below will clarify the exercise. Some instructors say 45° turn or 90° turn.

1/8 turn = 

1/4 turn = 

continued - page 16 -----

Plan to attend our 50th Anniversary Celebration!

TWO VERY SPECIAL EVENTS -

A Rassemblement on Friday, Aug. 4th and Saturday, Aug. 5th (Evaluations will begin on Thursday if the entry is large). Each dog will be evaluated individually by Monsieur Paul Liguine, distinguished French judge. M. Liguine will give a written evaluation of each Briard.

An Independent Specialty (for Briards only) is planned for Sunday, August 6th. We will also have the B.C.A.'s first Obedience Trial (again open only to Briards), and there will be interesting non-regular classes, Puppy Sweepstakes and Junior Showmanship.

PLUS

The B.C.A. Annual Awards Banquet
An Eye Clinic
The B.C.A. Annual Meeting
Speakers on important subjects
A daily buffet brunch
A Judges' Reception at ringside following the Specialty

AND ALL ON THE SAME SITE

50th Anniversary Headquarters - Holiday Inn
Reynolds Road (Exit 4, OH Trnprk.)
Toledo, OH

The Inn features indoor and outdoor swimming pools & patios, game room, men & women's saunas, outside tennis courts AND A PRIVATE COURTYARD FOR OUR RASSEMBLEMENT AND SPECIALTY.

Within walking distance is a new shopping mall, bowling, movie theaters and there is a budget motel next door.

MOTOR HOMES AND CAMPERS- Arrangements have been made for overnight parking of self-contained campers and motor homes. For further information contact Facilities Chairman: Manny Littin, P.O. Box 6275, Toledo, OH 43614. There is also a KOA Kampground in the Toledo area if you need to service your unit during the weekend.

DON'T MISS THIS EXCITING CELEBRATION - It certainly is the most elaborate event ever planned by B.C.A. and we could make it the largest! Our record for a Rassemblement is 140 Briards in Ohio in 1974 - for a Specialty is the 115 entries in Racine, Wisconsin in 1977. COME ONE, COME ALL (WITH BRIARDS). RECORDS ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN!

Rassemblement Chairman: Louise Cohen, 5521 Groveland Rd., Holly, MI 48442 313/634-4558

Specialty Chairman: Steve Feller, Brigham Road, Gates Mills, OH 44040 216/423-3808

B. C.A. EYE CLINIC

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1978

The veterinary ophthalmologist who will examine our Briards will give a talk on P.R.A. and Central P.R.A. on Friday evening. You won't want to miss this excellent opportunity to learn more about the problems facing our breed.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1978

Briards' eyes will be checked for P.R.A. This is a simple examination, not unlike the exam given to humans by an ophthalmologist before fitting glasses. Drops are put into each eye to dilate the pupils and the examination only takes a minute.

Having your dog checked will be a great service to the Breed, whether you plan to breed the dog or not. Of course, breeding stock should all be checked.

The fee is small and this is a perfect opportunity for you to have your dog checked. It also is an excellent opportunity to re-check dogs previously certified by C.E.R.F.

The C.E.R.F. certification form will be used for every dog examined. This can then be forwarded to C.E.R.F. if you wish to have a certification number.

BCA

THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK
SO YOU DO NOT LOSE ANY OF
YOUR DEW CLAW WHEN YOU SEND
IN THE REGISTRATION FORM ON THE
REVERSE SIDE OF THIS PAGE - DO IT TODAY!

WE WANT YOU!!!

TO JOIN US FOR AN EYE CLINIC
TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY AND
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH & 5TH
DURING OUR GALA 50TH
ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND.



A BOARD-CERTIFIED VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGIST WILL BE ON HAND TO CHECK EYES FOR P.R.A. BELOW IS A PRE-REGISTRATION FORM TO ENROLL YOUR FAVORITE BRIARD(S) IN THIS IMPORTANT RESEARCH. PLEASE DO YOUR FAIR SHARE BY SIGNING UP NOW!

All Briards are eligible to be examined, but cannot be certified by C.E.R.F. until the age of one year. Send your registration form in and join the roll of C.E.R.F. certified dogs - and help stamp out P.R.A. NOW!!!

-----please cut here-----

Owner's Name: _____

Address: _____

Dog's Name _____ Reg. # _____

Sire: _____

Dam: _____

Birth Date: _____

Mail form to: Susan C. McCormick, 25743 Culver,
St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48081

FEE: ONLY \$4.00 PER DOG (PAYABLE TO BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA)
(Form may be Xeroxed for additional dogs)

B.C.A. EYE CLINIC REGISTRATION

BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA - RASSEMBLEMENT '78

REGISTRATION BLANK

REGISTRATION FEE: \$5.00 for the 1st dog
and \$2.00 for each additional dog
entered by the same owner.

NAME OF DOG: _____

AKC#(if any): _____

BIRTH DATE: _____

COLOR: _____

SEX: _____

This Briard is entered as _____

Show Quality

Pet Only

SIRE: _____

DAM: _____

BREEDER: _____

OWNER(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

I understand that each registrant will receive one free copy of the Evaluation Report Catalog to be printed by the Club following the Rassemblement, and agree to permit the Club to print the evaluation of this entry in that Report (The 'overall' evaluation of dogs entered as "pet only" will not be printed in the Report.)

I further agree to be bound by the agreement on the reverse side of this form.

I certify and represent that the dog registered here is not a hazard to persons or other dogs. This form is submitted for acceptance on the foregoing representation and agreement.

OWNER/AGENT's SIGNATURE: _____

Please make checks payable to, THE BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA
and mail to:

LOUISE COHEN, CHAIRMAN
5521 GROVELAND ROAD
HOLLY, MI 48442

313/634-4558

AGREEMENT

I (we) agree to hold this Club, its members, officers, directors, agents, and any employees of the aforementioned parties, harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while near or upon the Rassemblement grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless for any claim for loss of this dog by disappearance, theft, death or otherwise, and from any claim for damage or injury to the dog, whether such loss, disappearance, theft, damage or injury, be caused or alleged to be caused by the negligence of the Club or any of the parties aforementioned, or by the negligence of any other person, or any other cause or causes.

"GUESSTIMATE"

In order to make the Rassemblement/Specialty weekend a pleasant one for all, it is necessary for us to make plans as far in advance as possible. Would you please take the time to help us by filling out this "guesstimate" of your plans. Do not hold up your Rassemblement entry for this information but fill in as much as you can.

NAME: _____ Phone _____

ADDRESS: _____ zip _____

We expect to arrive: _____ Approx. time _____

(date)

No. of Dogs _____ No. of Adults _____ No. of Children _____

We expect to leave _____ Approx. time _____

(date)

Will you require transportation from the Airport? _____

_____ Detroit Metro

_____ Toledo Airport

Will you attend (circle) Rass. Only - Spec. Only - Both

Will you require a sitter for: (circle) 1. Speaker, Fri. evening

No. of Children _____

2. Banquet, Sat. evening

3. Other (specify) _____

Other Requirements _____

Thanks for your help!

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION BLANKS AVAILABLE FROM THE SECRETARY

BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA - RASSEMBLEMENT '78

REGISTRATION BLANK

REGISTRATION FEE: \$5.00 for the 1st dog
and \$2.00 for each additional dog
entered by the same owner.

NAME OF DOG: _____

AKC#(if any): _____

BIRTH DATE: _____

COLOR: _____

SEX: _____

This Briard is entered as _____

Show Quality

Pet Only

SIRE: _____

DAM: _____

BREEDER: _____

OWNER(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

I understand that each registrant will receive one free copy of the Evaluation Report Catalog to be printed by the Club following the Rassemblement, and agree to permit the Club to print the evaluation of this entry in that Report (The 'overall' evaluation of dogs entered as "pet only" will not be printed in the Report.)

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_____ Detroit Metro

_____ Toledo Airport

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Will you require a sitter for: (circle) 1. Speaker, Fri. evening

No. of Children _____

2. Banquet, Sat. evening

3. Other (specify) _____

Other Requirements _____

Thanks for your help!

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION BLANKS AVAILABLE FROM THE SECRETARY

YOUR DONATION TO THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY FUND
WILL HELP TO MAKE THIS VERY SPECIAL EVENT
POSSIBLE.

EVERYONE CONTRIBUTING TO THE FUND WILL
RECEIVE A HANDSOME TILE WITH BRIARD MOTIF (AS
FEATURED ON THE COVER OF THIS DEW CLAW) AS A
TOKEN OF THANKS.

ARTIST, LEE PARADISE, HAS DRAWN THE BRIARD
AND CREATED EACH INDIVIDUAL TILE ESPECIALLY
FOR OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY, SO DON'T BE LEFT
OUT - SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO:

PATRICIA LONG, TREASURER
5890 SHEA ROAD
MARINE CITY, MI 48039

YOUR HELP WILL BE SINCERELY APPRECIATED!

JUNE 1978

21



TAA-DAA!

Don't forget - Send your
Banquet reservations

TODAY!!



Well, if you won't let
me go to the banquet,
will you bring back
some leftovers?

BCA

Please cut here

B.C.A. AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

PLEASE RESERVE: (Number of meals)

_____ Roast Prime Rib of Beef au jus dinner (\$11.00 each)

_____ Rock Cornish Game Hen dinners @ \$9.00 each

_____ Baked Stuffed Flounder dinners @ \$9.00 each

(Prices include gratuity and state tax)

\$_____ is enclosed to cover the cost of these dinners.
(Please make checks payable to Briard Club of America)

_____ Number of people expecting to attend the Judges' Reception
after Sunday's judging.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Send reservations to:

Karen Rangus
30314 Palomino Drive
Warren, Michigan 48093

--Your Reservations and
payment should be received
by July 19, 1978.

DID SOMEONE MENTION FOOD?-----I'LL DRINK TO THAT!

Dear Fellow Briarders,

We have all been working very hard to make the B.C.A. 50th Anniversary week a memorable affair. The weather worked against us, every time we'd plan to meet in Toledo, another blizzard would stomp in and stay a week (and always on the weekends!). We finally came to the conclusion that we would be snowed in 'til August and we needed to change our battle plan. I turned to the telephone (a subject in which I excell) and came up with these wonderful results!

The Holiday Inn has made the Garden Room available to us for a light breakfast and lunch daily, throughout the event.

I have also alerted them to the problem we have had in the past, concerning the amount of help in the main Dining Room for late breakfast, and they have assured me that they will be prepared.

The Banquet Saturday evening will offer you cocktails (cash bar) before dinner in the Garden Room, and three choices for dinner: Roast Prime Rib of Beef au jus, with Broccoli in cheese sauce; Rock Cornish Game Hen with Green Beans Almondine; and Baked Stuffed Flounder with Green Beans Almondine.

All dinners will include: Chilled Fruit Cup, Salad, Baked Potato, Rolls and Butter, Beverage, and Sherbet. We have "tested" the restaurant and can assure you that the food promises to taste as good as it sounds!

We have an elegant Champagne Reception for our judges, planned after the judging is completed on Sunday. This will give everyone a chance to unwind and say farewells.

So get busy and mail in your reservation form in this issue. I would also appreciate your help in planning the Reception, by checking the box provided on the form if you think you can stay for a while after judging.

See you in August!

Karen Rangus

Banquet and Reception Chairman
(sometimes referred to as Elsa M.)

30314 Palomino Drive
Warren, Michigan 48093

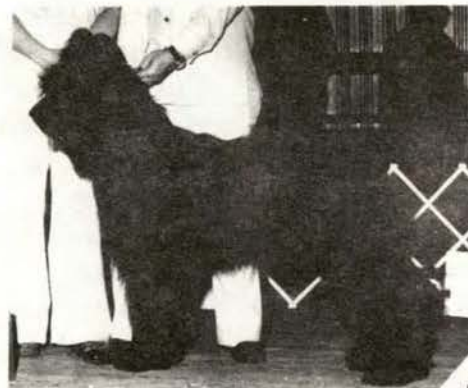
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Silvermoon's

Expecting

JUNE 11, 1978

CH. SILVERMOON MARQUIS D'LINDEAU



CH. VIVA MAUDE CHEZ ROGUES DE BRIE, C.D.

JIM & JUDI ZIOZIOS
3799 MIDLAND ROAD
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48603
(517) 793-0699

advertisement

BCA

LE BERGER DE BRIE, CHIEN DE FRANCE

Sédir's, The Shepherd of Brie, Dog of France has been acclaimed by many as "the Bible of the Briard" and is one of only two books ever published exclusively on the Briard. Copyrighted in 1926, Sédir's study has long been a collectors' item as are the typed English translations of the work. During the B.C.A.'s 50th Anniversary, it seems appropriate to include excerpts of a translation of the book in The Dew Claw.

Chapter III of the book, the first part of which was carried in the April issue, discusses the structure of the Briard. Part II continues with this chapter.

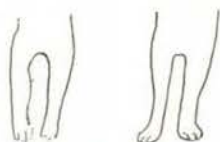
PART II

Chapter III, Continued

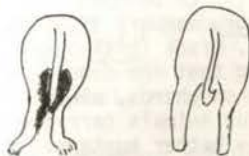
The belly of the Briard must rise in a gentle slope, but without being like the greyhound. The lanks are lean, but not sunken as with the greyhound: in the terms of the shepherd, he must "have guts".

THE LEGS

Good construction and quality of the legs is of the greatest importance. The forelegs must be well parallel, looking from the front of the animal, vertical without too much space between them. The back legs must be equally vertical. In the sheep dog, especially in one from a hilly region where there are slopes to climb and descend, the back legs are often close together and consequently the hind feet turn out.



Bad front legs
Knock-kneed Turned-out toes



Bad hind-legs
Turned-out toes
(cow-hocked)
Too close together Knock-Kneed
too open

In profile, the line of the front leg must be straight and vertical; there must not be a projection at the place improperly called the "knee" but which corresponds to the wrist in the human.

Still considering the dog in profile, the hind leg must not be straight as in the fox-terrier, nor too bent. The sheep dog often turns on its hindquarters; thus it seems to squat more than other dogs, but not too much so. Often dogs with turned out feet (cow hocked) are too squatty.

continued.....

SEDIR - continued

To sum it up, one must try for the alignment of the cow dog, through breeding; but I am not of the opinion that the Briard must have a foot like a cat or like other jumping animals. The sheep dog is essentially a long range trotter; his foot, without being splayed, must leave an oval imprint. Besides, it seems to me that animals with round feet are sprinters rather than distance runners.

In the Brie dog, the nails must be black; discoloration is, as has already been said, a sign of degeneration.

THE DEWCLAWS

Let us first examine the arguments for suppressing the dewclaws. A certain number of fanciers claim that the dewclaws make for an ungraceful gait and tend toward defective balance, because they serve no purpose and because the animal injures himself when they are caught in accidents in the field.

M. Paul Mégnin (*L'Eleveur*, 16-III-1924) would like to have the dewclaws placed low enough to be useful: it was, he says, M. Pastrone, the Italian breeder, who demonstrated this to him in an Italian pointer, where the dewclaws acted as brakes. However, M. Mégnin took a forceful stand against the dewclaws (*L'Eleveur*, August 26, 1917), stating that the shepherds of Picardy, Charolais, Nivernais, Landes, Brittany, Argentina and Australia have dogs without dewclaws, and remove them from puppies who are born with that "ungraceful and dangerous" appendage.

M. C. Tournemine, the well-known cynologist, affirms that this custom of the sheep dog was launched by the drivers of the Villette, because around 1892, one dog "with double claws" became famous at a market place by his working skill. The double dewclaw became a fad, he adds, which practically brought about the disappearance of the "Mille-Fleurs", an excellent breed of dog because of its mottled coat, but which was never able to acquire a dewclaw. Another argument against the dewclaw: The English suppressed them in their Bobtail (H. du Bourget, *L'Eleveur*, November 1917). M. Leséble (*L'Eleveur*, January 1918) takes up the same arguments and repeats them. M. Brack (*L'Eleveur* October 28, 1917) writes in the same vein, remarking that the dewclaw was called the Finger of Saint Hubert, and that shepherds, always engaging in a bit of poaching, must have looked for animals carrying this Finger, under the impression that they were better hunters. M. P. Lequeux calls for the same suppression and hopes that they breed the Briard with naturally upright ears (*L'Eleveur*, November 23, 1923). But the most terrible adversary of dewclaws is certainly Professor Boucher, who in 1912 published in a newspaper of the Veterinary School of Lyons, an article from which we quote the following ideas.

"The canine species, abstraction made from every special consideration relative to the breeds, should have five fingers (front member) and four toes (back member). On the front the first finger or thumb is rudimentary and does not touch the ground; on the back the missing toe is the first or inner toe, corresponding to the big toe in man and is not apparent in the dog.

"If one examines the digitated regions of the skeleton, one sees that the first finger of the front members, rudimentary as it

SEDIR - continued

is, is nonetheless complete, that is to say, it possesses three independent phalanges. On the other hand, on the rear feet, the first toe is represented only by a small ossicle on the inner face of the tarsus and a first rudimentary metatarsal. There is no trace of phalanx at its lower tip. This inner toe exists then, but is incomplete; it is atrophied and this explains the absence of the apparent toe."

Professor Boucher considers that the dewclaw does not constitute a sign or characteristic of the breed; it is only a secondary characteristic, completely subordinate to the others and for two reasons: 1- the dewclaw is an acquired characteristic; 2- it is only a common place appendage, capable of appearing in all breeds.

It is, he adds, through ignorance of biology that there was seen in the dewclaw, simple or double, and especially in the double dewclaw, a sign of breeding, that is to say, a true characteristic and, better still, a stamp of purity and of superiority.

"Dogs", concludes the professor, "and Briards in particular, are dogs first and as such, they must have five fingers and four toes, nothing more, otherwise they will be abnormal and at a disadvantage. They are furthermore the assistant of many to guard the flocks. This function demands of them many qualities; intelligence, obedience, vigor, activity, vigilance, gentleness, courage, etc. They must then offer the proper 'signs' to emphasize the multiple references asked of them. But, the double dewclaw is no recommendation: It is a harpoon which the animal catches on brambles, grass and all kinds of irregular and sharp vegetation on the waste-land; it is also a very sensitive organ which, once injured, becomes very painful, and because of the very duties of dogs guarding flocks, such wounds are always renewed and aggravated.. And then come strains, distensions, tearing of the flesh, tearing off of nails, cracks, running sores, lymphangitis, and various infections. Let us condemn the dewclaw, in the name of humanity."

Such is the indictment of Professor Boucher.

Daubenton states having heard that certain dogs had two or three dewclaws on each foot, but he had never seen one. Darwin had seen mastiffs with one dewclaw. I myself had a Briard with three dewclaws, the third very small; he was an extremely sensitive, intelligent and industrious animal.

Professor Dechambre thinks that this appendage has become a feature of the sheepdog by persevering selection.

[Note: The Standards of the eight or more French shepherd breeds require dewclaws on the hind legs. In most doubles are required. For this reason fanciers of several breeds have argued the pros and cons of the requirement.]

Now I shall set down opinions favorable to the dewclaw.

First here is a petition received on July 17, 1914 at Bosc-Roger by M. Emmanuel Boulet, president of the French Club of the Sheep Dog (Club Français du Chien de Berger):

"We the undersigned, breeders and ardent fanciers of our fine
continued...

SEDIR, continued

"breed of Beaucerons, have the honor of addressing the present and energetic protestation against a motion taken by the General Assembly of the French Club of the Sheep Dog, held Feb. 21, 1914, to cut out of the Standard the obligations for the double dewclaw on the hind feet of the sheep dogs of Brie and Beauce.

"If the double dewclaw is not a certificate of unimpeachable origin, it is nonetheless one of the attributes of the breed and one of the most important characteristics. As to its usefulness, many shepherds are of the opinion that it facilitates walking on loose ground; and if at sometimes a sheep dog, employed as a police or watch dog, tears a dewclaw in jumping over a wall or railing, it must - be recalled that the sheep dog is above all a sheep dog; that his use as a police or watch dog to which he adapts himself as least as well as the best foreign breeds, is only a secondary use and that also the same dog, in the same case, might just as well have injured a nail on any other toe. Finally, we believe that, if this is the sole reason for doing away with the double dewclaw, the same treatment might be applied to the tail. For the usefulness of the tail is not apparent to the naked eye and this same awkward dog might very well get its tail caught in a slammed door. The same may be said for the ears, which, if cut close to the head, would be less liable to be caught in the snarling fangs of other dogs and so: thus deprived of all its ornaments, our beautiful breed of Beaucerones could be increased with all the Dobermans that Germany asks to sell to us (business before all) without any difference being sensed between the one and the other; we do not think that this purpose is the one intended by the Club.

"Please accept, Monsieur Boulet, our respectful difference."

There followed the signatures and addresses of a great many of the members of the French Club of the Sheep Dog, farmers, breeders, fanciers, cowherds and shepherds.

The Club took up the defense of the double dewclaw, because it wished to avoid cross-breeding with the German sheep dogs, particularly the Doberman. German sheep dogs have been shown with single dewclaws, but it appears that the German blood, nearer that of the wolf, non-dewclawed, makes for the disappearance of the double dewclaw.

(Ed. Note: There follows in the original, further lengthy discussions and arguments by various fanciers, which will not be included in this issue.)

I beg to be allowed to finish in a few lines, this long and double exposition.

These appendages may not be useful, especially if they are placed too high, perhaps, and even then I doubt it. I consider them as a mark of the breed and the indication of certain psychological qualities proper to the old French sheep dog. One must have used, as I have, all kinds of sheep dogs to be convinced of the cerebral superiority of the old French type. Paralleling the allegation of M. du Bourget, I have encountered in Picardy, in Auvergne, in the Charolais, in the Landes, in the Pyrenees, in the Garrigues, and in other places, a greater number of dewclawed sheep dogs than

continued..

non-dewclawed sheep dogs. If we eliminate the dewclaws, I see no reason for continuing to crop dogs; I see no reason to require of them a low set tail, and hair falling to the feet. If the dewclaws are considered ungraceful, that is a matter of taste. Everyone is not obliged to prefer the unornamented feet of the Doberman or of the German sheep dog, nor the stiff walk of the rough-coated fox. A pure-blooded animal at a gallop is a beautiful thing: but a draft horse in action is also a fine sight. I find that the tufted feet of the Briard are a necessary adjunct to the equally hairy body. The gait of a well constructed Briard is a marvel of suppleness and power.

The people of Germany prefer to shave their heads, other peoples prefer to wear their hair long. An animal whose body is thickened by hair is more harmonious if he is broad-footed. And the fur of the Briard hides the dewclaws. It has been written that the dewclaws would oblige the animal to assume an ambling gait and that this gait is tiring and ungraceful. That is a bit excessive; have you ever seen a couple of Briards leading a hundred cattle along a road of 40 kilometers? The Bobtail, which has no dewclaws ambles naturally. This gait permits the animal to twist and turn with equilibrium and with the greatest vivacity. Why oblige other breeds to possess, for example, a black mask, or certain folds on the face, or a deformed structure of the muzzle? Why clip the wirehaired fox terrier, cut the tail of the poodle, etc. etc.? One must be on guard against the schemes of the breeders of Beaucerons and Briards, who would find it much easier to sell dogs without dewclaws. It would seem to me much more of a national task to preserve in the product of our breeding the time-honored characteristics of our native species.

M. Tournemine, in the article cited before, claims that the dogma of the double dewclaw was born at Villette around 1892. Yet, my father, born in 1838, with whom as a child I often spoke of the Briards of our flocks in Champagne, told me that his father and grandfather had always chosen the dogs with the double dewclaws. This shows that, at the time of the Abbe Rozier, peasants looked for the so-called anomaly.

The director of a well-known kennel states that, in breeding, his puppies were born with the double dewclaw in the proportion of 24 out of 25, and even then, says he, the 25th one has the single dewclaw.

The wearing of the double dewclaw or single dewclaw is not a question of style; all cynologists know very well that it is a tradition. For my part, and I have used the Brie dogs all my life, I have rarely seen wounds of the dewclaw. The walk of the Brie dog, which is claimed to be ungraceful, is the walk of an animal always ready to make an unexpected turn. Only, it must be said, there are to be found in the countryside and in the markets, many badly constructed Briards; but for this we must blame either negligence or the greediness of the peasant, who does not watch the matings, nor feed the bitch or the puppies properly.

As for myself, if ever I have to buy or judge Brie dogs,

continued....

I would, as far as the hind legs are concerned, give preference to those which are not too close together (whose hocks do not touch, even by the hair), whose feet are placed almost straight in the axis of the direction of the walk, and whose dewclaws are well-joined and placed low.

The fossil dog of Gers had the same dentition as the great mastiffs, but five toes almost equal, and the conformation of the bones of the hock shows that the animal walked on his toes and not on the pads.

Examination of the skeleton of this fossil dog shows him to be the ancestor of our sheep dogs and of our setters. The presence of the dewclaw in the latter is then quite natural.

The dewclaws of the Brie dog are then normal organs, proving the prehistoric background of the breed. What I believe I can add to the exposition of Professor Pierre Megnin is that breeders and judges should prefer the dewclaws attached low and provided with their tarsals, their metatarsals and their proper musculature.

SIZE AND WEIGHT

The Standard which allows 10 centimeters of margin between the minimum and maximum height has always seemed to me to be too liberal. We will one day certainly be given precise scales of height, of weight and other measurements of the animal; but this task requires that it be undertaken by specialists, doctors, zoologists or veterinarians, who have at the same time method, patience and time.

Following is the only table of this kind that I know of. It was established in 1892 by M. Emmanuel Boulet, for the zootechnie of Professor Cornevin.

At the present time, the weight for the Brie dog varies very little from approximately 35 kilograms (77.16 pounds).

Here are the proportions of a few dogs who have won first at our French shows.

BRIE DOGS (4 males - 2 females)	MALES			FEMALES		
	5 yrs.	5 yrs.	6 yrs.	3 yrs.	-6 yrs.	2yrs.
Height at the shoulder	0m64	0m61	0m56	0m55	- 0m54	0m52
Distance from tip of nose to base of tail	1m08	0m99	0m98	0m97	- 0m96	0m93
Length of tail	cut	0m36	cut	cut	- 0m33	0m33
Circumference of chest	0m81	0m74	0m71	0m69	- 0m69	0m67
Circumference of stomach at the height of the loin	0m64	0m59	0m60	0m53	- 0m49	0m475
Circumference of head	0m45	0m44	0m43	0m43	- 0m40	0m385
Circumference of muzzle	0m285	0m27	0m25	0m25	- 0m23	0m22
Distance from occiput to tip of nose	0m27	0m26	0m23	0m23	- 0m23	0m22
Circumference of foreleg	0m20	0m19	0m18	0m18	- 0m175	0m165
Weight of dog	29k50	27k30	23k80	21k20	- 20k30	19k50

Measurements converted to In./Lbs.

BRIE DOGS	MALES			FEMALES		
	5 yrs.	5 yrs.	6 yrs.	3 yrs.-	6 yrs.	2yrs.
Height at the shoulder	25.20"	24.02"	25.08"	24.95"	24.29"	23.5"
Tip of nose-base of tail	42.5"	38.98"	38.58"	38.19"	37.80"	36.61"
Length of tail	cut	14.17"	cut	cut	12.99"	13.39"
Circumference of Chest	31.89"	29.13"	27.95"	27.17"	27.17"	26.38"
Circumference of Stomach	25.20"	23.26"	23.62"	23.90"	19.29"	18.70"
Circumference of head	18.12"	17.32"	16.93"	16.93"	15.75"	15.19"
Circumference of muzzle	11.25"	11.63"	10.15"	10.15"	9.06"	8.66"
Occiput to tip of nose	11.63"	10.24"	10.24"	9.06"	9.06"	8.89"
Circumference of foreleg	7.87"	7.48"	7.09"	7.09"	6.92"	6.5"
Weight of dog	64 lbs. 8 oz.	60 lbs.	51 lbs. 8 oz.	47 lbs. 8 oz.	45 lbs. 3 oz.	43# 5 oz.

In my opinion, breeding must avoid sizes greater than 68 centimeters (26.77 inches) for males and 65 centimeters (25.89 inches) for females. A large dog owes its height chiefly to its forelegs and one knows that a long forearm moves less quickly than the short. At the very least, my remark applies itself to the herding dog. If one utilizes the Brie dog for protection or to guard the automobile, the larger dog is the more effective.

The height of the male, says the current Standard, should be between 58 and 68 centimeters and for females, between 55 and 65 centimeters. Certain judges would be of the opinion to give the qualification of excellent only to a dog which is 61 to 64 centimeters (24 to 25½ inches), and to a bitch which is 59 to 62 centimeters (23½ to 24½ inches), in order to bring about a uniformity of type. I permit myself to entirely approve of this severity; 10 centimeters of difference seems to me too large a margin. The Commission for revision of the Standard has had the opinion to admit the 10 centimeter variation only for the time being.

SKIN AND COAT

The hair of a goat, falling along the body with slight waves, dry and coarse to the touch is the quality which should be obtained. The Briard with soft, curly or woolly hair are increasingly rare in the dog shows.

I have asked myself if this well-known undercoat, which is so often required of out-door dogs, protects them as much from the rain as is generally believed. Of course, an overcoat of "camel's hair" protects a dog from ordinary rain; but if he is exposed to a persistent downpour, will he not be drenched through and through? And if our under-coated dogs are subjected to heavy rains for hours, is it a certainty that the water will roll down their fur? Won't they be drenched to the skin? And this fur-covering which ordinarily

protects him from light showers, if the dog is actually wet, will he dry quickly? No: he will be subject to chest infection. I should very much like breeders of Briards to study this important point. As a matter of fact, I am merely repeating here, the opinion of those who have bred Briards for many years -- people who have had a lifetime of experience in the field.

As for the color of the coat, I see no reason to search for one or the other when it is an esthetic question. I should note, however, that certain older breeders maintain that the true color of the Briard is black, and that the tawny coats are due to cross-breeding. The light coats are permitted unfortunately and often have the light eyes, and the light eyes indicate in general a character less sure, less reasonable and less reflective.

A white spot on the chest is only tolerated, but a white blaze on the chest is a fault; white on the feet is a disqualification. Pierre Mégnin goes so far as to say that there should never be any white spots on the body. The ancient dogs of Brie were often earth colored. Currently with the bicolor or tricolor Briards, the colors are blended and shade from tawny to gray, or to charcoaled by imperceptible shading off of color. Formerly, people prized those dogs with which the colors were distinctly separated.

Professor Cornevin gives an average of 7 centimeters (2 ¾ in.) at the shoulder as the hair length of the Briard and a diameter of 65/1000 of a millimeter. (The diameter of fine wool is 20/1000 of a millimeter). But, the hair is longer at the neck and at the thighs.

It is said that the mode of life shows in the texture of the hair; a house dog has soft and silky hair; an outdoor dog has dry and coarse hair with an undercoat. This is generally true. However, I must cite a point which contradicts this theory; my old bitch, who never knew the life in the fields, except during my vacations, was born with hair as dry as horse-hair and retained that quality in spite of her urban existence; but I should add that she was combed thoroughly every morning.

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The puppies of Briards are particularly difficult to judge because the dog continues to grow and change until the age of 18 months and even two years.

The puppies often have a lithe torso, sparse hair and a happy disposition. The color of the coat can change during growth. The important points to be examined are: the frame, the alignment of the legs, the character of the head; the ear can remain flabby for quite a while and this detail often disturbs the breeder; the time to crop the ears varies: one must take notice from birth for the manner in which they are set, which must not be low, and the consistency of the cartilage.

The male is taller and stronger than the female; the line of his back is shorter. The female is often slightly more squat on her hocks; she is sometimes timid, always more devoted to her master, in the same manner that a male is always more attached to his mistress. The Briard bitch lies willingly at your feet. She likes dark corners, is unobtrusive at home. If she becomes accustomed to the car, she stays there of her own free will and maintains her role of protector quite seriously.

NEW CANADIAN UTILITY DOG



CAN. CH. SILVERMOON LA JOIE DE VIVRE, AM.CDX/CAN. UD

Owners: Christine & Roland Duval Breeder: Judith Ziozios

Can. Utility Degree: May 7, 1978

Whelped: July 2, 1975

Sire: Vin Marque de Grand Coeur Dam: Ch. Viva Maude Chez Rogues
de Brie, C.D.

(Ch. Pa'Chick's Rebel Deux X
Saucy Sally Chez de Benadaret) (Ch. Umbi Chabiv de Strathcona,
C.D. X La Melissa Chez Chien
Velu)

Trained and handled by Christine

NEW A.K.C. BRIARD CHAMPION



AM/CAN. CHAMPION PA'CHICK'S INTERLUDE (bitch)

Owner: Alice Bixler Clark Breeders: Charles & Patricia Long

American Championship: March 12, 1978

Whelped: October 21, 1973

Sire: Ch. Proud Rebel de Marha Dam: Am/Can. Ch. Pa'Chick's
Unchained Melody

(Ch. Nestor de Vasouy X
Marha Magie de la Brie) (Ch. Ralph des Elfes de Malouse,
C.D. X Ch. Pa'Chick's
Rebecca)

Judge: Mrs. Lesley Kodner

Handled by owner

NEW BRIARD CHAMPION



CHAMPION BLEUOX DE LA MONTAGNE (dog)

Owner: Eileen Eisenhart Breeder: Owner

Championship: April 10, 1977

Whelped: February 24, 1974

Sire: Barbu de la Montagne (Morley of Northumberland X Athena d'Collines Amical)
 Dam: Ramayana de St. Cherman (Ch. Prince Valiant de Marha X Anastasia d'Agincourt)

handled by owner

NEW CANADIAN CHAMPION



CAN. CH. CHATEAUBRIARD MADE-TO-ORDER (dog)

Owners: Jim & Phyllis Bond Breeders: Cecily R. Collins and Barbara Jill Carter

Can. Championship: March 11, 1978

Whelped: November 16, 1975

Sire: Ch. Chateaubriard Virtuoso Dam: Ivette de la Petite Suisse du Nord

(Ch. Pythias Chez Phydeau X. Ch. Phydeaux Theda Bara) (Mon Ami Mambo de la Petite Suisse du Nord X Self de la Jacquorelle)

Handled by Jim

NEW CANADIAN CHAMPION



CAN. CH. D'ESCOFFION Mle. MUFFET D'ARGYL (bitch)

Owners: Jim & Phyllis Bond Breeder: Louise M. Cohen

Can. Championship: March 11, 1978

Whelped: March 16, 1976

Sire: Ch. Va-Nu-Pieds de Charlemagne, C.D. Dam: Ch. Joiedevivre des Sage-Hardis

(Ch. Phydeaux Quelques X (Ch. Teed d'El Pastre X
Ch. Tendresse de Charlemagne) Thalassa du Val de Reuil)

Handled by Phyllis

STRICTLY DOG TO DOG -- ON OBEDIENCE TRAINING

Thanks to Sonia Collander for sending the following, which she reports is by an anonymous author - but Sonia is convinced her "Megan" wrote it!

"So your owner doesn't take you to Obedience - get your dog appeal going. Make your owner think how much nicer you would be if you were obedient. You haven't lived - if you haven't been to class. You meet girls - or if you are - you meet boys. (How 'bout that?)

"Would you believe that your owner comes to learn to be a handler? (ie., the stooge you have on the other end of the lead). The first thing he learns is that if you run away, it doesn't make any difference as long as eventually you come back and sit by him. You can't be punished, because if you are, you won't come back...see? Do this and you can get away with murder! The tests, as the handlers think they should be done, will bore you, but with your own variations, you can play forever and score your own way."

EXERCISE 1 - HEEL ON LEAD: A bit of a grind. Hang your head, walk as slowly as you can; then without warning, spring forward with all your weight! If your handler falls flat on his face, you score 25 points!

EXERCISE 2 - HEEL FREE: Anything goes, AND SO GO YOU. Usually at least one other dog will run with you. If you are out of doors, attend to the wants of nature. This gives you an alibi and shows your handler as a cad who forgot to look after you before training started. In your own time, return and sit with maddening precision and smile. You score 5 points for each minute of freedom.

EXERCISE 3 - RECALL: Handler walks off. Let him go - but when he turns and shouts at you, assume rock deafness, or show him how perfectly you can stay. Look anywhere, but not at him! If you see something worth investigating, go investigate. In your own time, go to your handler, preferably cringing, with your ears laid back. This will convince the other handlers that yours is a secret dog-beater, and he will lose face. On no account, sit in front of your handler as he will only make you move around him. Assume the "heel" position and look up with indifference. If your handler loses his voice, you score 25 points.

EXERCISE 4 - RETRIEVE THE DUMBELL: Watch handler throw away the dumbell with respectful interest. On no account fetch it back - he will only throw it away again! If the silly so-and-so wants his bit of wood, let him fetch it - you will be helping to train him not to throw away what he wants. Variation - run out with enthusiasm and sniff the dumbell, smile and return without it. He can't hit you (see notes above). Repeat as often as a handler wishes; you score 5 points every time the handler retrieves the dumbell.

EXERCISE 5 - SIT: On no account, really sit! They always train you on cold, wet ground. A squat is enough. You stay 1 inch from the ground at the back end. From this position you are able to spring away fast with no hesitation (see hints on "heel free"). 5 points for each successful squat.

continued next page----

STRICTLY DOG TO DOG -- continued

EXERCISE 6 - DOWN: Here you have to lie down; with practice you can travel yards on your stomach to reach other competitors! If they move, pretend you think the exercise is over and leave. If you stay out of handlers sight for 5 minutes, you score 30 points.

CONCLUSION: Without warning, do any exercise you choose perfectly! This will leave your handler thinking that earlier mistakes were his fault, and the sucker will take you to class week after week.

HAPPY SCORING!

STUD DOG COLUMN

AM/CAN CH. I CHARLEMAGNE CHEZ CIEL, AM/CAN C.D.X., AM T.D., A.D.
tawny, 3/6/73, OFA-FB 39, CERF BR-108/77-52. Sire: Ch. Prince Valiant de Marha. Dam: Ch. Queen Elizabeth de Chien Velu. Owner: Dave Behrens
1309 Lloyd, Lombard, IL 60148. (10/78)

CH. JABOT LE BONHEUR D'HTE COUTURE, black, 5/10/74.
Sire: Ch. Soleil d'Or de Marha. Dam: Vicki Chien de Grand Coeur.
Owner: Frances Taylor, 2612 Starkweather Road, Rockford, IL 61107.
Telephone: 815/398-8938. (12/78)

CH. LE MAJESTEUX PETER DE BRIE, black, 7/2/75. Sire: Vin Marque de Grand Coeur. Dam: Ch. Viva Maude Chez Rogues de Brie, C.D.
Owners: Mike Todd & Judi Ziozios, 191 Stroik Dr., Saginaw, MI 48603
Telephone: 517/781-3576. (10/78)

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LOOKING FOR PUPPIES?

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MASSACHUSETTS - Margurite Provencher, 105 Lake St., Haverhill, MA 01830

MICHIGAN - Ginny Schaefer, 214 Ernest, Linwood, MI 48634

Judy Ziozios, 3799 Midland Road, Saginaw, MI 48603

MINNESOTA - Sue Erickson, Route 5, Box 145, Mankato, MN 56001

Dick & Mimi Long, 63 1st Ave. North, Duluth, MN 55803

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Notice of members who have or are expecting puppies is printed without charge in the Dew Claw and this list is given to those who request information from the Club.

JUNE 1978

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DIANE McLEUTH
3030 ROCKWOOD DRIVE
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FIRST CLASS