

The Dew Claw.

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THE DEW CLAW

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Briard Club of America

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FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

The following are excerpts from recent letters.

From Phyllis Levitt:

"Last week I was preparing for a party at home of some 50 people. Needless to say I was very busy when our cat came home after a hard night on the town and demanded his breakfast in loud raucous tones as only a Siamese can manage. I couldn't stop at the moment and informed him so in a rather annoyed voice. He kept up the screaming for a few minutes, until, suddenly, our dog, Pickle, picked herself up from under the table, where she had been helpfully cleaning up crumbs, walked over to the cat, picked him up by the scruff of his neck and carried him out. She deposited him in the yard and came back for approval!

She has always been sensitive to human moods, consoling crying children is her forte, however she has never demonstrated her loyalty and understanding in quite this manner before."

From Lucille Berninger:

"Just a short bit of information for your B.C. of A. records, that is, notice of address change. We moved from a 150 year old farm for a nice, young 125 year old one. Out of a tiny four room frame to a healthy ten room brick. Enjoy this new c age immensely but sure am glad when the 11:00 o'clock news is over.

"I'm anxious to read the "How To Raise and Train a Briard"* but as yet have to remind my husband to get a few in stock. He sells doggy things in his store, amongst horse equipment and canvas goods. How's that for a Sally-wampus assortment of stock!"

*Ed. note: Not yet published.

From Rosemary Hayward:



EMERAUDE DE LA GAILLARDE-- Since her recent acquisition from Club President, Gay Norgaard, has accumulated eight ribbons including Best of Breed at the Pasadena Kennel Club Show, and "Best of Opposite" at the recent Orange Empire Show, San Bernardino Calif. She placed third behind her former kennel-mate, Gai de la Gaillarde, at the Briard Specialty, Harbor Cities Kennel Club Show, Long Beach, Calif.

"Emmy" will show at Costa Mesa, Pasadena, Glendale, San Fernando, and Hemet, Calif., before her anticipated mating to Ayala's Legolas. Prolific Legolas (twenty-eight puppies in two litters) is the holder of ten BOBs including two "Majors". He is the sire of Renault de la Topanga, BOB, Briard Specialty, Long Beach, Calif. Ayala's Legolas is owned by Don Collins of Topanga Canyon, Cal.

Many of you are acquainted with the AKC Publication, "Pure Bred Dogs". The July issue was an especially good one, with many informative articles in the breed columns. As a result of a suggestion made via the BCA dinner last week, we hope to include a Briard column in future issues. Meanwhile we would like to pass on to you an article written by Marge Turnquist, owner and breeder of Belgian Sheepdogs,

Summer time, as much as we enjoy it, brings many problems to people with dogs. The most common external parasite is the flea. Fleas do not lay their eggs on the fur but in the sleeping quarters. A complete clean up of Winter bedding and houses will help eliminate the breeding ground for this pest. There are many good sprays for this purpose but should be checked out with your Vet before use. Be sure to get the spray in the cracks and crevices as this is a good hiding place for them. The clean up job and a dip for your dog should be timed together so your clean quarters will not be reinfested.

Check your dog's coat and skin while grooming. Look for brown or black gritty material on the skin. This is the feces of the flea. Fleas cause a lot of skin trouble due to scratching and biting. It is the opinion of many that 50% of skin trouble can be traced back to this source. They are also one of the intermediate hosts for tapeworm. It is no disgrace to have fleas on your dog but it is a disgrace to ignore them with so many fine products available to use.

Another common enemy is the tick. They are the hardest of all external parasites since they can survive for months in empty dog houses biding their time for a free meal. People who have visiting dogs and matrons should check each dog to be sure they are free of ticks before they are put in a kennel or your exercise grounds.

The female tick is grey. After mating she feeds until she becomes gorged with blood and falls off. She will then seek a place to lay her eggs. This starts the vicious circle. If you find only a few on your dog you can pick them off with tweezers but be sure to get the head as this can cause infection, but if you have a badly infested animal you will really have to go to work spraying the area where he most likely was infested. There are sprays and dips available now that will do a good job if you are a do it yourself fan. The male and the young ticks are not as hard to dislodge as the engorged female which is hardest to kill. You may feel that it is easier to pick them off as they are large when engorged and easier to find. There are pills available that you might ask your Vet. about. Different parts of the country have different types of ticks to combat. These pills are controversial as far as I can learn.

Lice are other parasites that can get a head start on you before you know it. This is a soft-bodied grey bug. The eggs are silvery and firmly attached to the hair. I know of one case where a dog who spent most of his time guarding a herd of cattle was so infested with lice that he was so anaemic by the time his condition was discovered that he was beyond saving even with blood transfusions. Since some of the cattle died with the same thing he evidently got them from close contact. Lice are nearly invisible pests to begin with and it is much easier to have them dipped, but if that is impossible a good flea and lice powder should be applied at ten day intervals for three or four treatments at least.

Ear mites are another source of trouble that can be passed on from one animal to another. This is a small silver-white mite that lives in the ear canal. They leave a brownish-black dry type discharge. They produce itching and will inflame the ear. Dogs clawing at their ears will cause bleed-

ing and infection. Since the ear is so delicate I would suggest treatment by your Vet. Check your dogs ears regularly and watch for them shaking their head as this is a good sign of discomfort of some sort.

Flies are one insect that is always with us. To eliminate them completely is impossible but we can help control them. We have to be extra careful about leaving food down to attract them. Picking up fecal matter more often and spraying with a good fly spray will discourage them. The tips of the dogs ears and the nose is the common target. Ears can be raw and bleeding in a few hours time. Most people have a pet remedy for this. I have tried several products that have helped but I have had to make more than one application a day. I have never found anything, at the peak of the fly season, that will last an entire day. Whatever you use be sure to read the directions on the label carefully. Many of the products can cause skin irritation and side affects if not used properly. When in doubt, call your Vet. New medicine and repellants are being tested and developed every day. He keeps up with all the latest and can advise you the safe way to keep your animals comfortable with a minimum of effort on your part.

* * * * *

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome to membership in the Briard Club of America the following:

Mrs. L. K. Davis (Betty) 925 Carney Dr. Garland, Texas and Briard, "Mimi Mendiante de la Brie".

Mrs. Eugene Haines (Joette) R. D. 3, Albion, New York and Briard, "Nanie de la Haute Tour".

SHOW RESULTS

At the Lawrence Jayhawk K.C. Show two Briards were entered. BOB went to "Linotte de la Brie" owned by Mr. and Mrs. L. Jennings, and BOS went to "Montjoye de la Brie" owned by Mr. and Mrs. R. Admussen.

"Linotte" picked up another BOB at the Topeka K.C. Show, but without competition this time. How about some of you people in the Kansas area getting together to make some points available.

Mr. Cook's "Rascal" picked up another point toward his championship by beating his daddy, "Ike de Vasouy" for BOB at Long Island.

Rosemary Hayward's "Emmy" picked up a BOB for her record at Pasadena.

At Greenwich K.C. six Briards competed and made "majors" available in both sexes. In the Amer-bred Bitch class Hugh Dangler's "Mazurka Chez Phydeau" was first, with Chris Kent's "Melodie Chez Phydeau" second. In the Open Bitch class Art Tingley's "Pingo" was first, and Winners Bitch, with Geo. Morren's "Dowitcher of Alpen" second and Reserve. In the Open Dog class first and RWD went to Mrs. Tingley's "Ike de Vasouy", while Mr. Cook's "Matador Chez Phydeau" came up from Amer-bred to take Winners Dog, Best of Winners and Best of Breed. He repeated this performance the next day at Longshore Southport to pick up those two important "majors". Dogs and classes at both shows were the same, with "Mazurka" going RWB at Long shore Southport, for the only difference in the placings.

The Briard Specialty at Harbor Cities, Long Beach, Cal., saw a wonderful entry of thirteen Briards, for five points in each sex. Puppy Dog First and RWD went to Myra Girouard's "Maraud de la Brie". Open Dog First and BOB went to "Renault de la Topanga" owned by Anita Collins. Second was Dr. and Mrs. Catalano's "Gigot de la Gaillarde"; third "Peugeot de la Topanga" owned by Mr. Evans;

and fourth to "Jock Napoleon Pont" owned by Mr. Bridges.

On the distaff side, first in the Novice class was Mr. Palmer's "Gilda de la Gaillarde"; while first in the Bred by Exhibitor class was Phyllis Levitt's "Ayala's Undomiel". I might say here that any entry in the bred by exhibitor class is a rarity, and I hope we will see many more entries in this class. First in the Open Bitch class was Myra Girouard's "Gai de la Gaillarde" who went on to collect WB and BOS. Second went to Anita Collins "Cafe au Lait Topanga"; third to Rosemary Hayward's "Emeraude de la Gaillarde" and fourth to Phyllis Levitt's "Ayala's Undomiel". The RWB was "Cafe au Lait Topanga". Also entered were "Mandoline Chez Phydeau" owned by Francis Jacobs, and Anita Collins "Ayala's Finduilas". Leonard Greenstone's "Skaios" made up the thirteen entries, but was absent.

At the Staten Island k.c. show Art Tingley's "Pinot Noire des Coteaux" picked up her final point to complete her championship by going WB over Mr. Morren's "Dowitcher of Alpen". Mr. Cook's "Matador Chez Phydeau" completed the entry, and took BOB.

At Hunterdon Hills Mrs. Tingley's "Ike de Vasouy" reasserted himself in the friendly rivalry with his son, Mr. Cook's "Rascal", by taking BOB. The following week "Ike" went BOB again over "Rascal" who was Reserve Winner in the combined classes, over "Pingo" and "Melodie".

The Labor Day weekend started out with the Somerset Hills K.C. Show at Far Hills, N. J. The entry was smaller than desired, with only one point in each sex. First in Amer-bred and BOS was Chris Kent's, "Melodie Chez Phydeau". First in the Open Bitch class and RWB was Mrs. Thompson's "Linda de la Haute Tour". In Amer-bred dogs, first place went to Mr. Cook's "Matador Chez Phydeau", who was RWD. Open dog first and BOB went to Mrs. Tingley's "Ike de Vasouy".

The Briard Specialty Show at Westchester saw an entry of seven with one absentee. A special vote of appreciation was earned by Judge Alva Rosenberg who broke his left ankle about two weeks ago, but completed his program with his left foot in a cast.

In Amer-bred dogs, "Matador Chez Phydeau" was first; Mr. Rosner's "Luc de la Brie" was second. Open dog first went to "Ike de Vasouy" and second to Mrs. Morrisson's "Lutin des Elfe de Malouse". Matador was Winner's dog; Ike was Reserve.

First Amer-bred bitch was Geo. Morren's "Dowitcher of Alpen"; first Open bitch was Betty Thompson's "Linda de la Haute Tour". Winners bitch was Linda; best of winners was Matador. Mr. Tingley's "Pinot Noire des Coteaux" made her debut in the Specials class and went on to BOB. Matador was BOS. The quantity of the entry may have been small, but the quality was excellent. Every entry had championship points; all but one had "majors". It was a very satisfying show and more than one spectator remarked on the consistent quality of the entry.



A FAMILY AFFAIR

On the opposite page is Dr. Grodjesk's "Pommard des Coteaux", better known to family and friends as "PomPom". With her is her 10 week-old daughter, "Nonchalant des Gasconnades", better known as "No-Be".

Below is Leonard Rosner's "Luc de la Brie", father of "No-Be". In case you don't recognise Luc as a Briard, here are the details that led to his nudity. Last summer, while on the New England Circuit, Luc was bitten on the ear by an unknown insect. The bite was treated and healed with dispatch. However, for some reason Luc continued to carry the ear in a folded position. After many trips to the Vet. it was finally decided that Luc's ear should be shaved to eliminate the weight of the abundant coat he was carrying.

Rather than shave just the ear and risk having Luc look peculiar, the Rosner's had the entire coat removed. Everyone who has seen him is amazed to find out how much dog is hidden under the dense Briard coat.



BCA DINNER MEETING

Briarders enjoyed an eventful Labor Day weekend highlighted by the BCA dinner and meeting at the Hohokus Inn in New Jersey. Among those in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. Cook, Dr. and Mrs. Grodjesk, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Marley and their son Harold, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Morren, Mr. and Mrs. Rosner, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Tingley and daughter Karen, and their guests, Mr. and Mrs. Montague.

Mr. Morren did a very capable job of presiding in place of Mr. Murfey who was deterred at the last minute. Since this was the first meeting of its kind attended by any of the members present, it was kept at rather an informal level. Many members unable to attend sent in suggestions for discussion; among these was the suggestion for a Briard column in Pure Bred Dogs. Everyone present seemed to think this was an ideal way to keep the breed before the dog-conscious public. Mrs. Rosner volunteered to go through back issues of the Dew Claw for articles for immediate submission to AKC.

The question of raising the annual dues provoked quite a bit of discussion as many of the other suggestions involved expenditure by the club, bringing the discussion back to the tight budget. It was agreed that the ideal would be to increase the membership thus increasing the club income. Mr. Rosner suggested that perhaps if breeders were permitted to give reduced rate memberships to puppy buyers for one year (at the expense of the breeder), these same puppy buyers would become sufficiently interested to continue their membership at their own expense from then on.

A few members thought that increasing annual dues might decrease the present membership. Mrs. Thompson advised that AKC will publish candid pictures (puppies with

children; dogs with kittens, etc.) as the frontispiece of Pure Bred Dogs and that they pay about \$25. for the picture. It was suggested that the club might taking and submitting the pictures; and that any payment for acceptable shots would be returned to the Treasury. Since both suggestions involved expense by the club with no guarantee of increased income, a small increase in annual dues was reconsidered. Mr. Marley suggested annual dues of \$7.50 for an individual; \$10.00 for a joint membership of husband and wife. This increase would allow the club to undertake some of the other suggestions that would make the club more attractive. It was voted to submit the suggested increases to the Executive Committee.

Next to come under discussion was the suggestion that the club sponsor an informal match show and picnic to rotate from year to year, from one area to another. All present agreed that this would be an excellent method of stimulating interest among the members to show their dogs. Further discussion was tabled pending investigation of costs, availability of funds, and location.

Suggestions and criticisms were then opened to members present concerning the Dew Claw. Mrs. Henry suggested that the Dew Claw be enlarged. Mrs. Tingley advised that if the membership were more communicative it would be a simple matter to add a few more pages to the publication.

A request was made for an explanation of Briard color, especially as refers to the portion of the breed standard which states, "Dark colors are preferred". Mrs. Thompson gave a brief explanation, advising that the Briard is primarily a sheep herder, and that the sheep will respond better to a darker dog than they will to a light one, and that the standard of the breed is a guide to judge and breeder to preserve the basic qualities

of the breed. Mrs. Henry suggested that since the Briard is not used for herding in the United States no color preference should be made, and made a motion that the words, "Dark colors are preferred," be deleted from the standard. There was no second, and no vote was taken.

The next suggestion was that the annual specialty be changed to a Spring show in order to have the dogs in full coat for the event. Those suggested as possibilities on the East Coast were Twin Brooks, Trenton, and Greenwich. On the surface Greenwich, Conn. seemed to offer the most advantages as it is outdoors, easily accessible to the largest concentration of Briard exhibitors, it is a benched show, and it is held in early June when weather is fairly dependable and Briards are still in full coat. Further investigation will be made by Mrs. Tingley to find out what the Show giving club offers to clubs holding Specialty Shows. Members agreed that annual meetings of the BCA should be considered in conjunction with the Specialty.

Mr. Rosner advised that it had come to his attention that the BCA Constitution calls for annual election of officers, and that none had been held in 1963 or 1964. He made a motion that steps be taken so as to prepare for an election to be held in January of 1965, and that the nominations committee be selected from various parts of the country. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and carried.

Mr. Marley suggested that the club consider a Puppy Sweepstakes to be held at the Specialty Shows. He explained that each puppy must be entered in a regular class at the show in addition to the Sweepstakes, but all entry money from the Sweepstakes entries is held in a separate fund and divided among the winners on a percentage basis. The cost of the entry in the Sweepstakes is to be determined by the club holding the Specialty. Mr. Rosner made a motion that this suggestion

be published in the Dew Claw for consideration by the membership. Motion seconded by Mr. Tingley and carried.

Mrs. Cook suggested that the club consider some award to be made to dogs acquiring a championship or an obedience title. Mr. Marley volunteered to look into the cost of putting a picture of such a dog, in full color, on the cover of the Dew Claw.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 11 p.m., and I am sure everyone enjoyed it. It was especially gratifying to see such good fellowship and such full participation from the members; those present as well as those who could only participate by mail.

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COMING SHOWS

Briards will be out in competition at the following shows:

9/27	Westbury Kennel Assoc.,	N. Y.
9/19	Mesilla Valley K.C.	Las Cruces, N.M.
9/20	El Paso K.C.	El Paso, Tex.
9/27	Rio Pecos K.C.	Roswell, N.M.
10/3	Devon Dog Show Assoc.	Devon, Pa.
10/11	Silver State K.C.	Las Vegas, Nev.
10/25	Bronx Co. K.C.	Bronx, N. Y.
11/14	Sussex Hills, K.C.	Morristown, N.J.*
12/5	K.C. of Phila.	Phila., Pa.
12/6	Camden Co. K.C.	Camden, N. J.
2/15-16	Westminster K. C.	New York City

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