NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to the following:

Mrs. John J. Rohrbach (Caroline) Stuart Drive, Bloomfield, Conn.; and Briard, "Mazurka Chez Phyeau"

Mrs. Merritt Barker - 5035 Louise Ave., Encino, California; and Briard, "Renault de la Topanga"

Mrs. Eric T. Miller (Eileen) 281 Pondfield Road, Bronxville, N.Y.; and Briard, "Brandy des Meuniers"

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COMING SHOWS

There will be Briard entries at the following:

Oct. 2 Hoosier Kennel Club Indianapolis, Ind.

3 Westbury Kennel Assn., Old Westbury, N.Y.

9 Devon Dog Show Assn., Devon, Pa.

31 Bronx Co. K. C. Bronx, N.Y.

Nov. 7 Union Co. K. C. Elizabeth, N.J.

20 Sussex Hills K.C. Morristown, N.J.


12 Camden Co. K.C. Camden, N.J.


** Followed by Open House at the Tingleys. All Briarder invited.

++ Briarders in this area are anxious to get as many Briards as possible out to this show. If you are interested in attending, please contact Earl L. Murphy, M.D. Cowell Hospital Berkeley 4, Cal.
THE BRIARD IN THE BREED RING

Very little can compare with a good dog---well groomed, well conditioned, and well trained as he moves around the breed ring. Unfortunately, too many exhibitors pay their entry fees two weeks in advance of the show, brush the dog just before he steps into the ring, and pray that he'll behave. This is not to the advantage of the breed---any breed!

Anyone who has ever watched a dog show has seen dogs with tear-stained faces, dirty feet, matted coats, or combinations of these and other troubles. We've watched those that sit when judged, and those that drag their handlers all around the ring. There is no excuse for any of this. Let's not let it happen with Briards.

The Premium List for a given show comes out 5 to 6 weeks before the show date. THIS is the time to groom your dog. Brush him until he is completely free of tangles. Check his weight and skin condition and if either needs correction you have six weeks in which to do it. Trim his feet, and bathe him no less than four weeks before the show, so he has time to get some oil back in his coat. Brush him for half an hour every day, and wash his whiskers after meals so he doesn't get food matted into his beard. THEN when show time rolls around you know your dog will look his very best.

Training the dog to proper ring performance may take a little longer. The best way to go about it is to enroll the dog in a show training class given by your local kennel club. These give invaluable experience to any dog, no matter how capable the handler. The class simulates the show ring, with dog and handler getting training and experience from the instructor who also acts as judge. He will go over each dog and get the dog accustomed to such things as strange people looking at his teeth---or counting his dew claws. He also gets used to being in close contact with other dogs.

If you can't get your dog to classes, you can teach him to gait properly on a lead. Have the dog walk or trot slowly on your left side, about two feet away from you. Many Briards with their deep herding instincts, tend to stay close and cut in front of the handler. This causes a
rather sidewise or 'crabbing' gait. If your dog cuts you off consistently, bring your left knee up sharply as you walk. If the dog bumps it often enough he will learn to move in a straight line. If the dog moves too close to you, and your arms aren't long enough to hold him away, set up a long, low barricade, and gait with the dog on one side and you on the other. Work with the dog for half an hour a day in your back yard. When the dog has everything down pat, move to the park. Remember your dog must move smoothly, without sniffing the ground, lunging at other dogs, or relieving himself at every tree. For the final step, take the dog into a busy town. If he gait well there, you've got it made.

In addition to gaiting, you must teach the dog to stand in a set position with his front feet directly under his shoulders, his head up, and his hind feet stretched back until the hock is perpendicular to the ground. Keeping the dog in this position, have your friends and neighbors look at the dog's eyes and teeth, and run their hands down his back and check the dew claws.

Novice handlers would do well to watch the working dogs in the ring at shows, especially Dobermans, Boxers, and Collies. In these breeds where the competition is so keen, the handler can make the difference between a blue and a red ribbon, and much can be gained by watching their techniques.

For your own performance in the ring----you gait counter-clockwise, with the dog on your left. Keep your eye on the judge, but stay out of his way. He wants to see your dog, not you. Proper attire is a dress for the lady, jacket and tie for the gentleman. In hot weather, remember that if the judge can stand it all day, you can stand it for fifteen minutes. Rarely (I have heard it only once, on a scalding hot day) it will be announced over the public address system that 'the judges have kindly requested that the gentlemen remove their jackets because of the heat'.

I cannot stress enough the importance of the impression you and your dog make in the breed ring. You owe a courtesy to your judge, and you must also think of your spectators. They may be potential buyers, or tomorrow's judges, and what they see, good or bad, they will remember for a long, long time.
A WALK ON THE SWEET SIDE

STICKY GOES WALKIES...AT 5 POUND A DAY.
Eighteen inches of well-groomed dog called Sternroc Sticky Wicket yesterday went walkies with his mistress. And just behind, and costing about 5 Pounds a day, was his own personal 6 ft. 2 in. private detective. Sticky is the only dog in Britain with a human "tail". He is the American champion of the Schnauzer breed, a wire-haired terrier-like dog, and is insured in the U.S. for 1000 Pounds. Every time Sticky makes more than a brief appearance among the ordinary canines of the world he must have a private eye shadowing him. Otherwise, says his English-born owner, Mrs. Pamela Cross Stern, people might feed him sweets. "You only need a few people a day to stuff Sticky with tidbits and his championship qualities would be ruined," said Mrs. Cross Stern. London Daily Mail

BCA ADVERTIZING POLICY

Many people have commented on how much they enjoy the Dew Claw... and the more pages, the better! Also the more pages, the costlier. For this reason the BCA has agreed to include some advertisements. Most breed club magazines charge their members for puppy ads. and stud dog ads. It has been a policy of the BCA to provide free ads. to members for puppy and stud services, and so it will continue. In addition, we will take a few ads. from members for dog products or services i.e. grooming, boarding, portraits, etc. These will be strictly ads. and should not be construed as recommendations from the Briard Club.

To date we have orders for 3 pages of Christmas ads. (See July Dew Claw) Orders should be sent directly to: Harold A. Marley 3940 W. 96th St. Indianapolis 68, Ind.

A brand new innovation in the canine world is The American Dog Reporter, a weekly newspaper for the dog enthusiast. A special offer is now being made to Breed Club Members Only reducing the subscription rates for those members joining during the month of Sept. Normally $4. per year, the price for this month is $3. per year.

Send Club Name, Secy's Name, Your own name and address, plus $3. to:
American Dog Reporter
Box 86
Bridgman, Mich., 49106

A new booklet, "Skin and Coat Care of Dogs", offering tips on grooming and suggestions on how to control skin diseases, has been published by the Gaines Dog Research Center.

The 14 page publication stresses the importance of keeping a dog's skin and coat in a healthy condition, with helpful suggestions re. brushing, clipping, bathing, and other elements of grooming. In the section covering skin problems, nonparasitic diseases, chronic conditions, eczema, skin parasites, insect-caused dermatoses and other conditions are discussed. The role of proper diet together with hygiene is also pointed out.

Copies of this new booklet may be obtained free of charge by addressing a request to Gaines "Skin and Coat Care", P.O. Box 1007, Kankakee, Illinois, 60901.
The other day Ole asked me to mail this letter she had written to her mommy in France. I asked her if I could read it, being naturally curious as to her impressions of this country and her new home. It showed such remarkable promise as a writer, and such over-whelming intelligence for a puppy so young, that I requested, and got, her permission to have it copied. Here it is:

Dear Mommy,

I am sorry, dear French mommy, that I have delayed so long in letting you know that I arrived safely in America, but I knew that you would also want to know about my new home and how I am treated, so I thought I would wait and see how I fared after the first kisses wore off. Besides, I have been so, so busy with my new brothers and sisters.

First off all, the trip: After you put my sister Ourale and me on the plane at Orly at six a.m., we slept most of the way, being so tired from the early rising. The plane was comfortable, and the crate you made us was so well designed that we traveled in great comfort. We got to the United States at one o'clock, their time, but wouldn't you know it—we arrived on the same day as the Beatles, and it took us four hours to get from one side of the airport to the other—where Judy Miller, Mary Lou Tingley, Karen Riedel, and Jane and Charles Cook had been waiting to welcome us since twelve-thirty. The men in the customs department were all very nice and interested in us. They took a slat off the crate while we were waiting to be inspected by the U.S. Department of Health, and Ourale tried to climb out to make friends with everybody. You know what a flirt she is! I stayed in the crate and received my petting in gentle reserve. Much fuss was made over us, and we enjoyed that a lot. Finally the formalities were over, and we waved good-bye to the nice customs men and went outside to play on the grass and do some necessary things. Then we all got in the car and rode to Staten Island where Mrs. Tingley had left her car, and Ourale went with Mrs. Tingley, and I went with the Cooks.
I didn't care much about being separated from Ourale by then, because I was very tired and I just went to sleep. The Tingleys and Ourale live in Northern New Jersey, and the Cooks and I live in Southern New Jersey, about 80 miles apart, but both in the country. To hear people talk, New Jersey is full of factories, and oil refineries, and cities, but where I live you can't even see another house.

When we got home it was raining slightly, and a lot of dogs were barking when we drove up. I don't know where the dogs were, because they took me in the house and gradually introduced me to the others one at a time. Boy, what a family.

There is a miniature Schnauzer, GeeSee, smaller than I, who loves to play ball. Then there is Rascal, the other Briard who is a Champion and holds a Companion Dog Degree, and thinks he's pretty smart. He thinks he's the boss of the whole family, but really Mr. Cook is. My favorites are the two Bedlington Terriers, Nipper and Nimble, who really like to race and run with me. I'm about the same size and weight as they are, but I certainly do feel clumsy compared to them. Wait 'til I grow a little. But we do have fun.

No fighting is allowed here, but there is little to fight about. Nimble, who is only eight months old, is my best playmate. He has marvelous ears to chew on, but that isn't allowed either. Too bad. However, Nimble and I often chew on the same toys at the same time in glorious good fellowship, and once we got a piece of Mommy's stretch underwear, and had a real ball with it until she caught us.

I understand from the others that this Fall I will have to go to show handling school to learn to gait properly and stand still while the judge examines me, but mostly to get used to strange dogs. The others all say it is great fun and that you get to know a lot of people that way, so I am looking forward to it. (I do enjoy admiration, you know.)

Ourale visited me yesterday (I've now been here two weeks) and do you know (I hate to admit it) I had forgotten her and growled when she came into our back yard. I soon remembered however and saved some face by playing with her and introducing her to all the others. You should see how she flirted with Nimble. The Tingleys call her Friday, but Mrs. Cook calls her Jezebel.

So, dear Mommy, we are enjoying ourselves. You will probably notice that I have already picked up some American slang and many colloquialisms, but I hope you won't mind them too much.

Love, from Ole.

P.S. Best wishes from Mr. and Mrs. Cook and my brothers and sisters here.

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AVAILABLE FROM BCA

"How to Raise and Train a Briard" $1.00

Briard stationery - Drop ear only notepaper........$1.00

French fold........$2.00

Briard ear cropping pattern.........Free

Please address requests to your Secretary or to the Treasurer.

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The drawing on the following page illustrates the direction for the final combing of the Briard as he goes into the show ring. The coat should NOT be parted down the back. These are Briards, not overgrown Skye Terriers. The hair on the back, particularly if it is quite long, will naturally fall to either side of the back, and this should look as NATURAL as possible. A defined part will make the dog look long-backed, as well as being artificial on a working breed.
This method of combing shows a well defined neck, smooth topline, and good feathering. The tail has been omitted from the drawing to give better definition to the details on the hind legs.
DON'T DELAY

SEND YOUR GREETING COPY TODAY

As was mentioned in last issue of the Dew Claw we will be accepting advertising in the form of Christmas Greetings for the December issue of the Dew Claw.

THE COST IS SMALL .. 1/4 page $2.00 ..
pictures $1. extra 1/2 page $3.00
full page $5.00

THE BENEFITS TO ALL CAN BE GREAT

SO WON'T YOU COOPERATE

Send copy and check made payable to BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA to Harold A. Marley, 3940 W. 96th St., Indianapolis, Ind.

COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

AKC  American Kennel Club
BCA  Briard Club of America
SCC  Societe Centrale Canine (French equivalent of AKC)
BOB  Best of Breed
BOV  Best of Variety
WG  Working Group
BIS  Best in Show
BOW  Best of Winners
WD  Winners Dog
WB  Winners Bitch
RWD  Reserve Winners Dog
RWB  Reserve Winners Bitch
BOS  Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed
C.D.  Companion Dog
C.D.X.  Companion Dog Excellent
U.D.  Utility Dog
T.D.  Tracking Dog
P.H.A.  Professional Handler's Association