PRESIDENT'S CORNER...

Paddy Anufrom has had to resign from the Standard Committee on orders from her doctor, since she has contracted Valley Fever, an illness which she says is not uncommon in her area. Her doctor has prescribed rest and more rest for perhaps the next year. I was sorry to have to accept her resignation. I have wished her a speedy recovery as I am sure all the membership does.

A first draft of a proposed Standard for the Briard has been submitted to the members of the Standard Committee and it is hoped that we may soon have something to submit to the membership.

The Aug. Dew Claw contained some very worthwhile material, especially the articles by Mary Lou Tingley and Jane Cook. Both dealt with problems directly related to our Briards and their future. I couldn't agree more with every point of Mary Lou's article but I am afraid there is no easy solution to the problems mentioned. Regardless of the breed, be it Briards or some other, there will always be Producers and Mercenaries, unethical "breeders", pups in pet shops and poorly kept dogs - and usually in direct ratio to the popularity of the breed. So, it would seem to me that the key to the solution is less emphasis on popularizing the Briard, and continued emphasis by those who are truly sincere breeders on breeding the very best Briard possible, because the Producers and the Mercenaries cannot hope to continue in "business" unless they can match the quality, Briard for Briard as produced by the truly sincere breeders.

It is extremely unfortunate that in any breed, the sincere breeders are greatly outnumbered by the Producers and Mercenaries, many of whom do not truly realize that they are NOT serious breeders. This is due in part to the fact that many of them are fairly new to the dog game and have not had enough exposure to enough articles of an educational nature and to enough first hand experiences. Hopefully, the longer they are in the game the more sincere they may become.

So with continued articles on all phases of the dog game, there is always the hope that some of the less sincere will awake to the facts and will eventually join the ranks of the true breeders.

I hope the articles on Hip Dysplasia, though very good, will not have created more apathy than already existed. True, you can't watch an OFA number walk down the street, but neither can you enjoy watching a severely dysplastic Briard walk down the street, assuming it can walk.

ADDRESS CHANGES......
William & Joyce Awody, 1117 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mi 49085
Willy Heikoop, 660 Clarke Rd., Coquitlam, New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada
Margaret Conroy, 30 Hickory Rd., Fairfax, Ca. 94930

THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK...

"The Dew Claw" is now being sent to BCA members first class and should be in your hands within a few days of publication, instead of the 10 days to 3 weeks which third class required. We feel the advantages of receiving news and articles while they are still fresh make the necessary sacrifices worthwhile. In order to hold costs down as much as possible, "The Dew Claw" is being restricted to 36 pages in length, including the lighter weight cover. Occasionally this limit may mean that I will have to hold out something which you hoped to see in print for a future issue. This month I could easily have filled 56 pages, but please bear with me and I will try to publish every letter, picture, article, and bit of news of interest to Club members.

The next issue of "The Dew Claw" will not, however, be restricted in length, for the December Christmas issue has always been a special one. It is your opportunity to send greetings to fellow club members. You may purchase a page, or a portion of one, at the rates quoted on the title page, and design your own message. A fun photograph of your Briard will be greatly enjoyed by every recipient. If you don't have a suitable snapshot, plan to take one soon as the DEADLINE FOR ADS for this issue only has been moved up to NOVEMBER 7th. It would be most helpful to me and more interesting to our readers if you would set up your ad just as you want it published yourself. Rule off an area the size of a "Dew Claw" page and use a felt tip pen, typewriter, etc., to write out your message. If your photograph needs to be reduced in size, indicate how large you want it to be. Black and white snapshots reproduce better than color. Please don't send negatives. Enclose a check made out to the Briard Club of America for the appropriate amount, remembering that there is a charge of $1.00 extra for photographs, and send your ad to me, unfolded if possible. I will be glad to return the original snapshot if you so request. Let's hear from every member this year and make the December issue the best "Dew Claw" ever!

Premium lists for the Westminster Kennel Club Show to be held at Madison Square Garden in New York will be mailed out in November. The show is scheduled for February 15 and 16 (Monday and Tuesday), and it is always a thrilling one for spectators and especially for exhibitors. The 1971 show will permit many owners of young Briards to participate, as the former requirement for at least one major has been lifted. The Westminster Kennel Club has announced that dogs credited with one or more championship points will be eligible to enter. The total entry will be limited to 3000 dogs, and the two-day format of last year will again be used. Briards will be exhibited on Monday along with the rest of the Working Group, the Terriers, and the Non-Sporting dogs. C. Hamilton will be judging Briards, and Henry Stoecker will judge the Working Group. The other three Groups will be benched and judged on Tuesday only, if you want to receive a premium list, write to the Foley Dog Show Organization, 2009 Ranstead Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103.

The article by Malcolm Stephens appearing in this issue is copyrighted in 1970 by Countrywide Publications, Inc., 222 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10003. They are the publishers of "DOGS" magazine, an interesting publication which is sold at major newstands. Subscriptions are $5.00 for eight issues.
The lovely couple pictured in the August "Dew Claw" on the bench in Central Park is William Koenig and his Briard Clochard de la Patre. Didn't you know Briards preferred a bench to the ground (or a bed to the floor)?

Cece Collins
415 Oak Tree Lane
Easton, Pa. 18042

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

3525 Julie Ct.
Palo Alto, CA 94306
August 17, 1970

Dear Mrs. Collins,

Jane Cook, in her August article on ear cropping, has presented only one side of the issue. Further, she has validated her position on ear cropping by citing one or two specific examples of ear disease in uncropped dogs and by a rather vague reference to unidentified veterinary books.

It may well be true that ear cropping leads to a reduction of disease in Briards. However this can only be shown by studying the medical histories of many dogs, both cropped and uncropped. It is entirely possible, for example, that ear problems are as much environmentally caused as by leaving the ear natural. The point, of course, is that Mr. Cook's evidence is opinion, not fact.

Further, Mrs. Cook has ignored some of the problems with ear cropping, such as the possibility of a poor job doing cosmetic damage and/or causing subsequent infection. Also it is possible that an erect ear is more likely to admit foreign matter, such as burrs, which could cause problems.

Finally, her conclusion that the drop ear was "caused by man's meddling" is completely unsupported by fact—at least in her article.

It is my opinion that ear cropping in Briards is presently done primarily for cosmetic reasons and justified by the "hunch" that ventilation is beneficial. Until I see some statistical evidence that cropping is indicated for reasons of health, I will remain opposed to it.

Yours truly,

Tom Smith

**********************

DON'T FORGET THE CHRISTMAS ISSUE! DEADLINE FOR ADS IS NOVEMBER 7TH. MAIL YOUR AD TO THE EDITOR TODAY!!
I prefer to talk to prospective buyers or meet them personally, rather than just correspond. This way I can ascertain exactly what they want and why they want it, also their previous experience, if any, with dogs.

When selling a 'pet' puppy, I fully explain why this is a 'pet' and why this dog cannot be used for breeding. If the party is fully aware and still wants this puppy, I will sell it under the condition the puppy be spayed or castrated between the age of 6 mos. and one year. When an individual pays a price for a Briard (even though this dog does not conform 100% to the breed standard) he should be privileged to possess his dogs A.K.C. papers. When I receive certification from their veterinarian that the necessary surgery has been performed I forward the papers so they can either show them to their friends or exhibit the dog in obedience. Many dogs, not conforming to the breed standard have made tremendous strides in the obedience ring.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Long

28.VIII.70

Mrs. K. B. Collins
415 Oak Tree Lane
Easton, Pennsylvania 18042

"Breeder, Producer or Mercenary" by Mary Lou Tingley
The Dew Claw, August 1970

For beginners, I didn't ask to have my name listed on page 12 and don't like to see it there, but now that it is . . .

ii An all-encompassing fundamental assumption to Mary Lou Tingley's opinion is that a blue ribbon in a dog show is a sole end toward raising a dog. Ideally this is so, but in practice it certainly isn't. Witness the almost loss of the Landseer Newfoundland, the reprehensible mode of the poodle and a tendency to change Briards into Afgans.

iii There are other things in play such as evolutionary processes beyond our ken; other objectives on the part of breeders such as guards, pets, and even hunters; and finally the attitudes of the dogs themselves.

NELSON C. STEENLAND
0101 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027
SUITE 129

THE SECRETARY'S PAGE

The following recommendations were adopted by the Executive Committee:

1. Approval to have the Treasurer send to Mrs. Collins $5.00 or $10.00 to cover her cost of postage connected with editing "The Dew Claw". When depleted, approval to send a like amount as needed.

2. Approval to reimburse Mr. Marley for special preprinted typing paper and postage, sent to Mrs. Collins, in the amount of $5.

3. Approval to reimburse Mr. Marley $2.05 additional postage on "Dew Claws" after June billing was sent to the Treasurer.


5. Approval to hold only one BCA Specialty Show in 1971.

6. Approval to hold the 1971 Specialty Show in Ohio.

7. Approval of a $250.00 budget for the 1971 Specialty Show.

8. Approval to offer the Gay Norgaard Memorial Trophy at a BCA supported show in the Western Area in 1971.

9. Approval of the following Nominations Committee:

Kenneth Collins, Chairman
Judith Basinger
Mrs. William P. Kent
Mrs. Charles Long
Mrs. Charles Vetrone

Proposed Members

Applications for membership in the Briard Club of America have been received from the following persons. Letters should be mailed to Mrs. Mary Lou Tingley, Secretary.


Don Mandeville, 24419 Marine Ave., Wilmington, Cal. Sponsored by Carolyn and Lee Erickson, and owner of "Lady Cecily of Northumberland", WL779723.


Orlan S. Friedman, 1060 Oakmont Dr., Los Angeles, Cal. 90049. Sponsored by Lee and Carolyn Erickson, and owner of two Briards, names not yet A.K.C. approved.
Lee Hilton, 175 W. 13th St., New York, N.Y. Sponsored by Mrs. Tingley, and owner of "Phydeaux Topsy Turvy", WB534414.

Barbara Riggs, 724 Park Ave., Collingswood, N.J. Sponsored by Charles Cook, and owner of "Uta von Naumberg", WB445914.

Barbara Sales, 503 N. Arden, Beverly Hills, Cal. 90210. Sponsored by Carolyn and Lee Erickson, and owner of "Eros C. de Saint Chermain, WB473271.

Mary Lou Tingley, Secretary

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

September 15, 1970

Opening Balance $438.25

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Total Income $1130.49

Total Expenses $636.36

Balance $494.13

Norgaard and Person Memorial Fund $1362.27

In Savings Account $932.38

Barbara Ruby, Treasurer

EAST SIDE STORY...

Which noted New Jersey breeder whelped a litter of seven Bassets, two of which were orange to match big brother "Basty" (their Briard)?

Mrs. Jane Dubin of Fort Lee, N.J., showed her puppy "Tallulah" at the Westchester K. C. show for the first time, and took B.O.W. over a nice bit of competition! Jane had waited over six months for a puppy bitch, and "Tallulah" certainly showed her she was worth the wait. Congratulations!

Many thanks to Jane Cook for her article on ear cropping. I personally think it is a most important subject, which Jane exposed to perfection. I would only add to the list of reasons why breeders should have all their puppies' ears cropped the following, and that is, that some buyers neglect to inspect their dog's ears ... a sort of "out of sight, out of mind" type thing. I know this sounds incredible, but just today I stopped a Briard and man on the street and during our conversation asked why the ears were not cropped. He said he hadn't the heart to have it done and asked me why it should be. As I was explaining about infection and mites, I lifted one ear to show him where and how to look and clean. I can honestly say we were both horrified! The ear was caked with reddish matter and all scabs from scratching. He said that it just never occurred to him to look!

Dolores Zaccaro

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE MID-WEST

The Briard Club of America held its Summer Specialty Show on August 16 at Pontiac, Michigan. There were 34 Briards entered. As you may well imagine, the sight of so many Briards under that private grooming tent was a beautiful one. There were some great class dogs, some regal Champions, and some of our cute little "woofies". A good time was had by Briards and masters alike. Of course, the winners had that special glow. Some of the winners (full report printed elsewhere) were:

Best of Breed: Ch. Pythias Chez Phyeau, owned by Ken and Cece Collins.

Best of Opposite: Ch. Nanie de la Haute Tour, owned by Mary Lou Tingley.

Winners Dog: Soleil d'Or de Marha, owned by Sharon and Bob Boelte.

Winners Bitch: Songeuse de Marha, owned by Mrs. Robert Bruner.

Puppy Sweepstakes: Sultan d'Esprit, owned by Dolores Zaccaro.

The Zaccaros' puppy "Rico", as he is called, is a spirited and beautiful newcomer to the ring, who captured the admiration of all.

The day before the Specialty, at the Genesse K. C. in Flint, Michigan, the Tingleys scored a double victory as Ch. Phydeaux Quoin de Culvre went Best of Breed and Ch. Nanie de la Haute Tour took Best of Opposite.
will move out of Michigan. Barbara Ruby, who has been the coordinator and "heart" of the Michigan Specialty for the past three years, can take a well-deserved rest. We and a lot of other Briarders have enjoyed the show immensely.

October brings a couple of good shows in Michigan. There is a two-show weekend with Saginaw and Detroit on the 3rd and 4th. I hope we have an entry of Briards and can report good news in the next "Dew Claw".

Pat Long has a nice litter of eleven shaggy pups out of her Pa' Chicks Rebecca and her Ralph des Elles de Malouse, C.D. Congratulations and have fun, Pat!

If there is any news from the Mid-West Area to report (puppies, show reports, pictures, and of course new Champions), I would appreciate hearing from BCA members. We have moved this month and are now at:

1117 Lake Blvd.
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Joyce Awodey

***************

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

The following list of books has been compiled by Mary Lou Tingley in answer to a request for helpful additions to the Briard lover's library. Perhaps one of them would make the perfect Christmas gift for your favorite Briarder.

EDUCATIONAL...

The Breeding Better Dogs, by Kyle Onstatt. Published by the Howell Book House.
Canine Hip Dysplasia, by Riser and Miller. Published by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals.
How to Show Your Own Dog, by Virginia T. Nichols. Published by TPH Publications.
The Dog in Action, by McDowell Lyon. Published by the Howell Book House.
The Inheritance of Coat Color in Dogs, by Little. Published by the Howell Book House.
The New Knowledge of Dog Behavior, by C. Pfaffenberger. Published by the Howell Book House.
Dog Judging, by Anna K. Nicholas. Published by the Howell Book House.
The Natural History of Dogs, by R. and A. Fiennes. Published by the Natural History Press.
Visualizations of the Standards, compiled and published by Popular Dogs.
Dog Obedience, by Blanche Saunders. Published by the Howell Book House.

Planned Breeding, by Lloyd Brackett. Published by Will Judy.
The Life, History and Magic of the Dog, by Fernand Mary. Published by Grosset & Dunlap.
Dogs That Work for a Living, by Beth Brown. Published by Funk and Wagnalls.
The Law and Your Dog, by Edward H. Green. Published by Barnes and Co.
Expert Obedience Training for Dogs, by Winifred Strickland. Published by MacMillan.
The Mating and Whelping of Dogs, by R. Portman Graham. Published by Arco Publishing.
The Breeding and Rearing of Dogs, by R. H. Smythe. Published by Arco Publishing.
The Complete Herbel Book for Dogs, by Julie de Bairacchi Levy.
Les Chiens de Berger Francais, (French) by Dr. Maurice Luquet. Published by Crepin-Leblond.

FUN AND FICTION...

Love on a Leash, by Kurt Unklebach. Published by Prentice Hall.
The Dog Who Grew Too Much, by Polly Cameron. Published by Coward-McMann.
Winning Westminster, by K. Unklebach. Published by Prentice Hall.
Horoscope for Dogs, by Dunnagan. Published by K Nine Books.
Complete Canine Compendium, by Thelwell. Published by Dutton.
Dog People Are Crazy, by Maxwell Riddle. Published by BOW Dog Show Org.

MAGAZINES...

"Pure Bred Dogs", published by the American Kennel Club.
"Popular Dogs", published by George F. Foley, Inc.
"Dog Lovers Digest", published by Moss Dog Shows.
"Dogs", published by Country Wide Publications.
"Kennel Review".
"The Professional Groomer", published by the Professional Groomer, Inc.
"Dogs in Canada", published by the Canadian Kennel Club.
"Chips", (Obedience).

***************

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR CHRISTMAS ISSUE AD YET? DEADLINE IS NOV. 7TH DO IT TODAY! SUPPORT THE DEW CLAW - LET US HEAR FROM YOU!
THE BRIARD

THIS FINE BREED DESERVES MORE FRIENDS


By MALCOLM H. STEPHENS

The Briard is one of the largest of the world's shaggy dogs. Males measure well above 23 inches at the shoulder, females only slightly less. Charlemagne is reputed to have bred them, and dogs in certain medieval tapestries have been tentatively identified as Briards.

The dog takes his name from the Brie district in northeast France, more famous for its tasty soft cheese of that name. The Briard is no cheese, but a big, strong working dog with considerable brains. His shaggy coat, which comes in black and a variety of tans, suggests a common ancestry with Hungary's Puli and Komondor. This possibility is supported by the Charlemagne story. His son Pepin could easily have brought back some big shaggy dogs from his expedition against the Avars' Bavarian base in the late 8th Century. We need more dog lovers who are crack medievalists if the point is to be definitely settled.

Despite his lengthy history as a breed, the Briard never caught on in England until 1968, when an enthusiastic and personable young lady named Nancy Tomlin acquired a young male from an Irish Wolfhound breeder who "raised an occasional litter for America." With her first dog came several show successes and several requests from film-makers. This prompted the acquisition of four more Briards from Ireland and France. Nancy's enthusiasm rubbed off on her friends, among whom eight more Briards found enthusiastic homes.

On this side of the Atlantic, the earliest legend we can locate has Lafayette importing two Briards to work on the farm a grateful Congress presented to him along with $20,000. Since Lafayette was only in America from July 1824 to September 1825, the story may be apocryphal. "Timothy Jacobs" was the first Briard registered by the American Kennel Club, in 1922. Shortly after, the American Briard Club was formed, and a translation of the French standard written by Les Amis du Briard was adopted by the AKC, and has remained relatively unchanged since. This is one of the advantages of working with a rare breed; fewer people are trying to change the standard to fit their own dogs. While the breed has never gained great popularity in the USA, it is supported by a small, dedicated group of enthusiasts who publish an excellent breed magazine, The Dew Claw. Some measure of the support given this magazine can be gained from the 26 pages of advertising club members placed in the December '68 issue—this for a breed which only registered 66 dogs in that year.

With the strong support of these few people on both sides of the Atlantic, it seems likely that the 1970's will show a considerable increase in the number of Briards. Those looking for an interesting dog in a rare breed would be well advised to consider the Briard. They will find that they have acquired a big, strong, intelligent companion particularly suitable for obedience training. Many of the American Briards are worked successfully in obedience trials. Talking to some of the club members, it almost would seem a condition of membership.
The Michigan Briarders hosted the biggest Specialty show in the history of the Briard Club of America and provided all participants with a most pleasant week-end. Many exhibitors traveled long distances to be present - 12 hours around Lake Michigan for some; 13 hours from the eastern seaboard for others. The Flint show on Saturday was well-supported. That evening we all gathered at the Dishell's lovely home, where a gala catered dinner was served. A most interesting program was presented by Dr. William Fuller, D.V.M. He has been making behavioral studies on puppies for many years, and showed some fascinating films. The puppies were being tested to determine suitability for guide dog work. Reactions to varied situations, such as the loud honking of a car horn, or being nearly run into by a supermarket cart, or having an umbrella suddenly opened in the pup's path, were recorded on film at several different ages for each pup. Generally, a given pup reacted fairly consistently to these stimuli, whether he was 8 weeks, 12 weeks, or 20 weeks. However, littermates did not react with any significant degree of similarity. The final event of the evening was the showing of color slides taken at the Charles Cooks' last July 18th, during the Fun Match. The day of the Specialty was hot and windy, and the setting looked much like the Sahara Desert, but the large tent provided welcome shade, and a cooler of soft drinks kept us all refreshed. Perhaps the most enjoyable part of such a show is that time before the judging when everyone is grooming and chatting with old friends or admiring new puppies who are beginning their ring careers. We owe Judge Robert Wills a special thank you for the careful consideration he gave each dog, and for his great interest in and enthusiasm for the breed.

SULTAN D'ESPRIT, OWNED BY THE ZACCAROS, AND HIS GRANDMOTHER, CH. NANIE DE LA HAUTE TOUR, OWNED BY THE TINGLEYS, RELAX AT A REST AREA ON THE TRIP HOME FROM PONTIAC. "RICO" WON THE PUPPY SWEEPSTAKES, WHILE NANIE WENT BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX AND WON THE BROOD BITCH CLASS.

CH. PYTHIAS CHEZ PHYDEAU, BEST OF BREED AT THE BCA PONTIAC SPECIALTY SHOW, UNION LAKE MICHIGAN, AUGUST 16, 1970. JUDGE: ROBERT WILLS. "HUGO" IS OWNED BY CECE AND KEN COLLINS AND HANDLED BY KEN COLLINS.

BRIARDS. Puppy, Dogs, 6 mos. and under 9 mos.

BRIARDS. Open, Dogs

WINNERS DOG 609 Reserve 605.

BRIARDS. Puppy, Bitches, 9 mos. and under 12 mos.

BRIARDS. Novice, Bitches

BRIARDS. American-bred, Bitches

BRIARDS. Open, Bitches

ABS.

ABS.

WINNERS BITCH 621 Reserve 620.

BRIARDS. Best of Breed Competition

ABS.

Best Briad 634.

BRIARDS. Stud Dog Class
638 Charles and Patricia A. Long. Ralph des Elles de Malouse CD. ABS.
639 Joyce and William Awodey. Ch. Alcides Chez Chien Velu. ABS.
640 Mary Lou Tingley. Ch. Phyeudos Quoin de Cuivre. ABS.

BRIARDS. Brood Bitch Class
642 Barbara L. Ruby. Ch. Arlette des Grand Pieds CD. ABS.
643 James C. Zaccaro. Ch. Peinarde de Marha. ABS.
644 Barbara L. Ruby. Ch. Spooky Chez Chien Velu. ABS.
GROOMING YOUR BRIARD
by Cece Collins

The Briard's long heavy coat is his most striking feature. When strangers first see your Briard, they typically remark, "Look at the shaggy dog!" or, "How can he see?" When a judge looks at your Briard in the ring, he will form his initial impression, often a lasting one, from the appearance of the coat. Inevitably the coat counts for far more than the ten points allotted in the Standard.

A handsome coat is the heritage of the Briard; surely it is his right that it be well-cared for. The sight of a Briard whose coat has been cut down always saddens me, for by cutting off his hair you destroy the uniqueness and dignity of his appearance. More than his looks are affected, as you also remove his insulation against heat and cold, and his natural protection from insect bites, scrapes, and scratches. The reasons offered by those who cut down their Briards are usually excuses for their inability to make time for the routine grooming every Briard deserves.

Regularity of grooming is the key to developing and preserving a beautiful coat. It must become a routine practice, not a staggering, monthly chore. While the individual nature of your dog's coat will determine how often you should groom him, once a week is a good rule of thumb. If you are a football fan, get in the habit of grooming him while you watch the Sunday afternoon game. Pick any convenient time, allow yourself about two hours, and stick with it. If you let it slide for three or four weeks, the six or eight hours you will then have to put in will not make up for the missed sessions, and neither you nor your dog will enjoy picking through the accumulated mats. Now that colder weather is on the way, it is imperative that you keep up with the incoming winter coat.

Grooming should begin when your puppy is very young so that he becomes accustomed to it long before he has enough hair to mat. He will soon come to enjoy the time and attention you give him. When our grooming table is brought out, our four-year-old Briard is usually up on it before the legs are fully supported, tail wagging.

Having the proper equipment will make your job much easier. It is a back-breaking task to attempt to groom a Briard while sitting on the floor. A grooming table is no small investment, usually around $40.00, but is almost a necessity as few other raised surfaces are sturdy enough to support the weight of a Briard. These tables may be purchased at dog shows or ordered through dog magazines. We personally have found the four foot length most satisfactory, although it should be noted that tables longer than 36" are not permitted at indoor eastern shows.

Other items you will need are a nylon bristle brush, with fairly stiff bristles approximately an inch long; a wide-tooth steel comb; a pin brush and/or a wire slicker; and a bottle of grooming spray. It is important to remember that your Briard should never be brushed dry. The static electricity created by the dry brushing will break the hair. There are many grooming sprays on the market, but we have had the best...
luck with the St. Aubrey products. Buy a clear plastic bottle, a trigger-type spraying attachment for the top, and a bottle of St. Aubrey's Coat Dressing. Pour a couple of inches of Coat Dressing into your bottle and dilute with three parts water. You now have an economical and effective grooming aid which will help clean and condition your dog's coat as you work. If the coat is dry, or if he is outdoors in the sun and wind a good deal of the time, keep a can of St. Aubrey's Coat Oil handy. The excellent product, when brushed well into the coat, will afford fine protection against the elements and will retard matting. The dog may have a greasy appearance after applying Coat Oil, so don't use it before a show. But even if an entire can of Coat Oil is used at one session, it will be completely absorbed within two or three weeks, and the dog's coat texture will certainly benefit.

All that is needed for routine, weekly grooming is the bottle of spray, a steel comb, and a nylon bristle brush. A pin brush and slicker take out more hair and should only be used on dogs with unusually dense undercoats. Begin the grooming procedure by having your Briard stand on the grooming table while you make a rough part down the back bone. Lay the dog on his side, spray the hair lightly, and brush small sections at a time, working along the backbone against the lay of the hair. As you expose the skin, keep an eye out for any skin problems which may require your veterinarian's attention. You will frequently have to use your comb to remove undercoat from your brush. When you find sections of hair that are tangled or matted, use the comb to gently lift the hairs out of the mat. Hold the hair at its base to prevent your dog from feeling discomfort. Continue brushing down the side to the belly until the entire mid-section is brushed up. Work down the shoulder and hip, then the legs, taking special care when you reach the feet to be sure no mats remain between the toes or around the dew claws. Don't forget to use your spray as you work. Comb the tail and ear fringe with a light touch as these hairs slip out easily. Comb out the face, being sure to remove food particles from around the mouth. Have the dog stand and brush the hair down into proper position. Next lay the dog on his other side and repeat the process.

If you show your Briard, you will want to learn the art of cosmetic grooming - those extra touches that will perfect his individual appearance. You must appraise your dog objectively and be fully aware of his faults. If his neck is short and his shoulders lack definition, then the ruff somewhat with thinning shears, using the shears parallel to the direction of the hair growth and not against it. If his facial hair is very heavy over the eyes, thin it so that the desirable degree of veiling is achieved. If the dog has a dip in his topline, backcomb that area can make it less obvious. Do not send your Briard into the ring with a part down his back like that of a Skye Terrier; its harshness is unattractive and may give the dog a slab-sided appearance. If the dog is somewhat thin, brush all the hair up as described above, and let him shake it down into place; this will give the effect of more coat and more substance. However, if your dog is unusually substantial, you may find that the normal grooming procedure gives him a balloon-like look. Try grooming him from the belly up, using a pin brush or slicker to remove more undercoat, if you can afford it.

Scissors are a necessary tool for grooming the show dog. If the belly hair is very long, you will want to trim it so that the dog will not appear short-legged. Avoid an obvious blunt-cut look. The tail fringe should also be trimmed if some strands are much longer than others; you want it to look full, not straggly. The novice would be advised to start with thinning shears for all trimming until some skill is acquired.

The most important trimming you will do is around the feet. The feet of every Briard who walks into a show ring should be trimmed! It is not a difficult task but requires patience (it tickles and the dog will move his foot frequently) and practice, so try it a couple of times before the night of a big show. Have your dog stand on the grooming table. Brush all the hair around the foot up. With your comb, comb down a few strands all around. Then trim a neat circle, close but without actually exposing the nails in front. Trim closer on the inside, being careful to avoid the dew claws, to help eliminate a cow-hocked appearance. Comb down another layer of hair and trim again. Continue a little at a time; the last layer should just cover the first. When the whole hock and leg are combed out, the effect should be of a column of hair all the way down.

Whether you should bathe your Briard has long been a controversial subject. Bathing will remove natural oils and these must be replaced or your dog will mat very quickly. I personally feel that a Briard need never be bathed, unless he meets with a mishap or picks up fleas and needs a flea dip. Regular brushing will keep him clean and sweet-smelling. But if you do bathe your dog, don't do it sooner than two weeks before a show as it softens the texture of the coat and will make it appear silky and limp. If the dog has muddy feet, bathe only the feet. If the ear fringe tends to become greasy, use Foo Foo powder to remove the excess oil, rather than soap and water.

There are other factors which affect your dog's coat besides grooming. Exposure to strong summer sun can cause tawny coats to bleach out somewhat, and will produce unattractive reddish highlights in black Briards. An adequate diet is, of course, essential to a healthy coat as it is to your dog's general health. An occasional egg yolk and the addition of vegetable oil to your dog's diet, in conjunction with a vitamin supplement such as Pervinal, is beneficial to the coat. The continual use of a collar will wear down the ruff and should definitely be avoided for show dogs. The addition of a puppy to the family will have an effect on your dog's coat; puppies will play and chew, and nothing causes mats like saliva. The puppy can be quite destructive to the ruff or hock or facial hair of your Briard - whatever area he likes best to grab at. I do not know of a solution to this problem other than total separation.

A final word of warning - there is such a thing as overgrooming, so don't become so zealous that you brush your dog into near baldness. At the other extreme, let the professional dog-grooming parlors make their money off other breeds and learn to manage your Briard's grooming needs yourself. Only if you decide to do it will it get done every week. The pride you will feel in the knowledge of your dog's comfort, health, and beauty will be fully justified.

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SHOW REPORTS

CH. PA'CHICKS REBEL DEUX, SHOWN WINNING BEST OF BREED AT MARION, OHIO, JULY 22, 1970, UNDER JUDGE ELEANORE EVERS. OWNER-HANDLED BY PHILIP McNELIS.

COULEE K.C., INC. LA CROSSE, WIS. JULY 19, 1970

BRIARDS
Judge — Mr. Robert G. Wills

BEST OF BREED—Towle Pewter Bon Bon Dish by Coulee Kennel Club.

BRIARDS, Open, Dogs
425 Sharon L. and Robert I. Boelter. Soleil D'or De Marha. WB323080. Mar. 11, 1969. Breeder, Harold A. Marley. By Quixote De Marha—Ch. Brigette De Marha. Points...1...Dogs...2

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

WINNERS DOG425.Reserve426Points...1...Dogs...2

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

BRIARDS, Puppy, Dogs

BRIARDS, American-bred, Dogs

BRIARDS, Open, Dogs

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition


WINNERS DOG504.Reserve505Points...2...Dogs...3

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

BRIARDS, Open, Dogs

WINNERS DOG508...Reserve509Points...2...Dogs...3

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

WINNERS DOG509A...Reserve509BPoints...2...Dogs...3

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

WINNERS DOG510...Reserve511Points...2...Dogs...3

BADGER K. C., MADISON, WIS. JUNE 28, 1970
Judge; Mr. Forest N. Hall

BRIARDS, Puppy, Dogs

BRIARDS, American-bred, Dogs

BRIARDS, Open, Dogs

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition


WINNERS DOG504...Reserve505Points...2...Dogs...3

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

BRIARDS, Open, Dogs

WINNERS DOG508...Reserve509Points...2...Dogs...3

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

WINNERS DOG509A...Reserve509BPoints...2...Dogs...3

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

WINNERS DOG510...Reserve511Points...2...Dogs...3

WAUKESHA K. C., WAUKESHA, WIS. JULY 26, 1970
Judge — Dr. Richard F. Greathouse

204 OPEN DOG CLASS—lst, 8-inch SP Oblong Tray by Tratyatt Kennels, Josephine Steinberg.

205 OPEN BITCH CLASS—lst, 8-inch SP Oblong Tray by Tratyatt Kennels, Josephine Steinberg.

BRIARDS, Open, Dogs


WINNERS DOG859...Reserve856Points...2...Dogs...3

BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition

Best Briard...859 Best of Winners.....Best of Opposite Sex......

27
SANTA BARBARA K.C., SANTA BARBARA, CAL., JULY 26, 1970

Judge: Mr. Major B. Godsol

**BRIARDS. Puppy, Dogs.**

1619 Mrs. Betty M. Baker. EMIL H. DE SAINT CHERMAIN, WB-476,-


Marha—Anastasia d'Agincourt.

**BRIARDS. Puppy, Dogs, 9 months and under 12 months.**

1617 Carolyn and Lee Erickson. ERIC B. DE SAINT CHERMAIN, WB-


liant de Marha—Anastasia d'Agincourt.

**BRIARDS. Open, Dogs.**

1616 Carolyn and Lee Erickson. ESAU F. DE SAINT CHERMAIN, WB-


de Marha—Anastasia d'Agincourt. In Novice Class A.


**BRIARDS. Puppy, Bitches 9 months and under 12 months.**

5 Carolyn and Lee Erickson. ERIC B. DE SAINT CHERMAIN. WB-457516. October 2,


Anastasia d'Agincourt.

**BRIARDS. Open, Dogs.**

1619 Mrs. Betty M. Baker. EMIL H. DE SAINT CHERMAIN, WB-476,-


Marha—Anastasia d'Agincourt.

**BRIARDS. Puppy, Dogs, 9 months and under 12 months.**

1617 Carolyn and Lee Erickson. ERIC B. DE SAINT CHERMAIN, WB-


liant de Marha—Anastasia d'Agincourt.

**BRIARDS. Open, Dogs.**

1616 Carolyn and Lee Erickson. ESAU F. DE SAINT CHERMAIN, WB-


de Marha—Anastasia d'Agincourt. In Novice Class A.


**BRIARDS. Puppy, Bitches 9 months and under 12 months.**

8 Mr. and Mrs. K. Wellisch. POLLY DE SAINT CHERMAIN, WB-473251. October 2,


Anastasia d'Agincourt.

**BRIARDS. Open, Bitches.**


Breeder, Merritt and Mimi Barker. By BeBe De Marha - Leocadia D'Agincourt.


Breeder, Merritt and Mimi Barker. By BeBe De Marha - Leocadia D'Agincourt.


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Breeder, Merritt and Mimi Barker. By BeBe De Marha - Leocadia D'Agincourt.


Breeder, Merritt and Mimi Barker. By BeBe De Marha - Leocadia D'Agincourt.


Breeder, Merritt and Mimi Barker. By BeBe De Marha - Leocadia D'Agincourt.
GENESEE COUNTY K. C., FLINT, MICHIGAN AUGUST 15, 1970
Judge: Mr. Forest N. Hall

**BRIARDS.** Puppies, Dogs


**BRIARDS.** Open, Dogs


**WINNERS DOG** 604 Reserve 613 Points 5 Dogs 7

**BRIARDS.** American-bred, Bitches


**BRIARDS.** Open, Bitches


**WINNERS BITCH** 610 Reserve — Points — Bitches 1

**BRIARDS.** Best of Breed Competition


Best Bred 13 Best of Winners 6 Best of Opposite Sex 6

**ELMI UTLY K. C., BETHANY, CONN.** Judge: Dennis Crivas

**BRIARDS.** Puppies, dogs


**WINNERS DOG** 607 Reserve 608 Points 6 Dogs 7

**BRIARDS.** Best of Breed Competition


Best Bred 7 Best of Winners 6 Best of Opposite Sex 6

**RAVENNA K. C., RAVENNA, OHIO** AUG. 22, 1970 Judge: A. Zane

**BRIARDS.** Open, Dogs


**WINNERS DOG** 1097 Reserve — Points — Dogs 1

**BRIARDS.** Open, Bitches


**WINNERS BITCH** 1099 Reserve 1099 Points — Bitches 2

**BRIARDS.** Best of Breed Competition


Best Bred 1100 Best of Winners 1099 Best of Opposite Sex 1099

INDIANHEAD K. C., EAU CLAIRE, WIS. AUGUST 9, 1970
Judge—Mr. Charles F. Hamilton

**BRIARDS.** Open, Dogs


**WINNERS DOG** 11 Reserve 12 Points 2 Dogs 2

**BRIARDS.** Puppies, Bitches


**WINNERS BITCH** 14 Reserve — Points — Bitches 1

**BRIARDS.** Best of Breed Competition


Best Bred 13 Best of Winners 11 Best of Opposite Sex 11

Best Bifard 1110 Best of Winners 1097 Best of Opposite Sex 1099
BRIARDS. Open, Dogs.


WINNERS DOG 7 Points 0 Dogs 1

BRIARDS. Puppy, Bitches, 9 months and under 12 months.


BRIARDS. Novice, Bitches.


BRIARDS. American Bred, Bitches.


BRIARDS. Open, Bitches.


Best Briard 9 Best of Winners 9 Best of Opposite Sex 7

SOMERSET HILLS K.C., FAR HILLS, N.J. SEPTEMBER 5, 1970
Judge: Mr. Henry Stoecker

BRIARDS. Puppy, dogs.


BRIARDS. Open, dogs.


BRIARDS. Puppy, bitches.


Best Briard 9 Best of Winners 9 Best of Opposite Sex 7

NEW BRUNSWICK K.C., PISCATAWAY, N.J. SEPTEMBER 7, 1970
Judge — Mr. Langdon L. Skarda

BRIARDS. Puppy, Dogs and Bitches


BRAIRDS. Open, Dogs and Bitches


WINNERS 492 Reserve 491 Points 3 Dogs and Bitches 4
BRIARDS. Best of Breed Competition

Best Briard 495

CHAGRIN VALLEY K.C., CHAGRIN, OHIO AUGUST 23, 1970

BEST OF BREED—SR Trophy by Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Will.

BRIARDS. Open, Bitches

WINNERS BITCH 1097 Reserve

Points 1 Bitches 2

BRIARDS. Open, Dogs

WINNERS BITCH 1099 Reserve 1098 Points 2

BRIARDS. Best of Breed Competition

Best Briard 1100

LIVONIA K.C., INC., LIVONIA, MICHIGAN SEPTEMBER 6, 1970

Judge — Mr. Phil Marsh

BRIARDS. Open, Dogs

WINNERS DOG 326 Reserve 325 Points 2 Dogs 3

BRIARDS. Open, Bitches

WINNERS BITCH 328 Reserve

Points 2 Bitches 1

Best Briard 326

WESTCHESTER K.C., CROTON POINT, N.Y. SEPTEMBER 6, 1970

BRIARDS
Judge: Mr. H. Anthony Hodges
Westchester Kennel Club offers $5 for Best of Breed.

BRIARDS. Puppy, dogs.


BRIARDS. Open, dogs.


WINNERS DOG 5 Reserve 10 Points 3 Dogs 5

BRIARDS. Puppy, bitches.


BRIARDS. American-bred, bitches.


WINNERS BITCH 12 Reserve 6 Points 2 Bitches 3

BRIARDS. Best of Breed Competition.


Best Briard 8 Best of Winners 12 Best of Opposite Sex 7

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