WEDDING GUEST

Gingie Englehart always said she would have a Briard at her wedding, and Ch. I, Baron d'Yquem Chez Ciel with his owner Bill Shipman made her wish come true. Here "Claude" and Bill give the bride their Best Wishes. (Want to bet that Claude got to kiss the bride?)
PRESIDENT'S LETTER

1978 was a long year with many ups and downs, but our Club is still strong and growing.

We had more club member participation than ever before. The 50th Anniversary Rassemblement/Specialty was a very big success with many old and new members participating. It was the largest gathering of Briards in the history of the Club.

We hosted an independent specialty, our first with both breed and obedience classes. We saw the Briard get recognition in the show ring with two Bests in Show. We have participated in the P.R.A. program by having close to one hundred dogs checked. Owners care about the Club and especially their dogs.

We have had our differences but I feel it is healthy for the Club to have the membership exchanging their viewpoints, rather than assuming a so-what attitude and accepting everything at face value.

This new year will hopefully be a good one. We hope to see acceptance of the illustrated standard by the Board and Membership, a successful Eastern Specialty, a revision in membership application rules, and the promotion of an education committee. These are just a few of the items we hope to accomplish in the coming year.

Philip E. Jernigan

1979 B.C.A. CALENDARS ARE NOW ON SALE!!!!

BEAUTIFULLY PRINTED - DELIGHTFUL PHOTOS ARE THE WINNERS OF OUR PHOTO CONTEST - APPOINTMENT TYPE CALENDAR HAS SPACE FOR EACH DAY'S NOTES AND REMINDERS. YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS YEAR'S EDITION!

EACH CALENDAR IS ONLY $3.00

ORDER YOURS TODAY - AND DON'T FORGET TO ORDER EXTRA COPIES FOR GIFTS

AN ORDER FORM IS BELOW FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE - JUST MAIL IT IN AND PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CHECK, PAYABLE TO THE BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA.

CANADIANS, PLEASE SEND ONLY U.S. FUNDS. Thanks!

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

CALENDAR ORDER FORM

PLEASE SEND ______ Briard Calendars ($3.00 each)

NAME

STREET

CITY/STATE/ZIP

$_______ IS ENCLOSED

MAIL ORDER TO:

Ada Marley
3940 W. 96TH STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46268
BULLETIN BOARD

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: The recent action of the Board has changed the rules for application for membership. Because of this, there will be a new application form issued. This new form is currently pending Board action but should be available soon. If you know someone planning to apply for membership, please contact the Secretary for an updated application form.

RASSEMBLEMENT TILES: Jean Heft and Manny Littin have kindly offered to pack and ship the commemorative tiles, which are to be sent to those who donated money to the Rassemblement/Specialty Fund. We have found the tiles somewhat difficult to ship and some may break in transit. If this happens to your tile, just return it to the Club and it will be replaced.

EAR GLUE: The excellent ear glue, which the Club has made available to support the cropped ears of puppies is available from the Briard Novelty Shoppe (c/o Jan Zingsheim, 5350 County Road 151, Mound, MN 55364. Sending your order directly to the Secretary will only delay delivery. Please order ear glue directly from the Shoppe.

CORRECTION: Faye Sloan's phone number was incorrectly listed in the "Looking for Puppies" column of the December issue. Sincere apologies to Faye! At last report, she still had 3 of her 13 puppies to sell so if you are referring someone to Faye, please be sure you give them her correct telephone number. It is 914/356-7112.

No matter how hard we try, inadvertent mistakes can occur in the Dew Claw - especially where numbers are concerned. If you notice an error in a listing (yours or anyone else's) please notify us immediately so steps can be taken to correct it.

***

SECRETARY'S PAGE

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Marilyn Garner, Box 424, Spencer, NY 14883 - Junior Member
Roselynn Bell, 3033 Hemmeter, Saginaw, MI 48603
Jane Snell, 5503 Juno Drive, Lakeview, NY 14085

ADDRESS CHANGES

James and Janet Bandle, 2602 Pleasant Valley Road, Jackson, WI 53037
Jack & Sharon Higgins, E. 11318 35th, Spokane, WA 99206
Gary Lunde, Rt. 1, Hillcrest Drive, Tomahawk, WI 54487
Nancy Mandeville, 4935 W. 138th St., Hawthorne, CA 90250
Ellen Shea, P.O. Box 21, Eleva, WI 54738
Charles & Cookie Wheeler, 214 13th St., S.E. #2, Washington, DC 20003

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

(The following have applied for membership in the B.C.A. Letters regarding the applicants should be directed to the Secretary.)

Katherine Brown, 3970 Old Shell Rd., Mobile, AL 36608 - owner of Beardsanbrow's Notabear.
Louis Dvorkin & Jori Potiker, 32710 Redfern, Franklin, MI 48025, owners of Pa'Chick's Ovation.
Robert Gostanian, 323 Noe Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, owner of L. Rampal de Beauxjolis.
Brian & Lynn Lowell, RFD #2, Box 221, E. Corinth, ME 04427 - owners of Odette du Coteau d'Avranches.
James W. Wylie, 5543 26th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98105 - owner of Monsieur Meilleur d'Capucine.

BOARD ACTION

WELCOME TO NEW DIRECTOR, DALLAS MEGGITT. Dallas has been appointed by the Board to serve the remainder of the term as Director, filling the vacancy on the Board.

A motion to recognize and sanction North Central Briarders as a regional Briard club was unanimously approved by those voting. Jayne Dubin did not cast a ballot.

A motion to abolish Section I of the Standing Rules (regarding the application for membership) and to follow Article I of the By-laws was approved. Approving the motion were: Bob Boelter, Ed Konrath, Pat Long, Ada Marley, Diane McLeroth and Phil Zingsheim. Disapproving the motion were: Pat Morale and Mary Lou Tingley. Requesting discussion were Dallas Meggitt and Carole Jobe (four requests needed to invalidate a ballot). Jayne Dubin did not cast a ballot.

PENDING BOARD ACTION

-Revision of the membership application form & application rules.
-Increase in Specialty allowance.

YOUR COMMENTS ARE WELCOME

Please direct any suggestions, questions or discussion regarding Club business to any of the Officers or Directors listed on page 2.

FEBRUARY 1979
### TREASURER’S REPORT

**October 1, 1978 through December 31, 1978**

**Patricia A. Long, Treasurer**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dues</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Misc.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Overpayment D/C ad</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>$3,770.19</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,719.47</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Opening balance: $4,735.29
Income: $3,770.19
Expenses: $2,719.47
Balance: $5,786.01

**Canadians: Please send only U.S. funds. Thanks.**

**Membership Dues were due on January 1, 1979. If you have not returned your dues notice with your '79 dues, they are overdue. Please forward your dues to the Treasurer so it will not be necessary to send a reminder notice to you. A membership will be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the calendar year.....That’s April 1.**

**Send your dues today!**

### REPORTS FROM THE A.K.C. DELEGATE

The regular meeting of the Delegates to the American Kennel Club was held September 12, 1978. In a series of unusual ballots, the following actions took place:

- In a secret balloting to determine the question of acceptance as Delegates, Virginia L. Lipschultz, candidate of the Tri-State Kennel Association, Inc. and Harold H. Schlintz, candidate of the Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc., were not accepted. My votes were affirmative for Ms. Lipschultz and negative for Mr. Schlintz, on the basis of a strong letter speaking against Mr. Schlintz from T.R. Singleton, Delegate from the Colorado K.C.

- A roll call vote was held regarding a resolution whereby, if passed, the Delegates would show support for the 11 members of the AKC Board of Directors, who requested the resignation of Samuel K. Lothrop, Jr., Delegate of the Standard Schnauzer Club of America, from the Board. The Board's request for resignation was based on a series of events which, in the mind of the Board it "no longer had confidence in his credibility" as quoted from a letter from Chairman, August Belmont. As a prelude to the meeting a series of letters was sent to the Delegates by Messrs. Lothrop and Belmont which presented a fairly balanced view. However, at the meeting all speakers presented viewpoints in favor of the resolution. There were no statements in support of Mr. Lothrop. The final tally was 196 in favor, 9 opposed, and 26 abstentions. My vote was affirmative. In a follow up motion the Delegates, by voice vote, supported a resolution requesting the Standard Schnauzer Club of America to replace Mr. Lothrop as Delegate. I abstained.

- Two Field Trial Rule changes affecting Bassets and the Pointing breeds were approved by voice vote. My votes were affirmative.

An announcement was made regarding the results of the Gazette readership survey. The survey showed that show results is the most popular section of the Gazette and should not be split into a separate publication. The next most popular section is the show dates and judging panels. A full report will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Gazette.

Plans are proceeding regarding the use of frozen semen under research by Baylor University and Dr. Segar. Controls are under study and a field use trial will be held soon.

The regular meeting of the Delegates to the American Kennel Club was held on December 12, 1978. The following are the items of business covered.

- A considerable discussion took place regarding the voting on approval of candidates for Delegate. The practice since 1976 has been to vote approval for candidates for which there was no objection from the floor and to postpone voting on any candidate for which there was objection to the following meeting. A motion was passed at this meeting to vote immediately on any candidate for whom there was an objection. It was announced that new voting procedures on candidates for Delegate would be placed before the Delegates at the March meeting.

**February 1979**
Delegate's Reports continued

- There was one objection for a candidate, Lt. Col. John W. Graff, Terre Haute, IN, to represent the Richland K.C. In accordance with the above motion, voting took place immediately and Col. Graff was approved. My vote was affirmative.

- Letters had been forwarded to all Specialty Clubs seeking opinions for a possible change in the Dog Show Rules to provide for a new class, for Specilaties only, for dogs and bitches ages 12 to 18 months. Of 110 letters sent 60 responses have been received with 40 responding affirmatively.

- It was announced that on April 1, 1979, a trial will be held whereby the AKC will no longer proof read drafts of dog show premium lists. A set of guidelines will be made available but accuracy of premium lists would rest with the show giving club.

- It was announced that effective May 1, 1979, whenever someone other than an owner of a dog is listed on the entry form in a space "Name of owner's agent (if any) at the show" that person's name will appear as part of the identifying information for the dog in the catalog. This will restore information to the catalog much like the former entry for "Handler".

- Chairman of Health and Education Committee, Charles A.T. O'Neill, distributed copies of a report by Cornell Research Laboratory for Diseases in Dogs on Canine Viral Enteritis. The report is quite lengthy and clinically detailed. I have forwarded the report to Evy Wegenka, Chairman of the BCA Medical Committee should there be questions. The AKC is funding further studies in this area by Cornell.

Should things take their natural course this was my last meeting as your Delegate to the AKC. I will greatly miss attending the meetings. But, June Shew is an excellent choice as your new Delegate and I wish her well.

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**ATTENTION BREEDERS**

The BCA provides a free referral service for breeders with puppies. It is very important for breeders to keep the Club informed on how many pups they have to sell, as well as the color and sex of each pup and whether it will be sold for show or pet.

The list of every breeder with puppies, which is sent to everyone who contacts the Club for information, is revised every 3 to 4 weeks. The Club is responsible for providing current information to those who inquire, so they do not have to make unnecessary calls.

Some breeders only notify the Club when a litter is expected, with no further reports. Breeders are asked to drop a note to the Secretary about once a month. If no report is received in a two month period, we can only assume that the litter has been sold and the breeder's name will be dropped from the listing.

A reduced subscription rate is offered to breeders who send the Dew Claw to puppy buyers. Breeders buying subscriptions for puppy buyers pay only $5.00 per subscription (about cost of printing and mailing). A subscription is helpful to your puppy buyers and is also a service to the Breed.

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**BCA NEWS & VIEWS**

Regina Keiter sends the following news from the east side:

Senior Citizen "String" Tingley spent his 11th birthday entertaining the residents of the Holly Manor Nursing Home in Mendenham, N.J. This program, instituted by Holly Manor's Recreation director, Mrs. Shirley Grier, was the 4th in a series of visits by animals and their owners. Carolyn Markham of Long Valley, N.J. brought her Bouviers complete with decorated cart for an exhibiton of the dog's original purpose. According to Mrs. Grier, most of her residents had pets before coming to Holly Manor and being able to see and touch an animal from time to time not only sparked interest but makes Holly Manor seem a little more like home. Mrs. Grier believes that since the program has been so well received it might serve as a model for similar institutions across the country. Certainly the work with autistic children and their relationships with dogs has been universally adopted, as well as the Seeing Eye, the Hearing Ear--why not the Senior Citizens Pet Program? String was given a few dog biscuits in appreciation of his birthday and one little lady remarked that it was a shame he wasn't offered some ginger ale to wash them down. String's reaction? He thought it was the best audience he'd ever had!

Karen Parkas called to tell us her puppy "Genevieve", Phydeaux On Susannah, received her Tracking Certificate at 5 months and her Tracking Degree at the tender age of 6 months! Congratulations Genevieve and Karen.

**Group Placings**

The Tingley's Jennie placed 4th at Vineland and took a Group 1 at Ramapo. Ch. Phydeaux What's Happenin, owned by Ira Ackerson and Mary Lou Tingley, took a Group 2 at Chesire and a Group 3 at Union County. Kathy Fitzpatrick's Ch. Bellesprit Midnight Cowboy placed 4th in the group at Virginia Kennel Club. Ch. Phydeaux Linda Lovelace took a Group 4 at the Kennel Club of Suffolk.

Ron and Sheri Daniels report that their new champion, Ne Jean-Paul de Longchamp, took Best of Breed at Danville, Lynchburg, Chattanooga and Tennessee Valley.

Bellesprit Narquois, "Woody", owned by Lee Morin, was 3rd in group at the Connecticut Valley D.T.C. Match, and 2nd in group at the Farmington Valley Match. Woody was also winners dog at Northwestern Conn. on September 24th for one point.

Stephanie Marcus reports that her 10 month old puppy, Bellesprit Nicole, has ten points, including one major, towards her championship. "Nikki" is handled by young Joanne Dubin and was best of winners at Wallkill, Westchester, OX Ridge, Westbury, and Monticello. She was also winners bitch at Ramapo. Keep up the great work, Joanne and "Nikki".

Janicot Benji de Charlemagne, owned by Meg Weitz, took a 4 pt. BCA

FEBRUARY 1979 11
major and best of breed over specials under judge Vilma Heiser in Ohio.

Please note Regina Keiter's new address and phone number in case you have some news to report. Regina Keiter, Oakwood Acres, Birchwood Drive, Tannersville, Pa. 18372. Phone: 717-629-3315.

Floyd & Myrs Stevenson are proud to announce that their bouncing boy Philippe finished his C.D. degree with a 194 under Judge Wood Drive, Tannersville, Pa. 18372. Phone: 717-629-3315.

BOB went to Sugarcreek Neale Chien D'Mar owned by Marilyn & Robinson in Novice B. His sire is Stonehill's I'm Bogie and his dam is Fa'Chick's Let It Be Me.

Christmas presents seemed to be the order of the day at the Skokie Valley K.C. show on 12/16/78. The Judge, Fred Young, had an entry of 5-4-0 and he awarded WD 4 pts., BW and BOB to Unique Noe de Vieille Ville, C.D. owned by Cindy Gray and WB 3 pts. and BOS to Tigressse De Patriche owned by Janice Millis. This win finished Noah's championship!

The following day at the Stone City K.C. show judge J. D. Jones had an entry of 4-4-0. WD 3 pts. and BOS was awarded to Stonehill's Never-E-Nuff owned by George Mahony. WB 3 pts., BW and BOB went to Sugarcreek Neala Chien D'Mar owned by Marilyn & Chuck Rasmussen. Neala finished her championship at this show!

Pat Martin sends us this news on "Charlie". (Charlie is a rescued Briard and all the good work the Martins have done really shows in the progress he has made.) Charlie is doing fine - the "Life" of our obedience class. He tried to follow the high school band on the field last week. Hate to think what he would have done had he seen the football! He has become the pet of our Sweet Adeline Chorus - loves board meetings where food is served!!

CeCe Collins commented one day that Hilda may be the only Briard in the U.S. who fetches socks in pairs. Think I'll invite her over on wash day...I need all the help I can get!

Sue Erickson reports on her dogs strange eating habits..."I had a lot of extra zucchini squash left on the vines in my garden (nobody in their right mind plants 6 hills of zucchini!) and Tory and Salty have industriously harvested it. At first I couldn't figure out how they got those big things up to the yard - some are 8 inches in diameter and a foot and a half long - until I saw Tory chomp down on the vine and drag the squash. As soon as they get them up to the yard they lie down and eat them - averaging one per day, seeds, skin and all. They also took the mubbin ears of corn off the dried corn stalks. A lot of good it does to put that Tory on a diet...."

More and more people are asking for good stories about Briards which would be fun to read in the Dew Claw. A little birdie told me to ask Carol Greig for her Briard going down the clothes shute!!! How about sharing your adventure with us Carol!

Ray Carlisle, Publisher of The World of the Working Dog and Top Dobe Magazines reports in a December 15th letter that the final issues of these magazines will be published in January 1979. Since the magazines started as a hobby and now require more time than he can give, he has decided to cease publication rather than sell the magazines. If and when conditions are right in the future, they will then have the option to resume publication.

By now most of you will have seen the 1979 calendars. A big thank you is in order to Matt Morale's brother for an excellent job. If you haven't ordered your copy yet, send your order in to Ada Marley. Full details are in the Christmas issue of the Dew Claw.

Judy Holgerson of Bronxville, N.Y. was in Toledo at the time of our 50th Anniversary Specialty. She stopped to see the Briards because her family had rescued one from a laboratory 6 years ago. They find her to be a wonderful companion and have offered to write her story for us in the near future.

A friend, who wishes to remain nameless, has several dogs and consequently had some problems keeping the ornaments on the tree this year as well as keeping the tree upright. After picking up broken decorations and tree for the third time she came up with a solution - the tree will spend the rest of the season in an exercise pen!!

Ch. Phoebe Chez Phydeau, owned by Barb McQuillan, died on Thanksgiving Day. In June of 1969 at the New Lenox, Illinois show Phoebe became the first Briard to win the group I in the working group and she was owner handled. Everyone who knew her will remember how she did everything with gusto. Whether it be obedience or breed or just welcoming the family home, her happy bark was always there. I know her 12 years will be treasured by her family and we'll all remember her accomplishments for the breed.

G'veret Kahlbah De Strathcona, Am./Can. U.D., at the age of 10 years young, has become the first briard to attain her utility degree in both the United States and Canada. Kahlbah, owned by Jerry & Stephanie Katz and trained by Jerry, finished her Canadian degree in November with scores in the 190's! She is also the dam of seven champions. A spectator in the crowd asked Jerry if there wasn't a printing error in the catalog regarding Kahlbah's age because a dog 10 years old just could not jump like she had just done. Imagine their surprise when they found out there was no printing error! It just goes to show people that Briard's are versatile and can perform just as well in obedience as in breed. Congratulations Jerry and Kahlbah on a job well done!!

Puppy Corner

Sue Erickson of Mankato, Minn. has two black females available from her litter sired by Ch. Uffin Berger du Nord out of Ch.
Pat Long has one tawny female available from her litter sired by Ch. Ralph des Elfes de Malouse, C.D. out of Ch. Pa'Chick's Luvin' Legend.

Bob & Marie Herd have three tawny males available from their litter sired by Ch. Ralph des Elfes de Malouse, C.D. out of Ch. Bellesprit Licol Mon Bonheur.

John Santora of West Monroe, N.Y. has a litter of eight tawny puppies - 4 males - 4 females. The puppies were whelped on 10/13/78 and the sire is Ch. Nestor de l'Eminence and the dam is Ch. Saint Briard's Madam Marlene.

Yvonne Wright of Sunnyvale, California has a litter of 8 black puppies born the end of November. There are five males and three females. The sire is Ch. Uri Berger Du Nord out of Pa'Chick's Mint Julep.

Dallas and Judy Meggitt announce that Ch. Miel Melosa de Strathcona, bred by Jerome & Stephanie Katz, received her O.F.A. number of FB-88. Miel is out of Ch. Uhey Chien de Grand Coeur and Ch. Uziz Akshanit de Strathcona. She has been bred to Ch. Ugolin Des Joyeux Lutins de Seagve and puppies are expected in mid February.

Jan Zingsheim reports that the North Central Briarders are about to begin their fourth year...and are looking forward to a very successful one. We have three supported entry shows coming up and many get togethers planned. Our annual meeting will be held in Illinois this year in hopes of seeing many new faces participating. This past year has been a very good year. We increased our membership considerably. We saw many new championships and obedience degrees given to Briards in our club. The club participation has been very good both in the B.C.A. and the N.C.B. We want to wish all Briard owners a happy and successful new year.

Dave Behren's "Ness" passed her AD in Schutzhund work and has qualified for her second leg in Novice obedience.

Joan Dugan sends us the following news from out west. Club Corre Camino de Mexico of A.C. has its weekend show on November 25 and 26. Ch. Baron D'Yquem de Chez Ciel, C.D., better known as Claude, took a Group 3 placement on Saturday, under Senor Helen de Gurza. Then on Sunday he went on to take a Group 1 under Virginia Miller. Congratulations to his happy owners Bill and Susan Shipman.

Please send any news or show reports to me a 31376 Broad Beach Road, Malibu, California 90265 or call 213/857-3155 - Joan Dugan.

Show Reports

11/26/78 - Oakland County K.C. - J Mrs. Hiser - e 3-3-3
WD 2 pts., BW, BOB Pa'Chick's Nifty Nugget (Janet Coutre)
BOS Ch. Silvermoon's La Tara (Judy Ziosico)
WB 2 pts. Notre Magic Genre de Lindeau (Linda Bullard & Linda Wells)

12/10/78 - Ingham County K.C. - J Mr. Williams - e 1-3-3
BOB Ch. Pa'Chick's Livin' Legend, C.D. (Charles & Pat Long)
BOS Ch. Silvermoon's La Tara
WD, BW 2 pts. Silvermoon Beau Belle O Joie (Roselynn Bell)
WB 2 pts. Notre Magic Genre de Lindeau

12/17/78 - Western Reserve
BOB Ch. Beau Cheval's Good Shepherd (Sara Thrasher)
WD Sugarcreek Strawberry Daniel (Susan Smith)
WB Manny's Ilotie O'Jill (Jean Heft)
(I understand that there were majors at this show but full information was not reported.)

Please send all your Briard happenings to myself, Susan McCormick, or to one of our regional reporters, keeping in mind that our news deadline is the first of the month a month before the upcoming issue. If you miss the deadline, don't worry, we'll include your news in the next issue!

Don't forget to give your favorite Briard a hug and a kiss for Valentine's Day!!

Susan McCormick, News Editor
Regina Keiter, Oakwood Acres, Birchwood Dr., Tannersville, Pa. 18372
Jan Zingsheim, 5350 County Road 151, Mound, MN 55364
Laurie Mcdrey, 1706 Nash Ave., Austin, TX 78704
Mary Ake, 1300 Ridge Road, Littleton, CO 80120
Joan Dugan, 31376 Broad Beach Road, Malibu, CA 90265

STATISTICS FROM THE PAST

Club records indicate heights and weights of 32 dogs and 36 bitches whelped between 1938 and 1948. Averages of these figures indicate the size of the Briard has not changed much in 30 - 40 years.

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<th>Weight</th>
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<td>36 BITCHES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average 24 in.</td>
<td>70#</td>
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<tr>
<td>Largest 28 in.</td>
<td>95#</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smallest 21½ in.</td>
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FEBRUARY 1979
BRIARD TALK --------- COAT QUALITY

by Diane McLeroth

It is not unusual to hear Briarders discussing the color of this or that dog. Color, although constantly changing on most Briards, is readily recognized, even by the unpracticed eye. But, what about coat quality? It is far more difficult to describe and recognize that which constitutes the correct coat of an adult Briard -- and the phrase, "making a dry rasping sound between the fingers" can be somewhat misleading.

The rasping sound only indicates the texture or coarseness of the hair and some types of coarse hair are incorrect. The Briard should not have a "terrier coat", which also makes a rasping sound between the fingers, but the other qualities of the Briard coat are missing. By breeding exclusively for a rasping sound, we are finding more and more curly, cowlicked hair, which snarls and breaks easily and should more properly be described as, "woolly", "frizzy" or "fluffy". Then, of course, we are still plagued with too many types of soft coats, as well. None of these is correct.

The correct coat is strong, not fragile. It can be combed out and mat free in about an hour. Even after a month or two of neglect, there are very few mats and those that are present pull apart easily with the fingers and simply slide out. There is little need for expensive sprays and conditioners to preserve it and there is no need for frequent bathing - it just does not hold dirt. When bathing a Briard with a correct coat after a year or more without a bath, it is amazing to realize that you have wasted your time and there is no dirt in the water! The same can not be said for faulty coats.

The Briard who is lucky enough to bear the correct coat does not object to grooming - there has not been pulling at snarls and mat splitting, nor tedious hours of grooming. It is not unusual to see such a dog lift its head, asking to be brushed under the chin. An especially attractive feature is that the hair of the correct coat falls naturally into locks, even when ungroomed, catching the light and glowing with a healthy appearance. It is smooth and cool to the touch.

The French shepherd wanted a Briard with a weather-resistant, easy-care coat, which did not break off on brambles and brush - which could be carded every week or two and remain mat and tangle-free. (Yes, carded is the word, since it was not uncommon to brush the dog with an old-fashioned wool-card or a natural bristled floor brush!)

The correct quality of Briard coat is unfortunately all too uncommon. Although some say that house-dog living softens the coat texture, the proper coat suffers very little under these conditions and is produced by selective breeding. It appears, from gross observation, that the proper coat is produced by a combination of genes, somewhat dominant in their influence. This means that breeding two dogs with poor quality coats is not likely to produce the correct coat, while a dog which has the proper coat, can transmit the desired quality to the offspring. Two dogs with marginal coats have been known to produce offspring with somewhat improved quality of coat, however. More study is needed in this regard.

ADDENDA FOR BREEDERS

Reports from those who have studied the inheritance of the qualities of the dog's coat indicate the following theories, which may be of help to breeders.

- Coarse hair is dominant to fine hair;
- Straight or slightly wavy hair is dominant to curly hair;
- Long hair is recessive to short hair.

Curly hair could give the impression of coarseness since each hair is flat (wider in one direction than in the other). This gives a texture which would make a rasping sound between the fingers, but is not correct Briard hair.

The tendency of the coat to stand off from the body can be caused by a specific genetic factor which produces the "wire hair" of some terriers. This is a dominant but is not correct for Briards. Density of the coat and undercoat can also cause the hair to stand off (up as opposed to lying down) -- the denser coat tending to stand more. This is a genetic factor which tends to be recessive but one which is strongly influenced by the climate in which the dog lives. (The colder climate produces a denser coat which will be much thinner if the dog moves to a warmer climate.)

The "Translation and Elaboration of the French Standard", from which our A.K.C. Standard for the Briards was drawn, gives us the following description. (Describes the adult coat - not puppy coat.)


The quality and texture of the hair is very important. It should be the consistency of goat hair, hard and dry (making a dry, rasping sound between the fingers). It must lie down flat, falling naturally in long, slightly waving locks, having the sheen of good health.

Hair that is soft, fleecy, wooly or curly is rejected. These faulty coats retain the humidity; dirt and mud cling to them, and in drying they form tight mats or knots. They collect burrs and seeds, which hold tight, whereas they slide from the dry, correct hair.

The head should be well-covered with hair which must lie flat, forming a natural part in the center. The beard and mustache must be equally flat giving the impression of straight lines and a right angle at the front extremity. By contrast, the eyebrows must not lie flat, but instead they arch up and out in a curve that tightly veils the eyes. The hair must never be so abundant that it masks the form of the head or completely conceals the eyes.

---and if the correct qualities of the coat are still hard to visualize, just try brushing out a number of Briards with various coats. The effort of brushing is a much better indicator of coat quality than the sound the hair makes between the fingers.
C.E.R.F. REPORT

C.E.R.F. (Canine Eye Registry Foundation) reports that as of October 1, 1978, 146 Briards had had their eyes checked by Veterinary Ophthalmologists. Of these, 143 Briards were eligible to be certified as clear of eye disease. Of the remaining three, only one had confirmed retinal atrophy and two (still unknown to the Club) were classified as "suspect". This classification means that a complete diagnosis was not possible at the time of examination. The dogs could have had cataracts or a corneal inflammation which made examination of the retina impossible - or these dogs could have had symptoms, which indicate retinal disease could develop. The Club will not know unless the owners of these dogs send in a report.

In the case of hip dysplasia, the O.F.A. only has records of dogs whose X-rays were submitted by the owner. For the most part, this is only done if the dog appears clear of H.D. C.E.R.F., however is sent a report on every dog which is checked by a specialist (Diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists). These reports are submitted by number without the name of the dog or the owner. If the owner desires certification of the dog, they must apply with the form given to them at the time of the examination. The dog is then given a number, which is considered valid for one year from the date of the examination. Each dog must be checked again once a year to keep the certification up to date.

The certification number - example: BR-610/76-115 - is made up of three parts. BR-610 indicates the dog is certified "Briard, number 610. /76 is the year in which the dog was checked. -115 is the age of the dog in months at the time of the exam. When a dog is recertified, the year and age in months are changed.

The B.C.A. has reports of 5 additional Briards, which have been checked by specialists who did not report the findings to C.E.R.F. All 5 were clear.

Of the 148 Briards in this country known to be clear of eye disease at the time of examination, the following have been certified as of October 1, 1978. (4 were recertified).

BR-101/76-107 CH. Phydeaux Quoin de Cuivre (Tingley)
BR-102/76-13 Desamee Lamont Bear (Wegienka)
BR-103/76-61 CH. Phydeaux Usheba des Berger (Tingley)
BR-104/76-29 CH. Jennie Del Pastre (Tingley)
BR-105/76-80 CH. Phydeaux Theda Bara (C. & K. Collins)
BR-106/76-48 CH. Beau Cheval's Vent Vert (Keiter)
BR-107/76-27 CH. Aigner Javelot d'Or (Keiter)
BR-108/77-52 CH. I Charlemagne Chez Ciel CDX (Behrens)
BR-109/77-74 CH. Uther Bijou de Strathcona (Charbonneau)
BR-110/77-44 CH. Phydeaux Windfall, CD (Charbonneau)
BR-111/77-24 CH. Beardsanbrow's Leading Lady (Charbonneau)
BR-112/76-48 CH. Bellesprit Velours (Dubin)
BR-113/76-13 CH. Eagle of Alpen (Dubin)
BR-114/76-81 CH. Phydeaux Tallulah CD (Dubin)
BR-115/78-16 Né Jean-Paul de Longchamp (Daniel)
BR-116/78-16 More Lamont de l'Etat d'Or (Wegienka)
BR-117/78-34 CH. Bellesprit Lucretia (Sloan)
BR-118/78-16 Unique Noé de Vielle Ville (Gray)
A DEADLY WEAPON

It was early afternoon on a brisk sunshiny Fall day. I thought I would mow the lawn one more time before the dreaded winter weather would be upon us.

The dogs were outside romping in the back yard while I was mowing. Suddenly I heard the sound of a dog fight. It was the whining and high shrill barking that I had heard during other mishaps in the past. I stopped the mower and ran around the house. What I saw was a tangled mass of Briard. I started yelling for them to stop but their screams and barks were louder and they didn't hear me. By the time I arrived I found that it wasn't a dog fight. It took me a minute or so to figure out what had happened, and to quiet the dogs.

I found one gasping for air. Blood was coming from his mouth and he was in shock. The metal choke collar was strangling him. The other was grabbing for his leg. I parted the hair and found that the hind leg was caught in the twisted collar. I tried to free the collar from the hind leg but I couldn't budge it at all. I started to panic. What could I do, stand there and watch my dog die of suffocation? I forced myself to calm down and think of a way to save these two dogs. I then pictured the wire cutters on the garage floor. I was afraid of what might happen if I left the two dogs but if I didn't get those cutters I knew I would lose one.

I ran to the garage and grabbed the cutters. I could hear the two dogs screaming again. I pictured a broken leg or neck. It seemed like an eternity had gone by before I returned to the tangled dogs.

I had to calm them down again and reassure them that everything was going to be all right. I pryed my fingers in between the neck and collar of my choking dog and tried to cut through one of the small links. The blood from his mouth was now coagulating on the ground and the hair of the dogs. I was shaking so hard that it was difficult for me to handle the cutters. I finally cut through a link and the collar slipped down through the neck hair and fell to the ground. I took the collar and freed the hind leg of my other dog.

My heart was pounding so hard and my lungs hurt from the trauma I had just gone through. Both dogs were calm now. I sat down between them and comforted them both. I checked out the leg and found no broken skin or sore areas. I then checked the neck area and mouth of my other dog and found that he had bit his tongue but nothing more serious than that.

I finally found the strength to get up. I had each dog get up separately and they seemed fine. I picked up the wire cutters and the choke collar and went into the house with the dogs.

This incident seemed like an eternity to me but it was only a matter of 20 minutes. The choke collar now hangs on the wall in my office. I will never forget this incident and my dogs, now, only wear collars when on leash.

I have learned my lesson at the expense of others.

Jan Zingsheim

CORONA AND PARVO VIRUSES

A Status Report from Cornell

"Corona" and "Parvo" type viruses and the severe gastroenteritis they reportedly cause, have become major concerns among dog owners and fanciers. As with any subject, commonly under discussion, rumors abound and every dog owner PET and SHOW alike, should keep themselves as accurately informed as possible.

As yet, the B.C.A. has not been able to discover any confirmed cases of corona or parvo gastroenteritis in Briards, although two cases of gastro-intestinal disease from other causes have been reported. If you learn of any case, please report it to the Club and don't take any dog you suspect could be ill to any dog gathering. Dogs which are ill have lowered resistance to these viruses and if they are infected with either virus, could pass it on to other dogs.

The following report was compiled by L.E. Carmichael, M.J.G. Appel and Helen A. Greisen of the Cornell Research Laboratory for Diseases of Dogs.

Episodes of widespread outbreaks of contagious vomiting and diarrhea, sometimes hemorrhagic, first were reported to us in Feb. 1978. At that time the Cornell Research Laboratory for Diseases of Dogs was urged by veterinarians and breeders of purebred dogs in the East and Southeast to investigate the cause of a highly contagious diarrheal disease causing illness, especially amongst show dogs. Initial outbreaks were reported in collies that had attended specialty shows in the South and southern Midwestern states. Some animals had died. Later (March through May), outbreaks in other breeds were reported in various locations throughout the United States. From stool and fresh intestinal specimens submitted to us, several strains of a virus were isolated in canine kidney cell cultures that had morphological features of Coronaviruses.

The virus is not a newly-recognized one, for Binn et al. isolated a canine coronavirus from fecal samples of military dogs stationed in Germany that were suffering from suspected "viral gastroenteritis". Preliminary serological comparisons indicate that the 1978 isolates are very similar to those recovered by Binn. Reasons for the failure to associate this virus with diarrheal disease in the U.S. until now are unclear, although retrospective evidence leaves no doubt that it has been present.

Then, in August 1978, a second series of outbreaks of serious diarrheal disease was reported in Midwestern states. The latter outbreaks seemed generally more severe, with higher morbidity rates, sometimes reaching 100 percent, and somewhat higher mortality, especially in pups less than 5 months of age. Deaths in adults also have occurred. Particularly severe outbreaks also were reported recently from Texas by workers who had earlier observed a very small virus in feces from puppies with non-fatal diarrhea. The virus had characteristics of the Parovirus group. A similar virus ("minute virus of canines") was isolated in 1970 from feces of normal dogs.
and antibody prevalences were found to be very high in the limited number of animals studied. Starting in August, 1978, fecal specimens submitted to our laboratory from outbreaks of suspected "coronaviral diarrhea" commenced to reveal, by electron microscopy, a very small parvo-like virus, that could be noted in aggregates. Although epidemiological information is very limited, outbreaks of parvoviral disease initially seemed more prevalent in the West, Southwest, and Midwest; but presently (September 1978) they are occurring throughout the country. Particularly severe outbreaks have occurred in veterinary hospitals, boarding kennels, commercial or research kennels, as well as in family dogs, especially if they have been boarded or hospitalized in close confinement with ill animals. (Underlined by Editor) In two instances, both the coronavirus and the parvo-like virus were identified in the same stool sample.

At this writing, information is too scant to provide data based on extensive laboratory study. But, the following descriptions attempt to provide assistance to veterinarians in recognizing the two newly-recognized diseases.

CLINICAL SIGNS

The diseases caused by the canine coronavirus (CCV) and the parvo-like virus are difficult to differentiate clinically in most instances; however certain important differences have been observed that seem worth recording at this time. As with other gastrointestinal infections, signs vary greatly and may be influenced by age, environmental circumstances and resident bacteria and parasites. As the two diseases become more fully understood, the clinical-pathological features will undoubtedly become more apparent.

1. Canine Coronaviral Gastroenteritis: Typical symptoms in field cases are lethargy, decrease in appetite and a loose ("mushy") stool. The onset of illness is often sudden, with diarrhea preceded by, or simultaneous with vomiting. Typically, vomiting is less frequent after the first day or two of illness. There may be mucus and/or variable amounts of blood in the feces. Stools often are "orangish" in color, and the smell is characteristically fetid. Owners often comment on the particularly foul and offensive fecal odor. The diarrhea may continue as a loose stool, or as an ooze of frothy yellow-orange, semi-solid material. Projectile diarrhea sometimes is seen either as a watery or bloody fluid. Young puppies may become rapidly dehydrated, even though fluid therapy was instituted early in the course of illness. Animals generally recover spontaneously after a week to 10 days; but dogs that had received early symptomatic treatment, and who were kept warm and quiet, seemed to recover more rapidly. Persistent diarrhea for 3 to 4 weeks, even with treatment, has been reported in several outbreaks. Young pups may die suddenly, with a thin yellowish or frankly hemorrhagic stool. Stress seems to favor increased severity of signs. Some animals in contact with diseased dogs failed to have symptoms, or the signs were very mild, consisting only of a slightly loose, foul-smelling stool. Elevated temperatures have been observed, but they were not a prominent feature of coronavirus gastroenteritis. Leukopenia is not a recognized feature of this viral disease. The coronavirus is highly contagious and spreads rapidly through kennels of susceptible dogs.

Experimental CCV infection in laboratory beagles was, without exception, mild. The incubation period in experimentally infected animals was about 24 - 36 hours. Diarrhea or soft stools often persisted for 1 to 2 weeks, but was not observed in all animals.

2. Canine Paro-like Viral Gastroenteritis. As with the CCV gastroenteritis, signs vary greatly. Dogs of all ages are affected, with deaths occurring in both adults and pups; but mortality rates appear highest in young puppies. Prominent clinical signs are vomiting, often severe and protracted, anorexia, diarrhea and rapid dehydration, especially in pups. The feces are generally a light grayish or yellow-gray color at the onset of disease; however, fluid stools either streaked with blood, or frankly hemorrhagic may present as the initial sign and persist until recovery or death. Some cases initially were regarded by veterinarians as "atypical distemper". Temperatures ranging from 104 to 106 F may be observed in some animals, especially pups; however affected older dogs may have normal or only slightly elevated (103F) temperatures. Some animals continue to vomit at frequent intervals and have diarrhea, sometimes projectile and frankly hemorrhagic until they die; others have only a loose ("pancake") stool and recover uneventfully. Pups suffer most, with sudden "shock-like" deaths occurring as early as 2 days after onset of illness. A very common feature of the parvo-like viral infection is leukopenia (abnormal reduction in the number of white blood cells), especially during the first 4 to 5 days of illness. White cell counts less than 1000/mm³ have been recorded; however available information suggests that counts of 500/mm³ through 2000/mm³ are more common at the peak of illness. Leukopenia is often accompanied by fever. Both signs were prominent in experimentally infected laboratory beagles. The data cited were obtained principally from field cases where hemograms were not done on a daily basis.

The section of the report dealing with lesions is quite technical and of limited interest to the layman, and has therefore been deleted. Copies of this section of the report may be obtained from Ewy Wegienka, Medical Committee Chairman, 1089 Cottonwood, Woodland, CA 95695 or from the Secretary.

DIAGNOSIS

Both viruses have been isolated and propagated in cell cultures, but they are extremely fastidious. Presently a presumptive diagnosis is based on clinical signs and postmortem findings where the history suggests contagious enteritis. Dual or sequential infections with both viruses have to be considered. When fresh fecal material is available for study, rapid diagnosis may be obtained by observing characteristic viral particles upon electron microscopic (negative-stain) examination of prepared stool samples. Since artifacts are common, especially as regards the coronavirus, judicious caution must be observed in interpreting results. It is expected that diagnostic laboratories will shortly have available immunofluorescent reagents for both viruses.

Since the causes of vomiting and diarrhea in the dog are many, including bacterial and parasitic diseases, acute pancreatitis, tryptic enteritis ("shock gut"), poisonings, and canine hemorrhagic
gastroenteritis (HGE), it is important to consider all possibilities. Viral gastroenteritis should be especially considered where several animals are involved, or if other evidence suggests a contagious disease.

**TREATMENT**

Prompt symptomatic treatment in severely ill animals, especially pups, is essential. Treatment is similar for both viral diseases, with the objective to control diarrhea, vomiting and dehydration.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** - excerpts from Cornell Laboratory Report, series 2, No. 9, July '78 by L.E. Carmichael

**HOW IS THE DISEASE TRANSMITTED?**

Actual data are lacking, but it is likely that spread occurs primarily after contact with infectious feces. Nasal-pharyngeal secretions may be an additional source of virus. The disease seems highly contagious.

**WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IF AN ANIMAL DEVELOPS DIARRHEA, ESPECIALLY IF IT HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH KNOWN INFECTED ANIMALS?**

Prompt veterinary care should be sought, particularly if the animal vomits or there is blood in the vomitus or feces. Symptomatic treatment instituted early in the course of the disease to control vomiting, diarrhea, and intestinal hypermotility appears to facilitate recovery. Warmth and the absence of stress seem conducive to the recovery process. It is well known from studies in other species of animals that various forms of stress such as sudden changes in temperature, fatigue, or other infections significantly enhance coronaviral disease.

**WHAT OTHER GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES OCCUR THAT MUST BE DIFFERENTIATED FROM CORONA (PARVO) - VIRAL DIARRHEA?**

The causes of vomiting and diarrhea in the dog are many. They include bacterial and parasitic diseases, acute pancreatitis, trypic enteritis, certain poisonings, and most importantly, canine hemorrhagic gastroenteritis (HGE). It is important for the veterinarian and owner to be acutely aware of the possibility of HGE...for failure to treat symptoms early and vigorously may result in death within 8 to 16 hours. In HGE, unlike coronaviral enteritis, the criteria for diagnosis are sudden onset of vomiting, often several times, profound lethargy and depression followed by episodes of bloody diarrhea. The course of illness is rapid, and animals may die suddenly if treatment is delayed. Intensive fluid replacement is of great importance, especially if the proportion of red cells in the blood is greater than 50 percent. Several cases of HGE, whose cause is obscure, have been received for laboratory study, but none have proved positive for coronavirus.

**CAN HUMANS BECOME INFECTED WITH CANINE CORONAVIRUS?** There is no evidence that the canine coronavirus infects humans, although occasional coincidental outbreaks of diarrhea in dogs and their owners have been reported.

The thrust of research at Cornell is focused on efforts to define modes of viral spread, length of viral spread, immune response and vaccine development.

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**DEW CLAW SURVEY REPORT**

The response to the Dew Claw Survey was very good with over 56 responses returned to date - and others still being received. The many suggestions will be very helpful in making future issues more responsive to the preferences of the majority. Some of the suggestions have already been put into effect and others will follow.

18.5% of the surveys sent out to members have been returned (Joint Memberships received only one copy). This is an adequate percent to indicate strengths, weaknesses and preferences. It is probably safe to assume that those who did not take this opportunity to be heard did not have any marked complaints.

It is gratifying to know that, with only one exception, everyone who responded seemed to find the Dew Claw content, for the most part, informative and enjoyable. There were only minor differences of opinion on content and direction, with no single complaint expressed by a majority - or even a sizable minority.

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED - Your continued suggestions are welcome at any time and will help the Dew Claw to develop. On behalf of those who have worked so hard to help make the publication of the Dew Claw possible, thank you for the many kind laurels, which were included with your responses.

Diane McLeroth
Editor

The survey gave each person a choice of "Good" - "O.K." - or "D.P.I." (meaning, this "Doesn't Particularly Interest me").

**REGULAR FEATURES**

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN-----------44 Good - 9 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 3 abstained**

Comments & Suggestions:

"I haven't seen any for quite a while."
"There should be one in every issue."
"These could be more frequent and state events/accomplishments/status of the Club, etc."
Several stated, "More".

**SECRETARY'S COLUMN---------48 Good - 7 O.K. - 1 D.P.I. - 4 abstained**

"Very informational - gives a feeling for what's happening in the Club."
"More information on Board activities and correspondence."
"Well organized - informative."
"It must be difficult to condense so much work into so little space - Well done."

**TREASURER'S REPORT----------44 Good - 10 O.K. - 2 D.P.I. - 2 abstained**

"I appreciate all the work done here!"
"Reports are clear and complete - useful to the Club in the future."

**AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT---------40 Good - 10 O.K. - 7 D.P.I.**

"O.K. but could tell more on how AKC works-How Delegates meetings are run - How Delegates are seated, etc."
Dew Claw Survey - continued

"Full report of Delegates meetings are published in the Gazette - action which does not apply to the Briard or working dogs does not need to be included as far as I'm concerned."

STUD DOG COLUMN----------44 Good - 7 O.K. - 5 D.P.I.

2 suggested that dogs listed have O.F.A. numbers
1 suggested that dogs listed have C.E.R.F. numbers
"Brings income for the Dew Claw"
"Column implies that dogs advertised are the only stud dogs available--Possibly a once a year 'special' section on stud dogs with photos, would give a better picture. More extensive pedigrees."

LOOKING FOR PUPPIES-------48 Good - 5 O.K. - 3 D.P.I.

5 asked that color of pups be included.
2 asked for whelping dates.
1 asked that sex be included.
1 asked for sire/dam
1 stated that listings are sometimes out of date.

(Ed. Note: Available space often dictates what is contained in this column. This is a free service and more elaborate advertising should be included in paid advertisements - Sire and Dam are included in the news column if that information is sent to the News Editor - also colors are included in the news. Many breeders object to publication of whelping dates.)

OTHER FEATURES

ANSWER LADY-----------------52 Good - 6 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 2 abstained

5 stated this column was a good idea.
3 requested the column be included more often
2 asked how qualified person could be chosen. One of these stated, "Who knows enough to be the 'expert opinion'?"
1 stated, "If this has been in a previous issue, we have not seen it."

(The Answer Lady is a place to send your questions. The individual in charge of the column contacts qualified individuals to find answers - and the column often takes on a humorous note. The individual does not pretend to be the expert. Ed.)

ARTICLES OF GENERAL DOG

INTEREST BY SPECIALISTS----48 - Good - 6 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 2 Abstained

"Would like to see more expert opinions and studies "
"I don't care for reprints from the Gazette."
5 stated they found these articles helpful.
"We can read general dog articles in magazines and books - the Dew Claw should deal with Briards specific."

(The number of articles specifically on Briards has always been very limited. Knowledgable Briarders have been asked to write articles and when received, these are heartily welcomed. Few members can read the many dog magazines, yet all should be advised of PRA, coronary parvo, gastric torsion, etc. There is also much to learn from the experiences of those in other breeds or scientific specialists. Ed.)

ARTICLES SPECIFIC TO BRIARDS 56 Good - no O.K., D.P.I. or abstention

Several stated, "More".
2 stated, "A must!"
1 stated, "The more, the better."

BRIARD HEALTH & WELFARE

-on breeding/genetics, etc.--47 Good - 5 O.K. - 1 D.P.I. -
Several asked for more on genetics.
"Excellent"
1 asked for layman's terms.
"For those who have already decided not to breed to get rich quick could there be some informative articles by breeders of Briards."
-on routine health care-----49 Good - 6 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.
"Should be included in Calendar - after all, routine is routine."
-on common problems--------51 Good - 4 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.
Several asked for more.
2 asked for more on temperament.
"Medical articles have been interesting - have they really been dealing with 'common problems' (pancreatitis) or do we just have exceptionally healthy dogs?"

BULLETIN BOARD----------------- 53 Good - 2 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.

CARTOONS--------------------- 50 Good - 6 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. -

"I enjoy this part of the issue."
2 stated, "Good"
1 "Really good".
1 "Somehow, particularly the one in this issue (Oct.) does a disservice to the breed - Briards manage to be elegant & comical simultaneously."

COMMENT---------------------- 51 Good - 4 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.

Several said this column is not included enough.
2 stated the column is "much needed".
"We need to be even more aware of problems."
1 "author should be noted".
1 "The Dew Claw would benefit by the removal of the preaching - COMMENT--Sportsmanship--What Kind of a Member are You? -- Are We Heading in the Right Direction? I think a good many people reading the Dew Claw don't need this type of article. I would prefer the space be dedicated to learning more about Briards."

GROOMING--------------------- 50 Good - 4 O.K. - 1 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.

Several asked for more.
1 commented, "Great".
1 - "I need all the help I can get."
1 - "Not in preference to other articles - so many grooming articles have been published in the Dew Claw it is difficult to count them."
1 - "There has been a noted lack of assistance in this category for the national publication of a heavily coated breed. Should deal with products, types of care, parting the dog, grooming a show coat (it's different than a pet coat). There is a grooming book available & if the novice followed the directions he'd be in trouble. Again, Briard specific - not general."

FEBRUARY 1979
DEW CLAW SURVEY - continued

HISTORY (Sedir/other)-------52 Good - 4 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.
1 - "Makes you appreciate the breed."
Several - "Invaluable - Informative".
1 - "By all means."
1 - "Why has this been a secret for so long."
2 - "Enjoyed this but would have preferred it more split up."
1 - "Marvelous!"

HOW TO SHOW YOUR DOG-------46 Good - 5 O.K. - 4 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.
2 asked for "More".
1 "Good sportsmanship important - this is a hobby not a business."
1 "As a non-shower or goer, I'm not that interested."
1 "Again, there is a lack of articles here - should not repeat those basics given in all breed books such as Forsyth's but should be Briard specific!"

(We need those skilled in handling to write some articles on this subject for the Dew Claw. The content of the Dew Claw primarily comes from volunteers - How about some volunteers on handling?)

NEWS
Show Reports-------------34 Good - 10 O.K. - 12 D.P.I.
"Let's have more than just shows, shows, shows."
"These don't give us much information since the competition is not listed."

Regional Clubs--------52 Good - 3 O.K. - 1 D.P.I.
"Regional Clubs are o.k. but shouldn't become too important. We are B.C.A. first."

Photos of show wins------54 Good - 2 O.K. - 0 D.P.I.
1 - "More"
1 - "Pictures could be clearer."

New Champions--------53 Good - 2 O.K. - 0 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.
1 - "This makes a nice record for the Club."
2 - "Like this as a feature and for reference."
1 - "Too bad you can't make better pictures, particularly of black dogs - they only finish once in a lifetime."

Briarder Activities------55 Good - 1 O.K. - 0 D.P.I.
(It is very difficult to reproduce some photos - especially those of black or dark dogs and we sympathize with the owners. We have recently tried a new printer in an effort to improve the quality of photo reproduction. The improvement is evident in the Dec. issue.

Photos of black or dark dogs against a dark background will not reproduce well - Color photos make it more difficult. The shadow often seems to become part of the dog. When selecting a photo for reproduction, please try to send those with good contrast, sharpness, highlights on the coat and it is important to have a rim of light around the dog. If your photo does not have all these qualities, the printer will do the best he can with it.

Copies of an excellent article on photographing your dog will be sent to those who request it. It was originally printed in the April 1977 Dew Claw and offers some excellent suggestions. Ed.)

DEW CLAW SURVEY - continued

NUTRITION-------------------47 Good - 9 O.K. - 0 D.P.I.
Several asked for more on this.
1 - "Evaluation of commercial dog food would be nice."

THE OTHER RING---------53 Good - 3 O.K. - 0 D.P.I.
This subject received the most response with a good number asking for more on training and how to deal with problems
1 suggested a column dealing with training problems.
1 - "How about a column on Junior Handling."

RECIPES
Food for your dog ------- 39 Good - 8 O.K. - 9 D.P.I.
"Some of these have been fun to try."
Several asked for more, especially recipies for dog food.
1 - "There are enough cookbooks around - keep the space to deal with Briards."

SEASONAL CARE-------48 Good - 7 O.K. - 1 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.
1 "The articles and warnings on poisonous plants, antifreeze and flea collars are important."
1 "I have appreciated the help with the flea problems, reminders about heatstroke, etc."
1 - "This is calendar material."

SPECIALTY ARTICLES
Care/selection of pups------52 Good - 3 O.K. - 1 D.P.I.
"Discussion on selection of pups would be interesting."
Management of Stud dog
Brood bitch -----------50 Good - 5 O.K. - 1 D.P.I.
Herding------------45 Good - 6 O.K. - 3 D.P.I. - 2 Abs.
1 "Very important, these are working dogs."
1 "I would like to know more about how Briards are taught to herd from a French authority."
3 asked for "More on this."

Shipping-------------46 Good - 6 O.K. - 4 D.P.I.
1 - "The ADOA is handling shipping problems well."
5 - "Please recommend no shipping."

SPOTLIGHT-------------46 Good - 7 O.K. - 2 D.P.I. - 1 Abs.
1 "How are they selected?"
1 "Good but difficult to write."
1 "Good idea."
1 " Might end up being self-serving."
1 "Fun to have a short form sent to BCA members picked at random, to fill out telling a little about themselves and what dog(s) they have. This would give everyone a chance to learn more about our unknown members."

BCA

FEBRUARY 1979
DEW CLAW SURVEY - continued

TRAINING
For Pups-------------------55 Good 1 Abs.
For Adults -----------------56 Good
For Owners -----------------56 Good
Overcoming special problems - 56 Good

Several asked for more on training.
1 "Owners need the training - Briards only need guidance."
1 "Boy, do I have a list!"

(There are far too many closing comments on the survey to print them all. The following is a representative cross-section.)

"I find no suggestions to add. The Dew Claw is excellent on all articles and we look forward to receiving and enjoying it all."
"I don't know how it could be improved."
"Great magazine! The Answer Lady and Spotlight sound like good features - would like to know more about dogs and their owners."
"I find the D/C both informative and interesting. There is not much about activity in the West - maybe there hasn't been any. Congratulations on having such an organized 'together' group. It is very refreshing."

"The Briard being a working dog, I would like to see more encouragement for obedience. More Briards become pets than show dogs. Ideally every breeder should have at least one C.D. dog to show prospective buyers. The average person is impressed with a happy, responsive dog and might be encouraged to train his Briard."
"It's really an excellent bulletin. We belong to several other breed clubs and none have anything to compare to the Dew Claw. It shows the hard work and interest that goes into it."
"I think the Dew Claw is a super publication! It is informative and is always interesting, especially the stories of dogs, whose antics are amusing and endearing, enabling us to further appreciate and understand the character of this great breed. Would like to see more articles on temperament."

"I am a new Briard owner and find all articles on grooming, nutrition, showing - anything - very helpful. As there are few Briards in our area, this magazine is about our only source of information. I appreciate it very much."

"As noted above, I no longer attend many shows nor do I exhibit or breed - so naturally, I enjoy 'human/dog' interest stories much more than show results. I enjoyed even the rather excited exchanges we've had in the past regarding ear cropping, color, etc."
"I only wish the Dew Claw could be published monthly."

"We enjoy the Dew Claw so much. It is informative and enjoyable. I would like more information on handling, training and overcoming special problems. Thank you for the opportunity to express our views."

"Obviously, I like almost everything that is printed! Don't know if that is good or bad!"

"Why waste time, we enjoy every page of the Dew Claw and read it over and over! No matter what is printed, we enjoy it."

"It was easy to answer this survey because we enjoy each and every word - it's our 'hotline' to the Briard world! This survey was a terrific idea for continued growth of the Dew Claw! Some repeats of old articles would be of interest to newcomers."

---

Sire: CH Ugolin des Joyeux Lutins de Seauve
Tawny, French Import, OFA FB-21

Dam: Am@Mex CH Miel Melosa de Strathcona
Tawny, OFA FB-88

- Sound type and conformation
- Outstanding temperament

DALLAS @ JUDY MEGGITT
1348 N. Lucero St., Camarillo, CA 93010
805-482-0207

FEBRUARY 1979
NEW BRIARD CHAMPION

CHAMPION SILVERMOON MARQUIS D'LINDEAU (dog)

Owners: Jim & Judi Ziozios  Breeder: Judi Ziozios

Championship: May 29, 1979
Whelped: July 2, 1975

Sire: Vin Marque de Grand Coeur  Dam: Ch. Viva Maude Chez Rogues de Brie, CD
(Ch. Pa'Chick's Rebel Deux  X  Ch. Saucy Sally Chez de Benaderet)

FILLE D'ABBAYE, C.D. (bitch)

Owner: Jane Beahan  Breeder: Susan Erickson

Obedience degree: August 27, 1978
Whelped: January 12, 1977

Sire: Ch. Stonehill's I'm Henri  Dam: Ch. Les Blues du Chien de Sel C.D.
(Ch. Uffin Berger du Nord  X  Ch. Uhey Chien de Grand Coeur
Ch. Flogan Variety Sho Stonehill)  X  Ch. Ugie Belle Noir de Strathcona)

NEW COMPANION DOG
NEW BRIARD CHAMPION

CHAMPION SUGARCREEK NEALA CHIEN D'MAR (bitch)

Owner: Marylin Rasmussen
Breeder: Susan Smith

Championship: December 17, 1978
Whelped: October 17, 1977

Sire: Ch. Stonehill's I'm Jacques
Dam: Junot Justine d'Ocassion
(Ch. Uffin Berger du Nord X Ch. Flogan Variety Sho Stonehill)
(Ch. I Charlemagne Chez Ciel C.D.X./T.D. X Valpar Creepers de Patrice)

Judge: Mr. J.D. Jones
Handled by owner

NEW BRIARD CHAMPION

CHAMPION SUGARCREEK STRAWBERRY DANIEL (dog)

Owner: Susan Smith
Breeder: Owner

Championship: December 17, 1978
Whelped: October 17, 1977

Sire: Ch. Stonehill's I'm Jacques
Dam: Junot Justine d'Ocassion
(Ch. Uffin Berger du Nord X Ch. Flogan Variety Sho Stonehill)
(Ch. I Charlemagne Chez Ciel C.D.X./T.D. X Valpar Creepers de Patrice)

Judge: Mr. Ed Bracy
Handled by owner
NEW BRIARD CHAMPION

CHAMPION SUGARCREEK NEALA CHIEN D'MAR (bitch)

Owner: Marylin Rassmusen  Breeder: Susan Smith
Championship: December 17, 1978
Whelped: October 17, 1977
Sire: Ch. Stonehill's I'm Jacques  Dam: Junot Justine d'Occasion
(Ch. Uffin Berger du Nord  X  (Ch. I Charlemagne Chez Ciel
Ch. Flogan Variety Sho Stonehill)  C.D.X./T.D.  X Valpar Creepers
de Patriche)
Judge: Mr. J.D. Jones  Handled by owner

NEW BRIARD CHAMPION

CHAMPION SUGARCREEK STRAWBERRY DANIEL (dog)

Owner: Susan Smith  Breeder: Owner
Championship: December 17, 1978
Whelped: October 17, 1977
Sire: Ch. Stonehill's I'm Jacques  Dam: Junot Justine d'Occasion
(Ch. Uffin Berger du Nord  X  (Ch. I Charlemagne Chez Ciel
Ch. Flogan Variety Sho Stonehill)  C.D.X./T.D.  X Valpar Creepers
de Patriche)
Judge: Mr. Ed Bracy  Handled by owner

BCA

FEBRUARY 1979
BEYOND COUNTING FAULTS

(Adapted from an editorial originally printed in the Skye Terrier Club of America Bulletin. The thoughts can be applied to every breed.)

When one has acquired their first Briard and has decided they will join the “show people”, eagerly awaited is the first show with a large entry. And when, at last, viewing many Briards together in the ring, they all appear beauty and perfection.

As time progresses, the new fancier tries to understand what a good Briard really is. Feature by feature the faults and virtues are learned. For some, this is often where their learning ends. They will forever condemn various dogs entirely for having one or more of the faults they have learned about.

There is often a counterpart to this group; those who will only value a dog if it possesses a certain feature to perfection. Both groups have only understood why these features were either important or undesirable, but they have not carried their thinking quite far enough to achieve true and total evaluation.

Often when one of these people is encouraged to judge and evaluate the entire dog as a whole, the process becomes one of adding up only which dog has the least faults or the most virtues, depending on their point of view.

Complete evaluation must include (along with considering the individual faults/virtues, how many, etc.) how all these good and bad parts work together to produce the entire image. Balance becomes the operative word here; a whole, with all its parts in total harmony. Balance - beauty plus that certain quality that puts anything above the rest; a quality that is found in all great architecture, furniture, painting, sculpture, etc.

One must study the dog’s outline, moving and standing, to see how all his features relate one to the other. To only esteem a dog because it has little to fault may be valuing the common and the dog can be very much out of proportion.

The fancier may, at some point, find himself judging between this common, near-faultless dog and a truly great dog with one or more definite faults, but with type, beauty and balance. Unfortunately, the ring is generally populated by the former, as it is safer and much easier to breed mediocrity, the ordinary. Attempting to breed the great dog of quality is fraught with many failures, tremendous work and agony. But ask anyone who has owned one of these beautiful dogs and particularly anyone who has bred one and they will tell you it is well worth the risks.

Any breeder of Briards should educate their “eye” towards true quality and aim for the great in their breeding program.

"It is a wretched taste to be gratified with mediocrity when the excellent lies before us." - Isaac D’Israeli

STUD DOG COLUMN


LOOKING FOR PUPPIES?

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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Bitches</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Yvonne Wright, 879 Dwight Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (408/739-2469)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DELAWARE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Meg Weitz/Michael Greenberg, 1312 Oberlin Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803 (302/475-2307)</td>
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<td>MICHIGAN</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Marie Herd, 9607 Katherine, Taylor, MI 48108 (313/772-3897)</td>
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<td>MINNESOTA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Susan Erickson, Rt. 5, Box 145, Mankato, MN 56001 (507/388-3282)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW YORK</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Eugene &amp; Carol Steiner, 1007 Cedar Dr. North, Manhasset Hills, NY 11040. (516/248-9506)</td>
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<tr>
<td>OHIO</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Dick &amp; Mimi Long, 63 1st Ave. North, Duluth, MN 55803 (218/724-7986)</td>
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Stud Dog Column listings are $10 per year or $2 per issue for up to five lines of information. Send listing to the Secretary and make checks payable to the Briard Club of America.