The Dew Claw

53rd Year - Issue No. 2

Official bulletin of the Briard Club of America

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AIM: To keep our membership better informed and more closely related and to present information for the advancement of the Club and the Breed. All articles and comments published do not necessarily represent the Club's views.

EDITOR: Diane McLeroth, 3030 Rockwood Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46815

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Philip Zingsheim
5350 Co. Road 151
Mound, MN 55364
612/472-4052

VICE PRESIDENT
Ed Konrath
8075 Mi Casita
Tucson, AZ 85715
602/298-1570

SECRETARY
Diane McLeroth
3030 Rockwood Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46815
219/483-2505

TREASURER
Patricia Long
5890 Shea Road
Marine City, MI 48039
313/765-5906

DIRECTORS - CLASS OF '80
Bob Boelter, 4383 Windsor Road, Windsor, WI 53598 (603/846-4630)
Ada Marley, 3940 W. 96th St., Indianapolis, IN 46268 (317/293-1705)
Carole Jobe, 2651 Brian Road, San Paolo, CA 94806 (415/758-7986)

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A.K.C. DELEGATE
June Shew, P.O. Box 288, Sunset Rd., East Hartland, CT 06027
203/653-6330

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Show wins of Winners or better from major shows, New Champions and Obedience Degrees are printed without charge, as space permits.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The difficult task of reporting on a sensitive problem B.C.A. has had, falls on me as President. Following is the statement regarding that situation, which was requested by the members at the Annual Meeting last August. This is an unpleasant duty, at best, and I hope it will finally put to rest all speculation over a situation which is now concluded.

Several years ago, when the B.C.A. funds and books were transferred from an outgoing Treasurer to the successor, considerable confusion was found in the books, and the records were incomplete. When all money in the B.C.A. accounts had been transferred, the former Treasurer reported that some personal funds had been included in the amount received by B.C.A., but could not provide any data or information to support this. Neither did an in-depth audit of the available records by a firm of Certified Public Accountants, reveal any facts to substantiate the Treasurer's claim.

The auditors advised the Club that conclusions could not be drawn unless the former Treasurer would come forward with additional data, or unless the Club went to great expense for further investigation. The former Treasurer wrote, "I have no interest in the final results of this matter...so I have no intention of communicating further on the issue."

The BCA Board asked the advice of an attorney, who was not a member of BCA and was reputed to be skilled in dog club matters. She advised that since so few facts were known and the problem was a sensitive one, that it should remain confidential within the Board until additional facts were known; but, unless the former Treasurer presented some substantiated claim to the Club, the expense of further action was not necessary.

The BCA Board at that time and the Boards which followed, made considerable effort, not only to untangle the confusion, but also to prevent speculation, gossip, or the embarrassment of the former Treasurer. This seemed consistent with the principles of a sportsmanlike club. Two Boards reviewed the available facts, the opinion of the auditors and the advice of the attorney. Since the Club had already spent $250 for an audit, both Boards voted that unless additional data became available, the matter should not be pursued.

In 1978, one member made the problem public in his campaign letter for BCA office. Since this compromised the BCA's position, as well as the reputation of the former Treasurer, the Board retained an attorney in order to protect the Club's interests and help to press the matter to a fair conclusion. The Club's attorney made another request for additional data, but the attorney for the former Treasurer reported that these could not be provided. The negotiations proceeded, but very slowly.
At the B.C.A. meeting in August, 1979, another attempt was made to open this sensitive subject to general discussion. Since the matter was being negotiated by attorneys, and BCA had been advised by its attorney that discussion was inappropriate, the Assembly voted to table the matter, but requested that a statement be issued when negotiations were concluded.

Progress was again delayed when the member, mentioned before, submitted his own evaluation of the situation to the Club's auditors for review. Although this proved to add nothing new, factually, on which a decision could be based, it made additional work for the auditors and the attorney.

On December 11, 1979, a settlement was finally reached by the attorneys. The agreement extinguished any claims, which could arise from the period in question, and has now been finalized. The agreement is not an admission of liability by either the former Treasurer or the Club and was effected solely to resolve the problem without further expense.

The costs to BCA have been an additional $175, plus the original $250 to the auditors; $518.58 in fees and expenses for the Club's attorney; $52.40 in printing and mailing; and a settlement of $750, making a total of $1,745.98. This has been a staggering expense for BCA, especially for a problem which was not the fault of the Club, but it is far less than it would have been had BCA paid the attorney to take the matter to court for an accounting.

This unfortunate situation is therefore closed, and although BCA will never have an accounting for the period in question, the Office of Treasurer is now bonded to protect the Club from having to bear a repeat of such expenses. It is now better put behind us, so we can proceed with our work for the good of our breed.

Phil Zingsheim
President

SPECIALTY DONATIONS NEEDED

THIS YEAR, MORE THAN IN THE PAST, BCA NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH DONATIONS TO THE SPECIALTY FUND. PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATIONS TO THE TREASURER TODAY. EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO ATTEND THE SPECIALTY, IT IS A WAY YOU CAN SHOW SUPPORT FOR THE CLUB. IT WILL BE APPRECIATED. THANK YOU.

APRIL 1980
APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP
Mary Ann & Robert Bloom, 53-07 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston, NY 11362
Lynn Bohanan, 531 Federal Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102, owner of
Manny's Billee BoLondon
Elizabeth Day, 312 Sherman Ave. Evanston, IL 60202, owner of
Aigner Right as Rain
Barry & Lena Ginnis, 3971 Bluestone Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44121, owners of Chucklin Paddington's Cooley
Janice London, 531 Federal Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102, owner of
Manny's Billee BoLondon
Robert & Mary Lopez, 3352 Vincent Dr., Santa Clara, CA 95051
owners of De Beaujoliss Mon Ami
Patricia & William Miller, 9125 Westfield Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46240, owners of Mac's Own Pip.
Elizabeth Barry & Lana Watt, 2552 Cherry Place, Ontario, CA 91762, owners of O'Leo de Wrika
Doreen Wylie, 16103 268th S.E., Issaquah, WA 98027, owner of
Monsieur Meilleur d'Capucine & Dairie Nicole le Bergerie

BOARD ACTION
The Board has appointed Jan Charbonneau to chair the Briard Eye Registry program.

A motion to print a Briard Calendar each year was unanimously approved. This was proposed so the photo contest can be announced in the April Dew Claw with order forms in the October issue.

The Board voted to have Nancy Tomlin judge the Puppy Sweepstakes at the Supported Entry show in Michigan this August.

A.K.C. APPROVAL has been received for the BCA National Specialty to be held at the Santa Barbara Kennel Club show on July 27, 1980. The Club has also received approval of Puppy Sweepstakes at the Specialty with Miss Lorna Spangenberg as judge.

BRIARD BROCHURES
The Club publishes an excellent brochure on the Briard, which includes a description of the Breed, photos, the Standard and our Code of Ethics. These can be ordered from Ada Marley, 3940 W. 96th St, Indianapolis, IN 46268; 25 for $1.25 or 100 for $4.00. Please make checks payable to the Briard Club.

NAME CONSULTATION SERVICE
Frank D'Addishein, The Mansion House, Robbinston, ME 04671, has offered to be a consultant on French names for your Briards. Frank is bi-lingual, having lived for many years in France and can help assure those unfamiliar with the language, that the names they have selected are not misnomers.

APRIL 1980
HOLIDAY INN OF SANTA BARBARA - 1980 SPECIALTY HEADQUARTER
5650 Calle Real
Goleta, CA 93017
Attention Reservations Department

Name
Address

Date of Arrival Time
Expected Departure Number of Rooms
Number of Beds Rate Desired Number of People
Firm or Organization: BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA
Three night minimum required
Reservations Held Until 6 P.M.

SPECIALTY MOTEL RESERVATION FORM
JUST CUT ON DOTTED LINE, FILL OUT THE
FORM AND MAIL!

B.C.A. ANNUAL MEETING WEEKEND RESERVATION FORM
SHERATON MOTOR INN - PONTIAC-BLOOMFIELD
1001 WOODWARD AT SQUARE LAKE ROAD
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN

Name ___________________________ Phone ___________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________
City-State-Zip ______________________________________________________

PLEASE RESERVE ___ Single Room at $32
___ Double Room at $35
For ___ People
FRI. AUG. 15, 1980; SAT. AUG. 16; SUN. AUG. 17.
OTHER ___________________________________________________________
I WILL; ___ WILL NOT HAVE DOGS IN THE ROOM.
B.C.A. ANNUAL MEETING WEEKEND

AUGUST 15, 16, 17, 1980

2 SHOW WEEKEND
INGHAM COUNTY K.C., FLINT, MICHIGAN
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16th

SUPPORTED ENTRY:
PONTIAC K.C., PONTIAC, MICHIGAN
SUNDAY, AUGUST 17th

TROPHIES FOR EACH CLASS
PLUS PUPPY SWEEPSTAKES

WEEKEND HEADQUARTERS:
SHRATON MOTOR INN, PONTIAC-BLOOMFIELD
1001 WOODWARD AT SQUARE LAKE RD.
(less than one mile off I-75)
SINGLE $32  DOUBLE $35

Each Sheraton guest will be required to sign a form assuming responsibility for any damage that may be caused by dogs in the rooms.

BUFFET DINNER - ANNUAL BCA MEETING
SATURDAY EVENING - AUGUST 16th

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15th, ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR PLEASURE
Possibilities include Films, Seminars, etc.
LET US HEAR YOUR WISHES

STEPHANIE KATZ, CHAIRPERSON
1701 Strathcona Dr.
Detroit, MI 48023
313-368-3123

DON'T DELAY - SEND YOUR MOTEL RESERVATION FORM TODAY!

ELABORATION OF THE FRENCH STANDARD

Following is Part II of the Elaboration of the French Standard for the Briard, which was the foundation for the clarified A.K.C. Standard for the Briard. The French Standard is not included, but only the discussion of it.

BACK

The Briard appears to be constructed with a very slight incline, downward from the withers which are well-emerged, to the back which appears straight, to the broad loin and the croup which is a little inclined. The backline must be strong and a swayed back or a roached back should be ejected from breeding. The croup must never be more elevated than the withers.

The Briard should not be too cobby in build, he tends to be slightly elongated. With the male, the length of his body measured from the forepoint of the shoulder to the afterpoint of the pelvis, is equal to, or slightly more (1/2 to 3/4 inch) than his height at the withers. He is a dog, inscribable within a square but tending to elongation. The female is a little longer than she is tall.

CROUP

The loins must be broad and well-joined to the back and croup. They are well-muscled and never roached. The croup is slightly sloped and strongly muscled. The croups that are too inclined are bad because they give "cowardly" hindquarters. The reverse fault, when the hindquarters are higher than the forequarters, is generally accompanied by a sway back, straightened hocks and thighs. It is equally rejected.

TAIL

The tail has great importance as a racial characteristic, as well as for its utility in aiding the equilibrium. The attachment, in prolongation of the backline, must be well countersunk in the croup avoiding an attachment that is too high. It should be well garnished with hair of good length.

In repose, the tail should descend the length of the thighs to the point of the hock, making a slight curve terminated by a hook or "crochet". This crochet is similar in shape to the hook of the printed letter "J", not closed too tightly, rolled up or twisted to the right or left. It should be carried in the median plane of the body. In action, the tail is raised in a harmonious curve, never going above the level of the back, except for the terminal crochet.

Tails that are too short or too long are faulty. The tail that hangs vertically, without sufficient hook should be penalized as should the tail that is rolled up. Dogs with abnormally short or no tail at birth, as well as those that have had their tails amputated are disqualified.
The construction of the legs is of utmost importance, determining the dog's ability to work and his resistance to fatigue.

**ANTERIOR ANGULATION:** The shoulder is long and oblique (about 45° from the horizontal) and should be well attached, blending smoothly with the withers. The scapula joins the humerus to form a 90° angle. The elbow (humerus/radial articulation) forms about a 125° angle with the elbows parallel to the median plane of the body. Viewed from the front, the legs are well-parallel and a vertical plane from the point of the shoulder should pass along the midline of the leg to the foot. Viewed from the side, the legs are also vertical, but the metacarpals of the pastern are a little inclined. This incline of the pastern differs from the German Shepherd, which is too inclined, and the Belgian Shepherd, which is too straight.

**POSTERIOR ANGULATION:** The croup is a little inclined (about 30° from the horizontal) and joins the femur in a 90° angle. The stifle (femur/tibial articulation) makes an angle of about 110° and should be in a vertical plane, parallel to the median body plane. The hock makes an angle of about 135° and the metatarsal bones below the joint are slightly inclined. The joint is not too near the ground. If the angle of the hock is more toward 180°, the angulation of the hock is too open, the leg straightens and the croup is too high. If the angle of the hock is more toward 90°, the croup will be too low.

**GENERAL:** The legs should be in vertical planes, parallel to the median plane of the body, never turned inward or outward. The right front and rear legs are in the same vertical plane and the left front and rear legs are in a common plane. That is to say, on a well-constructed dog, the distance measured between the points of the elbows is equal to the distance measured between the points of the pelvis. The distance between the elbows equals that between the midlines of the forearms, pastern joints, pasterns and front feet. In the hindquarters, the distance between the points of the pelvis equals that between the midlines of the stifles, thighs, hocks, metatarsals and rear feet. The equality of all these measurements brings into concrete form the perfect alignment.

Hocks, stifles or elbows turned in or out and other faults of angulation or angulation should be rejected as they cause weak movement and fatigue. The legs must never be overly long, as the long-legged dog is less resistant to fatigue.

The legs of the Briard should be powerfully muscled, especially in the hindquarters, enabling the dog to turn quickly without losing equilibrium and providing flexible, almost tireless movement.

**FEET**

The feet are shaped in a slight oval, nearly round. The rear feet are a little more oval and slightly longer than the front feet. They must be strong and well-constructed.

The feet normally follow the general axis of the leg and should travel straight forward in the line of movement.

It should be noted that on the internal face of each rear leg is found a double supplementary toe, called the dewclaws, which represent the fifth or large toe. This gives the appearance of a wider base to the foot although somewhat hidden by the long hair.

In reply to a frequent question, we see the correct position of the rear feet when the alignment and angulation of the rear legs and hocks is absolutely correct. That is, if the toes turn out very slightly when the hocks are well-parallel and the legs are absolutely correct, then the position of the feet is also correct. If the toes turn out too much, inevitably it is because the hocks are turned in (cow hocks).

The nails should be hard and black.

**PADS**

The pads must be well-developed, compact and elastic, covered with strong tissue. The foot that is splayed, or flat and tender, with flabby soles is to be completely rejected because it renders the dog incapable of work.

**HAIR**

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 Tocks, having the sheen of good health.

Hair that is soft, fleecy, woolly or curly is rejected. These faulty coats retain the humidity, dirt and mud clinging 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.

On the shoulders, the length of the hair is generally six inches or more and short hair must be eliminated. The minimum length allowed is 2-7/8 inches.

The undercoat is fine and tight on all the body. It must be the same color as the outer coat.

*continued next page*
[Editor's Note: The French Briard specialists advise us that coat color for Briards is aesthetic and very diverse; primarily a matter of fashion. Therefore, the section on color is limited to the description of the fundamental colors, as given in the Elaboration. White coats, brown-nosed colors, or spotted coats are rejected as signs of impure breeding or mutation. The darker colors are given preference since they enabled the shepherd to distinguish his dog from the sheep, and darker colors are more impressive to sheep. Originally this meant that black was preferred to dark gray and dark gray to tawny, according to early French descriptions. However, today, we interpret this as the darker shades of each color.]

**COLOR**

BLACKS have a wide range of shades from pure black to slate-black (Noire Ardoisé) with highlights like the bluish-gray of slate evenly distributed over the body. Generally he is slate-black.

GRAYs range from light gray to mouse gray to a metallic blue-gray.

TAWNIES have a wide range of a very light tawny to nearly mahogany (a burnt chestnut color) but some of these are rejected. To be correct, the tawny should be richly pigmented, golden. He can have a slate mask on muzzle and ears with the slate gradually blending into the coat, or "fauve charbonné", which means that the individual hair is tawny at the root and darker, nearly black, at the tip. This charcoaling may be more or less on the back, diminishing over the remaining coat, but each and every hair must be tawny at the root. The light tawny and washed out tawny coats are not to be counselled; and chocolate or mahogany coats [Ed. note: these are brown-nosed colors] are disqualified.

A few white hairs on the chest may be tolerated, but a slight white spot is a fault and a white panel on the chest disqualifies. The uniform colors are the product of selection. The color of the roots of the hair helps to indicate what color a puppy will become. The darker root is the best. Sometimes puppies are born with a slight white spot on the chest that will disappear about the fifth to seventh month.

**DEWCLAWS**

The dewclaws have been the subject of debate many times in past years. However, they constitute with the French shepherd breeds, a polydactyl construction; that is, having a fifth toe on each rear leg. They are conserved by the breeders, fanciers and clubs as a racial characteristic and simply in respect for the good tradition.

Sèdir advised that the dewclaws should be well-joined and placed low on the leg, giving a wide base to the foot. The dewclaws are transmitted by heredity and appear to be of the mode of partial, or variable dominance.

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**GAIT**

The well-constructed Briard is a marvel of supple power. His movement has been described as "quick-silver", permitting him to make the abrupt turns, springing starts and sudden stops required of the shepherd dog. His gaits should be supple and light, almost like those of a large feline.

The trot is not very elongated [as is the German Shepherd's] and the backline remains strong and firm. If the trot is too short, it indicates a shoulder that is too straight. The gallop is in long strides as he flexes his muscular back. He will frequently use the amble as a change of pace.

It is often said the Briard must have the "shepherd's gait" (l'allure bergère). It is difficult to describe or define well. We can say that it is a shepherd dog's way of walking, made of suppleness and in which the length appears elastic. It gives the impression that the animal glides along, without touching the ground. It is only when observed that this is understood well.

Strong, flexible movement is essential to the sheep dog. He is above all a trotter, occasionally galloping and he frequently needs to change his speed to accomplish his work. His conformation must be harmoniously balanced and strong to sustain him in the long day's work. Dogs with clumsy or inelegant gait must be penalized.

**CHARACTER**

Although a dog of handsome form, it is his character that endears the Briard to all who know him. He is a dog of heart, with spirit and initiative. Intelligent, faithful, gentle and obedient, the Briard possesses an excellent memory and an ardent desire to please his master. He retains a high degree of his ancestral instinct to guard home and master. Although he is reserved with strangers, he is loving and loyal to those he knows. Some will display a certain independence.

Bad temperamnet can be transmitted by heredity and it is necessary to reject from breeding the hypernervous!

The Briard reflects a mildness or sweetness in his nature and his fundamental qualities of loyalty, devotion, obedience, spirit, vigilance and courage, combine to give him the mentally well-balanced, "sage-hard" (wise-fearless) character of the perfect shepherd. Endowed with a remarkable number of fine qualities, he is truly an admirable servant and devoted companion of man.

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ELABORATION - continued
My attention was first attracted to this very ancient French breed (tracing back over four hundred years and being one of the progenitors of the German shepherd) by my uncle, the sculptor, who always kept one at his chateau in Normandy and who, a few years ago, obtained one in this country with great difficulty, for use as a model in his monument commemorating the battle of Marne. This uncle suggested that as I had achieved a certain measure of success in breeding chows, "the most magnificent of the canine tribe", I should try my hand at Briards, "the most intelligent, faithful and devoted."
Accordingly my canine search abroad two years ago included two weeks in France on the trail of the Briard. I first satisfied myself as to the breed's desirability, and this was not difficult. It is the dog of all work in many of the rural districts, herding the cattle, churning the butter, drawing the milk cart, watching the babies, and doing countless tasks which an intelligent farm dog can find to perform. But the outstanding quality which clinched the deal was the almost human intelligence and saint-like devotion of the Briard to his master. Collies and Newfoundlands must make a place beside themselves for this new French emigrant with his bizarre appearance, fierce moustache and divine devotion. The Briard has the intelligence of the shepherd, minus that quality which in an ill-trained one we "do not choose" to have.

In appearance the Briard is probably the weirdest dog of all. Smear his face and his huge feet with phosphorus and turn him loose at night and a superstitious countryside would be convinced of the return of Conan Doyle's "Hound of the Baskervilles."

The Briard is a big fellow, tall, gaunt, heavily boned, with beautiful angulation and the most graceful gait when trotting or running that one could imagine. He fairly ripples as he skims over the ground. In appearance he is midway between an Irish Wolfhound and an Old English sheepdog, of the latter of which he is probably an ancestor.

The breed in France is very rare. During the war it barely escaped extermination, and but for the devoted allegiance of one woman, who maintained the only sizable kennel in the country through this tragic period, it might have practically ceased to exist in its pure state. There are, of course, thousands of unregistered dogs scattered over the farms throughout France, but of the simon-pure strain during the war there existed but little. Since the war, however, interest in the Briard has revived tremendously and today is decidedly the mode. One sees chic ladies strolling in the Bois, accompanied by a big shambling Briard, safer by far than any masculine escort.

Mistinguette, favorite of musical comedy, takes her daily ride with a big Briard sitting gravely beside her liveried chauffeur. On Foreign ambassadors has a magnificent (cause [tan] dog which I gazed at covetously through the iron grill of his estate, knowing that American dollars would not buy him.

It is extremely difficult for an American to buy a good Briard in France. It seems to be the one country where a man's love for his dog transcends his desire for the filthy lucre. Countless times, after running down a clue to a good dog, I was politely told on finding the animal and his owner: "Il n'est pas a vendre, Monsieur." (He is not for sale, sir.) And that ended it. Would there be any puppies for sale later on? Perhaps, but one could not say for sure, and, besides, so many friends had already spoken.

But for a chance acquaintance with a very charming French lady, the finest type of sportswoman, whose wirehaired fox terriers are international champions, whose Favorolelle chickens are first at all the shows and whose herd of Normandaise cattle is one of the best in France, I would still be searching in vain.

From her I purchased at a ridiculous price, because she was anxious to have me start the breed in America, two puppies, sired by the greatest dog in France. The male died the first year of running fits; the female died this summer of sunstroke during our hellish hot weather. In the interim a bitch in whelp arrived and in due course seven puppies appeared - the first litter born in America.* Three perished in the heat, but the four remaining, Dr. de Mund has one, Miss Hoppin, two; and I, the fourth. I was also able to import a very fine young dog (see cover illustration), a winner abroad, and in the opinion of several French and German canine experts here who knew the breed abroad, one of the best they had ever seen. His first litter of puppies will soon be here, Miss Hoppin having bred her excellent bitch to him, thus claiming the honor of the first American-bred Briards.*

There are probably not over a dozen Briards in America; that is, pedigreed ones, for some were brought back by the boys from France. A club has been formed to sponsor the breed, and it has been admitted to registration in the A.K.C.

Mr. Harold Ober is President of the Club; yours truly, Vice-President; and Miss Hoppin, Secretary-Treasurer.

To one living in the country, whether on a farm or an estate, I can recommend the Briard. He is not a kennel dog and cannot be made one. He revels in the society of his master, and must have it or he will sicken and die, but one seeking a loyal, devoted, affectionate friend will look no further than this odd-looking, distinguished-looking, big hearted Frenchman.

General Appearance—A working dog, lithe, muscular, and well proportioned; alert and active in movement.

Height—Dogs, 23 to 27 inches; bitches, 22 to 25½ inches. Young dogs may be below the minimum.

Head—Large and rather long, stop well marked and placed equal distance from the top of the head and the end of the nose; forehead slightly rounded; muzzle straight, neither narrow nor pointed; nose more square than round, always black. Teeth strong, white, and meeting exactly even. Eyes, horizontal, well opened, dark, and rather large, intelligent and gentle in expression. Beard and moustache of long hair, and eyebrows which stand out, partly veiling the eyes; ears placed high, rather small and carried up; with the tips turned over, never close to the head.

Conformation—Neck muscular and distinct from the shoulders; chest broad and deep, and placed low; back straight, with hindquarters slightly sloped. Legs muscular, with heavy bones, placed squarely under the dog's body. Hock not too near the ground and bent, the leg below the hock being almost vertical.

Tail—Uncut, well feathered, with a small curl at the end, carried low and should reach to the point of the hock.

(*Please refer to "Notes from Briard History", page 21)
Feet--Strong, round, with toes close together and hard pads; nails black.

Coat--Long (average at shoulder, two and one-half inches) wavy, hard.

Color--All solid colors allowed except white; dark colors are preferable. Usual colors: black, and black with some white hairs; dark and light grey; fawn and fawn touched with black on ears and muzzle.

Dewclaws--Two dewclaws on each hind leg are required. A dog with only one can be given nothing higher than a mention.

Faults--Muzzle pointed; eyes small, almond shaped or light in color; hindquarters too high, or too sloping. Any white on the breast - a large white spot is very bad. Tail too short, or carried high or curled over the back. Nails white.

Disqualifications--Size below the limit; absence of dewclaws; short hair on the head or feet; tail lacking or cut; end of nose light; hair tightly curled; white hair on the feet; spotted coat.

Our sincere thanks to Janis Charbonneau for sharing this early description of the Briard in America with us.

NOTES FROM BRIARD HISTORY

During the early years of the B.C.A., there was considerable debate as to who had imported the first Briards to this country. Since that time, it has been learned that Thomas Jefferson imported Briards to this country as early as 1789. Mr. Jefferson's notes and letters indicate he may have been the first, in cooperation with the DuPonts and the Marquis de Lafayette.

Timothy Jacobs, bred by Barbara Danielson, has often been reported as the first Briard to be registered with A.K.C., probably because he was whelped in 1922. However, that is not the case, since Timothy was not registered by his owner, Mrs. George Jacobs, until about the age of 8, when he sired his first litter. Mrs. Danielson's litter is the earliest known, from which a dog would be registered.

A.K.C. lists the first Briard to be registered as Dauphine de Montjoye, imported and owned by Miss Frances Hoppin and later owned by Mrs. Harold Ober. Dauphine was imported in 1925, which could make her the first of modern-day Briards to come to this country and be registered. Mr. MacMonnies indicates in his 1928 article that his first pair was imported in 1926. Neither was registered.

The question will probably never be answered, since those who were active in the breed at that time were not able to come to any agreement. Credit must be given to each of the early fanciers; the Harold Obers, Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. Danielson, Miss Hoppin and Mr. MacMonnies for their contributions to establish the Briard in this country and have the breed entered on the A.K.C. rolls.
OUR THANKS TO JUDGES:
MR. DONALD BOOBEAM
DR. RICHARD GREATHOUSE
MR. WILLIAM HARVEY
MR. ARNOLD WOOLF

CH, MATADOR CHEZ PHYDEAU; CD
CH, IKE DE VASOY
CH, FRANCOIS DE LA BOURRIDE
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CH, RECHERCH DE CHARLEMAINE
CH, JASANTE DE NORMANDY
CH, MISS, U.S.A. DE CHARLEMAINE

5 OF PRISSY'S LITTERMATES ARE POINTED AT THIS DATE!

CHUCKLIN KENNELS, 432 Industry Road, Rootstown OH 44272
ROGER TAYLOR AND LINDA HYSELL

APRIL 1980

"NO DOGS ALLOWED"

BY DEE SCHMIDT

"No Dogs Allowed" - you see the sign in Parks, Motels, on Beaches and even Fairgrounds. At a recent dog show there was the same old sign, "No Dogs Allowed." A nice, large metal sign, riveted to the main gate to the fairgrounds. Of course, the rule had been suspended for the day. Who ever heard of a dog show where no dogs are allowed? Why are so many people "turned off" on dogs? Why do so many people dislike, even to the point of trying to enact legislation, the Dog Fancy? Did you ever wonder why? You, the breeder-neighbor-owner, are the best (and only) Public Relations Agent in your neighborhood and your county for the dog fancy. This is a big responsibility - along with all the others inherent in serious breeding.

Many people, both young and old, enjoy our parks and beaches. It is not fun to walk in dog droppings on one's way to the slide or sand dunes. It is not educational for un-supervised children to see dogs mating in the park or on the beach. Pooper-scoopers and leashes were invented to be used, not left at home. Educate your puppy buyers regarding responsible pet ownership. Your puppy buyers' actions are a reflection on your attitude.

Many of us travel with our dogs. I usually call ahead to the motel (or campground, or RV park) to make reservations. I tell them I will have "X" number of dogs with me, and that I will be entirely responsible for them. I offer to pay for any damages, if they occur (I have never had this problem yet). I stress my dogs are always on leash and I carry my pooper-scooper and large disposable plastic bags for clean-ups with me at all times. My show dogs have had varying degrees of obedience training and are gentlemen (or ladies) when meeting strangers. Leave it to a well-behaved, polite and lovely show dog to win the hearts of even the most crotchety motel managers and hesitant strangers. It's a good way to meet prospective buyers too. Remember, you represent the Dog Fancy wherever you go. You and your dogs, intentionally or otherwise, have a high visibility to the general public.

Dog shows are another example of both responsible and irresponsible breeders, owners, and exhibitors. I've seen exhibitors allow their dogs to leave their droppings on the fairgrounds, leaving the odoriferous mess for the sanitary crews to clean up. I've seen exhibitors allow their dogs to lift their legs on other people's crates (with dogs in the crate, yet), on jackets, purses, etc. Then of course, there are always clouds of fur and powder wafting by on the gentle breezes. Most of us are not guilty - but it is our responsibility to make our fellow exhibitors more conscious of the impression they are creating. I'm not talking about the professional handlers, or the setup people, exercise pens and grooming areas and keeping them clean. I'm talking about the few exhibitors who are making a bad name for all of us. We are the Dog Fancy and we are responsible for our image.
How does your neighborhood feel about your dogs or your kennel? Are your neighbors friendly, uncaring, or absolutely hostile? Have you had complaints about excessive barking or odors? If so, it is up to you to correct this situation. Responsible breeders/owners clean and disinfect daily - it makes for healthier dogs - and there is never an odor complaint. Responsible breeders/owners kennel their dogs at night and keep them quiet. If necessary, they keep them in the house at night. No barking problems here. Simple consideration will go a long way in improving relations with your neighbors.

All puppies have to be socialized. Perhaps inviting the neighborhood kids in to help in this phase (cautioning them to be careful with young puppies and always supervising these visits) would be a good idea. If you have a large kennel, you may want to hire neighborhood children to help clean-up and train. Also, you could occasionally walk or work your dogs in the front yard or in the neighborhood. This is a good way to get to know your neighbors better, while at the same time letting them see and get to know what lovely and well-mannered dogs you have. Their impression of dogs and the Dog Fancy will be based mainly on their association with you and your dogs.

You, as individual breeders, exhibitors, or owners, represent the Dog Fancy at all times. You and your dogs are always highly visible to others. Your impact on Society will either enhance or harm the Fancy. It is up to you. (An ADOA News Release, January, 1980)

THOUGHTS ON HYPOTHYROIDISM

ELLYN B. SAUNDERS, V.M.D.

For over four years, Dr. Saunders has been researching Briard thyroid activity, seeking to determine the average thyroid levels of the Breed and how it relates to the levels, recognized as normal in the average sized, 30# dog. Her studies have indicated that these levels are lower in the Briard, and other large breeds, although whether this can be considered as "normal" is not definitely established. We owe a vote of thanks to Dr. Saunders for taking time from her busy schedule to write the following article, which will be of interest to Briarders and veterinarians involved with our breed. Ed.

What is hypothyroidism? By definition it is decreased function of the thyroid gland. Clinically it is not that simple. In some cases a problem exists in the pituitary thyroid axis. For some reason, thyroid stimulating hormone (T.S.H.) is not reaching the target cells of the thyroid. It may be a lack of TSH production, or an abnormal TSH, or even an inability of cells to recognize and utilize the TSH.

In another group of dogs, TSH production is quantitatively and qualitatively adequate, but thyroid cells are lacking either due to infection or inflammation, which in some cases is immune mediated (auto-immune disease).

Other dogs will show adequate blood levels of T3 and/or T4 but are unable to convert one form to the other, or may, for some unknown reason, be unable to utilize the levels present.

Can these different forms be identified clinically? For the most part, yes, but the testing procedures may be difficult and expensive, and for some of the tests, normal values have not been established. More on testing later.

What does our hypothyroid dog look like clinically? The text book presentation is that of an obese, lethargic dog, constantly seeking out warm areas. This dog has a poor or non-existent coat, dry, flaky skin, and pustules. Lack of estrus in females and decreased libido in males is also encountered.

What we see clinically may be any, all, or none of the above. Allow me to present some hypothetical cases to illustrate the point.

Case 1 - Complaint: Obese dog on minimal intake.
Examination: Marked obesity; slight ceruminous (oily) otitis.

Increase sebum (scale) production on preen area of tail. Good coat. Normal estrus and breeding history.
Lab confirms hypothyroid - Patient responds to treatment - Owner realizes the dog was previously lethargic.
HYPOTHYROIDISM - continued

What about therapy? The greatest percentage of dogs do well on L-Thyroxin, a small percentage do better on sodium iodothyronine, and some dogs seem to need both. A very small percentage of dogs do not appear able to utilize either of these and, at the discretion of the veterinarian in charge of the case, may be tried on thyroid extract, TSH, desiccated thyroid or combined hormone therapy in order to achieve the desired clinical response.

Some breeds are recognized as having an increased incidence of thyroid related problems. Whether this includes the Briard is still open to debate.

I have seen hypothyroid Briards with coat problems and some with breeding problems. On the other hand, I have seen and tested many Briards which I feel are euthyroid (normal thyroid).

If I utilize overall canine values, most Briard blood samples are low. If I modify my normal values for giant breeds, in general, and Briards specifically, only a small percentage of Briards are blood value hypothyroid.

When considering dogs with less textbook hypothyroidism, certainly any dog with skin, coat, or breeding problems for which an obvious cause cannot be found, should be considered as potentially hypothyroid until proven otherwise. If one test is inconclusive, wait a few weeks and repeat, or consider TSH stimulation.

MAT REMOVAL MADE EASIER

Spring is a time when those tough-to-remove mats appear, even in coats of excellent texture. These can be removed without making your dog miserable - and without cutting, if you are patient.

Hold the mat between your fingers, more toward the tip of the hair than the base. Gently, but firmly, pull the mat apart sideways, loosening it from tip to base (much as you loosen one of those tight knots, youngsters can put in their shoelaces). If you can separate the mat into two or more parts and repeat the process on each section, you will find that the mat breaks up and can be brushed off rather easily.

Puppies tend to mat more than adults, especially when the puppy coat begins to change to the adult coat. At that time, it is wise to brush through the coat every day or so, until this stage has passed. It certainly is much less effort than the mat removal you (and the dog) will face, if you let the coat go for a week or more.

ELLYN B. SAUNDERS, V. M. D.
DERMATOLOGY - CLINICAL IMMUINOLOGY
FALCON PLAZA - PIKE STREET EXTENSION
P. O. BOX 585 - CANONSBURG, PA. 15317
HELP! - HELP! - HELP! - HELP! - HELP! - HELP! - HELP! -

THE BCA WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO ITS STATISTICAL RECORDS. MANY OF YOU CAN HELP. PLEASE TRY TO COMPLETE AS MUCH OF THE FOLLOWING FORM AS POSSIBLE FOR ANY TITLED DOGS YOU HAVE OWNED. WITH ENOUGH RESPONSE, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RECOGNIZE THOSE DOGS WHICH HAVE ACHIEVED SPECIAL DISTINCTIONS AND FIRSTS FOR OUR BREED AND WILL PROVIDE STATISTICAL RECORDS BCA SHOULD KEEP.

I HOPE THAT EVERYONE WILL TRY TO SUPPLY AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY ON OLDER DOGS AND DOGS OF THE PAST, BEFORE THESE DATA ARE LOST. IF YOU HAVE A PHOTO OF THE DOG THAT YOU COULD SEND FOR CLUB FILES, IT WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED.

DAVID BEHRENS
STATISTICIAN

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PLEASE COMPLETE ONE FORM FOR EACH TITLED DOG AND SEND TO:
DAVID BEHRENS, 1309 S. LLOYD, LOMBARD, IL 60148

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Please include the following information (attach additional sheets if necessary.)
LE BEAUCHIEN BRIARDS
announces
"R-LITTER"
Out of Le Beauchien's Majolique (Moka) and
Champion Pa' Chick's My Le Beauchien (Meshack)
BLACKS & TAWNIES
INQUIRIES INVITED
LE BEAUCHIEN BRIARDS • MARIE AND MONROE KOKIN
318 WINDSOR ROAD • ROBBINSVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08691
(609) 448-9472

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Meg Weitz sends us this news on her black bitch Acteon Faience of Antigo (Nina). On January 19 & 20th at the North Shore and Greater Lowell shows, Nina got back to work after motherhood and picked up two legs toward her C.D. with scores of 180 and 183. The week before, Nina received a 194 in Novice X and Y combined at an obedience match which was good for 2nd in the class.

Christine Duval is proud of her black puppy bitch Pleine Vitesse de Strathcona. Vitesse, which means Full Speed Ahead, went to a Fun Match put on by the Kingston & District Kennel Club on February 17th and was best briald puppy. She then went on to take a group 1 in the puppy working group.

Bob Kessler is justifiably proud of his Ch. Rejou Turquoise de Capucine's recent Group performance. Turquoise took a Group 3 under Mrs. Helen Wittrig at the recent San Diego show. He then took two Group Ones on the same weekend: one under Mr. Rex Vandeventer at Sequoia on 3-28 and another under Mr. Ken Peterson at Kern County on 3-30. Turquoise is handled by Brian Phillips.

We have been requested to report who people can contact in the regional clubs for information on what is happening in their area. This is the information we have available: Great Lakes Briard Boosters - Kam Pelham, Secretary, 1025 Cady Court, Lansing, Mich. 48906; North Central Briarders - Sue Erickson, Secretary, Rt. 5 Box 145, Mankato, MN. 56001; Atlantic States Briard Club - Fran Davis, President, 915 Buttonwood Trail, Crownsville, MD 21032.

NEW TITLE HOLDERS

CH. PHYEDEAUX OH SUSANNAH, C.D., T.D.
Genevieve, owned and handled by Karen Farkes, finished her championship with back to back majors at the Boardwalk and Camden Kennel Club shows. She was sired by Ch. Bellesprit Midnight Cowboy out of Ch. Phydeaux Usheba des Bergers.

CH. PAPILLON DE TIERRA DE ORO
Pappy, owned and handled by Mike & Cheryl Foote, finished his championship at 11 months with all majors on January 20th.

CH. CHUCKLIN PRINCESSE DE VALET
Frisssy, owned by Roger Taylor, finished her championship just over 7 months old. She is believed to be the youngest Briard to finish a championship. Her sire is Ch. Chateauabriard Jokerswld, C.D. out of Ch. Lorriane de La Croix.

CH. FIANCE LE D'OR DE BEAUXJOLIS, C.D.X.
Fiance, owned and trained by Virginia Schaefer, finished his C.D.X. at the Pontiac Kennel Club show on January 20th.

PUPPY CORNER

Bob & Shirley Kessler have tawny puppies, 2 females - 1 male, show prospects. The puppies were whelped in early December and their sire is Ch. Rejou Turquoise de Capucine and the dam is Ch. Capucine de Beauchjolis.

Janice Millis has one black female, show prospect, who was whelped in early December. The sire is Ch. Nestor de L'Eminence and the dam is Chateauabriard Papillon.

Dave & Wendy Tooker have one black puppy who was whelped in early December. The sire is Ch. Manny's O'Yello and the dam is Ch. Le Beauchien Marie Ange.

Tom & Regina Keiter have a litter of tawny puppies who were whelped in early January. The sire of the litter is Stonehill's I'm Hector and the dam is Ch. Phydeaux Linda Lovelace.

Monroe & Marie Kokin have a litter of black & tawny puppies who were whelped March 7th. The sire of the litter is Ch. Pa'Chick's My Le Beauchien and the dam is Le Beauchien's Majolique.

Jerry & Stephanie Katz are expecting a black & tawny litter on March 10th. The sire of the litter is Can. Ch. & O.T. Ch. Silvermoon La Joie De Vivre, Am./Can. U.D. and the dam is Ch. Uziz Akshanit de Strathcona.

Peggy Ravandal is expecting a black and tawny litter on March 24th. The sire of the litter is Beau Cheval's Dr. Zhivago and the dam is Chateauabriard Odette.

SHOW REPORTS

11/25/79 - Springfield K.C. - j EdeHraud Laurin
BOB Ch. Nestor de L'Eminence (June Shew)
BOS Ch. Chateauabriard Nellie (Ken & Cece Collins)
WD,BOW 3 pts. PQ de Ranchet (Ken & Cece Collins)
WB 3 pts. Bejdune Omnia d'Charlemagne (Michael Greenberg)

12/22/79 - Philadelphia K.C.
BOB Ch. Phydeaux What's Happenin (Mary Lou Tingley & IRA Ackerson)
WD St. Briard's Mart Kelly (Hank & Pif Collins & Dave McCurley)

1/5/80 - Land O'Lakes K.C. - j Mr. Ayers - e 3-4-1
WD,BW 3 pts., BOB Laurdeen's Maxmillian, C.D. (Gerrie Miner)
BOS Ch. Fille D'Abbaye, C.D. (Jane Beahan)
WB 3 pts. O'Molly O'Malley Chien de Sel (Sue Erickson & Bobby McGee)
1/6/80 - St. Croix Valley K.C. - j Helen Miller Fisher - e 3-4-1
BOB Ch. Fille d'Abbaye, C.D.
WD 2 pts., BOS Berger du Nord's Nightmare, C.D.
WB 3 pts., BW Chien de Sel Over the Rainbow (Sue Erickson)

1/19/80 - North Shore K.C. - j Anna Mae Forsberg
BOB Ch. Nestor de L'Eminence
WD Page de Couteau d'Avranches (Bev & Curt Rowse)
WB, BOS Perrier de L'Eminence (June Shew)

1/19/80 - Wheaton K.C. - j Mr. Peterson - e 3-0-1
BOB Ch. Stonehill's I'M Bogie (Rob Ferber)
WD 2 pts. Stonehill's I'm Nikolas (Richard Birkholz & Gerry Adolphus)

1/20/80 - Greater Lowell - j Mr. Braithwaite - e 2-4-3
BOB Ch. Nestor de L'Eminence (Group 2)
WD, WB, BOS Little Whooki, C.D., T.D. (Julie Treinis)
WB, BOS Perrier de L'Eminence

1/20/80 - Pontiac K.C. - j Mr. Harvey - e 7-5-5
BOB Ch. Stonehill's I'm Bogie
WD 5 pts., BOS Papillon De Tierra De Oro (Mike & Cheryl Foote)
WB 4 pts., BOS Chucklin Princesse De Valet (Roger Taylor)

3/9/80 - Detroit K.C. - j Mrs. von Thaden - e 7-6-6
BOB Ch. Chateaubriard L'Oreal Un (Leila & Bill Rittmaster)
BOS Ch. Notre Magic Genie De Lindeau (Linda Bullard & Linda Wells)
WD 5 pts., BW Otto Hayes Jr. du 1e Loup D'or (Frank Janca & Virginia Schaefer)
WB 4 pts. Pleine Vitesse de Strathcona (Christine Duval)

Due to the increased cost of printing, only show reports with major point wins will be printed in the upcoming issues.

Please send your news to me at: 25743 Culver, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081. (313-772-3897)
Susan McCormick

A.K.C. DELEGATE'S REPORT

Little business of any consequence took place at the September, 1979 Quarterly Meeting, other than in the area of proposed amendments to Field Trial Rules governing the pointing breeds.

Report of the December, 1979 Quarterly Meeting -

There was a great deal of business at this meeting and the following is a condensation of said business. A complete report appeared in the January, 1980 GAZETTE.

The following amendments are under consideration relative to Dog Show Rules:

a) To allow dogs that finish (by the owners' calculations) to be transferred to the BOB competition, at shows where they have been entered in a regular class, by completing a "Transfer of Entry" form at the show where the transfer of entry is to be made, but prior to the start of judging at the show. A dog that was transferred into BOB competition can not earn any championship points at that show.

b) The awarding of championship points: If Winners Dog or Bitch is also awarded Best of Breed or Variety, the dogs of both sexes that it has defeated in BOB competition shall be counted in addition to the Regular Class competition in calculating championship points; if WD or WB is also awarded WD, the dogs of its own sex that it has defeated in competition for BOS shall be counted in addition to Regular Class competition in calculating championship points; the dog awarded Best of Winners shall be credited with the number of points calculated for WD or WB, whichever is greater. No dog would earn more points than under present rules, except by beating champions.

Report of the Special Committee to Examine Delegate Election Procedures; Considerations and Conclusions -

a) Considerations: Member clubs should continue to nominate proposed Delegates, and Delegates should be approved by vote of their peers; there is a need for a system which will provide the greatest probability of electing the best qualified nominees and a need to provide a reasonable degree of protection to the individual nominee whose qualifications may be disputed by giving an opportunity to said nominee to present a case against the objection(s); the issue before the committee is to arrive at the best election system in such a way that the best interests of the majority are properly served.

b) Conclusions and Recommendations: When a Delegate voices an objection to a Delegate Candidate, the candidate will automatically be voted on at the next regular Delegates' Meeting; all Delegate Candidates whom no objections has been voiced can be voted upon at that meeting by voice vote; when an objection occurs as to a nominee, the procedure will be to give anyone objecting to the nomination a specified number of days within which to file written objection with AKC. The AKC would advise the proposed candidate and his Club of the specifics of the objections(s) without naming the objector, and the Club and the candidate would respond in writing within a given period. All objection(s) and responses would be reviewed by a committee that was elected by the Delegate body and approved by the Board of Directors. Said Committee Report was adopted by the Delegates.
AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT

Relative to Show Policy modifications with respect to the energy situation, cluster shows (2 or more shows held on a given site on consecutive days) are being approved on a regular basis. Also, AKC is encouraging the limiting of breed assignments to group judges by specifically assigning 125 and not more than 150 dogs to those judges who are judging groups. This method of assignment would enable the groups to start no later than 3 PM and thus shows could end at approximately 6 PM.

At this juncture, I would like to say that I will for the most part, confine my reporting to those issues that would affect the BCA, its members and activities. Occasionally I will cite changes that are taking place in other areas as a matter of interest, to give you a more rounded picture of what is taking place at 51 Madison Avenue...

The proposed Field Trial amendments are noteworthy for several reasons: A dog's behavior has become a paramount issue in judging performance; also, with all the "free" professional status among handlers, amateur status is being spelled out more carefully --- will we see similar amendments in our Dog Show Rules? It gives us something to think about.

The following amendments are under consideration relative to the Field Trial Rules.

a) Eligibility of individuals to handle dogs in Amateur Stakes;
b) Appointment of additional judges by a club before the first day of a trial;
c) A statement that is under judgement will be considered adverse behavior. Upon three (3) such reports a dog is not eligible to be entered or to compete in any licensed trial.

O UR BREED IS INCREASING substantially in the face of declining registrations of other breeds----!

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF DELEGATES - March 11, 1980

One of the highlights of this meeting was the presentation, by the officers and members of the Board of AKC, of a Resolution to Norman Brown, President of the Canadian Kennel Club, in recognition of his contributions and services to pure-bred dogs in both Canada and the U.S. Mr. Brown was present to accept the Resolution. He will retire in April, 1980 after 50 active years with CKC.

An annual meeting always brings forth the accomplishments, statistical facts and the prospering growth of an organization and AKC is by no means an exception.

The number of dogs and litters registered during 1979 actually declined by 1.1%. During 1979, 42 litters of Briards were registered as compared to 47 in 1978. 246 individual dogs were registered as compared to 232 in 1978. The Briard now stands in 95th place (97th in 1978) on individual registrations, out of 124 breeds.

AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT continued

The Treasurer's report was enlightening to the extent that there is a bottom-line surplus of $950,000+, but with the rate of inflation as it is and will be, the AKC foresees a deficit in the very near future. This will warrant a review of fees, etc.

This year has brought forth many changes in Dog Show Rules, the most current being the amendments voted upon at this meeting, relative to Chapter 6, Sec. 13 and Chapter 15, Sec. 6. An outline of these amendments appears in the report of the December meeting.

Cluster shows are increasing. In 1978 there were 12 cluster shows involving 39 clubs; in 1979 there were 37 cluster shows with 60 clubs. So far in 1980 50 clubs have applied for cluster shows involving 100 clubs.

Other 1979 mentionables are The Dog Show Manual, the first TDX tracking Title was awarded; interviews with judges wishing additional breeds has been most successful; Cornell has released a film on gastroenteritis; there is a new Parvo Virus vaccine called Parvovax; June Harrah's complete collection of pure bred dogs (in bronze) is on display at 51 Madison Ave. I went in to see them - they are absolutely beautiful.

The Annual Report of the President of AKC, Mr. William Stifel, describes the past year and the President also made some interesting comments on "Consistency in Judging". The highlights of his comment are included here and the complete report will be in the April 1980 GAZETTE.

"During the last year, there has been considerable discussion of the concept of consistency in judging, and I would like to speak on this subject. At dog shows... the field representatives... are to look primarily for proper ring procedure and control, knowledge of the rules, and consistency in selection - assuming of course, that the entry includes enough quality of a particular type to make this possible.

"The key words here are "assuming the entry includes enough quality of a particular type". When a breed has been well judged given enough dogs, the ringside will generally agree that it has been well judged because they have been able to discern a logic in the judge's decisions. They see a pattern in the judge's selecting certain types within the breed. Nothing the judge do is completely unexpected. There are no real surprises.

"However, that is not to say that there is anything wrong with a surprise, per se, or anything wrong with being different. Not long ago, it was suggested to the Kennel Club in England that the start keeping records on judges so that their current decisions could be compared against earlier decisions, and also against the decisions of others; when a judge seemed to have done something unusual or irregular, it was proposed that he should be given the opportunity to justify himself. I think it is important for you to know that this is not the direction in which AKC is traveling."

(Mr. Stifel's comments continued next page)
"To make an issue of 'irregular' judging would be to encourage a weakness of the very sort that we would hope to eliminate. Dogs are not judged on how they looked last week or yesterday or even in the previous class. They are not judged on who bred them or who owns them or how they were placed by another judge. To instill a fear of the unusual, to warn judges against the pitfalls of being different, would be to encourage judges to seek always a safe decision, rather than the right one. Puppies would never go Winners. Class dogs would never beat champions. There is a general broad consensus on what constitutes a good dog, but obviously, instead of warning judges in sorting dogs out, not to be different, emphasis should be put on simply judging dogs objective as judges see them - as the dogs are brought to them in the ring on that day."

Mr. Stiffel had many other worthwhile things to report. You will want to read the transcript of his report in the GAZETTE.

All in all, AKC has had a prosperous year and has served the fancy well.

Respectfully submitted,
June Shew, Delegate

C.E.R.F. NEEDS HELP & BRIARDS NEED C.E.R.F.

The Canine Eye Registration Foundation, Inc. has been named as a defendant in an anti-trust suit brought by D.A. Rickards, MRCVS and other veterinarians. This suit challenges CERF's decision to use only the examination information provided by veterinarians who are members of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. THE SUIT HAS THE STATED AIM OF DESTROYING COMPLETELY CERF's ORGANIZATION AND ITS PROGRAMS.

You are aware that because of the threats which preceded the actual filing of this lawsuit, CERF discontinued its registration program. CERF hopes to be able to continue to collect, analyze and publish data on hereditary canine eye diseases and also to once again provide the registration services. UNLESS CERF IS ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY DEFEND AGAINST WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE A MERITLESS LAWSUIT, they will not be able to resume the registry and may be unable to collect and provide statistical information.

YOU CAN HELP IN TWO WAYS:
1) LETTERS - CERF will appreciate your expressions of support of CERF and CERF's programs
2) MONEY - CERF is a charitable, tax-exempt and non-profit organization. They do not have the financial means to contest the claims against it. Your contributions are needed and will be greatly appreciated. Contributions should be payable to CERF. THEY ARE TAX-DEDUCTABLE.

Send letters and donations to: C.E.R.F. Inc., P.O. Box 15095 Station A, San Francisco, CA 94125.
NEW BRIARD CHAMPION

CHAMPION PAPILLON DE TIERRA DE ORO (dog)

Owners: Cheryl and Mike Foote  Breeder: Dallas Meggitt and Ann Lisa Alderman

Championship: January 20, 1980
Whelped: February 13, 1979

Sire: Ch. Ugolin des Joyeux Lutins de la Seave
Papeline de la Bardonvillgre
Ch. Uhey Chien de Grand Coeur

Dam: Ch. Miel Melos de Strathcona
Ch. Uziz Akshanit de Strathcona

Judge: Mr. William Harvey  Handled by owner

APRIL 1980

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

JOIN IN THE FUN
YOUR BRIARD COULD BE A "CALENDAR DOG"

Each year the B.C.A. holds a photography contest. The winning photos are used to make the B.C.A. calendar and some are printed in the DEW CLAW. All entries will be displayed at the Annual Meeting Banquet in August. START TAKING PHOTOS NOW, or see if your favorite photo of your favorite Briard fits the requirements.

CONTEST REGULATIONS
1. Black and white or color photos accepted - black and white is preferred.
2. All photos must be positive prints - 8 X 10 preferred.
3. The Briard should be the focal point of the photograph.
4. Limit your entry to no more than three photos.
5. Identify each photo on the back with entrant's name and address. (Ball point pen can mar your photo so write along the edge.)

CONTEST DEADLINE: AUGUST 5, 1980

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

HELPFUL HINTS:
1. Photographs should capture the Briard as he really is at home or at play - no show photos please.
2. Since the winning photos will be reproduced, it is VERY IMPORTANT to have good light/dark contrast (A light dog against a dark background - a dark dog against a light background - there must be highlights in the dark dog's coat).
3. Winners will be selected on subject matter and artistic form. However, reproductive qualities must also be considered.
4. Larger photos will reproduce better. If the printer must enlarge them, they lose quality and contrast. This can be avoided by making enlargements from the original negative before submitting the photo. (Photos larger than 8 X 10 are often damaged in the mail.)

DON'T DELAY- Entries must be received by August 5!
STUD DOG COLUMN

CH. JABOT LE BONHEUR D'HTE COUTURE, CD, black, 5/10/74. CERF 132/78-5.
Sire: Ch. Soleil d'Or de Marha. Dam: Vicki Chien de Grand Coeur. Rated Excellent, Rassemblement '76. Owner: Frances Taylor, 2612 Starkweather Road, Rockford, IL 61107. Phone: 815/398-8938. (12/80)


Stud Dog Column listings are $10 per year or $2 per issue for up to five lines of information. Send to the Editor and make checks payable to the Briard Club.

LOOKING FOR PUPPIES

CALIFORNIA: Bob Kessler, 815 Bronze Ln., Los Angeles, 90048
1 Tawny female (show) whelped Dec. 213-476-6747

CONNECTICUT: Cece Collins, 75 Inwood Rd., Darien, CT 06820
Tawny males (show) Whelped April 203-655-8886
Meg Weitz, P.O. Box 264, Rt. 44, Abington, 06230
Black pups whelped early March 203-974-3211

INDIANA: Jan Mills, 201 Wallace Ave, Crawfordsville, 47933
Tawnies (show) whelped Dec. 317-362-0700

MASSACHUSETTS: Marguerite Provencher, 105 Lake St., Haverhill, 01830
Tawnies due April 1 617-374-8767

MONTANA: Peggy Ravandal, P.O. Box 465, Anaconda, MT 59711
Blacks-Tawnies whelped late March 406-563-7785

NEW JERSEY: Marie & Monroe Kokin, P.O. Box 465, Anaconda, MT 59711
Blacks-Tawnies whelped late March 406-563-7785

Ruth Monast, Box 125 Church Rd., Toms River, 08753
Tawnies expected in May 201-244-9732
Dave & Wendy Tooker, 67 Irongate Lane, Matawan 07747
1 black female (show) born Dec. 201-583-9568

PENNSYLVANIA: Regina Keither, Oakwood Acres, Birchwood Dr., Tannersville, 18372 - Tawnies born Feb. 717-629-3315