AIM: To present responsible information for the advancement of the Breed and the Club. Articles and comments do not necessarily represent the views of the Club.

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567 South Street
Rosindale, MA 02131
(617) 325 - 6511

Contributions of appropriate articles, news, and viewpoints are welcomed and will be published as space permits. The editor reserves the right to edit articles to conform to space limitation, clarity, or to avoid liability.

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ADVERTISING RATES (MEMBERS): $30/page (one photo). $15/half-page. Additional Photos $7.50 each. Special features photos of new AKC titles will be printed without charge as space permits.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: $12/year payable in US funds only.
March 18, 1991

Dear Fellow Briarders,

In just a few months some of us (hopefully many of us) will have the privilege of participating in the events that will fill the 1991 Specialty and Rassemblement week. Although plans are not finalized yet, you will get from this issue of the Dew Claw an idea of how we will spend that first week in August!

Rassemblements take place only once every four or five years, and this is a chance that we do not want to miss. Every Briard owner, even if not involved at all in dog shows or trials, will enjoy seeing so many Briards and will enjoy participating in such a special event. Participation in the Rassemblement does not require any particular preparation, unlike dog shows or competitions, since only the dog is evaluated and only for his or her intrinsic qualities.

Briards owners should not hesitate to come and present their dogs, and breeders should encourage the owners of the dogs they have produced to attend. The more dogs entered and evaluated, the more it will help the breed altogether. The objective of the Rassemblement is to have a clear picture of what is being produced and of the direction we are heading in, and we will certainly have a better focus on that picture with a larger entry. No dog is perfect, but the first step in striving for perfection is to recognize the dog's faults and, when breeding, find the best possible match to help remedy these faults.

It is time for all of us to make plans for this coming August. Come and participate.

I am truly yours,

Gérard Baudet

FROM THE EDITOR...

As I slave over a hot computer I can look out my window and see trees greening and budding, flowers blooming. While spring in New England is nothing to write home about, it does bring a refreshing breath of life renewed and a cycle begun again. For me, that makes it all the sadder to learn of how many Briard friends we have lost this winter - Sage, Ebony, Holly, Michelle, Whooki. Those are the ones that I have heard about, most lost to bloat too suddenly and too soon. I think that our club needs to reexamine its priorities for spending its money. Several club members in the northeast are conducting a feasibility study for the establishment of a bloat research fund maintained by a coalition of parent clubs of breeds with high incidences of the disease. A report will be made to the board with the intention of discussing it at the annual meeting.

On a lighter note, the annual meeting reminds me that the Specialty and Rassemblement are getting closer. The committees have been busy behind the scenes, and things are now starting to coalesce for publication. There is a tentative schedule in this issue so that you can plan your travel and arrival. Remember that this is a Rassemblement year. It's not about who wins or loses, who voted for which judge, or who contributed what. It's an opportunity to evaluate not which dog is better than any other, but what we have produced, where have we come from, and where are we headed. This event is, to the best of my knowledge, unique to our breed in this country. You are not just exhibiting your Briard, you are presenting the past, present, and future of the breed.

I am continuing the Dew Claw policy of anonymity for the cover dog. However, I will say that her "dad" is over in the Gulf. She has been a great comfort to "mom" as only our Briards can be. I am sure that you join me in wishing "dad" a safe and speedy return.

Because of the need to get information to you about the Specialty, the next Dew Claw deadline will be very close. Please submit everything to me by MAY 31. See you in Toledo!

COVER: If General Schwarzkopf had a Briard...
COMMITTEE CHAIR LISTINGS

The list of Committee Chairs is printed in every Board Briefs. Please see that listing or your membership list for addresses and telephone numbers for the chairpeople. This abbreviated list is intended for quick reference.

ADOA
Agility
AKC Delegate
AKC Gazette Column
Annual
Archives
Audio-Visual
Awards & Recognition
*Briard Rescue Corp.
Bri-Art
By-Laws and Constitution
Calendar Project
Charitable Contributions
Dew Claw Editor
Education
Ethics and Sportsmanship
Eye
Good and Welfare
Hall of Fame
Herding
Historian
Information System & Roster
Medical
Membership
Nominating
Novelty
Obedience
OFA
Richard King
Pam Hottois
Phil McNelis
Alice Bixler
Barbara Lynch
Donovan Thompson
Gordon McMillen
Diane Royce
Mary Lopez
Cindy Markle, Susan Smith
and Bunny Rattner
Dave Wahr
Anne Hock
Barbara Eichner
Gail Zamarchi
Stephanie Katz
Jan Charbonneau
Meg Weitz
Open
Julie Treinis
Jane Beahan
Diane McLeroth
Ben Friedland
Fay Sloan
Kathy Fitzpatrick
Bob Weihrauch
Lynn McMillen
Bob Gross
Sue McCormick

*Not a standing committee of the BCA, Inc.

HERDING COMMITTEE

The changes are coming! The changes are coming!

Changes in the AKC Herding Program are scheduled to take effect July 1, 1991. As of this writing, AKC has not released official notification. From what I have heard, the changes will, in the long run, be good ones. Since they come into effect prior to our first AKC Member Test at the Specialty, we will try to make information available as soon as possible. Anyone wishing unofficial information can call or write me.

CONTROL will be the new key word. If possible, get your Briards some exposure to stock. Attend as many herding events as you can before the Specialty. Handlers will need more expertise, so watch other handlers, judges, and testers. If you can find a trainer and get a few herding lessons, it will be invaluable.
At home, work on a reliable stop. This can be a sit, stand, or down - anything that will stop your dog. You will also need a reliable recall. A "slow" or "steady" command to keep your dog moving at a controlled pace can also be taught.

An AKC Herding Clinic was held in Longmont, Colorado, on January 18 - 20. The AKC Herding Advisory Committee met at the same time to work on rules revisions. BRIARDERS Carolyn and Dave Witherspoon did much of the set-up for the event. Their Briard, Ch. Lindeaux Descente de Lit, was the only Briard among the 92 clinic attenders. I have gotten reports from several people in attendance that he did a fantastic job of representing Briards as well as reports on Dave's great handling.

Seven new Briard herding titles have been reported and documented. Keep up the good work! Some people are just sending copies of title certificates. We also need whatever information was required on entries, e.g. sire, dam, date of birth, etc. Although it is not necessary, it would also be helpful to BCA if new title holders could also submit a three generation pedigree so that we can trace lines of instinct. We would also like copies of the test form to document Briard style.

BCA has purchased for our library the video *Training German Sheep Herding Dogs* with Karl Fuller. This video is an instructional video in the boundary/tending style of herding.
OFA UPDATED LISTING

The following dogs have been rated by OFA from 10/01/90 through 12/31/90 and assigned numbers. These dogs, added to the list published in the Winter 1990 Dew Claw should be a current listing of all OFA Briards. If you know of an OFA Briard not on this composite list, please let me know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFA NUMBER</th>
<th>REGISTERED NAME</th>
<th>REG. NUMBER</th>
<th>OWNER OF RECORD</th>
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<tr>
<td>FB-46031F</td>
<td>AVANTAGE COMING UP ROSES</td>
<td>D-492518</td>
<td>JANET A. COUTURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FB-46051M</td>
<td>AVANTAGE CAUSE FOR PAWS</td>
<td>D-492922</td>
<td>JANET A. COUTURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FB-46029M</td>
<td>MON ROIS DIGIRE DE L'ETAT D'OR, CH.</td>
<td>D-812073</td>
<td>DONAVIN TAYLOR/ MARY LOPEZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>FB-46024M</td>
<td>BEAU VU DOUBING THOMAS, CH.</td>
<td>D-79215</td>
<td>KAREN R. &amp; BARBARA L. MACDON</td>
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<tr>
<td>FB-46053M</td>
<td>ENGLISH DEGOASE DANSEUR</td>
<td>D-415445</td>
<td>KATHY WASHIECKA</td>
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<tr>
<td>FB-46053M</td>
<td>ENGLISH DEGOASE DANSEUR</td>
<td>D-415445</td>
<td>KATHY WASHIECKA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DISTRIBUTION OF PHENOTYPE EVALUATIONS FOR 1989 THROUGH 1/03/90:  

- Total Number of Evaluations: 66
- % Evaluated Excellent: 19.7
- % Evaluated Good: 43.9
- % Evaluated Fair: 13.6
- % Evaluated Borderline: 1.5
- % Evaluated Mild CHD: 9.1
- % Evaluated Moderate CHD: 6.1
- % Evaluated Severe CHD: 6.1

SPECIALTY REPORT

As most of you read in the Board Briefs, the 1991 Specialty is starting to take shape. The tentative schedule published has since undergone some revision and clarification. It is reproduced here with the additions.

Relative to hotel reservations, there seems to have been some confusion when contacting the hotel. On or about May 5, the committee will mail out a package to all members with instructions on reserving a room. There will be forms to complete with information about arrival time, number of dogs, etc. The committee will then make the reservations. This package will also have information about airport transportation.

Wind is very important. Without wind our world would be lifeless. Our oceans would become stagnant ponds... clouds would not move... flags would not fly... ears would not flap.
Recently, some letters have been written inquiring as to why the Rassemblement judge has been instructed to use the American Standard rather than the French to evaluate our dogs this year. Very simply put, it is the standard to which our dogs are being bred.

The committee feels that it would be unfair to judge our dogs against a different standard. It’s like training for years for a game only to find out when you arrive that the rules have changed. While the two standards are very similar, there are differences, some of which could result in severe penalization or disqualification, e.g. color, size and dew claw construction. Whether you consider these differences significant or not, the point is that our dogs should not be penalized for them. Judged against the French standard, a dog could be prohibited from a high rating while being an excellent American specimen.

There also seems to be some opinion that the use of the AKC standard will make the Rass no different than going to a regular dog show. The committee feels strongly that this is not the case. At a dog show, the judge has about two minutes to evaluate each dog and then make placements. The only information that you take from the ring is that the judge thought that one dog met the standard better than another. There is no evaluation form and it isn’t logistically possible for each person to talk to the judge to learn the reason for any of the choices. At the Rass, the judge will take at least ten minutes per dog using an evaluation sheet based upon the standard. Each part of the standard, head, body, gait, etc., will be rated to give better insight into how well, in this judge’s opinion, each dog measures up to our standard.

The purpose of the Rass is to have someone knowledgeable about
the breed evaluate our dogs against our standard, not necessarily to point out the weaknesses, but as an educational experience. It is a step toward identifying which directions to go with our breeding programs. We can all benefit from this type of evaluation in which we can be one-on-one with a person who has both the time and interest in our breed.

IS YOUR BRIARD A CALENDAR GIRL (OR BOY)??

Do you remember those great calendars we used to have? Well, THEY'RE BAAAK! (with a little help from our friends)

Get out that Polaroid, that Canon Sure-Shot, that Instamatic!

A picture is worth a thousand barks!

It's your big chance to immortalize your Briard on an official 1992 BCA calendar.

Send those pictures to:

Anne E. Hock
9668 Leeds Landing Circle
Easton, MD 21601
(301) 822-9482

NEW PROJECTS FOR DOG HEALTH

Twenty-eight studies of dog health problems, including cancer, diabetes, kidney disease, and pancreatitis, are in progress through grants from Morris Animal Foundation, Englewood, Colorado.

The foundation announced total funding for the 1990-91 academic year of $935,500, the highest amount in its history, with $358,453 of the total going for canine studies. Other projects deal with health problems of horses, cats, llamas, zoo animals and wildlife.

The largest study is a five-year project conducted jointly by veterinarians at Michigan State University and medical doctors at University of Michigan seeking a blood test for defective genes in dogs. The project is funded equally by Morris Animal Foundation, the American Kennel Club, and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals.

Studies on cancer diagnosis and treatment are in progress at Colorado State University, University of Wisconsin, Michigan State and University of California at Davis. Hip dysplasia projects, funded by The Seeing Eye, Inc., are at New York University Medical Center and the University of Pennsylvania. Other projects funded by The Seeing Eye, Inc., include osteochondrosis of the elbow (Michigan State University); minute viruses (Cornell University); and giardiasis (Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine).

[Other projects include] two pancreatitis studies at Kansas State University; a thyroid study at Michigan State; studies of pain relief at North Carolina State and University of Minnesota; bloat at Ohio State University; and a skin disease study at Stanford University.

Investigators are studying liver disease and protein loss disorders at Texas A & M University; dietary fiber supplements for diabetes at University of California, Davis; kidney disease, University of Georgia; prostate disease at University of Missouri; and Lyme disease at University of Wisconsin, Madison.
The Briard people in the northeast will get together to organize themselves as the
Nor'East Briard Association.
Come and join us to attend our first event, even if it is just to watch or to talk or to help.

**Herding Clinic**
followed by a **Herding Test**
and a **Herding Match**

including

- Preliminary Test
- Principal Test
- Pre-Trial

organized by the

**Nor'East Briard Association**

open to all herding breeds (limited to 25 dogs)

Nutmeg Farm
Portland, Conn.

Saturday, May 18, 1991 - Clinic
Sunday, May 19, 1991 - Test and Match

Dogs qualifying at this match in the preliminary or in the principal test will receive a Herding Instinct Certificate from the Briard Club of America, Inc.

**Entry fees:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pre-Registration (before 5/11/91)</th>
<th>On-Site Registration (if space permits)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| One day only                             | $30.00                            | One day only                           | $35.00
| Both days                                | $55.00                            | Both days                              | $60.00

For entry forms or for more information:
Contact Gérard Baudet, 105 East Manning St., Providence, RI 02906, (401) 861-7617.

Paid Advertisement
Imagine seeing Briards at a dog show. The Briards are acting like Briards -- snoozing under folding chairs, begging for treats with the ever-present paw-on-the-knee routine, bouncing on some family member who has just returned from ringside. All normal enough there, right?

But wait! There are no crates, no grooming tables, not even a brush. The people look different, too. If they’re not in blue jeans and sweatshirts, they’re wearing warm-up or jogging suits. And everyone is wearing running shoes, usually Nikes. What is this, a track meet for dogs?

A tall, slightly imposing figure nods to the crowd waiting at the gate and the first group of Briards bounds into the ring. Could this be a judge? Nah..he doesn’t even have a tie on. And get a load of those leashes! All of the dogs are on three foot leads made of inch-thick braided nylon, NEON COLORED with matching slip collars. It’s a match show in East Podunk, right?

Now a woman has appeared by the man’s side and busily begins notating his comments on her clipboard as he begins going over the first dog. As he steps back for an overall appraisal, a voice from the back of the crowd of onlookers begins to wail, "Chablis...Chablis...Chaaa-Bliiiii...." Stranger yet, no one among the spectators pays the least bit on attention. But the dog being examined sure does! He is alert and pulls forward, searching for the source of his name.

At this point in time, the "handler" is behind the dog, hanging on for dear life. The dog does look spectacular, one must admit. The "voice" stops when the dog is gaited down and back and then around the ring. This process is repeated for each dog, including the wailing or other strange sounds. After every Briard has been seen individually, all of them circle as a group. But as soon as the circling stops, a cacophony of voices, squeaky toys, whistles, and rattling of kibble cans commences. Tongues out and tails wagging, all the Briards straining for a glimpse of their "invisible" callers. After several of the dogs are gaited a few more times, four of them are moved into place behind large placards bearing numbers one through four -- starting with fourth place. As the last Briard selected reaches the spot behind #1, applause breaks out from the crowd. I know! It was a horse show!

Wrong again. This unusual (for us) event was the Internationale Rassehunde-Zuchtshau Munchen, the first of many European shows that my husband, Steve, and I attended while we lived in West Germany. This particular show was held in Munich at the Olympia Halle on the Olympic Grounds in April of '88.

In the 2 1/2 years that followed, we attended a variety of shows in Germany, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands, first as spectators then later as exhibitors with our Dutch Briard Elisée. We attended International shows, Club Shows (Specialties), a couple of Rassemblements, and some Obedience tests for certificates and training matches for competition.

We found that regardless of the country or the type of show, the atmosphere remained pretty much the same, although Holland and Belgium tend to be a bit more conservative in the choice of collars and leashes. All the shows were, by our standards, very informal and are very much a family affair. The dogs are handled by their owners, a close friend, or the breeder. There’s no branch of the PHA in Europe!

While I’m sure that every country has its "out-for-blood" competitors, more European Briarders think of dog shows as weekend recreation and take it less seriously that we do. They are not
however, casual about good breeding. Several Briard clubs have stringent requirements about hip dysplasia, inherited eye diseases, and temperament testing in order for a breeding to receive club "sanctioning," the breeding committee's seal of approval, if you will.

It's also important to know that dogs are not eligible to compete for most European titles until they are 15 months of age. The required wins must be spread out over a period of one year and one day. None of this championship in five straight shows! The reasoning for this time frame is that they believe it's important to see the dog's development over a period of time. What looks very good at 1 1/2 years of age might not be as good at 2 1/2 years of age. Personally, I think they've got a good point there.

Obedience/training matches are usually separate from conformation exhibitions in Europe. Most International shows will arrange demonstrations of obedience drill teams, agility, and search and rescue groups. In Germany, something called Breitensport is very big. How would you like to have to jump over the hurdle WITH the dog?? Steve and Ellie -- no problem. Me? No way! Speaking of Search and Rescue, did you know that there was a Briard on the Dutch S & R team that helped with the earthquake rescue effort in Iran?

A few more quick notes: All you beleaguered owners of black Briards will be happy to know that there are usually equal numbers of blacks at European shows. The blacks and tawnies are judged separately, and the blacks always go first. Grays most times are judged separately, too.

The outstanding feature of European dog shows, and the one I liked the best, was that the judge's comments are written down and given to you in the afternoon when your breed has finished. That's right, the judge has to complete a form that tells you what he/she thought of your dog's head, back, teeth, tail, coat color... the works. I wonder if there are any judges reading this that are starting to feel faint right about now? The form is standardized among all the countries and the categories, as you can see below, are rated Vorzuglich (Excellent), Sehr Gut (Tres Bon), Gut (Bon), or, Heaven forbid, Genugend (Assez Bon). This roughly translates as good enough or OK, but don't bring him back!

What I found interesting is that in comparing all of Elisée's European judging sheets, there is a strong consistency among different judges' ratings and comments. That says a lot for judging standards and sticking to the standard, wouldn't you say? But let's save that topic for another day.

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<td>genugend - Assez Bon</td>
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<td>Classierung</td>
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<td>Appreciation Gen</td>
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17 18
DETROIT SUPPORTED ENTRY

(Barbara Lynch was kind enough to provide us with results and pictures from the Detroit BCA Supported Entry. She was also honest enough to admit that she knew very few of the Briarders there. There are so many new ones! If you recognize anyone in this rogue's gallery, please write to me to identify this happy group. I would love to print the captions in the next Dew Claw. - Ed.)

BRIARDS

THE BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. WILL SUPPORT THE ENTRY OF BRIARDS AT THIS SHOW.

SWEEPSTAKES

Judge: Mr. Phillip McNeils

Ring 14 9:15 AM

PRIZE MONEY

$5.00 of each entry will be retained by the Detroit Kennel Club for expenses. The remaining money will be divided as follows:

First ........................................ 40%
Second ...................................... 30%
Third .......................................... 20%
Fourth ........................................ 10%

Any money not claimed will be retained by The Briard Club of America, Inc.

SWEEPSTAKES PRIZES

Best in Sweepstakes. Woodbury Pewter 5½ Standard Porringer offered by the Briard Club of America, Inc.

Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Sweepstakes. Woodbury Pewter 4½ Standard Porringer offered by the Briard Club of America, Inc.

BRIARDS. Sweepstakes, Puppy, 6 to 9 Months Dogs.

First, $5.60 Second, $4.20

1. (22) Fourree Pied Forban de Mon Coeur. Owner: Richard LaFountain & Toni Ward.

REGULAR CLASSES

Judge: Mr. Joseph E. Gregory

RING 15 10:45 AM

BREED PRIZES

Best of Breed. 8' SP Revere Bowl offered by the Detroit Kennel Club, Inc.

Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed. 8' SP Revere Bowl offered by Detroit Kennel Club.

Winners Dog. Woodbury Pewter 3½ Standard Porringer offered by the Briard Club of America, Inc.

Winners Bitch. Woodbury Pewter 3½ Standard Porringer offered by the Briard Club of America, Inc.

BRIARDS. Puppy, 6 to 9 Months Dogs.


BRIARDS. Puppy, 9 to 12 Months Dogs.


BRIARDS. American-Bred Dogs.


**BRIARDS, Open Dogs.**


**BRIARDS, Puppy, 6 to 9 Months Bitches.**


**BRIARDS, Puppy, 9 to 12 Months Bitches.**


**BRIARDS, Bred by Exhibitor Bitches.**


**BRIARDS, Open Bitches.**


20 Deja Vu Four Leaf Clover, D 959724. 01-08-90. Breeder: Terry Miller & K McCann & J. Odom. By Ch Rafflesier De Melleux Uns - Ch C'EST Bonheur Woodbine Tinsel H.T. Owner: Terry Miller.


**BRIARDS, Best of Breed Competition.**


Best of Breed...37...Best of Winners...20...Best of Opposite Sex...21.
Dear Alfie.

I am a very intelligent 1 1/2 year old Briard boy. I recently received my CD degree though my trainer is mumbling something about judges in red suits with white trim. He had told my human that it would take forever to get my CD. Boy, was he ever wrong. I know all the judges loved me and my performances because we left them all grinning as we left the rings.

My problem seems to be with my human. She has us back in classes though I don't understand why, after all I know it all now. But she seems to have forgotten all that I taught her. She's really mixed up on our exercises, as she calls them. She keeps insisting that I lie down when she calls me in. That's all wrong—we do downs at the end. And she keeps putting up obstacles in front of me and asking me to jump over them. That's dumb because it is so much easier to just walk around them rather than exert myself. What can I do with her?

signed, Brainstormer

Dear Brain (less),

Heaven save me from such dolts. When I receive mail like this I marvel that canines and humans ever became dependent on and caring for each other. I suppose this could be a case of the impetuosity of youth but I can not suffer such canine stupidity.

You are an insufferable, egotistical fool. Your owner deserves an award for her kindness and patience with you. I strongly suggest you stop believing you know it all because you do not. Your owner is trying to magically transfer new knowledge into your stubborn brain. Shape up and accept the new training she is trying to enlighten you with. You are a mere kindergarten graduate and have many more complicated tasks to learn. It would be far wiser to humor your owner and accept the new variations as she exposes you to them than to continue to act so foolish and balk at the program. It is unwise young dogs such as you that allows the unfair perpetuation of an old expression among humans which states "one can not teach an adult dog new tricks". You are an embarrassment to canines everywhere and particularly to Briardom. It has taken many years to convince human beings that Briards are not stupid or hard to train and you are undoing all this work single handedly. Enough of your nonsense. Pay attention in school and master your lessons or I shall advise your owner to cease your treats and on bed sleeping privileges!

*************************************************************************
* * * PLEASE SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO ALFIE *
* * * c/o GAIL ZAMARCHI, DEW CLAW EDITOR; 567 SOUTH ST.; *
* * * ROSLINDALE, MA 02131. *
*************************************************************************
HEELING

Bob Gross
Obedience Chairman

Here is a method for teaching heeling that is appropriate for those people who just want their dog to walk nicely by their side on the street or on a country road and also for those people who have conformation or obedience work in mind for their inexperienced dog. The method is also useful for generating enthusiasm in an experienced and trained dog. The method works just about universally because it addresses a dog’s natural instincts and reflexes. There is nothing in the exercise for your dog to resist, fear, fight, or flee. No force at all is used, and everything is positive, even fun. The point is not to conquer your dog and his impulses, but to channel them in a way that enhances both his life and yours. It’s very sweet to be able to take a nice walk with an informed dog, or to perform some smooth and fluid heeling with an enthusiastic and happy one.

The exercise is simple in its basic outline. In essence, you are going to get your dog back to the heel position every time he leaves it but without force or threat. The exercise includes three commands: dog, Heel! followed by "Dog, Come!" followed by "Dog, Heel!" Three motions are involved: forward, backward, forward. As many of you will recognize immediately, the exercise is derived from the traditional Come-Fore exercise, but, as you will also see, it is the Come-Fore redirected and redesigned. I call it Heeling with Come.

You will need a steel or brass training collar, usually referred to, alas, as a choke collar (it’s a choke collar only when it’s misused), and you will need a good lead. I recommend a leather lead, four feet rather than six feet long, three-quarters of an inch wide, and with woven rather than sewn ends. A retractable lead is inappropriate. If your dog is under six months, use a buckle collar which should be set so that you can slip only two fingers, side by side, between the collar
and your dog’s neck. If your dog is under four months, the exercise may not be appropriate for him. My new puppy proved responsive to the exercise at eleven weeks, but ordinarily I don’t try the exercise with my own or a client’s dog until it is four months old.

To hold the lead functionally and effectively, put your right thumb in the loop that constitutes the handle of the lead, and place your left hand, knuckles upward, down the lead toward and near the dog. Don’t double-up the lead in anyway. The lead must be kept slack, with the collar relaxed but not tight. A good way to check for correct slackness is to look at the bolt at the end of the lead near the dog; if it is horizontal or just hanging down, you are holding the lead with appropriate slackness. The lead should not be causing the collar and lead to tighten.

Start the exercise from a stationary heel position, ideally with your dog sitting, but if your dog doesn’t go into a sit easily, don’t fuss (always a good principle), and forget the sit. Similarly, if your dog is fooling around in any way, let it happen. Just start the exercise. The exercise itself will displace any pointless foolishness (letting an exercise cancel nonsense is another good principle).

To help keep things clear, I’ll describe the exercise in numbered steps from this point on.

**One.** Say "Dog, Heel!" in a cheerful and urgent tone, as if a wonderful destination lay ahead. Step off, left leg first, in a bold and confident stride and very gently pop the lead forward to show your dog the direction in which both of you are going to move. Bend down during the pop, so that the lead is as horizontal as possible when you pop. The three main actions should occur simultaneously: the command, the forward stride of your left leg, the pop. A pop is a snap of the lead, always preceded by a conscious, slight slackening of the lead, and always followed by a conscious, slight slackening of the lead. Think of a pop as a quick tug rather than a bossy jerk, and remember that it must occur from a slack lead and terminate in a slack lead. In addition, think of a command as a matter of guidance, not as a peremptory order. Remember that our abiding goal is instruction, not domination.

**Two.** After the initiating heel, continue striding forward in a straight line, not looking at your dog. It is crucial that you not look at your dog during heeling because, to the degree you do, you are, in effect, adjusting to him when, in fact, we want him to adjust to us. To the degree we don’t look at the dog, he will not only look at us, but to us, and adjust to us. Not looking at the dog helps make us the leader. This phenomenon cannot be over-emphasized.

At some point, probably very soon after you have started the heeling—perhaps even after two steps—your dog will break the heel, and will pull in one direction or another, probably forward. You will feel the dog’s deviation if you are holding the lead correctly. At the slightest tug of the lead, no matter how slight, drop your left hand from the lead instantly. As strange as it may sound, I do mean: drop your left hand from the lead the moment you feel the slightest tug. Do not try to control, check, or correct your dog with the lead.

**Three.** As soon as you drop your left hand from the lead, start backpedaling quickly—that is, move backwards fast, away from your dog, but still facing your dog—and pop your dog toward you, saying "Dog, Come!" with great enthusiasm. The command should be said once only. Continue backwards about fifteen feet while your dog moves toward you and ultimately reaches you. If he reaches you before you have gone fifteen feet, still continue backwards until you have covered fifteen feet.

It is during the course of this backpedaling that you can make a mistake that will destroy the exercise: pulling the dog toward you with a taut lead. The lead must remain slack while you are backpedaling, so slack that it is arced downward. Your dog will move towards you because of the pop and because of his chase reflex and because it is your beloved face receding from him. What if, in fact,
he doesn’t move toward you? Stop the exercise, and check to see if you have followed all instructions. If you are confident that you have, then try the exercise again, and if your dog doesn’t move toward you the first time you say "Dog, Come!" and pop, slacken the lead, and pop him again, still gently, but without repeating the verbal command (another important principle--repeat lead actions as necessary, but not verbal commands). It is important that you continue moving backwards no matter what happens.

**Four.** After you have backpedaled fifteen feet and your dog has reached you--not necessarily centered, but probably off to your right--start moving forward again, without pause and at a brisk pace, and continue past your dog. When you pass your dog, he should be to your right. When you have gone beyond your dog and he is behind you, off to your right, transfer you lead behind your back from your right hand to your left hand, and return to a two-handed lead hold. As soon as you have the lead in your left hand during this transfer and while still moving forward, say "Dog, Heel!" encouragingly and draw your dog up to your left side to heel position as you return to the two-handed hold.

**Five.** Without pause, while still moving, repeat the whole sequence four more times.

**Comment.** The exercise should be done in a spirit of play, as a game that challenges the dog to get to you as you back away from him and challenges him again to get back to your left side as you then move forward beyond him.

After you feel comfortable with all the physical actions, start talking up the dog throughout every phase of the exercise, As you back up, you can say rhythmically, "Where are you? I'm getting away. Where are you? I'm getting away." When moving forward, you can say something like "Pride and stride! Pride and stride!"

Your dog should get the hang of the exercise the very first day, and should be doing some real heeling--happy heeling, even proud heeling--by the fourth day. After your dog learns to heel or if your dog already knows how to heel, the exercise remains valuable for the enthusiasm which it can generate. Only one component of the exercise changes for a knowing dog. Instead of waiting for the dog to break the heel before you start backpedaling, you can backpedal after you have gone forward about twelve feet. For a very experienced dog, vary the distance before the backpedal, as this makes the exercise even more of a challenging game, always taking the dog by delighted surprise and thus stimulating him.

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Are your phone bills out of sight? Do you long for the good old days when friends and family eagerly waited for the mailman? Tired of those "plain brown wrappers?" Or do you just want a little gift for your puppy buyers? **Look no further!** With the help of the Briard Novelty Shoppe you can **reach out & touch someone** the good old-fashioned way!

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PARVOVIRUS UPDATE

(Jack Wynne wrote describing his Fossebierre de Knollwood’s bout with canine parvovirus (CPV). Fortunately, Fozzie survived. In his attempt to understand Fozzie’s disease, Jack wrote to a researcher at the University of Wisconsin to have some questions answered. I have reproduced the questions and answers here. The same topics are addressed by Dr. EL Stair in the Fall 1990 Newsletter of the Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory which is printed following Dr. Schultz’ comments. - Ed.)

Why does a dog, after receiving three vaccinations, come down with parvovirus?

The dog, even though receiving three vaccinations, did not become actively immunized due to the suppressive activity of maternal antibody (antibody that comes in the first milk or colostrum). About 25% of all puppies cannot be actively immunized with current CPV vaccines until after 20 weeks of age due to the high level of maternal antibody they receive at birth through colostrum.

Unfortunately there is up to six weeks difference between the age a puppy can become infected and when they can be immunized, thus your dog was not immunized by any of the three vaccinations, but was susceptible to infection.

Can a dog get reinfecte d with CPV?

It is rare for a dog to get reinfecte d with CPV. If it has been effectively vaccinated or if it has had a subclinical infection or survived a clinical infection, it is immune for life. CPV is not like chicken pox (Varicella Zoster Virus). Varicella Zoster is a herpes virus that remains latent (inactive) for life after infection and may be reactivated in later life by stress causing shingles.

Why didn’t my five-year-old Afghan or seven-year-old Lhasa get it since they were exposed to Fozzie’s feces. Is age a factor?

Your other dogs were immune due to previous vaccinations or subclinical infection. Also there is an age resistance. Many unvaccinated dogs over six months can get infected with CPV but they will not develop clinical disease.

Is the current vaccine ineffective?

All current vaccines are ineffective in puppies with maternal antibody. However colostrum is essential for the pup, therefore do not prevent the puppy from suckling. The modified live vaccines are better than the killed CPV vaccines, but all of them fail to immunize at the age the animal becomes susceptible to infection and most are unable to protect before two to six weeks after the puppy is susceptible to infection. The period of "vulnerability" increases from two to six weeks as the concentration of virus in the environment increases.

Our pup is a show dog. We have canceled all show until he is well. How long should we wait before exposing him to large numbers of dogs?

You should be sure that your pup receives the final puppy CPV vaccine at 20 or more weeks of age. To be sure it has responded, ask your veterinarian to take a blood sample and send it to a diagnostic laboratory for a CPV titer. Any titer as long as it is positive is protective.

SOME THOUGHTS ON VACCINATION OF PUPPIES FOR CANINE PARVOVIRUS

Canine paroviral enteritis was first recognized as a disease entity 11 or 12 years ago and the veterinary profession is still having difficulty effectively immunizing puppies against this disease.
Immunization of pups, or any young animal, can be a delicate balancing act for the veterinary clinician because there is a rule of nature in immunology that states, “Before an animal can be actively immunized against a specific antigen it must first be free of passively acquired antibody against the specific antigen.” Otherwise, the passive antibody will effectively neutralize or “block” injected vaccinal antigens. From a clinical standpoint this means that a young pup must become “susceptible” to canine parvovirus enteritis before it can be immunized. The problem is further complicated by other factors including: 1) the immune status of the dam and the reflection of the dam’s immunity by transplacental and colostral passive transfer, 2) the type of vaccine used, i.e. modified live virus or killed antigens, 3) the degree of immunosuppression caused by the vaccine or other vaccines given simultaneously, i.e., canine distemper and canine parvovirus are both immunosuppressive, 4) the degree of viral contamination of the premises (the puppies’ environment) with virulent field virus (this is a “tough” virus that can survive environmental extremes and many disinfectants), and 5) stress, defined as any factor that lowers resistance, etc. If the premises are heavily contaminated, the chances of a pup contacting virulent field virus during the period of susceptibility that must of necessity be present before pups can be actively immunized are markedly increased.

Basic facts that should be kept in mind regarding immunology and immunizations are that stimulation of the immune system requires: 1) time, 2) contact, and 3) antigenic mass. Modified live virus vaccines depend on replication of the vaccinal virus in host tissues in order to develop sufficient antigenic mass. Thus, replication probably will not occur in pups that are carrying “blocking” antibody. Properly prepared inactivated (killed) virus vaccines should have sufficient antigenic mass. The problem with these biologic products is keeping them in contact with antibody-producing cells in the immune system for a sufficient time. Second, and even third, doses of killed vaccine are often necessary to immunize puppies even in the absence of maternal passive antibody. Adjuvanted vaccines and repeated small intradermal injections will prolong contact of antigen with the immune system.

The National Veterinary Services Laboratory indicates that some pups have sufficient levels of maternal antibody to block immunization up to 18 weeks of age. Ideally, pups should be placed with their permanent owners before active immunization begins. Since pups are usually weaned at six weeks of age, this should be possible if the dams are hyperimmunized and producing high-titered colostral antibody. What would be the best biological to hyperimmunize a dam that is already carrying antibody: attenuated live virus vaccine or a high titered (high antigenic mass) killed vaccine? The latter choice is recommended because antibody already present in the dam will prevent replication of attenuated live viruses and thus the antigenic mass will be minimal. Repeated intradermal injection should also be considered.

Recommendations for handling the vaccination of puppies for canine parvoviral enteritis (and other diseases of dogs) are: 1) hyperimmunize the dams with high titered killed vaccine to protect pups up to 18 weeks of age, 2) pups should be placed in permanent homes (where concentration of virus in the environment will be minimal) before parvoviral immunizations begin, 3) minimize or eliminate immunosuppression and “competition of antigens” effects by vaccinating for canine distemper and other canine pathogens at different times than canine parvovirus, and 4) promote cleanliness of owner’s premises and lack of contact with other dogs (pups) that may be carrying canine parvovirus.
CHAMPION AIGNER EYE OF THE TIGER  
("Astro")

Owner: James S. Albrecht, Sr. and James S. Albrecht, Jr.
Breeder: Regina Keiter and Diana Latorre
Whelped: June 30, 1989
Finished: March 16, 1991

Ch. Deja Vu Woodbine Cryin’ Out Loud
SIRE: Ch. Aigner Deja Vu Double O Seven
Ch. Aigner Teatotaller

Ch. Aigner Take Stock in JB
DAM: Ch. Phydeaux Blue Chip Stock, CD HT
Ch. Virage Vice Versa, CD HT

CHAMPION E’S BRIE-Z STAR TREK D’OCCASION, CD  
("Trekker")

Owner: Julie Treinis
Breeder: David Behrens
Whelped: September 1, 1989
Finished: November 11, 1990

Ch. Phydeaux Windfall
SIRE: AKC/CKC Ch. Beardsanbrow’s Utopia
Ch. Piquantte d’Occasion

Ch. John’s Pashtu de Strathcona
DAM: Ch. Tanzy d’Occasion
AKC/CKC Ch. Beardsanbrow’s N’est Pas, AKC/CKC UDT
ELISEE BRICE VAN DE HOOLHOEVE

Owner: Susan E. von Suhrke
Breeder: Yvonne J.W. de Vries-van Yperen
Whelped: March 1, 1989
Finished: January 13, 1991

SIRE: Uhlan du Chalet du Gardien
Sandrine du Logis de la Picardiere

DAM: Brice Regina van de Hoolhoeve
Regine d’el Pastre

Ocarius des Carrieres Noires

CHAMPION FAUX PAWS VIRAGE CORNICHE, UD ("Paws")

Owner: Leah Schulman and Karen Farkas
Breeder: Barbara Eichner and Carol van Duzer
Whelped: April 3, 1987
Finished: November 17, 1990

SIRE: Ch. Virage Vendredi Treize
Ch. Phydeaux oh Susannah, CDX TD

DAM: Ch. Virage Unna Melanie
Ch. Phydeaux oh Susannah, CDX TD

Ch. Beardsanbrow’s Utopia
Ch. Ecar Second Chapter, CD
NEW CHAMPION

CHAMPION KALIPHI U KNOW MIELLEUX DEUX, HC TT
("Sarek")

Owner: Debra Morrow, Jane Beahan, and Art Tingley
Breeder: Diane Royce
Whelped: December 19, 1988
 Finished: February 24, 1990

AKC/CKC Ch. Beardsanbrow’s Utopia
SIRE: Ch. Beardsanbrow’s V D’Occasion, CD
 Ch. Beardsanbrow’s N’est Pas, UDT
 Ch. Richlen Steppenwolf
DAM: Ch. U Know Mielleux de Bonheur, CD
 Ch. Abbayes’ Paulette de Bonheur, CD

NEW HERDING TITLE

MEX.CHAMPION MON AMI ICI EST LE BIJOU VBJ, CD
HS STD-DSC PC
("Jazz")

Owner: Carol Wolfram and Phyllis Ferraro-Webb
Breeder: Phyllis Ferraro-Webb
Whelped: August 16, 1988

Ch. Cloud Caps Critical Acclaim
SIRE: Ch. Cloud Caps Center Stage
 Ch. Bigtree’s Rapunzel
DAM: Ch. Mon Jovis C’est Ce Bon VMA
 Ch. De Beauxjovis Mon Ami
 Ch. Kal-Mar’s Grenny VSG
NEW CHAMPION AND HERDING DOG

CHAMPION MON JOVIS ELFIN ALISOUN, PT

Owner: Maureen and Gerald Lambert
Breeder: Mary Lopez and Regina Keiter
Whelped: January 22, 1989
Finished: PT November 18, 1990 CH January 27, 1991

NEW CHAMPION

CHAMPION NUAGE NOIR’S DREAM OF ME ("Danielle")

Owner: Dennis and Marsha Gough
Breeder: Owner
Whelped: August 1, 1988
Finished: November 11, 1990

AKC/CKC/Ch. Beardsanbrow's Utopia
SIRE: Ch. Aigner's After All
       Ch. Aigner's Rum Toddy
       Ch. Mon Jovis Dreamweaver, VMA
DAM: Ch. Cloud Cap's Centerfold W.B.
     Ch. Bigtree's Rapunzel
NEW CHAMPION

CHAMPION RICHLEN ERIN GO BRAGH ("Erin")

Owner: Kathy Fitzpatrick and Ellen Walton
Breeder: Meg W. Weitz and Michael Greenberg
Whelped: February 16, 1989
Finished: March 3, 1991

Ch. Prix Weaselle d'Occasion, UDT
SIRE: Ch. Chien de Sel UB Good, CD
Ch. O'Molly O'Malley Chien de Sel, CD

AKC/CKC Ch. Beardsanbrow's Utopia

DAM: Ch. Richlen Vichyssoise, CD
Ch. Chateaubriard Nouvelle Nova

ADDITIONAL PUPPY LISTING

MAINE
SIRE AND DAM BIRTH DATE
Sharon Wise Ch. Briercliffs Bumble Bear 4/91
31 High Street X
Winthrop, ME 04364 Ch. Glendrover’s Dollie
207-377-8689 (Tawnies expected)

A PLEA FROM YOUR EDITOR

The next issue of the Dew Claw will be the last before the Specialty and Rassemblement and so will contain any last minute information. For this reason, I need to have it to the printer within a few days of the deadline in order for you to have it in mid-June. Please have everything to me no later that MAY 31. It will be greatly appreciated.

While I am thinking of things appreciated, many of you send me articles and information that were produced on a computer. If your computer is an IBM or compatible, please, PLEASE! send me the disk. I really can not type.

*Of course you’re going to Toledo. EVERYONE’S going to Toledo.
**Breeders Who Have or Are Expecting Puppies as of March 1991.**

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