Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club
September 2015

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BVKC Meetings:

***Next General Meeting:**
Sept **14**, 2015 @ 7pm

Board Meeting:
Sept 28, 2015 @ 7pm

Dinner/Social time:
6:30pm
Meetings begin at 7pm

Please visit our website
www.bvkc.org

BVKC/AKC News/

Shortcuts to Important News

http://www.akc.org/news/sections/legislative_alerts.cfm

Member:

AKC NOHS POINT SCALE

Note: AKC National Owner-Handled Series points do not contribute to championship points. At an individual show a dog earns the cumulative number of AKC National Owner-Handled Series points associated with each placement.

Placement	Points
OWNER-HANDLED BEST IN SHOW	100
OWNER-HANDLED GROUP 1	30
OWNER-HANDLED GROUP 2	20
OWNER-HANDLED GROUP 3	15
OWNER-HANDLED GROUP 4	10
OWNER-HANDLED BEST OF BREED	5

AKC National Owner-Handled Series updates ~ Ribbon Colors

(effective October 8, 2015)

In order to bring consistency to this program, the following required ribbon colors have been adopted for NOHS events:

NOHS Best of Breed/Variety – Maroon
NOHS Group 1 – Neon Pink
NOHS Group 2 – Neon Green
NOHS Group 3 – Teal
NOHS Group 4 – Cream
NOHS Best in Show – Turquoise
NOHS Reserve Best in Show – Light Green

Public Education

AKC LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAM PROMOTING BREEDER EDUCATION AND HEALTH CHECKS

The American Kennel Club will help breeders be more successful with the start of a new program that makes available on-line educational materials and marketing support for participants.

AKC Bred with H.E.A.R.T stands for Health, Education, Accountability, Responsibility, and Tradition. Preparing breeders to produce healthy, excellent examples of their breeds is the program's goal.

The Bred with H.E.A.R.T. website features the latest information in genetics, breeding practices, and anatomy. Breeders have the great opportunity to take online courses by renowned breeder Claudia Orlandi Ph.D., who shared her two books, *ABC's of Dog Breeding* and *Practical Canine Anatomy & Movement*.

Orlandi's incredible career in purebred dogs includes breeding some of the top Basset Hounds in the country with her late husband, Dom Orlandi, under the Topsfield kennel prefix. She has been honored as the AKC Breeder of the Year; she is a judge and former chairman of the Breeders/Judges Education Committee for the Basset Hound Club of America. She often travels the country, sharing her vast knowledge of breeding as a speaker at seminars and symposiums.

"Knowledge is power in all phases of our lives!" Orlandi said. "The more a breeder knows about the science of breeding healthy dogs the more they can control canine genetic diseases in their breeding programs."

All breeders can study the material in Orlandi's books at no charge on the AKC Bred with H.E.A.R.T. website. They also can opt to be tested on the materials and receive a course completion certificate upon passing the examinations.

The AKC Bred with H.E.A.R.T. website will include other educational material to help breeders, including those just getting started. Courses include Breeding Basics and Care & Feeding of the Breeding Bitch.

The program strongly promotes responsible breeding through health testing. The site will include a list of all Parent Club recommendations for health testing for their given breeds.

"What I like about the Bred with H.E.A.R.T program is that it gives breeders a path to follow and motivates and helps them chart a course towards an improved breeding program with an emphasis on good health," Orlandi said. "I also feel it encourages breeders to share thoughts and talk more openly about health problems, which is absolutely critical to good breeding."

Breeders can choose to enroll and become an AKC Bred with H.E.A.R.T. breeder if they meet the requirements of having registered at least one litter with AKC within the past five years and being in good standing with AKC. They also must agree to the following:

- Certify that applicable health screens are performed on breeding stock as recommended by the respective AKC Parent Club and be prepared to supply proof of such compliance upon request

Comply with the AKC Care and Conditions Policy, including inspection(s) by the American Kennel Club or its duly authorized representative

- Comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding the ownership and maintenance of dogs
- Complete AKC-approved and/or AKC-provided continuing breeder education courses annually
- Complete the online application process and pay an annual fee of $25 per breed

The AKC rewards breeders who take the pledge with benefits including use of the Bred with H.E.A.R.T. program logo on AKC dog registration applications; breed-specific web banners for the breeder's website; search result preference in AKC On-Line Breeder Classifieds; $5 litter registration coupon; discounted microchips; and $35 in annual credit for online reports.

But the best benefit is the access to the priceless information on breeding, anatomy, and genetics found in Orlandi's books. The books break down the complex topics into easy-to-understand language with illustrations and photographs.

"Several years ago I had a conversation with the late great George Padgett, author of *Control of Canine Genetic Diseases,* in which we were discussing . . . the importance of keeping things simple in terms of breeder education, and he said, 'Claudia, if breeders only knew that by applying a few important, easy-to-understand genetic principles they could have a lot more control over not only conformation but also diseases in their breeding programs,'" Orlandi said.

"These simple, important genetic principles as well as key anatomy features for developing an eye for a dog, are the points of departure in the *ABC's of Dog Breeding* and *Practical Canine Anatomy & Movement* education programs. By understanding and applying these straight forward scientific concepts, my hope is

Penny Leigh, AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
Aug 20, 2015

Public Education ~

DNA Research and Dog Breeding

Among other things, breakthroughs in genetic research have revolutionized dog breeding. It's removed the guesswork from many aspects of the job, thus allowing us to focus on our real task of creating a living work of art. Since the first canine disease mutation was identified back in 1989, researchers have documented hundreds of mutated alleles that can signal a hereditary predisposition to various health issues.

The pace of these innovations and technological advances kicked into overdrive following the completion of the $30 million canine genome map in 2005. It's led to the identification of DNA markers for countless traits and an avalanche of tests to facilitate the identification and management of genetic disorders. The rapid, multifaceted evolution of this field makes it difficult to pin down the scope of screening procedures now available. Currently, 43 laboratories worldwide offer almost a hundred different tests for conditions affecting approximately 120 breeds.

Because predictive genetic testing has been such a game changer, one crucial factor of this situation is frequently overlooked. So far, this fledgling industry has been largely unregulated. Along with the steady flow of innovations there have been growing concerns about the potential for misapplication and misuse of this technology.

In reality, the speed of technical transformation overtaking biomedical research has made it nearly impossible to effectively regulate any aspect of this brave new world. Arguably, the lack of restriction has encouraged scientific insight and entrepreneurial genius. It's also led to a mess of inconsistent testing procedures with variable accuracy and no definitive guidelines to determine which mutated alleles genuinely merit consideration as predictive indicators.

Although many genetic hallmarks have been linked to various conditions, they are not equally significant predictors of disease. For instance, affected individuals don't invariably develop any or all aspects of an associated condition. Equally often, a genetic predisposition represents just one of several contributing factors that ultimately tip the balance into disease. This is one of those gray areas where science and ethics collide.

However, most current worries stem from the growing number of agencies providing an expanding repertoire of testing services to analyze blood and tissue samples. Discrepancies in their equipment and methodology can and does lead to conflicting results and scientific confusion. And this need for industry standardization is looming larger as mainstream medicine increasingly relies on DNA markers to diagnose disease and tailor treatments based on personal genetic profiles. In that respect, the big mess could become a lot messier.

But we may be making some headway to untangle this formidable ball of confusion. Recently The National Institute of Standards and Technology announced that it now has a stake in the game. Since 1901, this non-regulatory federal agency has been developing and defining quality control benchmarks euphemistically known as SRMs (Standard Reference Materials). A mind-boggling array of public and private industries and agencies utilize NIST SRMs as a baseline of standardization and quality control. Genomic researchers can now access the newest addition to the extensive NIST database of quality control benchmarks, their brand new database of Short Tandem Repeat (STR) DNA markers to gauge the consistency and accuracy of gene sequencing and testing.

Developments in canine genomics frequently parallel innovations in human genetic research and NIST has published a partial list of canine STR markers documented in scientific literature to date. The International Society of Animal Genetics has also developed a set of validated canine genetic

Continued... Public Education

markers that labs can use for comparison and standardization purposes. However, the value of the ISAG Profile is dependant on its reciprocal use by testing labs, which is voluntary rather than mandatory.

Obviously, cohesive universal standards and practices are the key to mainstream utilization of this technology. But even without it, the biomedical industry is churning out a growing mountain of genetic data and consumer dollars are the rocket fuel propelling this business to new heights.

Today, DNA heritage testing ranks as the largest, and possibly most notorious, sector of the genetic screening industry. Marketed directly to consumers, the fallibility of these tests began making news back in 2009 when the FDA provided a reality check aimed at curbing overblown marketing claims and customer expectations about these tests. Federal intervention has encouraged tighter standards and more realistic product descriptions, and certainly didn't deter the demand for home test kits that run about $100-$250.

Canine versions first hit the shelves around 2007 and were originally marketed to consumers as a way to satisfy their curiosity about their dog's ancestry. Priced comparably to the human versions, they often yielded conflicting, sometimes laughable results. Most of the problems stemmed from the typical industry issues. Each lab compiled its own database of genetic markers and used its own methods to assess samples and interpret results. Those additional variables compounded the already substantial challenges of unraveling randomly bred, undocumented canine family trees.

Despite their hefty price tag and questionable accuracy, demand for this product has remained consistently strong. Over 12 companies now offer canine heritage testing from $100-$200, making a multimillion dollar business out of this most popular canine genetic test.

Perhaps it's controversial and ethically questionable but marketing has become an accepted feature of American health care. It also underlies the aggressive efforts to expand the market for this particular expensive novelty product which is now being promoted as a predictive health screening tool and more. Armed with this information, owners can supposedly tailor their dog's environment, training, and veterinary care.

That claim is based on research which acknowledges a link between certain mitochondrial mutations and markers for genetic disorders. But that's the extent of scientific evidence to support these promotional efforts. The debatable accuracy or diagnostic value of these tests really doesn't matter because the average consumer views DNA testing as the cutting edge of scientific precision. Americans spent 48 billion dollars on their pets last year. That rather staggering figure certainly suggests that owners want the best for their pets and they are more than willing to pay for it. And that definitely includes canine heritage tests to screen randomly bred dogs for breed specific health disorders, medication sensitivities, and predict a pup's adult size, activity level, and behavioral propensities.

It's true that these tests have improved and are now promoted as being 85-90 percent accurate. Even so, utilizing this information to proactively manage veterinary care amounts to a purely speculative exercise simply because it is based on unproven assumptions about the heritage and genetic makeup of undocumented ancestors with inferred medical and behavioral predispositions. It also seems rather counterintuitive when you consider that these genetically jumbled designer dogs have been consistently promoted as the healthy, temperamentally balanced alternative to "genetically defective, mentally unstable" purebreds. Of course, consumers can always resort to that old school, low-tech method to predict a dog's physical appearance, health, and behavior parameters – choose a documented purebred.

Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club in no way endorses any advertisements placed in this newsletter.

BVKC Committee Reports

Show Committee ~ Next Meeting of the Show Committee will be **September 16th**. If you want to get plugged in for this year's show, please contact Kim (Show committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month) Kim: 970.219.9858
kakreutzfeldt@gmail.com

Tracking Committee ~

Carol Pernicka:
tracker@lpbroadband.net

Herding Committee ~

For More Information:
Val Manning ~
TerraNorte@aol.com
970-568-7708

Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club meets the first Monday of every month at Mulligan's Pub

Nearby Events ~

9/5 9/**7 AKC AG CO** Front Range Agility Association of Denver (FRAAD); Schaefer Sports Complex; Denver I Suzy Hiskey; 303-975-0070

9/4 9/6 **NADAC AG CO** Dog Agility of the Pikes Peak Region (DAPPR); Black Forest Regional Park 0 Kim Winters; 719-594-9109

9/5 9/6 **AKC B/OB/R** CO Evergreen KC; Island Grove Park; Greeley I Onofrio Dog Shows; 405-427-8181

* 9/4 9/6 **AKC AG NM** Weimaraner Club of Albuquerque; Sheriff's Posse; Albuquerque 0 Cheri WIlliams 505-822-1760

* 9/4 9/7 **AKC AG UT** Intermountain KC (IKC); Lynnleigh Farms, Draper; 0 Sheryl Harames; 801-985-5263

9/12 9/13 **USDAA AG CO** Front Range Agility Club (FRAC)/Front Range Agility Team; Douglas CFG; Castle Rock; I Mardee Kayser; 303-499-1840

* 9/12 9/13 **AKC Earthdog CO** Columbine Dachshund Club/RM Earthdog Club; Bellevue 0 Kathy Engel Stabler; 719-635-4088

9/12 9/13 **UKC AG CO** Twin Peaks; Boulder CFG; Longmont; 2 per day I Michelle Hoppes; 303-604-9658

* 9/12 9/13 **Teacup AG UT** Pawsitively Trained Agility; TBD; Casper I Denise Durrant; 307-258-1341

9/11 9/13 **AKC AG NE** Bellevue Dog Obedience Club; Omaha Sports Complex; Omaha 0 Karen Nenow; 816-309-5084

* 9/10 9/13 **AKC AG UT** Great Salt Lake DTC; Davis County Events Center; Farmington 0 Susan Belger; 208-542-6552

* 9/11 9/13 **AKC OB/R UT** Great Salt Lake DTC; Davis County Events Center; Farmington 0 Deb Nendell; 801-898-9759

* 9/12 9/13 **USDAA AG UT** Wasatch Agility; Wills Park; South Jordan Equestrian Park, South Jordan 0 Coleen Hawker; 801-571-8061

9/13 9/13 **AKC Tracking CO** Columbine State Poodle Club; Chatfield State Rec. Area; Littleton; VST 0 Karri Britton; 303-367-2077

* 9/19 9/20 **AKC AG CO** Newfoundland Club / Basset Hound Club; Arapahoe Park; Golden; All Breed 0 Carol Makowski; 303-665-9007

* 9/17 9/20 **NADAC AG WY** NADAC Championships; Camp-plex; Gillette Sharon Nelson * 9/19 9/20 UKC AG/R KS Dodge City Kennel Club;TBD I Stephanie Clinesmith; 620-855-2506

* 9/19 9/20 **AKC B/OB CO** Arapahoe Kennel Club; Arapahoe CFG; Aurora I Onofrio Dog Shows; 405-427-8181

* 9/19 9/20 **AKC AG NM** Sandia Dog Obedience Club; Sheriff's Posse; Albuquerque 0 Nancy Culley; 505-861-5985

9/25 9/27 **AKC AG CO** Briard Club of America; Schaefer Sports Complex; Denver I Kelly Misegadis; 719-596-7115

9/25 9/27 **DOCNA AG** CO DOCNA Championships; West; Carbondale 0 Jim Mills

* 9/26 9/27 **AKC B/OB/R CO** Grand Valley KC,Mesa CFG; Grand Junction I Onofrio Dog Shows; 405-427-8181

Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club meets the first Monday of every month at Mulligan's Pub

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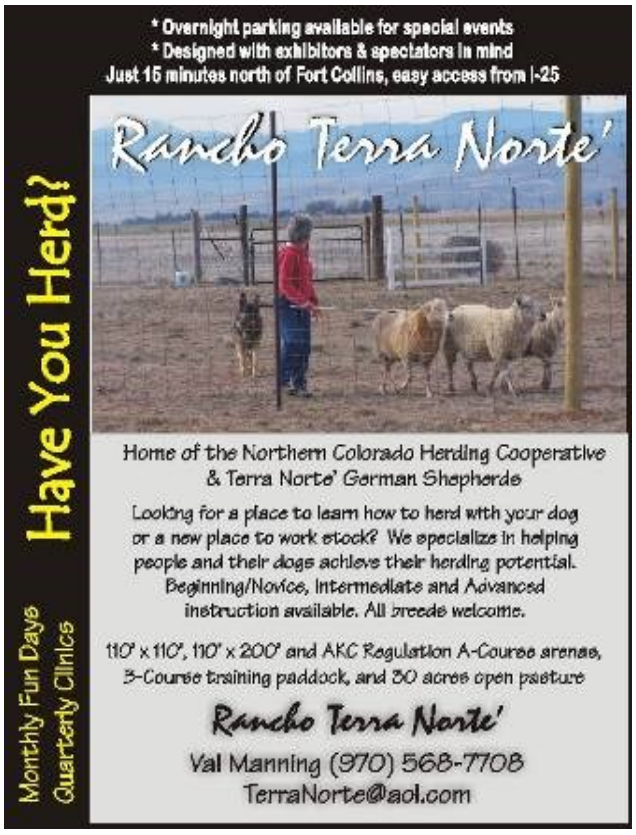
Seminars presented across the country have resulted in many additional titles for those who attend.

Over 30 years experience, including 6 TDXs, 3 VSTS, and 3 Champion Trackers on my own dogs.

Carol Pernicka

970-980-4752



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sandy.mtnmistwelshspringers@gmail.com

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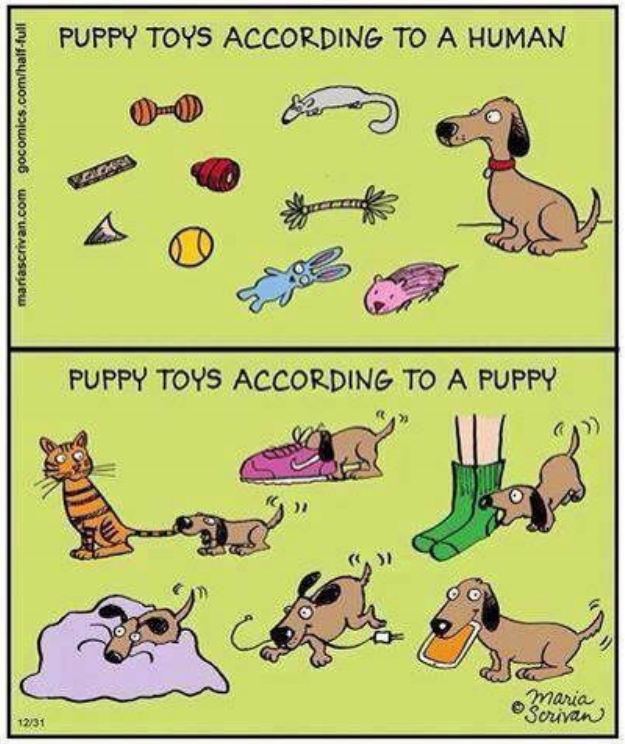
From the Editor

Hello friends,
Another month has come and gone! I hope that you have been having a lot of fun with your companions ;)

Please come to our Annual All Breed Dog Show next month! Entries Close October 7th

Blessings,
Sandy

Paws and reflect. . . .



BVKC Officers for 2015

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Vice President: Sandy Edwards-Zickrick | sezickrick@gmail.com
Secretary: Elaine Verdill | everdill3@gmail.com
Treasurer: Victoria Harris | imagedobes@gmail.com

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Bud Brockway | budwsipack@comcast.net
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Rod Chapin | zeusvh@yahoo.com
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BVKC ~ Where we love to talk about dog events of ALL types! So please join us ;)

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