

## **Regional Governors' Report November 2012**

### **Region 1: Ron Williams**

On October 22 and 23, AKC held this year's Meet the Breeds event at Jacob Javits Center in New York City. Unfortunately, the only person that responded to my request for participants was Lorene Connolly (Blyss). This was Lorene's second year volunteering for the event. I strongly believe having the event in NYC turns members off from volunteering. I certainly can understand the expenses involved with doing anything in NYC, isn't that appealing. It's nice that AKC gives each booth money to offset their expenses and money for lunch.

In my last year's report around this time I reported how satisfying it was to participate in this event. This year proved to be no different. It seemed like tens of thousands of visitors walked through the door to adore the dog and cat breeds that were represented. The difference between a MTB event at a dog show versus this event; at a dog show visitors are there for the dog show and the MTB event is an added bonus. Here, people pay to meet the different breeds. There's an excitement in the air the moment the doors open until closing time. Yes, it's a long day, but, well worth it.

Lorene and I designed the booth with several Borzoi art pieces, magazines, literature and the center piece was a window with the Russian St Basils Orthodox Church as the backdrop. Joseph Lara graciously let us use it again this year. Many photos were taken of the booth. We had two dogs both days. On Saturday, I had Tory again and Lorene brought... Saturday, I had Tory again and Lorene brought Paris (Blyss Paris Lights if Lido). On Sunday, Lorene supplied both dogs; a second straight year for both Casanova (Lara's River of Dreams) and Mikhailya (Ch Majenkir My Ksar Mikhailovna). The booth was situated at the beginning of an aisle, in my opinion one of the more preferred locations. We had people waiting in line to have their turn to visit with the Borzoi. The Girl Scouts was well represented and had forms to complete on their experience at the event. They had several prepared questions to ask and were extremely enthusiastic. Once again, it was an overwhelmingly satisfying two days! And a GREAT day for Borzoi!

### **REGION 2: Jane Schreiber**

The Potomac Valley Borzoi Club is hoping for no snow this year for their Specialty weekend, Oct 27 and 28 since last year's weekend was snowed out. This year the Club is sponsoring a Meet the Breed booth along with a Region 2 meeting chaired by me.

Chris Neale is busy preparing the artwork and props for the Meet the Breed booth at the Eukanuba show in December. He has also submitted a report for the Board.

Once again, those Region 2 members without computer access have received a printed copy of the Aristocrat. The specialty section was not included, because of the prohibitive cost.

Since this is my last "official" report to the Board, I would like to say that it has been a pleasure and honor to serve the BCOA as the Region 2 Governor. I've had the opportunity to better understand the inner workings and business of the club as well as becoming better acquainted with the BCOA members in the Region.

### **Region 3: Prudence Hlatky**

The long hot summer of Region III is finally almost over, that is if your discount November 1<sup>st</sup> having a high of 86<sup>o</sup>. Since I last reported the region has hosted the Rocky Mountain and Lone Star specialties, as well as several TSEs. Region III members also came away from the National with some very nice wins. Congratulations to the many winners from the region.

Upcoming specialties with tentative judges include the Rocky Mountain in Denver in February 2013 with Joan Urban; possibly two Lone Star specialties in 2013, dates and judges will be listed in my next report. Hopefully we will hold another TSE in July in Houston with Pat Trotter doing breed and Dawn Hall doing sweeps.

Region3 members along with some outstanding Borzoi took part in Meet-the-Breed exhibits in both San Antonio and Houston. In true Borzoi fashion they played the crowd and the lines to meet them were long. Thank you to those who participated and for bringing such wonderful examples of our breed.

I've held informal ringside BCOA member gatherings at various shows in Louisiana and Arkansas to discuss club business and to hear the concerns of BCOA members. These states have few members and as of yet haven't been able to coordinate a TSE, but we're working on the possibility. Please feel free to approach me at any show if you have any concerns, ideas or wish to take a more active role in the BCOA. It is dialog from members that helps bring about change and brings new ideas to the forefront.

#### **Region 4: Lorrie Scott**

I was able to attend BCNC's specialty held in Pleasanton, California with Jon Steele and Marilyn Polfuss. The location is lovely and the specialty turned out very nice and the weather was perfect. Entries were down as it seems they are pretty much in this region. **After the show BCNC held a club meeting. Irina Terra presented the idea to hold the International Borzoi Conference in conjunction with the 2014 specialty being held at that location.** The club members were very supportive and Irina already has many ideas to make it spectacular.

I always enjoy attending the meetings of the regional clubs as it gives me a chance to speak in person with the BCOA members and hear their concerns and ideas. It is nice to have face to-face dialogue in this age of computers and email. I reiterated to those in attendance that I am always available either via email or phone.

Several members in this area have given input into the scoring of the BCOA Versatility Award and continue to have an ongoing dialogue with myself and KC Artley.

I have plans to attend the face-to-face November 3-4 in Albuquerque New Mexico and report back to the region what the site is like since the meeting will be held at the location of the 2014 National specialty. I continue to forward all AKC Updates and well as BCOA updates to regional members either via email or print for my members who do not have email access.

#### **Region 5: Robin Riel**

Nothing to report at this time.

#### **Region 6: Joyce Katona**

The Midwest Borzoi Club had a Specialty on August 11 in Cudahy, Wisconsin. It was well attended with exhibitors from many regions. The weather was beautiful, the show site, lovely and the hospitality great! Pam Leichtnam organized a luncheon for all exhibitors and it was delicious! I was great to see friends from further west in the region and meet some members who I previously only knew by name. There was a woman asking questions about borzoi so a member/judge held a very brief judge's education, going over two dogs and discussing topline, fronts and rears.

I had planned to hold a BCOA meeting after the luncheon but was unable to do so. This year the Specialty was combined with an all-breed show on the same day and by the time we were finished eating, we were due back in the ring. I did have the opportunity to speak with some of the members about hosting the 2015 National and several ideas were discussed and a few folks volunteered to help if needed.

I am continuing to forward all notices received from the AKC, such as the AKC Breeder, AKC's Taking Command, AKC Canine Health Foundation e-Barks and the Genome Barks Podcasts. I also forwarded AKC Government Relations information regarding a revised Breeder Bill for OH.

I reminded the region of the Borzoi Club of Greater Omaha's Specialty coming up on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Century Link Center in Omaha, Nebraska. The specialty judge is Eugene Blake and the sweeps judge is Steve Sims.

I inquired if there was anyone interested in the AKC Canine Ambassador Program as discussed at our last Board meeting. I included the information from the AKC titled "Becoming a Canine Ambassador". To date I have not heard from anyone interested in this program.

I sent a 'formal' notice to the region informing them that 2015 is our year to host the National. I asked for any and all ideas for possible locations and asked for interested individuals or willing volunteers to contact me. Currently there are two proposals being worked on, one in Ohio and one in Iowa.

