

## **Combined Reports of the Standing Committees November 2015**

### **Championship Medals (Chris Danker) thru September 30, 2015**

98 Borzoi completed their Championships thru the end of September. 65 of these dogs are owned solely by BCOA members; for those who are co-owned the first owner listed is a BCOA member.

I did receive a note from Melissa Hundley notifying me that she did not receive a medal for a dog who completed his Championship in July of 2014. According to my notes, a medal was sent out; most likely was lost in the mail. I am re-sending a medal.

### **Breed Welfare (Dee Jones) November 2015**

Breed Welfare will again sponsor the Companion Parade and the Costume Contest at the National Specialty in April. The events will take place on Friday, after judging, directly before the Art Auction.

Entry forms for both events are available for download on the club website. There is no entry fee, but an entry form must be completed and submitted.

**COSTUME CONTEST – CHANGE!!!!** The entry form for the Costume Contest must be submitted with the One Stop Shopping form. Entry forms will **not** be available at the Specialty. The same deadline applies to entering the Costume Contest as applies to show entries. Late entries will not be accepted.

**COMPANION CLASS** – Entry forms for Companion Class will be available at the registration table at the Specialty. However, it is requested that these forms be completed and returned at least a day in advance of the event.

**Placement Assistance Program:** Information about this program has very recently been sent to the club's webmaster for upload to the website.

### **NBRF: Liz Duncan Reporting**

The National Borzoi Rescue Foundation (NBRF) is dedicated to the rescue and permanent placement of all displaced borzoi across the United States. All borzoi are spayed/neutered and fully vetted prior to placement. Adoption applications, references checked and home visits are required prior to placement with emphasis placed on the quality of life, and special needs, of each individual borzoi.

In the third quarter of 2015 (July 1-September 30), NBRF had 13 borzoi come into rescue. Our veterinary bills for this period were \$4,142.66. NBRF still has one borzoi that is a permanent foster due to a chronic medical issue that, while it does not affect the quality of life for the dog, it would be a financial burden on any person who would choose to adopt a borzoi with such special needs.

In July we received a much appreciated donation from the Beverly Taylor Trust Fund of \$16,828.00 and thank the Beverly Taylor Trust Fund Committee for their continued work in ensuring that Ms. Taylor's dreams and wishes continues to be carried out to assist Borzoi in need.

NBRF has new labels on its Benefit Wines fundraisers and encourages all BCOA members to take a look at our new labels here:

[http://www.benefitwines.com/National-Borzoi-Rescue-Foundation\\_c\\_634.html](http://www.benefitwines.com/National-Borzoi-Rescue-Foundation_c_634.html) and to order a bottle, or three, in support of Rescue.

It's been a great quarter for the NBRF Facebook page, we are at 2,900 "likes," which is 250 up from last quarter. Our page has combined roughly 150 health and wellness articles, with roughly 80 posts regarding updates on rescues/fosters, humorous photos, and "fluff pieces." On average, these posts are seen by 1,000 people and we are working on reaching a wider audience. The release of the new wine labels ad stays "pinned" to the top so it will always be the first post seen when viewing the page, in addition to various posts made by the different admins using the different banners to attract attention.

There have also been roughly 6 posts made in support of other sight hound rescue groups, because we're cool like that and in this all together! We have scheduled posts at the ready through mid-February, 2016.

Our Facebook Volunteer and Guru, Danielle Skelly, has done a fantastic job of making the Facebook page a fun, easily accessible way for the public to not only learn about our breed, but what our organization is about!

<https://www.facebook.com/nationalborzoirescuefoundation>

Reminder that NBRF has a new tollfree number, 1-844-NBRF-ZOI (844-627-3964) and you are able to access our Director Carol Backers, Vice-Director Barb Lord, or myself from this number.

### **BR-NC: Nancy Joeckel reporting**

#### **Third Quarter Dogs in Rescue**

All Borzoi placed through BR-NC Adoption are spayed/neutered, microchipped, heartworm/lyme tested, and current on all vet care before placement. Adoption Applications are required, references are checked, and home inspection visits are done.

We had no dogs in Rescue during the third quarter of this year.

We're delighted to report that our very-long-term foster, Shanti, has continued to thrive as he has settled into his forever home. Shanti has learned to be comfortable with other dogs and adores his new mom and dad. We couldn't have asked for a better outcome for this sweet fellow.

#### **Third Quarter Dogs in BR-NC's Referral Program**

BR-NC's Referral Program gives owners/breeders access to excellent pet homes while retaining full control over all aspects of placing their dogs. In return, BR-NC receives a \$100 donation to help cover the expenses of the Borzoi we take into Rescue. No dogs were in our Referral Program this quarter.

#### **Other Dogs Assisted by BR-NC**

BR-NC gave help to several other rescue groups this quarter – by forwarding applications on file with us and home check results, posting our potential adopters about Borzoi available from other rescue groups, etc. As always, no BR-NC funds were used for this assistance.

### **BTRC Account Statements (Shen Smith)**

July-August-September 2015 and the BTRC Bond/CD Ladder of invested holdings.

As of 7 October 2015

Account Balance

Cash On Hand	\$ 1,315.93
Bond/CD Ladder	<u>\$935,490.83</u>
Total	\$936,806.76

We currently have 99.999% of the BTRC funds invested and earning. I might comment with all of the volatility in the Stock Market and indications the FED will not be raising interest rates anytime soon the BTRC funds are safely and correctly invested for the funds are only invested in premium corporate bonds/funds and highly rated CD. With a full earning quarter remaining in 2015 (October - November - December) and a fund that has been performing above normal there will be plenty of funds available for Rescue needs for distribution in 2016 based on the current earnings to date.

Barbara indicated she will be scheduling a BTRC Budget meeting in early January to determine the 2016 Rescue distributions, and to discuss the coming additional assets from the Beverly C Taylor estate. As of this past week those funds have not been received and are still pending.

### **Health Committee (Nancy Hopkins)**

The OFA quarterly report shows that five CHIC borzoi have had their tests updated. In addition there are 15 new borzoi who now have the CHIC honor. Commendations to the owners and breeders of these dogs.

BCOA Health received a gracious donation from the Borzoi Club of Delaware Valley in memory of Vanessa Johnson. Vanessa was an amazing woman with a ready smile and a warm heart. Her memory is honored by the generosity of the members of the BCDV.

At the 2016 BCOA National Specialty in Lawrence, Kansas, we are planning to offer two health clinics; eyes and hearts. The cardiac clinic will include both auscultations and color Doppler echocardiograms. We have secured Laura Hatton, DVM for the cardiac clinic. We are still working on the vet who will do the eye clinic. The veterinarian who did the eye clinic at the last National in Kansas wanted to do a half day. With the number of borzoi who participate in these clinics we felt we must offer a full day. Search for a veterinary ophthalmologist who will do a full day eye clinic is ongoing. We are also planning to offer a blood draw for the CHIC DNA bank as well as for the bloat study. The speaker for our seminar has not yet been set.

### **Junior Showmanship (Barbara T. Lord)**

Within the past five days, I received phone calls from both Rebecca and Barbara requesting my input on a couple of BCOA Junior Showman matters. Because of the time constraints I face to respond in time for the impending board meeting this coming weekend, as per Barbara's suggestion, I am sending

my input via this email to all board members for inclusion in the November 14, 2015 board meeting agenda.

Barbara contacted me regarding the AKC's notification that All Breed and Specialty clubs do not have to break out the junior showman classes by age, and can instead offer only Novice, Open and Master classes. I do not oppose giving this change a try for our National Specialty. However, at Regional Specialties and All-Breed BCOA supported entries, I would personally like to see our club continue to offer all age-related junior classes, which in turn allow our young juniors more opportunities to enter the show ring to not only compete, but to fine-tune their handling skills.

In addition, both Barbara and Rebecca asked for my input on the proposed creation of a BCOA junior only membership application. During our discussion, Barbara and I both agreed that with this application change, juniors should still be required to commit to adhering to the standards set forward in our clubs standard and code of ethics.

In regards to this matter, I reached out to my daughter, Meghann (a past BCOA top junior handler and a current All-Breed AKC Junior and Borzoi Judge) for her input on this subject. She provided some valuable information, and we came up with the following regarding the proposed BCOA Junior Member Application.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (Questions that should be on a junior application form):

- Name
- Date
- Address
- Phone
- Birth date
- Year in school
- Junior Showmanship # with AKC
- Kennel name
- Sponsors
- Indicate your main interest in Borzoi
- List all dogs currently owned by you - Borzoi or other breeds. Indicate all dogs you co-own, as well as the names of the co-owners.
- Have you read the BCOA Code of Ethics? Do you agree with it? Do you feel anything should be added to it? Please Specify.
- Have you read the BOCA "Guidelines for Breeders of Borzoi"? Do you agree with it? Do you feel anything should be added to it? Please Specify.
- Give a brief, but specific, statement as to why you want to be one a BCOA member.

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In addition, please find listed in detail below, important additions we would like to see the Board of Directors implement and add to our Borzoi Club of America Junior Showman Program:

- Scholarship for College (Similar to what the AKC offers)

The American Kennel Club is proud to offer a Junior Showmanship Scholarship program. The Criteria for awarding the scholarship includes the following:

1. applicant's need
2. applicant's academic achievement
3. applicant's involvement in the fancy.

Each applicant is required to submit current school transcripts, as well as an essay including a description of his/her experiences and interests in purebred dogs, including an explanation of how the individual perceives his/her role in the fancy.

- Junior Achievement Award - This award is designed to recognize young people for their varied interests with the dogs, and to encourage well-rounded participation in all facets of dog ownership. An award will be given each year by the BCOA to the one junior who in the eyes of the BCOA Board of Directors most fulfills its basic premise. The award will be presented at the BCOA National Specialty. The Junior Achievement Award Chairman will be responsible for publicizing this Award and for soliciting applications. The Chair will review all applications and will send the resumes to the Club President for Board distribution and decision. A plaque will be purchased and engraved with the name of the winner. The plaque will be approximately 5 inches by 8 inches, solid wood, with a brass plate on which will be inscribed: BCOA JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (Junior's name) In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement (Year) In addition to a plaque, the Junior Achievement Award shall include a \$200.00 check. The name and Social Security number of the winning Junior must be supplied to the BCOA Treasurer at least six weeks in advance of the National Specialty.

#### Qualifications:

1. The junior must be between 10 and 18 years of age for the year being nominated.
2. The junior, his/her parents, or sponsor must be a member in good standing of the BCOA.
3. Consideration will be given to any dog-related activity with a Borzoi, such as, but not limited to:
  - \* conformation, obedience, agility, coursing, therapy, rally, etc.
  - \* Any academic endeavor such as term papers on the history of the Borzoi or school assembly speech on dog ownership.
  - \* Community service, such as nursing home visits, obedience demonstrations in the community or, for example, a "Walk with Fido" for charity.
4. The junior, or his/her sponsor, must submit to the Junior Achievement Chairman by June 1st a written account of the junior's qualifications and accomplishments for the previous calendar year.
5. Where applicable, copies of titles, certificates, grades, letters of appreciation, etc., should be submitted

submitted with the nomination to verify authenticity.

6. Emphasis will be on excellence in a broad spectrum of activities.

7. Except in very unusual circumstances, a junior may win this award only once during his/her junior career.

- Scholastic Program for Highest GPA -

1. Requirements: The child with the highest grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 or equivalent for the two semesters completed immediately prior to the closing of the point system for the year, will receive this award (the GPA must be verified by official school transcript or home-school information).

2. The Award: A Saving Bond of \$100.00 will be awarded at the National to the winner.

3. Deadline for all awards: All information must be in receipt of Junior Chairperson by August 1st, along with all documentation requested. Send all documentation to the BCOA Junior Chairman.

I look forward to your written response regarding these issues, and invite and encourage you to contact me with any questions, comments or requests for any additional information you may require. I do believe that it is imperative that the club provide as much support as possible for our junior members. As I have said repeatedly throughout the years, our juniors are the window to our breeds future. These aforementioned newly recommended programs will help our BCOA juniors by providing them with the encouragement and tools, to not only be good citizens, but valued future caretakers of our breed.

**Judges Education (Patti W. Neale)**

The format for my participation in this year's member education program was a presentation of the judges education seminar. This included normal seminar activities for judges, i.e. the viewing of the actual audio visual material, taking the breed standard 25 question test, and filling out the same evaluation of the seminar that AKC judges must do after seminar attendance. We were trying to create the same experience for the exhibitors attending, that student judges have in learning new breeds, specifically Borzoi. A hands-on workshop was not included.

In regular judges education seminars, the evaluation forms are feedback to both the presenter, and the larger governing organization such as a judges study group or the AKC. In this case, the completed evaluation forms, which are attached to this report, were to be used as feedback for the BCOA judges education committee to use in paring down the existing audiovisual seminar to a much shorter form that will be more user-friendly for presenters other than myself.

Whereas each time I give this program it is slightly different do both to the audience, and to the fact that there is so much material to put in such a short time that some things are left out of one that may be in another. Usually when

I give the presentation to the borzoi fancy as opposed to judges, there are some details included that are probably more interesting but less judging specific. However, this particular evening I believe that most material was covered in a manner that should be useful to both audiences.

As was done in Kentucky in 2010, the seminar was videotaped by Gary Weitz. It was my understanding that it would be available for the membership to purchase both times, but nothing seems to have come of the 2010 recording. I hope the 2015 one has some follow-up as intended.

Also attached to this report are seminar evaluation forms submitted by the attendees at the Borzoi program in conjunction with last December's Advanced Judging Institute on the Hound breeds, and a roster of those attendees. These were sent by the AKC Judges Education department.

Committee members Jon Steele and Pat Murphy have copies of the Powerpoint presentation and the basic script outline as well as the eval forms from the two aforementioned events. We hope to have a preliminary short form test program by mid-December.

I've had several requests this year for ringside mentors at various events, and have referred people accordingly to the official mentors in the areas.

## **Summary of Members Education at 2015 National Specialty**

26 respondents

9 used only the 1-5 point rating scale (mostly 5s with a few 4s) without making any further comment.

A) How much did you learn?

1. Refreshed previous knowledge as a breeder
2. Excellent, even though I know a lot
3. Good photography for visualization
4. More than I knew about the details
5. I liked the speaker's ability to make the virtues/faults clear & concise
6. Some significant new info, although only in specific items
7. I didn't think I would learn anything, but I did!
8. The square V actual slightly longer proportions were great, as were the topline section and the range of what is acceptable
9. I did not know that the Roman nose wasn't originally a Russian thing
10. Some ambiguous terms explained
11. I am a novice and it was *tremendously* informative & a stupendous introduction to the breed.

B) Overall, the most valuable aspect

1. Explaining in detail the standard
2. Loved the PS & the squaring
3. Physiology explanation of structure
4. Opportunity to see & understand the wide range & subjective nature of what is an acceptable borzoi

5. Various structural aspects
6. Stressing desired flexibility & strength
7. Double suspension gallop
8. Clarifying the desired pastern & foot
9. The reason for tuck/loin for ribs to have room on the double suspension gallop
10. Structure--illuminating
11. The connection between type, structure, & soundness is so clearly defined
12. A borzoi is not a collection of parts; the entire athletic dog is what counts  
Emphasis on showing photos of correct outlines, and the shaved dogs
13. Reviewing the standard & the explanation of subjective & colloquial terminology

C) Overall, the least valuable aspect

1. No hands on opportunities
2. I realize that grooming, clipping & the use of products in coat don't influence future breeding, but I would like if we could point out that over-grooming should make one wonder what the presenter is trying to hide or enhance.
3. Ear set, but for those not 'in' the breed, would be important.  
(Perhaps about ear set & relevance to movement as in Anne's speed study)
4. Happy to have new judges hear all of it
5. Not sure if prospective judges would find the puppy growth pictures super-valuable.
6. The bit about blue v silver was confusing  
Photos at the end, while lovely & touching, not useful.
7. Emphasis that over-angulation is better than under-angulation doesn't make sense as both deviate from the norm; saying so is opinion, not the standard.

D) Suggestions for improvement

1. An excellent & informative seminar
2. If live dogs are not available, videos would be better still photos for discussion of movement
3. The explanation about correct shoulder was brief & confusing  
I've encountered judges who look for a borzoi that can individually take down a wolf. I suggest mentioning that the hunter dispatched the wolf after several borzoi grabbed it.
4. I do not agree that 'over-reaching' is an issue of fault or poor function.  
The wolf (who must catch prey to live) is often photographed with that movement, which leads one to think that it isn't an issue.
5. I would love to see width of back muscling mentioned.
6. Explain in depth crabbing

7. The program should be allowed to take more time; the information is great!

### **Legislative Liaison (Rita Rice)**

On September 30, APHIS/USDA announced that the final regulation modifying the Animal Welfare Act was complete and retroactive to 2013. While the actual "Frontpage" to the regulation and FAQ is dated 2014, significant changes were made from the 2014 ruling. Most notable is the word "transfer" in place of "sale," and the inclusion of "rescue" organizations as well as breeders. Our members need to be aware that certain volunteer actions done for a rescue organization may, in fact, require the volunteer to have a license from USDA. The transfer of a rescue dog may impact a breeder's licensing status, as well.

I have attached my bullet point summary of the new regulation (which was distributed to the membership on October 1, 2015).

The complete AWA and current regulations (Blue Book) are available here:

<http://tinyurl.com/largc6w>

This document, also published by APHIS, gives point by point guidance regarding the new rule:

[https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/downloads/retail-pet-store-guidance.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/downloads/retail-pet-store-guidance.pdf)

Best In Show Daily also provided the AKC's summary:

<http://www.bestinshowdaily.com/blog/new-usda-guidance-emphasizes-licensing-requirements-for-rescues-and-rescue-transporters/>

While it appears "the Fancy" has decided to ignore these developments, I cannot stress how critical it is that they be read and discussed - they will not go away, and can be enforced at any point. They certainly will be enforced if APHIS/USDA starts receiving complaints. I strongly encourage Regional Governors to talk about them during meeting and contact with members.

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On October 30-November 1, I attended the National Animal Interest Alliance Conference in Orlando, FL. The following are notes I took during the presentations that related to dogs and breeding. I have included notes on non-legislative issues because they're extremely interesting! <http://www.naiaonline.org/>

Patti Strand (NAIA President) - The Animal Rights Agenda

The surge in "Retail Rescue" is beginning to dominate the industry; it is extremely difficult for the public to discern between a "legitimate" rescue and a group that claims to "rescue."

Unfortunately, the trend towards relocation (or the sale of so-called "rescues" which are actually intentionally bred animals distributed as "rescues"), has greater significance than might be seen at first glance. By moving large numbers of dogs around the country, or importing them into the US, we are seeing a shift in the distribution of disease. Diseases once considered indigenous to one area of the country are being seen throughout the 50 states, sometimes too late for veterinarians unfamiliar with a disease to diagnose and treat it before death.

For example:

Pilots n Paws have claimed to move over 75,000 dogs in 5 years - many from overseas.  
Rabid dog imported from Egypt into JFK on an animal transport - dogs were distributed from that plane to over 5 states before the dog was diagnosed.  
An Oregon government run shelter that euthanized 15,000 dogs in 1983, and reduced that number to 194 in 2014 - now has to justify new buildings, staffs, and budgets.  
They imported over 3,000 dogs from out of state in 2014.  
501c3 shelter in Mass - adoption fees - puppies \$395+  
Surplus income over expenses of \$400,000 in 2009 - income of over \$150,000  
distributing dogs imported from Puerto Rico. Again, most were purebred.

#### Imports DO NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM AT THE SOURCE

##### California Border Puppy Task Force Study

Recorded 362 smuggled pups in a 2 week period that were CAUGHT - estimates over 10,000 dogs/year smuggled over the CA border in from Mexico.  
ASPCA offered a \$100,000 grant to the group that could bring the most pups in for an adopt-a-thon - 107 of 222 puppies brought in from the winning group died - many did not have their eyes open, but had records stating they were over 8 weeks of age.  
PetSmart Charities - \$50 MILLION INCOME (not donations) in rescue - adopt-a-thons.  
PetCo - \$16 MILLION INCOME (not donations) in rescue - adopt-a-thons in house or in parking lots.  
Colorado has a GREAT reporting law - must report imports and ages - 24,278 dogs in 2014 - over 50% were less than 4 months of age - Does anyone REALLY think these were "surrendered" animals?  
Studies show that 76-87% of companion pets are neutered.  
AKC registrations down 47% since 2000  
AKC top 10 breeds - # of registrations are down significantly.

NAIA Shelter Project: provides Model law to pass to require reporting shows importing trends by state. Lobbying groups can take this information to lawmakers and show how many dogs are being imported. For government run shelters, these dogs are being paid for by local taxpayer dollars, and contributing to the impression that there is a local problem.

NAIA shelter study: 18 shelters in different census districts for 52 weeks - 5% were purebred, 3% if pit bulls and chihuahuas are excluded - the study is peer reviewed. DNA on chihuahuas is showing that a large portion of these dogs are being imported from Mexico as "rescues."

The problem with No-kill: Once a shelter is filled with pit bull mixes, they can't get customers, and "retail rescues" that import dogs from other areas gain a foothold.  
Purdue Center for Animal Welfare Science - Breeding Dog Welfare - Candace Croney, PHD, Director of CAWS Purdue

Commercial dog breeding industry challenges:

1. substandard is represented as the norm
2. perceived lack of transparency
3. scale of operation is conflated with animal welfare issues

For the pet owning public, animals are now serving roles in society that humans used to serve - this is a new dynamic today that the industry never faced before. Our emotional investment in dogs (as pet owners) is significantly higher than several decades ago.

Strategies of animal protection/welfare groups :

1. adopt the moral high ground
2. choose issues that are visible and easy to understand
3. amplifying guilt - how can you love some dogs and be indifferent to the suffering of dogs
4. empower people to act - donate or vote

ERRORS by pro-animal use groups :

1. allowing others to set the welfare agenda
2. protecting the status quo
3. dismissing animal welfare concerns as irrational/emotional
4. failure to highlight positive changes
5. relying on PR to address the issue
6. insisting on science as the sole basis for decisions, then ignoring the evidence when it contradicts accepted practice
7. focusing on the opposition rather than solutions - defense loses every time
8. internal strife - no cohesive message, straying off topic

THREE public conceptions of animal welfare - animals should...

1. function well
2. be able to feel well - be pain free, have emotional & physical enrichment
3. be able to leave reasonably natural lives

**PUBLIC OPINION AS TO THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THESE:**

Animals should feel well and have emotional and physical enrichment

Unfortunately, breeders and breeding seminars usually focus on function, reproductive health, and productivity

Purdue Standards Program

Phase 1

Using good science to draft standards of care and welfare for dogs (not breeding standards)

24 pilot sites - welfare status of dogs

Test with public perceptions and consumer behavior

Determine the economics of implementing standards

**DRAFT STANDARDS ARE DONE AND READY TO BE PILOT TESTED**

Implementing a program nationally

Auditing and certification

New priority areas for research

Housing  
Flooring - this is a huge area of public impression  
Enrichment  
Space Allocations  
Exercise  
Environmental considerations  
    Noise  
    Temperature/humidity  
    Ventilation/air quality  
Socialization of neonates, puppies, adults

Flooring - evaluate dog foot health - the Purdue research team couldn't actually find anyone with dogs on chicken wire (acknowledged that these were registered breeders who voluntarily allowed access to facilities)  
Pilot test -3 facilities in Indiana - 90 small breed dogs - comprehensive assessments  
Finding - no significant foot health problems observed, all dogs in good body condition  
Minor areas - nails and trimming of hair around pads

This data is skewed - breeders volunteered their facilities - so data skews against serious problems  
Study will be looking at reference population of generally owned dogs for comparison  
Dental and Ear health

Quality of housing health and behavior - started with a bias - noted and held accountable  
Found commercial breeding operations to be really good  
Did find socialization issues in breeding dogs/behavioral well being - this is a new consideration, and not one that has ever had to be addressed by the industry before

\*\*\*\*No one is telling THIS story!!!!\*\*\*\*\*

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Mark Dunn & Sheila Goffe - AKC

2 parts to legislative issues

Small efforts to make a big difference within local communities - they need to know who we are and what we do. THAT is the job of Breed and All-Breed Clubs.

AKC Talking Points:

As of 2014 US has negligence and anti-cruelty laws in all 50 states

AKC response is public education, advancing breeders

AKC states that introducing legislation is problematic because it can be hijacked into something we do not want

AKC Government Relations team - grassroots model

Monitors 1700 bills/year

Advocacy is most effective with people on the ground - legislators want to hear from experts but listen to voters

AKC legislative conference - July 2016

AKC PAC donates 100% of donations to candidates

All resources are available online

AKC/CHF: 2013-2014 total of \$6 Million in research and education

Compliance Inspections - national program launched in 1996 - driving improvements through breeders willing to work with AKC

Breeder development field reps

Focus on intervention not "writing up" breeders

Pivoting from compliance to education

AKC will be improving DNA for single cheek swab giving rise to multiple tests available, moving from STRs to SNPs in 2016 and working to leverage relationships with owners of patents for genetic tests and will roll all tests into one tool kit instead of multiple swabs to multiple companies.

Stronger marketing support for breeders who comply with best practices

Bred with HEART - recognizes all breeders who make health testing and continuing education commitments

2014 Litter Compositions

Breeder of Merit/dog show fancy - 18%

Commercial - 13%

Casual Breeders/Other - 69%

AKC is focused on helping breeders make better decisions

Improving image of purebred dogs and breeders

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John Stottele - Owner - The Family Puppy - pet stores

Visits all their facilities

He is requiring that all breeders allow him to post photos of his breeders facilities - mostly Amish - environmentally friendly in many ways

Is now working with AKC

His first Amish breeders/facilities - dogs in rabbit hutches - he funded a double stack kennel for the breeder

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Adam Boyko Phd: maintaining healthy breeds despite shrinking gene pools

Mean level of inbreeding directly proportional to body size; therefore, bigger dogs are more highly inbred .

Significant popular sire effect in purebred dogs

More inbreeding in big breeds than small breeds is due to the effective population in the females (along with popular sire effect)

200+ different Mendelian disease variants in dogs - great for comparison to humans, lots of correlation .

Does longevity correspond to inbreeding? Correlated data from k9data - using 10 generation COI - every .1% increase in COI decreased lifespan by 1 month

"Why large dogs die young" correlation in mean size, but not levels of inbreeding in driving longevity .

More recent inbreeding - under 10 generations - sees many more deleterious effects than breeds that started with small gene pools.

Used C-BarQ: Trying to decide if some of positive selection was due to behavior: no proof whatsoever.

Genes that affect body size show strong selection.

Behavioral loci don't seem to have as much selection - much of positive selection is driven by morphology - physical traits that get echoed in behavior.

Found 2 behaviors that showed signatures of positive selection - drooling or howling when left alone - then looked at the breeds driving that selection - were breeds with hanging flews - oh well, no luck there!

Village dogs (the origin of dogs is in central south Asia ): show genetic drift

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Marty Greer, DVM (she's the vet for a number of our BCOA members and is VERY familiar with borzoi) - combining old and new knowledge to produce the best puppies

1. good dogs come from good dogs
2. there is no perfect dog. if we're going to breed, we must accept imperfections
3. there isn't a test for every genetic disease and there never will be
4. little gained by avoiding the tip of the iceberg we can see while ignoring the parts we can't see
5. pyometra is almost certainly a genetic trait - mostly mastiff size dogs
6. parvo - may be an increased genetic vulnerability to parvo
7. the gene pool will never get any bigger in any purebred dog breed - genes that are lost may never be replaced - are we doing a disservice by heavily restricting breeding?
8. you can't remove a single gene from a population, you must remove the entire dog
9. you can't select against a single gene
10. breeding for homozygosity of one trait creates homozygosity in many traits
11. Carriers MUST be used in breeding programs
12. consequences of inbreeding - short term gain in consistency from inbreeding is paid for by a long term penalty in viability
13. Carol Beuchart's chart on consequences of inbreeding
14. animals that cannot produce viable offspring are eventually removed by natural selection
15. effect of popular sire syndrome creates major bottlenecks in a breed - make a zillion copies, and suddenly you have a disease
16. we will lose genes with every generation until we no longer have a viable gene pool without working as a breed to preserve diversity
17. the only way to improve the genetic health of a dog is to manage the genetic health of the breed
18. environment is not accounted for in these schemes
19. phenotype = genetics + environment
20. heritability is the variation in phenotype that results ONLY from the effects of genes

21. without DNA tests, we can't eliminate a gene - eliminating a gene will decimate a gene pool
22. minimum sustainable size of a gene pool is 50 dogs - those 50 may be generations back
23. tier 1 disorders - doesn't create a health problem or is easily fixed one time and resolved or is easy to live with
24. tier 2 disorders - require management over the lifetime of the dog - i.e. thyroid or allergies
25. tier 3 - life changing or life altering disorders - temperament, seizures, orthopedic or crippling disorders, cancer, cardiac disease - AVOID THESE

Managing disease requires  
 cooperation  
 testing appropriately  
 honest sharing  
 breed clubs should have breeding strategies - consult a geneticist

making breeding decisions  
 a - breed normal to normal  
 b - breed normal that comes from normal parents and grandparents  
 c - breed normal dogs that have over 75% normal siblings  
 d - select a dog that has produced over average normal progeny

DNA test should be used to selectively use carriers  
 Estimated breeding values can be used for dogs as well as livestock  
 COI - aim for 10% or lower

Humans are one of the most genetically diverse species on the planet. and we still have genetic problems.

### **ROM (Barb Ewing)**

**November 2015**

Applications have been received for the following dogs, who qualify for the ROM with the designations shown:

SIREs:

GCh Aashtoria Wildhunt 4 your I's Only RA DAMS	ROMX-C (upgrade from ROM)
DC Aashtoria Wildhunt Mystery Unveiled SC RN FCh SGRC	ROM-C
Ch Calaron Charley's Angel, UDX, RE, SC	ROM

I have had an inquiry from a member to offer additional points for the Master Obedience title. Since this title does not require any new work other than what is required in Open and Utility, I think it should qualify for bonus points, rather than

title points. I would suggest adding 1 point for Obedience Master (the first level only) and 2 points for Obedience Grand Master (10X OM).

I have also had a suggestion that ROM titles earned should count towards the ROM points of the parents. I would like the Board to direct me to get input from the membership if they feel this is an appropriate addition to the ROM.