

## **Committee Reports**

### **Annual Awards – Nancy Katsaleras**

### **BTRC – Barbara O’Neill**

### **Club Inventory and Medals – Barbara O’Neill**

The Championship medal reorder has arrived and Chris Danker has requested them for conformation awards. There are on 20 TSE medallions remaining in stock which is not enough to get through this year – we will need to order 500 as soon as possible. The sending of TSE medallions is current.

### **Constitution and By-Laws Committee – Barbara O’Neill**

A ballot for revisions is being readied for mailing to the membership and should be in the mail prior to August 15.

### **Disaster Preparedness – Veni Harlan**

#### **Animal Emergency Planning Summit**

In March I attended the “Animal Emergency Planning for Animal Organizations and Businesses” on behalf of BCOA. The summit was intended to bring together individuals and groups in Louisiana who are responsible for animals during emergencies and disasters.

The summit was held at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine and sponsored by the Louisiana State Animal Response Team ([www.lsart.org](http://www.lsart.org)) and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty ([www.aspca.org](http://www.aspca.org)). The ASPCA and PetSmart Charities generously provided grants to keep the event free of charge.

Discussed were new legal directives requiring organizations to create and file disaster evacuation plans with the State. (All entities housing animals such as veterinarian clinics, grooming shops and boarding establishments are legally bound to have a plan in place.)

The first day of the conference concerned OEP directors of Louisiana cities/parishes, designated disaster personnel and animal control employees responsible for evacuating their cities/parishes. The second day was geared toward non-profit organizations. I was the only AKC affiliated representative and most pleased to share information regarding the leadership positions both AKC and BCOA have taken to inform, educate and aid in disaster preparedness and relief. I wish more purebred breed representatives had been in attendance but it’s likely they were not informed. Building relationships with all the breed rescue organizations is critical in times of disaster. There is still plenty of mistrust and misunderstanding between rescue organizations and purebred rescue (as evidenced post hurricane Katrina) so the importance of making connections cannot be over-stated.

Chain of command both to coordinate relief efforts and request financial help were strongly emphasized. There is a system and following it ensures efficiency, speed and coordination. In essence a pet owner in need should seek assistance from the city/municipality. The city should solicit to the parish/county. The parish/county reports to the state. When relief capacity at the state level is exceeded, the state may make requests to the Federal Government for additional help. I’m pleased to share that Louisiana has a great system in place to cover relief efforts for humans and animals.

Some key points worth mentioning:

- Establish partnerships with fellow fanciers, breeders, veterinarians and government agencies are one of the most crucial actions you can take.
- Don’t just write a disaster plan – practice it. A ‘paper’ plan can have holes you didn’t think of.
- Facility fire is the most common and devastating emergency for animal related businesses/individuals.
- Volunteers are not effective until they have taken care of their own pets/families.
- Everyone should have two pre-identified evacuation options.
- Make sure you separate the water system from the electrical system in your home/establishment.
- Fire department will NOT go into a home to search for an animal unless they know animals are in the building/kennel/home. Be sure to indicate the number/type of animals on the outside of a structure. Obtain a free window cling at: <https://www.adt.com/resi/programs/pets>
- Check that your back-up systems (computers, lighting, cooling, etc) are not proprietary or out-of-date.
- Review your insurance coverage. What doesn’t it cover? Consider liability.
- Video your home/kennel/business
- Meet with your OEP (Office of Emergency Planning) resource agent for more information/help.

- Acquire appropriate training in your state.
- Register to volunteer with disaster teams in your state.
- Most importantly, have a disaster plan.

### **About the Louisiana State Animal Response Team**

LSART is an organization of groups and individuals with an interest in animal well-being related to emergencies and disasters. This includes governmental agencies, veterinarians, animal control officers, humane organizations and citizen volunteers. LSART works as a volunteer partner with guidance from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry in Louisiana's emergency planning structure. The primary objective of LSART is to organize and facilitate the four phases of emergency preparedness that affect animals in disaster *Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation*.

Currently only about 28 states have SART programs and not all states have finalized disaster plans that include animals.

### **Futurity – Barbara O'Neill**

The 2010 Futurity currently has 26 new Bitch nominations and 22 new Litter nominations. There are 20 litters and 71 puppies that are eligible to go forward from the 2009 Futurity. There is currently \$1440.00 in the 2010 account.

### **Health – Ginger Jones**

#### **Item #1 – Kevin Shimel proposal for funds to support a microphthalmia research project.**

Mr. Shimel sent an email note reporting all the kennels of which he is aware that have affected dogs. All of these are of foreign registry except one.

I provided Mr. Shimel with the OFA web link to Borzoi on-line health survey and recommended he fill it out for any dogs he owns with this issue and that he pass the request on to others with the same issue. I asked him to also submit DNA swabs for each affected dog to the Borzoi DNA Repository along with the associated health history questionnaire and I provided him with the web link for this as well. I also had the same information posted on the Borzoi News List and explained the function of both of these and how it would help in the pursuit of a research study through CHF or the Morris Animal Foundation.

#### **Item #2 – Health Research Project**

There is a CHF study on heart disease pending that I would highly recommend the board consider supporting.

GRANT NUMBER 01151 – MOLECULAR BASIS OF TRICUSPID VALVE DYSPLASIA – Paula S Henthorn – University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

For Borzoi murmurs discovered in the tricuspid valve area are more common than any other murmur type. While the presence of murmurs doesn't necessarily indicate TVD is present, this particular heart disease is the most common amongst our breed. I believe this study at a molecular level would prove to be directly beneficial to our breed.

#### **Item #3 – Donor Advised Fund**

I received the semi-annual 2009 statement from the CHF which included the following information:

Purina Parent Club Partnership Program – Funds received to our account = \$881.61

Interest/Dividend received =  
439.57

Ending balance = \$26670.79

The IRS is scrutinizing the spending of the Donor Advised Fund – to assure the tax deductions are used in a timely fashion and not 'banked'. There is an IRS 'Donor-Advised Funds Guide Sheet Explanation, issued 7/31/2008, that requests and organization have in place a minimum distribution from its DAF accounts on an annual basis so that distributions will equal or exceed 5% of the funds average net assets on a rolling basis over a four-year period.

With this in mind it might behoove us to use some of the money from our DAF for a specific heart research project as mandated by the membership.

#### **Item #4 – 2010 National Health Clinics and Seminar**

I plan to offer a heart clinic and a CERF eye clinic.

The 2009 cardiologist will also do our clinic in Kentucky and is licensed to practice in that state also. I am currently working to find an ophthalmologist for both the CERF clinic and a seminar afterward. I will request that eye disease statistics from all available databases be included and that a discussion of the different types that affect our breed, percentages of affected, methods for testing and prevention and modes of inheritance.

### **National Show Committee and Guidelines – Barbara O’Neill**

The National Specialty Polices and Guidelines are up to date. A proposal for the 2012 National in Region 5 is scheduled to be presented at the May Board meeting in Kentucky. Robin Riel has indicated an interest in submitting a proposal.

### **2009 National Specialty – Frankenmuth, MI – May 17-23, 2009 – Barbara O’Neill**

The Specialty in Frankenmuth was a great success thanks to the efforts of Jon and Jenni Steele, Lynne Bennett, Mickey Nash and all the members who participated in putting it together. The goal is to have the final income/expense information available by the August Board meeting.

### **2010 National Specialty – Ft. Mitchell, KY – May 16-22, 2010 – Barbara O’Neill**

With the addition of an AKC Lure Trial we have added an additional lure judge, Jan Swayze-Curry to the field panel. Revised judging contracts have been sent to the other two judges and are waiting for two judges to return their contracts. The Field Event Schedule now has the ASFA Lure Trial and LGRA Race Meet on Sunday and the AKC Lure Trial and JC tests on Monday.

Veni Harlan has volunteered to chair an exciting Art Gallery event with will be in place of the traditional art auction. Information on the Specialty has been sent to the BC for inclusion in the Aristocrat and R.Lynn Shell-Whitlock is working on the Specialty website which should soon be available.

### **2011 National Specialty – Lawrence, KS – April 3-9, 2011 – Barbara O’Neill**

A site visit to the Holiday Inn in Lawrence took place July 16. I was delighted that so many of the 2011 Show Committee members were able to attend a meeting – some traveled many hours. Attending were Kay Cassella, Facility Coordinator and Grounds, Teresa Burks, Obedience/Rally, Josie Haumont/Debb Meyer, Field Events, Dawn Hall, LGRA, Caryl Dumaine/Terry Doane, Hospitality, Cindi Gredys, Vendors and Scott Doane. We toured the venue, went over the guidelines and discussed ideas for the Specialty. In addition following the meeting we went to the site of the field events approx 7 mi. from the host hotel. Due to the time of year, limited daylight hours and low entry of past years plus the AKC plans to eliminate the current JC Test for the QC (Qualifying Courser) Test, the committee would like to Board to approve the option of not offering JC Tests.

The following judge names have been submitted for approval:

Lure Coursing: Dawn Ferris, Mike Ferris, Kim Bork, Rita Rice and Scott Hurlbert

Obedience/Rally: Rick Garvin, William Oxandale and Diane Propst

Juniors: Nancy Sedlacek, Eleanor Rensink and Sheryl Bradbury

### **Rescue Report – Dee Jones**

The BCOA Rescue Committee sponsored the Companion Class and Costume Contest at the 2009 National Specialty. Both events were well-attended.

The costumes were terrific, with most picking ideas from *Grimm's Fairy Tales*. We are looking forward to next year when the theme will be *My Old Kentucky Home*. Costume ideas can come from anything representative of Kentucky – whiskey, pioneers, Daniel Boone, horses, horse racing, etc. Lots of Internet site provide Kentucky history and culture.

Companion Class gave people who do not show their dogs a chance to be part of our Specialty and gave everyone a chance to acknowledge how important Borzoi are to us as family members.

**In-Home Visit List** – In response to my requests for updates on personal information for the In-Home Visit Volunteer List, I received over 60 emails. Many of them were new volunteers or individuals expanding their travel territory. The changes have recently been sent to R.Lynn Shell-Whitlock to update the website and I am sure that by the Board meeting, this will have been completed. I hope that our breeders find this list helpful and are making use of it to ensure that all is as it should be before making placements.

**AKC Humane Grants** – I have learned that the AKC has grants available to purebred rescue groups. BCOA Rescue is not eligible since we do not directly rescue dogs. However NBRF is eligible as a national breed rescue organization. I forwarded the links to Carol Backers who will make the application.

**NBRF** – Carol Backers and Liz Duncan-Burge reporting

Carol Backers reports that Liz Duncan-Burge has assumed the Directorship duties while Carol is away with her ill son. Carol would like BCOA to be aware of the GREAT job Liz is doing.

Also NBRF cannot accept Borzoi mixes unless almost indistinguishable from a purebred Borzoi. She has only placements for Borzoi.

We have recently gotten into rescue three dogs due to job and home loss and we fear there will be others coming. These three are age 6, 7 and 10 years and were in fairly rough shape with high medical bills to rehabilitate them. They are now healthy happy and going to new homes shortly.

Additional we have gotten an 8 yr old male who was adopted from a shelter by a woman who had to give him up to NBRF. He is currently being fostered by Dr. Lou Avant, DVM and has a home waiting. We seem to have a lot of older Borzoi needing rescue lately due to the poor economy. Luckily people seem to have a soft spot in their hearts for our Senior Borzoi.

Our total rescued this year is 9 including the above dogs.

NBRF received a check for \$1000.00 from the Editors of *Forever Borzoi* for which we are sincerely grateful.

**Borzoi Rescue Northern California** – Nancy Joeckel

So far this year we've had two dogs in Rescue and three dogs in our Referral Program.

The Referral Program not only brings us much-needed money, it also educates and encourages people to buy from a breeder. The Referral Program states up front that the buyer has to inspect the home, the dogs and the contract – all elements of buying a dog responsibly. Likewise it supports the breeders in asking for a full application, a reference check and a home check.

Finally we ran a very successful race weekend in April.

**Borzoi Rescue Southern California** – Lorrie Scott

I have an old guy in rescue, otherwise it has been quiet.

**ROM – Barbara Ewing**

One new application received for the dam who qualifies with the designation show:  
C'Lestial Midnight Fire FCH ROM

**Standardized Trophies – Barbara O'Neill**

The Challenge trophies have been transported from Michigan to Southern Ohio area for the 2010 National. Arrangements for transport to the Kansas 2011 National have been made.