



May 2009 Committee Reports

Annual Awards – Nancy Katsarelas

No report submitted.

Club Inventory and Medals – Barbara O’Neill

Championship medals and TSE medallions were ordered and have arrived. The sending of TSE medallions is current.

Championship Medals – Chris Danker

A total of 164 Borzoi completed the requirements for their Championships in 2008. A total of 111 of these Borzoi were first-owner listed BCOA members and received medals.

Futurity – Barbara O’Neill

The 2009 Futurity closed with a total of \$4,485.00. The 2010 Futurity currently has 18 new Bitch nominations and 12 new Litter nominations. There are 20 litters from 2009 that are eligible to forward to the 2010 Futurity. There is currently \$680.00 in the 2010 Futurity account

Health – Virginia Jones

CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSALS - PENDING FUNDING:

I did get a list of proposed grant research projects that the CHF is hoping for supporting contributions for, however, the expenses this year for the health clinics and seminar will be pretty extensive, so I hesitate to request the board to approve any funding until after we've paid the bills for the nationals. Of the list of proposed grants, there is one that I would recommend we support if we have enough funds after nationals to do so:

Grant#1151 - Molecular Basis of Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia - Paula S. Henthorn, PhD, University of Pennsylvania. - the goal is to identify the mutant allele of a gene or genes that are responsible for TVD - it's not a simple mode of inheritance, so it's a bit more difficult to map. I believe they are using Labrador Retrievers in the study. It's sort of the next stepping stone from a previous study to determine susceptibility genes/chromosomes where they initially determined this was inherited as an autosomal dominant trait. What is learned from the Labrador Retriever in determining the gene/genes can be applied to other breeds of dogs even if it's not the exact same gene/genes for each breed. The process to define/locate the specific gene/genes would be utilized for the same determining factor for other breeds of dogs. Supporting a project of this type indicates to the CHF that we are committed to our objective of our Borzoi Donor Advised Fund - heart disease research for borzoi.

This fall brings the CHF parent club conference again in St. Louis where the research candidates provide information back to the parent breed clubs who help support their research through the funding of approved grants. If the board would so approve, as the BCOA liaison to the CHF, I would very much like to attend the 3 day conference and will cover the transportation costs to and from the conference. If there is a registration fee for the conference, I would like to request that the cost of the conference be covered by health committee contributions if at all possible. Thanks much for your consideration!

Upcoming 2009 Nationals health clinics and seminar status:

I've confirmed that everything is in place for the massage clinic, the DNA repository clinic, the heart clinic and the seminar. I do have a vet technician scheduled for the thyroid clinic, there may be a fee associated with her time/work, but I still need to acquire a portable centrifuge and syringes and blood sample tubes. Mickey Nash has agreed to order the syringes and the sample tubes and I will submit the bill for these for reimbursement. So, the only TBD is the portable centrifuge which I intend to resolve before the end of next week. So far I've not been able to locate one that a member could bring with them that we might use for the day, so I may have to rent one.

The board should be aware that in the past the nationals health activities have actually accrued additional funds for the health committee, but that this year the opposite will be true and in a very significant amount. The clinics were offered at less than half the cost to us and the seminar is offered for free. There are also more expenses this year since we are offering thyroid clinics and the costs for registration fees have increased as well as the costs for the blood lab work up. There have been no fund raisers for the past year and the committee does not have a fund raising chairman (which we really, really need!!!).

2009 HEALTH COMMITTEE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTIONS:

CHF BORZOI DONOR ADVISED FUND:

Currently we have almost \$30,000 in our CHF Borzoi Donor Advised Fund, earmarked for borzoi heart research. Our participation in the Purina Parent Club Partnership program netted us a matching contribution of \$960 from the Ralston Purina Company. I encourage any borzoi owners who feed Purina products to sign up for this program and designate the Borzoi Club of America as your matching partner breed club. You can see what a benefit this is to health research funding!

HEALTH COMMITTEE FUND:

Thanks to the generous contribution of our membership, the health fund had almost \$8,000 total at year end. Each year we had used some of the funds from these contributions to defray the costs for the Nationals health clinics and seminar speaker fees. In addition, we have annually contributed to at least one health research project orchestrated by the CHF. This year, we wanted to do something really special for our membership who has been so generous and forthcoming with their contributions to the health committee. So, we offered the seminar for free this year, the heart clinic for half

information to facilitate future research and testing aimed at reducing the incidence of inherited disease in dogs. The objective is:

- Facilitate more rapid research progress by expediting the sample collection process
- Provide researchers with optimized family groups needed for research
- Allow breeders to take advantage of future DNA based disease tests as they become available
- Foster a team environment between breeders/owners and the research community improving the likelihood of genetic discovery

The CHIC DNA Repository has partnered with the Veterinary Genetics Lab at the University of California–Davis and the Animal Molecular Genetics Lab at the University of Missouri. UC Davis will receive and store all swab samples, and Missouri will receive and store all blood samples.

BORZOI HEALTH SURVEY:

At the beginning of 2008, the OFA extended an offer to all national breed clubs, to assist in conducting breed specific health surveys; a project of mine for several years that I struggled to get to fruition. In very short order, I was able to send the segmented questions I had developed for a survey to their computer programmer, run some test pilots through their system set up and in a matter of only a couple of months, get a very comprehensive breed survey up and running on their website. One of the things I really like about the program is that, while maintaining total confidentiality of the participants, it allows any participant to see the statistical results of the survey immediately. It is a very quick survey to fill out and yet contains a good breadth of information. I was very enthusiastic about the volume of responses we received in a very short period of time so evidently our fellow borzoi owners felt it was relative quick and easy as well. To date, we have over 481 responses and the survey has only been active for a few short months. Thanks to everyone who has taken the time to enter their dog's information. I encourage everyone to go to the OFA website and participate in the survey if you haven't already done so. At a minimum, take a few minutes to pull up the results and you will see an excellent breakdown of what's going on in our breed. Very worthwhile and it only takes a second!

Interesting to note, below are some of the apparent patterns already seen in the survey:

- There are almost an even number of submissions for dogs as there are bitches
- More than one third of the entries are spayed or neutered
- The order of significance in diseases submitted is as follows:
 - Cancer/Tumors – evenly distributed between dogs and bitches
 - Gastrointestinal disorders – slightly higher incidence in dogs
 - Orthopedic disorders – slightly higher incidence in bitches

- Neurological &/or Muscular – slightly higher incidence in dogs
- Cardiovascular disorders – evenly distributed between dogs and bitches

CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION RESEARCH:

The CHF primary focus as of late has been on genetic marker studies for several types of cancer – especially in breeds extensively predisposed to cancer. Their studies include bone, blood, skin and organ cancers. The use of stem cells in their research is proving to provide some of the most promising outcomes and undoubtedly some of the most exciting times in future research! One item of significant note is that the research community has established a National Canine Cancer Biospecimen Repository as a storage facility for tumors for future research. If your dog is diagnosed with a possible cancerous tumor, prior to surgery to remove it, please have a conversation with your veterinarian about the possibility of submitting the tumor to the tumor bank. There is a specific protocol that must be followed, so it is important to contact the CHF or the storage facility prior to the surgery or the tumor sample may not be usable. The storage facility is located at the National Cancer Institute in Frederick, Maryland. This coming October the CHF will again hold their Parent Club Conference in St. Louis where researchers share the results of their studies success and provide information on where they plan to go next. I look forward to hearing about the result and sharing these with all of you in the very near future.

Judges Education – Patti Neale

The Judges Study Group at the 2008 National had only three people show up of the four that had signed up; Sheila Polk who was there for all judging, came to judge correctly in BIS and is unlikely to become a hound judge any time soon, but was a great student. Kimberly Meredith Cavanna will eventually judge Borzoi and has also been through the program at ADSJ in August 2007. Lori Nelson, Whippet breeder, will also judge Borzoi in the near future. All three were very attentive and sharp and would be worth considering for Sweepstakes.

Shen Smith and Jan Leikam attended the classroom presentation in Sacramento.

I flew in to give the BCOA Judges Education presentation in Omaha, Nebraska on Saturday July 19, 2008 in conjunction with the multi-breed seminars at the Nebraska Kennel Club. Three of the four students that signed up attended as well as Lynne Bennett who judged Sweepstakes that day and Nadine Johnson who audited the presentation.

Two other seminars, in the Northeast and the Pacific Northwest, which were to be presented by BCOA members with the support of this office were cancelled by the sponsoring organizations.

National Specialty – Barbara O’Neill

2009 National Specialty – Frankenmuth, MI – May 17-23, 2009

Jon and Jenni Steele, Lynne Bennett and Mickey Nash have done a great job of organizing the specialty. The entry is very similar to 2008 with 330 dogs entered (331 in 2008). Now, everyone has their fingers crossed that the weather will be kind to us.

2010 National Specialty – Ft. Mitchell, KY – May 16-22, 2010

A lovely logo has been created by Yoriko Dixon for the 2010 “Run for the Roses” theme. In fact, we have two great designs to use. Gale Snoddy, Facility Coordinator, will present at the Annual Awards Banquet. We would especially like to see Region 2 members participate in their regional National. Please contact Gale at melockoff@fuse.net if you can help out as our Auction or CGC chairman. Gale has asked that the policy for promoting future Nationals be reviewed. She would like to have an information sheet in the Specialty Welcome packet instead of having to wait until the banquet to present the printed information.

National Show Committee and Guideline – Barbara O’Neill

The National Specialty Policies and Guidelines are up to date. A proposal for the 2011 National in Region 3, Lawrence, Kansas, will be presented at the May meeting in Michigan

Rescue – Dee Jones

I sent thank you notes to each contributor to the BCOA Rescue Fund. It seemed to me that donations were less than in recent years and donors were also fewer. I am sure the economy played a role in that. However, I am concerned that our fellow Borzoi supporters are under the misconception that Rescue has a lot of money due to the Beverly Taylor fund. Sadly, that is not true. Rescue numbers are up and donations are down, creating the possibility of a real financial crisis in the event of a large emergency rescue event.

I plan to have a sign up list for the In-Home Visit Volunteer List at nationals to provide people a chance to volunteer or to correct or update their contact info. After Nationals, I will ask on the lists for updates and provide corrections to Lynn in an effort to keep the list current.

Rescue will sponsor the Costume Contest and the Companion Parade at Nationals. I have had several inquiries regarding both events and hope for a nice turn out.

Borzoi Club of South California, Lorrie Scott reporting:

Last year was a quite year for SCBR. We assisted in re-homing borzoi as well as adoption of them. We had a fund raiser last fall that has helped keep the available monies at hand.

Currently we have a 10+plus year old male who has overcome some medical issues and is healthy now and looking for a home where he can lay down his bed for good. He was

bailed out of the San Clemente shelter as a stray. It is hard to believe that someone would dump such a sweet old man. We have named him Sport.

Borzoi Club of North California, Nancy Joeckel reporting:

For Jan - March, 2009: Two dogs in rescue (Rio and Bella), both placed in experienced sighthound homes with other sighthounds and both are doing very well.

No dogs in the Referral program during that time.

We just ran our Spring fundraiser - LGRA races - the first week in April and had a very good turnout despite the bad economic times. So with the spring race money in, our treasury is OK for now.

National Borzoi Rescue Foundation, Carol Backers reporting:

I am working at getting my report to the Bev Taylor Trust Fund and will have that sent this week.

So far this year we have rescued 6 Borzoi. We have assisted owners with placement of two others into NBRF homes who have had our dogs previously. These Borzoi were already altered and current on vaccinations and the homes were close enough together so NBRF did not need to place them into foster care.

Because of a serious illness in my immediate family, I will not be attending this year's Nationals. I will be in FL. I have made arrangements for Liz Duncan-Burge to receive phone calls from the 888 toll free number and her email address will be listed as contact on our web page. My husband will forward any pertinent emails to Liz in my absence. Unfortunately I have no idea how long it will be necessary for me to be in FL, but I will be in touch with Liz and Mary Childs while I am there.

Shen Smith has kindly consented to take the crate to the Nationals for me and I will arrange for numerous volunteers to have tickets for the "Stuffed Crate Raffle" NBRF fund-raiser in Frankenmuth.

ROM – Barbara Ewing

Received two new applications:

Ch Majenkir My Wynter Whimsical ROM-C

DC Windrift Bound For Glory SC ROM-C

The current list of all ROM inductees will be published in the Summer BC.

Standardized Trophies – Barbara O'Neill

The challenge trophies have been shipped to Michigan. Our thanks to Mickey and Gary Nash for accepting and making sure they get to Frankenmuth. Storage in the Midwest and transfer to the 2010 Specialty is still to be determined.

Junior Showman – Barbara Lord

End of the Year Report

Listed below please find the complete list of BCOA junior members and non-members exhibiting Borzoi in AKC junior showman competition throughout the United States during the 2008 calendar year. I have made note of the 15 juniors who are currently members of the Borzoi Club of America:

Gredys, Amelia (member) – 209
Cedeno, Cassandra (member) – 98
Myers, Shannon (member) - 77
Inez Greenhill, Mavis Mary (member) - 65
Davis, Jordan (member) - 60
Miller, Natalya – 51
Tretter, Cheyenne - 37
Stachton, Robin (member) - 30
Harpole, Charles ‘Chas’ (member) - 23
Viellieux, Casey - 16
McCary, Ashlee - 12
Aimar, Brooke – 9
Utter, Star – 7
Fien, Hannah - 4
Hant-Lefevre, Nicole – 4
Bloomquist, Candace (member) – no record of competition
Bradshaw, Keegan (member) – no record of competition
Denning, Chloe (member) – no record of competition
Denning, Liza (member) – no record of competition
Denning, Naomi (member) – no record of competition
Kubiak-Zamora, Natalie (member) – no record of competition
Picking, John (member) – no record of competition
Shaw, Sarah (member) – no record of competition
Spiers, Justine - zero

I am pleased to announce that our 2008 BCOA Top Junior Showman is Amelia Gredys. Congratulations, Amelia, and best of luck to you in the future!

(Note: If you have any comments, questions or corrections regarding these statistics OR if you know of any of the above listed Non-members and/or other juniors who might be interested in joining as BCOA Junior members, Please contact me privately at: warwind@tds.net PO Box 90 Forest Junction, WI 54123)

On a personal note, I would like to take this time to thank our club president, Lydia Pruett for her unfailing support and efforts on behalf of our Junior Handlers. Lydia has been instrumental in not only helping to finalize our BCOA Junior Showmanship Scholarship Application – Eukanuba/AKC National Championship & Westminster

KC, but also played an important role in instituting the Junior Page which will be included on our BCOA website.

In addition, a great big 'thank you' to a fellow member of the 'past junior handler mom club' and fellow BCOA member, Cindi Gredys for her support and contributions to the finalization of our Junior Showmanship Scholarship Application. Cindi not only compiled all the Westminster & Eukanuba pertinent information for our Scholarship Application, she also helped with the layout of the form. Cindi continues to be a strong advocate of juniors and their rights as members of our National Club.

As in past years, I make every effort to contact each of the non-member juniors handling Borzoi in AKC conformation competition and invite them to join the BCOA.

In closing, I strongly urge the BCOA Board of Directors and the membership of the Borzoi Club of America, in addition to the Top Junior Showman Award, to institute the 'end of the year' Top 5 Borzoi Club of America Junior Handler Awards. These top 5 BCOA Junior Handlers deserve to have the opportunity to be honored by the adult members of our club by giving these youngsters the Top Five BCOA Junior Showman Certificates at the BCOA Annual Awards Banquet. I believe this would be a positive way to acknowledge these fine young people and their hard work. We need to remember that many of the individuals involved in our breed as junior handlers today, will very likely be part of the future of our breed.

Open Field Coursing – Karen Ackermann

OPEN FIELD COURSING 2008 NOFCA Top Ten

1. Kachina Valeska Shalako Dancer, Indy , D.&G.Mills/C.Enz	103
2. Tiene Cosmic Bliss,JC,Bliss, L.Turner	100.16
3. Phoenixx Necklace of Gold, JC, CC,CM,Lacey, L.Turner/S.Barron	91.25
4. Rio Brava of Star Canyon, Flame, S.Barron/C.Cordtz	60
5. Kinobi Travlin Blues Renaissance JC, Ren , L.Abordo,/RPeters-Campbell	48
6. FC Avalon WNS Rising Sun, SC,FCh,CJ,, S. Moore	40
6. FC Tiene Singularity SC, Vega , A. Midgarden	40
8. Ch. Kirov All Aflame JC, Allie, B. Ewing	30
8. Ch.Kachina-Valeska Dream Dancer, Cheyenne, C. Enz	30
10.Phoenixx Redgold Barron, Dino ,D&G Mills/S.Barron	29

With regard to the top ten for open field coursing, these ratings only reflect those BCOA members participation in NOFCA hunts. Results are based on NOFCA website covering hunts held from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 inclusive. Submit any corrections to Karen M. Ackerman, PO Box 507, Upton, Wyoming 82730.

OPEN FIELD COURSING NACA

Since the beginning of 2008, the North American Coursing Association had the following BCOA members and their hounds compete in open field coursing. All of the Borzoi listed below have accumulated points toward their open field titles.

Ch. Kirov All Aflame JC, **Allie**, B. Ewing
 Ch. Phaedra Delicious, **Meena**, A. Hobbs
 Ch. Phaedra Federer, **Roger**, A. Hobbs
 Jedawn-Jubilee Heaven's Kubei, **Kubei**, V. Littleton
 Valeska Infinite Frolic, **Sorva**, R. and Y. McGehee
 Valeska Bed of Stone, **Zvezdah**, R. and Y. McGehee
 Valeska Haunting Beauty, **Krilatka**, R. and Y. McGehee
 Valeska Bistroi Shikarniy, **Shika**, R. and Y. McGehee
 Vega Shelk Shafran, **Zadar**, R. and Y. McGehee
 Tiene Avada Kedavra, **Avada**, A. Midgarden
 Zarja Iz Razdolia, **Zara**, A. Midgarden
 Laureate Bella Luna Fly Me to the Moon, **Buzz**, E. Moon
 Zoiboyz Comet, **Comet**, KC Thompson and T. Golcher
 Zoiboyz Tornado V Rosehill, **Tornado**, KC Thompson and T. Golcher
 Phoenixx In Fields of Gold, **T-Bird**, J. Woith
 Astar's Late Arrival, **Dude**, W. and K. Ackerman
 Astar's Steel and Glass, **Andrei**, W. and K. Ackerman
 Borscana Wind of Change, **Vilda**, W. and K. Ackerman
 Polongain Igryska, **Nona**, W. and K. Ackerman
 Zvjozdnij Barhat, **Barhat**, C. Enz
 Ch. Kachina-Valeska Dream Dancer, **Cheyenne**, C. Enz
 Kachina-Valeska Wind Dancer, **Mariah**, C. Enz

These points were earned at hunts held between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008. These results were submitted by Tim Sanders, NACA Recorder. Please submit any corrections to Karen M. Ackerman, PO Box 507, Upton, Wyoming 82730.

Open Field Coursing TCC Top Ten

1. Ch. Kachina-Valeska Dream Dancer, Cheyenne , C. Enz	17
2. Kachina-Valeska Wind Dancer, Mariah , C. Enz	15
3. Kachina-Valeska Rainbow Dancer, CM Ladyhawke , C. Enz	5
4. Zvjozdnij Barhat, Barhat , C. Enz	2.5

These points were earned at hunts held between January 1, 2008 and June 30, 2008. These results were submitted by Terry Smith, TCC Recorder. Please submit any corrections to Karen M. Ackerman, PO Box 507, Upton, Wyoming 82730.

NEW TITLE HOLDER:

NOFCA COURSER OF MERIT, NOFCA COURSING CHAMPION
Phoenixx Necklace of Gold JC, **Lacey**, L.Turner/S.Barron TD:1-27-08

For 2008 the top open field borzoi was Zarja Iz Radzolia who was owned by Anne Midgarden when she competed in the open field. She defeated 38 borzoi to earn this honor. The winner of the 2008 Borzoi Fall Classic was Zoiboyz Comet, Comet, owned by KC Thompson and Tom Golcher. Our only title holder this year was Lacey, Phoenixx Necklace of Gold, JC owned by Linda Turner and Sally Barron.