

**Borzoi Club of America, Inc.  
Annual Membership Meeting  
Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton  
Mesquite, Texas  
4/28/2022**

**Meeting Called to Order – President – Ron Williams**

**President Williams called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM**

**Recording Secretary Establishes Quorum – Joyce Katona**

**We need 55 to make a quorum, there are 61 in attendance. We have a quorum.**

**Approve Minutes of May 28, 2021 – Ron Williams**

***Motion to accept: Anne Midgarden***

***Second: Sandra Moore***

***All in favor, motion carried***

**President's Welcome**

**President Williams welcomed all to the 117<sup>th</sup> BCOA National Specialty Show. We are a community and extended family with a common love of the borzoi. Our goal should be to do our best for the borzoi community and to wish our organization well and to help guide us in a direction that will make us proud to be under the umbrella we call AKC. He went on to say that he is part of a social media group of AKC parent clubs and that we should be proud to know that our community, our organization is far ahead of many parent clubs. R. Williams stated he is proud of and respects the board and he is confident that the members voted into office all have the club's well-being at heart and will do all we can to gain your continued support and respect.**

**Lynda's Cattoni Sarman donated a piece of Leslie Hutto's art.**

**In Lynda's absence, K. Novotny explained that the sculpture is a tribute piece donated in honor BCOA president's past and present. It will be on display at each National. Name plaques will be placed and continued on in the future.**

**Officers' Reports**

**Introduction of Officers – Ron Williams**

**R. Williams welcomed officers, committee chairs, members of less than 1 year, first-time attendees, and foreign guests. In addition, he thanked the specialty committees and co-show chairs K. Horn Janek and B. Danieli.**

**Recording Secretary Update – Joyce Katona**

**542 members. Quorum = 55**

**14 members passed away in 2021 and we already lost 2 in 2022**

**2021 - 10 new members + 2 juniors**

**2022 - 3 new members with 14 pending. 6 picked up applications this week**

**Treasurer Report – Lyn Hoflin (See Document on table)**

**Ashley Cirimeli asked L. Hoflin a question about National entries only listed as 25 because they went to BaRay.**

***Motion to accept the officers' reports: Valori Trantanella***

***Second: Leigh Paintin***

***All in favor, motion carried***

**AKC Delegate Report – Prudence Hlatky**

**Standing Committee Reports**

**R. Williams stated that the complete Standing Committee reports are submitted with each Board meeting and they can be found on the BCOA website.**

**BCOA Beverly C. Taylor Trust -Barbara O'Neill (See Document on table)**

As is done each year, R. Williams asked for a minute of silence for the memory of Beverly C. Taylor. R. Williams named the members of the Beverly C. Taylor Trust Committee and indicated that Barbara O'Neill (former Chair) will step in as Chair for the remainder of 2022 due to the unfortunate passing of Karen Ackerman.

Sandra Moore asked why we don't provide a line-item distribution of the money from Bev Taylor to NBRF. Barbara Lord explained that reports are given each month. B. Lord will reach out to Liz Duncan to provide a new report for this year to date.

Karen Stout-Cartabona asked why it wasn't in the standing rules that any rescue group must provide a detailed report for their expenses. Dee Jones explained how the Bev Taylor committee determines how much money goes to rescue each year.

*Motion to accept the Standing Committee reports: Deb Rogstad*

*Second: Barb Simpson*

*All in favor, motion carried*

**National Specialty - Kim Horn-Janek**

**2022 – Mesquite, Texas, April 23 – 30**

**2023 – Virginia Beach, Virginia, April 22 – 29**

**2024 – Region 5, the Pacific Northwest**

**Health Committee – Canine Health Foundation Progress Grant Report**

R. Williams mentioned that May is Pet Cancer Awareness Month. He is thrilled that we have a Health Committee that is passionate about borzoi health and acknowledged Nancy Hopkins, Ginger Jones, and Danielle Steenkamp for their involvement in borzoi health and keeping the borzoi community knowledgeable in the area of health.

**Unfinished Business**

A motion was passed at last year's annual membership meeting to list the CHIC numbers with the dogs' names in the Aristocrat.

Update: Renee McCartin has started submitting the names for publication and they are currently being listed in the Aristocrat online.

From the floor - BCOA might consider adding the Amateur-owner class to the National, perhaps replacing the Novice class. Much discussion took place. No decision or conclusion was reached.

The Board may use an online survey to ask the membership what they would prefer. Adding classes takes time and money and this is historically an owner-handled breed. More discussion occurred. There will be no vote tonight. We must let the entire membership be heard which is why the Board will be sending out an opinion poll to the entire membership.

**New Business**

**Member Awards:**

**2022 Life Members**

BCOA members become life members after belonging to the club for 25 consecutive years. Our 2022 new life members joining BCOA in 1997 are:

Lauri Anderson

Suzanne Newsom. DVM

Pamela Buffington

Michael & Vicki Savage

Robin Casey

Anna Stewart

Cynthia Michalak

Jill Woith

**Golden Anniversary**

BCOA members reach their Golden Anniversary after belonging to the club for 50 consecutive years. Our 2022 new Golden Anniversary members joining BCOA in 1972 are:

Lawrence & Ann Goldstein

Cheryl Gower

**Del & Donnelle Richards**

**Diamond Anniversary**

**BCOA members attain their Diamond Anniversary after belonging to the club for 60 consecutive years. Our 2022 Diamond Anniversary members joining BCOA in 1962 are:**

**Louenna Avery**

**Louise Siegert who lives in Australia**

**AKC Sportsmanship Award – Ron Williams**

**President Williams spoke about the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. He said the Award is given to a member who has exemplified good sportsmanship, dedication, and passion for the breed of Borzoi and to the BCOA. The Board nominated two persons for this prestigious award. Since it is an honor to even be nominated, he announced the other nominee was Joyce Katona.**

**He went on to say that this year it is a somber award. The Board began the process of nominating worthy recipients a few months ago. The selection for the award was done in March. We were then notified that our recipient had taken ill, then deathly ill. It became apparent for the first time in many years, that she would not be at this National in Texas, and we mailed the sportsmanship award medallion to her home. Her conformation and performance successes speak for themselves. She was always willing to share her knowledge of these events, she was a kind-hearted supporter of our breed and our members and exemplifies what we consider all the qualities of a “good sport”, not only in dog events but in life in general. Since we’ve known her as a part of the Board, she is one of the women we could refer to as a true “lady”. She was gracious, good-natured, and filled with integrity and diligence. If you were lucky enough to be around to see her occasionally let her hair down and have fun, it was a joyous sight to see!**

**Since joining the BCOA Board, we have found her to be a sound mentor, always willing to explain a variety of items as it related to Board activity, willing to roll up her sleeves and perform often thankless work behind the scenes, all the while never seeking accolades or putting self-interest in the mix. Her concern for the members and the continued viability of this club was unwavering, she has provided sound business counsel too many times to count and remained steadfast in her stand on principles. She has been a joy to work with and I will speak for every member of this and recent Boards and those of you in our borzoi community who were fortunate to know her, how greatly we will miss her business wisdom and concern for the club and its’ members as well as her guidance.**

**As mentioned earlier, the 2022 AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award Medallion was mailed to her husband, Bill, for Karen Ackerman, may she rest in peace.**

**2023 National Judge Selections**

**Conformation – Russian judge Ms. Marina Ostrovskaya**

**No action has been taken at this time to cancel her assignment. She was the choice of the membership and we have time to wait and see if the situation changes. The next two highest vote-getters were #2 - Barbara Ewing and #3 - Karen Dumke. The selected judge for Sweepstakes is Mr. Roy Silguero.**

**Ukraine Donation – Kristina Terra (See letter in the documents)**

**President Williams read a letter from Kristina Terra as she was not in attendance due to a work conflict. The BCOA has donated \$5,000 to the efforts to help borzoi and their owners in Ukraine.**

**New Home Visitation Form for New Members (from 2021 meeting) – K. Novotny & K. Terra**  
**The new membership sponsor form will be on the website and distributed in the next month. The main change was to allow for a video visit when a home visit is not feasible. In-person home visits are still the preferred option.**

**Reinstate “Broad Hock” back into BCOA Breed Standard – Ron W**

**Our committee consisting of R. Williams, B. Tolley, P. Hlatky, B. Danieli, P. Neale, and B. Tyler-Lord is gathering information on the history of the omission. They are reviewing archived minutes and are**

awaiting responses from other BCOA matriarchs. If the committee can submit proof of omission to the AKC, they will allow the correction. If and only if the AKC allows the correction, it will go to the membership for a vote. P. Hlatky has made the committee aware of the AKC requirements for making a change to a breed standard. The last time this was attempted there was not enough total votes to pass. The majority of people voted in favor but we didn't meet the requirement of having 2/3 of the membership voting. At that time, foreign members were allowed to vote but didn't so that aided in the club not meeting the 2/3 requirement.

**Electronic Voting Response and changing the By-laws to allow for electronic voting – Kari McCloskey**

K. McCloskey reported there are many things involved in making this change but we are working towards allowing this.

**Juniors Recognition**

We will begin recognizing Juniors competing in Obedience, Rally, and Field events in 2023.

**2023 AKC BBE Award – Barbara Danieli.**

The winner will receive a free litter registration from AKC.

**AKC Heritage Preservation Bank – Amy Sorbie**

This is in process. BCOA will own the semen and the AKC will allow the parent clubs to administer the process. A dog that is still living may not be used. We are not aware if there will be a cause of death clause included in the selection process. BCOA will be in charge of permitting the use of the stored semen. AKC will pay all the bills but BCOA will decide acceptance and use of the semen. This is still in the beginning stages of development.

**Submitted Topics from the Membership**

All balloted items, elections, judge selections, etc. be shared with the membership in the form of a detailed result report. Robin Casey

Privacy issues will not low disclosure of how someone voted. R. Casey is not present, as a result, R. Williams will contact her for a better understanding of what she is requesting.

Any changes to judges' education i.e. Powerpoint presentations, seminars, etc must be board reviewed and approved so that not just one individual is in complete control of judges' education.

Robin Casey

The board will attend tomorrow's judges' education presentation and respond to Robin. It has been 7 years, 2015 since P. Neale gave the presentation to the membership.

Minutes must reflect how each officer and regional governors vote on motions made per Roberts Rules. This has always been a problem and almost never is reflected in the board meeting minutes. Robin Casey

If there are dissenting votes or abstentions, they have been and will continue to be indicated in the minutes with the Board members' names listed. If none are listed, it is to be assumed that all voted in favor of the motion.

A published protocol on how judge selection is to be handled if the selected judge by the membership is unable to accept or if there are ties. Robin Casey

If the elected judge is unable to accept the assignment, the judge receiving the second-highest number of votes will be asked. This is automatic down the line.

Tie results for judges must be returned to the membership for selection and not by the board.

Robin Casey **\*\*ELJ 12 ...\*\*** If there is a tie, the board will decide how to break the tie."

Depending on what the vote is for, the Board will determine if a tie-breaker vote will go out via USPS, email, or survey.

**Nomination Standing Rule Request change by Barb Ewing**

J. Katona, Recording Secretary, received a box of petitions from B. Ewing for a Bylaws Amendment. She verified that they were signed by at least 20% of members in good standing. The Board considered the

petition at the meeting on April 11, 2022, following the provisions in the Bylaws Article VII, Section 1. The Board used due diligence and exercised its fiduciary duties by contacting the AKC's Club Bylaws Services. They also contacted an attorney familiar with the Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in which BCOA is incorporated, regarding nominating committees. The Board is awaiting a response from the AKC. AKC's policy is that no change to a club's Bylaws may go into effect until it is approved by the AKC, a process that typically requires 4-6 weeks of review. The AKC received the petition a week ago and the BCOA Board is waiting for their reply before informing the membership of the next steps. Discussion followed with a summary of what the petition says. P. Hlatky stated that our nominating committee process is virtually a copy of the AKC's suggested language. She doesn't feel that the AKC will approve a change.

Sandra Moore asked why she would now have to sign the code of conduct before submitting a petition. B. Danieli explained that before spending money on a ballot we need to know if a candidate is willing to sign the code before sending out a ballot.

Denise Ross asked how to leave her borzois item to the club upon her death. Due to the non-profit status of the BCOA, donations may not be used as a tax write-off. Discussion occurred regarding tax write-offs.

Barbara Tyler Lord will not be at the banquet so asked if she could make her comments regarding her Sweepstakes entry tonight. She stated that she can't find the words to explain the honor of the assignment and the joy of judging veterans. This was one of the highlights of her career in the breed. She stated she was very impressed by the dogs she saw. The veterans were amazing. She would have liked to be able to award more than one veteran. One concern she had was that she saw too much sculpting and shaping, borzoi should be shown with natural coats. She saw beautiful movement and great rears but we are losing return of upper arm. Her parting comments were to clean their teeth and trim their nails!

Announcements

Adjourn

P. Hlatky moved to adjourn at 9:26 PM