



the Lone Star Borzoi Club Quarterly

1999 JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH 1999

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE HEADS

PRESIDENT: Billie Thibeaux (512)360-4255
VICE PRESIDENT: Wayne Rowe (512)288-5798
SECRETARY: Lynn Shell [REDACTED]
TREASURER: Victor Whitlock (972) [REDACTED]
BOARD MEMBERS:
 Shirley Garrett (254)662-3181
 Susan Vandewater (915)520-3138
 Sara Whittington-Rowe (512)288-5798
Newsletter: Lynn Shell [REDACTED] 1
Website Administration: Lynn Shell

UPCOMING EVENTS / SPECIAL DATES

February

- 3: Entries close - Corpus Christi Kennel Club/
 Kennel Club of Greater Victoria dog shows
- 10: Entries close - Brazoria County Kennel
 Club/Cy-Creek Kennel Club dog shows
- 13-14: Lure coursing - San Antonio
- 17: Entries close - Faith City Kennel Club
- 20: Corpus Christi Kennel dog show (Victoria,
 TX)
- 20: LSBC Meeting - Victoria, TX
- 21: Kennel Club of Greater Victoria dog show
- 24: Entries close - Bexar County Kennel Club/
 Comal County Kennel Club/Austin Kennel
 Club/San Antonio Kennel Club
- 27: Brazoria County Kennel Club dog show
 (Bay City, TX)
- 28: Cy-Creek Kennel Club dog show (Houston,
 TX)

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Welcome to the first issue of our club's quarterly newsletter! I promise that the second quarter newsletter will arrive in a more timely fashion. Our club is off and running thanks to the participation of our members! We still have plenty to plan for and accomplish, so don't be shy about volunteering.

If you have not yet been able to attend one of our meetings, don't hesitate to call any of the Officers or Board Members for information. We are still looking for trophy donations or suggestions for our Trophy Supported Entry planned for the Cen-Tex Kennel Club shows next fall. Sara Whittington-Rowe is in charge of trophies for this event, so you may contact her.

Please send any of your news to me. Especially Club Member profiles (don't be shy!) and Veteran's profiles. For this issue I solicited a Veteran's profile, and put myself on the block for the Club Member profile.

Also included in this issue is a copy of a bloat survey from the latest issue of Borzoi International. This survey was developed to assist in the study of this devastating affliction. The survey is completely confidential, and I've listed both a mailing address and a website URL where you can fill it out online.

Send your info and comments to:

Lynn Shell
email: gryffynn@aol.com

BRAGGING RIGHTS

Lynn Shell finished 'Tassja' at the Conroe Kennel Club show in December. She also debuted her puppy Arthur at Nolan River in January and he took a Major Reserve from the 9-12 class.

Sara Whittingont and Wayne Rowe finished 'Tassja's litter brother 'Lightning' on the same day. What a great family photo that was!

Richard Terry and Marion Heise's puppy bitch 'Darya' took Winner's Bitch for a 3-point major at Nolan River.

Margaret Lucia is ecstatic over the finishing of her red brindle/white dog Oscar. She's also very happy that Oscar and Ben earned the first leg of their Junior Courser titles at LaMarque in January.

Susan Vandewater's dog Blazer took 3 majors within the span of a month. Needless to say, she's proud! Her youngster Tiger also picked up a 3-point major his first weekend out. Her coursing Demon took 2 majors at an AKC lure course in LaMarque.

Alana Sisk is certainly proud of her son Nathan. His first time in Novice Junior handling a borzoi (Sache), he took first place out of five. Way to go Nathan!!

BLOAT SURVEY

In the latest issue of the Borzoi International magazine, there is an informative article regarding bloat written by Diane Bracuto, a registered Animal Health Technician. It included a survey for people whose Borzoi (or other breeds) have experienced bloat, torsion, splenic torsion, or a "near bloat" experience. The survey is strictly confidential and can help benefit the research into this health threat.

I have included a copy of the survey in this newsletter. It may also be accessed on the internet at the following URL:

<http://members.aol.com/kyrlrra/private/bloat.htm>

The completed survey may also be mailed to the following address:

Diane Bracuto
818 Rhue Hollow Road
Roseland, VA 22967

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am so pleased with how this club is working together to make all the future events and projects come together. Many thanks to all who help - even the smallest of help is greatly appreciated.

The Board will start to meet this year - hopefully about 1 hour before the regular meetings. Take note Board Members!!

All the best for a great year!

Billie Thibeaux,
President, LSBC

SPECIAL DATES (cont'd.)

March

- 3: Entries close - Houston Kennel Club/
Galveston County Kennel Club
- 6-7: Faith City Kennel Club dog shows
- 10: Entries close - Fort Worth Kennel Club/
Texas Kennel Club
- 11: Bexar County Kennel Club dog show
- 12: Comal County Kennel Club dog show
- 13: Austin Kennel Club dog show
- 14: San Antonio Kennel Club dog show
- 17: Entries close - Brazos County Kennel Club
- 20: Houston Kennel Club dog show
- 21: Galveston County Kennel Club dog show
- 24: Entries close - Baytown Kennel Club
- 27: Fort Worth Kennel Club dog show
- 28: Texas Kennel Club dog show

THINGS WE CAN LEARN FROM DOGS

Take naps and stretch before rising.

LSBC WEBSITE

Don't forget - you can have a Member Personal Page connected to our Member Directory for only \$15 - that's a one-time fee for set-up and includes 4 pictures, contact info, a brief "bio" and a link to a website if you have one of your own. Additional edits are charged a minimal fee. All proceeds go into the club coffers.

We also provide Litter Announcements on the site for only \$5 for a six-month run.

Pretty cheap for worldwide exposure!

IN THE DAWGHOUSE

DOES THIS LOOK FAMILIAR?



COAN O SSEE T

feel free to provide artwork or cartoons for
"The Dawghouse"
(the above is from Joe Crabtree/Studio Roja)

Money will buy you a pretty good dog, but it won't buy the wag of it's tail. ~~Unknown

NEW ARRIVALS AND STORK VISITATIONS

Margaret Strother has welcomed two new shining faces - Raffle, a Rogborei-bred, Irish-marked red bitch, and Rugby, a strapping white and blue boy from Greyhaven.

Lynn Shell will be adding to her brood with two babies sired by Nigel, out of Jackie Corsette's Skye. Oh, the pitter patter of little puppy feet! And of course, Jackie will get the joy of raising several more of the wee ones.

Sara Whittington-Rowe and Wayne Rowe were blessed by a litter out of Bronson and Zephy - a gaggle of girls!

Susan Vandewater is also experiencing puppy-love with her litter of "Peach-lets", although her house is trying to recover from their "invasion".

Billie and Liz Thibeaux have a new pup from the "Magic" litter, co-bred with Anne Midgarder, DVM of Teine Borzoi. His name is Teine Smoke and Mirrors. The others in the litter were named Sleight of Hand, Faerie Firelight, Abracadabra, Pagan Ritual and Enchantress. The rest are in their new homes, including LSBC member Terry Steele.

"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion." ~~Unknown

'ZOI CONNOISSEUR

NO FAIL BAIT

Preheat oven to 325
Foil line a 9X13 baking pan and spray with non-stick cooking spray

1 lb raw liver
3 eggs
1 cup wheat germ
1 cup cornmeal
garlic

Put the liver in a blender and make a liver puree (yummy).

Add the eggs and garlic; blend well.

Pour into bowl and add the wheat germ and cornmeal.

Mix until you have a batter-like consistency. Pour into the foil lined pan and bake for about 25 minutes; cool slightly and then cut into treat-size pieces. Must be stored in the refrigerator or freezer (freezes extremely well).

Submitted by Margaret Strother

COURSING THE 'NET

The internet has become a fabulous tool for communication and learning. New sites are appearing daily in the areas of the dog fancy and the pet public. This column will highlight a website that is recommended for your viewing pleasure and education.

I felt it appropriate to kick off this column by listing the URL for the website of our parent club, the B.C.O.A.

<http://thebook.com/borzoi-club-amer/>

You can find a wealth of information here, including, but not limited to: information on the 1999 National Specialty in Denver, membership forms to download, breed information, more links to borzoi-related sites...the list goes on and on!

I have also included an email directory of our current members and a member website directory. Emails are also listed on our website in the Member Directory area. If I've missed anyone, or you've just got online, contact me and I will make sure you are listed.

CLUB MEMBER PROFILE

Lynn Shell
email: gryffynn@aol.com

Lynn has been involved in Borzoi since 1992 when she purchased Nikki, "the Queen B". She started showing on occasion in 1994, and developed a regular habit of at least 2 shows a month in 1997, thanks to other members of the fancy, including several LSBC members. She became a member of the BCOA in 1998. Her kennel name is Gryffyn's Aeyrie.

Her first experience with dog shows was through a family friend, Barbara Cecil (who recently wrote a book about dog obedience training). Lynn began taking a class taught by Barbara with her mixed-breed Ziggy. She also attended an obedience competition with her, although it was all "Greek" at the time.

Her interests within the dog fancy include conformation, lure coursing, obedience and agility. She is looking forward to getting Nikki and another Borzoi, Nigel, into obedience competition, and also hopes to pursue agility with Nigel. Her favorite times in the ring are when she begins showing a puppy and manages to survive the experience.

Other interests include plenty of reading, horses (hunter/jumper, endurance/competitive trail riding), screenwriting (working on it), cross-stitch, sketching (on occasion) and website design (which has now become somewhat of an addiction). You may visit her website at:

<http://members.aol.com/gryffynn>

MEMBER WEBSITE ADDRESSES

Shirley Garrett / Svora
<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Bluffs/1428>
Debs Herold
<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/5059>
The Hlatkys / Soyara
<http://www.borzoi.net/soyara>
Sherry Faye Rodarmor
<http://www.borzoi.net/shefaro>
Lynn Shell / Gryffyn's Aeyrie
<http://members.aol.com/gryffynn>
Margaret Strother
<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Estates/5857>
Chuck and Francie Stull
<http://www.borzoi.com>
Susan Vandewater
<http://www.borzoi.net/borzoi-del-sol/index.html>

The Lone Star Borzoi Club site is at:
<http://www.geocities.com/Petsburgh/2084>

LSBC NET DIRECTORY

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waynesar@realtime.net

THINGS DOGS MUST TRY TO REMEMBER...

'I will not steal my Mom's underwear and dance all over the backyard with it.'

VETERAN'S PROFILE

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: *When I first solicited for a Veteran's profile, I envisioned it in a shorter version, such as ones I had seen before in other club newsletters. But this story I just could not bring myself to edit down because it's so entertaining. Thanks Marion!*

Ch Chataqua's Starfighter of Rivendell, JC CGC TDI

Bronson is my first Borzoi and very dear to my heart. I had owned Belgian Sheepdogs for several years and had been showing in breed and obedience with Richard Terry when he introduced me to Sara Whittington. Like most other people who meet Sara at a show, I was immediately recruited as a ringside holder. Richard had gotten a dog from her several months ago and was doing his best to convince me that Borzoi and Belgians were a wonderful compliment to each other. Needless to say, I was not convinced. But, I was faithfully there every weekend to help hold for Sara. My opinion of the breed was not sparkling after several months. The dogs always stepped on my feet, leaned all over me covering me with hair, roasted me with their body heat during the summer, and, more often than not, ran my pantyhose. All horrible sins as far as I was concerned! Finally, at one outside show in Austin, Sara brought two new puppies and again, there I was to hold. One was "Hairy", Ch Chataqua's Minstrel of Kyrov, and the other was "Bronson". Hairy immediately stepped on my feet, stabbing my toes with his nails. But Bronson looked up at me with his beautiful face and something happened. I can only describe it as a psychic connection because I knew in that split second that he was the dog for me, even if he was a Borzoi. After all, he couldn't help what breed he was! It was love at first sight. I don't even remember what happened at the show, but afterwards, I told Richard that I really liked Bronson and would like to take him home. You can only imagine the excitement in Richard's face. He had finally convinced me! (sort of). He ran off to talk to Sara, but he was soon back with disappointing news. Bronson was the pick of his litter and Sara wasn't willing to let him go for any price. Well, that's ok, I understand. At least I'll get to see him for a while at the shows, I commented. Richard, not to be thwarted now that I had actually consented to owning Borzoi, immediately tried again. How about so and so? No, only Bronson. We did finally adopt Bronson's father, Oliver, but that is another story.

(cont'd next column)

Time passed and I forgot about Bronson, much to Richard's dismay. Then one day, Sara called Richard wondering if I was still interested in Bronson. Absolutely, was my response. So, I had my Borzoi! Bronson came home while I was studying for my final exams of my last semester at graduate school. So he stayed and trained with Richard until my exams were over, then he moved in. I have many fond memories of his home life already. Since he was large, I had a hard time keeping him from getting things off the kitchen counter. Every day, I'd come home from work to find my counters completely cleaned off. Someone suggested mouse traps, so I booby-trapped an open can of dog food one day. I came home to find my kitchen intact and Bronson with the most angelic look on his face and three mouse traps stuck in his bib! He has been very good ever since, but still cannot resist the butter if I forget and leave it out.

Bronson continued his show career as well, winning several points and taking breed over specials. I was so proud. Then tragedy struck. We attended obedience class every Tuesday night and then a group of us went to dinner afterwards. We were relaxing at the local Taco Bueno when the manager approached the table. "Are you Richard Terry?", he asked. "Yes". Your sitter called, the dogs are loose!" Total panic ensued. We all raced to Richard's house to be greeted by a tearful sitter and a wrenched open gate. Who was missing? Oliver, Bronson, and new puppy Ralph - all Borzoi. Thankfully, they were all wearing tags. We split up, scouring the neighborhood and the woods behind the house. Then, a phone call. A woman in a townhouse about a mile away had our dogs. We drove over there, stunned that all three dogs had managed to cross two six-lane major roads to get to this woman's townhouse. Unfortunately, she had only captured Oliver and Ralph. She said she opened her door to get her mail and those two just ran in and jumped on her sofa. She saw Bronson and tried to entice him into the house with hotdogs, but he finally ran off. I was crushed. My baby was gone. We scoured the neighborhoods for hours, but nothing. We put signs up within a five mile radius and prayed. For four days and three nights, I was a basket case. Then, we received a call. Someone had seen a big white dog walking through a field in Arlington earlier that morning. Since I was out of pocket, searching a nearby neighborhood, Rilla went to check it out with the nanny. Sure enough, it was Bronson, sleeping in a field. She tried to approach, but he woke up and ran off. They followed in the cars. He ran about three miles before stopping again. Now he was

(cont'd)

(cont'd) dangerously close to the interstate highway. Rilla called in reinforcements and left messages for me all over town. The people who had originally called from the sign had a pair of binoculars, so they sat and watched him. Soon, I got the message as I walked past a friend's house, and raced over there. They tried to point Bronson out to me. "He's the big white blob lying down by that fence over there. Do you see him?" I looked out over the field. There were a million white blobs of trash out there. I had no clue which one was Bronson. "Yes, I see him," I lied. If they said he was there, I believed them. I slowly drove around behind him so I would be between him and the highway. I started out walking slowly and actually almost stepped on him because I was looking farther out over the field. He woke up and ran off a ways, and then stopped when I called to him. He turned towards me and began to curse me. That is the only way I can describe it. I felt as if I was being cursed because I had never heard him bark in that tone and manner before nor since. He let me have it for about 5 minutes. It took me 45 minutes and a whole package of hot dogs to catch him. In the end, he walked right up to me and leaned his head against me. I shakily attached my leash to his collar and turned around. Animal Control was there to help. The officer called ahead to my vet who was waiting for me when we arrived. In the four days he was gone, he lost 15 pounds and had a very close run-in with a car. No broken bones, but the toes of his right foot were laid

open to the bone and heavily infected. He also had "road burn" in other spots on his foot. "I don't know if he will show again," my vet counseled, "he may limp from these injuries". I didn't care, he was home.

I'm sure most of you know the rest of the story. Bronson recovered and finished his championship just five short months after this incident. He was campaigned in 1993 and finished the year as #6 Borzoi in the country, only a few points behind Hairy, who was #5 that year. I retired him after that, doing some lure coursing and obedience, earning his JC, CGC and TDI although I never had time to do any therapy with him. He is quite content to sleep in front of my piano and raise puppies for me, which has always been his favorite pasttime. (Belgian puppies, mind you, not Borzoi puppies!) He sired his first litter last year for Viktor Borzoi, which are also dear to my heart, as they are the spitting image of their sire. He recently fathered his second litter out of Zephy, a litter sister to Ch Divny, the dog we specialied last fall. For the record, Bronson is 34.5" at the shoulder, weighs in at 105 pounds in show weight, about 98 in retirement, and is a blue and white with brindle markings. He has a dark eye, full dentition, and a scissors bite. He is getting in shape again to show in Veteran's classes on a limited basis. I couldn't love him more and will always have a special place in my heart for him and his babies! Thank you Sara for allowing me to share my life with this magnificent hound!

