

The Lone Star Borzoi Club Quarterly

Vol. 1

1999 ~ ~ JULY ~ AUGUST ~ SEPTEMBER ~ ~ 1999

No. 3

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FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Now that I have somewhat recovered from the BCOA National Specialty, it is time to get on with the current news and events of our club! This issue includes a personal profile of our judge for the BCOA Supported Entry in Abilene, Mrs. Michelle Billings. I've also included information on yet another interesting and informative website, InfoDog, a Club Member profile on Mary Jane and Michael DeWitt and a Veteran's Profile of Sandy Simmons' Ivana. 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.

Please send any of your news to me, whether it's brags, litter announcements, new additions to your family (be they two-legged or four), birthdays, anniversaries, etc. etc. Also we are in need of Club Member profiles and Veteran's profiles. Don't be shy - this newsletter is for and about our club, and is part of our history.

Send your info and comments to:

Lynn Shell

email: gryffynn@aol.com

Thanks in advance for your support and creative contributions!

HAVE A "BANG-UP"



DOGGY DEFINITIONS:

UTILITY - the kind of vehicle you need to haul around your dogs.

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! Plus all funds go into our club bank account

UPCOMING EVENTS / SPECIAL DATES

July

- 4: Independence Day
- 10-11: Concho Kennel Club dog show (San Angelo, TX)
- 14: Entries close - Longview show cluster
- 18: Handling Seminar with Carl Sanders, Tejas Dog Center, Stafford (Houston), Texas
- 22-25: Astroworld Series of Dog Shows, Houston, TX
 - 22: Specialties
 - 23: Houston KC
 - 24: Beaumont KC
 - 25: Galveston County KC
- ***the LSBC meeting will be held somewhere during this show cluster - exact date and time TBA***
- 28: Entries close - Beaumont/Cypress Creek shows
- 31: Longview Kennel Club dog show

August

- 1: Longview Kennel Club dog show

- 4: Entries close - River Cluster (San Antonio)
- 14: Beaumont Kennel Club dog show
- 15: Cypress Creek Kennel Club dog show (in Beaumont)
- 18: Entries close - Corpus Christi & Palm Valley show cluster
 - 19-22: The San Antonio River Cluster
 - 19: Specialties
 - 20: Austin Kennel Club
 - 21: San Antonio Kennel Club
 - 22: Bexar County Kennel Club
- ***the LSBC meeting will be held somewhere during these shows

September

- 1: Entries close - Tyler & Shreveport show cluster
- 8: Entries close - Fort Worth & Texas Kennel Club show cluster
- 18: Tyler Texas Kennel Club dog show
- 19: Shreveport Kennel Club dog show
- 25: Fort Worth Kennel Club dog show
- 26: Texas Kennel Club dog show

NEW ADDITIONS

Randy Hitesman has finally taken on a borzoi. He is now the proud owner of a Finnish import pup named Tsarskoje's Tolgai - easier to remember as "Arnie"!

Lynn Shell and Victor Whitlock are enjoying their new family member from Sara and Wayne Rowe. Miss Xena is a lovely little agouti girl who enjoys beating up her little brother Spiderman, who came with her to keep her company until she's big enough to go and pester the other borzoi.

Margaret Strother has a lovely, new orange boy from Regius - Regius the Magus. His call name - Radar. From what I hear, he is Raffles' favorite playtoy.

Richard Terry and Marion Heise are happy to announce their latest addition. Miranda, Chataqua's Mystic Mirage Cameo, is a lovely blue brindle sporting the combination of her father's good looks (Bronson) and her mother's impishly sweet nature (Chataqua's Zephy). Miranda will be debuted later in the year.

Susan Vandewater has "Demon Spawn"! Demon gave birth to two little girls sired by Teleni Ballard's dog, Kyrov's Forte of the Wild Hunt. One is an Irish-marked black and tan, the other spotted in mama's colors.

RAINBOW BRIDGE

Victor Whitlock's Abby left us in early April to join her companion Snapper at the bridge. She and Snapper were Victor's first borzoi.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Stay informed!! Your best source for information is the meeting. Please, try to come. Your second best source is the minutes posted on our website (in the Minutes Archives). If you do not have a computer, contact the Secretary, and she will send you copies of the minutes. Your third best source is the chairs and the co-chairs of the committee to which your question pertains. Those are listed on the front of this newsletter.

Be the best you can be!!

With grace and ease,
Billie Thibeaux

'ZOI CONNOISSEUR

LIVER BROWNIES

1 ½ cups Wheat Germ

1 lb Liver

1 ½ cups Corn Meal

3-4 Eggs

2-3 Cloves Minced Garlic

Add in order to a food processor and puree for 4 minutes. Pour into well-greased pan and bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Cut into bite-sized squares.

If you have a dog on a special diet, use their canned food, add flour and garlic, mix and bake the same way.

BRAGGING RIGHTS

(Cameo (Richard Terry & Marion Heise) have been quite productive. Rhapsody picked up two points at the Arkansas Kennel Club show, Koh snagged a 3-point major at Baytown, and Darya another point at Shreveport. Their special Val then earned a Group 4 at Denton and a Group 1 in Stephenville! Val also earned his Junior Courser title. Their saluki Kahlann took a Group 3 on Saturday at the San Jacinto show in Pasadena.

(Shirley Garrett finished Bella in grand style with a 5-point major win at Fort Worth in late March. Bella had previously earned two 4-point majors and had placed over specials twice! Bella's brother Bart also earned two points taking WD/BOW/BOS over a special in Lake Charles.

(Veni Harlan finished her dog Singer at the Pearl River Kennel Club show in Baton Rouge. He took WD/BOW/BOB to earn his title. At the same show, her bitch Storm went WB/BOS for 2 points. What a great weekend!

(The Hlatky's have enjoyed several successes at the time of this writing. Soyara took 5 borzoi to Denver for the Nationals and every one of them won something. The big winner was 16 month old Lacey (born in Texas), who went Best Senior Puppy in Futurity under judge Roy Silguero and then took Best in Specialty Sweepstakes under Barbara Skinner (her second Best in Specialty Sweepstakes win). Lacey later placed fourth in a large American-bred class despite being the baby among those competing. Lacey and sister Silver helped mother Possum earn second place in Brood Bitch. Possum was also one of the several LSBC dogs to make the first cut in the very large and competitive BOB competition. Silver took third place in her Futurity class and cousin Knight ("Yankee-born") was fourth in the 9-12 Futurity class. At the Lexington KC show, Knight's sister Satin took BOS from the 9-12 puppy class for her first point. Satin also took third in the 9-12 Futurity class at Denver. During Nationals week, Possum's brother Rowdy began his specials career with a BOB win at the Cincinnati KC show with Greg at the helm - Rowdy's first show since he finished at the 1997 River Cluster, having earned three majors.

(Nadine Johnson is enjoying watching her Danilov ex. Nofretary pups grow. She reports that they are looking quite good and resemble both parents. Her special Tanqueray took a Group 4 and a Group 2 in Roswell.

(Sherry Faye Rodarmor's bred Rocky went High in Trial at the Nationals and also won her Novice Agility class, earning an Agility leg. Only she and one other borzoi successfully completed the agility competition out of a field of about 20. At the World Show the Shefaro kennel enjoyed triumphant success: Alejandra won Best Puppy and the puppy Hound Group all four days (at the age of nine months), and also won Puppy Champion of the Americas, Puppy World Champion, and then went Best of Opposite Sex from the Puppy class to become

(Next column)

Borzoi Bitch World Champion. Elia won her Junior class and took Best Junior and won second in Hound Group at the Las Americas and World Show competitions. Both girls also won their Mexican Championships, receiving Excellents all four days.

(Sara and Wayne Rowe have had a good quarter! Silver lacks only one point to finish as of the Pasadena show in early June, having consistently picked up points since San Antonio in March. Shanayah also picked up 7 points and both majors at San Antonio and Baytown, respectively.

(Lynn Shell sends good news from Gryffyn's Aeyrie - Freddi finished his conformation championship at the Baytown shows in April. Now she can concentrate on working with his half-sibs and their half-sibs. But at least it will cut down on some of her traveling for the meantime. How do you spell relief? As for her Nationals experience, Arthur earned the first leg of his JC and defeated his brother Merlyn for first place in their Futurity class. Perci was pulled for a second look in the Sweepstakes class. And their mother Nikki provided the most excitement - making the first and second cut to be included in the top 15 dogs at the Nationals!! Nikki had been entered just for fun, as she was two weeks too young to compete in the Veteran's classes, and Lynn did not think that Ms. Nikki would be satisfied with only appearing in the Brood Bitch class since she loves to go showing. She may have to go more often!

(Margaret Strothers' China won a single at the NASA Dog Fanciers show, then another two points at the San Jacinto KC show.

(Susan Vandewater has had numerous successes for this issue! Zinnia finished her championship - the sixth of a 7-dog litter to do so. Brighty earned her Junior Courser title and Cookie got her first point at the age of 8 months. As for the Nationals - Del Sol Deliverance of Kyrov took Best Junior Puppy and BOS in the Futurity; Pistachio took Second in the 9-12 Futurity Class and in the regular classes; Cookie took Second in 9-12 Sweeps and regular classes, and Gypsy earned an Award of Merit!



BCOA SUPPORTED ENTRY

Good news!! The BCOA has approved our application to hold a BCOA Supported Entry at the Abilene Kennel Club show cluster in January 2000! The ball is definitely in our court now. The judge currently slated for this event is Michelle Billings, and Rhanda Glenn has agreed to judge our Sweepstakes classes.

Co-Chair Terry Steele also sent information that the TravelLodge has offered the club a deal as a "host hotel" for our event. If we reserve a certain number of rooms, we will not have to pay the expense for Rhanda's room, saving our club extra \$\$\$. The rooms are \$52 + tax, with a \$25 refundable pet fee.

We still need some trophy donations for the event (at the time of this writing). You may contact Sara Whittington for more info on trophies.

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(Cont'd next column).

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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.kristull.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>

(Cont'd)

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HANDLING SEMINAR

Our club-sponsored Handling Seminar with professional handler, Carl Sanders will be held July 18th, the Sunday before the Astrohall Series of Dog Shows. It will be at the Tejas Dog Center in Stafford, Texas (just southwest of Houston) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with an hour break for lunch. Carl has hosted several in the past, with excellent turnout. The seminar will be limited to 50 participants with their individual dogs, plus observers. The fee will be \$100 per person participating, and \$50 for observers. He utilizes a video camera so you can analyze your performance with him, and offers grooming tips for your specific dog, and other vital information for the show hobbyist. We expect the seminar to fill up fast, and to be a wonderful and easy way for our club to raise funds. A big thanks to Billie Thibeaux for getting the ball rolling on this and to Mr. Sanders and his "crew".

JUDGE'S PROFILE

Michele Billings
917 N.E. 16th Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Michele Leathers Billings grew up in St. Petersburg, Florida in a family of dog and horse fanciers. She moved to Stone Mountain, Georgia and established King's Creek Kennels in 1952. The kennel was known for it's show quality Beagles and German Shepherd Dogs.

She trained, conditioned and handled all breeds professionally until retirement in 1970. Following a two year hiatus, she began judging in 1972 and is now one of seven women all-breed judges in the country.

Michele was the recipient of the Gaines' Fido Award for "Woman of the Year" in 1983 and won the Kennel Review Award for "Judge of the Year" in 1986. She has judged at major shows all over the world, including Best in Show at Westminster in 1988. Michele was inducted in the New York Sports Museum Hall of Fame in 1993 and the Nature's Recipe (formerly Quaker oats) Hall of Fame in 1999.

Mrs. Billings will be judging the regular classes at the BCOA/LSBC Trophy Supported Entry at the Abilene Kennel Club's annual shows on January 29, 2000 as a part of her judging assignments for the weekend.

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THE NATIONALS!! A BRIEF REPORT

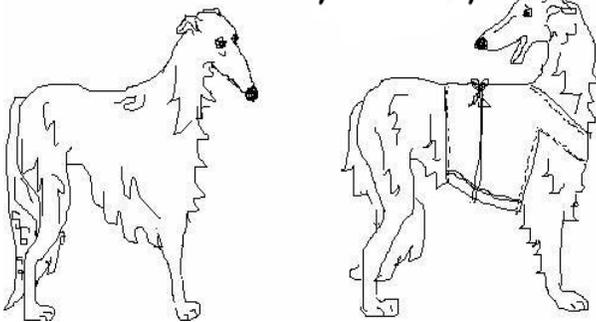
Every borzoi fancier should attend the breed national specialty at least once in their lifetime. My first was this past event in Denver and what an experience it was! Our club made it's presence known at this year's specialty - not only did we host a Hospitality Suite to introduce ourselves to the borzoi fancy at large, but our dogs made their presence known as well. We had placements in the Futurity, Sweepstakes and Regular classes. We also had entries in the Obedience and Agility classes, and a few JC tests. Val made the first cut in Best of Breed dog judging, and during bitch judging, we had five LSBC bitches in the first cut, with two going on to the final judging!! (Check out the Bragging Rights column for more details).

The Raffle and Silent Auction held in the Hospitality Suite garnered \$486 for the club, and we got to meet many Borzoi people from around the nation. We also received offers of assistance from some Rocky Mountain Borzoi Club members in regards to some of the processes new clubs must go through to attain AKC sanctioning. There were also plenty of compliments on the organization of our club, so we must have made quite a favorable impression!



IN THE DAWGHOUSE

Does this make my butt look big?



-Shirley Garrett

DOGGY DEFINITIONS

DOG BED - Any soft, clean surface, such as a white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

CLUB MEMBER PROFILE

Mary Jane and Michael DeWitt;
Dele M Borzoi, Abilene, Tx

"Mike and I moved to Texas in March of 1986. He was in the Air Force at the time and were transferred to the town of Abilene. We had Golden Retrievers at the time. I had saw a picture of a Borzoi on a calendar and said that is the dog I want. I started working for a vet and within a few months a woman walked in with a pregnant Borzoi. What luck! Three months later I received Alborak's Katherine of Dele M (Kati). That did not stop me still wanting the dog in the photo, so I started researching on this dog. His name was Ch. Lanel's Lobachevski. In November of 1989 we bought Sar Shan Sa's Pillar of Fire (Pilar), who was his great granddaughter. She looked much like him. Of course the bug was bitten and we got Wind N' Satin Dangers Edge (Grace) and Wind N' Satin Bare Essence (Starr) who was our first Ch. Kati and Pilar passed away needing that last dreaded major. Pilar was bred to Ch. Rising Star Anatoly and produced seven babies of which three I have started showing. Dele M's Color Girl (Girl), Dele M's Opal Jewel (Opal) and Dele M's Eclipse (Eclipse). Girl and Eclipse are pointed and Girl has her International Championship.

I now own my own Grooming business and Michael is now a Correctional Officer after retiring from the Air Force with 20 years. We hope to stay in Texas."

COURSING THE 'NET

<http://www.infodog.com>

This site is mainly geared towards the exhibitor, in that it provides quite a bit of information regarding shows and judges. There are several different areas to explore. The Show Info section has information on upcoming shows and you can get show results from a number of superintendents. There is also a section where you can enter any AKC sanctioned show online. You can also look up information on a variety of judges, searching by name or by Group/Breed. For each individual judge there is some personal information (if provided by them), a listing of their assignments from the past 2 years, and a listing of future assignments. You can then look up their placements at past assignments from links to various show superintendent websites, if those links are still active or available.

The Discussion Forum allows you to exchange information with dog fanciers from around the world.

The Winner's Circle and Dog Fancier Directory are sections of paid advertisements, the first highlighting Champions of Record and the other providing information on breeders or vendors. Unfortunately, since they are strictly paid ads, they do not provide a comprehensive list of information. Rescue Organizations are listed at no charge - the National Borzoi Rescue Foundation is listed.

SOMETHING TO PONDER....

(Editor's note) The following story I have seen posted on several Internet discussion lists. It should give all exhibitors something to think about, and hopefully take with them to their next show. We all are aware that the original purpose of dog shows is to evaluate breeding stock, but quite often it feels as though something is missing while attending shows. This story to me embodies the spirit of camaraderie that is quite often absent at these events, and that I hope members of this club can share amongst themselves and other breed exhibitors:

"Yesterday I experienced a very unusual thing indeed. It might restore someone's faith in humanity! I know it did mine

As with all forms of competition, there comes a certain amount of ambition, goal grabbing, disappointment, anger and even revenge in extreme cases. Some of it is just the nature of competition, the majority of it is just malice. Dog showing is no exemption.

Unfortunately, all too often I have stood at ringside and heard malicious comments, bitching and bickering. Dog show people can be very cruel to each other sometimes. I have on occasion been the brunt of these comments, but that's another story.

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Well, yesterday I had a breath of fresh air, as it were. I was stewarding the Rough Collie Club of Ireland's Championship Show. It's a relatively popular breed here in Ireland. Always a big entry. They had a wonderful judge from the U.K. This lady has been in the breed since 1949. So, it goes without saying, I was pretty privileged to steward for her.

Anyway, just before the Novice class, one of the club officials came into the ring and I overheard her tell the judge about the one entry in the class, but later found out the reason why!

I called the class and in walked an old man and his Rough Collie. I've only ever seen this man at our St. Patrick's Day show. He's an old man, rough around the edges and, well, his dog is really unkempt by show standards. He marched proudly into the ring with the dog on a great big thick rope lead!

While the judge was going over the dog, I was filled in on his story. I was told that he lives in an old folks home in Galway (the other side of Ireland). He has no family left living and no visitors at the old folks home. He's been showing this dog for eight years only ever on St. Patrick's Day or the Club show. He'd traveled 150 miles on a bus yesterday morning, which takes about five hours in Ireland. The nurses in his home usually phone the club to tell of his departure, and the club usually phone back when they spot this old man at the show. He has only ever shown the dog in Novice, and people over the years never compete against him.

The nurses told the club officials that when he wins a rosette at a show he wears it for weeks at home in the old folks' home. The dog lives with him at the home, and is quite a celebrity "show dog" with the residents. The pride and joy of this man's life. He spends half the year telling people about the last dog show and the other half of the year looking forward to the next one!

Anyway, the judge was so considerate to this man. And, boy was he proud to show his dog off! When the judge asked could she look at the dog's teeth; "oh, yes" the man replies and instructed the dog to "Smile". With that the dog showed off a perfect set of choppers! The judge replies "Aren't you a clever dog?" With that, the man said, "Oh, he is very clever; he'll shake your hand too if you like!" I couldn't help smiling when I heard this, and full credit to the judge, she shook hands with the dog!

The dog won first in the class and every exhibitor at the show gave this old man and his dog a standing ovation. He was cheered and clapped as he did his own lap around the ring. People came over to ringside to congratulate and pat the man on the back as he left the ring. He was so proud of his accomplishment. He lapped up every minute of it.

It was the first time, I'm sad to say, that I've seen people being genuinely nice at a dog show. They really made this old man's day. Possibly his year! Heaven help the residents at the old folks' home when he returned home last night. Not only did he win a rosette, but a great big trophy. I'm sure it will take pride of place on the mantle piece!

Isn't this what dog showing should be about? Giving people like this old man a day out to enjoy the only family he has. His best pal, his dog. A memory for an old man to hold on to, to brighten his day; something to share with his friends at the old folks' home? Something to be proud of, however small the achievement?

Anyway, that's the story, just a thought, an observation and possibly an inspiration to us all? I know it's one of the happiest memories I have of a dog show."



VETERAN'S PROFILE

Ch Aldemoor's Hijinx of Beowulf, SC LCM

bred and owned by Sandy L. Simmons

"Ivana was one of two bitch puppies in a very special litter born December 31, 1989. At eight weeks she was sent to a show home in St. Louis, MO. Around a year of age, she severed a tendon in her back leg and it was questionable that she would be able to pursue a show or coursing career. Fortunately, her leg did heal up properly and in 1991 she made the trip down to the National Specialty in Florida. There, she and two brothers helped her dam, Ch. Keshari Celina II of Aldemoor, win the Futurity Brood Bitch. She also started her coursing career at the National, by taking fourth in a large Open Stake. Her owners then sent her back to Texas with me to begin her show career and continue coursing. Ivana did well in the show ring, picking up all her minor points easily. If I recall correctly, that year there were not a lot of majors to be had, and I don't think I ever had her entered in a major entry (either it broke or was not one to begin with). I continued to course her throughout the fall and she quickly picked up her ASFA Field Championship and started working on her LCM.

Early in 1992, for a time she was #1 ASFA

Borzoi. In the spring of 1992 we had the National Specialty in Houston, TX. There, she placed in her class and it was decided then that I would send her back to St. Louis to her owners to get her majors and finish her Championship. By the time I sent her back to them, she had also received her LCM and Senior Courser titles.

Unfortunately, Ivana's owners never finished her Championship. They had acquired several new dogs by then and were busy showing them. She did, however, produce a litter for them, although, to my knowledge, none of her offspring were ever shown seriously. Needless to say, I was disappointed, as both of her brothers, Ch. Aldemoor's Even It Up, CD SC F.Ch. And Aldemoor's Bebe Le Strange, CD had already finished and another brother had his CD. I did feel at the time though, that Ivana at least was in a good home.

In the fall of 1997 while I was at home on vacation in Missouri, I decided that I might like to lease Ivana back for a litter as I hadn't had a litter since 1992 and wanted to continue my breeding program. I contacted her owner and was surprised to hear that she had gone through a nasty divorce and wanted to reduce the number of hounds she kept and was willing to sign Ivana over to me. I was thrilled to have her back, but was shocked when I met her at the airport to fly home with me. She was dirty and her pants. Tail and leg fringe was matted to the skin. Her teeth were filthy and I was afraid that some might have to be pulled. Other than that though, she seemed happy and well-fed. I can understand when people go through "life changes" that certain things can be neglected, but it was still sad to see that she had been allowed to get that way and that I was never contacted. As soon as I got her home, she was bathed and I shaved all the mats off of her. Needless to say, at that point she was quite a sight to me.

I took her coursing shortly thereafter, just to see if she was still interested and after all those years of not doing anything, she had a blast. Then, as her coat started growing back and I got her teeth back in shape, I decided to try and get her two majors. She still looked fairly young and certainly did not act her age. I showed her in the fall of 1998 and spring of 1999, picking up a few reserves to majors, but still not those two wins that she needed. Then, at the end of May I took her to Baton Rouge, LA where she went Winners Bitch both days (and Best of Breed on Sunday) to pick up those two elusive majors that she had to wait seven years for.

I'm so happy that I had the opportunity to get her back again...and she has been a thrill to show and I may just bring her out now and then to show her off in the Veteran's class."



LSBC Quarterly

Please send any address, phone number, or other changes to:

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email: gryffynn@aol.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: September 10th