

The Latest Wrinkle



February 2015

BCGS Officers

President—Tamara Marcotte

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Vice President—Sherry Feeney

vicepresident@bulldogclubofgreaterseattle.com

Treasurer—Sandy Fisher

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Secretary—Kim Dailey

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Board Members

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Meeting Minutes

The Bulldog Club of Greater Seattle

Meeting Minutes

Jan. 5, 2015

Members Present: 9 members

Guests: None

Educational Instruction: None Meeting Called to Order: 7:31pm APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING: Approved

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS

Report of President (Tamara Marcotte): Thanks for coming excited for the year.

Report of Vice President (Sherri Feeney): No report

Report of Secretary (Kim Dailey): BCA membership- Tamara will send over to Sandy. AKC New Ex. Officers updated. Kim will submit update.

Report of Treasurer (Sandy Fisher):

2015 Membership Renewals:

So far, we have had about 50% of the members renew their membership for 2015. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible. Renewals are usually due by December 31st, however a slight grace period is allowed. Please continue to support the Bulldog Club of Greater Seattle by renewing your membership today! It is greatly appreciated!

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Specialty Show

2015 BCGS Specialty Shows / Winn Ryman:

Theme voted and will be Super Bull (Sports Theme). Show site location to be determined. Any leads on a good place near Nisqually let Winn know. Peggy was going to check a couple near Lacy.

Sweeps Judges will be voted on during the February meeting.

Advertising (Robin Harris): No report

Bulltique (Kim Dailey): Will purchase new items for Specialty Show (rings and soap). Will update Slobberfest T-shirts with Katie and get info from Winn on printing. Baby blankets made by club members to sell at bulltique would be nice.

Legislation Liaison (Vacant): None

Newsletter (Gail Harris): None

Public Education (Kim Dailey):. Will try and set up Dog first aid/ CPR class or seminar for Specialty Show.

Ways and Means (VACANT):.

Website – (Jeff Ryman)

Tamara will send membership form to Jeff Ryman for easy download for prospective members

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS: No

ELECTION OF NEW BREEDERS TO THE BREEDER REFERRAL PROGRAM: No

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

501 3c Tax Info. (Ed Harris) Social club status 501.4 may be more suited for our club needs. He will see about 501 3c for special events.

Meeting Minutes continued

2016 BCA Nationals: Need Volunteers- Trophies, Advertising, Publicity, Ways and means, Airport pick-up and Return, Hospitality, Grounds and Rings, Crating and Grooming, Banquet, Ice Committee

NEW BUSINESS:

Seattle Dog show / Booth / Meet the Breed (Kim Dailey / Tamara Marcotte) –

Booth reserved by Bud Colbath- Thank You. This year's shows are March 7 and 8 at the Century Link Field Event Center. We made a formal decision to participate in the Breed Booth and Meet the breed. Tamara will be requesting our time be as close to after show time on Saturday. Tamara will chair Meet the breed. She will be in charge of schedule and volunteers. Kim Dailey will be the chairpersons to organize the booth (set-up, tear-down, volunteers) If you can help with an hour or two please let me know. kim@lkstevensk9academy.com

Booth Volunteers needed please watch for details coming soon.

Food/Refreshments for Upcoming Meetings

Feb. 2015: Tamara Marcotte

March 2015 TBD

New Member Applications- none

NEW BREEDER REFERRAL APPLICATIONS: none

Upcoming Shows and Events

Sammamish Kennel Club Jan 10-12

- Puyallup Fairgrounds

Bulldog Club of America Jan. 10

-Puyallup Fairgrounds

Meeting adjourned 9:01

Date of next meeting Feb. 2, 2015



Legislation

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION (BSL)

Pegg Bauer, BCGS Legislative Liaison

Liverpool, England: Under Liverpool, England's Dangerous Dogs Act, prohibited animals that have not caused harm can go through a process to be spared destruction. The condition of exemption is that owners have third-party insurance for their pets, which costs around £25 a year.

Twenty-two "exempt" banned-breed dogs were seized in March 2014 in Liverpool because they were uninsured. Officials stated this action was taken to protect residents against "irresponsible owners" who had failed to ensure that mandatory third-party insurance was in place. Warrants were executed to seize the pets, and they were put down within a matter of hours. High Court judges in Manchester have since ruled that the seizure and destruction without court permission was "unlawful," and the force may have to pay out compensation to the pets' owners.

Debbie Gogarty, 45 told the ECHO how she begged officers not to take away her family pit bull Ruben after she forgot to renew the insurance. She said: "The police came in and took Ruben straight away. They wouldn't even let us say goodbye. It was just a mistake. Everyone has things going on in their lives and can make an oversight. Every year Ruben was insured, this was the one time he wasn't. He didn't deserve to die for the sake of £25."

Camdenton, Missouri: Misty Brown purchased a house in Camdenton. Before closing on the house, she checked with city hall and was told by an employee that her registered American Bulldogs were fine because they were not pit bulls. Despite doing her due diligence, despite American Bulldogs not being a targeted breed, and despite the fact that the dogs did nothing wrong, Brown was cited two weeks after moving into her new house for violating the ban after a neighbor complained about the dogs. Brown was ticketed and told that she had to get rid of the dogs.

The 1989 ban defines a "pit bull" several ways:

"A pit bull may be identified as any dog which exhibits those distinguishing characteristics that substantially conform to the standards established by the American Kennel Club or United Kennel Club as described in the identification checklist which is on file in the City offices."

1. *Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog;*
2. *The American pit bull terrier breed of dog;*
3. *The American Staffordshire terrier breed of dog;*
4. *Any mixed breed of dog which contains as an element of its breeding the breed of Staffordshire bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, or American pit bull terrier as to be identifiable as partially of the breed Staffordshire bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, or American pit bull terrier;*
5. *Any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominantly of the breeds of Staffordshire bull terrier, American pit bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier; and other breeds commonly known as pit bulls, pit bull dogs, or pit bull terriers, or a combination of any of these breeds." (original law enacted 1989)*

Thus, the law has 2 separate and very different standards: The language (1) *an element of its breeding* and (2) *substantially conform* are both used. Both are different in what they mean legally. An element means any percentage of the specified breeds. "Predominantly" implies over 50%.

Below is the check list used to identify dogs as falling under the ordinance. This gives a chance to see exactly how broadly these descriptions can be interpreted.

- *Head is medium length, with a broad skull and very pronounced cheek muscles, a wide, deep muzzle, a well defined, moderately deep stop and strong under jaw. Viewed from the top, the head is shaped like a broad, blunt wedge.*
- *Eyes are round to almond shaped, are low in the skull and set far apart.*
- *Ears are set high. Un-cropped ears are short and usually held rose or half prick, through some hold them at full prick.*
- *Neck is heavy and muscular, attached to strong, muscular shoulders.*
- *Body is muscular, with a deep, broad chest, a wide front, deep brisket, well sprung ribs and slightly tucked loins.*
- *Tail is medium length and set low, thick at base, tapering to a point.*
- *Hindquarters are well muscled, with hocks set low on the legs.*
- *Coat is a single coat, smooth, short and close to the skin.*

Legislation

When Brown approached the board, she was asked that she be allowed to keep her dogs because they were not pit bulls and their lineage as American Bulldogs is documented and provable. The board decided that because the registered American Bulldogs were determined to fit some of the physical description of a pit bull, that they were banned. The board seemed to think that they could define a dog's breed however they wish, based on 8 criteria that are extremely open to interpretation. Actually, not even 8, as a dog only has to meet 5 of the 8 criteria in order to be banned.

Brown and her attorney asked the board to review the ban and the board was told by the city attorney that there is no reason to do so. Obviously the city attorney does not know much about due process, and is perhaps not the best to be advising in this situation, as the law is clearly flawed. Brown's attorney stated that the town is subject to legal challenge for a vague law, and it appears that they will be heading to court over the issue. We do not know the status of the dogs.

This case highlights the exact opposite of what the pro-BSL lobby claims-- that only actual "pit bulls" are targeted under bans, and that other dogs are not targeted because "everyone" can identify a pit bull. If papers don't disprove a dog is banned, then there is no short-haired dog in the community is safe. They also claim that dogs aren't taken from their homes, and that bans simply keep new dogs from the community. Clearly, this is not the case.

Aurora, Colorado: In October, 2014, voters in Aurora, CO were given the opportunity to repeal the city's 9 year old breed ban, which had been discussed multiple times since the law's inception. Taking such a repeal to the voters was questionable because, once a ban is in place, most residents will have had very little personal interaction with the banned breeds and thus, are more apt to have to rely on media coverage as the basis for their opinions. And in this case, area media had not been terribly accurate in their reporting.

Voters in Aurora, prior to heading to the polls, were not advised of the following:

1. All national organizations with expertise in dog behavior support repealing breed bans. Every. Single. One. These organizations of professionals are basing their reputations on their opposition to breed-specific laws. And these organizations are very diverse, and include the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the National Animal Control Association (NACA), American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT), the American Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), and the American Bar Association all agree that laws targeting breeds are ineffective and should be replaced with laws targeting aggressive dogs based on their behavior, not their breed.
2. The 9 year old breed ban has NOT been effective at improving public safety or reducing dog bites. In fact, the number of bites in Aurora has actually increased by 77% since the law was put into effect and the law seemed reverse what was a trend of decreasing dog bites and bites immediately began trending upward after the law passed. In fact, the four highest years in total dog bites occurred AFTER the law was enacted to supposedly improve public safety. The total number of bite incidents has increased 77% since the passing of the ordinance back in 2006. It's also worth noting that the breed ban was set at addressing only about 15% of the dog bites in Aurora; it never attempted to address 85% of the cases. In spite of the total bite data being available, not one single media outlet in the Denver/Aurora area has decided to publish it.
3. Under the ordinance there has been the mass slaughter of more than 1,158 family pets that look like pit bulls - at taxpayer expense. According to Aurora Animal Care, 636 pit bulls were killed in 2006 (the first year after the ban was passed), 173 were killed in 2007, and roughly 100 every year since then. The ordinance has led to the direct killing of more than 1,000 family pets at taxpayer expense since it was enacted.
4. Aurora City Council members that support the law have acknowledged that the law isn't about improved public safety and is not rooted in factual information. One Aurora City Council Woman told a news program in Denver: "Oh, you bet if I could, I would ban the owners too. By banning the dogs, we lose the violent behavior that comes with the owners." She then went on to say that breed bans make people feel safer. "It's not about a fact, it's about a feeling." Never mind that pit bulls are among the most popular breeds of dogs in the country, and owned by people of all races, income levels, and professions including lawyers, academics, and young professionals.
5. Taxpayer expense of managing the ordinance and the legal challenges to it has been substantial. In *one case alone*, which it eventually lost, the City of Aurora endured more than \$130,000 in legal fees associated with defending the law. The city also has been challenged in their breed identification of more than 100 dogs -- and ended up being wrong on their breed identification in 77% of the cases. Again, all at taxpayer expense.
6. City officials have acknowledged that the original breed ban was a failure. The original law banned 10 different breeds of dogs back in 2006. in public safety. It's cost innocent pets their lives. It's cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. And the council members who support the law acknowledge it's not rooted in fact, and only makes people feel better. And the law has no professional support.

In the Nov. 2014 election, voters in Aurora, by a 2-1 margin, upheld Aurora's breed ban.

This article will be continued in next month's newsletter

Show Results

February 20, 2015

Linn County Kennel Club (Albany, OR)

Judge: Mrs. Christie Martinez

Best of Breed:

CH IMPERIOUS HAMITUP HOLY DIVER

(Kim Kirsch, Rich Meck)

**Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Breed Owner Handler,
Owner Handler Group 3**

CH ONLY FONT A NOSES ASHLEY

(Brenda Fontanos, Cathy Eke)

Select Dog:

GCH CH WILSON'S I'M YOUR HANDYMAN

(Landon & Jennifer Jordan & Jay Serion)

Winners Dog

ADDICTED 2 THE MARAGE

(Scot Sideras & Leah Sideras, Linda Seidel, C. Norman)

Best of Winners, Winners Bitch

GODD'S CHRISTMAS FONT A NOSES STAR

(Norma Goddard) Agent: Jay Serion

Reserve Winners Dog:

BULLYWOOD DOLLS SUGGSATION

(Meca Doll)

Reserve Winners Bitch,

TJ's SLICE OF PIE

(Patricia Murray, Daniel Acosta)

February 21, 2015

Linn County Kennel Club (Albany, OR)

Judge: Mrs. Debra Long Gschwender

Best of Breed:

GCH CH WILSON'S I'M YOUR HANDYMAN

(Landon & Jennifer Jordan & Jay Serion)

Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Winners, Winners Bitch

GODD'S CHRISTMAS FONT A NOSES STAR

(Norma Goddard) Agent: Jay Serion

Select Dog:

CH IMPERIOUS HAMITUP HOLY DIVER

(Kim Kirsch, Rich Meck)

Select Bitch

CH ONLY FONT A NOSES ASHLEY

(Brenda Fontanos, Cathy Eke)

Winners Dog, Best Puppy

DLANOR'S DIRTY DEEDS DONE DIRT CHEAP

(Ronald Romualdo)

Reserve Winners Dog:

ADDICTED 2 THE MARAGE

(Scot Sideras & Leah Sideras, Linda Seidel, C. Norman)

Reserve Winners Bitch,

D'VISTA DREAM ANGEL

(Cathy Harrington)

February 22, 2015

McKenzie Cascade Dog Fanciers (Albany, OR)

Judge: Mr. David Krogh

Best of Breed/Group 3

GCH CH WILSON'S I'M YOUR HANDYMAN

(Landon & Jennifer Jordan) Agent: Jay Serion

Best of Opposite Sex, Winners Bitch

MYTHIC'S BRIGHTER THAN THE SUN

(Heidi Guajardo, Jaime Guajardo, Karen Bidleman)

Select Dog:

CH WESLIN'S TED E. BEAR

(Linda and Wes Kilgore)

Select Bitch

CH ONLY FONT A NOSES ASHLEY

(Brenda Fontanos, Cathy Eke)

**Best of Winners, Winners Dog, Best of Breed Owner
Handler**

SISSYS UNFORGETABULL CAST OFF OF A LEG-
ACY

(Cheryl Perreard)

Reserve Winners Dog:

BEACHES FULL MOON MADNESS

(Pam Hill)

Reserve Winners Bitch,

ZEN'S STEVIE NICKS WEEK VOICE FROM
HEAVEN

(Karen Bidleman, Heather Ruppel)

February 23, 2015

McKenzie Cascade Dog Fanciers (Albany, OR)

Judge: Mr. John R. Shoemaker

Best of Breed/Group 3

GCH CH WILSON'S I'M YOUR HANDYMAN

(Landon & Jennifer Jordan & Jay Serion)

Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Winners, Winners Bitch
TJ'S SLICE OF PIE

(Patricia Murry, Daniel Acosta)

Select Dog:

CH IMPERIOUS HAMITUP HOLY DIVER

(Kim Kirsch, Rich Meck)

Select Bitch

CH ONLY FONT A NOSES ASHLEY

(Brenda Fontanos, Cathy Eke)

Show Results continued/ Upcoming Shows

Winners Dog

FONT A NOSE'S MAXIMUS

(Joel and Brenda Fontanos)

Reserve Winners Dog, Best Bred By Exhibitor/Group 1

D'VISTA WHERE ANGELS SOAR

(Cathy Harrington)

Reserve Winners Bitch,

GODD'S CHRISTMAS FONT A NOSES STAR

(Norma Goddard) Agent: Jay Serion

Upcoming Shows

March 7-8, 2015

Seattle Kennel Club (Seattle WA)

Saturday Judge: Dr. Gerard C. Penta

Sunday Judge: Mr. Charles L. Olvis

March 21-22, 2015

Peninsula Dog Fanciers (Bremerton, WA)

Saturday Judge: Mr. Darryl Vice

Sunday Judge: Mrs. Susan St. John Brown

March 25-27, 2015

SWOB Specialty Show (Corvallis, OR)

Wednesday Judge: Michael Rathje

Thursday Judge: Mr. Ray J. Spivey III

Friday Judge: Ms. Makeyia D. Spivey

March 28-29, 2015

Chintimini Kennel Club (Albany, OR)

Saturday Judge: Mrs. Brenda Newcomb

Sunday Judge: Link Newcomb

April 11-12, 2015

Ephrata-Moses Lake Kennel Club (Moses Lake, WA)

Saturday Judge: Mr. G. Timothy Doxtater

Sunday Judge: Mr. Mel Saranchuk

April 17-18, 2015

Palouse Hills Dog Fanciers (Lewiston, ID)

Friday Judge: Dr. Steve Keating

Saturday Judge: Mr. Johnny R. Shoemaker

April 19-20, 2015

Lewis-Clark Kennel Club (Lewiston, ID)

Sunday Judge: Mr. Vincent T. Grosso

Monday Judge: Mr. Kenneth E. Berg



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Please e-mail or mail all advertisements by the 10th of each month

To be included in the next issue. The rates are as follows:

Business card color ads: \$25 annually / \$8 quarterly / \$3 monthly

Quarter page: \$7.50 monthly ~ half page: \$15 monthly

Full page ad: \$25 monthly ~ Back page ad: \$40 monthly

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