



THE CHATTERBOXER

Member, American Boxer Club
Established 1945

August 2004

Officers 2004

President

Joan Johnson
31081 Westfield
Livonia, MI 48150
734-427-9781

Vice President

Barry Wyerman
45859 Willingham Drive
Novi, MI 48374
248-344-7944

Secretary

Jennifer Walker
28423 Kendallwood
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-489-1963

Treasurer

Dave Stark
16783 Stanmoor
Livonia, MI 48154
734-422-0205

Board of Directors 2004

Mary Lou Bumpus
810-231-1416

Joanna Dorfman
248-865-2996

Dick Johnson
734-427-9781

Virginia Johnson
734-461-2816

Marilyn Stark
734-422-0205

Dog Genome Assembled

Canine Genome Now Available to Research Community Worldwide

Bethesda, Maryland — The first draft of the dog genome sequence has been deposited into free public databases for use by biomedical and veterinary researchers around the globe, the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), one of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), announced today.

A team led by Kerstin Lindblad-Toh, Ph.D., of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, Mass., and Agencourt Bioscience Corp., Beverly, Mass., successfully assembled the genome of the domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*). The breed of dog sequenced was the Boxer, which was chosen after analyses of 60 dog breeds found it was one of the breeds with the least amount of variation in its genome and therefore likely to provide the most reliable reference genome sequence.

The initial assembly is based on seven-fold coverage of the dog genome. Researchers can access the sequence data through the following public databases: GenBank (<http://www.ncbi.nih.gov/Genbank>) at NIH's National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI); EMBL Bank (www.ebi.ac.uk/embl/index.html) at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory's Nucleotide Sequence Database; and the DNA Data Bank of Japan (www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp). The data can also be viewed through the UCSC Genome Browser (<http://www.genome.ucsc.edu/>) at the University of California at Santa Cruz and the Ensembl Genome Browser (www.ensembl.org) at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in Cambridge, England. Viewing capabilities also will be available in August at NCBI's Map Viewer (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mapview/>).

The NHGRI-supported researchers are currently comparing the dog and human genome sequences and plan to publish results of their analysis in the next several months.

The dog genome is similar in size to the genomes of humans and other mammals, containing approximately 2.5 billion DNA base pairs. Due to a long history of selective breeding, many types of dogs are prone to genetic diseases that are difficult to study in humans, such as cancer, heart disease, deafness, blindness and autoimmune disorders. In addition, the dog is an important model for the genetics of behavior and is used extensively in pharmaceutical research.

To best characterize disease in dogs, it is important to have a sufficient number of markers in the genome. Therefore, in addition to the Boxer, nine other dog breeds, four wolves and a coyote were sampled to generate markers that can be used in disease studies in any dog breed. A preliminary set of about 600,000 single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), which amounts to a SNP roughly every 5,000 DNA base pairs, is currently being aligned to the released assembly. The reads used to identify the SNPs are publicly available in NCBI's Trace Archive (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Traces/trace.cgi>) and the SNPs will be available shortly at the Single Nucleotide Polymorphism database, dbSNP (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SNP/>).

Sequencing of the dog genome began in June 2003. NHGRI provided about \$30 million in funding for the project to the Broad Institute, which is part of NHGRI's Large-Scale Sequencing Research Network.

To learn more about the rapidly expanding field of comparative genomic analysis, go to: www.genome.gov/10005835. To read the white paper that outlines the scientific rationale and strategy for sequencing the dog genome, go to: <http://www.genome.gov/Pages/Research/Sequencing/SeqProposals/CanineSEQedited.pdf>.

A high-resolution photo of Tasha, the Boxer whose DNA was sequenced, is available at: <http://www.genome.gov/11007323>.

NHGRI is one of 27 institutes and centers at NIH, an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services. The NHGRI Division of Extramural Research supports grants for research and for training and career development at sites nationwide. This NIH News Release is available online at: <http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/jul2004/nhgri-14.htm>

From the Editor

History repeats itself, but the special call of an art which has passed away is never reproduced. It is as utterly gone out of the world as the song of a destroyed wild bird.

~ Joseph Conrad



I'm writing this from Colonial Williamsburg, a place rich in history. This is the site where, some 329 years ago, a group of people with common interests came together, setting aside their differences of opinion on smaller matters, to protect their rights as individuals. As their fellows in Boston dumped tea in the harbor, the 112 members of the Virginia House of Burgesses voted unanimously to proclaim their independence from British rule. As the story goes, this message was brought to the convention in Philadelphia, and adopted their as our Declaration of Independence.

On a much smaller scale, of course, but no less important to the protection of our rights, is the much-discussed California SB 1548 which would prohibit ear cropping in the state. Those of you on the various mailing lists have seen the discussions on this topic swing from the sublime to the ridiculous, and touch on most points in-between. Nevertheless, though a small minority still refuse to believe the long-term potential of this legislation, most fanciers have come together to fight SB 1548. The Bill will be heard in

Committee on August 4—it is not too late to voice your opposition, if you haven't already. Page 9 gives more idea for contacting the California legislature on this issue—a rather creative one, I think. In other news, it's time to start gearing up for the Fall Specialty Show. This is our big fundraising effort for our Rescue program, and we've had tremendous results for the last two years. We've already got some great raffle items donated for this year—see page 9 for details. Volunteers to help set up the raffle area, "snack bar," and puppy match are always welcome—please contact myself or Ginger Johnson if you'd like to help.

I've given up the rest of my Editorial space for something far more important—the latest health screening guidelines from the ABC Health & Research Committee.

Best ~

Jen

ABC HEALTH & RESEARCH COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEALTH SCREENING OF BOXERS IN BREEDING PROGRAMS

TESTING AND REPORTING GUIDELINES

Use and interpretation of tests should be in consultation with your veterinarian or veterinary specialist. These guidelines will be updated as further knowledge is gained.

Condition Tested	Test Used	Minimum Age	Frequency	Report As
Hip/Elbow Dysplasia	Radiograph	2 years	Once	OFA # or
OR	Radiograph	6 months	Once	PennHip %
Hypothyroidism	Thyroid Panel ²	2 years	Annually for breeding stock	Date Tested ³
Aortic valve disease	Auscultation/Doppler ¹	None	None	Date Tested ³
AS/SAS	Auscultation and Doppler Echocardiogram ¹	24 months ¹	Once by Echo	Date Tested ³
Boxer Cardiomyopathy ¹	Holter Monitor	12 months	Annually for breeding stock	Date Tested ³

Heart disease can be inherited or it can be caused by bacterial, viral or parasitic agents—these are NOT inherited. The damage appears the same in some cases. A screening program can help determine the origin.

All hearts should be auscultated at each veterinary visit. This is particularly important prior to any surgery, including ear cropping. If a murmur is detected the dog should be evaluated to determine the cause and significance of the murmur. Murmurs may be innocent ("flow" murmurs) or may be an indication of structural heart disease such as aortic stenosis, sub aortic stenosis, septal defects or defects of the mitral, tricuspid or pulmonic valves. Echo with Doppler measurements can accurately find and diagnose the origin of murmurs which cannot always be heard or reliably pinpointed by auscultation alone.

1. Maximum flow values have recently been reevaluated and raised to 2.4 m/sec if there is no evidence of structural causes. The cardiologist should determine if the flow value for an individual Boxer is of concern. Current information is that AS/SAS may develop upon sexual maturity in dogs that were previously tested clear, thus the new recommendation for 24 months minimum age. Boxer Cardiomyopathy (ARVC) is a complex condition that is still under study.
2. Thyroid panel must include the following tests: TGAA (Thyroglobulin autoantibodies), Total T4AA, Free T4AA (by equilibrium dialysis), cTSH. (Optional tests include T3 and free T3.)
3. Because these results can change over time, or because the age at testing may be significant, it is essential to list the date of the most recent test in each case. There are no normal values for some of the recommended tests, and there can be differing opinions between experts in the field.

MBC Educational Programs for 2004

Over the last three years, the Michigan Boxer Club has made a concerted effort to have an educational program as part of its monthly meeting. The MBC Board and Officers felt that a monthly program added an additional benefit to Club membership and provided added incentive for members who live a distance from the metropolitan Detroit to attend monthly business meetings. We have had programs on Advances in Boxer Heart Testing, Canine First Aid, Raw Diets, Puppy Neonatal Care, Video tapes of Ch. Bang Away of Sirrah Crest, Leader Dogs for the Blind, and the Canine Rescue unit of the Michigan Technical Rescue Operations Team, to name a few.

Education Schedule:

August – Excerpts from the second half of the video, "Show Dogs, A Handling Guide," by Jeffrey Lynn Brucker will be shown. These excerpts will cover: speed setting; 10 second set-up training; show preparation; class protocol and handling tips to best present your dog; judge's decision points and the methods of separating dogs.

Jeff Brucker is a professional dog handler with over 150 Best in Show wins. These BIS wins include dogs from all of the AKC groups. He is best known as a handler of Doberman Pinschers. In this video, Mr. Brucker explains his training method for the conformation show ring and the handling techniques that he successfully uses in the ring. He outlines the small handling differences that often mean the difference between winning and losing and the key moments when handling has the greatest impact with a judge.

Future programs:

Advances in Laser Surgery for Dogs
 Current Information on Boxer Heart Issues, Video from ABC by Dr. Katherine Meurs
 Hypothyroidism in Boxers, Video from ABC by Dr. Peter Graham
 Seminar on Degenerative Myelopathy, Video from ABC by Dr. Natasha Olby
 The Key to Movement Video, Part 1, Coming and Going
 The Key to Movement Video, Part 2, Side Movement
 Show Grooming for the Boxer
 Breeding Basics
 Dog Law, Owner Responsibilities and Liabilities
 Puppy Contracts
 Canine Nutrition
 The Dog Game - Tax Implications as Business or Hobby
 Obedience Training with the Boxer
 Agility Training with the Boxer
 Human Personality and Dog Breed Preferences

If MBC members have suggestions for programs or know speakers who can add to the Club's wide interests, please contact Barry Wyerman, Education Chairman at 248-344-7944 or e-mail: wyerbr@aol.com

Website Spotlight

As our Educational topic this month is a continuation of July, and I've already listed several sites in relation to the topic last month, I thought I'd post some sites on different topics that might be of interest this time:

BREEDING SITES

Breeders' Resource Center: <http://www.kismetsighthounds.com/breederresource.html>
 Breeding Articles – Dr. Carmen Battaglia: <http://www.breedingbetterdogs.com/articles.html>
 Early Stages of Canine Development: <http://www.weimclubamerica.org/yourweim/development1.html>
 Whelping Checklist: <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Flats/7244/items.html>
 Whelpwise: <http://www.whelpwise.com>

CONTRACTS

Sample Contracts: <http://www.thedogsbestfriend.com/contract.htm>
 Stud Service Contract: <http://www.celestialmastiffs.com/stud.html>
 Stud Service Contract: <http://www.sheltie.com/breedstud.htm>

WHY NOT TO BREED SITES

Does Your Stud Dog Have What it Takes?: <http://clubs.akc.org/vizsla/studdog.pdf>
 Responsible Breeder Education: <http://www.vizslaclub.com/breededu/index.htm>
 The Reality of Breeding Dogs: <http://www.learntobreed.com>
 Top Six Reasons People Give to Breed: <http://www.boxerworld.com/rescue/top6>
 Thoughts on Responsible Breeding: <http://www.dog-play.com/ethics.html>
 Virtual Breeding: <http://www.geocities.com/virtualbreeding/>

Boxer Shorts

Genine DeMaso, Debut Boxers

THE PRETTY ONE

This was the last litter of puppies we were going to allow our Cocker Spaniel to have. It had been a very long night for me. Precious, our only black Cocker, was having a very difficult time with the delivery of her puppies. I laid on the floor beside her large four-foot square cage, watching her every movement. Watching and waiting just in case we had to rush her to the veterinarian.

After six hours the puppies started to appear. The first born was a black and white party dog. The second and third puppies were tan and brown in color. The fourth and fifth were also spotted black and white. "One, two, three, four, five," I counted to myself as I walked down the hallway to wake up Judy and tell her that everything was fine. As we walked back down the hallway and into the spare bedroom, I noticed a sixth puppy had been born and was now laying all by itself over to the side of the cage. I picked up the small puppy and laid it on top of the large pile of puppies, who were whining and trying nurse on the mother. Instantly Precious pushed the small puppy away from rest of the group and refused to recognize it as a member of her family. "Something's wrong," said Judy.

I reached over and picked up the puppy. My heart sank inside my chest when I saw the little puppy was hare-lipped and could not close its little mouth. We had gone through this once before last year with another one of our cockers. That experience like to have killed me when the puppy died and I had to bury it. If there was any way to save this animal I was going to give it my best shot. All the puppies born that night, with the exception of the small hare lipped pup, were very valuable because of their unusual coloring. Most would bring between five to seven hundred dollars each.

The next day I took the puppy to the vet. I was told nothing could be done unless we were willing to spend about a thousand dollars to try and correct the defect. He told us that the puppy would die mainly because it could not suckle. After returning home, Judy and I decided that we could not afford to spend that kind of money without getting some type of assurances from the vet that the puppy had a chance to live. However, that did not stop me from purchasing a syringe and feeding the puppy by hand.....which I did every day and night, every two hours, for more than ten days. The fifth week I placed an ad in the newspaper, and within a week we had taken deposits on all of the pups, except the one with the deformity. The little guy had learned to eat on his own as long as it was soft canned food.

Late that afternoon I had gone to the store to pick up a few groceries. Upon returning, I happened to see the old retired school teacher, who lived across the street from us, waving at me. She had read in the paper that we had puppies for sale and was wondering if she might buy one from us for her grandson. I told her all the puppies had been sold but I would keep my eyes open for anyone else who might have a Cocker Spaniel for sale. I also mentioned we never kept a deposit should someone change their mind and, if so, I would let her know.

Within days all but one of the puppies had been picked up by their new owners. This left me with one brown and tan cocker as well as the smaller hare lipped puppy. Two days passed without me hearing anything from the gentleman who had placed a deposit on the tan and brown pup. So I telephoned the school teacher and told her I had one puppy left and that she was welcome to come and look at it. She advised me that she was going to pick up her grandson and would come over at about eight o'clock that evening.

Judy and I were eating supper when we heard a knock on the front door. When I opened the door, the man who had placed a \$100 deposit on the dog, was standing there. We walked inside where I filled out the paperwork, he paid me the balance of the money, and I handed him the puppy. Judy and I did not know what to do or say if the teacher showed up with her grandson.

Sure enough at exactly eight o'clock the doorbell rang. I opened the door, and there was the school teacher with her grandson standing behind her. I explained to her the man had come for the puppy just an hour before and there were no puppies left. "I'm sorry, Jeffery. They sold all the puppies," she told her grandson.

Just at that moment, the small puppy left in the bedroom began to yelp. "My puppy! My puppy!" yelled the little boy as he ran out from behind his grandmother. I just about fell over when I saw the small child was hare lipped.

The boy ran past me as fast as he could, down the hallway to where the puppy was still yelping. When the three of us made it to the bedroom, the small boy was holding the puppy in his arms. He looked up at his grandmother and said, "Look Grandma. They sold all the puppies except the pretty one and he looks just like me."

Well, Grandma wasn't the only one with tears in her eyes that day. Judy and I stood there, not knowing what to do. "Is this puppy for sale?" asked the school teacher. "My grandma told me these kind of puppies are real expensive and that I have to take real good care of it," said the little boy, who was now hugging the puppy.

"Yes, ma'am. This puppy is for sale." I answered. The school teacher opened her purse and I could see several one-hundred dollar bills sticking out of her wallet. I reached over and pushed her hand back down into her purse so that she would not pull her wallet out.

"How much do you think this puppy is worth?" I asked the boy. "About a dollar," he replied. "No. This puppy is very, very expensive." I explained. "More than a dollar?" he asked.

"I'm afraid so," said his grandmother. The boy stood there pressing the small puppy against his cheek. "We could not possibly take less than two dollars for this puppy." Judy said, squeezing my hand. "Like you said, "It's the pretty one." she continued.

The school teacher took out two dollars, handed it to the young boy and said, "It's your dog now, Jeffery. You pay the man." I think it must be a wonderful feeling for any young person to look at their selves into the mirror and see nothing, except "The pretty one."

Estate Planning for Pets—Statutes, Reading & Organizations

Copyright © 2003 by The Estate Planning for Pets Foundation.

www.estateplanningforpets.com

WHERE CAN I FIND AN ORGANIZATION TO CARE FOR MY PET?

Depending on the circumstances, you may have to consider naming an organization as the caretaker for your pet.

If the organization is a particular type of tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation or association, it may already have a legal duty to provide for the welfare and prevent cruelty to, animals. In any case, you should personally visit the facilities and discuss the matters directly with a party who represents the organization before making the decision.

The following is a list of links to organizations, commercial and nonprofit, that have formal programs for the care of dogs upon the death or disability of their owners.

Permanent Care

The following organizations have specific programs to provide permanent care for a dog after the owner's death:

Pet Estates Inc., New York, provides a country setting for the care of dogs: <http://www.petestates.com>

The Silver Streak Kennel, New York, is country retirement home for dogs: <http://www.dogretirement.com>

Adoption

The following organizations will find a suitable adoptive home for a dog:

Circle Tail, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio: <http://www.circletail.org>

Humane Society of Willamette Valley, Guardian Angel Program—Oregon: http://www.hswv.com/guardian_angel.html

Pets in Need—California: www.petsinneed.org

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like additional information about estate planning for pets, consider the following books, written with the non-lawyer reader in mind:

Donald Congalton & Charlotte Alexander, *When Your Pet Outlives You: Protecting Animal Companions After You Die* (New Sage Press 2002)

Peggy R. Hoyt, *All My Children Wear Fur Coats: How to Leave a Legacy for Your Pet* (Legacy Planning Partners, LLC 2002), see <http://www.legacyforyourpet.com>

Lisa Rogak, *PerPETual Care: Who Will Look After Your Pets If You're Not Around?* (Literature 2003)

MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS §700.2722 Honorary trusts; trusts for pets.

(1) Subject to subsection (3), if a trust is for a specific lawful non-charitable purpose or for lawful noncharitable purposes to be selected by the trustee, and if there is no definite or definitely ascertainable beneficiary designated, the trust may be performed by the trustee for 21 years, but no longer, whether or not the terms of the trust contemplate a longer duration.

(2) Subject to this subsection and subsection (3), a trust for the care of a designated domestic or pet animal is valid. The trust terminates when no living animal is covered by the trust. A gov-

erning instrument shall be liberally construed to bring the transfer within this subsection, to presume against the merely precatory or honorary nature of the disposition, and to carry out the general intent of the transferor. Extrinsic evidence is admissible in determining the transferor's intent.

(3) In addition to the provisions of subsection (1) or (2), a trust covered by either of those subsections is subject to the following provisions:

(a) Except as expressly provided otherwise in the trust instrument, no portion of the principal or income may be converted to the use of the trustee or to a use other than for the trust's purposes or for the benefit of a covered animal.

(b) Upon termination, the trustee shall transfer the unexpended trust property in the following order:

(i) As directed in the trust instrument.

(ii) If the trust was created in a nonresiduary clause in the transferor's will or in a codicil to the transferor's will, under the residuary clause in the transferor's will.

(iii) If no taker is produced by the application of subparagraph (i) or (ii), to the transferor's heirs under section 2720.

(c) For the purposes of sections 2714 to 2716, the residuary clause is treated as creating a future interest under the terms of a trust.

(d) The intended use of the principal or income can be enforced by an individual designated for that purpose in the trust instrument or, if none, by an individual appointed by a court upon petition to it by an individual.

(e) Except as ordered by the court or required by the trust instrument, no filing, report, registration, periodic accounting, separate maintenance of funds, appointment, or fee is required by reason of the existence of the fiduciary relationship of the trustee.

(f) The court may reduce the amount of the property transferred if it determines that that amount substantially exceeds the amount required for the intended use. The amount of the reduction, if any, passes as unexpended trust property under subdivision (b).

(g) If a trustee is not designated or no designated trustee is willing or able to serve, the court shall name a trustee. The court may order the transfer of the property to another trustee if the transfer is necessary to ensure that the intended use is carried out, and if a successor trustee is not designated in the trust instrument or if no designated successor trustee agrees to serve or is able to serve. The court may also make other orders and determinations as are advisable to carry out the intent of the transferor and the purpose of this section.

(h) The trust is not subject to the uniform statutory rule against perpetuities, 1988 PA 418, MCL 554.71 to 554.78.

History: Pub Acts 1998, No. 386, §2722, by §8101 eff April 1, 2000 (see §700.7101)

Please consult <http://www.michiganlegislature.org/> for the most current Michigan statutes online.

The Christmas in July Project

As many of you know, an ear-cropping ban has been introduced in the State of California. If enacted, this legislation will make ear-cropping a crime. While this measure directly affects 17 cropped AKC breeds, we anticipate that the introduction of anti-docking legislation will follow. For those who have followed the true agenda of animal rights groups, they remain on their stated course which is to first ban ear-cropping, then tail docking, then to proceed in a manner which will eventually eliminate all pet ownership.

We are urging the entire dog fancy to watch this legislation and to join us in a united effort to prevent the erosion of our rights as dog owners. Whether you agree with ear-cropping or not, the questions you should ask yourself are: Do I, as an owner of an animal, want to be told what I can and cannot do with my pet? Do I really want the government in my home and backyard? Do I want my individual rights eroded?

Statistics reveal that 70% of people sign their pet's name to greeting cards and 58% include them in family and holiday portraits. They further reveal that 80% of 100 million dog and cat households describe their pets as family members.

The Christmas in July project is an effort designed to utilize these Christmas cards and family pictures to show our legislators that "WE", the dog owners of America, love and treat our pets as family members, and that we do not want to lose our individual rights to make decisions regarding their welfare. This statement equally applies to all breeds and all owners.

We urge you to participate in this project by sending your family photos and Christmas cards to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Senator Liz Figueroa. The addresses and attendant message are provided below.

If you have Christmas cards that were unused, you can cut off the greeting page and send the photo/picture portion as a "postcard". If you don't have any Christmas cards left, you can print the family or Christmas photo on the lower 1/4 of a page of paper from your computer, fold the paper so that the photo is on the front cover, and handwrite one of the following messages inside:

"We are responsible pet owners - Please say NO to the ear cropping amendment in SB 1548 - The XXXXXX family"

OR

"Greetings - Please say NO to the ear-cropping amendment in SB 1548 - The XXXXXX family"

As a dog owner, you CAN have a say in this and future attempts to enact legislation which erodes your rights. Please assist us - It is an easy way to have a "voice" in these matters.

CARDS SHOULD BE MAILED IN TIME TO BE RECEIVED IN CALIFORNIA BEFORE **AUGUST 4, 2004**. THEY SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Liz Figueroa
State Capitol Building, Room 4061
Sacramento, CA 95814

Michigan Boxer Rescue Third Annual Puppy Match and Rescue Raffle

Judge Ms. Julie Sako

We will once again have great items for the raffle, including a

Larger-Than-Life stuffed Boxer

and, in a special raffle,

a Dannyquest piece

Now is the time to start thinking of what you can donate to the raffle

All proceeds go to our Rescue program

You can bring your donated items to our August or September meetings, or you can bring them to the show.

We had a fantastic turn out last year—let's make this year even better!

Remember, it's all for the dogs in need!!

THE CHATTERBOXER

Show Wins

Randolph Diamonds Are Forever - "Rita"
Breeder: Liz Bistline
Owners: Chris Randolph & Virginia Johnson
 Cameliard Boxers
Handler: Genine DeMaso

By Am/Can Ch. Full Circle's Mighty Zeus x
 Cameliard's Diamond Lil

Winners Bitch, Best of Winners - 3-point major
 Richland County Kennel Club - 7/18/04
 Judge: Ms. Beverly Capstick

Please Mail, Fax or E-Mail Show Wins and Litter Announcements to:

Jennifer Walker
28423 Kendallwood Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
Phone: 248-489-1963
Fax: 248-489-1720
secretary@michiganboxerclub.com

Got MBC Stuff?

We have started taking an inventory of Michigan Boxer Club property that is residing in members' houses. We have many items accounted for, but if you are storing an item that belongs to the Club, please let one of the Officers or Board Members know. (Examples are the coffeepot, show manual, ring markers, copier, etc.) Thanks for your cooperation!!

Bringing the ChatterBoxer into the 21st Century?

At the July 6 membership meeting, a suggestion was made to offer the ChatterBoxer in an electronic format (Adobe Acrobat .pdf). This would save the Club significant expenses for postage, paper, and envelopes, it would also mean members would receive the ChatterBoxer the day it was completed. (I won't kid you, it would save the Club Secretary a heck of a lot of time as well!) A paper format would still be an option—there were some suggestions to charge a nominal "subscription" fee to cover the above-mentioned expenses.

The electronic ChatterBoxer would either be sent to each members' e-mail address, or posted on the Club website in a password-protected area, or both. (A "pared down" ChatterBoxer is currently posted each month on the Club website after the paper issues are mailed, but does not include things like the Meeting Minutes, Treasurer's Reports, New Member Applications, etc.)

Before making any kind of determination, we would like to have input from the Membership regarding this option. Please fill out the form below, include any comments, concerns, or suggestions, and return it to me (address above) by August 31, 2004. You can also e-mail me with the information at **secretary@michiganboxerclub.com**



Would you be interested in receiving the ChatterBoxer electronically?
Which mode of delivery would you prefer?

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> No Preference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E-mail | <input type="checkbox"/> Online | <input type="checkbox"/> No Preference |

Would you be willing to pay extra for a paper ChatterBoxer?
If so, what would be an appropriate annual rate?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Depends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____ |

Comments, concerns, suggestions: _____



In Sympathy

Our condolences go to Al and Debbie Petri, and their family, on the loss of Debbie's father on July 16, 2004.

Condolences also to Doug and Ginger Johnson on the loss of their Boxer girl, Shamie, on June 12, 2004 (and my abject apologies for not getting this in last month's ChatterBoxer).

Everything the power of the world does, is done in a circle. The sky is round, and I have heard that the earth is round like a ball, and so are all the stars. The wind in its greatest power whirls. Birds make their nests in circles; for theirs is the same religion as ours. The sun comes forth and goes down again in a circle. The moon does the same and both are round. Even the seasons form a great circle in their changing and always come back to where they were. The life of a man is a circle, from childhood to childhood. And so it is with everything where power moves.

~ Black Elk, Oglala Sioux



Starjax Shameless of Cameliard

12/7/1990 - 6/12/2004

Our old gal Starjax Shameless of Cameliard (CH Starjax Wildfire x Starjax American Maid) left us on Saturday morning for the bridge. I remember our little dark gal at 3 weeks jumping over the litter box and barking at me. She was so beautiful the last few years, silver gray everywhere except for the black rings around her beautiful black eyes. Shameless would have been 14 in December. She left us peacefully in her sleep in my husband's arms. We were so blessed to have her healthy and loving up to end. We miss you old gal - our bed will be very empty.

Love ,
Mom and Dad
(Ginger and Doug Johnson)

Above is a photo of Shamie taken a week before she passed. Both of Shamie's parents were 14 when they died.

At right is Starjax American Maid (Shamie's dam), pictured with littermates CH Starjax Thunder Rolls Cameliard and Starjax Shameless Cameliard at ABC.



THE CHATTERBOXER

A Different Approach on California SB 1548

The following sample letter takes a different approach against SB 1548, addressing the financial impact upon the state of California.

Re: SB 1548 (Figueroa), As Amended July 2, 2004.

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Assembly Appropriations Committee Hearing Date: August 4, 2004

Dear Honorable Senators, Respected Assembly Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee Members:

I respectfully request the amendment of SB 1548 by the removal of the ear-cropping provision.

Ear cropping is a personal decision for dog owners. No one is required to crop, but they should have the right to choose!

The anti-crop provision of SB 1548 adversely affects approximately 45 AKC recognized breeds that either crop ears or dock tails. (Although legislation does not currently mention tail-docking, that will be the next focus of animal extremists. Indeed, they are already focusing on tail-docking, as exhibited by the legal complaint that PETA filed against the Westminster Kennel Club for "allowing" docked-tail breeds to be exhibited at their show.)

The fiscal economic impact of SB 1548 on the State of CA would be well over \$150,000,000.00; therefore the bill should be sent, in its entirety, to the suspense calendar. (Statistics on how this is calculated follow.) Revenue loss to small towns which host dog shows will be financially devastating. Many of these small towns (such as Dixon, Gridley, Hanford, etc.) rely on this income. Hotels/motels, gas stations, restaurants, and convenience stores (to name a few) see a huge increase in sales revenue during dog shows held in their towns.

The ear-crop provision does not belong in, and is inappropriate for, the Reauthorization bill for the Veterinary Medical Practices Board. Items contained therein should be limited to the work and authority of the Veterinary Medical Practices Board. Veterinary medicine and procedures should not be legislated, but left to the informed judgment of the Veterinarian-Client privilege. Ear cropping is a safe procedure when performed with knowledge and experience. Cropping ears is not "cruel." It is performed safely under veterinary care using sterile equipment, monitored anesthesia, and with aftercare.

Statistical Information

The American Kennel Club regulations are as follows.

Chapter 11: Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility,

Section 8-D. reads, "Any dog whose ears have been cropped or cut in any way shall be ineligible to compete at any show in any state where the laws prohibit the same except subject to the provisions of such laws."

Statistics

The American Kennel Club reports that in 2003, 120 all breed shows were held in the state of CA with over 160,000 entries. In addition there were 301 Specialty (one breed) shows with over 20,250 entries. Total dogs = 180,250+ ! All of these shows bring money into the community. An American Kennel Club analysis reveals the impact of shows to the local economy to be an average of \$300,000 from the people who participate in each show. (Many clubs have more than one show per year.) CA has 4 shows ranked in the top 25 Conformation only, two of those being #1 (dogs entered 3,393) and #2 (dogs entered 3,164), the other two #14 (dogs entered 2,699) and #21 (dogs entered 2,548). FYI: Westminster, the most watched and known show, ranks in at a mere #82.

2003 Statistics All 50 States

1,559 US Conformation Shows = State Avg. of 29.54 - 120 in CA

823 US Specialty Shows = State Avg. of 2.73 - 301 in CA

1,379 US Agility Shows = State Avg. of 27.58 - 144 in CA

2,382 US Obedience Shows = State Avg. of 47.64 - 60 in CA

338 US Tracking Shows = no figures available at this time

Earthdog Trials = no figures available at this time

As you can see, CA leads the rankings for the amount of shows held. Total Shows in CA (not counting Tracking and Earthdog) = 625 x \$300,000.00 (avg. to local economy) = \$187,500,000.00 into the State's economy. The amendment to SB 1548 will remove a significant portion of that income to our state.

Footnote: Most cropped and docked dogs have the highest numbers of entries at dog shows, and from looking through show catalogs, that's about 50% of the dogs entered. At least 1/3 of the AKC recognized breeds are cropped, and if you add the number of docked breeds to the ban, then Earthdog Trials would be nonexistent.

So the amendment to SB 1548 will impact local and state economy, hundreds of judges, handlers, vendors, dog owners, dogs, etc.

The Amendment to SB 1548 is not only about "to crop or not to crop", it is about Interstate Commerce, the Economy and most importantly, the Freedom of Choice.

Please, I respectfully request you VOTE NO on SB1548 unless the ban on ear-cropping is removed.

Championship Awards

It's time to be recognized for your Boxer's achievements in 2003-2004. If your Boxer has completed their American or Canadian Championship or achieved Sire or Dam of Merit Status in 2003-2004, please complete the form below and return it to Joan Johnson by **October 15.** To avoid mail delays, Canadian members should mail EARLY!

Remember, it is your responsibility to have made the minimum trophy pledge and to relay the information to the trophy chairperson clearly and accurately in readable form. The owner of record at the time the title was earned must request the plaque.

Record of New Champion, Sire of Merit or Dam of Merit

(Circle titles that apply)

Boxer's Registered Name _____

Boxer's Call Name _____

Boxer's Color _____

Breeder(s) _____

Owner(s) _____

Sire's Registered Name _____

Dam's Registered Name _____

Date Title Achieved USA _____

Canada _____

Title(s) _____

Whelping Date _____

Ownership from _____ to _____

Return Completed Form to

**Joan Johnson
31081 Westfield
Livonia, MI 48150**

REMINDER — Completed form is due by October 15, 2004. Any forms received after October 15 will not be accepted. Your trophy contribution for 2004 must have been a minimum of \$20.00 to qualify for a Championship plaque.

Dogs On the Air, In the News, and Online

PENN & TELLER'S TAKE ON PETA—BULLSH!T

Penn & Teller now have their own series on Showtime, appropriately called Bullsh!t. One of their topics, and an episode that I personally thought was fantastic, was PETA. Here is the blurb from Showtime:

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) plays on our compassion for other living things while laying a trap to turn the tables on us: PETA is against all forms of medical testing involving animals - regardless of the potential benefits to human beings... PETA supports banning the ownership of pets and advocates releasing them into the wild... It's enough to make a vegetarian eat meat!

This show will re-air on Showtime on August 5 at 10:30 p.m. A warning—as you might guess by the show's title, Penn does not censor his words. This show is chock-full of strong language!

COYOTES SETTling INTO DETROIT SUBURBS

Associated Press

Coyotes are making their home in Detroit's sprawling suburbs, dining on garbage, rodents and the occasional pet. No one knows how many coyotes there are in Michigan, said David Bostick, a wildlife biologist with the state Department of Natural Resources. But, he said, they are among the most common predators in the state, numbering in the tens of thousands, with as many as 100 of them living in the Detroit area.

About 6:30 a.m. Saturday, Paul and Nancy Maitre saw a coyote in their yard in Farmington Hills. Ike, their 8-year-old gray house cat, dangled from his mouth, said a neighbor. "He was prancing like he had just killed," said Nancy Maitre, who was drinking coffee in her back yard when she saw the gray coyote. "We didn't know if he would turn on us. Then, he just took off."

Naturalists say that as their natural habitat disappears, wild animals are learning to live alongside humans and are losing their fear of people. Bostick said there have been no cases of coyotes killing people in Michigan and, for the most part, there is no reason for people to fear them any more than wild dogs. "It's not a problem that's going to go away," he told the Detroit Free Press for a story Wednesday.

A member of the dog family, coyotes are about the size of a small German shepherd. Their coats are usually yellowish gray, with white or cream-colored hair on its throat and belly. Their fur is used to line the hoods of parkas. Last year, state records show, hunters killed 19,846 coyotes. Often, coyotes look for food in pairs, but they do not run in packs like wolves and do not howl, Bostick said. He said they sound more like yapping dogs.

In Rochester Hills, there have been five recorded coyote sightings since February 2001, Mayor Pat Somerville says on the city's Web site. "My guess is we've always had them. But people are just seeing them more," said Lance DeVoe, city naturalist for Rochester Hills.

Last September, Roseville police shot and killed a coyote. The animal was in a yard just a few hundred feet from Mark Twain elementary school, and the officer was afraid it would get away before animal control could arrive. In Livonia, coyotes have become so abundant that the city hired a Westland-based company, Varmint Police & Chimney Cleaning, to trap and kill them from December to February. The company caught 13.

Last week, Joe Derek, the city naturalist for Farmington Hills, said he saw a coyote in his yard. Just before dusk, Derek said, a wild coyote jumped his 4-foot fence and hid in his bed of day lilies. At first, he said, he thought it was a neighbor's dog. Suddenly, the coyote's head popped up.

"We saw each other for a split second," Derek said, who described the glow of the coyote's yellowish-green eyes. "Then, he just turned around and was gone into the bushes."

CANINE SPORTS

Chris Zink, DVM, PhD, foremost authority on the dog as an athlete and award-winning author of Peak Performance: Coaching the Canine Athlete and co-author of Jumping from A to Z: Teach Your Dog to Soar has put over 60 obedience, agility, retrieving, tracking, and conformation titles on dogs from three different groups. She is a consultant on canine sports medicine and gives seminars worldwide to rave reviews.

Janet Lewis has been training dogs for over 20 years and has put 4 Obedience Trial Championships on her Border Collies in addition to tracking titles. She is in great demand for seminars because of her sense of humor and talent for teaching. In her other life, Janet is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA where she has taught philosophy and writing for the past twenty six years

Not a lot of content, the online articles are very worthwhile! The website is www.caninesports.com

Jennifer Walker, Secretary
Michigan Boxer Club
28423 Kendallwood Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334



Mail To:

MICHIGAN BOXER CLUB



Our next meeting is
Tuesday, August 3, 2004
Livonia Civic Center Library
Meeting Room C, 7:00 p.m.

The Library is located on Five Mile Road, 1/4 mile east of Farmington Road

www.michiganboxerclub.com