



# THE CHATTERBOXER

Member, American Boxer Club  
Established 1945

December 2004

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## AKC Announces Online Breeder Classifieds

*New Web-Based Service Brings Puppy Buyers and Breeders Together*

The American Kennel Club announced the launch of AKC Online Breeder Classifieds, a new web-based listing service intended to help people seeking an AKC-registrable purebred puppy locate breeders in their area.

Potential puppy buyers may search the database by breed, state or zip code and then contact the breeder directly via phone or e-mail for more information. The listings include the breeders' contact information and details about the litter (such as birth date, number of males/females, sire and dam names, etc).

Before searching the listings, visitors to the site will be exposed to educational information to help them make informed decisions about finding the right breed for their lifestyle, the many responsibilities of being a dog owner and choosing a responsible breeder. Once the user conducts a search, a list of questions to ask the breeder is automatically included when viewing or printing the results. The user will also be encouraged to start their search by visiting the web site of the Parent Club - the national club for each breed and ideal source of breed information. Parent Club websites include breeder referral and breed rescue programs, and in-depth information such as the written breed standard.

"AKC Online Breeder Classifieds bring potential puppy buyers together with breeders of AKC-registered litters," said Dennis Sprung, AKC President and CEO. "In addition to locating new litters, puppy buyers will find important information to help them make well informed choices when selecting a breed and a breeder. The AKC has always been an invaluable resource for dog owners throughout the life of their dog - now we can play a more significant role in bringing dogs and people together."

The AKC urges all prospective puppy buyers to be diligent about selecting their pet and to conduct research about the breed and the breeder. Each AKC Online Breeder Classified listing features a "Breeder Profile" where details about the breeding program of the advertiser, such as membership in AKC clubs, health screenings routinely conducted on parents and pups, health guarantees, permanent identification practices and bill of sale terms, can be indicated.

For more information, puppy buyers and breeders interested in listing their litters should visit [www.akc.org/classified](http://www.akc.org/classified) or contact AKC Customer Service at 919-233-9767.

## Member Birthdays

The Michigan Boxer Club would like to send good wishes to the following Club members who are celebrating December birthdays:

### Member Name

### Whelped On

Bruce Papesh  
Alan Dorfman  
Barb Carroll  
Christina Fleisher

December 2  
December 8  
December 14  
December 14



## From the Editor

*The indefatigable pursuit of an unattainable perfection—even though nothing more than the pounding of an old piano—is what alone gives a meaning to our life on this unavailing star.*

~Logan Pearsall Smith

*Perfection is a trifle dull. It is not the least of life's ironies that this, which we all aim at, is better not quite achieved.*

~W. Somerset Maugham



Well, I seem to have come full circle. My first editorial was about the standard, in anticipation of breeding Patsy at about this time. That didn't happen—we decided to give her some more time in the ring, to see how she does, because I suspect she won't 'come back' enough after a litter to be shown. So, I'm back to the standard again, looking for that one stud dog that is the perfect match for my crazy little bitch.

Out of curiosity, and because we may also be breeding Xena and I don't have another three years to research stud dogs for her, I posted a 'Stud Dog Casting Call' to the ShowBoxer List, noting what my main requirements were in a stud dog (they're similar for both girls, though weighted differently). My potential list grew from about a dozen dogs to over 50!! It was interesting to note, however, which dogs were suggested by more than one person, and which dogs were suggested by people other than their breeders/owners (the majority of them, actually).

Of course, this puts me back not to Square One, but somewhere around Square Minus Four. However, I have talked to more people about Patsy and her lines (including the British side, which is what really throws a wrench into the works), I've had a chance to watch her in the ring and get a 'hands off' view of her strengths and weaknesses, and I've developed a strong network of folks with whom to discuss my plans. Whichever dog I choose, someone will think I'm crazy, but at least I'll know I looked at it from every possible angle!

(This is not to slight Xena, but she's a bit easier, simply because I'm familiar with her lines and so are the people closest to me. I may still do something many would consider crazy, but I've got a good idea of what will come from her side of the pedigree. It makes experimenting seem a little 'safer', to me.)

Conflict has also been a recurring theme this month, mostly on a personal level but also on some of the mailing lists. By and large, the underlying catalyst is related to perfection—either a perfect event, or perfect conduct, or even perfect spelling and grammar.

We each have our views of perfection, in all things, and sometimes when others fall short, frustration and anger set in. In a perfect world <g>, we would not allow these perceived failings to affect our conduct; however, being human, we also are imperfect, and sometimes emotions take over logic.

Sometimes, though, out of conflict there arises a new and deeper understanding. Statements made in haste or anger, while often hurtful, can spark a revelation. I tend to embrace conflict more than the average person, but I have often achieved my greatest education and growth by doing so. In my never-ending quest for personal perfection, conflict plays an important role.

Not so for everyone, though—some people avoid conflict at all costs. Others create it wherever they go—and as much as I enjoy a good argument, initiating conflict for conflict's sake is rarely beneficial and often quite detrimental. As with all things, there is a harmony to be achieved, a balance between war and peace, apathy and bias, even right and wrong.

There are a few topics that have caused considerable conflict in the past year. One, which I'm sure you're probably all tired of hearing about, is the ABC Code of Ethics. The change to the Code has passed, however since it was not presented as a 'drop-in' amendment, the entire Code is being rewritten. Any suggestions for further changes should be sent to Bob Phillips at [sigurd46142@highstream.net](mailto:sigurd46142@highstream.net) (there is sample wording for a more balanced version of the Limited Registration issue at [www.minstrelboxers.com/whites/](http://www.minstrelboxers.com/whites/)).

Another controversial topic has been the AKC's addition of an online Breeder's Classifieds. This service allows breeders to list available puppies, once the litter has been registered. Many feel that this simply gives legitimacy to irresponsible breeders who will list their puppies with an implied AKC endorsement; others feel that with the information a person must view before actually accessing the puppy listing, as well as the information snapshot given for the breeders, there is a great opportunity for public education. Of course, it all depends on whether the potential puppy buyer actually reads the information provided!

Along with the AKC Classifieds, the question of breeders advertising at Breeder Directory sites has been discussed recently. I visit many of the various directories fairly frequently, and list myself on any that are free. I strongly believe that this, too, is a matter of public education; that if we responsible breeders are not listed on these sites, many of the puppy-buying public will have no option but to purchase from the irresponsible breeders. Though I don't have any puppies available, and won't for probably another year or so, I do have information and links on my website that discuss responsible breeding, choosing a puppy, the breed standard, health, genetics—more than most puppy buyers would even want to know, but hopefully enough so that they can make an informed choice.

In closing, I'd like to thank you all for the words of praise and encouragement regarding the ChatterBoxer this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed it, even when I've been in a panic trying to get it printed, copied, collated, and envelopes stuffed, labeled, stamped, and sealed in order to get it to you in at least a somewhat timely manner! Hopefully the new electronic delivery option will not only give me a small break from some of that work, but will eliminate your dependence on the vagaries of the postal system.

I have very much enjoyed continuing the tradition of our outstanding Club publication. I have some new ideas for 2005, but I want to reiterate once more that this is *\*your\** newsletter—suggestions, comments, and contributions are always welcome and encouraged.

May you have a joyous holiday, and peace in the coming year.

Best ~

*Jen*

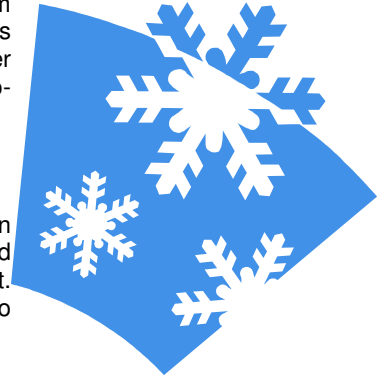
## Wintertime Woes

By Norma Bennett Woolf

The days are getting shorter, the nights are cooler, and preparations for winter have begun. Mom has taken sweaters and jackets from storage, dogs have grown thicker coats, and the heat has come on once or twice already. Halloween is just around the corner, to be followed in short order by Thanksgiving and Christmas. Kids stay after school for soccer practice and spend evenings doing homework.

Life has shifted gears, and Rover may need some help to adjust.

The decline of daylight after the summer solstice triggers growth of lush undercoats in northern breeds and other double-coated dogs. Many dogs develop a voracious appetite, handy for wild animals that need a layer of fat to get them through the winter but less than useless in a family pet. Cool temperatures are a tonic to most dogs, and they'll romp and play long past time to go to school or work in the morning or get to the teacher's meeting in the afternoon if they're allowed.



Most living takes place inside from October through April, and close quarters enhance the possibilities for trouble between family members, including the dog. If Steve comes home late because he had volleyball practice and spends the evening doing homework, Bear will feel snubbed. A neglected Bear can be a dangerous Bear — possessions may be stolen or chewed, housetraining may be forgotten, and training may slip down the drain.

Family members can ease the transition from summertime to school-year schedules by keeping in mind that Sassy is still part of the family and that the humans must make time for her. She still needs a daily walk, grooming once or twice a week, food twice a day, and periodic training sessions.

The family dog can be included in family activities. He can accompany Mom and Dad on a walk to the neighborhood school yard or the park to watch football or soccer practice or ride in the car on short trips. Mary can groom him a bit while she watches television and Mom can talk to him while she fixes dinner. Of course, in order to join the family in these projects, he must be well-behaved.

A well-mannered dog knows how to sit, lie down, and stay on command; walks quietly on a leash; and comes when he's called. He drops things in his mouth when told to do so, stays quietly in his crate when necessary, and rides calmly in the car. He can learn these things at home if owners are persistent, consistent, and patient; he can learn them at training class if the owner appreciates a group training atmosphere.

If Taffy knows "sit," she won't jump on guests and knock bags of groceries or trays of hors d'oeuvres out of Mom's hands. If she knows "down," she can't beg at the table, run around the back seat of the car, or pace in front of the television screen. If she knows "stay," she can remain with Mary anywhere in the house. If she walks nicely on a leash, she can go to park or playground on a family outing. And if she comes when called, she's safe just about everywhere.

Old dogs can learn to behave if owners have an extra dose of patience and a good imagination in case the first few techniques to teach an exercise don't work. Remember how difficult it is for an adult human to learn new procedures or jobs and give the pooch a break! Make training fun, keep sessions short, and use plenty of praise.

Group classes are available at training clubs and private trainers throughout the area. Training books are available at local bookstores and libraries. Start now!

### Holiday dangers

The holiday season is full of dangers for Phydeaux. House plants, chemical salts used on icy walks, antifreeze, and chocolate candy all pose hazards to man's best friend.

- Many popular house plants have poisonous leaves, stems, or berries, including dieffenbachia, holly, philodendron, and poinsettia and should be kept out of the reach of pets.
- Halite, the chemical salt that melts ice on sidewalks, is also poisonous. If Rover walks on treated sidewalks, wipe his feet with a damp cloth when returning home. Sand makes a good alternative to chemical salt; it doesn't melt the ice, but it does improve traction. Kitty litter is OK in a pinch, but when wet, it clumps and loses its gritty texture.
- Anti-freeze is a definite hazard. Highly toxic, it has a sweet taste that appeals to dogs and cats and can be deadly in doses as small as a teaspoon for a large dog. Spilled anti-freeze should be flushed from driveways to avoid even tiny puddles that pets could lick.

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## Boxer Shorts

Genine DeMaso, Debut Boxers

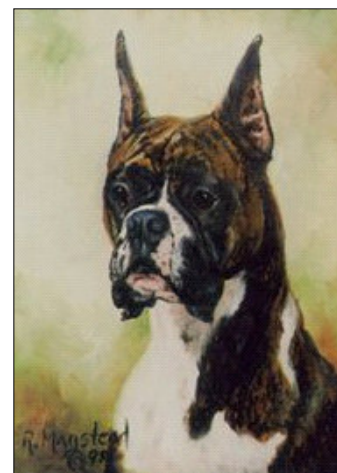
### TOP TEN REASONS DOGS CAN'T USE COMPUTERS

10. He's distracted by cats chasing his mouse.
  9. SIT and STAY were hard enough; CUT and PASTE are out of the question.
  8. Saliva coated floppy disks refuse to work.
  7. Three words.....carpal paw syndrome.
  6. Involuntary tail wagging is a dead give away that he's browsing www.purina.com instead of working.
  5. The fire hydrant icon is simply too frustrating.
  4. He can't help attaching the screen when he hears "You've Got Mail"!!
  3. It's just too mess to "mark" every website he visits.
  2. The FETCH command isn't available on all platforms.
- And the Number One Reason.....
1. He can't stick his head out of Windows XP!!!!
- 



### SPECIALIZED CROSS BREED DOGS

- Pointer X Setter = Poinsetter, a traditional Christmas pet
- Kerry Blue Terrier X Skye Terrier = Blue Skye, a dog for visionaries
- Great Pyrenees X Dachshund = Pyradachs, a puzzling breed
- Pekingese X Lhasa Apso = Peekasso, an abstract dog
- Irish Water Spaniel X English Springer Spaniel = Irish Springer, a dog fresh and clean as a whistle
- Labrador Retriever X Curly Coated Retriever = Lab Coat Retriever, the choice of research scientists
- Newfoundland X Basset Hound = Newfound Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisors
- Terrier X Bulldog = Terribull, a dog that makes awful mistakes
- Bloodhound X Labrador = Blabador, a dog that barks incessantly
- Malamute X Pointer = Moot Point, owned by....oh, well, it doesn't matter anyway
- Collie X Malamute = Commute, a dog that travels to work
- Deerhound X Terrier = Derriere, a dog that's true to the end
- Cocker Spaniel x Rottweiler = Cockrot, the perfect puppy for that philandering ex-husband
- Bull Terrier x Shitzu = Bullshitz, a gregarious but unreliable breed



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## Hard to Train?

By Suzanne Clothier

Included in the December print issue of the ChatterBoxer was Suzanne Clothier's article, "Hard to Train?". Suzanne's copyright does not allow electronic reproduction of her articles—which includes a .pdf file—so I have removed it from the online version. The article can be found on Suzanne's website, at [www.flyingdogpress.com/difficult.html](http://www.flyingdogpress.com/difficult.html).

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## Spartan Mid-Winter Match

*For the Benefit of the MSU Pure-Bred Dog Endowment Fund*

**Conformation (Working Group 10:00 a.m., Ring 3, Judge Jon R. Clapp; Best in Match Judge Sandy Shaw)**

Puppy: 3-6 months; 6-9 months; 9-12 months

Adult: 12-18 months; Open

Dogs with titles may be entered for non-competition

**Obedience (9:00 a.m., Rings 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)**

Pre Novice; Novice; Open; Utility; Grad Novice

**Junior Showmanship (1:00 p.m., Ring 5, Judge Ann Glynn)**

Novice Junior (8-10 years; over 10 years); Novice Senior; Open Junior; Open Senior

\$7 per entry (Juniors \$4 as an additional class). All proceeds will go to the MSU Pure-Bred Dog Endowment Fund.

**Obedience must be pre-entered.** Mail to MSU Match, 2217 Wabash, Lansing, MI 48910. Use any AKC entry form. Entries can also be made by phone, 517-887-6310 or e-mail, [big4dogs@comcast.net](mailto:big4dogs@comcast.net) Entry fees should be paid the day of the show.

For more information contact Mark Stinson or Dr. Al Stinson, Match Chairmen, at 517-655-5363 or [threetriever@aol.com](mailto:threetriever@aol.com)



## AKC Tips for a Safe and Happy Holiday Season With Your Dog

*AKC Also Cautions Against Giving Dogs as Gifts*

Harsh winter weather and the hectic holiday season can be stressful for many people, but what about your furry, four-footed companion? The season's festivities can be both enjoyable and safe for your pet as long as you keep your canine's health and well being in mind. Following are tips from the American Kennel Club for a safe and happy holiday season.

### Diet/Exercise

- Though humans enjoy cookies, chocolate, raisins and other sweets, these rich treats are dangerous for your canine. Chocolate contains Theobromine, which can be harmful and sometimes fatal.
- While we may indulge in holiday libations, no dog should ever have access to alcohol.
- Other food items that can be "a recipe for disaster" include onions, which are often a part of holiday cooking and destroy a dog's red blood cells and can lead to anemia. In addition, poultry bones can splinter and cause intestinal blockages.
- Daily routines change as holiday baking, shopping and get-togethers become a priority. During this time, try to keep your dog's normal routine with regular feeding, walking and playtime.

### The Great Outdoors

- If your dog is accustomed to eating outside, pick up his metal bowls, since his tongue can freeze to metal when the temperature drops. Change water and food dishes to ceramic or plastic, fill them with warm water and check them often, breaking out the ice when necessary.
- Dogs exposed to the cold for long periods are at risk of hypothermia. Small and shorthaired breeds should wear sweaters when outside. If your dog appears to be cold, or is shivering or shaking, take him inside immediately.
- Ice-melting chemicals and salt on sidewalks can irritate a dog's footpads. Consider booties in cold weather or deep snow for all dogs, large and small.
- Pets are attracted to the sweet taste of anti-freeze (ethylene glycol), which is lethal, even in small doses. Check driveways and wipe up any leaks immediately.

### "Bows" of Holly

- Make sure your tree is steady and secure in a flat, wide base. To ensure a tople-free tree, anchor it with fishing line tied to drapery rods or the wall.
- A simple wag of your dog's tail can bring down decorations on low tree ranches. Place small or glass ornaments on top branches.
- Tree adornments, candles and other decorations can cause choking or severe intestinal problems if swallowed. Avoid decorating your tree with strands of popcorn, or other items that might tempt your dog's appetite. Tinsel and angel hair can lead to upset stomach and possible intestinal blockage if ingested.
- When decorating with holiday lights, keep in mind that your dog may try to chew the wires, causing electrocution. Tape wires to the wall or sides of the house or room.
- Both cats and dogs may find the tree water tempting to drink, so be sure to use pet friendly preservatives in the tree's water.
- Immediately dispose of wrapping paper, bows, yarn and curling ribbons after presents are opened to prevent ingestion.
- Poinsettias, holly and mistletoe may make your dog sick if he chews on the leaves, flowers or berries. Place holiday plants out of Fido's reach.
- Not every guest at your holiday party, especially young children, may be familiar with your dog's habits. When entertaining, consider confining your dog securely in one area of the house, with a radio or TV on and soft lighting.

### Under the Tree

- Think twice when considering a dog as a gift. Though nothing tugs harder at heartstrings than a cute, cuddly puppy, every adorable bundle of fur is a lifetime responsibility. Dogs can live up to 20 years (depending on the breed) and it's crucial that you know the recipient can care for the pet. This means providing plenty of exercise, training, veterinary care and - most importantly - lots of love and attention.
- Instead of giving a puppy as a present, consider gift wrapping dog toys or supplies such as a leash, food or bowl to symbolize the bundle of joy to come. Talk to your loved one about the commitment, then research the different breeds that will best suit your lifestyle, and choose a responsible breeder.
- Finally, instead of another new toy, send a small contribution in honor of Fido to a deserving organization, such as your dog's parent club, breed rescue group, or canine health charity. For more information, visit [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

## Breed Condition

By Dr. Gareth Morgan-Jones

In the normal course of participation in the sport of pure-bred dogs in conformation competition one is exposed, on occasion, to various and sundry opinions as to the prevailing condition of breeds at a given time and sometimes to prognostications concerning their likely future. All manner of individuals seem intent on periodically voicing, or expressing in written words, their views on this subject. This matter came to my attention again quite recently when listening to a colleague of mine on a judging panel severely criticize something which a fellow-writer in this magazine had written earlier this year. The latter had essentially championed an assessment to the effect that a particular breed was in very fine shape at the present time whereas the former took quite strong exception to this appraisal and felt the breed to be in dire straights. There you have it; two very well-known, high-profile, multiple-Group judges, both with extensive experience, having a diametrically opposing point of view as to the current condition of a given breed. The entity in question is, by the way, one of those at the high end of the scale in terms of both visibility and success in Group and Best in Show competition. It is one of those breeds which has done more than its fair share of big-time winning. What does this tell us? There are several possible explanations. That the sport is so subjective as to defy reason is, I suppose, one likely answer but I do not necessarily subscribe to this notion. There may admittedly be an element of this at play here but surely this is not the whole story. Was the one individual absolutely correct in his judgment, and the other dead wrong, or is the truth of the matter somewhere in-between? Interesting question!

All this set me thinking, especially since both of these views were pretty vehemently expressed! Can one, in all honesty, make valid assessments in this sort of context? Can one accurately determine and generalize as to the condition of a population of pure-bred show dogs or is whatever that is sometimes said about this subject inevitably conjectural and much too simplistic in terms of reasoning? In other words, is there a chance that both of the positions alluded to above might be more than a little off-base because of the very nature of their origin? Who's to tell? Are we talking about inference from defective or presumptive evidence here? Is this one of those cases where conclusions are deduced and reached by surmise or guesswork or is there indeed some cogency to this type appraisal? How convincing are these opinions in most instances? It can, of course, be argued that, given the diversity which exists, it is next to impossible to make generalizations in this regard. There is every reason to believe that breeds do vary in terms of their overall condition but how definitive are our determinations about this? Are our opinions based on mere impressions or on more substantive grounds? And on what basis are we making these assertions in the first place? Breeds are dynamic entities in the sense that they change over time and how are we to empirically evaluate just where they are at? Is it possible to do this or is this just one of those things that we are in the habit of indulging in without much foundation in fact?

This subject area is certainly one that participants in the sport have an on-going interest in but it is important to realize that the generalizations which are sometimes made in this regard may not always be entirely accurate or valid. They suffer from the inherent shortcoming of deriving or inducing a general conception from particulars which may be flimsy and totally inadequate at worse or patchy and inconsistent at best. When you hear somebody say that so-and-so breed is in really terrible shape these days, do you take such a statement at face value or cum grano salis (with a

grain of salt) and say to yourself; hold on, what evidence is there for reaching such a sweeping conclusion? Unfortunately the temptation to express these type opinions is out there and there are plenty of judges who succumb to the exercise of being critical, out of sheer frustration, if nothing else. There is, after all, nothing worse than having to pass on an entry, especially a sizable one, consisting of what are sometimes referred to as drag dogs, those exhibits that exemplify a reversion to a below-average, mediocre condition and, goodness knows, there are plenty of them out there. There are breeders who do likewise for different reasons, among which is an ongoing concern for the maintenance of breed integrity in the face of the advent of the generic show dog. To put things in proper perspective one has, however, to be cautious and take into consideration both the context and the various elements that are at play here.

As I have alluded to above and I have discussed in previous essays, over time breeds do apparently move in different directions and there is always the phenomenon of variation complicating the equation, so to speak. But these type changes are always rather hard to define and, in any case, rarely occur across the board. Different breeds are, after all, at different stages of development as show dogs and this has to be taken into account and consideration. There are some that are still in the formative stages, at least insofar as breeding for conformation competition is concerned, of their man-induced evolution; Glen of Imaal Terriers, Havanese, and Toy Fox Terriers, being good examples that come to mind. It has to do with consolidation of their respective gene pools and all that. Many others, such as the Pharaoh and Ibizan Hounds, and the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen, are at an intermediate state while still others have reached a different level and are essentially in another category; think of Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Poodles, etcetera. All of the selection over many generations has had its effect. Hence the degree of phenotypic variation and plasticity that one sees within breeds differs appreciably. Those breeds that are still in the relatively early stages of the process of perfecting, what we think of as improvement, quite obviously exhibit more diversity but unless there is careful selection, even in those breeds where there is more uniformity, some unraveling may readily occur. The retrogressive, so-called sink-effect, that declining from a better to a worse stage, is never that far away. The reversion actuality may manifest itself particularly in those breeds having mixed ancestries, those breeds that have been created by a latter-day crossing of previously existing entities.

When people make these assertions as to the prevailing condition of particular breeds, whether be it to the effect that they are in a terrific or a far less than ideal state, what do they base their opinions on? What are the criteria involved? How comprehensive is their vision? When statements are made in this regard how well-founded are they? And what exactly is the point of making these generalizations? Is there some purpose that is being served or is this merely a way of satisfying a need to be authoritative on the subject, abstract and ill-defined though it sometimes can be. How much credence should be put on these type views? The answers to these questions are not easy to come by and they will vary depending upon the context. There can be no doubt that certain observations can be accurate but in the larger scheme of things may very well be at least somewhat neutralized. It all rather depends upon what exactly one is focusing on. Take the matter of preservation of breed essence, for example. How much change can be accommodated without beginning to lose some of the inherent

## Breed Condition, Continued

characteristics that typify individual breeds? How much exaggeration of neck, length of loin, reach in front, and degree of rear extension, brought about as a result of over-angulation, for example, can be tolerated in the Pembroke Welsh Corgi before a question arises as to whether or not the breed is drifting so far away from its original form as to render it incapable of effectively performing the function which it traditionally had in its native land? Whatever happened to that much-beloved, sturdy little farm dog that I remember so well from my youth? First of all, those upper-middle-class English women got ahold of it and then the so-called improvement got underway. All to satisfy some partly aesthetic need conceived in the minds of people far removed from its history. I grew up with this breed and I can tell you that I am not all that terribly impressed with a lot of what I see in the ring today. How well would some of these showy but light-boned, tubey, sickle-hocked specimens, some of which do significant winning, perform the tasks for which the breed was intended? And I do not mean in the short term at some contrived trial but under day-to-day working conditions. Then we go about discussing what is or is not correct in an essentially artificial context and part of the fallout from this is that judges get confused and do a lousy job when it comes to rewarding type as opposed to something generic. This sort of thing happens in a whole lot of breeds.

It is probably true to say that some of what is said about breeds in a general way has some validity, some of it possibly not. As I say, it all rather depends upon the context and it also rather obviously depends upon the knowledge and background of the individuals offering the opinion. But there again the subjective dimension crops up. There is a difference between being wildly speculative and purveying the demonstrable. Assumptions are not what this is all about. Each position taken has to be treated and accepted on its probable merits, if this can be in some way determined. Otherwise we are just not dealing with reality and this is all about nothing.

To be honest, I am not in a position to know which one of the individuals who stimulated me to write this essay is right and which one is wrong concerning the current condition of the breed which they were referring to. They can't both be right but then they may both conceivably be wrong! The breed may be, overall, in fairly decent shape. On the other hand, it may not be in that good a state. It may be in better condition in some parts of the country than in others. It may, in fact, be quite impossible to tell exactly what its status is quality-wise. So what do you think about the present condition of your own breed or do you not want to even indulge in such a sometime highly speculative matter?

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

*Dr. Gareth Morgan-Jones was born and brought up in Wales. Educated at the University of Wales and the University of Nottingham, England, he earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the latter. His alma mater conferred the degree of Doctor of Science upon him by decree in recognition of his internationally-known contribution to knowledge in mycology, the branch of biological science involving the study of fungi. He has held faculty positions at universities in four countries; Canada, South Africa, the United Kingdom, as well as the United States. He currently holds the rank and title of Distinguished University Professor at Auburn University. At Auburn he has, for many years, headed a research program involving the study plant disease-inducing microfungi funded at various times by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the United States Department of Agriculture, and Abbott Laboratories. He has owned, bred and exhibited a number of breeds, including Afghan Hounds, Basset Hounds, English Cocker Spaniels, Pekingese and Pembroke Welsh Corgis. He is currently approved by the AKC to judge Best in Show, the Hound Group, English Cocker Spaniels, nine Toy breeds, Miscellaneous Classes, and Junior Showmanship. He can be reached at either morganj@charter.net or gmorgan@acesag.auburn.edu*

## Show Wins

### Golden Gloves Uppercut—"Dillon"

**Breeder:** Hali Bartels

**Owners:** Tom & Judy DeWolff, Golden Glove Boxers

Ch. Golden Glove's A Cut Above x  
Maisey's Amazing Grace

### Winners Dog, Best of Winners (1 point)

Holland Kennel Club - October 16, 2004

Judge Mr. Kenneth Buxton

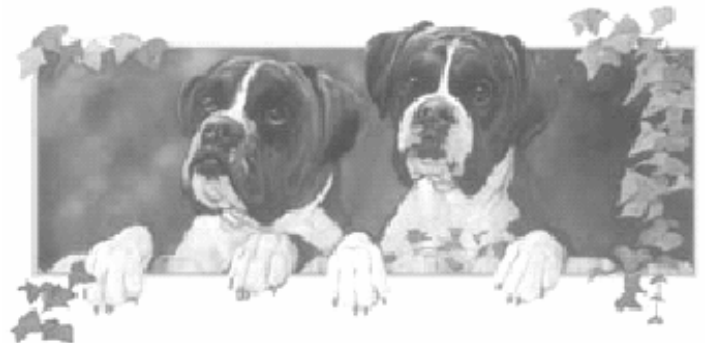
Handler: Clare Lodenstein

### Winners Dog (2 points)

Northeast Indiana Kennel Club - October 31, 2004

Judge Ms. Helen Lee James

Handler: Tom DeWolff



## Officer and Board of Directors Elections

At the November meeting of the Michigan Boxer Club, nominations for Officers for 2005 were made. The following MBC Members were nominated for election, and have accepted these nominations and become candidates:

**President**  
**Joan Johnson**

**Vice President**  
**Alan Dorfman**

**Secretary**  
**Jennifer Walker**

**Treasurer**  
**Mary Lou Bumpus**

Four persons are needed to serve on the 2004 Board of Directors. Eligible members, listed alphabetically, are:

**Marianne Balzer**

**Charlie Beauchamp**

**Liz Bistline**

**Joanna Dorfman**

**Lori Renda-Francis**

**Steve Francis**

**Dick Johnson**

**Virginia Johnson**

**Dave Stark**

These offices are for a one year term, beginning January 1st, 2005. Be sure and attend the December Banquet meeting as our 2005 Board of Directors will be elected at this meeting as well.

A big thank you goes out to all of our current officers and Board members who have served the Michigan Boxer Club so well this year!



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## Announcements

**Annual Awards Dinner**

Tuesday, December 7, 2004  
Weber's Inn  
3050 Jackson Road  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
Weber's is a hotel, so members driving long distances might want to consider booking a room to avoid a long drive home late at night.

Make a reservation at **800-443-3050**  
or online at **www.webersinn.com**

**Awards Presentation Photos**

If you submitted photos to be used at the Awards Presentation, you can pick them up from Alan Dorfman after the meeting on Tuesday night.

**Membership Renewal**

Reminder, membership dues are due on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Members with unpaid dues January 31<sup>st</sup> will be considered lapsed.

# THE CHATTERBOXER

## Michigan Boxer Club Show Wins

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Call Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Kennel Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Breeder(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Owner(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sire: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dam: \_\_\_\_\_

Show: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Win: \_\_\_\_\_ Points: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Handler: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

## Michigan Boxer Club Show Wins

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Call Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Kennel Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Breeder(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Owner(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sire: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dam: \_\_\_\_\_

Show: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Win: \_\_\_\_\_ Points: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Handler: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

## Michigan Boxer Club Litter Announcement

Dam: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sire: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Whelp Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Breeder(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kennel Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_

Litter Information:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**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

**Please include the information outlined above  
when submitting Show Wins or Litter  
Announcements for publication in the  
ChatterBoxer.**

## Dogs On the Air, In the News, and Online

### AKC/EUKANUBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP—LIVE FROM TAMPA

For the first time, the AKC National Championship (also known as the Invitational) Group and Best in Show Competition will be telecast live, much like Westminster. The show is now a two-day event, and judging will take place as follows:

#### *Saturday, January 15*

Breed, Group and Bred-by-Exhibitor judging for SPORTING, HOUND, NON-SPORTING and TOY breeds and varieties  
Junior Showmanship Preliminaries

#### *Sunday, January 16*

Breed, Group and Bred-by-Exhibitor judging for WORKING, TERRIER, and HERDING breeds and varieties  
Junior Showmanship Finals  
Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show  
Best in Show

Animal Planet will be airing the show both days, from 8:00—11:00 p.m. More information on the show, and on the television schedule, can be found at <http://animal.discovery.com/convergence/eukanuba/akcchampionship/akcchampionship.html> and [www.akc.org/dic/invitational/2005/index.cfm](http://www.akc.org/dic/invitational/2005/index.cfm)

### NOVA—DOGS AND MORE DOGS

Where do dogs in all their amazing diversity come from? Tradition says that thousands of years ago someone tamed a wolf pup, thus creating the first of our best friends. But many scientists disagree. On "Dogs and More Dogs," NOVA goes to the dogs—and to leading researchers—to find out the truth.

This is a repeat for this column, but the show is airing again at the end of November/early December. More information can be found at [www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/dogs/about.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/dogs/about.html)

### HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING SERVICE

Volunteers from Michigan Animal Adoption Network will wrap presents for pets in festive dog and cat paper, for a donation of \$2-\$10 per gift (depending on size), Dec. 4-5 and 11-12 at various Pet Supplies Plus stores. For times and locations, call 248-788-9155 or visit [www.mi-aan.org](http://www.mi-aan.org).

### YAPPY HOUR DOGGIE COCKTAIL PARTY

Animal Fair Magazine and the Omni Detroit River Place will host event to celebrate Wendy Diamond's new book, "What a Lucky Dog - How to Understand Men Through Their Dogs," and to benefit the Michigan Humane Society, 7-9 p.m. Dec. 7, Omni Detroit River Place, 1000 River Place, Detroit. Diamond is the editorial director and founder of Animal Fair Magazine. Event will feature cocktails and appetizers. \$60. All proceeds will benefit the Michigan Humane Society. 248-799-7400.

### MAGAZINES AND POINT SYSTEMS

With the year-end in sight, I thought some information on the various dog show magazines, and their point systems, would be appropriate. Most of the magazines do offer many on-line articles as well, so are worth a look even without the rankings.

#### **Show Sight**

Magazine—[www.showsightmagazine.com](http://www.showsightmagazine.com)

Point System—[www.showsightmagazine.com/pubs/statisticsIntro.htm](http://www.showsightmagazine.com/pubs/statisticsIntro.htm)

#### **Canine Chronicle**

Magazine—[www.caninechronicle.com](http://www.caninechronicle.com)

Point System—[www.caninechronicle.com/statistics/](http://www.caninechronicle.com/statistics/)

#### **Dog News**

Magazine—[www.dognews.com/](http://www.dognews.com/)

Top Ten—[www.dognews.com/dognewstopten/index.html](http://www.dognews.com/dognewstopten/index.html)

Pedigree Statistics—[www.dognews.com/pedigreesystem.html](http://www.dognews.com/pedigreesystem.html)

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



**Mail To:**

**MICHIGAN BOXER CLUB**



Our next meeting is the Annual Awards Banquet

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Weber's Inn

Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Weber's is located at 3050 Jackson Road, in Ann Arbor. Exit 172 off of US 23; Exit 2 off of M 14.

[www.michiganboxerclub.com](http://www.michiganboxerclub.com)