

American Bullmastiff Association Archives Committee

American Bullmastiff Association Bulletin

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BULLMASTIFF

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN
BULLMASTIFF ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

Member of the American Kennel Club
Volume XXX No. 1, May 1989



“A Century Old Watchdog”



BULLMASTIFF BULLETIN

The Journal of the
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.

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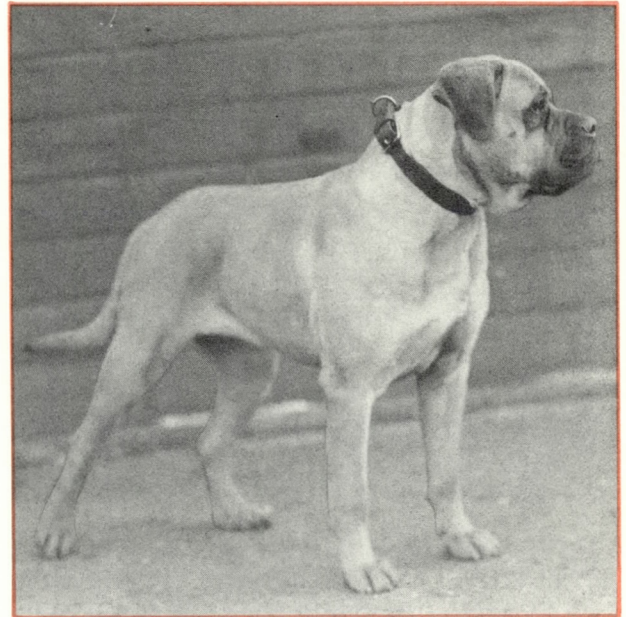
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COVER STORY

The dog pictured looks like a Farcroft animal. The photo shown above is of **Farcroft Fabric of Felons Fear**, a dog imported to this country by Mr. and Mrs. John W. Cross, Jr. in the 1939s. The dog was not used for breeding and did not attain the American title. A note on the back of the photo states that he was a noted British champion.

Contributed by: Helma Weeks

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	page
"Penn Hypertensive Dogs"	3
"Meanderings"	3
Memo to ABA Members, Mary B. Walsh	5
A Response to "The Evolution of the American Bullmastiff" by Don Ciprianti	5
Club Reports	9
"States Kennel Club", Terry Gaskins	12
"Garden Report", Helma Weeks	12
"A Testimony to Crates", Terry Gaskins	18
"Medical Genetics", Bellwether newsmagazine of the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania	22-23
"Health Committee Report", the Health Committee, Robert Berwind, chairman. Submitted by Helma Weeks	26-27
ABA Supported Entry-Golden Gate KC	31-32
Directory: Secretaries/Presidents/Bullmastiff Clubs on back inside cover	33
From the Editor: on back outside cover	34

Any complaint about an advertisement in the Bullmastiff Bulletin should be sent to the ABA Secretary with valid proof of error or misrepresentation on the part of the advertiser. The Secretary will make copies of the challenge and documentation and forward them to the individual(s) whose ad has been questioned and the ABA Board and Bulletin Editor. The Board will then vote on whether or not to entertain this challenge. If the Board entertains the Challenge, the individual whose ad has been questioned is to be notified of this fact and within 30 days of being so notified must reply to the ABA Secretary of the intention to refute the challenge or publish a retraction. The retraction would be published in the next issue of the Bulletin at the expense of the individual(s) whose ad has been challenged. The Secretary will notify the person(s) who made the original challenge, Board members and the Bulletin Editor when the reply has been received. If the reply is not received by the Secretary within the 30 day limit, no future Bulletin advertising will be accepted from the person(s) whose ad has been questioned until a reply is received. If the Board does not entertain the challenge, the Secretary will so notify the person or persons whose ad was in question and no further action be taken on the matter.

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Full page, 1 photo	\$ 75.00
Half page, 1 photo	\$ 50.00
Additional photos	\$ 10.00
Quarter page, 1 photo	\$ 40.00
Quarter page, no photo	\$ 30.00
Breeders' listing:	\$ 10.00
Center, 2 pages, 2 photos	\$170.00
Return of photo	\$ 1.00

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TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS OF THE BULLETIN:

The opinions expressed in articles and advertisements are solely those of the authors/advertisers and not necessarily those of the American Bullmastiff Association, Inc. The club reserves the right to edit all articles.

Cadance Bullmastiffs

Guess Who's



CH. TAURALAN THREE CHEERS

(Ch. Tauralan Shana Tova

X

Ch. Tauralan Hold That Tiger)



CH. KEY POR'S BRITE BRIGADE

(Ch. Pieface's Special Token

X

Ch. Arborcrest The Bear Facts)

HAVING



'S

Anxiously awaiting the arrival of this litter. We expect powerful impressive movement, size, type, large square expressive heads, beautiful bites, strong top-lines, and wonderful exuberant personalities!

Cadance Bullmastiffs

Anne & Gene Wallick
423 E. Third St.
Dover, Ohio 44622
1 (216) 343-9857

or

Key Por Kennel

Mary Ann & Doug Grimes
306 E. 15 Street
Dover, Ohio 44622
1 (216) 343-9016

Penn Hypertensive Dogs

Hypertension, or high blood pressure as it is commonly called, is a medical problem frequently seen in humans. "In people, high blood pressure causes disruption of blood vessels, peripheral vascular disease, and damage to kidneys, heart, and brain," said Dr. Kenneth Bovee of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. "In animals we have not seen the extensive damage to organs or the peripheral vascular disease. But hypertension can cause blindness in dogs due to bleeding in the eye and to retinal detachment."

Dr. Bovee explained that there are two kinds of hypertension. "Essential hypertension, which is probably hereditary, has no apparent underlying cause and appears during middle age. There is also secondary hypertension, which is due to primary disease such as abnormal metabolism of the kidneys or endocrine organs." Secondary hypertension can be corrected if the underlying disease is identified and treated. High blood pressure takes a toll on the body and its organs. Blood vessels undergo a continual pounding, they scar, break down, and become stiff, restricting the blood flow. Peripheral vascular disease and eventually damage to major organs results. The damage caused by hypertension appears to be more severe in man than in animals. "We have found some damage, but not nearly as extensive as can be seen in humans."

At VHUP, dogs with endocrine and kidney diseases are now screened for secondary hypertension. Dr. Bovee and Dr. Meryl Littman are also in the process of characterizing diseases which cause secondary hypertension in dogs.

For a number of years now, Dr. Bovee has been studying hypertension in dogs with an emphasis on primary hypertension. "A few years ago a five-year-old German shepherd/Labrador retriever mix dog was presented because of acute blindness," he said. "The dog had bleeding in the eyes and retinal detachment. His blood pressure was 275/160."

The dog had no other disease and it was concluded that his hypertension was primary. "We studied him and found that the pressure could be reduced through medication. Unfortunately, the disease had progressed too far, and his vision could not be saved." The dog was donated, and he was the beginning of the Penn Hypertensive Dogs, a colony of animals with spontaneously occurring primary hypertension. A female with a similar condition was located at Michigan State University, and the mating between the pair resulted in seven puppies. A number of these had hypertension. They were bred back to their parents and offspring with hypertension resulted. "The disorder is hereditary, and we now have an animal model of spontaneously occurring primary hypertension which will allow the study of the disease," Dr. Bovee said. "There is only one other animal model: rats which have been bred for 30 generations in Japan. A dog model will allow researchers to extend the study of the disease further and perhaps open avenues for new approaches to diagnosis and treatment."

Dr. Bovee explained that it is difficult to measure blood pressure in dogs as it is extremely labile.

"Strange surroundings or a visit to the veterinarian can raise it. To get proper readings, the animal has to be trained to tolerate the pneumatic cuff or the fine needle used to measure direct pressure," he said. "Also the cuff presents a problem because the dog's leg is shaped irregularly, not permitting even pressure which must be applied." The technique used at VHUP is to take direct pressure measurements. "A fine needle, connected to monitoring equipment, is inserted into the femoral artery. This gives us the blood pressure." In order to do this, the dogs have to be trained to lie still. "Usually, when the puppies are about six months old, they are trained enough for us to take pressure readings. It is a quick procedure and it is painless."

Dr. Bovee explained that a dog is regarded hypertensive when the systolic pressure is at least 160 mm Hg and the diastolic pressure at least 120 mm Hg when dogs are untrained. "In the dog, clinical signs will not manifest themselves until the animal is at least five years of age or older," he said. "Then one begins to see the retinal changes." He pointed out that if hypertension is diagnosed early enough, the dog can be treated with drugs to avoid excessive damage to the retina, and vision can be preserved.

Hypertension in dogs is poorly understood. Blood pressure is controlled by 20 to 30 different factors. "When people take medication, often only a few factors are affected, and some adversely. That's why many blood pressure medications have undesirable side effects."

Dr. Kenneth C. Bovee is the Corinne R. and Henry Bower Professor of Medicine (Nephrology) and Chief, Section of Small Animal Medicine, at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

Reprinted from Bellwether newsmagazine of the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Summer 1986.

MEANDERINGS

BY JACK SHASTID

There was an advertisement, in a local newspaper just before the holidays, offering "an excellent Christmas gift". Half Pit Bull, Half Rottweiler puppies for \$50.00. The ad was changed after the holidays to \$30.00 or trade. Talk about handing someone a loaded gun with the safety off!

The vast majority of ABA members try to breed to the standard. Far too often, however, we discuss and concentrate on our interpretations of the physical attributes. The mental makeup required by the standard is of equal importance and physical beauty and perfection are absolutely worthless if the Bullmastiff lacks breed temperament.

The good Bullmastiff, unlike dogs of so many other breeds, does not tremble uncontrollably or cower in fear when placed under stress such as the show ring. There is another large, more popular breed in which temperament has gone so far in the opposite direction that it is not uncommon for a Judge to be bitten or dogs disqualified and excused at just about every show. We must never allow this to happen to our breed.

Shy or fearful dogs must be rigidly culled from a breeding program and any Bullmastiff that makes an unprovoked attack should be euthanized immediately regardless of their physical quality. The breed mental type required by our standard is: "The dog is fearless yet docile". "Docile" is frequently misinterpreted. "Docile" in our standard means easily taught, led, or managed. A synonym is "Tractable". We Dog Fanciers tend to make excuses for our dog's misbehavior much as we sometimes do our children's shortcomings. There is just no excuse good enough to justify using bad tempered dogs in a breeding program. Some excuses that I have heard include: "The Judge was wearing a hat", "He doesn't like women in dresses", and "The bitch in the next run was in season". They are totally without merit.

It is my opinion, based on experience and observation, that breed mental type may be achieved thru socialization, early training, and the avoidance of close in-breeding. All Bullmastiffs should have basic obedience training commencing at four months and a good rule of thumb in planning a litter is to avoid mating closer than first cousins. Occasional breedings closer than this should not be attempted until much expertise and experience has been accumulated. A planned breeding which will have more than a 12.5% Wright's Coefficient of Inbreeding should be considered very risky. Wright's Coefficient may be found in just about any good book on canine genetics. A survey of the pedigrees of three of the Bullmastiffs who made unprovoked attacks during the past few years revealed the sire to be very closely inbred. This inbreeding was the only common factor among these dogs.

We are just about the only pure-bred animal fancy that will inbreed generation after generation. We should look at other "Fancys" that measure results objectively rather than subjectively as the Dog Fancy does. There are many good Bullmastiffs around the country which would not be too closely related to your bitch. You should go to as many Specialities as possible and choose a complimentary dog that will not exceed the 12.5% Wright's Coefficient.

Hey Look! There's the Cookie.



American Bullmastiff Association Supported Entry

"1989" Golden Gate K.C. (Benched Show)
 Judge: Judith Goodin

Ch. Tri-Ivory Bacardi
 BOB

Ch. Tri-Ivory Mist
 BOS

Ch. Tri-Ivory Tuaca

Ch. Megan Deines O'Hilltop
 1st Brood Bitch

Tri-Ivory The Rose Tattoo
 1st 6-9 Mon.
 RWB

Tri-Ivory Little Big Man
 2nd 6-9 Mon.

Tri-Ivory My Fair Lady
 2nd 6-9 Mon.

TRI-IVORY BULLMASTIFFS

Jim & Sheila Polk
 170 Nardi Lane
 Martinez, CA 94553

Telephone
 (415) 228-3069

MEMO TO AREA ABA MEMBERS

The Rescue Committee has the following dogs available for adoption. We need your help in placing these deserving dogs. Referrals of possible permanent homes or financial contributions to help defray the cost of placing them would be most appreciated.

Bonnie Souder in Auburn, Indiana, is providing a temporary home for a **three year old red bitch** with a black mask. The bitch, called Belle, was abandoned at a veterinary hospital with a uterus full of dead puppies. The vet spayed her at cost (\$60.00) and she is now recovering nicely. Belle has a very sweet temperament and should adjust nicely to a new home. For more information call Bonnie at 219-925-5159.

A two to three year old fawn male is living temporarily with Taun Brooks in Yucca Valley, California. The dog was discovered at a pound in Orange County. He is described as having a wonderful temperament but needs good training, particularly leash work. For more information call Taun at 619-364-2581.

Johnny Thompson in New Jersey is taking care of a **six year old red fawn male**, Schultz. The Bullmastiff is 24 inches at the shoulder and approximately 100 pounds. He gets along very well with bitches and is in wonderful condition. Except for his somewhat diminutive size, Schultz is reported to be a very handsome animal. Call Johnny - 609-662-8414 - or his father John Thompson - 609-829-4784. Placing a dog of this age is specially difficult so if you can help we would really appreciate it.

Micky Niego in Astoria, New York, has an **eighteen month old spayed bitch** in need of a kind and understanding home. The bitch was bred in a puppy mill in Missouri. At eight weeks she was trucked to Nebraska and from there to a pet shop in the Bronx where she was kept in a crate until she was seven months old. Finally, someone took pity on the bitch and bought her. She proved to be an unsuitable apartment dog. Micky reports that the bitch would do wonderfully in the suburbs in a home with a backyard. She is now housebroken. "Agatha" is very good with cats but is very domineering with other dogs so she probably should not go to a home with dogs. She is also terrified of small children but does well with grown kids. She is 90 pounds, fawn with a black mask. If you can assist in her placement, please call Micky at home 718-728-7038 or at work 212-876-7700.

Thank you for your help.

Mary B. Walsh
617-268-0359

A RESPONSE TO "THE EVOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN BULLMASTIFF"

*As published in the Dec., '88 Bullmastiff Bulletin
(Article by Mr. Vic Zeoli, with background by Helma Weeks)*

As breeders, we are responsible "ad infinitum" to preserve a specific kind of dog, handed down to us from those who witnessed its genesis, and one which we must pass intact to those who will follow us in time. Thus, I see our role more as "refiners", and feel that "evolutionary" jumps in any aspect are not our real business at this time. The task of producing the ultimate perfection called for in our current standard is formidable, and this may only be achieved by "tightening up" our rather blase acceptance of mediocrity, instead of broadening the range of officially acceptable variations presented for judging. Voluntary restraint and careful study are our traditional approach to breedings, and more official laxity would seem counterproductive.

The last step one could legitimately call "evolutionary" in nature occurred about the time that Cyril Leeke, and others, took dogs of the tall, lightly built type (referred to in the background by Helma Weeks, e.g. 28", 110 lb dogs) and molded them into the wellknit, symmetrical animals of modern type as epitomized by the Bulmas strain. Even this work was undertaken within the framework of the existing standard, certainly bearing in mind the historical utility of the breed as keepers dogs. We must equal or surpass this quality before casting about for the next evolutionary leap. Meanwhile, the age old defects are with us still, providing ample challenge for those who wish to excell.

A breed standard and its application by judges **IS** but a way to "artificially force" breeders to limit their expression of style to a set of parameters, out-side of which the results are no longer correct, or "as correct". I find no reference in our breed's history to suggest that the early breeder's aim was to produce dogs in the 140-165 lb. range, but that owing to poor nutrition, etc. they were unable to do so. We are, however, cautioned "...not to approach too much the mastiff in size..." A lion-like appearance, while not called for in the standard, is a fair description; just as with some modern show dogs, hippopotamus-like would be equally fair. The mental image of a gamekeeper thrashing about in the undergrowth with a brace of these great pachyderms, and trying to apprehend **anything** is indeed humorous. Let's not forget that the mastiff proper was auditioned for this role, and found wanting.

I believe the substance of Mr. Zeoli's article was meant to oppose the writing into the standard of "dimensional disqualifications" (though he does not make this clear) and if so, I would oppose this also, preferring the intensive education of judges, but allowing them some small latitude to express merit in exceptional cases. Sometimes quality is where you find it, and outstanding qualities should not be lost to the breed because of overly arbitrary and inflexible rules. I must add that the de-facto abandonment of the standard is not sufficient justification to....CHANGE THE STANDARD TO FIT THE DOGS!

On the subject of size, Mr. Jack Shastid, AKC breeder-judge, shares with us the following thoughts-
"A properly made Bullmastiff which conforms to the standard, is: "body-compact", "back-short...Well balanced", will be almost square. The height measured at the withers should almost equal the length measured from the sternum to the ischium. A dog with too long a back will not have the agility of a compact dog and is neither correct in form or function. The long backed dog must carry more weight than the standard allows in order to have substance. The compact or cobby dog called for in the standard will have enough substance within the standard weight range."

Don Ciprianti



BLAZIN'S BULLMASTIFFS
Proudly Presents
CH. BLAZIN'S TIGER BY THE TAIL



BLAZIN' BULLMASTIFFS 21ST CHAMPION OF RECORD

*“Tigger’s”
Championship is
dedicated, “With
Love to Tiffany”.*



WHELPED: 6-8-86

SIRE: CH. BLAZIN’S NINJA WARRIOR

DAM: CH. BLAZIN’S CHANTILLY LACE

“**TIGGER**” placed first in American Bred Bitches at the 1988 ABA National Speciality with her breeder Tom LaPaglia handling. Thanks Tom, congratulations “Tigger”.

“**TIGGER**” is pictured opposite with her breeder Roxanne LaPaglia going “Best Of Winners” at the Annapolis Kennel Club, under Judge Ronald R. Krohne.

Above she is pictured with handler Ms. Carol Nock taking “Winners Bitch” at Richland County Kennel Club, under Judge James R. White. Thank you, Carol.

“**TIGGER**” is a big, muscular “statuesque girl”, and yet has retained the beautiful refinement of her dam. This striking “red brindle” lady with the “gentle disposition” will be bred in March 1989, to **CH. BLAZIN’S BRAHMA BULL**. “**BRAHMA**” is a “rich red” champion of many merits. A May 1989 litter of “**STUNNING BLAZIN’ BABIES**” is lovingly anticipated!

Our “Sincere Thanks” to the fine judges, handlers and to our breeders for this new “**BLAZIN CHAMPION**”.

“Tigger’s Breeders”:

Roxanne & Tom LaPaglia
BLAZIN’ BULLMASTIFFS
Weathered Oaks Farm
604 Mahan Road
Churchville, Maryland 21028
1 (301) 836-2211



“Tigger’s Owners”:

Jeff Gross & Julie Fox
25820 Old Hundred Road
Hyattstown, Maryland 20871
1 (301) 831-8392



Buckshorn Bullmastiffs

introduces



CH. BUCKSHORN CALL ME ISHMAEL

(Ch. Buckshorn Boston Whaler OFA #610-Good x Buckshorn Kimblewick Tanker OFA #533-Good)

Ishmael, pictured above with Evan, Mrs. Madeline Fish, and Rhett, finished his championship at 20 months against typically tough Northeast competition at the Springfield, Ma. "Thanksgiving Classic" cluster.

Ishmael went Best of Breed at his next three shows against other specials.

Ishmael is exclusively owner handled; so this energetic young dog will only be speialed when Rhett is not at sea.

Buckshorn Bullmastiffs

*Puppies Raised with Love
& Children*

**Rhett & Candace McMunn
Willington, CT. 06279
(203) 429-1496**

** Another Tanker x Whaler litter due in March.*

Bullmastiffs of Northern California BONC News

The annual business meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. February 5, 1989 by Phil Maresca, in a small room at the Cow Palace, Daly City, Ca. Phil opened the meeting immediately to outstanding and pending matters.

A motion was approved to have not one, but four membership meetings per year, one being the GGKC benched show and one being at the Playday. The others would be spaced at shows during the year.

The GGKC benched show would remain a supported entry with a presentation of rosettes. The new item, the information booth, would remain, if applicable, an item for next year as well.

It was decided to ask for ABA sanction for a 1990 Far West Specialty. [This will have to be amended in some way as 1990 is when the National Specialty will be held in California.] A committee of Jim Polk, Tom Gingrich and Phil Maresca was appointed for the task of finding a Breed Club, Show and date and reporting to the membership. It was further decided that the Specialty would be on alternate years in the north, with the off year being a supported entry at the same club. The committee was to look for a two day show sequence so that the off day would be, also, a supported entry.

The club Playday was scheduled for October, and the members would like it to be a potluck lunch.

Whether the members wanted to continue as a Committee or go back to the standard format of President, Vice President, etc., was put out for discussion. It was decided that the committee form of government was working exceptionally well, with committee members being in contact and all decisions requiring a majority of the committee in favor.

New committee members for the year are Jim Polk, Lucile Kapple [acting secretary and newsletter editor, etc.], Sandy Frontin [Treasurer and Membership Chairman], Phil Maresca, Dean Aamodt, Cathy Godfrey, Tom Gingrich and alternate Renee Branaman.

The next membership meeting will be held in April at the Mensona-Redwood show complex in Santa Rosa.

The meeting was adjourned.

DVBC Report

The supported entry at the K.C. of Philadelphia show drew an entry of 29, with eight absentees, but the majors held, four points in each sex. Kari Jarvinen of Helsinki, Finland, judged and chose **Ch. Blackslate's Boston Brahmin**, bred by A. Skrabalak, M.B. Walsh, V. Rowland, and owned by D. Merlino, M.B. Walsh, and V. Rowland, as best of breed. Later in the day Brahmin went on to a third place in the working group under Mrs. James Edward Clark.

Best of opposite honors went to **Ch. Ladybug's I.M. Angelica Rose**, bred by Geraldine and Kelly Roach, and owned by Peggy Graham and Geraldine Roach. Winners bitch and best of winners was **Ladybug Mary's Ayla**, bred by Gerry and Kelly Roach, and owned by Mary Hepp and Gerry. Reserve honors in bitches went to **Happylegs Wellesley Banstock**, bred by Alan Kalter and Christine Lazotte, and owned by Helene Nietsch and the breeders. Winners dog was **Nutiket Samson of Ironwood**, bred by Nutiket Kennels, and owned by Robert Scaramuzza. Reserve honors went to **Banstock's Otis**, bred by Jude E. Newton and Helene Nietsch, and owned by Edward J. Raymond Jr. and Marcie E. Gemza.

After judging everyone adjourned for the annual "Philly Feast" at the benches. Philadelphia pretzels, hoagies, Tastiekakes, beer and soda disappeared rather rapidly as everyone was socializing and eating. This year the hoagies were prepared by members of the Student Veterinary Medical Association - we thought we might as well patronize those who will help our animals in future years.

Elections took place at the January meeting and the entire slate was returned to office. Robert Vecchioli serves as president, Jeannette Hawkins as secretary, and Joanna Schwartz as treasurer.

Plans are being made for the annual fun match and picnic at Peddlers Village, Labaska, PA. It will be held on May 21, and the judge will be Mr. Morgan Johnson, Gunpowder Bullmastiffs. Classes will be offered for pups beginning at eight weeks of age. Our allcomers class will be divided by sex. There will be ribbons and prizes and plenty of fun. Mark your calendars and plan to bring those young hopefuls and your older dogs. Flyers will be sent in April.

Glass City Bullmastiff Fanciers

The club elections were held this winter. The club officers for 1989 are:	Treasurer.....Patty Schweiterman
President.....Charlie Murphy, Jr.	Sargent at Arms.....Mary Jo Peters
Vice President.....Randy Collick	Sargent at Arms.....Mary Hawkins
Secretary.....Cheryl Collick	Education Chairperson.....Zoe Murphy
Asst. Secretary.....Barb Ellison	Regional Chairpersons.....Dave Schweiterman (Ohio) Peggy Graham (Michigan)

The club is planning a puppy match in the spring. A date for the match is yet to be determined.

With the club now being 16 years old a club archivist will be elected. Mary Jo Peters has accepted the position for 1989.

Cheryl Collick, Secretary

PLAN TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL SPECIALTY!!!!!!
September 22 & 23, 1989
Novi, Michigan

BLACKSLATE BULLMASTIFFS, REG'D

the winning tradition



CH. BLACKSLATE'S BOSTON BRAHMIN BMF 608

Brahmin is shown above winning a Group 2 at the Canadian Centennial Show under judge Mrs. E. Whitmore. The previous day he went Best of Winners at the Canadian National Specialty under breeder judge Mrs. J. H. Daniell Jenkins.

Co-owners:

Dolores Merlino;
Virginia Rowland & Mary B. Walsh,
Blackslate Reg'd
P.O. Box 325
Templeton, MA 01468
(508) 939-5300

Conditioned by:

Craig Mosher

BLACKSLATE BULLMASTIFFS, REG'D

the winning tradition



CH. BLACKSLATE'S BOSTON BRAHMIN BMF 608

In the first five weeks of the new year, shown on an extremely limited basis, **Brahmin** has garnered three group placements, including a Group 2 shown above awarded by Max Magder at the Cape Cod Kennel Club.

Brahmin is also a star as a stud dog. So far he has sired nine champions and has many more pointed get, including **Blackslate's What Up Dox** (8 points, 2 majors) and **Blackslate's Boston Burgler** (shown twice, one Best of Breed / 4 point major, one Best of Winners / 3 point major).

Handled by:
Elliot More

STATES KENNEL CLUB

(Formerly the United States Kennel Club)

BY TERRY GASKINS

Last Dec. I had an opportunity to attend a two show weekend of the States KC.-in Alaska. I was going to Anchorage to pick up two pups from a co-owned litter and our co-owners suggested I go that weekend and help them show the dogs.

When I arrived the promised 50 degree weather turned out to be 10 degrees and snowing. With my California coat, light boots and borrowed hat and gloves I made my way to my hotel. Our friends live in Kenai, about 4 hrs. down the peninsula and would pick me up before the show the next day.

The show was held at the Army base, in the gym. There were a total of three judges (all from Canada) so it made sense that there were only three rings also. No obedience classes were held at these shows. A total of 331 dogs (84 different breeds) were entered. The quality of dogs present was comparable to the lower 48, and the diversity of breeds that had adjusted to the weather was amazing to me. The atmosphere was very relaxed and totally casual, it reminded me of the International shows I had been to in Mexico City. In fact the SKC system is set up somewhat like the FCI (International) shows, and most Latin American shows. I think this could lend itself to easy set up of International competition in the United States in the future. The headquarters of the SKC are in Hattiesburg Mississippi and shows have been held throughout the South and in the Midwest.

To obtain a SKC championship, a dog must win 4 certificates of merit under 4 different judges-2 of them after the dog reaches 15 mos. of age. The certificates are awarded at the discretion of the judges, competition is not necessary-but the judge may withhold the award. The dog competes on its own merits. I think this is wonderful-especially in states such as Alaska and Hawaii where competition is scarce, 1 pt. is rare and majors seem like impossibilities. Any breed of dog registerable with AKC, CKC, FCI, or any other kennel control operating under the rules of The Kennel Club (Britain) can, be registered. It is necessary to send a xeroxed copy of the dogs registration along with the \$6.00 fee to the SKC. Judges licensed with the above mentioned clubs are eligible to judge at an SKC show. The SKC also offers Puppy Group, and Best Puppy in Show competition.

Our co-owners as well as other Alaskans are very grateful and enthusiastic about the shows being held up there. They are a way of obtaining another title on the dogs. Now besides their CD's our dogs are half way to a championship title they could not have had before.

With these 2 SKC shows under my belt, I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of the club in Ca. and for them to start holding shows so my dogs can obtain another title and have fun doing it!

GARDEN REPORT

BY HELMA WEEKS

As usual, the 113th edition of the Westminster K.C. show supplied plenty of surprises. One, the ultra-early closing date, came well before the show on Feb. 12 and 13th. The early December date left a number of top contenders without the necessary credentials to compete. Thus, by the time the show rolled around, the event was deemed to be "wide open" with regard to the ultimate winner.

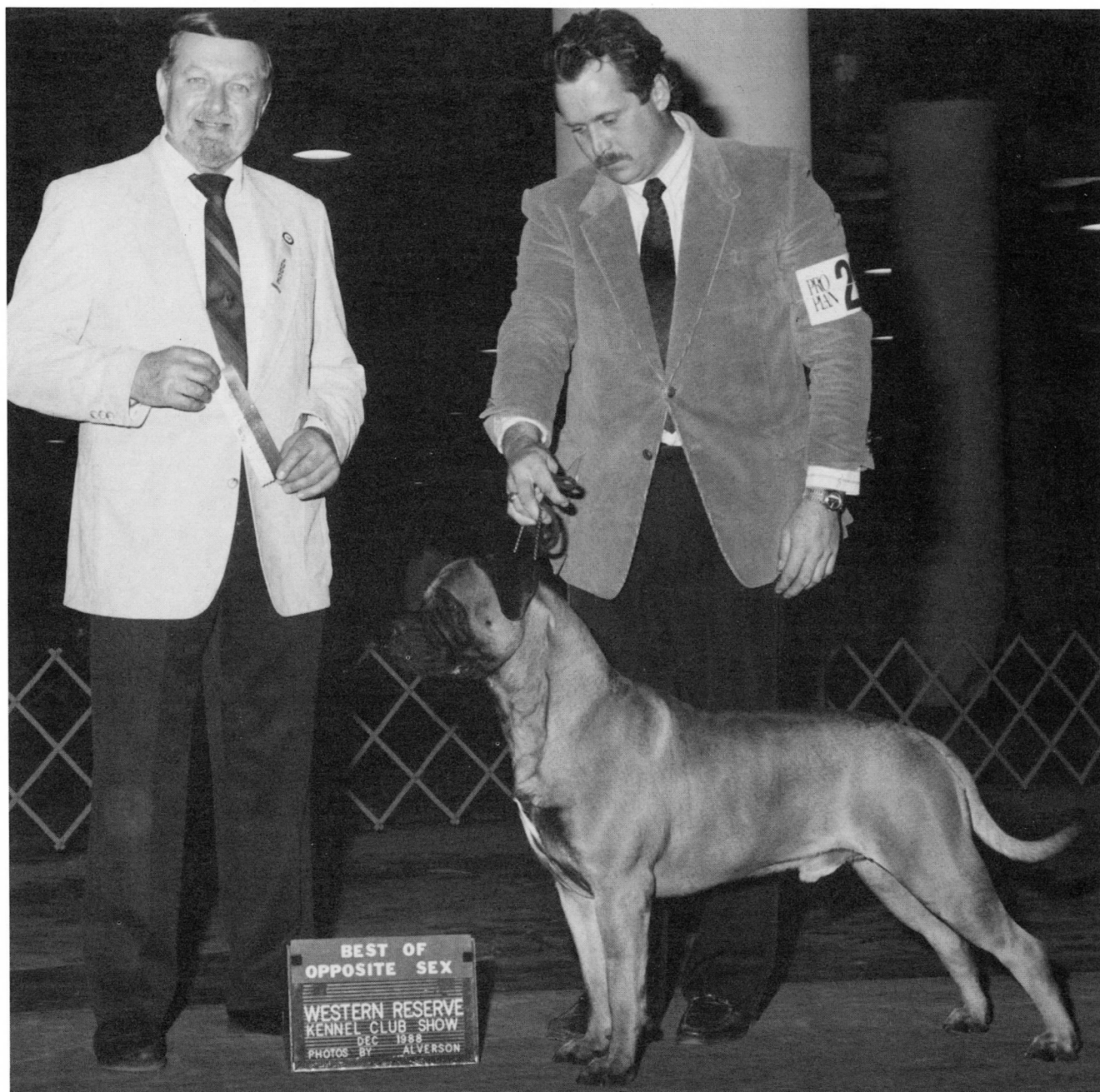
The bullmastiff entry of 17 included a number of top guns in the breed. However, breed honors did not go to them but to the youngest male special present. **Ch. Ladybug's Wesley**, bred by Gerry and Kelly Roach, owned by Agnes Savon, and shown by Walt Keberski, got the final nod and trotted away with the rosette. His sister, **Ch. Ladybug I.M. Angelica Rose**, bred by Gerry and Kelly, owned by Gerry and Peggy Graham, and shown by Alan Levine, was best of opposite sex.

Winners dog and best winners went to **D an J's Bulldozer**, bred by Dru Greenberg and Jo Ann Duarte, owned by Robert Grein, Dru and Jo Ann, and handled by Douglas Holloway. Reserve honors went to **Allstar's Martin Riggs**, bred, owned, and handled by Mimi Einstein. Winners bitch was his litter sister, **Allstar's Mae West**, bred, owned, and handled by Mimi. There were two absentees in bitches and two in specials.

The bullmastiff showed nicely in the group which was captured by **Ch. Royal Tudor's Wild As The Wind**, a red Doberman pinscher bitch who then went on to win best in show under Mrs. Muriel Freeman.

This year the show appeared to be more crowded, both in the benching area and on the floor, making it hard on animals and people. The bullmastiffs were benched in an area with rather narrow aisles - as were the Danes. Perhaps when entering next year, exhibitors should write a note to the superintendent requesting benching in the area with wider aisles. It may help. And, with the early closing date this year, one should mark the calendar to remember to send in the entry by the middle of November!

CH. SANDCASTLE'S PRIME CHOICE



Ch. Blackslate Duke O'Sandcastle BMF 632 x Sandcastle's Queen Asta

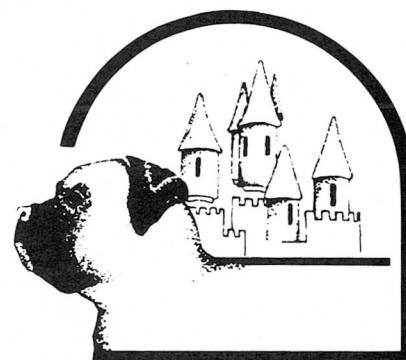
SANDCASTLE BULLMASTIFFS

Vicki Kotrba — Sheila Hinline
1377 135th Avenue
Wayland, MI 49348

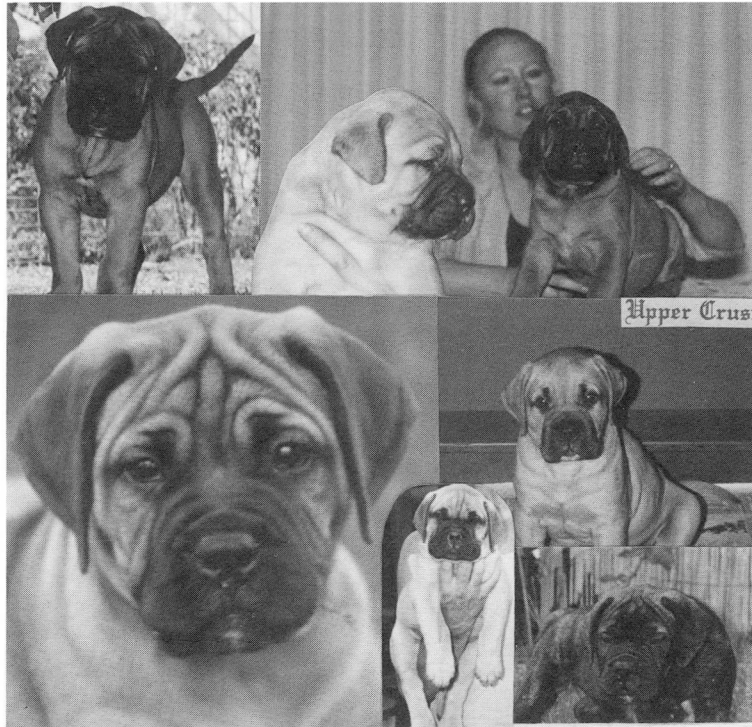
(616) 792-6351 or (616) 792-9660

HANDLER:

Rodger Freeman
Wayland, MI



Would You Like To Have Puppies Like These ???



CONSIDER THE SOURCE!!!!



**CH. PRINCE CHUNKY CHOCOLATE ROM
BMF 514**

Upper Crust

“home of champions”

NANETTE and TERRY GASKINS

4635 Normandie Place, La Mesa CA 92041

(619) 697-7075

UPPER CRUST CHOCOLAT E. CLARE



CH. PRINCE CHUNKY CHOCOLATE BMF 514

X

CH. WINDY HILLS LUZ OF UPPER CRUST

SCARLETT is pictured here in MI. winning her second 4 pt. major with a Best of Opp. Sex over a special, at 20 mos. of age. THANK YOU Mrs. Francine Schwartz!

SCARLETT'S first major was won in sunny AZ. under Mr. Lee Reason.

SCARLETT is only 1 pt. away from finishing owner handled all the way through.

SCARLETT will be bred this summer to her Multi-Group placing cousin **BARNEY (CH. UPPER CRUST'S CROWD PLEASER)**.

SCARLETT was bred by Nanette and Terry Gaskins. She is owned and loved by:

FLASH!!!!!!

Scarlet Finishes

Thank you, Donald Booxbaum

Eric Boquist

9628 S. HAMILTON
CHICAGO, IL. 60643
(312) 779-4061

A PICTURE OF A PEDIGREE



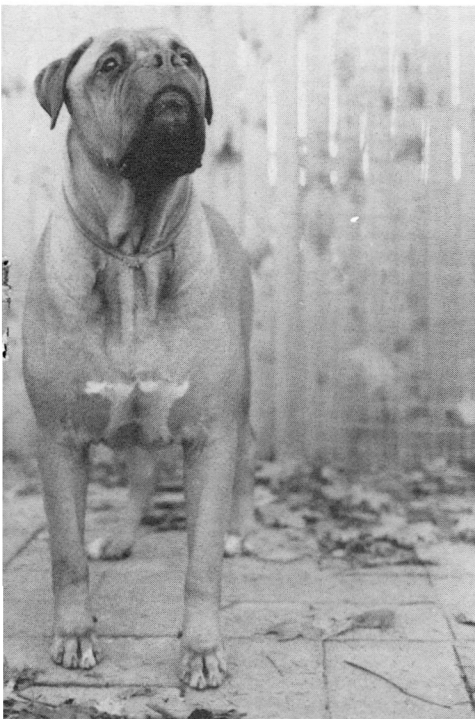
DAN J'S BULLDOZER AT 14 MONTHS

J. Duarte & D. Greenberg

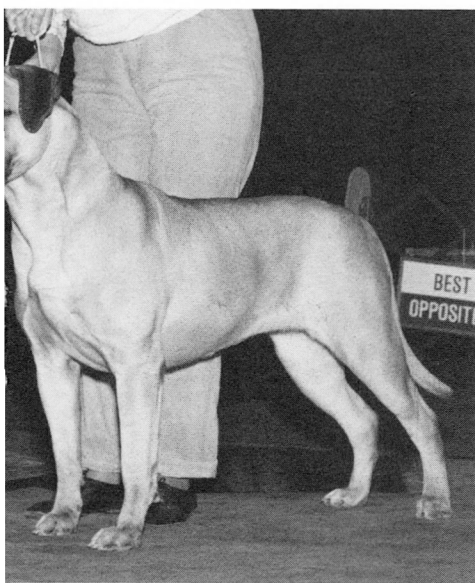
Dan J's
P.O. Box 2638
No. Babylon, N.Y. 11703
Handler: D. R. Holloway, Jr.
(516) 231-7748 or 231-0589

littermate

CH. I
litter



BROOKHAVEN PICI OFA 607
of Ch. Brookhaven's Huggy Cynthia CD
Ch. Brookhaven's Molly Jones



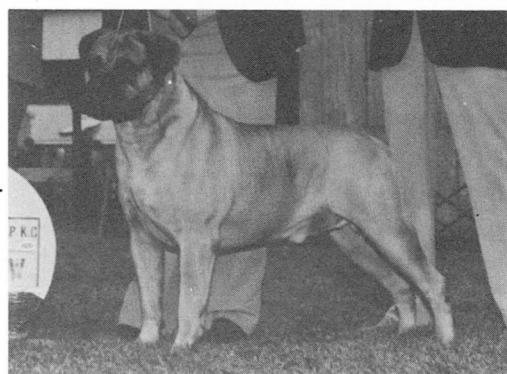
DJ'S MIGHT HAVE BEEN QUEEN
nate of Ch. DJ's Private Dancer
Ch. DJ's Show Some Respect



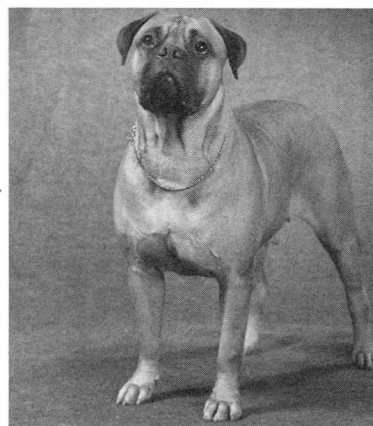
CH. BROOKHAVEN'S HUGGY BEAR CD, ROM



CH. BROOKHAVEN'S MAGDELANA



CH. BANDO'S CRAWDADDY GUMBO, ROM



CH. BROOKHAVEN'S HUGGY CYNTHIA, CD

A Testimony To Crates

BY TERRY GASKINS

Crates are marvelous things, why people don't use them is a mystery to me.

Have you ever had a first time puppy owner or even an experienced breeder tell you "I'd never put my dog in a cage" or "How would you like to be locked up in a crate". Well I have, and my standard answer is, "Don't put yourself in your dogs place". Usually when I hear from them next, they will tell me how their little darling ate their brand new Addidas or chewed the leg off of the antique table. This wouldn't have happened if they had used a crate to contain the pup when he couldn't be supervised (especially while teething). It is also much easier to house train a pup using a crate. Of course it must be used properly. The puppy can not be shoved into a crate and forgotten. He must still be an integral part of the family. But it's real peace of mind to know that while you are away from home, having company, doing chores, etc. he won't be destroying anything. My own dogs love their crates, they feel safe in them, they are their own little dens. Often around mid-day at our house I'll find my guys each in his own crate, door open curled up taking a nap.

It is also wise to crate train your dogs for other reasons; If you ever send your dog with a professional handler, I guarantee you, he will be in a crate. If you ever have to leave your dog at the Vets for any amount of time, he will be in a crate. When traveling with your dog it is usually required by most hotels and motels, and strickly enforced by the management. The failure of some individuals to adhere to this rule is part of the reason the use of hotels by dog people has been revoked.

Another thing about crates-there safe! Especially while driving. Recently a girlfriend of mine was rear ended on the way to a show and her CH. CD. Rottweiler was thrown from her van. The two Dachshunds she had with her were still in their crates-unharmred and safely contained. The Rottie, lost for three days was eventually found unhurt-he was lucky!

I remember a couple of years ago while driving through L.A. in a motorhome, we had to stop suddenly. Our big bitch Triga was sleeping on the floor, a cushion from the sofa flew off on top of her and she spooked. She ran to the front of the motorhome and jumped onto the dash board knocking it into neutral as she went. The motorhome died and we were stuck in freeway traffic without power for about an hour or so. Another story I heard last year was that of a breeder of St. Bernards; traveling to a show he looked out the passenger side view mirror in time to see his dog bounding through traffic to the side of the road. The dog had been asleep on the sofa of the motorhome and had jumped out an open window (through the screen). He was later found with minor cuts, scrapes, and bruises.

All of these incidents had happy endings but could have been disastrous, all because the dogs were not in their crates, safe and where they belong!

So get a crate and use it. Your dog will benefit from it, and you'll be happier because of it.

CH. D'LITE RED DAWN C.D. BMF-573

(Ch. J-Mar's High Expectations BMF-508

X

Ch. Beau's Destiny of Rockwood N-N BMF-486)

Rosie is our first dual titlist. On 01/31/89 she whelped seven red and fawn puppies, out of **Ch. Wildhearts Samson BMF 603**, a multiple group placer. **Rosie** is a granddaughter of **Ch. Needle's Beau Colorado BMF 423**. A strong OFA certified pedigree.

Special thanks to Rosie's breeders, Don and Andrea Jiles.

Quail Run Bullmastiffs

Dave & Noreen Frank
P. O. Box 4623
Cave Creek, AZ 85331
(602) 488-4395





N-N



M-T STAR'S ICON, 8 months old
(Ch. Sky's Red Shadow N-N, OFA x M-T's Midler on the Hoof N-N)

Ike is great grandson and great great grandson of Ch. Needles' Beau Colorado N-N, OFA, ROM, #2 ever U.S.
Correction for last Bulletin: Beau has 15 champions, not 5.

NEENOR KENNELS (N-N)

Virginia and Wayne Bastiaans • 4514 David Lane • Crystal Lake, IL 60014 • (815) 459-5316

Leatherneck Bullmastiffs

Ch. Leatherneck's Fu Fu Lady of the 80's

(Ch. Pieface Spectacular Bid x Ch. Arborcrest Ingenue)



“Fu Fu” is shown above going Best of Breed at the Mid-West Bullmastiff Fanciers’ Show, June, 1988, over several group-placing specials under Judge Lawrence Bane.

**Ch. Key Por's Brite Brigade is in love with Fu Fu.
Spring puppies coming!!! Inquiries welcome.**

Owner/Breeder: Anita D. and Tabitha Lewis
5011 Meadow Lake Road
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027
(615) 377-1376

Special thanks to: Marilyn and Galen Deeds and Marge and Sam Dollin
for all their encouragement and help.
Without them it wouldn't have been possible.

Leatherneck Bullmastiffs

Ch. Naomi's Mighty Max

(Ch. Pieface Spectacular Bid x Ch. Arborcrest Ingenue)



“Max” finishes with another 4 point major.

“Max” finished his championship with:

one 3 point major
two four point majors
one **five point major**
one Best of Breed, and
one **Group Four!**

all, of course, from Open Dog!

“Max’s” wins speak for themselves. He is now at stud to approved bitches.

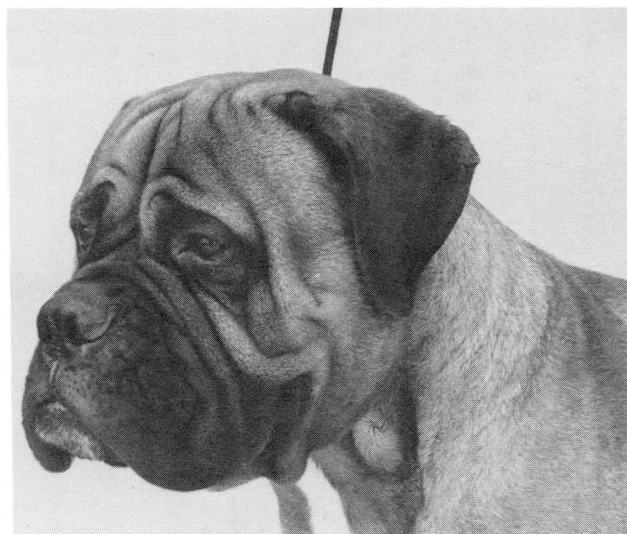
Some comments from handlers, judges, and other breeders:

“That’s the soundest Bullmastiff I’ve ever seen.”

“Max and Fu come the closest to my idea of the perfect Bullmastiff.”

“He’s an easy show — nothing to hide.”

“He’s the one with the gorgeous head.”



Breeder: Anita D. Lewis
5011 Meadow Lake Road
Brentwood, Tennessee 37207
(615) 377-1376

Owners: Greg and Naomi Brooks
Rt. 3, Box 623
Greenbrier, Tennessee 37073
(615) 859-6224

Medical Genetics

A New Frontier

Great strides have been made in the control, treatment and prevention of viral, parasitic and nutritional diseases in animals and man. Smallpox, once a threatening illness, has been eradicated; polio can be prevented through immunization, as can many of the childhood diseases. Nutrition has improved in many areas of the world and scientists are finding new ways to prevent or control parasitic disease. As communicable diseases are eradicated or prevented, researchers have focused on another group of disorders, diseases not caused by outside agents but diseases which have their origin in genetic material.

Today veterinarians increasingly deal with a large number of diseases which are wholly or partially genetic in origin. Hereditary defects of the bones and joints, the heart, eyes, and the central nervous system occupy an increasing proportion of the time of the veterinarian who deals primarily with pet animals. Evidence is accumulating that hereditary factors are responsible for the high death rate among newborn offspring of purebred dogs and cats. The high frequency of some types of cancer and degenerative diseases in older animals of certain breeds may also be due to a genetically determined increase in susceptibility to these conditions. In livestock, genetic factors have been shown to produce a large variety of defects which cause death or limit production in more subtle ways. Substantial evidence exists that the susceptibility to such diseases as leukemia and mastitis in cattle, parasitism in sheep, and leukosis in chickens is genetically determined. Close to 200 genetic diseases in animals have been identified. Of these at least 150 occur in dogs. These numbers, while appearing high, are low when compared to the number of single gene genetic defects in people where more than 2,000 have been identified.

Genetic research is highly specialized, and in 1973 the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine established the Section of Veterinary Medical Genetics, a formal academic subdivision devoted primarily to the identification and study of genetic diseases in domestic animals. This Section includes laboratories for the study of inborn errors of metabolism, chromosomal anomalies and congenital malformation. Since its inception the Section has been on the forefront of medicine in identifying genetic disorders in animals. Researchers cooperate closely with scientists at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and at other institutions. The work of the Veterinary Medical Genetics Section has led to the discovery of 15 previously unknown metabolic defects in cats and dogs, and it is expected that many more disorders will be identified in the future.

A number of these diseases identified in dogs and cats are also found in humans. "These naturally occurring diseases provide valuable animal models for us to study," said Dr. Donald F. Patterson, Charlotte Newton Sheppard Professor of Medicine and Chief, Section of Medical Genetics. Since the 1960's, Dr. Patterson has studied congenital heart disease in dogs. The work began after an extensive survey, conducted by the Comparative Cardiovascular Studies Unit here at the School, revealed that the incidence of congenital heart diseases in dogs was 5.6/1,000. It was found that the heart diseases detected in dogs were anatomically and clinically similar to those in man. The five most common cardiovascular malformations in the dogs were, in descending order of prevalence, patent ductus arteriosus, pulmonic stenosis, discrete subaortic stenosis, persistent right aortic arch, and tetralogy of Fallot. Dr. Patterson and his colleagues discovered that specific disorders occurred in higher numbers in certain breeds. For example, there is a high frequency of tetralogy of Fallot in keeshonds. This cardiac malformation, common in humans, results in "blue babies."

Breeding colonies were established to investigate the underlying genetic basis of the five defects. Breeding studies showed that the malformations are not inherited as simple Mendelian traits. They behave as if multiple gene loci are involved, alleles which have additive effects on the growth and development of specific structures in the embryonic heart and great vessels. A cardiovascular malformation occurs when the additive genetic effect on a special developmental process exceeds a critical threshold. These studies have provided the most complete understanding of the genetics and pathogenesis of naturally occurring heart disease available in any species.

In recent years, in addition to the heart disease studies, the Medical Genetics Section has investigated inherited metabolic diseases. "Most inborn errors of metabolism involve defects in enzymes, proteins with catalytic activity," said Dr. Peter F. Jczyk, associate professor of Medicine (Medical Genetics). "In many cases there is only a partial reduction of enzyme activities, not a complete or near complete loss of activity." He explained that frequently the metabolic disorder may become evident only when the affected animal or person is ill due to infectious disease or is stressed. Then the metabolic disorder is manifested because of increased tissue breakdown and overloading of the affected metabolic pathway. Dr. Jczyk said that most inborn errors of metabolism are transmitted as simple autosomal recessive traits. He stated that it is possible that much of the high mortality seen in newborn purebred cats and dogs is due to genetic defects. "One study showed that only 8.9% of the deaths of newborn cats and dogs could be attributed to infection. But it is not feasible for breeders to have extensive diagnostic procedures performed when there are "fading" puppies or kittens; it's just too expensive. However, if large numbers of newborn animals die during the first days of life, the breeder should try to discover whether or not genetic disease is responsible."

Reliable methods are now available to detect metabolic disorders in animals. Over the last ten years the Section of Medical Genetics has developed a metabolic screening laboratory, primarily for the dog and cat. Dr. Jczyk and his associates have determined the normal ranges for common metabolites in blood and urine and defined typical chromatographic patterns for amino acids, organic acids, carbohydrates, and glycosaminoglycans in urine. The laboratory is the only one of its kind in the world, and samples are received not only from veterinarians in this country but also from abroad. A number of years ago a program was begun where breeders and veterinarians could submit urine samples from animals on special filter paper. The samples are tested for abnormal metabolites and the breeders notified if a disorder is found. Over 15 new metabolic disorders have been identified in dogs and cats as a result of this program. Some of the most recent discoveries include methylmalonic acidemia causing hypoglycemia and growth failure in a young giant schnauzer and a lethal acrodermatitis in bull terriers. Type II tyrosinemia, associated with skin and eye problems, was identified in a German shepherd. Basset hounds with an x-linked immune deficiency have also been identified by Dr. Jczyk.

Metabolic screening plays an important role in human medicine, particularly pediatrics. "Current estimates indicate that about 20 to 30% of the patients in the nation's children's hospitals are there because of genetic disease," said Dr. Jczyk. "Many of these children have identifiable metabolic disorders." In addition to his duties at the School, Dr. Jczyk directs the Metabolic Screening Laboratory at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Several years ago, a young Siamese cat seen at the clinic was diagnosed as having mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS). This is a lysosomal storage disease caused by a defect in glycosaminoglycan (GAG) metabolism. In a healthy individual, GAG is broken down by a sequence of degradative enzymes. In individuals with MPS, one of the enzymes is defective and the degradative process is not completed. The GAG molecule which is not fully broken down is stored in the lysosomes. As this material accumulates, the lysosomes enlarge and the proper function of the cells is disrupted. MPS manifests itself with varying severity, depending on the enzyme involved. The most severe form of the disease is Hurler syndrome, which causes mental retardation in humans and leads to death during the first decade of life. This syndrome has been identified in both the cat and dog. The diseases are inherited as autosomal recessive traits. A blood test has been developed to identify carriers; it is equally effective for carrier identification in humans. "There are dozens of lysosomal storage diseases in man," said Dr. Mark Haskins, associate professor of pathology. "Each of these is rare, but when one takes them as a class of diseases, they are more common." So far 11 lysosomal storage diseases have been identified in animals.

Dr. Haskins and his colleagues are searching for a method to treat MPS in cats. A drug, cysteamine, restores partial enzyme activity for short periods of time in cats with MPS VI. Long-term studies are currently underway to evaluate this therapy in the cat. Dr. Haskins is also investigating bone marrow transplantation to correct the enzyme deficiency in cats with both MPS VI and MPS I. The researchers are also trying to clone the normal gene for the enzyme responsible for each disorder in order to use genetic engineering approaches to treatment.

Another part of the studies in the Section is the pathologic examinations of animals with birth defects. "We look at neonatal pups and kittens that die and try to determine the cause of death," Dr. Haskins said. "Recently we found a congenital malformation syndrome in shi tzus. The pups have abnormal heads, large livers, and malformations of the rear legs. Most are stillborn or die very early. We don't know as yet why the malformations occur or how the condition is inherited."

As diagnostic techniques become more sophisticated, the number of genetic diseases discovered will increase. Dr. Patterson pointed out that when pregnant animals are exposed to environmental agents called teratogens, the offspring may have congenital defects that resemble genetically determined abnormalities. Teratogens include radiation and certain chemicals. For example, it is known that ewes which eat the plant *veratrum* during a particular stage of pregnancy will give birth to cyclopiam lambs. One of the more common forms of sexual anomalies can be due to exposure of the fetus to androgenic steroids. Sometimes it is difficult to determine whether a defect is primarily genetic in origin or is due to environmental teratogens. In these cases, research into the structure of the chromosome, the pedigrees of the affected animals, and specialized biochemical tests may provide the answer.

The researchers in the Section are also studying chromosomal abnormalities. The cytogenetics laboratory has defined the normal Giesma banding pattern of dog chromosomes, and this has aided in the identification and characterization of hereditary defects in the sexual development found in American cocker spaniels and miniature schnauzers. These and other defects in the development of the reproductive tract are being studied by Dr. Vicki Meyers-Wallen and other members of the Section of Medical Genetics.

Dr. Meyers-Wallen is investigating sex reversal in cocker spaniels and persistent Mullerian Duct Syndrome in miniature schnauzers. A cocker spaniel with the disorder looks like an abnormal male or a female, having undescended testes or ovotestes (a combination of ovary and testes) and a vulva-like structure. The chromosome constitution of such dogs is like that of a female: 78,XX. Miniature schnauzers with persistent Mullerian Duct Syndrome appear like normal males, though they are cryptorchid. Internally these animals have a uterus. Their chromosome constitution is 78,XY and rarely 79,XXY.

In normal development the testes of the embryo produces Mullerian inhibiting substance (MIS), which inhibits the development of a uterus or oviducts in a male fetus. It is thought that these defects are a result of MIS deficiency or refractory response to MIS by Mullerian structures (oviducts and uterus) during embryonic development.

Dr. Meyers-Wallen is studying whether the Mullerian duct persistence is associated with deficiency of MIS or whether the gene mutations responsible for these two defects in Mullerian duct regression are autosomal or x-linked. Sex reversal has been described in other animals and humans. So far, the miniature schnauzer is the only model described that closely resembles the Persistent Mullerian Duct Syndrome in humans. Investigation of these problems in dogs will lead to a better understanding of the disorder and may lead to methods of prevention in humans and dogs.

In 1983 the Inherited Eye Disease Studies Unit (IEDSU) was established within the Section of Medical Genetics. "This is a clinic devoted to inherited eye disorders in all animal species," said Dr. Gustavo D. Aguirre, associate professor of ophthalmology and head of the IEDSU.

The unit provides clinical examinations and genetic counseling pertaining to eye disorders. Dr. Aguirre and his colleagues have developed diagnostic methods through which dogs with inherited eye disorders can be identified early in life. "The ophthalmological manifestations of these diseases vary from breed to breed," Dr. Aguirre said. "Many do not become evident through ophthalmic examination until later in life. Often the animal has already been used for breeding." By means of an electroretinogram (ERG), the researchers at the School can detect PRA in certain breeds long before the disease can be detected by ophthalmologic exam. Thus the animals can be screened prior to becoming part of a breeding program. "Many of the eye diseases are inherited recessively," said Dr. Aguirre. "Some animals are carriers and when two such dogs are mated, some of the offspring will show the disease, some will be carriers, and some will be genetically normal." Studies have shown that PRA is not one disease but a distinct entity for each breed. The PRA studies have implications not only for dogs but also for humans. It appears that PRA is similar to retinitis pigmentosa.

In addition to the eye clinic, the Section of Medical Genetics also offers clinics in pediatrics, reproduction and genetic problems. "In our pediatric clinic we see not only young animals for routine examination but also animals with severe problems," Said Dr. Jezyk. "Many of the genetic diseases do not manifest themselves until the animal is over six months old." If an animal is identified as having genetic disease, often counseling with the breeder takes place to determine where the disorder originated. "We do pedigree analysis," said Dr. Jezyk. "Often we can identify a carrier and then can advise the breeder about steps to take to eliminate the disorder from the breeding program". Recently the National Institutes of Health designated the Section of Medical Genetics as the National Referral Center for Animal Models of Human Genetic Disease.

Many of the genetic diseases found in companion animals provide valuable models for these same diseases in humans. Through their research, the members of the Section of Medical Genetics not only help to unravel the mysteries of the causes and control of genetic diseases in animals, but also find new ways, in many cases, of approaching genetic diseases in man. H.W.

Reprinted from Bellwether newsmagazine of the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Winter 1985.

NEXT BULLETIN DEADLINE
JUNE 22, 1989

CH. LADYBUG'S MARY'S AYL A



(Ch. Blackslate's Boston Brahmin x Ch. Ladybug I.M. Chloe, CD)

“AYLA” finished her championship with an impressive Best of Winners at Philadelphia KC under Judge Mr. Kari Jarvinen. This spectacular red bitch is looking forward to her first litter of puppies in the spring.

Special thanks to AYL A’S breeder/handler and friend Kelly Roach for showing her to her championship.

Owner:

Mary Hepp
28th Oakwood Dr.
Medford, NJ 08055
(609) 654-6009

Breeders:

Gerry & Kelly Roach
Ladybug Bullmastiffs
5125 Woodbine Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19131
(215) 473-4188

CH. LADYBUG'S BRIARGATE DANI GIRL



(Ch. Blackslate's Boston Brahmin x Ch. Ladybug I.M. Chloe, CD)

"DANNON" finished her championship at 15 months of age, an excellent example of quality breeding from Gerry and Kelly Roach. Many thanks to our good friends and handlers Nancy and Stuart Rogell. With a recent breeding to **"CH. MR. U'S MUSIC MAN"**, **"DANNON"** is expected to deliver late March, your inquiries are welcome.

"DANNON" IS PROUDLY OWNED BY:

Larry and Wendy Carmichael
10584 West 106th Way
Westminster, Colorado 80020
(303) 469-4789

HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

It has been 20 years since a health committee report has been published for our breed. While there were health surveys in 1973 and in the early 1980's, the results were never printed. The current health committee (Helma Weeks, Tara Vecchioli, Robert Spohr, M.D.) feels that another survey is needed to assess and identify longevity, prevalent diseases and problems, nutrition, fertility, etc. To acquaint the membership with the format in which results of the new survey will be presented, we are reprinting the results of the survey conducted in 1969. We think that you will find the information very interesting and that it will provide an excellent base for comparison with the current status of the breed. The numbers, of course, have changed. If one uses Herm David's figures, there are approximately 1,800 puppies born each year for the last few years. If those animals live to be eight, there ought to be about 10,000 bullmastiff alive and well today!

The committee is developing the questionnaire and is looking to distribute it through the newsletter soon. Please look for it!

Following is the report, published in the June 1970 Bullmastiff Bulletin. Submitted by Helma N. Weeks, February 1989.

The Annual Meeting of the American Bullmastiff Association held in September, 1969 at Darien, Connecticut had as a principal discussion the problems of health in bullmastiffs. Previous efforts of the Association to study these problems have met with little success due to lack of membership participation. The importance of this problem was recognized by the members at the meeting, and it was decided again to analyze health problems. President Virgil Millet appointed a committee of medical men to study the problem.

Questionnaires were designed to survey the physical, medical, and emotional traits in the breed and were constructed to facilitate analysis by digital computer for a more complete understanding of genetics and disease states. These questionnaires were sent to over 500 owners and 44% of these owners completed and returned the forms. Over 95% of the owners identified the dogs, allowing subsequent questioning about specific points. The total number of dogs here reported constitutes a sample of about 35% of the total number of Bullmastiffs in this country. To our knowledge, this is the most complete survey made on any breed of dogs and its success is due to the cooperation of those who are sincerely interested in the animals.

This preliminary report on the findings is a summary of the pertinent data. The questionnaires were sent in two pages, the first being for general information and the second covering specific medical problems. Rather than restate each question, the findings will be summarized with discussion of pertinent facts. A complete statistical analysis will be presented at a later date.

General information

The relative youth of the Bullmastiff Association and the rareness of the animal is reflected in the length of time of ownership. The answers show that 27% of the people have owned a Bullmastiff for more than four years (a reflection of the 18 members in 1961), 42% for two years, and 25% have owned their dog for less than one year. Four percent of the owners have six or more dogs at any one time; 15% have two animals and 66% have one. With the limited supply, it is not surprising that most owners have only one; they are fortunate at that.

Breeding

The complex process of breeding Bullmastiffs has been attempted by one-third of those reporting, but experience has shown the animals are difficult to breed, because two-thirds of those attempting to breed their dogs have been unsuccessful. Only 6% of those breeders have been able to produce more than four litters. Stud services in two successive heats were required in 33% of those reporting to produce a litter. The incidence of pregnancy with a single stud service is therefore 20%, or one in five.

Litters

The reported total of 690 puppies in 118 litters shows that the average litter size is 5.9 puppies, and, of the 118 litters, 50% reported that all puppies which were born alive remained alive to the age of six weeks; of the remaining 50%, half reported that, of the puppies born 80% were alive at six weeks. Of the total whelpings, one-third were reported as all puppies born alive, one-third as at least 75% born alive, and one-third as less than 75% born alive. The individual size of the litters varied from a few as one to as many as 15.

Showing

One of the most amazing facts about Bullmastiff owners is that some 59% have shown one or more of their dogs at least once in a point show. Even more amazing is that 15% of those reporting had dogs ineligible due to their youth. This means, in a final analysis, 75% of all eligible Bullmastiff owners have participated in a point show.

On the entire questionnaire, only one question was unanimous: no one has had a Bullmastiff stolen. Of the owners reporting, 85% state that they keep their dogs fenced; the neighborhoods of the other 15% must be exciting to live in.

Temperament

Eighty-two percent of owners report their dogs as having good temperament; *ergo*, 18% of dogs are not so good tempered. But 29% of owners report that their dogs have at one time or another bitten a human. There were many explanations on this query, and most of the attacks were in the line of duty or upon severe provocation; there were only two reports of severe damage to family members requiring stitches. Dogs were reported as aggressive toward other dogs by 60% of the owners.

Veterinary care

Results show that 92% of the owners take their dogs to the veterinarian for a routine examination and shots at least once a year and that less than 8% of the owners consider their dogs to be unwell. Sixty-three percent of the visits to the veterinarian were for checkups and shots.

Types

As reported by our census, the Bullmastiff population stands at 53% male and 47% female, with the male color distribution being 66% fawn, 25% red, and 7% brindle. Female color distribution is 65% fawn, 19% red, and 16% brindle.

Age

The results have shown that the average age of death of the Bullmastiff is 6.2 years. The age distribution of the total dogs, male and female, was 5% under 6 month of age, 14% six months to one year, 21% one to two years, 24% three to four years, and 19% over four years of age. Again, one must remember the relative youth of the Association and the rarity of the animal when interpreting these data.

Nutrition

Most Bullmastiffs are fed prepared foods, 35% of the sampling reported that they supplemented the prepared foods with fresh meat, usually beef, chicken, or liver two or three times a week. Seventy-five percent reported that they fed their dogs a vitamin supplement. Only 30% feed their dogs table scraps—a nutritional catastrophe.

Weight

Weight distribution statistics have been segregated into sexes and these data have been limited to those dogs 14 months and older, as defined as mature dogs. The sampling shows that 85% of the females were between 80 and 125 pounds; 41% of these were between 95 and 110 pounds. The male data indicate that 82% are between 100 and 145 pounds and 35% of those reported were between 115 and 135 pounds.

Height

Analysis of the height data is necessarily difficult because there are no universal criteria of measurement. It must be assumed that the measurements were made from the ground to the top of the shoulder blade. This also assumes a mature animal. The males show a range of 22 to 29 inches, with a majority, some 60%, at 25 to 26 inches. The females show a range of 18 to 26 inches, with 70% at 23 to 25 inches.

Medical information

The specific information was so detailed that only a review of trends in Bullmastiff health can be presented. Any specific information on the incidence of a single malady can be obtained by direct request from the committee.

Cause of death

Some interesting results were obtained from the cause of death reports. Bloat seems to be the largest demonstrated killer of Bullmastiffs, with 14% reported. Cancer is the next largest group at 10% of the total deaths (7% leukemia, 3% other cancers, predominantly of the bone). Another 3% died of uremia. At this point it must be recognized that this represents only 27% of the respondents, of whom 18% had had autopsies performed on their dogs. There is therefore a high percentage of unknown cause of death.

Breeding and whelping

Statistics on breeding and whelping are very extensive. They show that the majority of bitches have two heats a year, and are bred only once in a lifetime, if at all, and have seven puppies a litter. Normal delivery occurs in 70% of the whelpings, the remainder being Caesarian section. It is interesting to note that the East Coast seems to predominate in Caesarian sections, but it may also show a relationship to those who are more used to veterinary surgery.

Diseases

Analysis of specific nonfatal diseases has shown that skin diseases are by far the most common complaint in the breed. Foot infections were reported by 20% of the owners and hot spots were reported in 18% of the instances. Other common findings were loss of hair, allergies, and lumps under the skin.

Infestations of worms seems to be almost universal, with 85% of the owners reporting at least one diagnosis of worms in each of their dogs; the remaining 15% who do not report worm infestations probably had animals in which worms were merely unobserved. Other intestinal infections not associated with worms were common, but none of these exceeded 3%.

Eye problems have been reported as a significant problem in the breed. Eighteen percent of the responses showed that there was weeping with no associated etiology. Entropion was rare with only 26 cases, or 7% of the total sampling, reported; extropion was rare with only 26 cases, or 7% of the total sampling, reported; extropion was even rarer, reported in only eight cases or 2%. Miscellaneous eye diseases were present in only 5% of those reported.

Dogs are susceptible to the same diseases as humans and the Bullmastiff is certainly no exception. In this survey, gastrointestinal, heart, and lung disorders have been reported as less than 2% each, a very low percentage; this is probably due to lack of overt symptoms and a concomitant lack of diagnosis. Other diseases, such as metabolic and renal diseases and cancer have a similar low incidence, each of these totaling less than 1% of the total survey. It is interesting to note that nervous diseases are present in some 8% of the total sampling; these are usually recognized as convulsions. What is usually considered as "chasing rabbits" is a normal occurrence in sleeping dogs and the low incidence of reporting this phenomenon is probably due to lack of understanding; this is common to all dogs.

Bone problems are remarkably rare in a breed as heavy as this one. Hind limping has been reported in 18% of the responses, with 15% being diagnosed as hip dysplasia and the remaining 3% as all other problems. Front feet dysplasia is relatively rare, being present in 2% of the total survey. Vertebral disc problems have been diagnosed in 3% of the sampling. There is probably a much larger incidence of vertebral disc problems than this survey indicates, but the diagnostic procedures are both costly and difficult. However, 3% of the breed has been X-rayed at one time or another, 31% of these for hip dysplasia.

Genital organs were reported to be intact where observed in 98% of the responses. Ten percent of the owners have had their dogs castrated or spayed.

Anomalies are low—short tail, screw tail, hare lip, and dew claws each being reported as about 3% of the total. Seventy-five percent of the dogs were reported as being undershot, 20% even, and 4% overshot.

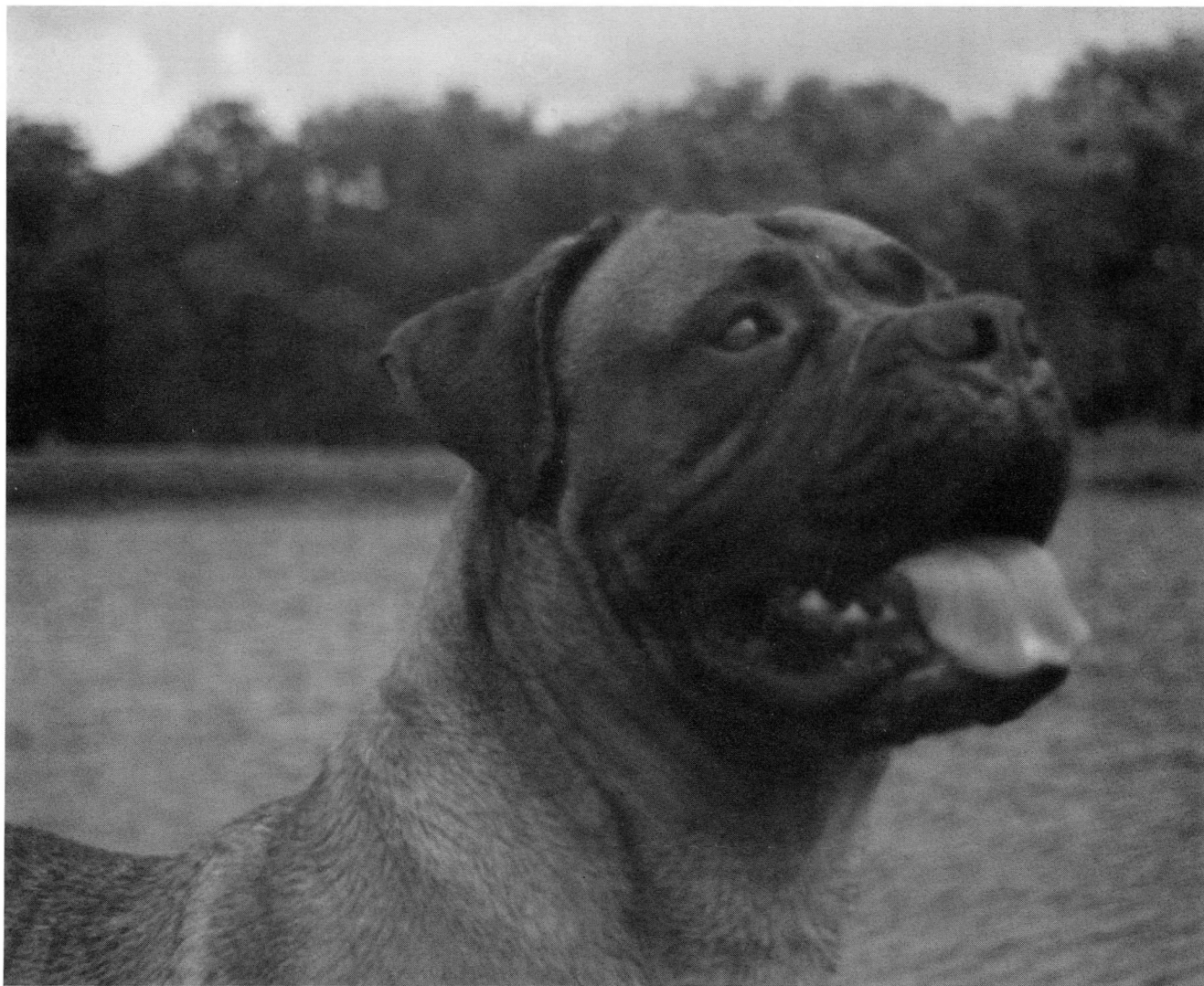
In summary, this initial survey has defined many of the problems of the breed, but more significantly, it has defined the frequency, and thus the relative importance of problems which are common to Bullmastiffs. The success of this census, with the rewards of future understanding, is entirely the result of the enthusiastic cooperation of the large number of members who answered the questionnaire. The significance of the results will be more apparent when the statistical analysis is completed, and the conclusions are available for application to the future growth and development of the Bullmastiff.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Robert Berwind, *Chairman*

House of Tudor's Bullmastiffs

CH. HOUSE OF TUDOR'S HOLLY BMF 633



(Ch. Mister Fips N-N x Ch. Maxine The Mean Machine N-N)

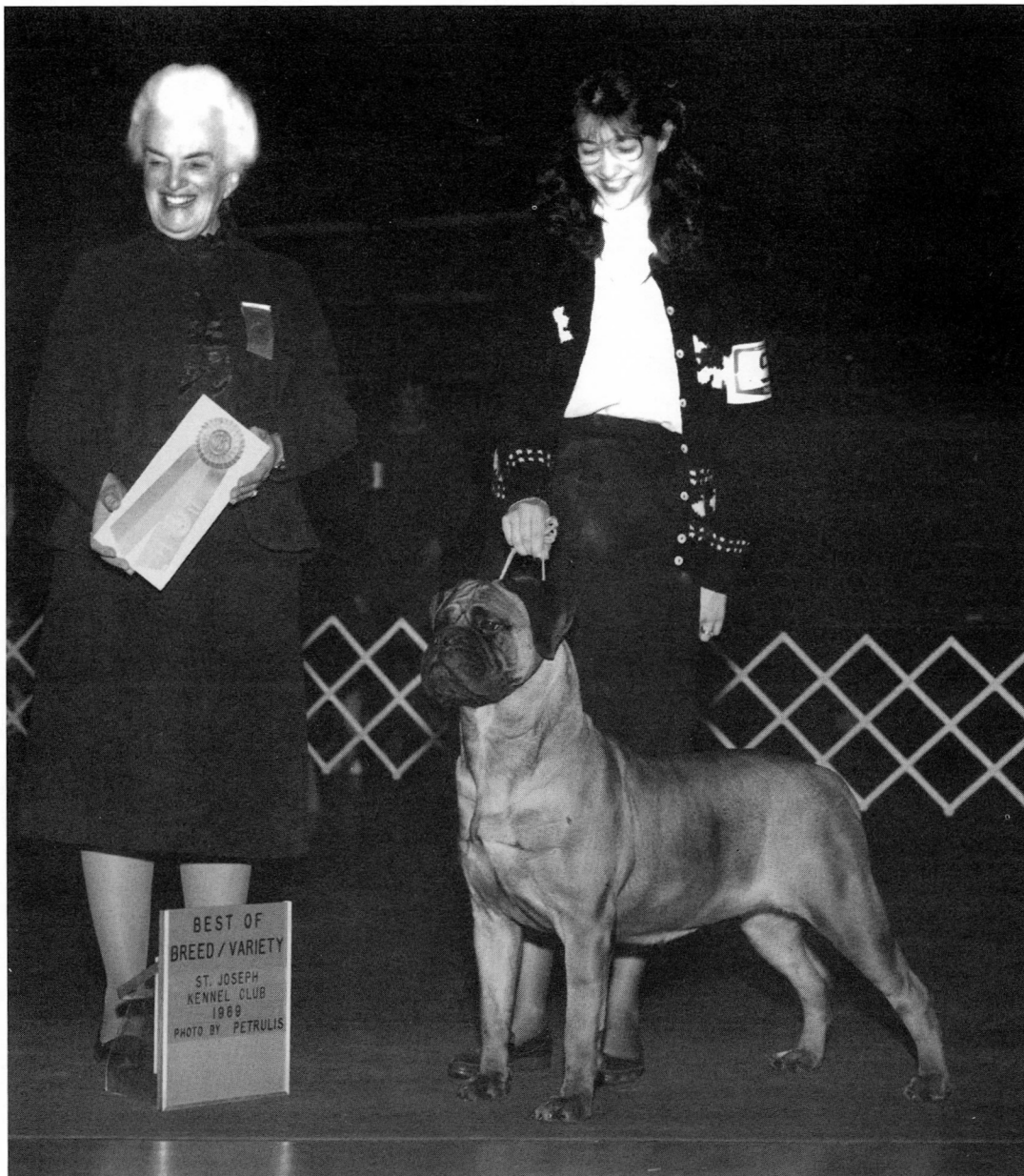
“**Holly**” is the foundation bitch for the present day House of Tudor Bullies. After her show career, she retired to maternal duties. Her first litter sired by “**Brahmin**”* (see opposite page) was very successful. She now has a litter of eleven sired by **Ch. Blackslate's Boston Blackie**.* They produced beautiful heads, breed type and terrific temperaments. One brindle male available to a show home (9-16-88). We were so pleased we will repeat the breeding. Reservations and inquiries welcome.

Owner & Breeder:

Bernard F. Master
340 Tucker Dr.
Worthington, Ohio 43085

presents our Leading Ladies . . .

CH. HOUSE OF TUDOR'S BURNIN' DESIRE



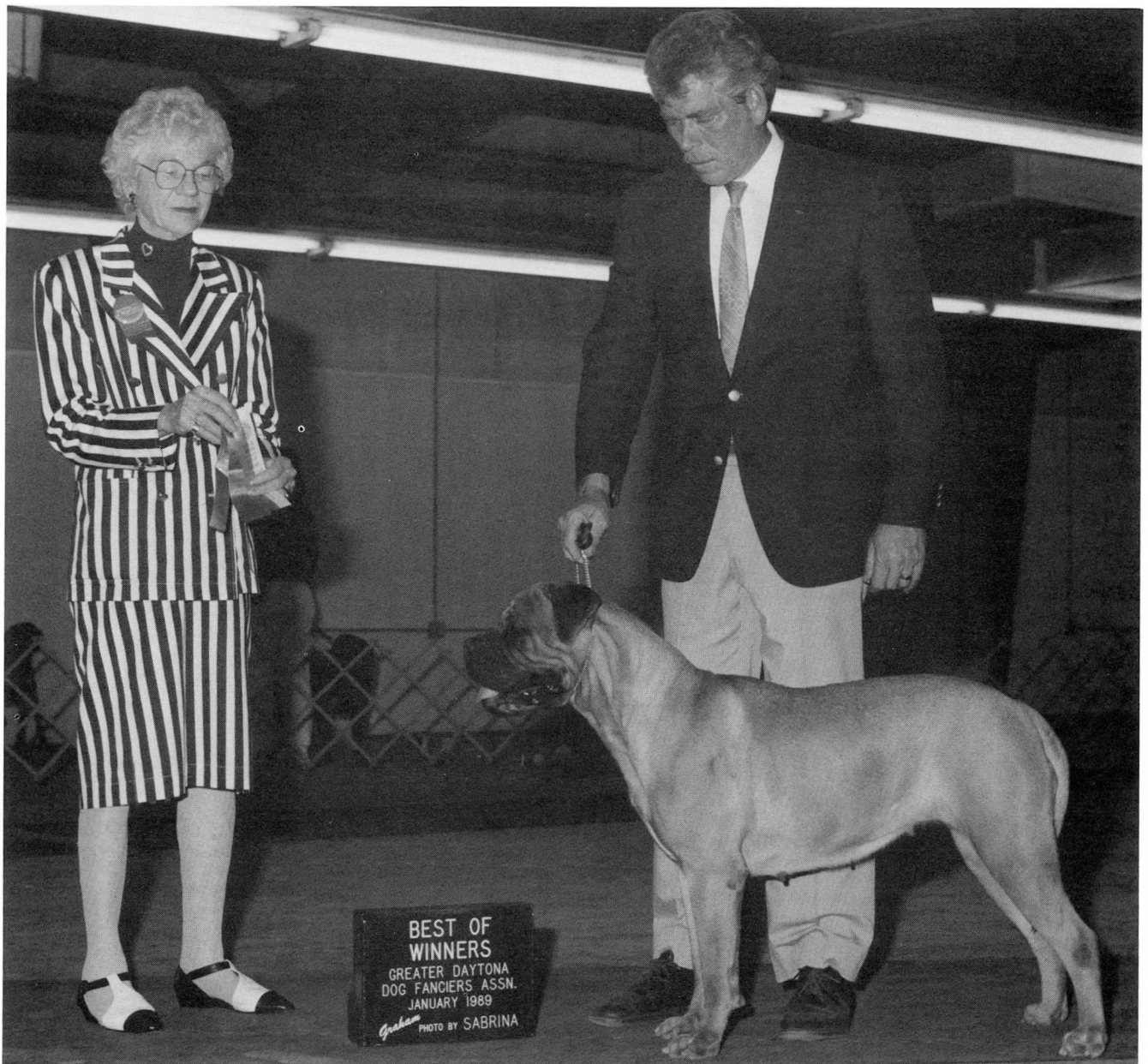
(Ch. Blackslate's Boston Brahmin x Ch. House of Tudor's Holly)

“Kelly”

“Kelly” is a breeder’s dream girl. “Kelly” finished from the puppy class and is the 9-12 puppy winner at the 1988 National Specialty. “Kelly” is beginning her specials career in 1989 shown here with J. Dorothy Welsh. Watch for her in the Midwest. We strive for breed type and soundness in both movement and temperament. Special thanks to Blackslate, and here’s to the future.

Inquiries welcome:

Marcia Sampson, Agent
16235 W. 183rd St.
Olathe, KS 66062
(913) 686-2629



PUCKERBRUSH BULLMASTIFFS

presents a new champion
(subject to AKC Confirmation)

CH PUCKERBRUSH TEXAS TWO STEP

Ch Bandog Ragtime Bloc Buster X Ch Tantalón's Daisy Mae CD

Watch for **Deuce** in the obedience ring this spring.
She will be bred after achieving her obedience title.

All Puckerbrush puppies are temperament tested at 7 weeks
and all breeding stock must demonstrate working ability.

Owner: Sandra Curtis-Powell
Rt 3 Box 133A SR 1747
Apec, NC 27502 (919) 362-4476

Special thanks to Bobby Birdsong
Raleigh, North Carolina
who handled **Deuce** to her title.

ABA Supported Entry Golden Gate KC Benched Show

**THE COW PALACE, DALY CITY, CA.
FEBRUARY 5, 1989**

The Golden Gate KC benched, all breed show, has been the highlight of the BONC (Bullmastiffs of Northern California) club year since the club was established. This year it hosted 38 entries, of which 28 were from the club.

Both days lunch was a hosted buffet with the club providing cold cuts, buns and utensils. Members brought potluck style dishes and there is no doubt as to the excellence of cooks.

New this year was an information booth, complete with the ACK Bullmastiff video (which other breed clubs remarked was the best they had ever seen) and the brochure prepared for the club by Mary Weber.

The crowds of admirers made it clear what they thought of our wonderful animals. It became a worry if the fur would be worn off by patting hands before the judging the second day. Owners and dogs survived the roar and the public.

Judging was the second day at 10:00 a.m. The air was electric even at 7:30 a.m. It was charged by 10. The edge was added by the quality of the entries. Many could win and only a few would. It was all up to the judge, Mrs. Judith Goodin. She chose some excellent entries.

PUPPY, 6-9 Months Dogs
1st Prateorian Buldozr Of Fair Go
2nd Tri-Ivory Little Big Man

PUPPY, 9-12 Months Dogs
1st Dartanyon Nectorous Irongate
2nd Irongates Little Clydesdale

BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOGS
1st Guardian's Gentle Persuasion

OPEN DOGS
1st KD's Rusty Boy
2nd R.D.'s Red Cu

WINNERS DOG — BEST OF WINNERS
KD's Rusty Boy

RESERVE WINNER
R.D.'s Red Cu

BEST OF BREED
Ch. Tri-Ivory Bacardi

BROOD BITCH
1st Ch. Megan Deines O'Hilltop
2nd Ch. Danrhonglyn's Cinderella

PUPPY, 6-9 Months Bitches
1st Tri-Ivory The Rose Tattoo
2nd Tri-Ivory My Fair Lady
3rd Praetorian's Makia Belle

PUPPY, 9-12 Months Bitches
1st Irongate's Penny Royal
2nd Dancers Ms Major Motion
3rd Tauralan Tallyn Gwendydd
4th Mydogge Boomerang

BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCHES
1st Prateorian Believe It or Not

OPEN BITCHES
1st Mydogge Flora De Mayo
2nd Irongate's Frosty Shadow

WINNERS BITCH
Irongate's Penny Royal

RESERVE WINNER
Tri-Ivory The Rose Tattoo

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX
Ch. Tri-Ivory Irish Mist

Lovely wood and metal, etched plaques were presented to the Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, Best of Winners and Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex.

ABA SUPPORTED ENTRY — GOLDEN GATE KC FEBRUARY 5, 1989



BEST OF BREED
Ch. Tri-Ivory Bacardi



BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX
Ch. Tri-Ivory Irish Mist

ABA SUPPORTED ENTRY - GOLDEN GATE KC



WINNERS DOG — BEST OF WINNERS
KD's Rusty Boy



WINNERS BITCH
Irongate's Penny Royal



BROOD BITCH
Ch. Megan Deines O'Hilltop

**DIRECTORY:
BULLMASTIFF CLUBS**

Clubs desiring listing in this directory please contact Bulletin Editor.

Following club elections, please forward changes required in your directory to the Bulletin Editor.

**BULLMASTIFF CLUB
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**
Valerie Nixon, President
Secretary: Mr. Jim Bowers
10917 Cherry Avenue, Fontana, CA 92335

**BULLMASTIFFS
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**
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210 Spring Hill Rd., Petaluma, CA 94952

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1020 N. 6th Street, Allentown, PA 19046

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12000 Falling Creek Dr. Manassas, VA 22111

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Islip, NY 11751

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**NEW ENGLAND BULLMASTIFF
ASSOCIATION**
Bob Kelly, President
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27 Lippitt Ave., Cumberland, RI 02864

**PIEDMONT BULLMASTIFF CLUB
OF GREATER WASHINGTON**
Harry Bryant, President
Secretary: Rejan Armstrong
11842 Harford Rd., Glen Arm, MD 21057

ABA BREEDERS OF BULLMASTIFFS:

Bank Barn Bullmastiffs: (formerly Bay Edge Bullmastiffs) Virgil and Adele Millet, P.O. Box 177, Durham, PA 18039. 215—346-8655, 516—427-6585.

Blackslate Bullmastiffs: Virginia Rowland and Mary Barbara Walsh. The Common, Templeton, MA 01468. 617—939-5300, 617—268-0359.

Blazin' Bullmastiffs: Roxanne and Tom LaPaglia, 604 Mahan Road, Churchville, MD 21028. 301—836-2211.

Eric Boquist: 9628 S. Hamilton, Chicago, IL 60643. 312—779-4061

Buckshorn Bullmastiffs: Rhett & Candace McMunn, Willimington, CT, 06279 203—429-1496.

Cadance Bullmastiffs: Anne & Gene Wallick, 423 East Third Steet, Dover, Ohio, 44622. 216—343-9857.

Jo Ann Duarte & Dru Greenburg: P.O. Box 2638, North Babylon, NY. 11703.

House of Tudor: Dr. Bernard Master, 340 Tucker Dr., Worthington, Ohio. 43085 and Marcia Sampson, R. 3, Box 295, Tuscola, IL. 61953.

Jubilee Bullmastiffs: Peter & Bodil Aczel. F.D. #1, Box 76-C, Quackertown, PA 1895. 215—536-8884.

Ladybug Bullmastiffs: Gerry and Kelly Roach. 5125 Woodbine Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19131. 215—473-4188.

Leatherneck Bullmastiff Kennels: Anita D. Lewis, 5011 Meadow Lake Rd., Brentwood, TN, 37027. 615—377-1376.

NeeNor Kennels: Wayne and Virginia Bastiaans, 4514 David Lane, Crystai Lake, IL 60014. 815—459-5316.

Nutiket, Reg.: Mr. and Mrs. Russell Weeks, 133 Chase Avenue, Ivyland, PA 18974. 215—674-4532.

Puckerbrush Bullmastiffs: Sandra Curtis—Powell: Rt. 3, Box 133A, SR 147, Apec, NC 27502. 919—362-4476.

Quail Run Bullmastiffs: Dave & Noreen Frank, P.O. Box 4623, Cave Creek, AZ. 85331. 602—488-4395.

Sandcastle Bullmastiffs: Vickie Kotrba/Shelia Hinehline, 1377 135th Ave., Wayland, MI 49348. 616—792-6351 or 792-9660.

Tri-Ivory: James & Shelia Polk, 170 Nardi Lane, Martinez, CA 94553. 415—228-3069.

Upper Crust Bullmastiffs: Nanette and Terry Gaskins, 4635 Normandie, Pl., La Mesa, CA 92041. 619—465-4695 or 619—697-7075.

BREEDERS LISTING—\$10.00 per issue, prepaid to the American Bullmastiff Association, Inc. Any ABA member in good standing who advertises in the Bullmastiff Bulletin may be listed in the Breeder's Directory at no charge. Listing requests are due by the ad deadline.

FROM THE EDITOR

This is YOUR Bulletin, published by YOUR club for YOUR information, enjoyment, education, and sharing of BULLMASTIFF experiences. Sharing can only occur if people send in contributions to be published.

Please let us have your thoughts on:

Experiences with the breed-

Tips pertaining to rearing, training, grooming, showing, breeding, and other subjects-

Talents/traits of the breed-

Book reviews of dogs books you think might help others in the breed-

Articles on dogs you have read which include information applicable to our breed-
(include the information as to where we have to write for reprint information)

To obtain a sense from the membership as to the content desired for the Bulletin, following are a few questions - please answer, clip and send them to the editor, Liz Dunn.

Thanks for the help, it will assist in making the ABA Bulletin a more comprehensive publication.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Liz Dunn, Editor
ABA Bulletin
8308 West Rolling Drive
Muncie, IN 47304

Please have more information on the following subjects in future Bulletins-

TRAINING _____ OBEDIENCE _____ TRACKING _____ OTHER _____
(specify)

SHOWING _____ HANDLING _____ SELECTING FOR _____ SELECTING HANDLER _____

REARING _____ PUPS _____ MAINTENANCE _____ GERIATRICS _____

REPRODUCTION _____ DOG _____ BITCH _____

HISTORY _____ USA _____ BRITAIN _____

SPECIALTIES _____ SUPPORTED ENTRIES _____

HEALTH _____ ORTHOPEDIC _____ CARDIAC _____

URINARY _____ DIGESTIVE _____ NUTRITION _____

VACCINATIONS _____ OTHER _____

GENERAL TIPS _____ STANDARD DISCUSSION _____

GENERAL ARTICLES PERTAINING TO DOGS, BUT NOT SPECIFICALLY BULLMASTIFFS _____

SUGGESTIONS:
