

THE MIDWEST BORZOI CLUB BULLETIN

October, 2011

2011 OFFICERS AND BOARD In this issue President- Lynne Bennett Vice President - June Mintchell **Upcoming Events** Treasurer - Nancy Reimer October 29-30 AKC Lure Coursing Trials & Tests page 1 Recording Secretary - Barbara Danieli MBC Board meeting, November 5, Ft Wayne page 1 Corresponding Secretary - K. Carol Artley January 21, 2012 MBC Specialty Show page 1 Results from MBC Recent Events Board Members (term expires 2014) - Mickey Nash & Liz Duncan-Burge. July 14, 2011 Trophy Supported Show page 4 August 12, 2011 Trophy Supported Show page 9 Board Members (term expires 2013) Amy August 13, 2011 MBC Specialty Show page 2 Sikula & Paul Spohn. August 14, 2011 Trophy Supported Show page 11 Board Members (term expires 2012) Laura Letter From Irving Bonios page 3 Hyatt & Pam Leichtnam. **AKC News** page 4 Breeder Referral: Patricia Murphy What You Need To Know About Degenerative Myelopathy Rescue Chairperson: Liz Duncan-Burge submitted by Ginger Jones page 4 MBC Website www.midwestborzoiclub.org New AKC Titles, MBC members dogs page 7 Bulletin Editor: Liz Duncan-Burge Member News page 10 ZanozaBorzoi @ aol.com Blastomycosis by Penny Keiffer page 12 Bulletin Publisher: K. Carol Artley kcartley @ earthlink.net MBC Bulletin Deadlines: 1 December, 1 March, 1 June, 1 September

October 29-30, AKC lure coursing trials, Junior Courser tests and Qualified Courser tests, for all AKC sighthound breeds, sponsored by MBC. At Stoney Run park, near Crown Point Indiana (northwest Indiana). Entries close day of event at 7:30 am. Roll-call 8 am. Secretary Betty Veitch, chairperson Nancy Reimer. Premium at www.midwestborzoiclub.org MBC members - Help will be needed at these trials. Practice for inexperienced hounds after the trials both days.

Saturday November 5: MBC Board meeting at the Ft Wayne dog show (Marion kennel club)

4 days of indoors all-breed shows with obedience & rally trials, January 19-22, 2012 at Novi, Michigan.

January 21, 2012, MBC Specialty show with the Oakland county kennel club show. MBC membership meeting. Borzoi judge Barbara Alderman. Borzoi puppy & veteran sweepstakes judge Suzan Breaz (Twin Elms). Same site, all-breed shows with borzoi trophies offered on Thursday & Friday with Livonia kennel club. Also all-breed show on Sunday January 22, same site. MBF superintendent www.infodog.com Entries close January 4, 2012.

MBC Specialty, August 13, 2011 at Cudahy WI

Judge Mr Irving Bonios

14 class males, 13 class bitches, 13 specials shown

12 - 18 Month Dogs

- 1. Oxota Avalon Tanforan O Starswift JC, 03-08-2010. Breeders, Leonore Abordo & Sandra Moore & Mary Childs. By DC Avalon Victorian Dyre RE SC & FC Avalon Rumor Of Angels MC. Jamie Lynn Bobrowski & Leonore Aborda.
- 2. Aruzia Bright Moon Over Tahoe, 08-13-2010. Breeders, John & Lorrie Scott. By GCH Aruzia Priority One JC & CH Borscana Coyote Latrans JC. Steven & K. Carol Artley.
- 3. C'lestial Tec Fire & Ice Of Ryhka, 04-06-2010. Breeders, Liz Green & Diana Darling. By FC C'Lestial Casino Royale SC & DC AuDruid Bremen's Technetium Of Rhyka SC. Michael C. Bilak.
- 4. Borzowski's Magical Mirage, 06-29-2010. Breeders, Annica Nilsson. By Rothesby Sholwood Mystic & Borzowski's Hillary Hope. Christine C. Ratke.

Bred By Exhibitor Dogs

Reserve Winners Dog: 1. Auroral's Artemus, 12-18-2008. Breeders, Jon & Jennifer Steele. By CH Auroral's Ajax & CH Aurorals Rising Star Iroquois. Jon & Jennifer Steele.

- 2. Twin Elm's Orion, 05-05-2006. Breeders, Suzan Breaz. By CH Twin Elms Turak & Twin Elm's Selar. Suzan Breaz & Ann & Clayton O. Montez.
- 3. Seabury Fantasia Maswik, 3-14-2008. Breeders, James Sillers & Judith Dennis. By DC Sylvan Seabury Virago SC & CH Fantasia's Unchain My Heart. Judith K. Dennis & Judith K Dennis.

AMERICAN BRED Dogs

1. Anotak Artic Frost, 12-27-2009. Breeders, Joyce & Rodger Katona. By CH Majenleir Neartic & CH Anotak Essence Of A Dream. Robin R. Clancy.

OPEN Dogs

<u>Winners Dog</u>, 1. Coburn Meyta Noir D' Cocoa, 04-01-2008. Breeders, Pat Shaw & Laura Hyatt. By Merta Marche' du Monds & CH Fusilier Fan Danzer At' Coburn. Laura Hyatt.

- 2. Edenrock Black Ice Of Calaron, 05-29-2007.
 Breeders, Delores Swan & Penny Keiffer. By CH
 Shelmar Carjo Icing On T' Cake & CH Calaron's
 Dreamsicle. Delores M. Swan & Penny A. Keiffer. Agent
 Kimberly Halcom
- 3. Paradise Spirt Me N' Bobby McGee RN, 04-01-2008. Breeders, Susan M. Motisi & Kristi J. Arnquist. By DC Sylvan Seabury Virago SC & CH Iskra Kalinow. Owner Karen D. Haberkorn, handler Kristi Arnquist.
- 4. Seabury's Shooting Star, 03-02-2009. Breeders, James Sillers. By Seabury Sylvan Nikolai & CH Seabury's Star Gazer. April Alberty & Kathleen Alberty.

12-18 Months Bitches

1. Borzowski's Shamanka. HP39187302. 06-29-2010. Breeders, Annica Nilsson. By Rothesby Sholwood Mystic & Borzowski's Hillary Hope. Christine C. Ratke.

Amateur Owner Handler Bitches

1. C'Lestial Orient Express, 05-12-2009. Breeders, Liz Green & Karen Murray. By Kansai'z Diario JC & FC C'Lestial High Society SC. Michael C. Bilak & Diane Bilak.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitches

Reserve Winners Bitch: 1. Chrysalis' Endless Night, 6-15-2009. Breeders, Pamela Jo Leichtnam & Janis McFerrin. By CH Manitas Brilliant In Black & GCH Chrysalis Winter Gold. Ms. Pamela J. Leichtnam.

- 2. Paradise Spirit Russian Roulette, 4-01-2008. Breeders, Susan M. Motisi & Kristi J. Arnquist. By DC Sylvan Seabury Virago SC & CH Iskra Kalinow. Susan M. Motisi & Kristi Arnquist.
- 3. Dana Dan Cameo, 5-19-2007. Breeders, Dana Thompson & Ardietta Thompson. By CH Dana Dan Phalcon & CH Fern Meyta Earthly Delight. Ms. Dana R. Thompson & Ardietta Thompson.

Open Bitches

<u>Winners Bitch:</u> 1. Valinor's Golightly Moon Dancer, 2-20-2008. Breeders, Marcella Zobel & Deborah Butler. By CH Svershin's Konchar & CH Golightlylereau Murine Fionn, Karla Smith.

2. Chrysalis A Study In Scarlet, 6-15-2009. Breeders, Pamela Jo Leichtnam & Janis McFerrin. By CH Manitias Brilliant In Black & CH Chrysalis Winter Gold. Ms. Pamela J. Leichtnam.

- 3. Edenrock Calaron Bethany, 3-21-2006. Breeders, Delores M. Swan & Penny Keiffer. By CH Knyaz Serebryaniy Iz Kitezh Grada & CH Calaron's Dreamsicle. Delores M. Swan & Penny A. Keiffer. Agent Kimberly Halcom
- 4. Seabury Spirit Light In A Dark Place, 8-15-2008. Breeders, James Sillers. By Seabury Sylvan Nikolai & CH Seabury's Star Gazer. Kristi Arnquist.

Best Of Breed

Best of Breed & Group IV. DC Aria's Aramon At Tahoe RA BN SC, 10-03-2005. Breeders, Rita Rice & Richard Terry. By DC Kirov Desperado At Aria RN LCX SC & DC Svora's Whirlaway SC. Steven & K. Carol Artley.

<u>Best Opposite Sex</u>: GCH Katz Fashion Finesse At Konza, 05-11-2007. Breeders, Kitty & James Sawyer. By CH Katz Devoted To A Dream & CH Katz Chaotic Clare. Kay Cassella & Robert Bates.

<u>Select Male</u>: CH Auroral's Across Time Sirius, 05-19-2003. Breeders, LaVonne Novakofski. By CH POSH Echoresna's Islaev & CH Sirius Reach For The Stars. Jon & Jennifer Steele.

<u>Select Bitch</u>: CH Borzowski's Lady Of My Life, 07-31-2007. Breeders, Annica Nilsson. By Borzowski's Oskar Orlow & Borzowski's Hanna Havanna. Christine C. Ratke.

<u>Award of Merit</u>: CH Nonsuch Chrysalis Sun Never Sets, 02-05-2007. Breeders, Kalen & Karen Dumke. By CH Nonsuch Marching Orders & CH Nonsuch Windchill. Pamela Jo Leichtnam.

Award of Merit: CH Dana Dan Déjà Vu, 05-19-2007. Breeders, Dana Thompson & Ardietta Thompson. By CH Dana Dan Phalcon & CH Fern Meyta Earthly Delight. Ardietta Thompson & Ms. Dana R. Thompson.

Award of Merit: CH Paradise Spirit Amazing Grace Enchante, 04-01-2008. Breeders, Susan M. Motisi & Kristi J. Arnquist. By DC Sylvan Seabury Virago & CH Iskra Kalinow. Mary Sue Marcyn.

<u>Award of Merit</u>: Vitrina Sylvan One From the Heart, 05-03-2004. Breeders, V Trantanella & P & C Neale. By DCh Sylvan Virago & CH Vitrina Zoetrope JC CD. Valori Vig Trantanella.

August 13, 2011 MBC Specialty Sweepstakes

Judge - Mrs. Terry Ann Doane

12-15 months Sweeps Dogs

- 1. Borzowski's Magical Mirage, 06-29-2010. Breeders, Annica Nilsson. By Rothesby Sholwood Mystic & Borzowski's Hillary Hope. Christine C. Ratke.
- 2. Aruzia Bright Moon Over Tahoe, 08-13-2010. Breeders, John & Lorrie Scott. By GCH Aruzia Priority One JC & CH Borscana Coyote Latrans JC. Steven & K. Carol Artley.

15-18 months Sweeps Dogs

Best In Sweepstakes 1. Oxota Avalon Tanforan O Starswift JC, 03-08-2010. Breeders, Leonore Abordo & Sandra Moore & Mary Childs. By DC Avalon Victorian Dyre RE SC & FC Avalon Rumor Of Angels MC. Jamie Lynn Bobrowski & Leonore Aborda.

- 2. C'lestial Tec Fire & Ice Of Ryhka, 04-06-2010. Breeders, Liz Green & Diana Darling. By FC C'Lestial Casino Royale SC & DC AuDruid Bremen's Technetium Of Rhyka SC. Michael C. Bilak.
- 12-15 months Sweeps Bitches

BOS Sweepstakes Borzowski's Shamanka, 06-29-2010. Breeders, Annica Nilsson. By Rothesby Sholwood Mystic & Borzowski's Hillary Hope. Christine C. Ratke.

7 years & Under 9 Years Veteran Sweeps Bitches

Best In Veteran Sweeps Vitrina Sylvan One From the Heart, 05-03-2004. Breeders, V Trantanella & P & C Neale. By DCh Sylvan Virago & CH Vitrina Zoetrope JC CD. Valori Vig Trantanella.

- 9 Years & Under 11 Years Veteran Sweeps Bitches
- 1. CH Borzowski's Bernice Barbuda, 09-26-2001. Breeders, Annica Nilsson. By Yermoloff's Chodlik & Borzowski's Cindy Cinnamon. Christine C. Ratke.
- 2. CH Starborough Pavlovna. HN00526301. 11-25-2001. Breeders, Mrs. L. P. Marchant. By Hepi Hepri Liman At Manitia & Starborough Fait Accompli. Pamela Jo Leichtnam.

August 20, 2011:

Dear Midwest Borzoi Club Members.

Thank you for inviting me to judge your specialty. I had a great time and found many beautiful Borzoi. What a Treat!! Thanks also for the tie tack and gift card.

Best Regards, Irving Bonios

AKC NEWS

At their September meeting, the delegates approved a new award to be given at all-breed shows: "Reserve Best In Show"

The AKC will award a new suffix title open to all AKC dogs: Therapy Dog title, or "THD". The AKC have received many requests from the fancy to award titles to therapy dogs as a way to recognize the "great work their dogs do." Additionally, earning a THD title builds on the skills taught in the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy and Canine Good Citizenship Programs, which create a sound and a friendly temperament needed by a successful therapy dog. To qualify, dogs must be certified by a participating therapy dog certification organization and have performed a minimum of 50 documented community service visits. To obtain a title, an owner must complete an application, along with evidence of documented visits. Application forms are available on the AKC website. The program will accept documentation of visits going back to January 1, 2000.

The Board VOTED to approve suggested revisions to Chapter 1, Section 14, of the *Obedience Regulations* to clarify that showing under a judge is not allowed when a student /teacher training relationship exists (with or without compensation), and to place a responsibility on the judge to report such violations.

Rules for "Concurrent Specialties". (1) The specialty club must obtain permission from the all-breed club in order to apply. (2) The maximum number of independent specialties will be determined by the AKC Event Operations Staff, considering the adequacy of the all-breed show's facility. (3) The specialty must be held on the same grounds as the concurrent all-breed show (i.e. the same physical address). (4) The entry on the Specialty breed(s) is limited to 100 entries in both the specialty & all-breed club events. (5) The ownership of the corresponding date must be agreed upon in writing prior to event approval. (6) The all-breed class must be held prior to the independent specialty in order to accommodate the Group judging. (Note that MBC will be holding a Concurrent Specialty in August 2012 with the Cudahy Saturday show).

MBC TSE at the Cuyahoga Valley Hound Association show, July 14, 2011. Judge: Dr Goran Bodegord. 15 class males, 8 class bitches, 7 specials shown.

Best of Breed and WD/BW from the open class to Lothlorien Surprise Victory, owner Katie Kaltenborn, handled by Graham Swayze.

Best Opposite Sex to CH C'Lestial Ffortune's Ffantasy At Starswift JC, owners Jamie Bobrowski & Liz Green, handled by Jamie.

Select Bitch to GCH River Bend Tasmania CD SC FCH, owners Marilyn Kivela & Charles Mayer, handled by Marilyn.

Select Dog to GCH Avalyn's Magnum Force, owners Lynne Bennett & Barb Benjamin, handled by Lynne.

Winners Bitch from the Bred-By class to FC Tatezi Nashvile Skyline Rag MC LCX FCH, breeder owner handled by Sheryl Gresser.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DEGENERATIVE MYELOPATHY

What is Degenerative Myelopathy?

Degenerative myelopathy is a progressive disease of the spinal cord in older dogs. The disease has an insidious onset typically between 8 and 14 years of age. It begins with a loss of coordination (ataxia) in the hind limbs. The affected dog will wobble when walking, knuckle

Reserve Winners Bitch from the Bred-By class to River Bend Zanzibar JC, breeder/owners Marilyn Kivela & Charles Mayer.

Reserve Winners Dog from the 9 - 12 month class to Bon Ami Perfection, breeder-owner handler Kelly Patti.

<u>Puppy & Veteran Sweepstakes</u> judge: Amy Balthrop. 8 puppies shown. 1 veteran shown.

Best in puppy Sweeps to: Majenkir Bookstor Timeless Glamour At Karitonova, owners Kimberly Horn-Janek & Robert Janek.

BOS puppy sweeps to: Nickolai Laral El Dorado, owner Bonnie Nichols.

Best Veteran to: Nickolai Tabret Petroglyph CD, owner Bonnie Nichols.

over or drag the feet. This can first occur in one hind limb and then affect the other. As the disease progresses, the limbs become weak and the dog begins to buckle and has difficulty standing. The weakness gets progressively worse until the dog is unable to walk. The clinical course can range from 6 months to 1 year before dogs become paraplegic. If signs progress for a longer period of time, loss of urinary and fecal continence may occur and eventually weakness will develop in the front limbs. Another key feature of DM is that it is not a painful disease.

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The Cause of Degenerative Myelopathy.

Degenerative myelopathy begins with the spinal cord in the thoracic (chest) region. If we look under the microscope at that area of the cord from a dog that has died from DM, we see degeneration of the white matter of the spinal cord. The white matter contains fibers that transmit movement commands from the brain to the limbs and sensory information from the limbs to the brain.

This degeneration consists of both demyelination (stripping away the insulation of these fibers) and axonal loss (loss of the actual fibers), and interferes with the communication between the brain and limbs. Recent research has identified a mutation in a gene that confers a greatly increased risk of developing the disease.

Clinically Diagnosing Degenerative Myelopathy.

Degenerative myelopathy is a diagnosis of elimination. We look for other causes of the weakness using diagnostic tests like myelography and MRI. When we have ruled them out, we end up with a presumptive diagnosis of DM. The only way to confirm the diagnosis is to examine the spinal cord under the microscope when a necropsy (autopsy) is performed. There are degenerative changes in the spinal cord characteristic for DM and not typical for some other spinal cord disease.

Other Diseases that Look like Degenerative Myelopathy.

Any disease that affects the dog's spinal cord can cause similar signs of loss of coordination and weakness. Since many of these diseases can be treated effectively, it is important to pursue the necessary tests to be sure that the dog doesn't have one of these diseases. The most common cause of hind limb weakness is herniated intervertebral disks. The disks are shock absorbers between the vertebrae in the back. When herniated, they can cause pressure on the spinal cord and weakness or paralysis. Short-legged, long back dogs are prone to slipped disks. A herniated disk can usually be detected with X-rays of the spine and myelogram or by using more advanced imaging such as CT scan or MRI. Other diseases we should consider include tumors, cysts, infections, injuries and stroke. Similar diagnostic procedures will help to diagnose most of these diseases. If necessary, your veterinarian can refer you to a board certified neurologist who can aid in diagnosing degenerative myelopathy. A directory to a neurologist near you can be found at American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine website under the "Find a Specialist Near You" link.

Degenerative Myelopathy Treatment.

There are no treatments that have been clearly shown to stop or slow progression of DM. Although there are a number of approaches that have been tried or recommended on the internet, no scientific evidence exists that they work. The outlook for a dog with DM is still grave. The discovery of a gene that identifies dogs at risk for developing degenerative myelopathy could pave the way for therapeutic trials to prevent the disease from developing. Meanwhile, the quality of life of an affected dog can be improved by measures such as good nursing care, physical rehabilitation, pressure sore prevention, monitoring for urinary infections, and ways to increase mobility through use of harnesses and carts.

Ongoing And Additional Research.

Recently a gene mutation in SOD1 was discovered that can greatly increase a dog's risk of developing degenerative myelopathy. Dogs with 2 copies of the mutation (testing "affected") are AT RISK for developing DM although many dogs that test "affected" remain free from symptoms. On the other hand, dogs that test "carrier" (one mutant copy and one normal copy) or "clear" (two normal copies) are highly unlikely to develop DM. The mutation was found in 109 breeds so far and in three breeds, Wire Fox Terrier, Pembroke Welsh Corgi and Boxers, the frequency exceeds 70%!

Age-Related Incomplete Penetrance.

Many of the 148 A/A homozygotes in the "affectedbreeds' control group were younger when sampled than the typical age at onset of clinical signs of DM. Some of these dogs may develop DM when they grow older. Nonetheless, the considerable number of A/A homozygotes among the older affected-breed controls that exhibited no clinical signs of DM indicates that the penetrance among A/A homozygotes is incomplete, possibly due to modifier loci, environmental factors, and/or because the A/A homozygotes die from other causes before the clinical signs become apparent. One target of ongoing research is determining why some at risk dogs develop symptoms and others do not. Researchers at the Broad Institute are searching for possible modifier genes that may influence onset of symptoms.

Degenerative Myelopathy Testing.

The collaborative efforts of Dr Joan Coates and Dr Gary Johnson and associates at the University of Missouri and Dr Kirsten Lindblad-Toh and Dr Claire Wade and associates at the Broad Institute at MIT/Harvard have

resulted in identification of a mutation that is a major risk factor for the development of Degenerative Myelopathy in many breeds of dogs. The patented DNA test for DM is now available only through the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). This test clearly identifies dogs that are clear (have 2 normal copies of the gene), those who are carriers (have one normal copy of the gene and one mutated copy of the gene), and those who are at much higher risk for developing DM (have 2 mutated copies of the gene). However, having two mutated copies of the gene does not necessarily result in disease. Testing result to date for the borzoi breed can also be found at the OFA website. There are approximately 400 borzoi included in the database to date with approximately 1% at risk and 20% carriers. Dogs that have clinical signs or a presumptive diagnosis of DM have tested as genetically affected. A relatively high percentage of dogs in several breeds (including Boxers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers. Pembroke Welsh Corgis, and Rhodesian Ridgebacks) have the predisposing mutation. It is important to note that there are a large number of dogs that have tested as genetically affected, but are reported as clinically normal by their owners.

Understanding the DNA Test for Degenerative Myelopathy.

A gene has been discovered which is a major risk factor for degenerative myelopathy (DM). In that gene, the DNA occurs in two possible forms (or alleles). The "G" allele is the predominant form in dog breeds in which DM seldom or never occurs; you can think of it as the "Good" allele. The "A" allele is more frequent in dog breeds for which DM is a common problem; you can think of it as the "Affected" allele. Summary: "A" allele is associated with DM; "G" allele is not associated with DM.

Since an individual dog inherits two alleles (one from the sire and one from the dam) there are three possible test results: two "A" alleles; one "A" and one "G" allele; and, two "G" alleles. *Summary: Test results can be A/A*, *A/G*, *or G/G*.

In the seven breeds studied so far (Boxer, Chesapeake Bay Retriever, German Shepherd Dog, Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Cardigan Welsh Corgi, Rhodesian Ridgeback, and Standard Poodle), dogs with test results of A/G and G/G have never been confirmed to have DM. Essentially all dogs with DM have the A/A test result. Nonetheless, many of the dogs with an A/A test result have not shown clinical symptoms of DM. Dogs with DM can begin showing signs of disease at 8 years of age, but some do not show symptoms until they are as old as 15 years of

age. Thus, some of the dogs who have tested A/A and are now normal may still develop signs of DM as they age. We have, however, found a few 15-year-old dogs that tested A/A and are not showing the clinical symptoms of DM. Unfortunately, at this point we do not have a good estimate of what percent of the dogs with the A/A test result will develop DM within their lifespan. Summary: Dogs that test A/G or G/G are very unlikely to develop DM. Dogs that test A/A are much more likely to develop DM. How many A/A dogs can survive to old age without developing DM and why? The "A" allele is very common in some breeds. In these breeds, an overly aggressive breeding program to eliminate the dogs testing A/A or A/G might be devastating to the breed as a whole because it would eliminate a large fraction of the high quality dogs that would otherwise contribute desirable qualities to the breed. Nonetheless, DM should be taken seriously. It is a fatal disease with devastating consequences for the dogs and a very unpleasant experience for the owners who care for them. Thus, a realistic approach when considering which dogs to select for breeding would be to consider dogs with the A/A or A/G test result to have a fault, just as a poor top-line or imperfect gait would be considered faults. Dogs that test A/A should be considered to have a worse fault than those that test A/G. Dog breeders could then continue to do what conscientious breeders have always done: make their selections for breeding stock in light of all of the dogs' good points and all of the dogs' faults. Using this approach over many generations should substantially reduce the prevalence of DM while continuing to maintain or improve those qualities that have contributed to the various dog breeds. Summary: It is recommend that dog breeders take into consideration the DM test results as they plan their breeding programs; however, they should not over-emphasize this test result. Instead, the test result is one factor among many in a balanced breeding program.

Above information was taken directly from the Canine Genetic Disease Network website, The Broad Institute website and materials provided by Dr. Joan Coats and Liz Hansen at the Canine Health Foundation Parent Club Conference and 2010 Nationals and are published here with permission.

Respectfully submitted, Ginger Jones

New AKC titles (dogs owned by MBC members, or bred by MBC members)

AKC Conformation Champion (CH).

CH Allante's Secret Agent Man (D) HP36055402 11-Nov-2009 by GCH CH Kishniga's Special Assignment x CH Kishniga's Casta Diva, br: Debra Lutsch & Brigitte Lutsch & Richard Meen, ow: Debra Lutsch & Brigitte Lutsch.

CH Annwn Ascalon (D) HP18398103 12-Sep-2005 by Annwn Lightning War x Annwn Meyta Diamondsrforever JC, br: Jennifer Frank, ow: Laura Hyatt.

CH Auroral's Artemus (D) HP32925001 18-Dec-2008 by CH Auroral's Ajax x GCH Auroral Rising Star Iroquois, br/ow: Jon & Jennifer Steele.

CH Avalon Zip Line Xpress JC (D) HP30445302 01-May-2008 by CH Avalon Quantum Leap x Windnsatin Ty Osen Of Slezi JC, br: Sandra Moore & Suzanne Liggett, ow: Ahryn Rowlette, Corina Rowlette & Mary Childs.

CH Dipauls Wyatt Earp (D) HP32633801 03-Jul-2008 by CH Rising Star Dipauls Brigadoon x CH Risingstar Ont Wings Ofa Dove, br/ow: Paul & Diane Spohn.

CH Dipauls The Sundance Kid (D) HP28368702 27-Nov-2007 by CH Rising Star Dipauls Brigadoon x CH Risingstar Ont Wings Ofa Dove, br/ow: Paul & Diane Spohn.

CH Edenrock Black Ice Of Calaron (D) HP26435702 29-May-2007 by CH Shelmar Carjo Icing On T'Cake x CH Calaron's Dreamsicle, br/ow: Delores Swan & Penny Keiffer.

CH Edenrock Calaron Bethany (B) HP22398404 21-Mar-2006 by CH Knyaz Serebryaniy iz Kitezh Grada x CH Calaron's Dreamsicle, br/ow: Delores Swan & Penny Keiffer.

CH Fantasia Seabury Hakatai (B) HP29849101 14-Mar-2008 by DC Sylvan Seabury Virago SC FCH ROMX-C x CH Fantasia's Unchain My Heart, br/ow: Judith Dennis & James Sillers.

CH Frostfire Amulet (B) HP19825603 12-Jan-2006 by CH Majenkir Talisman x CH Borscana Secret Sphere, br: Gary Nash, ow: Gary & Michelene Nash.

CH & FC Jubilee Glacier No Place Like Home SC (B) HP35289904 26-Apr-2009 by GCH CH Jubilee Tadbit O'Brindle Mist x CH Jubilee's Dunamai Sozo CD RE, br/ow: Cynthia Gredys & Lisa Durand & Amelia Gredys.

CH Karitonova Majenkir Some Enchanted Evening (B) HP30534203 10-May-2008 by GCH CH Majenkir A King's Ransom x CH Bookstor My Majenkir Gem CDX, br/ow: Kimberley Horn-Janek & Robert Janek & Karen Staudt-Cartabona.

CH Kyrov-Bijoux Worth Waiting For (D) HP23012903 25-Sep-2006 by DC Windnsatin Ty Slezi Of Zemny SC FCH GRC x Kyrov's Fanny Brice, br: Jim & Lisa Krause, ow: Mary Childs.

CH Morozova's Emmalyne (B) HP34944402 10-Jun-2009 by CH Virshina Joshua Man'O Morozova x Stillwater Ice Blue Secret, br: Janet Adams & Jerry White, ow: Janet Adams.

CH Nickolai Olovo Nurvureem JC (B) HP18799807 27-Nov-2005 by CH Nickolai Born Free Clairidge x Nickolai Tabret Acadia CDX RN JC, br: Bonnie Nichols, ow: Amy Sikula.

CH Rising Star Amber (B) HP32092003 28-Sep-2008 by CH Rising Star Danilov O'Sunbarr JC x CH Rising Star Yasmin, br/ow: Nadine Johnson.

CH River Bend Zanzibar JC (B) HP33466801 20-Dec-2008 by CH Rassim's Eric Der Rote At Teine RN x CH Nickolai Ryndar River Aziza CD RN JC FCH, br/ow: Marilyn Kivela & Charles Mayer.

DC Tatezi Absolutely Sweet Marie SC (B) HP25106405 13-Feb-2007 by Midknight Southern Justice x CH Tatezi Radio Flyer, br/ow: Sheryl Gresser-Kuhn.

CH Teine Seabury Walk On Water (B) HP29720705 03-Feb-2008 by CH Teine Katz Night Moves x CH Seabury's Star Gazer, br: James Sillers, ow: Anne Midgarden.

CH Teine Zircon JC (D) HP29543903 23-Feb-2008 by DC Teine Nicolaus Copernicus SC x CH Teine Total Eclipse At Mayberry, br: Anne Midgarden, ow: Donna Bokar & Anne Midgarden.

CH Windlords Oudaloi (D) HP34241505 05-Mar-2009 by CH Fusilier Eudromos x Windlords Yashma, br/ow: Martha Richards & Fini Heynen.

Grand Champion (GCH).

GCH Audruid Bremen's Tantalum Of Ryhka SC (B) 23-Sep-2001 by Mayberry Au Druid Bremen Of Ryhka JC x FC Kristull Rhenium Of Ryhka SC FCH, br/ow: Diana Darling.

GCH CH Jubilee Tadbit O'Brindle Mist (D) 23-Nov-2006 by CH Katushka-Jubilee Movado x CH Jubilee Mists Of Eden, br: Kay Cassella & Amelia Gredys & Cynthia Gredys, ow: Amelia Gredys & Cindi Gredys.

Companion Dog (CD).

DC Aria's Aramon At Tahoe CD BN CGC RN RA JC SC FCH (D) 03-Oct-2005 by DC Kirov Desperado At Aria RN MC LCX FCH x DC Svoras Whirlaway SC FCH, br: Rita Rice & Richard Terry, ow: Steven & KC Artley.

Companion Dog Excellent (CDX).

CH Riju Teine Fun & Games CDX RN JC (D) 23-Jul-2007 by CH Teine Intrinsic UD RN JC OA OAJ x DC Annwn Edessa SC LCM, br: June Mintchell, ow: Richard & June Mintchell.

Beginner Novice (BN).

Windnsatin Fact Of The Matter BN RA(B) 15-May-2005 by CH Yegorov Sea Of Change CD JC x DC Windnsatin Ty Kaa MC LCX LCM VFCH, br: Roy Silguero & Mary Childs & Dora McDonald, ow: Gale Snoddy.

Rally Novice (RN).

Seabury's Starry Knight RN (D) HP29720703 03-Feb-2008 by CH Teine Katz Night Moves x CH Seabury's Star Gazer, br: James Sillers, ow: April Alberty & Kathleen Alberty.

Rally Advanced (RA).

DC Téine Avada Kedavra CDX SC RA FCH (B) 16-Mar-2006 by DC Mufasa's Knight In Armour MC LCM x CH Téine Abracadabra SC, br: Anne Midgarden, ow: June Mintchell & Anne Midgarden.

Windnsatin Fact Of The Matter BN RA(B) 15-May-2005 by CH Yegorov Sea Of Change CD JC x DC Windnsatin Ty Kaa MC LCX LCM VFCH, br: Roy Silguero & Mary Childs & Dora McDonald, ow: Gale Snoddy.

AKC Junior Courser (JC).

Chrysalis A Study In Scarlet JC (B) HP34477504 15-JUN-2009 by CH Manitias Brilliant In Black x GCH CH Chrysalis Winter Gold, br: Pamela Leichtnam & Janis McFerrin, ow: Pamela Leichtnam.

Jubilee Katushka Wallstreet Tycoon JC (D) HP38823705 19-Jul-2010 by CH Katushka-Jubilee Movado x CH Jubilee's Dunamai Sozo CD RE, br/ow: Cynthia Gredys & Joyce Law & Amelia Gredys.

Teine Dark Crystal JC (D) HP29543901 23-Feb-2008 by DC Teine Nicolaus Copernicus SC x CH Teine Total Eclipse At Mayberry, br: Anne Midgarden, ow: Lori Miller.

Twin Elm's Chmura JC (B) HP33765502 25-Sep-2008 by Twin Elm's Orion x Twin Elm's Marrta, br/ow: Suzan Breaz & Ann & Clayton Montez.

Twin Elm's Kes JC (B) HP35773802 22-Jun-2009 by Twin Elms Nikita Of Elza x Twin Elm's Luecerra JC, br/ow: Suzan Breaz & Dave Lewandowski.

Twin Elms Rane Of Svershin JC (D) HP35853803 24-Jul-2009 by CH Avalyn Nakai The Magic Flute JC x CH Twin Elms Barinya SC FCH, br: Suzan Breaz & Tony & Tammy Forbes, ow: Suzan Breaz.

Warwinds Original Sin JC (D) HP32506502 29-Nov-2008 by CH Warwinds Navy Blue x CH Warwinds Masterpiece, br: Barbara Tyler-Lord & Frederick Lord & Meghann Lord, ow: Kimberly Morales & Meghann Lord & Kendra Lord.

CH Zharkov Teine Briar JC SC (D) 08-May-2008 by DC Silkenswift Blaze's Darkfire SC LCM7 GRC x DC Rassim's Dornroeschen At Teine SC LCM, br: Shirri Peak & Anne Midgarden, ow: Shirri Peak & Lester Pekarski.

AKC Senior Courser (SC).

Avalon Oxota Evangeline SC CA (B) HP37104201 08-Mar-2010 by DC Avalon Victorian Pyre Pyre RE SC CGC FCH GRC x FC Avalon Rumor Of Angels MC FCH GRC, br: Leonore Abordo & Sandra Moore & Mary Childs & Joan Garth, ow: Sandra Moore.

C'Lestial Tec Firecracker Of Ryhka SC (B) HP37440106 06-Apr-2010 by FC C'Lestial Casino Royale SC FCH GRC x DC Audruid Bremn's Technetium Of Ryhka MC LCX FCH SOR, br: Liz Green & Diana Darling, ow: Liz Green. CH Jubilee Glacier Ozlandia SC (D) HP35289901 26-Apr-2009 by GCH CH Jubilee Tadbit O'Brindle Mist x CH Jubilee's Dunamai Sozo CD RE, br: Cynthia Gredys & Amelia Gredys & Lisa Durand, ow: Cynthia Gredys & Amelia Gredys.

Twin Elms Svershin Ariel SC (B) HP35853805 24-JUL-2009 by CH Avalyn Nakai The Magic Flute JC x CH Twin Elms Barinya SC FCH, br: Suzan Breaz & Tony & Tammy Forbes, ow: Terry Doane & Suzan Breaz.

Twin Elms Svershin Nonna SC (B) HP30462002 06-Jan-2008 by Twin Elms Nikita Of Elza x CH Tzirina Camille Svershin JC FCH, br/ow: Terry Doane & Suzan Breaz.

AKC Master Courser (MC)

FC C'Lestial & Wonderful Of Ryhka JC MC LCX LCM ORC JOR (D) 27-Sep-2008 by FC C'Lestial Casino Royale SC FCH GRC x C'Lestial Singapore Sling, br: Liz Green & Karen Murray, ow: Diana Darling & Liz Green.

DC Windrift Chihawk Nymphet MC LCX FCH (B) 11-Apr-2003 by DC Windrift Believe In Magic SC FCH ROMX x Am/Can CH Tahoe's Belle O'Chihawk JC ROM, br: Nancy Reimer & Tami Marshall & KC Artley, ow: Jon & Nancy Reimer.

DC Windrift Hungry Eyes MC FCH (D) 23-Oct-2003 by DC Windrift Believe In Magic SC FCH ROMX x Windrift Dream A Little Dream, br/ow: Jon & Nancy Reimer.

AKC Field Champion (FC).

FC C'Lestial Starlight Express @ Ryhka SC (B) 12-May-2009 by Kansai'Z Diario SC x FC C'Lestial High Society SC FCH, br: Karen Murray & Liz Green, ow: Diana Darling & Liz Green.

CH & FC Jubilee Glacier No Place Like Home SC (B) HP35289904 26-Apr-2009 by GCH CH Jubilee Tadbit O'Brindle Mist x CH Jubilee's Dunamai Sozo CD RE, br/ow: Cynthia Gredys & Lisa Durand & Amelia Gredys.

Lure Courser Of Merit (LCX).

DC Windrift Chihawk Nymphet MC LCX FCH (B) 11-Apr-2003 by DC Windrift Believe In Magic SC FCH ROMX x Am/Can CH Tahoe's Belle O'Chihawk JC ROM, br: Nancy Reimer & Tami Marshall & KC Artley, ow: Jon & Nancy Reimer.

TSE Cudahy WI, August 12, 2011, Judge Jon Cole. 8 class dogs, 8 classes bitches, 7 specials shown.

BOB & Group IV to GCH Katz Fashion Finesse At Konza (CH Katz Devoted To A Dream x CH Katz Chaotic Clare), br: Kitty & James Sawyer, ow: Kay Cassella & Robert Bates, handled by Kay.

BOS to GCH Dana Dan Silversmoke (CH Dana Dan Phalcon x CH Fern Meyta Eathly Delight), br:/ow: Ardietta Thompson & Dana Thompson, handled by Dana.

Select Dog: DC Aria's Aramon At Tahoe SC CGC RA BN FCH (DC Kirov Desperado At Aria LCX RN SC FCH x DC Svora's Whirlaway SC FCH) br: Rita Rice & Richard Terry, ow: Steven & KC Artley, handled by Holley Eldred.

Select Bitch: CH Fantasia Seabury Hakatai (DC Sylvan Seabury Virago SC FCH ROMX-C x CH Fantasia's Unchain My Heart) br:/ow: Judith Dennis & James Sillers, handled by Jim.

<u>BW & WD</u> (3 points) from the 12 - 18 month class, to Oxota Avalon Tanforan O'Starswift JC CGC (DC Avalon Victorian Pyre CGC RE SC FCH GRC x FC Avalon Rumor Of Angels MC FCH GRC), br: Leonore Abordo & Sandra Moore & Mary Childs, ow: Jamie Bobrowski & Leonore Aborda, handed by Jamie.

<u>WB</u> (3 points) from the open class to Lythe Querida (CH Lythe Grand Illusion x Lythe Mississippi Mermaid), br:/ow: Melanie Richard, handled by Karrie Halbur.

RWD from the Bred-by class to Fantasia Seabury Maswik (DC Sylvan Seabury Virago SC FCH ROMX-C x CH Fantasia's Unchain My Heart) br:/ow: Judith Dennis & James Sillers, handled by Jim.

<u>RWB</u> from the open class to Edenrock Calaron Bethany (CH Knyaz Serebryaniy iz Kitezh grada x CH Calaron's Dreamsicle) br:/ow: Delores Swan & Penny Keiffer, handled by Kimberly Halcom.

<u>Sweepstakes</u> judge Cheryl Schallock Lundblad. 5 puppies shown.

Best in Sweepstakes: Oxota Avalon Tanforan O'Starswift JC CGC (DC Avalon Victorian Pyre CGC RE SC FCH GRC x FC Avalon Rumor Of Angels MC FCH GRC), br: Leonore Abordo & Sandra Moore & Mary Childs, ow: Jamie Bobrowski & Leonore Aborda, handed by Jamie.

<u>BOS</u> in puppy sweepstakes: Borzowski's Shamanka (Rothesby Sholwood Mystic - Borzowski Hilllary Hope), br: Annica Nilsson, ow: Christine Ratke, handled by Chris.

MEMBER NEWS

Liz A. Duncan-Burge // Zanoza Borzoi:

Just in time for a Labor Day Dog Fest, we got over 600 feet of fencing replaced at my farm from the May 25th tornado. The fencing was the easy part – it was getting TO the fencing through all the downed trees that caused the real work.

The Labor Day weekend was wonderful and filled with dog friends from Ohio, Missouri, Kansas and Indiana who all came down with their dogs (borzoi, greyhounds and ridgebacks) for a weekend of free coursing, visiting, camping, cookouts and lots of food. Only snag in the weekend was a late night run in between a greyhound, borzoi and a skunk! I was glad it wasn't one of my borzoi though I pitched in to help with the stinky baths until 2am.

Wishing all a safe and wonderful borzoi filled Fall!

Roger & Joyce Katona // Anotak Borzoi:

Roger and I attended The International Borzoi Conference in Fribourg, Switzerland followed by the World Dog Show in Paris, France. The trip was wonderful and the conference and dog shows were interesting and educational. Attendance was low and even though we were in Europe, very few Europeans attended. In the hope to boost interest and attendance in the IBC, it was voted to hold the next conference in California in conjunction with the Lompoc Sighthound Specialties. If, as has been discussed, these shows are moved, the IBC will likely move with them. This will take place in the summer of 2014.

The IBC would like to begin a newsletter to send to any and all interested in the Borzoi breed. If you are interested in receiving these newsletters, please send me an email giving me your permission to add your email address to the list. I will forward them on to Wendy Finlayson from New Zealand who will make a master list of emails from around the world. Once we have a master list, we will begin publication of our newsletter. If you are on Facebook, you can go to the International Borzoi Council page to read about this year's conference and plans for the next.

After returning home, we have been working with our young dogs getting them ready to show. One of them successfully put his show career on hold by swallowing a rock and having 4 feet of his

intestines removed during an emergency surgery!

We do have to brag about a dog from our latest litter, Anotak Arctic Frost (CH Anotak Essence of a Dream X CH Majenkir Nearctic) who took a Group 3 with his owner handling at 20 months of age! "Sky" is Robin's first borzoi and her first Group Placement, we are very proud of them!

Penny Keiffer & Dee Swan // Calaron/Edenrock:

We've had a pretty good year so far. New champions Ch Edenrock Calaron Bethany, and her half brother Ch Edenrock Black Ice of Calaron, gave us the thrill of a lifetime when they both finished on the same day at the MBC supported show in Racine, WI under Leslie Hiltz back in August.

Once they finished we brought out Katrina (Edenrock Calaron Katrina) who had been absolutely nowhere. So far she's been shown 4 times, has 3 points, a BB, and 2 BOS. She's a sweet girl and totally mature and ready to go.

We've also got some exciting breeding plans in the works for Bethany if she ever decides to come into season.

Tami & Peggy Marshall // Chihawk:

Our 6 month old pups from our GCH Aashtoria For Your I's Only RN TDI x CH Chihawk Stealing Home JC litter, are starting their show careers. At his first show, Maksim (Chihawk Incredible Dreamboat) was awarded Best puppy in Breed and on to a Puppy Hound Group 1. The next day, he was awarded 2 points. His littersister, Paloma (Chihawk Maschas Dream of the Wild Hunt) was Best in Sweepstakes at the Borzoi Club of New York specialty under breeder judge Ron Williams. Paloma was also awarded reserve winners bitch under breeder judge Pat Murphy. Paloma is owned by Valerie Holmes, Ariel Duncan and Ralph Jamison, who handled her that day.

June Mintchell // Riju Borzoi:

I finished a CDX on Flirt. He's now CH Riju Teine Fun & Games JC, CDX, RN. He is the father of our 2 newest additions "Rider" and "Games" who are currently 10 wks old. Flirt's littermate"Catch" picked up 2 CDX legs recently with scores of 197 and 198.

Gary & Mickey Nash // Frostfire:

We now have CH. Frostfire Amulet (Amy) after finally getting the elusive major!! On her way to her Grand Ch she picked up her first Select the day after she finished at the Ann Arbor KC. Then her next two outings BOB & Group 4 at the Pontiac KC; BOB & Group 3 at the St. Clair KC! We are very proud of our homebred good luck charm.

Paul and Diane Spohn // DiPauls:

We have 2 new Homebred Champion brothers! CH DiPauls Wyatt Earp and CH DiPauls The Sundance Kid.

Their sire is our homebred boy CH Rising Star DiPauls Brigadoon (Tommy) and their dam is CH Rising Star On The Wings Of A Dove (Danielle). Wyatt is from a repeat breeding. We know that Grandsire, CH Rising Star Conquistador CGC ... (Cody) is smiling down at them from the Bridge.

August 26, 2011 at the Sugarbush Kennel Club Show in Chagrin Falls, Ohio Wyatt went Winners Dog and Best Of Breed to finish. He was entered in the Bred By Exhibitor class with Paul on the other end of the lead. We had Bobbi Kinley-Blewett take him into the group where he won a Group 3. We moved him up to the BOB class for the remainder of the weekend and he won Select Dog on both Saturday and Sunday.

On September 25, 2011 Sundance won the point he needed to finish his Championship. Sunny had earned a few single points from the puppy classes and we had put him away to mature. We brought him back out this past July and he won the points, including a 3-point major and a 4-point major, in all but four of the shows that he was entered in. Needless to say we are very thrilled with our two homebred New Champions.

Steve and KC Artley // Tahoe:

We went to a few summer shows with Rachel (Windrift Tahoe Catch A Star) & Beth (Windrift Elizabeth At Tahoe CGC RN BN SC), who both picked up some points. Needless to say, we enjoyed the MBC specialty show, where our Maverick won Best of Breed and a Group IV. DC Aria's Aramon At Tahoe CGC BN RA SC FCH, also won Select Dog the day before, so earned 8 GCH points. Though we don't usually "special" our champions, we'll have to get him out more, to try to finish the GCH title. Showing in obedience in September, Maverick earned his 10th title, the CD, and Skip (Windrift Tahoe Chase the Dream

JC), earned 2 legs towards his BN & 2 legs towards his RN titles.

<u>MBC TSE at Racine Kennel Club</u>, August 14, 2011, judge Mrs Lesley Hiltz. 8 class dogs, 11 class bitches, 7 specials shown.

Best of Breed & Group III to GCH Katz Fashion Finesse At Konza, owners: Kay Cassella & Robert Bates, handled by Kay.

BOS to GCH Dana Dan Silversmoke, owners Ardietta Thompson & Dana Thompson, handled by Dana.

<u>Select Dog</u> to CH Paradise Spirit Torch Song Enchante, owner Mary Sue Marcyn.

<u>Select Bitch</u> to CH Paradise Spirit Amazing Grace Enchante, owner Mary Sue Marcyn.

Winners Dog & BW from the open class to Edenrock Black Ice Of Calaron, owners Delores Swan & Penny Keiffer, handled by Kimberly Halcom

Winners Bitch from the open class to Edenrock Calaron Bethany, owners Delores Swan & Penny Keiffer

Reserve Winners Dog from the Bred-By class to Twin Elm's Orion, owners Suzan Breaz, and Ann & Clayton Montez, handed by Suzan.

Reserve Winners Bitch from the 12-18 class to Borzowski's Shamanka, owner/handler Christine Ratke.

<u>Sweepstakes</u>, judge Stanley Matsumoto, 4 puppies shown & 2 veterans shown.

Best Puppy in Sweepstakes to Oxota Avalon Tanforan O'Starswift JC, owners Jamie Bobrowski & Leonore Aborda, handled by Jamie

BOS puppy in sweepstakes to Borzowski's Shamanka, owner handled by Christine Ratke.

<u>Best Veteran in Sweepstakes</u> to Vitrina Sylvan One From the Heart, owner handled by Valori Trantanella.

BLASTOMYCOSIS – by Penny Keiffer

Due to our recent loss of Billy (Ch Edenrock Fire N'Ice of Calaron) Liz [Duncan-Burge] asked me to say a few words about this insidious disease. I'm no expert, only know what happened to me, but I told her I'd write something so here goes.

My first time around involved a young male named Calaron's Popsicle, litter brother to Champion producing Ch Calaron's Dreamsicle. Popsicle, or Pete, was placed with a wonderful family as a puppy but unfortunately as great as they were he just wasn't happy and he ended up coming home. A few months later I noticed that the haw of his left eye was getting red, so off to the vet we went. Nothing appeared abnormal but the haw was getting redder and redder. Because I was working for a vet at that time, and because he had a brand new associate, she looked at him and asked if we'd checked him for Blastomycosis. We hadn't but because the eye was the focal point we made an appointment with an eve specialist. They had to extract fluids from the back of his eyeball to find it but sure enough, it was there. The doctor told me that 85% of the time the Blasto goes straight to the lungs but the other 15% it could settle in the eye and brain. Luckily we'd found Pete's in time to save his life, but not in time to save his sight. He went on massive doses of antifungal drugs that cost a fortune even though we were lucky enough to have a friend who was able to get them at his cost. Three times a day, for 6 months, he swallowed pills, but we were able to save his life. He couldn't see a thing but he ran and played with the other dogs just fine, as long as we didn't move anything around or rearrange the furniture. Pete was fortunate enough to live to the age of 7 because as hard as you try unless you get every single spore the Blasto will start growing again.

Our most recent bout with Blasto had a much different outcome and it still gives me the shivers when I think of what poor Billy went through. Billy (Ch. Edenrock Fire N'Ice of Calaron) finished his championship in August of 2011 and almost immediately we started off to see if he could do anything as a special. But as we showed him he started displaying an odd behavior and his handler suggested we have his ears checked which we did. Nothing was found but Billy started backing off of his food and was shaking his head a great deal more than was necessary so this time he went to the Emergency Hospital. There it was discovered that his right ear drum had ruptured, and his left one was bulging and getting ready to burst as well. He was immediately put on drugs and monitored carefully to see how he was reacting but although it appeared he was getting better he really wasn't. His appetite was still off; he still wasn't eating, and although he'd been tested up one side and down the other nothing else could be found. One day as I was explaining this to a friend they asked me if they'd tested him for Blasto. We called the clinic, asked the question,

and got the answer we expected, no one had even thought of Blasto and they'd run the test right away. Luckily in the years that have passed they'd found an easier way to check and the results came back right away. Blasto filled his lungs and was moving up his spinal column. Drugs were ordered, Billy spent three days in the Emergency clinic being given that which was supposed to save his life, and then was allowed to come home. He spent one full day at home and at 5 am I got a call from his mom who said we had to take him back to the clinic. He had a raging fever of 107, he wasn't able to walk properly, his equilibrium was totally off and he was trying to walk a straight line but actually going in a curve. When we got him to the clinic he couldn't get out of the van and had to be taken in on a stretcher. The doctors and assistants immediately started hooking him up but we both said at the same time to let him go. He was fighting so hard but was in so much pain it wasn't fair to him. The high temperatures caused by the Blasto had totally burned up the receptor at the base of the brain that controls the temperature and there was no way to keep his temp at any kind of decent level, so we did what was best for him.

So what have we learned about Blasto? We know that it can strike any place it wants. It can skip your whole group of animals (any kind of animals or people as well) or pick out one or two to invade. We know that it's picked up through the pads of the feet, likes a wet area, and we know that this year is about the worst year for diagnosed cases the vets have seen. And the biggest thing we learned is that although it's all over the country the Midwest is a hot bed for the disease. I'm sure there are others out there who can contribute to this conversation, some of our veterinarians with the knowledge of their years of schooling and experience can I'm sure elaborate on the topic. All I can say is watch your animals and if you end up taking them in for something puzzling have them run a test for it. It's one of those that most of the time isn't even thought of but time is of the essence with this one. If you catch it in time, and God is on your side, you can save them, but if it isn't recognized only heartache can result.