



No Bark Times

"All the news that fits we print"

Southeastern
Wisconsin

Spring - 2006

Newsletter Staff:

Lisa Marshall
Wanda Pooley
Sandra Tucker

BCOSW All-Breed

ASFA Field Trial

April 15 & 16, 2006

Boone County Fairgrounds

Belvidere, IL

Camping on grounds

WANTED:

Helpers & Exhibitors

Come one, Come all!!

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A CRITICAL BREAKTHROUGH!

Genetic Linkage Determined for Fanconi Syndrome

The BCOA Health and Research Committee and The Basenji Health Endowment are pleased to announce a significant breakthrough in the Fanconi Syndrome research being conducted on our behalf by Dr. Gary Johnson and colleagues at the University of Missouri - a breakthrough that allows researchers to proceed to the next phase of their work - determining a precise genetic marker(s) for Fanconi Syndrome and developing a test for this disease. Through the process of linkage analysis (identifying genes that are passed on together on a specific chromosome), Dr. Johnson and his colleagues have identified the chromosome containing the gene(s) involved in Fanconi Syndrome in Basenjis. This work was accomplished by analyzing a set of 48 (of the over 500 provided) carefully selected samples sent to Dr. Johnson's lab by BCOA members and Basenji owners in the U.S., Canada, and worldwide.

We do not have a test yet. Determining which chromosome contains the gene(s) involved in Fanconi Syndrome does not, in and of itself, provide us with a test, but it constitutes a major advancement on the road to reliable, accurate testing. It is the first concrete and critical step - a step we'd all hoped to see - toward a generally available test for Fanconi Syndrome within our breed. The Basenji Health Endowment will fund the remaining

research as we push toward a test, possibly with some assistance from the Canine Health Foundation. The time frame for this analysis could be as rapid as one month from the day you read this note, or perhaps as long as a year. The estimated cost to us of this work will be approximately \$20,000.00.

As the exciting second phase of this project begins, we would like to thank everyone who has contributed samples to Dr. Johnson's study, and/or donated funds to the Endowment. You made this breakthrough possible. Thank you also for your patience. Genetic research is a painstaking process. The Basenji Health Endowment's goals - and the realization of those goals - may at times seem light years in the future. But as this breakthrough proves, we can accomplish these goals when we harness our resources and work together for the betterment of the breed.

Jon Curby's original email to the BCOA Health and Research Committee regarding the Fanconi linkage breakthrough follows - we wanted all of you to have a chance to share in this exciting breakthrough first hand.

****To donate to the Basenji Health Endowment, please visit www.networkforgood.org, and type the words "Basenji Health Endowment" in the key words textbox.****

Continued on Page 4

Rescue Update

by Shawn Smith

Reggie and Griffey went to their new home together in mid-December. They are now living on a goat farm – no, they don't get to run loose and herd goats – but



Griffey

they do get to visit with the pot-bellied pigs on the other side of their fenced garden.



Reggie k/n/a Razz

The BCOSW rescue committee extends a huge “thank you” to the Plumley family (Suzy, Todd, Lynzie, and Karlie) for fostering Reggie and Griffey. The loving care and patience provided by the Plumleys enabled Reggie and Griffey to make a smooth transition from their original home into foster care and on to their new home.

MIRANDA TRIES RALLY OBEDIENCE!

by Lisa Marshall

Rally Obedience is a new sport offered by the American Kennel Club and it seems like they had basenjis in mind when they designed it. Rally O provides a comfortable training bridge between the Canine Good Citizen certificate and regular obedience training. Since Rally started being offered it has picked up some real enthusiasts within the basenji community.

Rally O requires the dog and handler team to follow a numbered course, where each number has an activity to complete. These activities include things like at Station 1 have the dog sit. Another station might ask for a 270 degree turn of direction, weaving through small traffic cones, calling the dog to front and finish, and other simple exercises. The dog and handler are supposed to work their way through the course by following the numbered cones and performing each exercise before moving to the next cone.

At the novice level Rally is on lead, and unlike regular obedience, there is no stand for exam and no group exercises (sits and downs). The level of precision is lower than regular obedience as well. Fronts don't have to be perfectly straight for example and heeling doesn't have to be that precise. You can also talk to and encourage your dog during competition. Advanced Rally is performed off lead.

My goal in 2006 is to try some new things with my basenjis and Rally seemed like a good choice. I signed up at For Pet's Sake Dog Training in Mukwonago, Wisconsin (<http://www.forpetsake.cc/main.html>) to take their novice Rally class with my 2 year old bitch Miranda. I was in a small class with only 5 or 6 dogs. Some of the other dogs had more obedience background than Miranda, who has not completed her CGC, but with a small class, there was plenty of individual attention. I work with my dogs at home on basic obedience like come, sit, down, stay etc. but of course when you take the dog to a new environment to work, that training pretty much disappears until the dog learns to work in a new environment with all the related distractions. After each class I had specific things I could work on during the week and I'm happy to say that we made some real progress during the class. In the first class I didn't get any automatic sits and it was difficult to get Miranda to down on the training floor mats, a different surface than I train on

(Cont. on pg. 3)

at home. But by week 3 she was starting to do the sits and with a little help, downs. I plan to take the novice class again with Miranda as soon as I finish another class, beginning Agility, with Miranda's mom, Casey. My goal is to be able to compete in Rally at the BCOA 2006 national.

Many local training clubs are offering Rally Obedience classes and run throughs for practice. You can go to the AKC website (akc.org) to find descriptions of each Rally exercise and the signs that go along with each exercise.



For more information about this fast growing competition visit:

<http://www.akc.org/events/rally/index.cfm>

HEART DISEASE (DOGS) – NEW RESEARCH

A study conducted at the University of California at Los Angeles found that people hospitalized with advanced heart disease will do better if they have visitors than if they are left alone. One of the best visitors was found to be a dog. In the first controlled study on the effects of pet therapy, a random sample of acute and critically ill heart patients showed that anxiety (measured on a standard rating scale) dropped 24 percent for those visited by a dog.

Senior author Kathie M. Cole reported that dogs from twelve breeds were used to study the “dog effect” on patient anxiety. Besides anxiety levels, patient levels of epinephrine, a hormone the body makes when under stress were reduced by 17 percent.

Reference: Front page feature, “Pouches have power to heal” San Mateo Daily News, San Mateo California, November 16, 2005, pgs 1 and 3.

BCOSW Supports Canine Phenome Project

The Basenji Club of Southeastern Wisconsin, Inc. will host a blood draw clinic in conjunction with its 11th annual independent specialty show on Friday, July 28, 2006 in Ixonia, Wisconsin. The venipuncture clinic is funded by The Basenji Health Endowment and the BCOSW, resulting in a FREE opportunity for you to participate in this cutting-edge project. With the recently completed Canine Genome Project, we can expect to see major advancements in canine DNA analysis which could result in the identification of genes responsible for Basenji diseases, behaviors, temperaments, and other characteristics. With such new technological advancements, it makes good sense to do whatever we can to assist researchers in their quest to learn more about Basenjies. In this instance, “our part” is free and relatively easy!

In addition to submitting blood samples, owners will complete a breed-specific survey, submit a pedigree, and include health information for each dog. A photograph of the dog is also welcome. As time passes, owners are encouraged to update their dogs' health information. This information is stored in a database on the password protected Canine Phenome Website at www.caninephenome.org.

This is an exciting time to be involved in our breed as the Basenji is the *first* breed to participate in this project. As an added bonus, when we submit a Basenji's blood sample, the blood will be tested for a mutation in a pyruvate kinase gene which causes hemolytic anemia. Currently, Dr. Gary Johnson and his colleagues at the University of Missouri are searching for a genetic marker for Fanconi Syndrome in the Basenji. Recently, Dr. Johnson's group discovered a significant finding in their Fanconi research! While this discovery is a major breakthrough, we do not yet have a genetic test for Fanconi, but the researchers are now using this data to move forward in their search for a specific genetic marker for Basenji Fanconi Syndrome.

On behalf of all of the members of the Basenji Club of Southeastern Wisconsin, Inc., I invite you to round-up your Basenjies and bring them to our venipuncture clinic to submit a blood sample to the Canine Phenome Project. Our beloved breed can only benefit from your participation.

For clinic details, contact Carrie Jones at ankhu@direcway.com or (507) 876-9987.

CRITICAL BREAKTHROUGH!

(cont. from pg. 1)

Text from Jon's email message to the BCOA Board:

Gary Johnson called to tell me that they have determined linkage for Fanconi Syndrome...

The minimum score from the analysis they want to confirm is 3.0 and they have over 4. This means that they know which chromosome and have already identified some places on that chromosome, in the area of some very interesting known diseases, that are possibilities.

To find a marker may take a month or a year and it is going to require funding. Initially, we need to send \$14,000 and a little later another \$6000 to CHF if they approve, they almost certainly will, matching funds.

This general information is not confidential, however they do not want to release the details of the chromosome involved.

When the test is ready samples will have to be submitted via the Phenome project, so I don't think we will have any problem encouraging its use.

I am leaving this Friday for the Congo and will have Liz and Dr. Johnson communicate with Lisa while I am away.

-Jon-

Reprinted from the BCOA Bulletin, 1st quarter 2006.

January 2006 Holiday Party

by Lisa Marshall

This year's holiday party featured a couple of changes. First of all we decided to try a different restaurant – The Shamrock Restaurant in Caledonia, Wisconsin, suggested by Maggie Galaszewski. We had over 20 attendees this year and the Shamrock took good care of us. They set us up at a long table in the back of the restaurant near the fireplace. Good service and great food – I think we will be going back next year. It was nice to have Sue Joyner from the Greater Chicagoland Basenji Club join us this year too.

The other change we made was to add a gift swap game to our lunch. The Greater Chicagoland Basenji Club plays this game at their holiday party and the idea traveled over to BCOSW via Wanda Pooley, who attended the GCBC party in 2005. Anyone who wants to can play by bringing a small gift (supposed to be up to \$10 in value). The participants draw numbers, and begin to select gifts based on their number. Anyone can take away anyone else's gift when it is their turn to draw. When all the gifts are selected the game is over. The competition heats up over certain items that people decide they want. If you are able to take the item back 3 times it is officially yours. I understand that the gift swap at GCBC is really cut throat!

Thanks everyone for attending and thanks to Maggie G. for making the arrangements.

What Kind of Animal Is It?

Here are some breeds and species of pets that many people may not be familiar with.

Check out your pet IQ by matching the breed or variety on the left with the type of animal on the right. Good luck!



- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Chinese Crested | a. Guinea Pig |
| 2. Peacock Hind | b. Cat |
| 3. American Satin | c. Ferret |
| 4. Checkered Giant | d. Tortoise |
| 5. Egyptian Mau | e. Fish |
| 6. Caique | f. Rat |
| 7. Silver Mitt | g. Snake |
| 8. African Sulcata | h. Rabbit |
| 9. Dumbo | i. Bird |
| 10. Racer | j. Dog |

Score:

- 0-3 Pet Deficient
4-7 Pet Sufficient
8-10 Petrageous!

Answers:

1.j
2.e
3.a
4.h
5.b
6.i
7.c
8.d
9.f
10.g

We are alone, absolutely alone on this chance planet: and, amid all the forms of life that surround us, not one, excepting the dog, has made an alliance with us.

Maurice Maeterlinck
Belgian dramatist, essayist, & poet (1862 - 1949)

News to keep your mature dog happy and healthy

Clearing up some misconceptions about cataracts: Cataracts in senior dogs.

You're spending some up-close and personal time with your dog when you notice cloudiness in his eyes. A dog owner's first thought is usually "Oh no, cataracts!" But often this cloudiness is actually a normal age-related change that only resembles cataracts. It's called lenticular or nuclear sclerosis. As dogs age, the lenses in their eyes increase in density or hardness. Though they appear cloudy to our eyes, the dog's vision is actually unaffected and it is not something to worry about. Cataracts, on the other hand, are. So how do we distinguish between the two?

When viewed through an ophthalmoscope, sclerotic lenses have an even, pearly opacity with a gray to bluish tint. Cataracts appear like crushed ice crystals that vary in size, shape and opacity. And while sclerosis affects both eyes simultaneously and equally, cataracts affect each eye differently and may only affect one. Some hints that your dog may have cataracts include impaired vision, bumping into furniture and difficulty walking or when presented with an unfamiliar situation. Also, certain breeds of dogs are at higher risk genetically of developing the disease.

If you suspect your dog may have cataracts, the first thing to do is visit your veterinarian. He or she can diagnose whether the problem is indeed cataracts or simply sclerosis. Depending on the severity of the cataracts, you may be referred to a veterinary ophthalmologist. Not unlike LASIK eye surgery in humans, veterinary ophthalmologists can use ultrasound to break up and remove the debris in the cornea while inserting an artificial lens that restores your dog's ability to focus properly. In the United States, data shows that the procedure is successful in over 90% of the cases, and after a short rehabilitation period, he'll be seeing like a champ once again.

From IAMS Nutrition

Gearing up for Heartworm Preventative?

by Karla Schreiber .. 03-11-2006 -

Here's something I just learned TODAY!

If you order Heartgard through Canada Pharmacy (www.canadapharmacy.com) you DO NOT NEED a PRESCRIPTION! They have the Heartgard (same stuff as we buy w/ a prescription here - made in the States by Merial) shipped from locations (like Canada) where no prescription is required for ivermectin products. I checked, and the price for a Basenji-sized packet is not the cheapest out there - but if a person has to pay for a prescription, or tramp to/from their vet (especially if that is a long way) it might not matter. I get Callie's Selegaline from Canada Pharmacy, and a while ago I signed up for lifetime free shipping program - a one time \$50 fee covers shipping to you for as long as you keep ordering and the company is still in business. The free shipping applies to over-the-counter and prescription human AND veterinary products - and any vet product that doesn't require a prescription in one location that C.P. ships from can be shipped to us here in the States w/out a prescription. I will have to double check, but I believe at Gentamycin (eye drops) is another product, like Heartgard, that you can simply order on line or via phone. So six packets of Heartguard cost me \$120 - with no tax, no shipping, and no need to get a script.

Also, I don't think it is available here, but C.P. has "generic" Heartguard, in the same "by weight" doses, available for the SAME prices as the cheapest Heartgard price I could find on the web. I didn't go for the generic myself, but do plan to look into it since my kidz stay on Heartgard all year.

What surprised me was the "workaround" on the prescription issue. I imagine that door may "close" at some point if the FDA catches wind of it -- but for now, you can order Heartgard from C.P. without a prescription and have it delivered to your door tax-free. And it will be shipping-cost free, too, if you sign on for lifetime shipping, and order human, other veterinary, or over the counter health products (everything from cough syrup to ... well, anything you can get at Walgreens in the pharmacy / health care isles -- Claratin, etc., etc.).

While C.P. was not the best price I could find for

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11th Annual BCOSW Specialty

Friday, July 28, 2006

Ixonia, WI

Show your support by sponsoring a class

\$15.00 -

Puppy Sweepstakes Classes

\$15.00 -

Veteran Sweepstakes Classes

\$20.00 -

Conformation Classes

Contact Wanda Pooley, Trophy Chair

albasenji@rockriver.net

(815)282-2584

Accepting checks and Paypal

HEARTWORM PREVENTATIVE - (continued from page 5)

Heartgard, the reason I started using them in the first place is that they had by FAR the best price on Callie's Selegaline (which is almost \$2 per pill through most U.S. vendors). I pay \$1 per pill for exactly the same product - and it is the same product whether it ships from the UK, Canada or Israel. In fact, one of my shipments came from... OREGON. C.P. constantly shops their vendors for the lowest price.

I'm guessing that C.P. is NOT the only foreign company doing this right now, either. But I like their user-friendly website, the phone personally is usually very polite and businesslike, and the shipping is very timely. If an order is going to take a bit longer because their software shows it will be coming, let's say, from the U.K., they ALWAYS tell you how long it will take. And if you're getting prescription meds through C.P. they remind you via PHONE that you need to refill - at good 2-3 weeks BEFORE you are due to run out. That's saved my backside a couple of times!

-Karla-

BRAGS

Susan Cook writes to say that on Feb. 11th 'Aubrey' earned a new LGRA title. She is now officially, Ch. Rafikis Twilights Last Gleaming, FCh, GRC

On that same weekend Heather Tompkins' 'Daisy' also completed the LGRA requirements for her GRC title. 'Daisy' is known as Tompkins Crazy for Daisies JC, GRC



Paw Prints over the

RAINBOW BRIDGE



Photo taken during the 2005 National Specialty in St. Louis, MO

Sylvia Jordan lost her beloved "Winnie" on December 18, 2005. "Winnie" would have turned 17 on New Year's Eve.

2006 COMING EVENTS AND MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Meeting	Event
April 1, 2006	Caledonia, WI	Y	BCOSW Fun Match
April 15 & 16, 2006	Belvidere, IL		BCOSW ASFA trial
May, 2006 (TBA)	TBD	Y	
June 18, 2006	Grayslake, IL	Y	Day after the Chicagoland specialty
July 15, 2006	South Beloit, IL	Y	BCOSW Play Day
July 28, 2006	Ixonia, WI		BCOSW specialty
July 29, 2006	Waukesha, WI	Y	BCOSW Annual meeting & Potluck
August 7, 2006	West Allis, WI		World of Dogs club booth
August 19, 20, 2006	Caledonia, WI	Y	MWCC ASFA trial
October, 2006 (TBA)	Rockford, IL	Y	Bonfire/cookout
October 7, 8, 2006	Antioch		LGRA Race Meet - all-breed
November 5, 2006	Madison, WI		Badger KC Dog Fair
November 2006 (TBA)	West Bend, WI	Y	Kettle Moraine shows

WHAT I DID AT THE VERNON MARSH?

What a nice place. I think I'll dig a hole (Zorro)



This stuff sure tastes good, hey Brutus?? (Rusty & Cody)



Hey, that looks like fun! Move over! (Cody)

HEY YOU GUYS, WHERE IS BRUTUS!!

What the heck! That does look like FUN! (Cody & Rusty)



I'll watch, you dig. Let me know when it's over. (Brutus)



NO BARK TIMES

Basenji Club of Southeastern Wisconsin
8050 Old River Road
Rockford, IL 61103

FIRST CLASS

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BCOSW Website

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The BCOSW is a licensed club of the American Kennel Club, Inc. and a licensed affiliate club of the American Sighthound Field Association.