



**ABOUT THE**  
**ENDANGERED**  
**BREEDS**  
**ASSOCIATION**

(EBA) is a non-profit organization founded in 1980 for the purpose of preserving the American Pit Bull Terrier. Our goals are public education, media monitoring, legislative lobbying, and legal intervention to protect responsible owners from breed-specific legislation and unfair harassment by public offi-

cial or agencies. We oppose animal abuse or any illegal activities with animals. Membership is \$10-single \$15-family per year with members receiving four newsletters a year. Canadian and overseas members please send US Dollars money orders only. All memberships expire Dec. 31 of each year.

**EBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!)

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership type: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_ Family \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to the Endangered Breeds Association and mail to:  
Jean Carpenter, P.O. Box 1180, Albany, LA 70711

ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION  
Jean Carpenter  
P.O. Box 1180  
Albany, LA 70711

Address Correction Requested

\_\_\_\_\_

# Bulldog Banter

NUMBER 58 • APRIL 2002

## BITING STATISTICS

### Dog fanciers offer numbers to counter critics seeking pit bull ban

*(From a February report)*  
By Hank Bornheimer  
and Kyla King  
*The Grand Rapids Press*

A group opposed to bans on specific dog breeds presented a lineup recently of nine popular dogs in the area and asked people to rank them in order of danger.

Pit bulls and mixed breeds led the choices as the most likely biters.

But after all selections were made, the pet owners placed their dogs in the order determined in December by a Kent County (MI) Animal Shelter survey.

The actual statistical leader? The German shepherd.

With 520 biting complaints, the breed accounted for 14.2 percent of the 3,069 total number of complaints reported over the past four years.

The Labrador placed second, with 363 biting complaints for

9.9 percent of the total. Pit bulls ranked fourth, accounting for 248 bite complaints for 6.8 percent of the problem.

Laurel Barrick, chairwoman of the Community Bite Prevention Committee, said the survey also shows that the top biters also are the most popular dogs owned in the county, from German shepherd to cocker spaniel in 12th place.

The exercise aimed to prove a point as a group of dog fanciers barked back recently at vocal Garfield Park citizens for their recent effort to have pit bulls banned in Grand Rapids in the wake of a biting incident.

The group also vowed to take a bite out of a Garfield Park citizens' petition by circulating its own petition that opposes bans on any breed and calls for other ways of dealing with dangerous dogs, including prevention and more enforcement of existing laws.

The bite prevention committee, comprised of local dog owners and professionals, used the recent event in Kentwood to call attention to what they consider misconceptions of the local dog-biting problem.

"All dogs bite in the right situation," Barrick said. "But most are preventable." Pit bulls are given a bad rap, in the committee's opinion. "Any other type of dog is said to 'bite,' but a pit bull bite is called an 'attack,'" Barrick said.

Jodi Binstead, committee leader, defended pit bulls. "This is not a breed to which most bites can be attributed."

Speakers said breed banning is not the solution; prevention and enforcement of existing laws are. The leaders also recommended that the Kent County Animal Shelter hire more help and extend their service hours into the evening, when many dog problems happen.

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All memberships are due Jan. 1 of each year unless multi years are paid.



## BULLDOG BANTER

Colleen Hill,  
Editor  
13925 Ledoux Lane  
Denham Springs, LA  
70726

The Bulldog Banter welcomes articles, news clippings, letters and other comments from its readers. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions as needed. All letters for publication must be signed.

Material in the Bulldog Banter may be reproduced, but please credit the Bulldog Banter as the source.

To subscribe to the Bulldog Banter, please see the EBA Membership application on the back page.

### ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY

Endangered Breeds Association  
[www.endangeredbreedsassociation.org](http://www.endangeredbreedsassociation.org)

American Kennel Club  
[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

Responsible Pet Owners Alliance  
[NOAH@express-news.net](mailto:NOAH@express-news.net)

Rott-N-Chatter Breed Specific Law List  
<http://www.rot-n-chatter.com/rottwelers/laws/breed-specific.html>

### WE WANT TO MEET YOUR PET!

E-mail your photograph to [vicky@oknet1.net](mailto:vicky@oknet1.net) and we will print it in the next issue of Bulldog Banter. Include caption information. NO SALES.

## Endangered Breeds Association Financial Report

### Start balance

\$39,333.13

### Income

\$23,416.41

This includes the following: interest from CD; memberships; show receipts; donations.

### Balance

\$62,749.54

### Expenses

\$17,683.51

Newsletter prep and printing and related expenses  
Soto Case  
Taylor/Huddleston Case  
World Trade Center Rescue Dogs  
Stamps and other postage fees  
Hot check and fee (Brett Bykow, Highlands, N.J.)  
Internet expenses for Jean Carpenter, Joan Morrison, Colleen Hill (These board members must have Internet for newsletter and Web page purposes)  
New copier and monitor, office supplies, phone, travel, convention, newsletter preparation and printing, Web page construction and annual fee, computer upgrade for Joan Morrison.

### Balance 12-31-2001

\$45,066.03

### Value of Certificate of Deposit

\$50,652.27

There were no donations to EBA during 2001 for obedience awards.

CD interest rate began year at 5.69 percent for \$237.42 deposited to checking account; decreased to 3.73 percent in May for \$155.51 to account monthly; and to 2.23 percent for \$92.92 to account monthly.

Joan Morrison  
Treasurer



# More from the Canine Legislative Observer

## Continued from Page 6

feel could impact us in the future. Sponsored by Rep. Ron Wilson, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence. A hearing date has not yet been set, but the AKC will continue to work with legislative liaisons and state federations to keep you abreast of developments as they occur. For more information, contact Responsible Pet Owners Alliance (<http://www.rpoa.home.texas.net>).

### INSURANCE

Three states, Connecticut, Washington and New York, are weighing legislation to prohibit insurance companies from discriminating against homeowners based on their breed of dog.

### OTHER LEGISLATION

**FLORIDA** - Two pieces of legislation in this state could impact dog owners on many levels. A proposed animal control ordinance in Hillsborough County would require breeders to undergo regular inspections of their facilities and to obtain permits for each unaltered animal they own. Other provisions call for regulating vicious dogs and implementing consumer

protection laws. Two local dog fanciers are members of the Animal Advisory Committee and are working to achieve a satisfactory compromise. The Committee met on March 24 to finalize the ordinance for review by the Board of County Commissioners.

In Pinellas County, commissioners are considering an ordinance that would require owners of dogs that have been deemed dangerous to be surrendered to Animal Services for humane destruction. This follows opportunities for the owner to contest and appeal the classification. The ordinance also redefines animal cruelty and calls for pet dealer and kennel permits.

**HAWAII** - A Hawaii fancier has informed us of potential changes to the state's Administrative Rules that would make the cost of importing a dog from the mainland extremely prohibitive. Area fanciers fear that if the rule passes, a dramatic shift in the importation of dogs from Australia, where they do not have to go through quarantine, will occur.

**NEW YORK** - The New York State Senate has passed legisla-

tion making theft of a dog or cat a class E felony punishable by up to four years in prison. Sponsored by Sen. Carl Marcellino, S 1325 has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Codes.

Rep. Elizabeth Connelly has introduced A 6350, a bill to ban flexi-lead and other leashes whose length may be regularly altered. It has been referred to a committee on agriculture.

**OREGON** - A seat belt law for dogs? Rep. Barbara Ross' H 2472 proposes just that by prohibiting dog owners from carrying their animals on an external part of a vehicle, including truck beds, unless the dog is secured in a crate or cross-tethered. Livestock and dogs used in farming and ranching operations would be exempt. Violators will face a fine of \$75. Similar laws exist in California, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

Oregon's Senate approved a bill stating a pet valued at less than \$1,000 should not be considered part of a decedent's estate. The animal could therefore be taken in by a family member or friend immediately upon the death of the decedent. S 601 is now before the House.



## Board Members

Jean Carpenter, president  
P.O. Box 1180  
Albany, La. 70711  
225 567-5120  
ebajeanc@aol.com

Colleen Hill, vice president  
13925 Ledoux Lane  
Denham Springs, La. 70721  
225 665-7196  
dchill1992@home.com

Joan Morrison, treasurer  
Rt. 1, Box 71  
Gore, Ok. 74435  
918 487-5798  
morrisonso@oknet1.net

Kim Krohn, secretary  
4600 SW Hickory Lane  
Blue Springs, Mo. 64015  
816 228-1512  
krohndog@swbell.net

Beth Bearden  
P.O. Box 695  
Tecumseh, Ok. 74873  
405 598-8702  
bitobeth@aol.com

Judith Brecka  
P.O. Box 66-1427  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90066-9998  
champalf@hotmail.com

Gary Hammonds  
6520 Newt Patterson Road  
Mansfield, Texas 76063  
817 473-9092

Joel Halverson  
341 Autumn Hills Road  
Kelso, Wash. 98626  
360 636-5472  
stuckhalv@junco.com

Doris Hutson  
14671 Clarence  
Walker, La. 70785  
225 665-0314

Renee Greenwood  
P.O. Box 1771  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110  
801 936-7513

Kate Greenwood  
P.O. Box 1771  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110  
801 936-7513

JoAnn LeBlanc  
Route 3, Box 198K  
Dayton, Texas 77534  
936 258-8490

## More from the Legislative Observer

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ter.com/rottweilers/laws/breedspecific.html.

In Manhattan, the Village Board approved an ordinance for vicious animals that requires impounding a dog found on the loose or that has attacked a person or other domesticated animal. The ordinance assesses a \$75 penalty for the first offense and a \$100 penalty for subsequent offenses. Although existing local and state dangerous dog laws do not hold owners responsible for the actions of guard dogs on private property, the Village Board's new measure does.

**TENNESSEE** - HB 276/SB 187 passed the Senate and the House. If signed by the governor, the act will authorize any home rule municipality to adopt local ordinances to regulate disposition of dangerous dogs. It also will allow breed-specific ordinances to be enacted by cities and counties. AKC sent letters to TN legislators, alerted TN clubs, and wrote Governor Don Sundquist to voice our opposition.

**VIRGINIA** - S 721 has passed the House and Senate and is now eligible for the governor's desk. Under the provisions of the bill, the definition of "dangerous dog" would include any dog which attacks or bites and causes injury to another dog. The bill also amends state law to allow localities to require owners of dangerous dogs to have insurance coverage for animal bites

by allowing such owners to instead have a surety bond. The Virginia Federation supported this amendment.

**WASHINGTON** - A Washington fancier reports that the Pierce County Council Rules Committee held a hearing on March 1 to review Proposal #99-17. The amendment to the county's dangerous dog law would change penalties for certain animal control offenses, set new definitions for dangerous dogs and potentially affect licensing of dogs and cats. The date for a full council hearing has not been set.

**WEST VIRGINIA** - The Senate passed SB 104, a bill allowing animal control officers to go onto private property and into structures without the owner's consent in order to seize a "vicious" animal. (The term vicious is not defined, however.) Sponsored by Sen. Oshel Craig, the bill has been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

### HUNTING

**TEXAS** - Texas fanciers are closely monitoring HB 1389, a bill that prohibits fighting between a dog and a hog. Spectators of such an exhibit would also be convicted of a criminal offense. While the bill does not appear to affect AKC events, it establishes a precedent that many fanciers and sportsmen

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## EBA board meets at ADBSI Convention

EBA held its bi-annual meeting at Las Vegas during the annual ADBSI Convention.

The following issues were discussed:

- EBA will publish the yearly financial report in the first EBA Banter of each year for members. The financial report also is part of EBA's Web site information on a continual basis.

- The California case is still pending with need for more information regarding discovery.

- Washington's ADBSI Club will host the EBA Show for

2002.

- Cajun Country has requested the EBA Show for 2003.

- Complaints from consumers will be handled according to need, EBA will handle all of EBA's needs; ADBSI will handle problems related to ADBA.

- Glen Bue from WAF will work with EBA on cases presented.

- EBA Board will meet at night when convenient for meetings.

- EBA raffle collected \$948 at the 2002 ADBSI Convention.

## 100 Club Winner!

Scotty Swab was the lucky winner of the EBA 100 Club drawing for 2002!

EBA has had great success with the 100 Club program 100 and will continue it this year. How do I win, do you ask? Have your ADBSI Club be a contestant with 100% of its members also being EBA members and you will be eligible to win!

Scotty had a great time going to Las Vegas with room and air fare compliments of EBA. You can be the next lucky winner!

## Pet Corner

This is Tyson, a 3-year-old American Pit Bull Terrier owned by Marchesani.



WE WANT TO MEET YOUR PET!

E-mail your photograph to vicky@oknet1.net and we will print it in the next issue of Bulldog Banter. Include caption information. NO SALES.



# Canine Legislative Observer - April

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The American Kennel Club's Canine Legislation Department is here to support members of the fancy in affecting legislation related to the sport of purebred dogs. We strive to give you the information and tools that you need to be successful in this endeavor. You are on the front line in these battles, and legislators look to you to determine how they should stand on canine issues.

Although we identify and track numerous legislative initiatives on our own, we count on you to let us know when you learn of measures that impact our sport. Read the newspaper, listen to the radio, and network with your fellow dog owners to learn about what is happening in your city, county, or state. When you hear of a proposal, don't forget to let us know about it and we'll be glad to help. Also, make sure your club has a Legislative liaison who shares this information with fellow club members.

Working together, we can make a difference!

*Stephanie Ortel  
Breeding Restrictions*

## **BREEDING**

**CALIFORNIA** - Fanciers in Redding and the County of Shasta should be aware of a new proposal that would: create differential

licensing for unaltered animals; limit breeding to one breeding per male or female per year; require breeders to provide names and addresses of everyone to whom they transfer puppies, prohibit advertising by breeders; create a limit of six animals per household and require all kennels to be situated on at least an acre of land. Betty Kehrler, who is working with the Shasta Kennel Club, reports that the proposal has been put on hold for the time being but could move at any time. For more information, contact her at 530-547-4067.

**NEBRASKA** - In January, Sen. Marian Price introduced L825, a bill to adopt the Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act. The bill would implement a licensing fee of at least \$100 for commercial breeders and dealers. L 825 defines a breeder as a person who owns or harbors more than three unaltered dogs or cats for breeding purposes. However, it exempts anyone who sells, exchanges or leases less than thirty dogs or cats in a 12-month period directly to the final owner rather than for later retail sale.

## **CRUELTY**

**GEORGIA** - Becki Buss, president of the Georgia Coalition of Dogs, informs us that Rep. Lynmore James' HB 372 is still

pending in the House Judiciary Committee. This rewrite of the Georgia Veterinary Procedures Act would replace the existing law with many new definitions and provisions, including prohibition of practices such as dental cleaning and microchipping by anyone other than a licensed veterinarian. For more information, contact Becki Buss (dazlin@concentric.net).

## **DANGEROUS DOGS**

**CALIFORNIA** - Sharon Coleman of The Animal Council is monitoring two dangerous dog measures. AB 72, introduced by Assemblyman Robert Hertzberg, and SB 103, introduced by Senator Maurice Johannessen, would increase criminal penalties for serious dog bites. AB 72 would apply only to a person "having custody or control of a dog trained to fight, attack, or kill," elevating the offense to a felony from a misdemeanor. This statute only applies when, as a result of the person's failure to exercise ordinary care, the dog bites a human on two separate occasions or one occasion if "substantial physical injury" resulted. The person must have been aware of the "vicious or dangerous" nature of the dog, and the victim must have taken precautions a "reasonable person would ordinarily take in

the same situation." AB 72 has been passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee and was assigned to the Public Safety Committee.

SB 103 relates to "mischievous animals" and would add a provision to existing law for "severe injury" to a human being. Because the definition of "mischievous" is problematic, this bill could impose criminal liability on a broad class of dog owners. SB 103 was assigned to the Senate Public Safety Committee and set for hearing March 23.

**COLORADO** - A proposed ban against pit bulls (defined as Bull Terriers, American Pit Bull Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers or any dog which has the appearance of being predominately one of these breeds) recently came up for vote at a public hearing in Cripple Creek. Animal Control Ordinance No. 1999-01 will make it unlawful to possess a pit bull dog within the corporate city limits of the municipality, although it does make allowances for already licensed pit bulls in the area. In addition to the standard dog license, current pit bull owners must apply for a special pit bull dog license at a cost of \$50.00. The application requires owners to provide photographs of their ani-

mals showing various profiles. Owners must also keep their dogs in an enclosed kennel at all times unless muzzled and restrained by a leash no longer than four feet in length. AKC is working with Jess Sokoloff (baddawgs@ix.deniz.com) to defeat the ban. Contact her for more information.

State legislators are considering a bill that would update Colorado's dangerous dog law. Sponsored by Rep. Steve Johnson, SB 112 is not breed specific but revises laws governing unlawful ownership of a dangerous dog. Violators would be required to confine the dog, warn the public, attend education classes, obtain liability insurance and perform community service. The bill passed the House and has been referred to the Senate for concurrence.

**FLORIDA** - Jan Cooper of Rott-n-Chatter informs us that Hollywood, Florida has placed additional restrictions on "pit bulls" and dogs that show the characteristics of these breeds. The additional restrictions may be in violation of the state statute prohibiting breed-specific legislation. For more information, check out <http://www.rott-n-chatter.com/rottweilers/laws/breedspecific.html>.

**MAINE** - The Federation of Maine Dog Clubs notified us of a

proposed dangerous dog law that they believe is reasonable. The town of Nutting is considering legislation that would not increase requirements for keeping dogs that bite but would require that the bite be reported if a family member is involved. (This could pose a potential problem for those who rescue and rehabilitate abused dogs.) The ordinance increases the penalty for letting dangerous dogs run loose, promoting responsible dog ownership. More important, however, is the requirement that schools educate students about how to approach a dog and what to do if it acts aggressively. The Federation hopes to get involved in developing the curriculum.

**MARYLAND** - Under the provisions of a new ordinance, any unregistered "pit bull" in Port Deposit can now be confiscated and its owner fined. Owners were given a March 9 deadline to register their dog at the cost of \$50.

**NEW YORK** - City council members in Syracuse are considering banning "pit bulls." Council members are apparently unaware of the state statute prohibiting breed-specific legislation. For more information, contact Jan Cooper at <http://www.rott-n-chat>

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