

THE ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION

Bulldog Banter

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Carpenter reminisces; Krohn takes over EBA presidency

If you check out our web page occasionally you noticed the streaming election results. Linda Emmert, Russ Krohn and Laura Dapkus were re-elected to the board of directors.

The new year also marked the beginning of Kim Krohn's term as president of EBA. Many of you may have read in the ADBA Gazette that former president Jean Carpenter has stepped down and that the board elected Kim to the post.

Throughout Jean's term, EBA has made significant headway in the fight for our rights to own and breed the dog of choice.

"Endangered Breeds Association was founded in 1980 by the late Ralph Greenwood and Richard Stratton," Carpenter said. "Their vision was that members should promote responsible dog ownership and breeding; and that

the American Pit Bull Terrier likely was in for trouble due to irresponsible owners.

"Richard was the first president, then George Schiller, then I followed.

"What a vision Ralph and Richard had! With the support of their wives, Renee Greenwood, and the late Stephanie Stratton, and the initial membership, owners began hearing about EBA and started joining."

Then at the annual American Dog Breeders Association convention in Chicago in 1990, Ralph proposed taking 50 cents from each entry in ADBA sanctioned shows and sending it to EBA. He saw that as a fair way for all owners of pit bulls to contribute to the fight ahead. Later that amount was raised to \$1; then to \$2; then lowered to \$1; and now it no longer is mandatory that clubs send \$1 per dog to EBA

A reminder

This year, in an effort to save money, EBA will only send out three newsletters. The next two will be in October and November for board member election information.

Election results again will stream across the home page of our web site.

We've also added a new section to the web page for legislative alerts. These will be updated monthly, or as the need arises.

To stay informed, check out our web page; and those of American Dog Breeders Association, National Animal Interest Alliance, and American Kennel Club. All have legislative alert sections and information.

— it is voluntary.

"Through the years, we've spent

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A special thank you

The Board of Directors of Endangered Breeds Association would like to recognize some individuals who have made important gifts to EBA.

Chris and Kristi Pena, Richland, MS; Chris and Tiffany Taylor, Coldwater, MS; and Jason and Wanda Hawthorn, Sandheimer, LA, tried for several years to organize Magnolia State K-9 Club. They did not fail — far from it.

But they could not get enough members to continue the club, so they decided to merge their tiny membership with the Cajun Country K-9 Club. They also made

a wonderful gift to EBA and donated \$2,000 of their treasury to the organization.

Sherry Young, Temperance, MI, has donated her great beauty creation talents to EBA by providing a supply of all natural lip balms. Board members will be selling the lip balms, which come in a special EBA logo tube, at several shows and other locations. Scents are Honey Berry, Vanilla, Chocolate Mint and Bubblegum.

What a wonderful way to help the organization she and her husband, Kelly,

have supported for many, many years.

EBA thanks and salutes these individuals for their devotion to the breed.

In the November 2009 issue of the Banter, EBA reported on a new program for individuals to make monthly pledges to help support our efforts.

Several board members made pledges and one former board member, Harry George of Cardington, OH, pledged a monthly gift. George has not missed a month of his pledge and makes it a priority in his life. To him, EBA sends its heartfelt gratitude.

Memberships expire Dec. 31 unless multi-years are paid.



BULLDOG BANTER

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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.

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

ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY

Endangered Breeds Association

www.endangeredbreedsassociation.org

American Kennel Club

www.akc.org
www.animallaw.com

www.responsiblepetowners.org

American Dog Breeders Association

www.adba.cc

National Animal Interest Alliance

www.naiaonline.org

WE WANT TO MEET YOUR PET!

E-mail your photograph to featuresboss@yahoo.com. Include your name, your pet's name and the town where you live. NO SALES.

CORRECTION

Ciara Loren Keating and Madison Keating-Filipsky were incorrectly identified as Ciara and Madison Keating of Sylvania, OH in a recent pet photo.

Denver (and taxpayers) lose due to breed ban

From a Denver newspaper

The city of Denver — and its taxpayers — continue to be victims of the city's breed ban that they so stubbornly hold onto.

Last year, Desiree Arnold (among others) filed a legal suit against the city of Denver for a variety of both written and executional violations associated with Denver's law banning "pit bulls." Among the legal violations that are mentioned:

1) The policy and practice of coercing the signing of waivers that violate due process rights. Like many cities with BSL, Denver coerces dog owners to sign a waiver that does help the owner save the life of the dog, but in the process, forces them to admit that the dog is one of the breeds included in the city ban, which violates due process rights.

2) Slowly scheduling hearings which causes dogs to be removed from homes for longer-than-necessary periods of time.

3) Lack of clarity on how evaluators determine the breed of dog — which forces dog owners to guess at the evidentiary basis for the city's determination and deprives them of a meaningful opportunity to be heard.

Arnold's dog, Coco, was killed by the city during this process.

Word now is that the city of Denver has settled with Ms. Arnold in what is in the multiple thousands of dollars. In addition to the settlement, the city of Denver has also agreed to make some procedural changes to the enforcement of the ordinance that will begin this spring.

But that's not the only way the city of Denver stays losing.

Because the Denver city attorney's office is short staffed, it has been confirmed through Colorado Open Records Act Requests that the city has now hired an

outside law firm to handle the case of *Dias vs Denver*. The *Dias* case was revived last May after a judge overturned a dismissal of the case back in March of 2008. In just the months of December and January, the city-hired law firm has racked up over \$15,000 in fees (all at taxpayer expense) to get up to speed on the *Dias* case.

There also may be one, or more, other lawsuits that are pending.

Of course, it's hard to miss the irony of this when Cory Nelson, Denver's now overworked city attorney, has been caught sending letters supporting breed bans to cities around the country on city letterhead stating, among other things, that concerns about litigation are mostly unfounded — in spite of the number of suits his city is currently dealing with at a time when the city is facing a \$160 million budget shortfall.

All of this to support an ordinance that even those who support it admit they have never done an audit to see if it is actually working to improve public safety. On top of extreme costs the city is facing due to litigation, the difficulty of breed identification continues to haunt the city, just like it has in all others who deal with the issue.

And this folks, is a reason why cities like Jackson, MS and Elgin, IL are deciding AGAINST breed-based policies and instead focusing on behavior-based ordinances that focus precious animal control resources only on problem dogs, and not any others, and avoids all of the problems that breed-specific policies create.

And for you folks in Florida, where SB 1276 would overturn the statewide law that prohibits laws just like the one in Denver, vote that law down. BSL is a huge waste of taxpayer resources and dollars, and citizens need to be protected from corrupt governments and wasteful laws like this.



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Presidency

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\$194,229.21 on legislative actions fighting breed specific laws on the city, county and state levels," Carpenter said. "Our assets have grown from the original \$100, which I suspect came from Ralph's and Richard's pockets, to more than \$70,000 today."

EBA has spent funds fighting for pit bull owners and other breeds of dogs in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, Canada, Sweden and Puerto Rico.

EBA has made written and emailed contacts in all of those states as well as Alabama, Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, the Netherlands and Trinidad.

"I feel we have made great strides as now the majority of our appeals and work is centered around mandatory spay/neuter proposals and puppy mills," Carpenter said. "We still have our fair share of BSL to contend with, but many states have adopted laws which prohibit banning a breed; yet stiffen penalties for irresponsible dog owners. Some of these state laws are being challenged and we are ready for that fight as long as our funding holds out."

That is not to say EBA won't need contributions in the way of memberships and donations, because it will. "I'm proud to say that even a few of the bully breed clubs have started sending donations to us, because when we fight these laws, all 'bully breed types' generally are included," she said.

And in the case of Texas the past few years, the many bills proposed in that state resulted in donations to EBA from many people who do not own pit bulls and from many dog clubs representing other breeds.

During Carpenter's term, EBA started the 100 percent club program. That is where clubs that have 100 percent of their membership signed up as members of EBA have a chance to win a free trip for a club member to the annual ADBA convention.

But, sadly, only four ADBA clubs have participated and one bully breed club has 100 percent of its members signed up with EBA. And those who join EBA through their club in a 100 percent program still can join for \$10 singles and \$15 families.

"We've had many cases won which I would consider big - and we've lost some too. But we've made more people aware that breed does not determine aggressiveness in a dog," she said.

"I guess the law in Oklahoma is one of our good ones," Carpenter added. "It has withstood two opinions by the state attorney general and three hearings in the state court of appeals. All rulings have been in favor of the law which prohibits cities and towns from writing breed specific ordinances. That law also carries stiff penalties for irresponsible dog owners."

"Through the years we've had excellent board members from all over the country. All have served with no compensation, only a 'thank you.' Board members spend countless hours answering phone calls, attending city, county and state legislative meetings and hearings, and answering tons of emails. They often put their families and daily routines in the background because they believe in what must be done."

She also points to EBA's website, which provides important information for the general public.

(Editor's Note: In the next issue, President Kim Krohn will discuss her plans for EBA's future).



Around the nation: *Legislation that affects you*

Thirty-three legislatures and the District of Columbia are currently in session. Nearly 700 bills that carried over from 2009, plus almost 250 new pieces of legislation already introduced in 2010 are being tracked by various groups. AKC's 2010 Legislation Tracking page is updated daily.

Information provided by EBA, ADBA, NAIA, AKC and other groups and individuals. You should contact your representatives and check your state's legislative website for updates and more information.

Alabama – Senate Bill 18 seeks to establish a statewide mandatory spay/neuter law for the state. A similar bill introduced in 2009 did not receive a hearing. SB 18 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

Arizona – House Bill 2375 seeks to ban the ownership, sale, and transportation of “dangerous wildlife” As introduced, HB 2375 would have defined all carnivores as “dangerous wildlife” with no exceptions, thereby banning Arizonians from owning and selling dogs in the state. The bill has been amended to clarify that domestic animals are exempted. Further amendments are also expected HB 2375 has passed the House Natural Resources & Rural Affairs Committee, but is not expected to advance further this session.

Connecticut – Senate Bill 274 would prohibit the tethering of dogs and require all dog enclosures to be at least 100 square feet, regardless of the breed or size of the dog. A hearing has been held by the Joint Committee on the Environment.

Florida – House Bill 543/Senate Bill 1276 would eliminate the state's existing prohibition of local breed-specific dangerous dog laws. S.1276 passed the Senate Community Affairs Committee with an amendment on March 4, 2010, but has also been assigned to the Senate Agriculture, Transportation, and Economic Development Appropriations Committees.

Senate Bill 122 seeks to require “pet dealers” (selling 20 or more dogs per year) to provide a written disclosure about the animals' health.

Indiana – Senate Bill 5 seeks to add baiting and animal fighting contests to the list of offenses qualifying as racketeering. “Baiting” is defined as provoking or harassing an animal with another animal. Letters have been sent to the sponsor requesting an amendment that clarifies recognized, sanctioned performance events (such as earthdog); lawful hunting; and training for law enforcement purposes are permitted. The bill has been assigned to the Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal, and Civil Matters.

Iowa – House File 2280 expands requirements for commercial breeders. Under existing law, Iowa defines commercial breeders as those who possess four or more intact male or female dogs. The new law also allows care and conditions standards for all commercial establishments to be set by rule. HF 2280 has been signed by the Governor.

Maryland – The Maryland Dog Federation has presented Baltimore Delegate Cheryl Glenn with an amendment to House Bill 1314. Should the amendment be accepted, the bill, which seeks to strengthen the dangerous dog law, would also provide that: “Nothing...shall...prevent a municipality from adopting or enforcing its own more stringent program for the control of dangerous dogs provided, however, that no such program shall ban, regulate or address dogs in a manner which is specific as to breed.”

The Maryland Dog Federation reports that Delegate Glenn has agreed to submit the amendment for consideration. The amendment must be approved by the House Judiciary Committee for it to be officially included in the bill.

If amended, HB 1314 will prohibit further breed bans in Maryland. Prince George's County has had a breed-specific ownership ban in place since 1996; as a result, many innocent family pets have been needlessly euthanized. If enacted, an amended House Bill 1314 would cure that problem.

Massachusetts – House Bill 344 would make debarking illegal. This bill passed the House of Representatives and an amended version passed the Senate. The bill now

returns to the House for a conference committee.

Minnesota – After amending Senate File 7, the Minnesota Senate Agricultural and Veterans Committee voted down the measure. It sought to regulate the activities of dog owners/breeders who possess six or more adult intact female dogs. This action effectively prohibits further consideration of SF 7 by the Minnesota Senate.

The companion bill to SF 7, House File 253, is still under consideration by the House Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee. It remains unclear whether any committee member plans to take action on that bill.

Missouri – House Joint Resolution 86 would place an amendment to Missouri's constitution on the November 2010 ballot. If the ballot measure is approved by the voters, it will protect the rights of Missouri residents to raise animals in a humane manner that protects animal health without allowing the state to impose undue economic burdens on owners. This resolution passed the Missouri House of Representatives on March 4. The resolution will next be considered by the Senate.

A statutory initiative relating to dog breeding may be placed on the 2010 mid-term election ballot. Supporters of the initiative, which duplicates previous unsuccessful legislative efforts, are currently collecting the required number of signatures to ensure the initiative is placed on the November ballot. The initiative contains a 50-dog ownership limit. Missouri Federation of Animal Owners is working in opposition to this initiative effort.

New Hampshire – House Bill 1624 seeks to impose many unreasonable and unnecessary restrictions on responsible dog breeders and owners, including implementing ownership limits, requiring certain breeders to adhere to certain care and conditions standards, and limiting the practices of debarking and tail docking.

Ohio – As introduced, Senate Bill 95 and House Bill 124 seek to regulate dog breeding in Ohio and contain numerous provisions of

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Consumer group: HSUS must return \$ after misleading Haiti fundraising

Released by the Center of Consumer Freedom 1/28/10

Washington, DC — The Center for Consumer Freedom (CCF) is calling on the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) to return all the funds it has raised under the pretense of “saving” animals in the wake of Haiti’s devastating earthquake. A disaster relief expert working with Humane Society International (HSUS’s global arm) reports that there are no animal issues resulting from the earthquake and that no actions can be taken to help animals there. This follows a thorough assessment of the situation in Haiti.

HSUS continues to raise funds for “emergency” donations, claiming recently that “Humane Society International’s team on the ground in Haiti continues its work of helping animals in distress.”

David Martosko, director of

research at the Center for Consumer Freedom released the following statement on HSUS’s deceptive fundraising:

Raising money to help nonexistent animals is the lowest kind of fundraising scam. Sadly, it’s just the latest in a string of phony HSUS fundraising schemes.

In 2007 HSUS raised money with the false promise that it would be used to “care for the dogs seized in the Michael Vick case.” The New York Times later reported that HSUS was not caring for the animals at all, and HSUS president Wayne Pacelle said his group is recommending that government officials “put down” (kill) all the dogs, many of which were later saved by other organizations.

HSUS also raised a reported \$34 million in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, funds that were supposed to help reunite lost pets with their own-

YELLOW TAIL WINE GIVES \$100,000 TO HSUS

From BEEFmagazine.com’s Daily Blog 2/4/10

Sip no more, my friends. Yellow Tail Wine recently donated \$100,000 to the Humane Society of the U.S.

Whether or not you have tried their wine selections before, this company is teaming up with HSUS in a “Tail for Tails” campaign, and there is a group of folks already taking action through online resources.

Here are other companies and individuals who allegedly support HSUS: North Face; Sonic; Chipotle; Jack in the Box; Carrie Underwood; Kellie Pickler; Brad Pitt.

ers. But an investigation by WSB-TV in Atlanta found that less than \$7 million of this money could be publicly accounted for.

In the name of transparency, HSUS should cease its Haiti fundraising immediately, or redirect 100 percent of the proceeds to American Red Cross.

Legislation

Continued from Page 4

concern. The bills have received hearings, but no votes at this time. A substitute bill for Senate Bill 95 was recently introduced which addressed many of the concerns, but still contains some problematic provisions.

Oklahoma – Senate Bill 1340, entitled the “Kennel Definitions Act”, defines a “commercial breeder” as one who harbors 25 intact females. The bill would require show and hobby breeders to adhere to the same care and conditions requirements as commercial breeders. The bill has passed the Senate Tourism and Wildlife Committee, as well as the House Economic Development and Financial Services Committee, and has been amended.

A similar bill, SB 1712, entitled the “Commercial Pet Breeders Act,” also has passed the Senate and the House Economic committee.

Senate Bill 2186 would create the

“Companion Pet Protection Act.” It would classify anyone who harbors more than 25 intact female dogs as a commercial breeder and require them to be USDA certified and follow federal care and conditions guidelines. It would also require “hobby” and “show” breeders to register with the state. The bill has been assigned to the Senate Appropriations’ Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Regulatory Services.

Pennsylvania – Senate Bill 50 seeks to expand Pennsylvania’s Unfair Trade Law. It would give a new dog owner 14 days (instead of 10) to determine if the dog is clinically ill or has died from a contagious disease. The bill also increases the amount of time (from 30 to 90 days) a veterinarian may have to determine whether a dog died from a congenital or hereditary defect. The bill has been assigned to the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee.

West Virginia – House Bill 4333 seeks to

regulate commercial breeders, which it defines as any person who maintains 20 or more unsterilized dogs over one year of age and breeds those animals for sale. Commercial breeders must obtain a valid business license and an annual commercial breeder license. They must also comply with a number of requirements, including owning no more than 50 intact dogs at any time and limiting breeding of female dogs to between 18 months and 8 years of age. The bill would give commercial breeders five days notice prior to an inspection. This bill has been assigned to the House Agriculture and Judiciary Committees.

Wisconsin – Assembly Bill 793 seeks to amend state statutes regarding the seizure and subsequent care of animals whose owners are suspected of mistreatment or dog fighting. Among other provisions, an animal may be considered “unclaimed” if the owner fails to pay an amount mandated by the court for care of the animals within 5 days.



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 officials or agen-

cies. We oppose animal abuse or any illegal activities with animals. Membership is \$15-single and \$20-family per year or \$300-lifetime with members receiving three 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!)

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Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

By providing your e-mail address, you agree to receive your newsletter via e-mail.

Membership type: New _____ Renew _____ Single _____ Family _____ Lifetime _____

Information packet included

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Joan Morrison, Route 1, Box 71, Gore, OK 74435

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