

THE ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION

Bulldog Banter

NUMBER 89 • SEPTEMBER 2010

Board nominations due

Nominations for board members to Endangered Breeds Association are due by October 15.

Those nominated must be a member in good standing of EBA for a period of at least two years prior to the nomination.

Voting will be in November and those nominated will be announced in an October issue of the

Banter. Election results will be posted on EBA's website and announced at the 2011 American Dog Breeders Association convention.

To make a nomination, send the individual's name via e-mail to EBA President Kim Krohn at krohndog@swbell.net

A fond farewell

Linda Emmert, EBA board member from Missouri, recently said goodbye to her best friend, "Sneakers."

For the past several years, Emmert and Sneakers won countless awards in agility and obedience trials throughout the United States. Emmert also was named trainer of the year during this time.

But as we all know, our dogs are not "just dogs." And, Emmert says it best.

"Yesterday, I had to let my best friend go. I will miss her and I think others will as well. She was 15 years old, and I am the luckiest person in the world to have had her in my life. I would like to celebrate the life she had and remember those things that made her so nice to be around."

She is the dog ...

Who made friends of everyone she met, and could show them exactly where to scratch;

Had a steady temperament, loved puppies and had skills in canine communication enabling us to help dogs with issues of fear or aggression and not be intimidated or be intimidating;

Who finished the agility course for us when I forgot what was next;

Loved kids at the library reading to her. One youngster got his face well washed while laughing at a funny story...I have a news clipping of that one!

Who loved to snuggle with patients at therapy visits, one didn't want her to leave;

Who kept me warm at night. She also had a knack for knowing in the middle of the night, if the doorbell ring was important



or not. On occasion I had to climb out over her because she knew who it was and was not concerned in the least.

Who preferred the lap of anyone sitting in the recliner to the LL Bean dog bed — as a couple of surprised guests discovered;

Who always offered her sympathy and love when I was sad or upset and was generous with others as well;

Who worked with joy and enthusiasm when I got it right. In her last utility run she took the jumps with a lot of air between her and the bar and a look on her face that made me feel as though I was about to get slammed!

Who delighted in eating Bil Jac straight from the bag after every agility run and every utility class;

Who knew when my back was turned when I was teaching a class and used the opportunity to visit;

Who was a great ambassador for American Pit Bull Terriers and American Staffordshire Terriers.

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

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CORRECTION

Ciara Loren McHenry Keating was incorrectly identified in a recent pet photo.



EBA board member Lucretia Ashcraft and EBA member Liz Stevens manned this information booth at the recent AKC Reliant Dog Show in Houston, Texas.

EBA provides info in Texas

Reliant Series of Dog Shows, an annual American Kennel Club event in Houston, Texas, was again a success for Endangered Breeds Association.

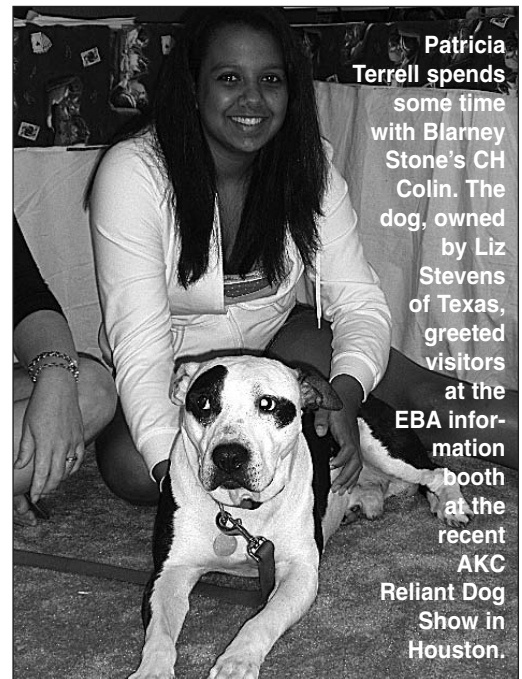
Board member Lucretia Ashcraft and EBA member Liz Stevens set up their spacious, informative booth in the middle of the vendor area.

"We had a very visible corner spot," Stevens said. "A lot of people came by and we also were able to raise some funds for EBA."

The booth includes large, informative posters and information visitors can take with them. This is the third year EBA has manned a booth at the show and interest has grown steadily.

The combined efforts of Ashcraft, Stevens (with Spokesdog "Colin"), Leigh Anna Terrell, Patricia Terrell, and Elisabeth Miller helped educate the public about Breed Specific Legislation and raised \$204 in donations.

"Every year we go to this show, the more people know who we are, what we do, and what BSL is," Stevens said. "It always amazes us the number of people who have never heard of BSL and can't believe dogs can be discriminated against based on breed. We really open a lot of people's eyes. We also encounter less negative opinions about what we do every year. We are teaching people about the more reasonable alternatives to BSL and they are finally listening."



Patricia Terrell spends some time with Blarney Stone's CH Colin. The dog, owned by Liz Stevens of Texas, greeted visitors at the EBA information booth at the recent AKC Reliant Dog Show in Houston.

More members are encouraged to participate in local shows to help get the word out about issues facing dogs. There are multi-breed shows nationwide that offer booth rentals.

"We need to join forces with other anti-BSL groups and other breed groups in order to reach more people and spread our message wider," Stevens said. "We have met and befriended so many people at the Houston show and we realize we aren't in this alone."



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Research before bringing Bingo home

From Jessica Alaimo
Princeton First Dogs Examiner

Here is a list of 10 broad categories you must consider before getting a dog. The key to bringing any new pet home is research, research, research!

Rental restrictions: If you rent, does your landlord allow pets? If so, are there any restrictions on weight or breeds? If you are part of a homeowner's or condo association, do they have guidelines?

Personal skirmishes: I'm watching my dog eat a bug right now, and she's really proud of herself for catching it. I'm not kidding. Owning a dog involves cleaning up poop in your yard and on walks. Dogs vomit sometimes, and occasionally pee inside the house. Similarly, your yard will likely not be the prettiest on the block. Dogs eat things most humans would find disgusting. Can you handle it? I know this sounds petty, but many dogs get returned for these very reasons.

Vacations: If you are someone who regularly takes trips, is there someone you can trust to care for your pet? This is something you will want to find out well before your next vacation.

Your activity level: Do you work 10 hours a day and then simply crash at the end of the day? Or do you start each day with a jog and enjoy long, leisurely strolls in the afternoon. Do you live alone, or do you have kids that contribute to exercising the dog? Before getting a dog, you should research what the breed's activity level is. Restless dogs turn into destructive dogs.

Family and friends: Are any of your family or friends allergic to dogs, thus making it a problem when they come to visit? An allergy may not necessarily bar you from getting a dog. Some breeds, such as poodles or greyhounds, tend to be more friendly toward those with allergies.

Laws and ordinances: Many states and

towns have various regulations for pets. Most have leash laws, some have noise restrictions. Some may even have laws about breeds deemed dangerous. If you are in the market for a pitbull or rottweiler, you may also want to check your home insurance policy just in case there are surcharges or restrictions.

Who else lives in your house: How will your kids or other pets get along with the new dog? Not all dogs, especially the larger breeds, are cat friendly. Some dogs tolerate children teasing them better than others. Be sure to research which breeds are appropriate for your specific situation.

Space: How much space do you have? Do you live in an apartment without a yard, or on a farm with plenty of room to run? Many breed experts will be upfront as to how much space a dog needs to live comfortably, so, again, do your research!

Money: A dog needs to be fed, it needs toys and a warm place to sleep. Expect to spend about \$200 a year on heartworm and flea treatment. This cost varies, depending on the size of the dog, and is double if you live in a warm climate where the dog needs treatment year-round. There are also vet costs, which are entirely unpredictable. Some breeds require grooming, and some towns require dogs to be licensed. If you get a puppy, brace yourself to replace rugs or furniture during the training process. The cost of owning a dog can vary depending on the breed, the dog's background, and where you live.

Your future: A dog can be anywhere from a five- to a 15-year commitment. You may live in a pet-friendly situation now, but will that change in five years? If you are not sure about if you can own a dog for the long-haul, there are still options out there. You could foster a dog for a rescue group, train a dog for a service organization, or adopt a senior hound.

Lone Star Club helps EBA

Lone Star State Pit Bull Club held its annual show in June and raised more than \$200 to help fight legislation in the 2010-2011 Texas Legislative Session.

Mari Burton of Georgia Dog Owners Association passed the hat among the owners and visitors at the show; and the club spon-

sored an auction. The two events raised \$352.90 for the Texas Fund, administered by EBA.

"Our club would certainly like to thank Mari for passing the hat for us," said EBA board member Laura Dapkus. "The auction crowd also was great."



Around the nation: *Legislation that affects you*

This is information from Endangered Breeds Association, American Dog Breeders Association, and American Kennel Club. You should check with your local or state representatives on any proposed legislation that may affect you. Many states' legislative sessions are over for the year, but city and county ordinances are proposed and heard throughout the year.

CALIFORNIA

San Bernadino County has enacted breed specific legislation and mandatory spay/neuter for the unincorporated areas. The City of Yucaipa also has the same proposal for Riverside County.

Contra Costa officials are working on an ordinance that would require pit bulls to be spayed or neutered.

IOWA

Des Moines City Council has approved a change to the city's vicious dog ordinance. Under the original ordinance, a vicious dog found running loose or unlicensed more than one time would be euthanized. The change spares unleashed or unlicensed dogs deemed vicious based strictly on their breed. These dogs now can be adopted. Vicious breeds defined by city code are American Pit Bull Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, and Staffordshire Bull Terriers.

MASSACHUSETTS

Lynn is considering pit bull restrictions (muzzling). Lynn has a population of 89,000 per the 2000 census. There were a couple of incidents in Lynn on Memorial Day weekend that precipitated this action, both of which are either leash law violations or failure to control problems and belong in civil court. Lynn has no dangerous dog ordinance that EBA President Kim Krohn could find.

MISSOURI

A statutory initiative relating to dog breeding may be placed on the November 2010

mid-term election ballot. Supporters of the initiative, which duplicates previous unsuccessful legislative efforts, claim to have collected the required number of signatures to put the initiative on the November ballot. The initiative contains a 50-dog ownership limit. A lawsuit has been filed by the Missouri Federation.

NEW YORK

Assembly Bill 5507, known as "Charlemagne's Law," would amend the state's existing definition of "pet dealer" to include those who sell or offer to sell more than five (reduced from nine) dogs or cats per year at wholesale or retail. It also would reduce the current breeder-retailer exception from fewer than 25 dogs or cats per year to 10 dogs or cats per year and impose new restrictions on "pet dealers." In addition, the bill creates a definition of "commercial kennel," defines extensive care and conditions requirements for these kennels, and requires annual inspections. The bill has been held in the Assembly Agriculture Committee.

NORTH CAROLINA

Senate Bill 460, carried over from 2009, sought to regulate "commercial breeders," which are defined as anyone who owns 15 or more intact female dogs "of breeding age" and 30 or more puppies. It was unclear if this was the number on the property at one time, or if it was a cumulative number over a lifetime. The North Carolina Federation of Dog Clubs and a number of other coalition partners opposed the bill which died in the House of Representatives.

OHIO

The Ohio General Assembly has recessed for the summer and will likely reconvene in September to consider the following legislation.

House Bill 55 — Revises penalties and clarifies Ohio's animal cruelty provisions; it was amended on the House floor to remove

breed-specific language (specifically, the term "pit bull") from the state's vicious dog definition. The amendment was added after House Bill 79, which sought to remove the breed-specific language, was stalled in a House committee. The bill now goes to the State Senate.

Senate Bill 95 — Seeks to regulate "high volume" dog breeding in Ohio, and was passed by the Senate State & Local Government & Veterans Affairs Committee. It defines "high volume dog breeder" as one who produces at least nine litters and sells at least 60 puppies and/or adult dogs per year.

PENNSYLVANIA

Senate Bill 1417 transfers all duties prescribed in the state's "Dog Law" (including individual dog and kennel licensing, penalties, etc.) from the state Department of Agriculture to the Department of Health. The bill has been assigned to the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee.

RHODE ISLAND

Senate Bill 2022 sought to outlaw keeping any dog outside, tethered, penned, caged, fenced or otherwise confined for more than one hour without access to an "outdoor housing facility" unless the person in charge of the dog was also outside with it. The measure also used "guardianship" language, which could undermine owners' legal rights to their animals, and authorizes local humane society personnel to act as enforcement officers without requiring standard legal and procedural training. The bill passed the Senate, but was held in the House Judiciary Committee. The Legislature has concluded its business for the year.

TENNESSEE

Memphis City Council Services & Neighborhood Committee will consider four ordinances amending the city's animal con-

Continued on Page 5



NRA weighs in on Stevens case

From NRA and EBA reports

On April 20, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a federal animal cruelty law so broadly written that it would criminalize the distribution of many hunting videos and magazines.

While the National Rifle Association's interest was the hunting aspect, they joined forces financially with several other groups, including Endangered Breeds Association, to help get the favorable decision by the Supreme Court.

The law in question came from the United States v. (Bob) Stevens case

which prohibited interstate commerce in photographs, videos or other depictions of the intentional killing of animals, if the conduct depicted was against the law in the state where the items were possessed.

Like EBA, the NRA filed a "friend of the court" brief in the case. EBA Board Member Judith Brecka, an attorney in California, filed the brief for EBA and attended the hearing.

"It was amazing to me that eight justices who normally do not agree on much of anything could all sign off on the opinion," Brecka said. "It appeared to me

that the Court wanted to make it quite clear to Congress that any other such law had better be very, very narrow in scope."

Anti-hunting extremist organizations such as The Humane Society of the United States were the primary advocates for the deliberately overreaching language in Congress and its main defenders in court.

Fortunately, the Supreme Court chose the First Amendment over HSUS's radical agenda.

It's doubtful HSUS will give up so easily. We all should be reading bills carefully for far-reaching implications.

Legislation

Continued from Page 4

trol laws. The proposal will require mandatory spay/neuter of all dogs larger than 29 pounds; define any dog that has "bitten once and been at-large twice" as a dangerous dog; increase fees for owners of intact dogs; and limit tethering.

TEXAS

El Paso City Council will consider changes to the animal control code including differential license fees, breeder licensing and inspections, and a ban on sales of cats and dogs in pet stores. The changes proposed include: higher fees for intact dogs; spay/neuter of a dog on its second impoundment; and provisions for "competition" (show) dogs.

Key Provisions of the Ordinance:

- Establishes a differential license fee so owners of intact dogs will pay a higher fee.
- Allows fees to be set as part of the budget process instead of codified in law.
- This allows city officials to avoid taking a vote on the amount of the fees when they vote on the ordinance, and instead allows them to vote on all city fees at once. This makes elected officials less accountable and diminishes the input of constituents.
- Requires a dog be spayed/neutered on the second impoundment.

- These violations may occur years apart and not be indicative of an irresponsible dog owner.

- Defines "competition dog" as "a dog that has been registered with a local, state or international club or organization that has been recognized by the director as a club or organization that maintains standards for breeds and/or health of dogs...or registered with a club or organization that holds or sponsors...competition dog shows, field trials or agility trials involving 50 or more animals at least once a year."

- Allows the director of the department of public health to decide whether competition dogs or cats will pay the discounted registration fee.

- It is critical that fanciers and purebred dog owners understand that according to the ordinance the director MAY charge competition dogs the discounted fee — but it does not require it. If the intention is for all purebred dogs to be charged the discounted fee, then the ordinance needs to read "SHALL" instead of "MAY."

- Adds additional requirements for litter permits.

- Requires that a breeder only breed "competition dogs or cats" and register the litter with the club or organization prior to offering the animals for sale.

- The city adopted a requirement for litter permits in 2006 (AKC was not aware of this change at that time) and the fee was set at \$75. These amendments will remove the fee and it will instead be set annually as part of the budget process.

- Requires breeder's permit and/or breeder's license.

- However, there is no definition for either of these terms and it is unclear what the requirements would be to obtain this permit.

- Authorizes the director to make all inspections necessary for the issuance of permits, but does not specify standards for inspections or inspectors.

- Prohibits pet stores from selling dogs or cats after Sept. 1, 2010, except for those already in the store's possession on that date.

- Creates a new section of law (Section 6) entitled "Animal Shows, Sales and Breeding" — however there is no language in this section so it is unclear what purpose it serves.

It should be noted that there are a variety of omissions and errors throughout this draft — from missing definitions to inconsistent terminology. Although these may seem like small problems, if this ordinance is enacted as drafted it could be detrimental for responsible owners and breeders when the ambiguities are used against them.



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!)

Name (s) _____ Occupation _____
 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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