

April 2023

# BARKS FROM



## **PRESIDENT'S NOTES:**

Happy April.....glad to see some 'hints' of spring coming our way. As I sit here and reflect, I want to encourage all members to break out of your winter blues and shake off the doldrums and come on out and get active for the club! We have lots of club events on the horizon with the All About Dogs Day June 24 and our Sept. Point Show Sept 17 and we need a big celebration for our Dec. Show (Dec 6<sup>th</sup>) which is somebody's birthday (hint...it's me...lol).

At our most recent meeting, I encouraged everyone to come to the next meeting with at least 1 suggestion for a program at our meetings along with contact information for those suggestions so we can beef up our knowledge and enjoy a good chat! Please do your part to help us make the meetings full of content!

I want to also encourage volunteerism for meetings. We are not getting a lot of volunteers to bring snacks for the meeting these days. Please, let's share the load, its simple, doesn't have to be anything fancy and it shouldn't be the same people always volunteering to contribute. Please help!

We've had quite a few members 'miss' their renewals, if you have not renewed your membership, please take care of this a.s.a.p. so we don't lose you!

Donation forms have been sent out and are available at meetings for the Sept. Point Show Trophies, please help as you can. Trophies have been consistently the same price for many years and we encourage and appreciate all you're helping to make our show a big success.

Look forward to seeing you all soon!

Cheryl

The next meeting of the Berks County Kennel Club will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 7:30pm at the Muhlenberg Recreation Center. Please plan to attend.

### From the Editor

Please submit items for Barks, including brags, to [ClancyPBGV@gmail.com](mailto:ClancyPBGV@gmail.com) by June 10. I'm happy to include photos as space permits if they are submitted in JPG format. All submissions must be electronic and formatted to allow for copying and pasting.

-Submitted by Megan Esherick

### *Calendar of Events:*

4/19 7 pm therapy dogs at Berks Heim  
5/3 General Meeting  
6/7 General Meeting  
6/10 Barks Deadline

Sealed the deal the KC will be doing pet therapy at Berks Heim the 3rd Wednesday of even months starting April 19th at 7 pm. Dogs rabies vaccines required. Human vaccines not required. Masks required available at desk in lobby  
Hope to see you there.

-Submitted by Linda Madeira

Breeder Referral -- Beagle puppy request.

TU for Beagle puppy request -- on a waiting list

TV Program -- April -- Biewer Terriers

May - BCDTC program

Sunshine -- Donation sent to Friedens Lutheran Church in memory of Sally Birgl

All About Dogs Day -- Invitations sent to last year's participants. Currently 1 vendor, 6 members, BCDTC, PA Federation & PA Animal Response Team have responded affirmatively.

Demonstrations -- Joe Lescisko with long & short distance retrieves, BCDTC with obedience demo. Possibility of K9 demo if approved & carting demo. Will be sending a reminder to everyone mid April.

- Submitted by Pat Mock

Scholarship: We are accepting applications until 4/21/23 after which we will pick our winning recipients.

Awards Banquet - We are always open to new suggestions. Please feel free to offer new venues.

-Submitted by Barbara McLaughlin

# Member Brags and Bitches

From Cheryl Burns:

We are over the moon that our dog: GCH KALAN'S HIGH OCTANE POWER, TKN, CGC. had a fabulous weekend in Virginia, bringing how 2 back to back Working Group 1's!! This makes it his 3rd Group 1 in regular groups and he just turned 2. A breeders dream come true with high hopes for his future!

From Megan Esherick:

At the PBGVCA National Specialty CH MACH6 Clancy's Pumpkin Spice Ale VCD1 BN RAE MXS2 PADS MJG2 PJDS MFS T2B4 SWA SBE SCE SHDE RATN BCAT PCMH CGCA THDN TKP was Agility High in Trial at both the regional and national specialties and was Best In Veteran Sweepstakes at the regional. Spice finished her MACH6 title on April 8.

CH MACH Clancy's Curse of the Were-Rabbit VCD1 BN RAE MXG MJC MXP4 MXPB MJP4 MJPB OF T2B BCAT SWA SCE SIE SHDA PCMH CGCA TKP (Gromit) was Best Veteran and got an Award of Merit at the regional specialty and was Best of Opposite Sex in Veteran Sweepstakes at both shows.

CH Clancy's Down the Rabbit Hole BN RA AX AXJ XF T2B SWM SHDM FCAT RATN PCSH CGCU TKA (Alice) finished her Scent Work Master title at the specialty.

Here's how to find the All About Dogs monthly TV programs

Google -- [BCTV.org](http://BCTV.org)

Hit "Program Schedule"

Then hit "Open Menu" at top left of page

Then hit "Programs" at bottom left of page

Follow Alphabetical List to All About Dogs

- Submitted by Pat Mock

Dear Club Officers, Legislative Liaisons, and Delegates,

Please share this message with your club members.

We are reaching out to you because your representative in the U.S. Congress sponsored the Puppy Protection Act last year. This bill to restrict dog breeding has been re-introduced in Congress again this year. **Your action is urgently needed to contact your member of Congress and respectfully ask them to not sponsor or support the Puppy Protection Act again.**

**Many lawmakers signed on to this animal-rights-supported bill (H.R. 1624) without realizing that its one-size-fits-all requirements are harmful to best practices, and disproportionately impact small hobby breeders. Contacting your Member of Congress now can help protect the rights of responsible dog breeders and the future of purpose-bred dogs.**

Scroll down for information on how to contact your lawmakers.

Background: The Puppy Protection Act has been introduced in each of the last two Congresses. Last year, animal rights groups obtained more than 200 sponsors on the bill, vastly over-representing support for the bill and increasing likelihood of passage this year. Your voice is especially important because your Congressman sponsored the bill last year, and has likely been asked by animal rights groups to support it again this year.

*Scroll down for talking points and more information on how to contact your lawmakers.*

### **Puppy Protection Act Government Mandates Include:**

#### Prohibiting the breeding of a female dog:

- Unless pre-screened by a veterinarian
- Based arbitrarily on the age and size of the dog.
- If it would produce more than two litters in an 18-month period.

#### Additional arbitrary requirements include but are not limited to:

- Mandated unfettered access from dogs' primary enclosures to an outdoor exercise area large enough that it "allows dogs to extend to full stride". This would create a potentially dangerous environment for multiple dogs.
- Mandated annual dental exams.
- Mandated indoor space sufficient to allow the tallest dog in an enclosure to stand on his or her hind legs without touching the roof of the enclosure. For family dogs that live in their owner's homes, the primary enclosure may be considered the dog's sleeping crate.
- Mandated pre-breeding screenings. No specific details are provided for what the screening would involve or who would make these decisions.
- Prohibition on the keeping of dogs in enclosures above 85 degrees or below 45 degrees F, regardless of breed or acclimation needs for dogs that hunt, sled, detect explosives, or do other work and thrive in cooler temperatures, or that must be acclimated to cooler or warmer temperatures for their safety.
- Completely solid flooring, despite scientific recognition that multiple types of high-quality flooring, including engineered slatted flooring, is beneficial in certain types of kennels and with certain breeds.

### **Why This is a Problem**

While some portions of the measures include reasonable *generalized* guidelines for canine care, ***arbitrary requirements that ignore best practices for individual outcomes are not appropriate for***

**federal mandates.** One-size-fits-all requirements do not take into account the broad range of breeds and types of dogs, or best health and breeding practices. They also do not allow for creative approaches that permit expert breeders and owners to provide optimal care for their individual dogs and advance the art and science of responsible dog breeding. Arbitrary restrictions can be expensive and undermine small hobby breeding programs because of an overly-broad definition of “breeding female” that impacts who is subject to federal requirements.

To learn more, see and share [Breeder Expertise, Thoughtful Analysis Demonstrate Dangerous Flaws in ‘Feel Good’ Dog Law.](#)

### Who This Applies To

Anyone subject to USDA breeder/dealer licensing. Breeders are subject to USDA licensing if they maintain more than 4 “breeding females” (a term that is undefined but is generally considered to mean an intact female) and transfer even one of the offspring “sight unseen”. “Breeding females” include *any combination of cats, dogs, or other small pet mammals such as hamsters, guinea pigs, etc.* ([Learn more](#)).

### What You Can Do

Your member of Congress needs to hear from you. Please **call, email, or write to your member of Congress today.** (Visit AKC’s Legislative Action Center and type your address in the “Find Your Elected Officials” box to [find out who represents you and get their contact information.](#) )

Respectfully urge them to not sponsor or support the Puppy Protection Act again. Tell them:

1. H.R. 1624 is bad policy because it mandates arbitrary one-size-fits-all requirements for temperatures, kennel engineering standards, and breeding bans that are not appropriate for all types or breeds of dogs and could actually harm some dogs.
2. Explain you are a constituent. Respectfully share your experience and concerns as a dog owner/breeder/expert and based on the talking points above. Breeders: Relying on your experience, explain in practical terms how the new mandates could adversely impact your breeding program.
3. Ask them to not support advancing the bill out of committee or in the Farm Bill.
4. Ask them to instead support additional financial resources for USDA so they can appropriately enforce the requirements they already have.
5. If you can, let the AKC GR team ([doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org)) know you contacted your lawmakers and if you received any response.

For questions or more information, contact [doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org), visit [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org) or contact 919-816-3720.

Thank you for your action to protect the future of our breeds and the integrity of responsible, expert breeders.

To the Board of Directors of the Berks County Kennel Club:

An Audit Committee was formed to review the organization's records of the two shows that BCKC hosts per the bylaws of the Club and met on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 with a brief follow-up after all January statements had been received on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. This committee consisted of Kate Kurtz, Cheryl Burns and Christine Kitsch (chair). Al Staudt, Club Treasurer, was also available for input as well as Denise Hileman, Show Treasurer.

All transactions were found to be in order with appropriate documentation in the form of receipts and bank statements.

Recommendation: That the final profit statement for each show be disclosed at the next general membership meeting.

Respectfully,

Christine Kitsch, Chair  
Kate Kurtz  
Cheryl Burns

Cc: Al Staudt, Denise Hileman

## Berks County Kennel Club

Audit Report March 1, 2023

**2023 TROPHY PLEDGE FORM**

\$15 for Each group trophy. ENTIRE group (1-4) is \$60 (Get together with your friends)

Owner Handled BIS no less than \$40 High Combined in Obedience no less than \$40

Owner Handled Group 1 \$15, Rosettes for Breed \$5, Obedience & Rally placings \$5.

The club will cover BIS & HIT but we need your support to cover group trophies.

**FIRM DEADLINE – JUNE 1, 2023**

INDICATE BELOW WHICH GROUP OR PLACING YOU'D LIKE TO SPONSOR:

**GROUP NAME** – (hound,toys,etc) \_\_\_\_\_

**ENTIRE GROUP** \_\_\_\_\_ **OWNER HANDLED BIS** \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP 1 \_\_\_\_\_ GROUP 3 \_\_\_\_\_ **OWNER HANDLED GROUP 1** \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP 2 \_\_\_\_\_ GROUP 4 \_\_\_\_\_

**BREED ROSETTES**

**OBEDIENCE & RALLY ROSETTES**

BREED \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE NOV A OR B \_\_\_\_\_

BOB \_\_\_\_\_ OHBOB \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE OPEN A OR B \_\_\_\_\_

BOS \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE UTILITY A OR B \_\_\_\_\_

BOW \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE RALLY NOV A OR B \_\_\_\_\_

WD \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE RALLY ADV A OR B \_\_\_\_\_

WB \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> PLACE RALLY EXC A OR B \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup> in any of the above OB or rally classes \_\_\_\_\_

If you'd like to donate your own trophy please provide info \_\_\_\_\_

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How would you like your name listed in the catalog \_\_\_\_\_

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail form & payment to Michelle Oswald, 6 Foxwood Dr, Mohrsville, PA 19541**

**Payment must be received with pledge form to be included in the catalog.**

Questions?? Contact Michelle Oswald – phone/text 484-955-5559 - Email: [moswalt328@gmail.com](mailto:moswalt328@gmail.com)

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## **ALL ABOUT DOGS DAY IS COMING !!!**

Spring is just around the corner & the warm weather is on the way. Time to think about the **Berks County Kennel Club's All About Dogs Day** coming on **SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2023**.

It will again be held at the Liberty Fire Co Grounds, 846 Ruth Street, Sinking Spring, Pa from 10 AM – 3 PM.

The grounds have been reserved & the fire co will have the food ready at the concession stand for breakfast & lunch. Demonstrations will be held throughout the day & Scotty the DJ will be in attendance all day as well.

As you know this event is free; no charge for breeders, purebred rescues or vendors. Set up time is from 8 AM to 10 AM. If you wish to set up under a tree, come at 8 but if you have a popup tent, you won't have to worry about where the sun is at any given time.

If you know of someone who may be interested in attending or coming as a vendor, let them know about our wonderful event. If they have any questions, have them either call me or email – 610-670-2409 or [acherage@hughes.net](mailto:acherage@hughes.net).

This is our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary for this free educational event for the general public. It's an easy & enjoyable way for you to help the public understand your breed to determine if it's right for them & their lifestyle. No one can explain your breed better than you; a reputable breeder, in person, showcasing your beautiful dogs.

Of course, we'll be widely advertising this event on TV & in the newspapers & social media. Hopefully, the weather will again cooperate & we'll have a beautiful day.

But the day cannot be a success unless we have you in attendance. Please let me know if you'll be attending our event by May 14, an easy date to remember.

For those of you in attendance last year, there will be NO little league baseball.

Thanks from committee members – Pat Mock, chair; Barb McLaughlin & Al Staudt Jr, co-chairs.