



# THE YELP!

FBDCA Quarterly Publication

06/30/2017

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Monday, June 11, I had the opportunity to speak to the AKC Parent Club Committee which meets the day before the AKC Delegate's Meeting in Newark, New Jersey, and works on matters parent club related. I discussed FBDCA extreme frustration at some of the French Bulldogs photos - and text - used by the AKC for merchandising efforts such as the Meet the Breeds catalog and 2017 AKC French Bulldog calendar and more recently the photo of French Bulldog puppy with blue eyes that was featured on the AKC Marketplace. I stressed the importance of the AKC working with parent clubs who are happy to offer free advice for input on photos and text that AKC would like to use. There were delegates from other breeds at this committee meeting who had similar experiences and shared our concern. There are two AKC Directors that are liaisons to the Parent Club Committee who promised to take this concern/suggestion back to the AKC Board for discussion. Hope to get feedback on this when it happens.

Congratulations to Sharon Dykes and Becky Smith on the French Bull Dog Club of America Public Education Group on FaceBook . It now has close to 800 members all of whom are prescreened before approval and is proving a great way to share educational concerns about our breed on a variety of topics - some of interest to pet owners, some directed more to breeders and exhibitors, some of interest to everyone who loves French Bulldogs. The way Sharon has it organized by topic it is easy to scroll down through the posts on various topics and read the discussion from many people. There is always something to learn, if you are not already a member I suggest you sign up. You can do so by simply clicking here .

Lots of discussion about the canine flu. Hope everyone who is bringing dogs to the National will get them vaccinated in preparation so there will be no

concerns about a dog getting sick.

Have a great summer!

Virginia Rowland, President



## What's Happening

### *FBDCA Champion of Health Award*



*The annual CHIC/Parent Club Champion of Health Award is intended to recognize any French bulldog that has had significant accomplishments in the ring, in the field, in companion/performance events, as a producer, or as a working dog, AND has the full complement of health testing appropriate for its breed. The dog need not be owned or bred by a member of the FBDCA.*

*The award consists of an engraved silver medallion, and a \$100 donation to the AKC Canine Health Foundation breed specific donor advised fund in the name of the honored dog. The award will be announced and given at the club's annual awards banquet. To nominate a French bulldog please e-mail or snail mail the dog's AKC name and CHIC identification number and the name of the dog's owner(s) with a brief description of the dog's accomplishments as well as its health certifications to:*

*Calvin Dykes*

*620 N 10th Street*

*Union, OR 97883*

*email: [tresbeaufrenchbulldogs@eoni.com](mailto:tresbeaufrenchbulldogs@eoni.com)*

*In your email type - **FBDCA Champion of Health** - in the subject line. As health testing is the number one priority to receive the award, the FBDCA Health and Genetics Committee will choose 3 nominees. The three nominees will be submitted to the board of the FBDCA for approval and sent to the Orthopedic Foundation of America, where the award winner is determined. If a nominated dog is owned or co-owned by a member of the Health and Genetics Committee or a member of the Board that person must reclude herself/himself from the rest of the selection process.*

**THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JULY 31st.**

—  
Calvin Dykes, FBDCA H&G Committee Chair

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## **UPDATE** on the Standard Revision Committee

By Cindy Stansell, Committee Chair

This Spring the Standard Revision Committee posted on the FBDCA website a first draft. We announced that we would consider comments for one month. We received numerous comments from FBDCA members and even non-members. We also sent it to several NonSporting judges for comments and suggestions.

The Committee carefully reviewed all the comments and suggestions and made several important changes based on these comments and suggestions. Thank you to all members who sent in their comments.

The Committee recently received FBDCA Board approval to send this version to the AKC. This has been done and we hope to have AKC's approval in a few months - just in time for the national.

The Committee is already working with the chair of the FBDCA Judges' Education Committee who made several good suggestions for improvement to our proposal. The JEC Committee is ready to make the necessary changes to the educational power point upon the FBDCA membership's passage of the revised standard.

The Standard Revision Committee will make a power point presentation at the national about our recommended changes. We hope that you will attend so that you understand why we made these changes to protect the breed, correct language that was used incorrectly, and clarify important points on the French Bulldog.

 akcgazette is published online monthly.

The French Bulldog column is published in March, June, September and December. Club member, Sande Abernathy, is our breed columnist.

Click here to read her latest article:

[AKC Gazette Non-Sporting Breed Column](#)

 A NOTE FROM THE  
**editor**

The listing of new title holders will be posted on the FBDCa FaceBook Page  and will no longer be in the quarterly newsletter. This listing is provided by the AKC and is not compiled by the FBDCa. If there are any questions or concerns about content of this newsletter, please email me at [frogk9@verizon.net](mailto:frogk9@verizon.net).

Is your French Bulldog talented? I'd love to hear from you! Please send your stories and photographs to the email above. Deadline for the next issue of **The Yelp!** is 08/31/2017 .

Susan Cherwa, Editor



## Health & Genetics Committee

### *Canine Health Foundation Grants Progress Reports*

In 1995, the AKC asked parent clubs to donate seed money for the newly established Canine Health Foundation, and our club donated \$1000. In 1996 we made a commitment to make annual contributions, joined the Parent Club Partnership of the CHF, and established a French Bulldog Donor Advised Fund so that donations may be made that are earmarked for research involving Frenchie



health. The FBDCA Health & Genetics Committee suggests research areas we feel should be explored, and the CHF submits to the Committee peer-reviewed proposals from which we may select those we feel worthwhile and decide the amount we should contribute to each. The Board then is asked to approve those expenditures from our Donor Advised Fund. Over the years our club has supported many research projects aimed at benefitting French Bulldog health. There are currently three such projects nearing completion.

### **1. Intralymphatic Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Canine Atopic Dermatitis**

Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a genetically predisposed inflammatory skin condition affecting approximately 10% of dogs and is probably the most prevalent skin disease in all canines. Affected dogs develop itchy skin and/or ears and secondary infections. Clinical features are associated with IgE antibodies produced against indoor/outdoor environmental allergens. Breeds such as Boxers, Terriers, Retrievers, and Bulldogs are predisposed. Though some treatments such as steroids and antihistamines may help in some dogs, ASIT (allergen-specific immunotherapy) appears as the only treatment that is sometimes able to induce a clinical cure. This research studied an alternate route of administration by which the ASIT drug is injected directly into peripheral lymph nodes to see whether the response rate, and potentially cure rate, is increased. Of the five dogs studied, two had to be withdrawn for non-related problems. One dog has greatly improved, showing complete lack of clinical signs. Another dog has failed to respond. The additional two dogs are still early in the post-treatment phase and it is too soon to know how they will do in the long term.

### **2. Identifying the Genetic Basis of Fetal Anasarca in Bulldogs/Canines**

While there can be many causes of dystocia (difficult birth), the occurrence of so-called "water" or "walrus" puppies is one of the more common causes within some breeds, particularly the brachycephalic breeds. It is believed that there is a significant genetic risk factor associated with this problem. This research uses samples from newborn puppies with anasarca, their parents, and non-affected puppies to analyze for a genetic basis of anasarca. The goal is to develop a DNA-based test that can be used to screen for and reduce the incidence of this devastating disease. The Bulldog Club of America has initiated this research and information has been gathered by questionnaires to evaluate patterns of inheritance, and to obtain blood samples both from dogs whose families include anasarca cases and others free of this. Once these data have been analyzed, DNA mapping will be done to try to identify a genetic basis for which a test may be developed.

### **3. Identification of Genetic Markers of Pulmonic Stenosis in Bulldogs**

Pulmonic stenosis is a congenital heart defect of the semilunar valve that is



between the right ventricle and the pulmonary artery (great vessel that takes blood to the lungs). It is the third most common congenital heart disease in dogs, and the most common heart defect found in English bulldogs. This study will examine DNA from 24 affected and 48 non-affected control bulldogs to identify candidate genes. Further work may aid in identifying a gene responsible for pulmonic stenosis in bulldogs. It is likely that similar genetic loci are involved in other breeds.



## Your Dog Can Help Others

If you have a Frenchie with a known disease or condition, there are various ways that your dog may be able to help others, and there may also be clinical trials that might help your dog.

Samples of its blood, tissues, or fluids may be needed by researchers studying that disorder. Blood or tissue samples may be obtained from a living dog when tumors are removed for diagnosis or treatment, or tissues or organs obtained after death may be helpful.

You can find information about:

*The Canine Health Information DNA repository:*

[\(<http://www.ofa.org/chicdnabank.html>\)](http://www.ofa.org/chicdnabank.html)

*Cancer research needing samples with collection sites near you:*

[\(<http://ccogc.net>\)](http://ccogc.net)

*Clinical trials of treatments for which your dog may be eligible:*

[\(<http://www.akcchf.org/research/participate-in-research/clinical-trials.html>\)](http://www.akcchf.org/research/participate-in-research/clinical-trials.html)

*Individual Research Projects - search by breed, disease, and/or type of samples needed for research projects currently in progress:*

[\(<http://www.akcchf.org/research/participate-in-research/>\)](http://www.akcchf.org/research/participate-in-research/)

For some research, postmortem samples may be needed. Consenting to a necropsy, or postmortem exam, can be difficult even for the most experienced dog owners. If a dog has been diagnosed with a terminal disease that runs its course, or if an elderly dog simply fades away and is euthanized or dies peacefully of "old age" then a necropsy might not provide you with any information, but might be helpful to researchers.

However if a young and apparently healthy dog suddenly sickens and dies, there are several reasons that a necropsy should be done to try to identify the cause of death, whether it would be useful in research or not. Infectious disease or some sort of toxic substance could be involved, in which case other pets might also be at risk. Information that the vet gains from identifying the cause of an unexpected death may help her diagnose and treat other animals with similar symptoms. Finding out what happened can give the owner peace of mind so that she will not agonize over whether anything more could have been done. And, very importantly, a necropsy may identify some inheritable condition about which the breeder needs to be advised so that she may take steps to prevent its being passed on in future

breedings. This is important even if the dog has been bred, as it may have descendants or other close relatives who are at risk of developing or passing on the same condition.

A necropsy should be done as soon after death as possible. If more than a couple of hours will elapse, the dog should be placed in a sealed plastic bag and refrigerated (NOT frozen) until the necropsy can be done, to prevent deterioration of the tissues.

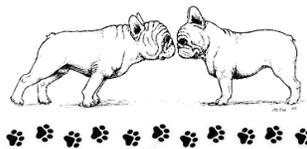
First the internal organs are examined. Sometimes this is sufficient to determine the immediate cause of death, as would be the case with something like a torsion or other kind of bowel obstruction. However if death was preceded by neurological symptoms it may require an examination of the brain and spinal cord as well. If the gross examination of organs fails to identify the cause of death, pieces of tissue are obtained (biopsies) and sent to a pathology lab for microscopic examination. In addition, if the vet suspects a toxin or an infection, cultures and blood chemistry may be needed. The cost can therefore vary, depending on who does the necropsy and which tests are needed.

Sadly, sometimes even the most thorough necropsy may fail to give the answer. This, though, is not commonly the case. Difficult as some people find this decision, many consider it an owner's responsibility to herself, her dogs, and her breed to pursue a cause of an unexpected death as diligently as possible.

Besides the above reasons for a necropsy, it may provide information that would be valuable to researchers studying the disease or condition identified as the cause of death. The links provided can help you find information about this.

And finally, owners who permit postmortem exams may take comfort in the thought that their dogs may help others by contributing to research aimed at improving the lives of future dogs.

- Jan Grebe



## *Breeder's Education Committee*

### *From Whelping to Westminster -*

*By Gale Golden, Chair Breeders Education Committee*

The backbone and success of every Breed Club is directly related to the job their dedicated breeders do in translating a vision into healthy, high quality dogs for show and companion homes. When breeders do a great job with their practices there is no better endorsement to the public for buying healthy responsibly bred animals. Since Frenchies have exploded in popularity, it becomes even more vital

that these hard-working members are supported with the best possible education, information and mentoring. Enter the 2017 FBDCA Breeders Education Committee whose sole mission is to provide just this kind of help to FBDCA breeding members.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR BREEDING CHALLENGES?**

There isn't one of us who hasn't experienced some sort of challenge in our program. Over the course of the next year, the committee has plans to address your concerns along with providing world class education. We need your help to make this a continually productive and valuable program for you. Here is how you can help - share your challenges and needs with one of the committee members. Our plan is to address every one of them in a variety of interesting and fun ways. All of us can be messaged on Facebook or use the email address listed in our membership directory. We look forward to hearing from you!

### **NEWS YOU CAN USE -**

The committee will lead off this effort but we want to hear from you too! What are your favorite "go to" resources? Below is a list of some of our favorite links to get the ball rolling. We hope you find them valuable too.

**Revival Animal Health Learning Center** - From webinars on the 30 critical days to articles about what to do if your Mom doesn't milk, this website jam packed with 250+ interesting programs and articles. Go to -

<http://www.revivalanimal.com/category/learning-center>

**Build a Breeding Success Library** - Here are resources folks on the committee use over and over. Some may be out of print but you can find them often used.

1. *Canine Reproduction - A Breeders Guide* by Phyllis Holst, M.Sc., DVM
2. *The Joy of Breeding Your Own Show Dog* by Ann Seranne
3. *Breeding a Litter - The Complete Book of PreNatal and PostNatal Care* by Beth J. Finder Harris
4. *The Whelping and Rearing of Puppies* by Muriel P. Lee
5. *Canine Reproduction and Whelping and Puppy Intensive Care* by Myra Savant Harris, R.N.
6. *Genetics - An Introduction for Dog Breeders* by Jackie Isabell
7. *The Techniques of Breeding Better Dogs* by Dr. Dieter Fleig
8. *Practical Genetics for Dog Breeders* by Malcolm B. Willis
9. *The New Art of Breeding Better Dogs* by Kyle Onstott
10. *ABC's of Dog Breeding* by Claudia Waller Orlandi, PhD.
11. *Breeding Better Dogs, Part 1, two hour DVD* by Carmen Battaglia

### **Meet the team whose mission is your breeding success**

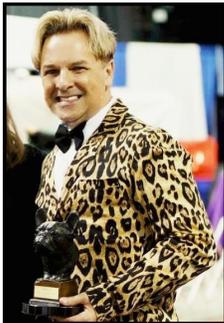
For 2017-2018, we have assembled a team of accomplished, enthusiastic and passionate breeders who are eager to share their knowledge and learn more about

your challenges so they can help you raise your game in the best possible way. Here's a little bit about them.



**GALE GOLDEN, MORGAN MANOR FRENCH BULLDOGS, COMMITTEE CHAIR**

*"I am a second-generation owner of the 30-year-old Morgan Manor kennel which was entrusted to my care almost 10 years ago. My love of breeding and frustration with missing litters led me to create Breed Smart, a method for troubleshooting breeding challenges and building a sound reproductive program. As Committee Chair, I am excited about the team we have assembled and look forward to delivering news and tools we can all use to enrich the quality of our programs - whether beginners or seasoned veterans."* [galegolden@live.com](mailto:galegolden@live.com)



**JAMES DALTON, FABELHAFT FRENCH BULLDOGS**

*"I acquired my first French Bulldog from a dear friend, the late Ann McCammon. I am a FBDCA Breeder of Distinction and approved French Bulldog mentor/presenter who has served the club in many ways on the Board, Top 20 and Breed Standard Revision Committees and currently am a member of the Breeders Education Committee. Beyond breeding, I have completed the requirements to judge multiple breeds for both the AKC and international assignments. In November 2017, it will be my great honor to fulfill a lifetime goal by judging the FBDCA National Specialty show at Purina Farms. I look forward to sharing this knowledge with my fellow breeders as we continue to improve the quality of our beloved Frenchies together."* [fabelhaft@roadrunner.com](mailto:fabelhaft@roadrunner.com)



**DONNA STOFFER, TWIN LAKES FRENCH BULLDOGS**

*"I am honored and humbled to be a member of FBDCA Breeders Education Committee. I began my entry into the breed as a seasoned Bulldogger and used my breeding success with that breed to help me continue in French Bulldogs. I enjoy, more than anything, to listen and learn daily from each litter and other breeders. We all have a huge amount of experience and knowledge that can be used by everyone. I am an FBDCA Breeder of Distinction but know it doesn't make sense to stop there. Like many of our breeder members, I also want to continue to improve and learn along with all of you."* [twinlakes@sofnet.com](mailto:twinlakes@sofnet.com)



**PATRICIA SOSA, BANDOG FRENCH BULLDOGS**

Our 1st Frenchie was a gift to my son Craig, and as they say the rest is history. I fell in love, but did not find the Frenchie community to be very helpful or welcoming, a sentiment I still hear from newbies today. Therefore, I feel it is such an honor to be included in this committee. With education and mentoring, one can succeed. This is a hard breed to get in whelp and grow up with many challenges. I hope my prior experiences might be able to save another breeder heartache or worry. This is truly the most magnificent breed I have ever owned and bred, and I will always be smitten."

After 32 years of this insanity, I am still enamored by the promise each litter holds because first and foremost, I am a breeder at heart. My career has also included the honor of judging multiple breeds but more importantly included the FBDCA national specialty in 2009 plus specialties and nationals all over the world.

[bandog@charter.net](mailto:bandog@charter.net)



**KAREN CRAM, KARENDON FRENCH BULLDOGS**

"I have been involved in French Bulldogs since 1990.

As my career in Frenchies evolves, I am turning my attention to becoming an accredited judge and have judged Sweepstakes at the French Bulldog Club of America National Specialty and the French Bulldog Club of America Regional Specialty in New York City. I continue to strive to produce French Bulldogs with excellent health, temperament, type and conformation, believing that form follows function. I hope to share my passion with others interested in bettering their programs." [karen@karendonfrenchbulldogs.com](mailto:karen@karendonfrenchbulldogs.com)



**STEPHEN MILLER, PECHE MIGNON FRENCH BULLDOGS**

"I have been involved with French Bulldogs for approximately 10 years and actively breeding for 8.

*My formula for breeding success is simple and straight forward. Start your breeding program with the best dogs you can. Use the best studs available and don't fall in to the trap of using dogs because they are convenient or inexpensive. Health test your dogs, as a healthy dog will be more likely to reproduce healthy dogs. Help others in the breed to be successful and treat people as you would want to be treated.*

*I look forward to working with all of the other wonderful breeders on this Breeders Education Committee and offering advice and education to those wanting to learn and succeed in the breed." [sfmiller@ius.edu](mailto:sfmiller@ius.edu)*



## **MONICA SCHOTT, HOTSCHOTT FRENCH BULLDOGS**

*"I acquired my first show French Bulldog 15 years ago with no intention of breeding! Then, a couple of years later, I was entrusted with my foundation bitch, Bunny (CH Rockydell HotSchott Petite Lapin). She went on to produce lovely puppies.*

*Now, 10 years after breeding my first litter, I focus on breeding Bunny's grand kids and great grand kids into producing more quality French Bulldogs through study and focus. For me, the most important thing I do is concentrating on pedigrees in a way that improves each litter's conformation to our standard. I look forward to sharing my experiences with you and learning from others too."*

[hotschottfrenchies@hvc.rr.com](mailto:hotschottfrenchies@hvc.rr.com)

# ASK A VET

## **Heat Stroke and Heat Stroke in Brachycephalics**

**by Robin Krieger, DVM**

**Clarkston Animal Medical Center, Clarkston, MI**

**DavisK French Bulldogs**



Here in the midwest we are just getting into the warmer weather and in Michigan we experience significant fluctuations in temperatures, even within one day. This makes it difficult for dogs to adjust to even mild warm weather, such as the 70s F. Elsewhere you deal with hot weather regularly and heat stroke is a more constant concern. A dog can experience heat stroke at 70 F as easily as at 90 F, depending on activity level, exertion, acclimation to climate and ability to cope with higher temperatures.

Heat stroke is defined as extreme hyperthermia of temperatures of 106-109 F causing thermal damage to the tissues of the body. It is caused when heat generation exceeds the ability of the body to dissipate or rid itself of the excess heat. The most common causes of heat stroke in dogs are overheating in a hot car or overexertion in warm weather. Any dog can develop heat stroke, but certain breeds and conformations of dogs are more susceptible. Even certain medical conditions make heat stroke more likely (laryngeal paralysis, primarily occurring in Labrador Retrievers).

Brachycephalic breeds, like our short faced French Bulldogs, anatomically have several design features that make them much more susceptible to development of

heat stroke. They have a lower jaw that is normal size in proportion to their body while their upper jaw is compressed, often severely. As a review, first are the stenotic nares or narrowed nostril openings. These are the very small respiratory passages or slit like openings for breathing that lead to many brachycephalics open mouth breathing. Enlarged tongues (macroglossa) are the thick and large tongues of brachycephalics. Elongated soft palates present in some degree in almost all brachycephalic breeds and dogs. It is difficult to fit the soft tissues needed into their short mouth and throat. The soft palate separates the nasal passages from the oral cavity and hangs or flaps down loosely. When the dog is panting or breathing heavily it creates the snorting sounds. Acute respiratory distress is rare related to an elongated soft palate except in English bulldogs. Tracheal stenosis or hypoplastic trachea is a narrowed trachea (windpipe) that can be dangerously narrowed making anesthesia a risk or intubating (placing a tube for anesthesia) difficult or impossible. This occurs most often in English bulldogs vs our French bulldogs. Everted laryngeal sacculles are in the throat and turn inside out causing a throat obstruction following prolonged increased breathing effort. This can be reversed with correction of the increased breathing effort, ie opening up stenotic nares. These occur most often in Pugs.

Brachycephalic dogs pant inefficiently. Normally saliva from the tongue evaporates as air is passed over it and the blood circulating through the tongue cools efficiently and is circulated back to the rest of the body. Much more work is required of our brachycephalic dogs for this process to occur. Conformationally the upper airways in brachycephalics compromise their ability to take in air. In their normal day to day life this is not a problem. If you have dogs that are overweight, under stress, in heat, or over exerted then the airways become inflamed and swollen and as this continues you get more obstruction, more distress and more overheating.

Clinical signs (what people often call symptoms) of heat exhaustion and then heat stroke: excessive panting, inside of ear pinnae (ear flaps) bright pink or red, weakness, collapse or staggering, syncope or fainting (loss of consciousness). It is best to address the problem at this first signs of panting and mild weakness before further progression occurs.

Treatment of heat stroke: If you feel your pet is experiencing any level of heat exhaustion or heat stroke, before you can get veterinary care or go to a clinic for advanced treatment do the following: Cool (not cold) water baths work best, not with towels that can actually hold heat in unless changed very frequently (every minute). Dogs can be initially cooled in a cool water bath, but you must stop cooling them at a temperature of 103 F to prevent rebound problems of over cooling and cooling too fast. Cooling too fast causes a rebound



shock. Fans work well and rubbing alcohol can be placed on the paw pads, but the alcohol does not provide much help as a therapy on its own. Treatment at the veterinarian or advanced treatment: Intravenous fluid therapy is the primary treatment to provide systemic cooling to a normal body temperature and provide blood pressure stabilization. Oxygen therapy is provided in cases where there is concern of laryngeal swelling or cerebral edema (swelling of the brain), ice cubes are placed in an oxygen mask to cool the oxygen provided and humidify the air. If heat stroke is severe enough a dog can have collapse of the larynx and require a tracheostomy, this can often be a permanent tracheostomy (an opening to the trachea bypassing the oral cavity and vocal folds/larynx).

The best is prevention for our dogs, especially the brachycephalic breeds: water spray bottles to cool the ground or standing on cool towels with ice/chamois towels in cool water for them to stand on, cooling coats, kiddie pools with cool water available, plenty of shade or access to air conditioning. Prevent long walks or playing too long even if a temperature feels okay to you, using the air conditioning if there is high humidity and with any temperature over 72-75 F as a guideline. Walk your dogs in the early morning or in the evening after the sun is down, these are both times when it is cooler and more tolerable for your dogs. Do not leave your dogs outside for long periods of time in warmer temperatures (over 5-10 minutes). These could protect your pet from over exertion and heat exhaustion or heat stroke. If you are ever in doubt of your pet's condition provide a cool environment and take their temperature (rectal, keep a thermometer just for use for your pets) and contact your veterinarian.



## *Coat Color and Our History*

*by Jim Grebe*

Coat color has always been a topic of conversation among Frenchie breeders, never more so than now when we see ads for blue, merle and black and tan dogs. We are asked to approve a change in our breed standard (the first since 1991) which is intended to clarify which colors are acceptable and which are DQs.

Most Frenchies bred 100 years ago were brindle and our first standard written in 1897 stated that preference should be given to "Dark Brindle, Dark Brindle and white; all other brindles, all other colors." In 1903 this preference was removed but brindles still predominated; however pied and all white Frenchies were also shown. In 1925 fawns were added to the list of acceptable colors and slowly grew in popularity, especially when lighter-colored noses were acceptable

on lighter-colored dogs. Popularity surged when Amanda West owner-handled her creams (and a few brindles) to over 500 group wins and over 100 BIS during the 1950s and 60s.

When I became involved in the breed in the early 80s I would read letters and articles in breed publications decrying the lack of brindles being shown and I'd hear ringside "experts" say that it was a lot harder to win with a brindle.

Also there was a continuing discussion about what constituted a brindle Frenchie. "Black without a trace of brindle" was a DQ—but what was a trace? People would tell me that 4 light-colored hairs on a black dog was the magic number.

Helen Hover, club secretary and AKC breed columnist for thirty years, wrote to *The Frenchie Fancier* in 1979: ". . . it is my carefully considered opinion that if there is a trace of brindle in any one spot [she had been asked about peds] the animal should not be disqualified. . . . A 'trace' can mean just a few (two, three, four, etc.) brindle hairs (all shadings of brown, red, tawny, yellowish, silver) among the dark or black hairs and in no set pattern or stripe." She also added, "Over the years I personally have never seen a brindle or Pied that was without at least a trace of brindle."

In 1996 while I was club vice-president AKC judge Dawn Vick Hansen wrote to our board asking for clarification as to what constituted a "trace." She wrote:

". . . black, black and white and white and black dogs are being shown in my ring with great frequency these days. The quality of some of these dogs is quite good. Most of these dogs have only two or three banded hairs around the ears or other remote parts of body. . . . What constitutes a trace? Are the white and black, black and white with three hairs acceptable? Are these three hairs to be banded?"

Mrs. Hansen said that "these questions have come up time and time again when we judges get together and discuss your breed." She hoped that the FBDCA board would publish a clarifying letter to all non-sporting judges.

The board at its April 18, 1997 meeting proposed the following statement for discussion:

"In the French Bulldog, brindle is a distinctive coat pattern in which the composite colors (usually black with variations of fawn or cream) are intermingled.



Ch. La France Piccolo\_ a winning fawn in the late 1930s and one of the first Frenchies to compete in obedience.

'Trace of brindle' should be interpreted to mean that enough of these intermingled colors should be present so that the distinctive brindle pattern is identifiable in at least one area of the dog. If in doubt, judges may ask the exhibitor to point out the area of brindling but the judge has full discretionary power to decide whether enough variation is present to justify definition as a 'trace of brindle.' Isolated fawn or cream hairs scattered about on a black dog do not constitute a brindle pattern which should have enough coloration that, grouped together, the fawn hairs generally form a linear array. If the dog does not possess this minimal amount of patterning to the satisfaction of the judge, the dog should be disqualified as either solid black, black and white or white and black."

Members' response to this was varied but many (at least the most vocal) objected to the "pattern" and the "linear array" bits and felt that a trace was a trace and that should be the end of it. The end result was to suggest to judges that they should use their own best judgment.



## French Bulldog Antiques and Collectibles

by Gary Bachman

The unique relationship between people and dogs goes back centuries and collecting dog-related objects reflects this special bond. In the 19th century it was primarily kennel owners working to standardize today's breeds who started to form collections. By the early 20th century many people bred and showed dogs purely as a hobby. At this time they also became aware of the great pleasure of forming collections of dog antiques and collectibles.

The French Bulldog is perhaps the most celebrated dog in art. This is due to the fact that the Frenchie enjoyed the height of its popularity during three important art movements: Victorian, Art Nouveau and Art Deco. The Victorian depictions tend to be highly ornamented while the Art Nouveau models are elegant and sinuous. The Art Deco movement of the 1930s was a response to the Industrial Revolution and gives us pieces that are stylized and decorated in brilliant colors.

The Frenchie's undeniable appeal needs no introduction. They are, as one breeder stated, 'philosophers in the guise of clowns.' Another take on this comes from yet another breeder who said 'they think they are little people in dog suits.'

Most of the early pieces are very high quality and expensive because at the start of the 20th century the Frenchie was very much a wealthy person's dog. Famous owners such as French author Colette, King Edward VII, Elizabeth Arden, Ingrid Bergman, J. P. Morgan and Anna Sacher helped further bolster the Bully's popularity. Sacher, in particular, was most influential in popularizing the breed in Vienna. Her brood of Bullies were from the Dernier Cri Kennel which was renowned for many champions. In addition to her celebrated hotel and restaurant plus the chocolate cake that bears her name, her Frenchies were commemorated on postcards, various gifts to clients and other mementos. Also, the Romanoff Princess Tatiana and Prince Felix Yusupovsky, who allegedly shot Rasputin, owned Frenchies. Appointed Court Jeweler to the Royal Family Carl Fabergé is well remembered for his Imperial Easter Eggs. He also produced a number of smoky quartz French Bulldogs decorated with gold and precious gemstones. Only a handful of these treasures are known to exist.

Illustrated in this are three exceptional French Bulldog works of art.



A fine large porcelain French Bulldog by Hutschenreuther Germany, 1920s.



A superb oil painting of a pied French Bulldog with a Persian cat, signed by Arthur Heyer (German-Hungarian, 1872-1931) ca. 1920.



A rare Vienna bronze coin tray with a French Bulldog slurping 'water,' Austria, early 20th century.



## By-laws, *a refresher course continued ...*

**SECTION 2. Dues.** Individual Membership dues shall not exceed \$75.00. Foreign Membership dues shall not exceed \$75.00 plus the additional postal expenses. Local Club Membership dues shall not exceed \$100.00. Dues shall only be changed by mailed (US Postal) secret ballot to the membership. The vote required to change the dues shall be a majority of the membership voting.

**SECTION 3. Election to Membership.**

(a) Each individual applicant for membership shall apply on a form as approved by the Board of Directors, which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Constitution and By-laws and the rules of the American Kennel Club. The application shall state the name, address, and occupation of the applicant, and it shall carry the endorsement of two members in good standing. Accompanying the application, the prospective member shall submit dues payment for the current year and a signed and dated copy of the FBDCA Code of Ethics. Applicants may be elected at any meeting of the Board of Directors or by written vote of the Directors by mail. Affirmative votes of 2/3 of the Directors present at a meeting of the Board or of 2/3 of the entire Board voting by mail, shall be required to elect an applicant.

(b) A local club, after complying with the eligibility requirements, must apply to the Secretary by mailing a letter of request along with a copy of its By-laws, a list of its officers, directors, members and their addresses. Such application must be accompanied by the current dues. Affirmative votes of 2/3 of the Directors present at a meeting of the Board or 2/3 of the entire Board voting by mail, shall be required to elect a local club into membership.

An applicant who has received a negative vote by the Board may be presented by one of the applicant's endorsers at the next Annual Meeting of the Club and the Club may elect such applicant by favorable vote of 75% of the members present.

**SECTION 4. Termination of Membership.**

(a) Individual membership may be terminated:

(1) by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and become incurred on

the first day of each fiscal year.

(2) by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional 30 days of grace to such delinquent members under extraordinary circumstances. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.

(3) by expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided in Article VI of these By-laws.

(b) Local clubs may be terminated:

(1) by resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the secretary, but no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

(2) by lapsing. A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional 90 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.

(3) by expulsion. The Board may expel a club from membership if evidence establishes that such club has ceased to maintain its eligibility as defined in Article I, Section 1e of these By-laws\*, and may expel for cause, provided such club is first accorded an opportunity to be heard. In either case, an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the Directors present and voting at a meeting of the Board or an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the entire Board voting by mail shall be required to expel.

\* A local club shall be deemed to have forfeited its eligibility for membership if such club fails to hold an AKC licensed or sanctioned event for a period of two years.



2017 Top Twenty Invitational...

*The lights are dimmed, the crowd is excited, and energy fills the room as the nation's top reigning French Bulldogs prepare to compete at the 2017 Top Twenty Invitational. The competition will be held Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Purina Farms. The evening is held in conjunction with the FBDCA National Specialty and heralded as the "Crown Jewel" evening of the week. The FBDCA Top Twenty celebrates a nose*

to nose competition like no other featuring a newly revised format.

*The Top Twenty Invitational is an annual event that allows the top 20 ranking French Bulldogs from the previous year (2016) and the top ten from the current year (January to June) to compete in one collective setting. Three judges will honor the event - an AKC, a Breeder, and a Wild Card judge - will score the competitors based on their merit to award a "2017 Best of Breed" and five top "Awards of Merit." Winners and all contestants will receive a fabulous upscale rosette.*

*As with every Invitational, spectators are encouraged to enjoy the festivities and join us for dessert and coffee. Cash bar will also be available.*

*Once again French Bulldog history will be created. Take home your Top Twenty catalog as a true treasure and cherished memory from this special evening.*

*Our committee encourages you to support this evening with your donations. It is our goal to keep this evening complimentary. You may make a donation by visiting our FBDCA 2017 Top Twenty Facebook page or at [www.fbdca.org](http://www.fbdca.org) . We extend our appreciation and gratitude to all exhibitors and contributors.*

*Merci, The Top Twenty Committee*



## Upcoming Specialties & Supported Entries

**6th annual FBDCA Supported Entry at the Lorain County Kennel Club-** All-breed shows located at Henrietta Township, Ohio, August 12 -13, 2017.

Superintendent: [Foy Trent Dog Shows](#)

Judges for Saturday, August 12, 2017

Sweepstakes: Ms. Nicholle Hoke

All-Breed: Mr. Rodney Merry

Judges for Sunday, August 13, 2017

Sweepstakes: Ms. Lorene Schettino

All-Breed: Mrs. Inge Semenschin



**The 81st Annual FBDCA National Specialty** will be held in Gray Summit, Missouri, from Sunday, November 5 through Friday, November 10, 2017.

Location: [Purina Farms Event Center](#), 200 Checkerboard Loop, Gray Summit, MO 63039 [click here for more information about Purina Farms](#)

\*\*Please see club website for additional information. [FBDCA.org](#)

Immediately following the 2017 FBDCA National Specialty, the [Heartland French Bulldog Club](#) will hold their Fall Specialty on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at Purina Farms in Gray Summit, Missouri.

Breed Judge: Steve Terry

Superintendent: [Jack Onofrio Dog Shows](#)



## Specialty News

[The Great Lakes French Bulldog Club](#) held their Sweepstakes and Specialty on Saturday, May 6, 2017.

*Sweepstakes Judge: Debbie Earius*

Best in Sweeps: **Peche Mignon A Girl Worth Fighting For**

Best of Opp Sex Sweeps: **Gargouille's Bull Moose**

Best Veteran's in Sweeps: **CH Jackpot! My Angel Eyes**

Best of Opp Sex Veteran's Sweeps: **CH Antares Little Dipper Over Furrows**

*Specialty Judge: James G. Reynolds*

Best of Breed: **GCH CH Haloridge's Cruisin The Open Sea**

Best of Opposite & Best Owner Handler: **CH Kotur's Hello Gorgeous!**

Best of Winners & Winners Bitch & Best Puppy: **Peche Mignon A Girl Worth Fighting For**

Winners Dog: **Encore's Keepin' The Faith**

Reserve Winners Dog: **Peche Mignon Fly Me To The Moon**

Reserve Winners Bitch: **Danall's Defying The Odds**

Best Bred By Exhibitor: **Peach Hill's One Way Or Another**

Best Veteran's: **CH Jackpot! My Angel Eyes**

Select: **GCH Katzenjammer King Of Cool**

Select: **CH Voila! & HaloRidge Outwit! Outplay! Outlast!**



[Northern California French Bulldog Club](#) 14th & 15th Annual Regional Specialty & Sweepstakes was held on Thursday, May 18, 2017 and Friday, May 19, 2017.



*Thursday, May 18, 2017*

*Sweepstakes Judge: Ms. Beverly McCann*

Best in Sweeps: **ByDezynes Reasonable Suspicion**

Best of Opp Sex Sweeps: **Central Valley's Big Shot At Betty Hips**

Best Veteran's in Sweeps: **Imagine's Eleanor Rigby CD BN RA ACT2 CGCA CGCU**

*Specialty Judge: Mr. James A. Moses*

Best of Breed: **GCH Le Petit Prince De La Bete**

Best of Opposite: **CH Orion's Only Pearl for Highwood**

Best of Winners and Winners Dog: **Bullmarket Real Tom Sawyer**

Winners Bitch and Best Bred By Exhibitor: **Goldshield's Dream De La Rive Droite**

Reserve Winners Dog: **Daulokke's L'Petit Poete**

Reserve Winners Bitch: **Reveries Everyone Wants My Fanny**

Best of Breed Owner Handler & AOM: **CH BF's Rambling Fever Audrey Hepburn**

Best Veteran's: **GCH Scifi's Resistance is Futile RN CGC**

Best Puppy: **Fabelhaft Five Hundred Dreams**

Beginner Puppy Best of Opp Sex: **Gold-Sierra Vogue**

Select: **CH ByDezyne Guilty As Charged**

Select: **GCH Reveries Don't Cry For Me**

AOM: **GCHS Lebull's Reveries Song of War**

AOM: **CH Monet's There's An App For That**

*Friday, May 19, 2017*

*Specialty Judge: Mr. James G. Reynolds*

Best of Breed: **GCH Le Petit Prince De La Bete**

Best of Opposite: **CH Orion's Only Pearl for Highwood**

Best of Winners, Winners Dog & Best Puppy: **Fabelhaft Five Hundred Dreams**

Winners Bitch, Beginner Puppy Best of Opp Sex: **LeBull's Bullette At LeCirque**

Reserve Winners Dog & Best Bred By Exhibitor: **Central Valley's Big Shot At**

**Betty Hips**

Reserve Winners Bitch: **Goldshield's Dream De La Rive Droite**

Best of Breed Owner Handler & Select: **CH Fulla Bull Grandmaster Flash**

Best Veteran's & AOM: **GCH Scifi's Resistance is Futile RN CGC**

Select: **GCH Reveries Don't Cry For Me**

AOM: **GCHS DK's Kindle On Fire CGC**

AOM: **CH Lionheart's Under My Thumb At Stormy Mountain**

AOM: **CH Monet's There's An App For That**



**Photo credit goes to Danielle Silverstein**





A message from Susan Cunningham about the show:

"I want to preface by saying I heard, MORE THAN ONCE, the quality of dogs were exceptional! Excellent Sweeps judging by Beverly McCann and Judging by James Reynolds and James Moses. We had a 4-6 month puppy class both days. They were very cute and the class had ten entries both days deeming it successful. We had 4 or 5 juniors both days. Just an all around fun, good show. The Northern California French Bulldog Rescue attended, Patti Rungo, who is also a Director on our Board, as well as The French Bulldog Rescue of Nevada. All photo credit goes to Danielle Silverstein to whom we are so grateful."



French Bulldog Rescue of Nevada



www.fbdca.org

For more up-to-date club information, visit our [FaceBook page](#)

