Dear Readers,

Time does fly when one is having fun. The Holidays are here and it is time for another DewClaw.

You have been wonderful in contributing articles, pictures, ideas, and encouragement. Your kind words and suggestions are greatly appreciated. Please continue to send your thoughts to me.

Susan Alexander of Jackson Creek Road, Box 713, Clancy, Mt. 59634, has volunteered to be the Regional Editor for the West. Please contact her with your news and tidbits.

On a sad note, I received a letter from Lynn Lowell reporting the death of Brylin's San-Fran-Cisco. Cisco was 7 1/2 years old and had to be euthanized due to untreatable immunological system dysfunction. He was a much loved member of the Lowell family and had been with them since 1981. Cisco's death followed his brother Sidney's by only 4 months. They miss the "boys" very much.

Mary Bloom wrote that several other Briarders had lost their dogs also. Ethel Bamford lost "Andy", and Dave and Carol Witherspoon lost "Deja".

Mary also wrote that Mary Lopez had several rescue dogs in California, and that she was involved with a hard to place Briard. Please contact Mary if you can be of any help to the Rescue Briards.

The next DewClaw deadline is February 20, 1989. Please have your ads, articles, and reports to me by that time. Letters to The Editors are welcome and will be printed. Your viewpoint is important to everyone.

Seasons Greetings to All! (Particularly, all my furry friends.)
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee by, Stephanie Katz

Last week I received my first mailing as Education Coordinator from the AKC. I was delighted to learn that during the past year, the AKC has been active in putting an Educational structure in place under the coordination of Dr. Carol Sienkiewicz. AKC Judges Education Coordinator. The process at this point is three-fold: 1) A newsletter will be sent to Educational Coordinators on a regular basis. This newsletter will encourage a program of continuing education and will share our discuss ideas and information. 2) It is suggested that each club create a network of educational coordinators at a local level when people contact the AKC, they will be referred to education coordinators in their areas. So far, I have had 18 education questionnaires returned with 10 volunteers for this committee. This will be the beginning of our structure. More volunteers are needed. I also see this committee as the group to actively plan and carry out programs of continuing education for members across the country as well as at our national gatherings.

3) A list of judges who have written "letters of intent" to apply to the AKC to judge Briards will be sent to me. In turn, will provide these people with our brochure and information about our educational programs.

The next few months will be spent creating a structure and materials for this committee. Your input is essential. Please let me hear from you.

Countering Anti-Dog Legislation

During the past year, hundreds of municipalities, including several states have considered or passed breed specific, vicious dog legislation. This has been in response to the "pit bull" hysteria that has been and still is, rampant in our country. Briards may be "safe" under the laws of your community today, but any breed of dog can be targeted at any time.

The AKC has recently published the "Legislative Action Manual" which is designed to assist the responsible dog owner of the dog fancy influence the opinions of local and state legislators. This manual is a "how to" which covers everything from how to identify your legislator to what to say at a hearing, how to dress and present yourself and how to draft a bill.

Ken Marden, President of the AKC states "although one section is devoted specifically to vicious dog laws, the rest of the Manual is genius in that the principles apply to any type of legislation you might encounter. Today, breed specific vicious dog lays, anti-breeding and zoning ordinances as well as discriminatory insurance trends threaten the freedom of all dog owners. These anti-dog trends are growing. Unless dog owners everywhere stand up for their rights, we could even find ourselves in a dogless society by the year 2000."

We, as individuals, can make a difference by extending our personal commitment of our dogs to our community. The AKC has developed specific services to assist with legislative issues. These services include a hotline (1-800-AKC-TELL), press kits and a network of activists. Additionally, the AKC has announced that
they have begun a program of matching funds donated to the ADOA Canine Defense Fund. This Fund will assist in covering the costs of legal battles for good dog legislation.

What you can do now:
1) Keep your ears open to proposed legislation involving dogs.
2) Voice your opinion to your legislator either by a short phone call to the office or a short note. It is important to be heard whether you are supporting or opposing legislation. Remember to a) keep it short, b) be clear, c) be non argumentative.
3) For direction an assistance call: AKC - Nancy Barr for written material (212) 696 - 8736 P W. Department. AKC Hotline 1 800-AKC-TELL for legislative assistance.
4) Contact your friends, relatives, neighbors, etc. and discuss proposed legislation with them...encourage them to contact legislators to voice their opinions. Evidently, each call or letter received by legislators is considered to express the views of 100 people. This communication is very important.

Eye Committee by Meg Weitz

As the Eye Committee enters its second year of its new life, we would like to present to you an overview of its functions, and provide you with some concrete information on eye clear dogs.

First and foremost, the membership needs to recognize that the committee was formed to do more than keep records and statistics. That is but one of our functions. Because we do have several eye problems in the breed, we want to perform in such a way that we may assist you to tangible routes to alleviating some of your questions, problems, and worries. The eye committee can provide the following to the club:

1) Information on the latest medical developments, articles which contain information applicable to Briard problems, information on Briard problems specifically. We want you, the Briard breeder and owner, to be equipped to understand problems in the breed.

2) Statistics which may be helpful, such as how many dogs we examine at our annual clinic, how many dogs have been reported as clear, and who has CERF/RP/F numbers recorded. Individual owners take pride in their animal's health, and breeders can take pride as they take note of how their breeding program is progressing in this area of health.

3) Providing the manpower for eye clinics, such that we can make the service viable on an annual basis, for people to have their dogs examined by an ACVO Diplomat. We also air to encourage regional clubs to consider providing an eye clinic as one of their activities. Many more dogs who are not shown but live in an area of dense Briard population might be examined if this service is provided to the owners in a more accessible way (i.e. the local eye clinic). It is also a way to be of service to dogs in general.

4) Assisting those who have encountered a problem, or have a question. It is very difficult to know what to do when you encounter a problem. The committee can assist you in locating the kind of medical tests your dog may need: background information on the disease in question; or perhaps in locating an ACVO Diplomat. We can guide you to the medical professional who can assist your dog and you, which may help you to finalize a diagnosis. The reality of the matter is that eye problems do exist in the breed, but each time we take a problem and follow through with examination which allows for a definitive diagnosis, we are helping the breed, and each individual dog and person involved in the breed. Members of the eye committee are willing to help you to the best of their abilities.

In this past year, we have been apprised of problems ranging from minor to those of a more serious nature. Ocular changes that can be noted by examiners can be of interest even when they appear as simple as an extra eyelash. We encourage you to examine your dogs, both the ones you own and the ones that you breed and sell. Provide people with information on eye problems when they buy a Briard puppy, so they can understand why the dog should have his eyes examined. Most caring people in our breed will do so, if you encourage them and tell them why. Complicacies and disregard of the need to examine and record status is not to the benefit of the breed. Our caring about the problems of our animals now is our legacy for the future.

Members of the BCA Eye Committee who are available to help you and provide information are:

Meg W. Weitz - Chairperson 601 Rockwood Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19802 302-762-8939 Please send eye reports to this address.

Jennifer Pakulski - Statistics 3223 Parkwood Terrace, Falls Church, Virginia 22042

Janis Charbonneau - Previous Chairperson of the Eye Committee, SS 1 Site 2 Box 7, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 2C5 Canada

Carol Steiner - Stationary Night Blindness, 1007 Cedar Drive North, Manhasset Hills, New York 11040 516-248-9508

CERF List and Eye Exam Clear Status Dogs

The following list(s) are provided as a starting point for our legislative efforts. The CERF list was provided by the "old" CERF in California shortly before their shutdown in late 1988. There are some additional dogs added on in July, 1988 and this information was provided by the current CERF operation in Indiana. Also added on are dogs who are CERF'd whose numbers we have received. Updates on the list will now be more accessible as CERF settles into their new home.

Knowing at what age a dog was last cleared is vital pedigree information when trying to avoid an inherited eye disease such as PRA. There is also a special category of the dogs reported to us which have undergone an ERG and have been found clear of SNB and PR.

Here is a quick review on how to read the CERF#. BR means Briard. 101/76 is the number that CERF assigned and the year of the most recent examination. 107 is the age at the time of the most recent examination. 107 is the age at the time of that examination expressed in months.

In order to accurately present a Briard as being eye exam clear, the eye exam form. A copy of the information from the CERF certificate to the eye chairperson.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CERF Number</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Breeder</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Eye Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101/76</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>BR</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>true</td>
<td>clear, CERF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CERF List and Eye Exam Clear Status Dogs
We would like to be able to provide you with pedigree information which may assist you in your breeding program, but there are many Briards out there that have been examined and cleared and only their owners know it! Please help us with the big picture by sending your information to a source where it can be helpful to the breed.

CERF#   DOG'S NAME(sex)
BR-101/76-102  Phydeaux Quin de Cuivre (m)
BR-102/76-30  Desamée Lamont Bear (m)
BR-102/76-126  Phydeaux Ashba Des Berger (f)
BR-104/86-141  Jennie Del' Pastre (f)
BR-105/76-60  Phydeaux Theba Bara (f)
BR-106/76-48  Beau Cheval’s Vert Vert (f)
BR-107/76-27  Aignier Javelot D’Or (m)
BR-108/76-55  I Charlemagne Chez Ciel (f)
BR-110/76-74  Uther Bijou De Strattonosa (f)
BR-110/82-106  Phydeaux Windfall (m)
BR-111/77-24  Beardsanbrow’s L’EvecheLady (f)
BR-112/76-48  Bellesprit Velours (f)
BR-113/76-13  Eagle of Alpen (m)
BR-114/78-98  Phydeaux Tallulah (f)
BR-115/76-16  Ne’Jean Paul deLongchamp (m)
BR-116/76-18  More Lamont Del’Etat D’Or (m)
BR-117/76-34  Bellesprit Velours (f)
BR-118/76-16  Unique Noe deVieilleVille (m)
BR-119/76-82  Urania Berger Du Nord (f)
BR-120/86-109  Beardsanbrow’s N’Est Pas (f)
BR-121/78-38  Chateaubruard L’Oreal Un (m)
BR-122/78-16  Chateaubruard Norman (m)
BR-123/78-29  Magie Mon Ami de Lindeau (f)
BR-124/78-38  Stonehill’s I’m Bogle (m)
BR-125/78-67  Jaime Widgeette de Lindeau (f)
BR-126/78-96  Strathcona’s BlackMagicWoman (f)
BR-127/78-29  Montargis de Lindeau (f)
BR-128/78-19  Fille D’Abbeye (f)
BR-129/78-26  M.CharlemagneDeStrathcona (m)
BR-130/78-14  Beardsanbrow’s Natayna (f)
BR-131/78-37  SilvermoonLaJoieDeVivre (m)
BR-132/78-51  JabotleBonheurD’HteCouture (m)
BR-133/78-14  NapoleonCharlemagne DuNord (m)
BR-134/78-18  Chateaubruard Nellie (f)
BR-136/78-36  Pa’Check’sslavin’Legend (f)
BR-137/78-126  BalPh des Elxes de Malouse (m)
BR-138/78-58  Pa’Check’s Indian Summer (f)
BR-139/78-29  Phydeaux Luven N’ Leaven (m)
BR-140/78-53  Pa’Check’sJazebel (f)
BR-141/78-23  Pa’Check’sMs Be-Haven (f)
BR-142/78-58  Pa’Check’s Impresario (m) o73
BR-143/78-28  Ambriance Medragal (f)
BR-144/78-105  Sablon D’Esprit (m)
BR-145/78-83  Jolie de La Rivette (f)
BR-146/78-38  Bellesprit Lorelei (f)
BR-147/78-14  Bellesprit Midnight Special (m)
BR-148/78-30  Pa’Check’s Moonlight Sonata (f)
BR-149/86-80  Silvermoon Marquis D’Lindeau (m)
BR-150/82-82  Phydeaux Polly Poulet (f)
BR-151/82-36  Pook Tatiana De Soulieado (f)
BR-152/82-35  Brylin’s San-Fran-Cisco (m)
BR-153/82-17  Brylin’s Sheyenne (f)
BR-154/82-17  Brylin’s Sidney (m)
BR-155/82-17  M.C. Plaisant de Jean (m)
BR-156/82-17  Virage Sea Sparks (f)
BR-157/82-16  Richlen Shenandoah (f)
BR-158/86-16  Chaparral’s Skeeter (f)
BR-159/86-16  Sugarcreek Lancelot (m)
BR-160/82-14  Piquanite Don Chico (f)
BR-161/82-35  Ecar Second Chapter (m)
BR-162/83-87  Acteon Faience of Antigo (f)
BR-164/83-106  JustTigger de Charlemagne (f)
BR-165/82-20  Phydeaux Peppermint Patty (f)
BR-166/83-77  Virage Spinnake Claude (m)
BR-167/85-104  The Bailwick’s Robespierreme (m)
BR-168/85-77  Bailwick’s Renoir (f)
BR-169/86-123  LaFraise Briard d’Orelans (f)
BR-170/82-154  PlumbousPiedVilleJumexes (m)
BR-171/82-34  Razi Pierre de Bejaune (m)
BR-172/83-37  The Bailwick’s Rodin (m)
BR-173/83-42  Rubis de Bejaune (f)
BR-174/85-66  Prince Tom de Bejaune (m)
BR-175/83-87  Acteon MajolicoAntigo (f)
BR-176/83-87  BejaunePrixAcademie d’Antigo (m)
BR-177/83-52  Olivia la Voyageur du Lhut (f)
BR-178/83-52  Dromore’s Perrier (f)
BR-179/83-38  The Bailwick’s Rendez-vous (f)
BR-180/82-58  Sugarcreek Strawberry Daniel (m)
BR-181/82-32  M&M Sugarcreek Janivan (f)
BR-182/83-12  Tpirs D’Occasion (m)
BR-183/82-34  Mamy’s Magnificent Ruby (f)
BR-184/83-36  QueSeraSereduleLoud Or’ (f)
BR-185/83-48  Perrier D’Occasion (f)
BR-186/83-46  D’Occasion (f)
BR-187/84-58  Phydeaux Portrait of Jennie (f)
BR-188/85-63  M & M Skybear (f)
BR-189/85-68  Dromore’s Promises-Promises (f)
BR-190/85-26  Dromore’s St’Rene Meghan (f)
BR-191/85-26  Dromore’s Up Adam (m)
BR-192/85-32  Suzette’s Sanzner New Edition (m)
BR-193/86-40  Unique V.D.Bidderweide (f)
BR-194/86-40  Victor deJelPortedChoisy (m)
BR-195/86-23  UneEtioleSeule de Bejaune (f)
BR-196/85-23  RogueUnique du Oakleaf (m)
BR-197/85-27  Beardsanbrow’s Victoire (f)
BR-198/85-20  Bailwick’s Uji (m)
BR-199/85-21  Aignier Vandermint (m)
BR-200/86-27  Virage Vice Versa (f)
BR-201/86-28  U.S.A. Des Carrières Noires (f)
BR-202/86-39  PartarguerVol u-Vent Kristen (f)
BR-203/86-20  Cloud Cap’s On Cloud Nine (f)
BR-204/86-23  Sage Du Boieau d’Avranches (f)
BR-205/86-23  Beardsanbrow’s Utopia (m)
BR-206/86-43  Mon Jovis’ Queen v Mon Ami (f)
BR-207/86-49  C’est RonheorTel Qu’uh Tresor (m)
BR-211/88-110  AbbayesPauletteDeBonheur
BR-212/87-31  Beardsanbrow'sV D'Occasion
BR-213/87-32  Phydeaux Velvet Cowboy
BR-214/87-49  Radieux U.S.Mint
BR-215/87-94  Phydeaux Peppermint Patty
BR-216/87-33  Checkers Roucheux
BR-217/87-49  L'aTresChienCorniche
BR-218/87-50  Virage Utopian Brie
BR-219/87-27  SunValleyNewAttitude
BR-220/86-40  UKnowMielleuxDeBoheur
BR-221/87-5I  Radieux Until Then
BR-222/87-33  Foxlair Vaudou en Noir
BR-223  Unknown
BR-224  Unknown
BR-225/87-16  Beardsanbrow's BeateNoire
BR-226/87-30  Chardon AimeeLaCharmeuse
BR-227/87-37  Valerienne D'Ocasion
BR-228/  Unknown
BR-229/88-45  VeloursDucoteauD'Auranches
BR-230/88-51  Bailywick's Ursa
BR-231/88-47  Beardsanbrow's Thriller
BR-232/88-?  Coco Chanel
BR-233/88-31  Karbel Brandy

Examined recently - no CERF numbers provided

Bogart de Bejaune (20m0)  Chiende Sel U.B.Good(65)
Faux Paux Caprice (14)  O'MollyO'MallyChienSel(120)
Panthere del Pastre (109)  Delilah DashofSaltdeBejaune(7)
Bigtree's Tequilla Sunrise (61)  LaBannieredeBejaune4.&(18)
Bigtree Rainmaker (84)  Bellingova de Bejaune(18)
Bigtree Tapestry(61)  Amoureille de Bejaune(30)
Bellesprit Meriah(23)  Altaire de Bejaune(30)
Chienne VoileedeBejaune(40)  Velatee Noir deBejaune(52)
Victor delaPorteChoisy(54)  UniqueV.D.Ridderweide(63)
Ruby de Bejaune(82)4  Verracti de Bejaune(36)
Tinker(108)  Prince TomdeBejaune(92)
Clarisse delaPortChoisy(9)

ERG CLEARED DOGS
CH. Unique V.D. Riddeweide  Ch. Aigner Vandermint
CH. Victor de la Porte de Choisy  Ch. Checkers Rocheaux
CH. Ambria de Bejaune  Tres Chien Corniche
CH. Adonis de Bejaune  Ch. Virage Vice-Versa

For those of you in the Washington D.C. area, there is an eye clinic with Dr. Rubin on Saturday 21, 1989 (Snow date of Feb.11, 1989). For more information contact Mrs Ray Hartman 1044 S. Ironwood Road, Sterling, Va. 22170 703-430-2255.

So WHY herding?

There are several reasons. First, it is the Briard heritage. How often, when answering the eternal question, “What is a Briard?”, have we said it is a very old French sheep dog? We usually say “beside that, they date back to Charlemagne and Napoleon; it is Briard heritage – something to be preserved.”

The following is an excerpt from a 1979 letter concerning herding trials in France by Alan Pecoult, of St. Claude, France.

“Many Beaucerons still work on farms, but very few are now entered in trials, not so long ago there were some top class Beaucerons and they used to be THE French working sheepdog. The Briards are also unfortunately on the way down. One reason our national breeds aren’t doing as well as they should is that when shepherd began neglecting them other people began breeding them for other purposes. Enough sound dogs still exist though to make it possible to regenerate these breeds by developing anew their working instincts. It is a difficult, but worthwhile task to regenerate the French breeds.”

I would like to see the day when breeders striving to produce Briards of excellence will check OFAs, CERFs, AND HICs (Herding Instinct Certificates) before breeding.

So WHY herding?

“It’s FUN! It is exhilarating to see “the light come on” when a dog’s ancient instinct takes over and it is doing what it was meant to do. Barbara Lynch writes that she had tears in her eyes and a lump in her throat as she watched her 12 year old Briard, Meriah, round up and pin 5 sheep. My Abner was but 6 months old when he had his first encounter with sheep. He did pass, but left me knowing there was a challenge there – something to do.”

When I took my Daisy Mae to a herding demo, the devious side of me was gratified. The person running the demo (one of some standing in the herding community in our area) was obviously prejudiced toward one particular breed. He ignored Daisy and me, glossed over my questions, left us out of the introductions of herding breeds present. UNTIL he saw her work. He pointedly noted that some breeds USED to be good herders in their native countries until they were brought to the United States and turned into show dogs. I knew who he was referring to. The crowd of spectators exploded when Daisy worked. I must admit that it was probably due at least in part to the fact that she looked so different than most of the other herding dogs there, but suddenly his whole attitude did a quick about turn. I gloated overproving my point that Briards CAN herd even if they are show dogs, obedience dogs, tracking dogs, or “just”
The day I took Daisy for her Herding Instinct Certification Test, we stood outside in a freezing snowstorm for five hours. (Don't panic - many tests are held indoors or at least in better weather.) I still feel the benefits were worth the discomfort.

So WHY herding?

AKC is now working with herding breed clubs that have a herding program to establish a herding program for the AKC. Hopefully, the AKC's AKC program will become a reality by next summer. AKC titles will be offered, just as they are now for breed, obedience and tracking.

The BCA board is now deliberating on a herding program and, if passed, we will be allowed input in formulating the AKC herding program. We hope to be able to "grandfather in" those Briards who already have HICs. That is important because tentative plans will make the HIC the first "leg" of one of the new (as yet unnamed) AKC titles in herding.

Herding is on the move. From the Mn. stockdog Association newsletter: "Science Diet is a powerful force in the U.S. Trail scene. They believe that trials are going to become very popular in the midwest, just as they are on both coasts. Minnesota trials are potentially major spectator events."

A letter from the President of the Mn. stockdog Association states that he would like to see a trial held at the Metrodome (home of the Mn. Viking football team and the Mn. Twins baseball team) with the Governor as the Master of Ceremonies.

Let's not be left out! Granted, you do not find a long list of herding tests or trials, such as you do breed or obedience shows, but the ARE there. It is even more difficult to find herding training for those interested in going beyond the herding instinct test. I do have book lists. Also audio cassettes and videos that are available for purchase. (No, I have not read, heard or seen them myself yet, but I will try in future columns to present some of the better ones.) I must admit that I took over the BCA Herding Chairperson with little knowledge and even less information. For that reason I have formed a committee of knowledgeable people: Barbara Lynch, Karen Trueman, Dave Behrens, and Julie Reconnu. Anyone interested in serving on the Herding Committee would be most welcome. We especially need your thoughts, opinions, your herding experience, your stories and could probably use someone who has access to a copy machine or printing.

Present goals of the committee are to promote an awareness of herding, to establish a BCA herding program, and to keep records and publish records of Briards that earn Herding Instinct Certificates and herding trial titles.

If you have a HIC Briard we would like to collect all possible information for records. Please send a copy of your HIC test form and any other pertinent information to me so we can begin compiling these records. My address is: Jane Beahan, 29965 Innsbrook, Stacy, Mn. 55079.

From the American Herding Breed Guide. "During a herding instinct test the dog will demonstrate that it can function under pressure, adapting to new situations: new people, strange animals of a kind the dog may never have seen before. Even dogs which have never seen stock, having lived all their lives in a city, can demonstrate their herding instinct. It is thrilling to see a dog start right in as if it weren't at all something new. Herding instinct testing is a way to preserve the unique heritage of the herding breeds and to open up new challenges. The qualities that make a good herding dog -- trainability, adaptability, loyalty, soundness of body and character, agility, grace -- are important in many areas, and contribute so much toward making the dog an outstanding companion as well."

I recently spoke with a breeder who told me she papered the walls of her whelping pen with sheep wallpaper. I hope the attitude is catching!
VERSATILITY DOG: A New Briard Title

Julie Treinis

Attention Briarders! The BCA Board has approved the awarding of a new title to those unique individuals of our breed which, by passing certain prescribed criteria, have demonstrated the inherent versatility of the Briard. These criteria are as follows:

1. AKC Championship
2. AKC or CKC Companion Dog (CD)
3. Any two (2) of the following titles:
   a. Herding Instinct Certification (HIC) - this requires written certification from any herding breed club or herding club.
   b. Any AKC or CKC Tracking Title (TD, TDX)
   c. Any Schutzhund Degree (AD, Sch I, II, III, FH)
   d. Any Herding Trial Title
   e. AKC or CKC Utility (UD)
   f. ATT or USTT Temperament Test (TT)
4. Dog's owner (or at least one co-owner) must be a BCA member
5. Dog's owner or co-owner must submit photocopies of all criteria certificates together at one time to Versatility Dog Chairman, Julie Treinis, 159 Hollis Street, Dunstable, MA 01827

Qualifying dogs will be reported in the #DewCLaw. The Versatility Title will be awarded to those qualifying dogs who are currently being shown, those who have retired, and posthumously to those who are no longer with us.

The purpose of the Versatility Dog Title is "to recognize the unique Briard which possesses correct conformation and one who is a willing worker in partnership with his owner(s)." It is hoped that having this opportunity to list one's Briard among the elite of our very special breed will encourage the pursuit of more varied experiences and the greater development of our Briards' natural potential.

At the age of six months --- this is not an absolute age, so much depends upon the temperament of the pup: a very immature puppy who is always moving and into things, with a very short attention span, should probably wait a bit longer --- you will want to seek out an obedience training class to attend with your pup. If there is more than one Club or Professional School in your area then you will have to do some research so as to choose the one best suited for your Briard. If possible talk with someone who has graduated from the Club and even watch him work his dog. Find out such things as: what type of motivation do they use in teaching the dog (positive or negative), what dog training experience do the instructors have, what is the ratio of instructors to students and how individualized is the instruction, and do most dogs finish the course knowing most of the outlined material and yet still seem to be ENJOYING the work? At the training club's orientation night you will be told in more detail about their methods and philosophy, the equipment they require and other house rules.

Remember, as you go through your ten weeks of beginner's class, that you alone are in charge of your dog's training. Your teachers can only do so much. You must work daily with your dog. As the training progresses you will want to go to places other than your home grounds for your daily training so as to subject your dog to strange distractions.

And last, but not least, always schedule a fun play period with your dog after each training session: if you do this unfailing your dog will anticipate it and work happily in eager expectation of that play time.

I had a marvelous letter from Theresa Lee reporting on her "Lance's" --Ch. Basiner Garcon de L'Heureux CD--CDX degree. They achieved it in six shows in six weeks before the age of two! Watch for them in Utility at next year's Specialty. (BCA Specialty, Howell, Michigan August 19 -- Open A--188, Pontiac KC -- August 21 -- Open A--182, Southern Michigan Dog Obedience Club October 2 -- 192--CDX!! Congratulations!

Let me know about your obedience scores, questions or comments; Mimi Long - 63 First Avenue No., Duluth, Mn 55803.
What do these dogs have in common?

Beau Cheval Vent Vert
Chateaubriard L'Oreal Un
Ecar Second Chapter
Jennie Del Pastre
Luc De La Brie
Mon Amoureux
Phydeaux Polly Poulet
Pinot Noire Des Coteaux
Tanner De L'Eminence
U Know Jeton Deux De Bonheur

They all died of BLOAT!!

Help end the nightmare....

Support the MORRIS ANIMAL FOUNDATION
BLOAT RESEARCH FUND

Make a Difference!

Morris Animal Foundation
45 Inverness Drive, E.
Englewood, Co. 80112-5480

Tel: 303/790-2345

The very first Briard Terry and I ever met was a rescue dog named Clousseau. We met him about 12 years ago when he was under a year old. He was found, panic-stricken, running along an interstate in Georgia at about 5 months of age. He was adopted by a lawyer in the Cleveland area, but because of extremely unreliable temperament, he was placed, again in the Cleveland area, in the home of a police officer. He was a fear biter, but due to devotion and careful handling by the Patch family, he lived a long and happy life. He died of cancer in October, leaving a hole as big as the Grand Canyon in the hearts of the Patches.

Although we did not know each other, Bill Patch got our number through the AKC and called. In tears, he explained his loss. Much to her amazement, Terry realized he was talking about Clousseau, who, as you can imagine, has always retained a place in our hearts as our first-ever Briard. Bill wanted a Briard to try to fill the hole Clousseau had left. His wife was too grief-stricken to ever consider it. Could he come and talk to Terry and meet our dogs? Of course he could! Terry had tears in her eyes when she hung up the phone.

Now the plot thickens. Miss Tetly Keiter-Miller-McCann had been delivered of a litter in June, and all these puppies had been placed in homes. But as fate would have it, one puppy had gone to an owner who was unable to manage the care of a small puppy due to a back injury. Deju Vu Dear John (Jack) had come home, and at the age of 17 weeks was as endearing and loveable as only a Briard puppy can be. He has a winsome combination of Grandmother Tinsel's easy-going manner and Miss Tetly's love of life.

When Bill came in the door, it was as if some sort of psychic recognition had taken place. Jack hurled himself on Bill as if to say, "at last you've come! What took you so long?" Terry was really considering Jack as a realistic candidate for the Patch family, as Jack is clearly a show quality puppy. Terry had already turned down two prospective owners for him, and was talking to someone in California who wanted an older puppy of show quality. The idea was for Bill to meet our older dogs, Jack, and Tinsel's new-born litter, for him to perhaps place an order for a pet at a later time. But Jack had other ideas.

It was love at first sight. An additional plus was that after years of having to grab Clousseau whenever anyone came to the door. Bill was flabbergasted to meet our dogs, from Tinsel (sweetly affectionate greeting) to Tetley (widely excited) to Woody. Mr. Sophisticate, who hurled himself at Bill's feet, rolling on his back and wagging his tail as he offered "lamby" his favorite toy. This was a dimension of Briard temperament unknown to him.

After an hour with Terry and the dogs, it became clear that Jack had adopted BillPatch. Terry was willing to reconsider her agenda. Would Bill perhaps allow her to show him? Yes, he would.

A quick call to his wife, who was still unsure, but Jack was already packing his bags. Was it Jack or Terry or Bill who suggested a trial run to see if he would fit in? I'm not sure, but I think I saw Jack wink at me as he proudly led Bill out the front door.

Well it has been a month now. I think the trial run lasted about ten minutes. Jackie is living the life of Riley. The
Patches are thrilled. I can tell you. Terry and I haven’t gotten over the lumps in our throats yet.

As Bill and Terry walked with Jack out to the car, Bill said “I think the Man Upstairs had a hand in this.” and both of them were teary-eyed again. I don’t put it past Him at all. Probably Fox Terrier, Kelpie and German Shepherd breeders all feel the same way, but as for me, I’m pretty sure God loves Briards best of all.

EVERYDAY BRIARDS

By Calysta Queener

We all know how much fun Briards are in our lives. Their intelligence can be frightfully embarrassing at times and terribly frustrating. Here are a few “glad” stories of overly “bright” Briards making their human “family” look silly!

Our son’s teacher was distressed over a question of simple(?) deductive reasoning that the child had puzzled over for a length of time and still could not answer. When she insisted on an answer he picked one and was incorrect. Here is the question.

It lives in you house.
It is fun to play with.
It will come when you call.

The picture answers were: a wagon, a bicycle, and a dog.
He chose the wagon! I just laughed. Our Briards look at each other when he calls them. Sixty pound bodys, no matter how careful they are, tend to bump into or reach out to so hard when you weigh 20 pounds less and it is certainly not any fun.
Therefore, none of the answers made sense!! After the explanation, his teacher laughed, too.

At our house, the Briards take turns “going along for the ride” on errands and discovered that strangers laughing at Briard antics can re-enforce certain behaviors. Our local pharmacy also has a convience section with a deli. While waiting for lunch meats to be cut, I recognized my own car’s horn. It would toot about every 2 to 3 minutes. Knowing that one of the dogs was in the car and that it was cool and after dark, I figured she was just being impatient. Little did I know, she had collected an audience and they laughed when she would toot the horn with her nose. This went on for some minutes. One of the clerks became worried, thinking a child was in the car outside wanting its mother. She went outside to get the make of the car and plate number. Giggling and red faced, she returned to the store and announced to everyone that it was a big black dog, sitting in the driver’s seat, tooting that horn as the crowd laughed and applauded! More people went out to see. I wasted a few more minutes hoping the Briard in my car would tire of the game, but it was not to be. Purchasing my items, I tried not to look too “red-faced.” The crowd clapped and laughed as I went out the door. On seeing me approaching the car, my wonderful pet politely moved to the passenger’s seat and sat down, her job of “recalling” me being over. This episode taught me a valuable lesson: Never leave this particular Briard in the car alone for more than 10 minutes unless you want to be “tooted” at until you return! She does her “recall” routine any chance she gets for an always delighted group of onlookers.
A Kind of Rescue Story, But a Definite Happy Ending (Beginning)

My Briard is very special, for as I see it she was a gift from God.

It was almost three years ago that my husband and I (especially I) decided our boys were old enough to appreciate having a dog. So being the investigative sort, I did research to find what breed dog would best suit the Hough family. My completed list consisted of three breeds with the Briard at the very top. Next it was writing letters to appropriate places trying to locate these beautiful dogs. One discovers quickly Briards aren’t listed in the local paper in Colorado --- or at least I didn’t see any. I received information from Mary Bloom about the Briards and the fact that there weren’t any puppies available at present. Another reality also occurred to me at this time and that was even if we found a puppy how would we work the larger than anticipated fee into our budget?! Things looked pretty discouraging all the way around and yet this lust to have a Briard still existed in my heart. So I prayed something like this "Lord if it’s your desire for us to have a Briard please provide the means, if not take this desire out of my heart..." And low and behold His answer came:

Looking in the newspaper wasn’t something I practiced anymore but this one morning in May was different. There was an ad for a Briard bitch (and oh, I did want a bitch) needing a good home. I called right away and the owner said she could be seen the next day. He had several calls on her and they narrowed it down to three possibilities. Of course you realize as well as I did who was going to be the right owner for Nikki! When my son and I saw her she was this beautiful tawny - just like the book! She came right up to me and never hesitated when it came time to get in the car to go home with us. Sort of like when God told the animals to follow Noah into the Ark, He must’ve told Nikki "follow them, they’ll take good care of you.” Our bond was immediate which really amazed people. But what’s even better is Nikki is everything I could want in a friend and portrays Briard characteristics beautifully.

Nikki is considered a Rescue Dog I guess since the previous owner ran into complications and had to find a place for her. After trying to place her in his son’s young family only to have it fail, Nikki was kenneled for a month.

We might have rescued Nikki, but she was the answer to my prayer and I thank God for such a gift as Nikki.

BRIARD CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL QUILT

YOURS

NED

The contributed square should be 12½” of all cotton or unbleached, with the working area being 12” square in earth tone colors in any medium. This will be due on March 31, 1989 at my home address, 7023 Bates in Dallas, Texas 75227.

PAT MORALE
(214) 388-1074
California: Matt and Marlene Weyuker have recently relocated on top of an extinct volcano. The house was built by clearing the area with dynamite. Matt just got the news, seems like a private investigator saw his name on an office sign and decided it was perfect for a character in his new novel. Now I am going home to sit down and read it to see what kind of a character he really is! The Weyukers are also the proud parents of a baby girl (furry one) named Sugar.

Talked to Susan Alexander the other day, she needs help. Seems her wonderful new addition Lilli, while Susan was sleeping, decided to straighten out and rearrange things. While doing this she encountered a bottle of bluing. You guessed it. Sue now owns a nosy blue beard. Any one out there that might be able to give her some suggestions as to returning her dog to its natural state. Help would be greatly appreciated.

Moving on to Washington, Nathan Richmond, our Best Jr. Handler for '87 & '88 has a girlfriend. Mom is not real happy. Nathan is her oldest.

Don Thompson, a name familar to those who have been in Briards a long time, is back, and in the swing of things. He co-owns a bitch with Barbara Ruby and will be showing here on the West Coast. Welcome back Don.

In April 1998, Mary Lou Tingley, Breeder-Judge, will be judging at the Salinas Valley Kennel Club. I hope everyone who can will come. Let's support this entry. There will be a banquet dinner after the show and hopefully Mary Lou will be here for a while to visit people on the West Coast.

Send me your news, Mary Lopez, 8872 Dyer Road, Salinas, Ca. 93907.

Midwest:

Bob & Mary Pearson's dog decided it wasn't enough to win the breed from the classes over specials at Delaware Ohio Kennel Club - he also went on to the group 4 under Judge Joe Mellor! Bob & Kelley Walter's son Jack was christened in November. Davveeeeee Behrens & Roberta Whitesides have a new 4 month old Tervuren puppy related to Ryan, their recent National Specialty winning multi-BIS dog.

On a very sad note, Manny & Jean Littons' lovely dog Irv (Ch. Roman's Urge) passed away suddenly of an unknown cause. Many of you will remember Irv as winner's dog at the 1984 National Specialty in Ohio under R. William Taylor. Katie McCann has once again rejoined us all on this side of the Atlantic. Back from her 4 year sojourn to Scotland (with of course intermittent visits home to get a Briard fix)... It is anyone's guess how long she'll stay this time. Rumors has it she's job hunting.

Did anyone see the Briard in the October and November issues of Better Homes & Gardens magazine? It was an ad with this writer's dog "Woody" for Imperial Wall coverings.

Send any news and tidbits to Terry Miller, 2967 Meadowbrook Blvd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118.
Dear Alfie,

Boy has your column ever been needed! My ma was so excited when she read it. I am a newcomer to the show ring and so is my mom. Taking second is okay but I always feel like the outcast since I'm the only black bitch there. How does a girl get a copy of the list you sent to Shadow? Ma says she doesn't know any politics yet but she tries hard.

I also have a question about my big sister, no blood relation. She seems to have these moments when she just loses her sanity. She gets nasty to everyone and her pupils dilate. She even groooowls at mom which makes her real mad. Then as quickly it's over. Dad calls her "The Psycho". I just run outside. They had her thyroid checked but that seemed okay. Any suggestions?

Black is Beautiful

Dear Beautiful,

Thank you for your kind words. Your list is in the mail. We will continue to deal with any Briard related subject, despite it's delicateness. To do otherwise would be unfair and dishonest to our readers.

I don't blame you for being so concerned about your sister. This situation could quickly become uncontrollable. There's a few possibilities that come to mind. First, your owner must determine whether your sister is simply trying to assert dominance with this nasty behavior. If it is that, then a few series of obedience classes, with lessons firmly, yet fairly, enforced should do wonders to alleviate the problem.

If this is not the real basis of the problem, then a veterinarian/behaviorist consultant would be the next step. "Rage syndrome" is not unknown in our breed and is a potentially dangerous situation. This is difficult for an owner to diagnose so a respected professional in canine behavior should appraise this possibility. Also a vet examination can look at other possibilities--which can include head injuries causing brain damage (either temporary or permanent), epilepsy, genetic behavior disorder, or brain tumors which may cause some peculiar behavioral responses.

I am very sorry, my boy, that the letter suggestions are so grave. I sincerely hope for you, your sister and your obviously doting owner that it is a basic behavior modification that is needed. I strongly suggest that your owner contact your sister's breeders to fully discuss the behavior with them. Some light may be shed on the subject by such an exchange.

Whatever the cause, until the behavior is changed, under no circumstances should your sister be shown while she may endanger other owners, dogs, or the judge and stewards at a dog show. That would be a serious misjudgment and show poor sportsmanship. Let your owner continue to enjoy shows by exhibiting you and try to build her confidence by perfecting your performance while improving her own handling skills. BON CHANCE!!

Black is Beautiful

I'm typing Sue's list for Santa so there will be no mistake...

... that the first item is a case of correction fluid!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from Delila, Chien de Sel Briards and, Sue Erickson
THE BIGTREE GANG ABOVE,
ALONG WITH CARA, MCCALL,
TRAVIS, RAINY AND HOBBIE,
JOIN US, BARBE & DAN
LYNCH, IN WISHING ALL
BRIARDS & BRIARDERS:

HAPPY HOLIDAYS &
A GREAT NEW YEAR!

JoBneuOeîl
Getting Spruced Up for the Holidays!
Good Tidings to all from...

Season's Greetings
Lourson Brilliant Babette & Ch Lindeaux Aubrey de Montdidier
Babette
Bob & Barbara Weihrauch

Meg Weitz and Michael Greenberg
Brigands de Belauvre
Wilmington, DE.
Joy and Peace

Ch Abbayes Paulette De Bonheur CD

From the Beahans,
Pauli, Padget,
Abner & Daisy

A Toast To
Our New Generation!

Château Lindeau Briards
Rob Ferber and Linda Wells
6175 West M36 Pinckney, Mi.
Best wishes to all for 1989
from
Pumpkin ...
Tiffany ...
Atlas ...
and Coco ...

... and from K and Gérard

Les Briards de Lutèce
K and Gérard Baudet
105 East Manning Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906
(401) 861-7617

Ch. Deja Vu Woodbine
Cheap Thrills

Xmas & Hanukah Greetings

DEJA VU BRIARDS
2967 MEADOWBROOK BOULEVARD
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OHIO 44118
Champion Enjoli Brian Boru

Owners: Frances M. Valley
Dr. Lorraine W. McDermott

Breeder: Dr. Lorraine W. McDermott

Sire: Ch. John's Pashtu de Strathcona
Dam: Ch. Radieux Ursa Major
Whelped: August 14, 1987

Champion Enjoli Briand Beaubear

Owners: Dr. Lorrainie McDermott
Richard Hackett

Breeder: Dr. Lorrainie McDermott

Sire: Ch. Johns Pashtu de Strathcona
Dam: Ch. Radieux Ursa Major
Whelped: August 14, 1987
Canadian Champion Bigree's Brass Ring
"Jodie"

Owners: Barbara Lynch
B. J. Carruthers

Breeder: B. J. Carruthers

Sire: Ch. Bigtree's Twice Told Tales
Dam: Ch. Amie De Julee

Whelped: November 4, 1986

Handled by: Alice Bixler

NEW CANADIAN CHAMPION

Happy Holidays

From

Mary

And

Phyliss

Brands
NEW CHAMPION

For your Holiday Greetings....

The Briard
A big black nose.
Tongue over a full beard.
Eye peeking through a forelock.
Ears alert.
A thick flowing coat.
A tail carried proudly.

The Briard
An attention getter and still rare.
A dog of strength and agility.
As a companion and protector.
The Briard is loyal, fearless.
Intelligent, intuitive,
always an individual.
An extension of the family.
Living for your love.

The Briard

BRIARD Note Cards (10 with envelopes) $5.00

Hand painted Porcelain Briard Pins. Only a few blacks and tawnies left. $8.00

Le Berger De Brie dit BRIARD
Briard book written in FRENCH and available through the Novelty Shoppe for $12.00

THE BRIARD NOVELTY SHOPPE
Florence Wise RFD2 Box 986
Auburn, Maine 04210

Please add $2.00 for shipping on all orders. Checks payable to The Briard Novelty Shoppe.
BREEDERS WHO HAVE OR ARE EXPECTING PUPPIES
AS OF DECEMBER 1988

IDAHO
Judy Carroll - Route 1, Box 1220 Filer, ID 83328
Blacks & Tawnies (12/88) (208) 326-3193

CALIFORNIA
Mary Lopez - 8872 Dyer Road, Salinas, CA 93907
Blacks & Tawnies (L9/88) (408) 663-3200
Gwen Shook, 21891 Vivienda Ave., Grand Terrace, CA 92324
Blacks & Tawnies (L9/88) (714) 783-2117

MARYLAND
Joyce Smith, 1500 Oak Drive, Huntingtown, MD 20639
Tawnies (L11/88) (301) 535-4211

MASSACHUSETTS
Marsha Clamp, 567 South Street, Roslindale, MA 02131
Tawnies (9/88) (617) 325-6511
David & Susan Wahr, 1 Seneca Circle, Andover, MA 01810
Black (R.L10/88) (508) 475-7210

MICHIGAN
Linda Wells & Rob Ferber, 6175 West M36, Pinckney, MI 48169
Blacks & Tawnies (L11/88) (313) 498-2509

OHIO
Terry Miller, 2967 Meadowbrook Blvd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
Tawnies (L9/88) (216) 321-3219

OREGON
Linda Pitzing & Phil Johnson, Rt. 4, Box 287, Cornelius, OR 97113
Blacks & Tawnies (L10/88) (503) 357-8850

WISCONSIN
Diane Royce, 1916 N. Douglas St., Appleton, WI 54914
Tawnies (L11/88) (414) 733-1921

KATZ 1701 STRATHCONA DRIVE
DETOIT, MI 48203 (313) 368-3123