

# Exclusively Af

#### A Message from the President

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Hello to all of the Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound members. I am very excited about 2014. We have a great many fun events scheduled and I am looking forward to all of them. We will be having our second annual Awards Banquet this spring, and I encourage each of you to send in your information on any new titles that your Afghan Hound acquired during 2013. These do not have to be limited to Conformation titles by any means, any title that you and your dog(s) have achieved during the past year are acceptable and we are giving beautiful medallions again this year to everyone who has received a new title. Please plan to come to the Banquet even if you are not receiving an award. We will have a great time, so it will definitely be worth your while to show

up and enjoy a fun evening with friends.

We have many lure coursing and CAT trials set up again for this coming year. There is a list of all of these events in this newsletter.

Our Specialty this year will be very fun and I anticipate a great success. We have a great team of people chairing the event, working on hospitality and on the trophies. Any help that each of you can give to help make our Specialty a success is appreciated.

I encourage all of our members to come out to support each of these events. Every member has something unique to offer the club, and we appreciate everything that each one of you does to help. Please don't hesitate to offer your support, we all benefit from sharing the work that goes into making this club a success.

> **Lorene French** 2014 GTCAHC President

Officers:

President: Lorene French Vice President: Anna Tyler Corresponding Secretary: Sandy Nelson Recording Secretary: Susan Weatherhead Treasurer: Al Saiko

# Upcoming Events!

Events are from the AKC website, unless I am aware of an event. Events listed only the metro area of MN. These events are not for the entire year but a couple months ahead. The deadline dates are a couple months out so that people are able to enter upon seeing this newsletter.

<b>Event Type</b>	Event Date	Host Club	Location	Premium Deadline
Agility	March 28th, 29th, and 30th 2014	German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul	On the Run Canine Center.	March 12th 2014
Agility	April 4th, 5th, and 6th 2014	Twin Cities Cavalier Charles Spaniel Club	On the Run Canine Center.	March 20th 2014
Agility	April 11th, 12th, and 13th 2014	St. Paul Dog Training Club	St. Paul Dog Training Club building	March 26th 2014
Agility	April 18th, 19th, and 20th 2014	Twin Cities Lhasa Apso Club	On the Run Canine Center.	April 2nd 2014
Agility	May 9th, 10th, and 11th 2014	Twin Cities Obedience Training Club, Inc.	Twin Cities Obedience Training Club Building	April 23rd 2014
Rally/ Obedience	April 5th and 6th 2014	Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club	Total Recall School for Dogs.	March 12th 2014
Obedience only	April 25th, 26th, and 27th 2014	St. Paul Dog Training Club	St. Paul Dog Training Club building	April 10th 2014
Lure Coursing	April 26th and 27th 2014	Greater Twin Cities Afghan Hound Club	Dakota County Fairgrounds	April 23rd 2014

## News...News...News...

You should all have received a member renewal form from Sandy Nelson. Please return with membership dues before **MARCH 1st 2014**. If there are any questions please contact Sandy Nelson at <u>karizmaafghans@comcast.net</u>.

	GREATER TWIN
	CITIES
	AFGHAN
	HOUND
	CLUB
GTC	EAHC Membership Renewal DUE BY MARCH 1, 2014
Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
E-Mail:	
Education Donation: \$	
Lure Coursing Equipment \$	
TOTAL Enclosed \$	
Make checks payable to:	GTCAHC
Please mail checks to:	Sandy Nelson 9420 Magnolia Way N. Maple Grove, MN 55369
Membership Dues are:	\$25.00 for Single \$40.00 for a Couple
February will apply to the A of February).	accepted during the months of <b>December, January and</b> March I dues for the next fiscal year ( <b>March I</b> to the last day  as lapsed and automatically terminated if the Member's loss ofter <b>March I</b>

Get excited! The Awards Banquet is March 15th. Sandy Nelson or Lynn LaBahn should send an update with a place and time via email. Hope to see you there!

Our Fun Match will be June 28th. More details to come!

This is NEWS as well as a BRAG!

Barb Strusinski and Janet Williams have co-bred a litter that is due March 10th. Barb's Lacy (El Shazaam Swiftwind Galactica, JC) has been bred to her Rodeo son, Sticker (El Shazaam Strawberry Jamm). There will be at least six puppies. Both parents and their pedigrees are listed in the Afghan Hound International Pedigree database.

# Won't you take me home?



### Lucky the Afghan hound.

Back in November 2013, Susan received a call about an Afghan hound that was in need of rescue. His owner had fallen on hard times and was no longer able to care for Lucky. Susan Weatherhead, GTCAHC Rescue Chair took the call and after

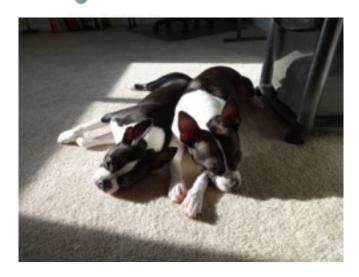
Lucky's owner signed a release form Susan picked up Lucky in Otsego , Minnesota. Lucky was vet checked, given a complete medical examination and had all his shots up to date. Lucky weighed in at almost 115 pounds. He has been staying at Susan & Jim Weatherhead's while they work with Lucky (diet management and exercise) to get his weight down before re-homing him to his forever home. Lucky has a laid back personality, is easy going. He loves everyone, gets along with cats and has a soft spot in his heart for small dogs. We may already have a new home for him in Thunderbay, Ontario, Canada. We will keep you posted as things progress.

Susan Weatherhead, GTCAHC Rescue Chair.



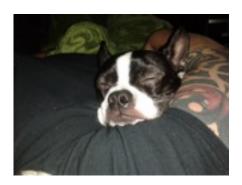


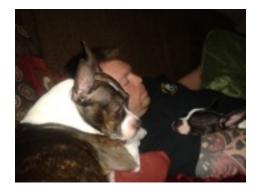
# Happy Tails



This is the tale of a once sad little Boston Terrier named Silus - but the tale has a happy ending. After being alone and neglected most of his life he was finally released into rescue as an Afghan Hound mascot and was placed in a perfectly lovely home. Andrea Kulla and her husband, Heath, adopted Silus in early January 2014. He has a new little sister named Gema, and they are the best of companions. Silus has a new life and his Mom and Dad decided he needed a new name - he is now Jax. He smiles all the time while he plays with his new little sister, Gema, in their big fenced in yard. He has vet care, good food, sleeps under the covers in bed with his Mom, Dad and Gema and is finally totally loved and appreciated. We love happy endings especially for sad little dogs who need a smidge of help! You are a good boy, little Jax!

#### Anna





## Learning new tricks!





On Saturday, February 8, 2014 we had a Beginning Training on the duties of a Field Trial Secretary. Sandy Nelson, Anna Tyler, Janet Williams, and Doug Korus were taught by Lynn LaBahn. All the students felt they learned a lot and could be helpful at trials coming up. But also felt they needed further training because there is so much to learn and absorb. The trainer thought they all did wonderfully since we had just completed a 4 hour general membership meeting. We will have additional training in the future and do a full mock run through of an actual trial with a few twists thrown in for educational interest! If you were not able to join us this time, hopefully you can join us next time. We had fun!!! Next training date TBD.







Inisfree Sirae' Duet Crystal Blue Persuasion - Blue was Select Dog on on Sunday, November 24, 2013 under Judge (Mr.) Whitney J. Coombs at the Minneapolis Kennel Club dog show. This was his first weekend showing as a Special for a 4 point major towards his Grand Champion title. Blue is owned by Lorene French, Louise Paulson and Anna Tyler.





Julia Callaghan: Inisfree Sirae' Notorious Duet JC (Tori) Was awarded the title of Canine Good Citizen on January 25th, 2014 under Trainer Rachel Larson.

Sienna (El Zagel's Arcadian Colors, JOR) is the 2013 NOTRA National Champion Afghan (oval track racing).





Rory (El Zagel's Centuries of Youth, SOR) is the Number 1 Afghan for 2013 in LGRA (straight line racing).

Pam Risteau: Inisfree Sirae' Duet's Leave It To Chance (Chance) was Winners Dog on Saturday, December 7, 2013 under Judge (Mr.) Luc Boileau Granite City Kennel Club, St. Cloud, Minnesota and Winners Dog on Sunday, December 8, 2013 under Judge (Ms.) Sharol Candace Way Granite City Kennel Club, St. Cloud, Minnesota which finished him and is now a **Champion**!

Susan Weatherhead: Silver Gr. Ch. Jakar Majic Park Avenue JC (Parker)

Best of Opposite Sex on Saturday, January 4, 2014 under Judge Lawrence (Larry) Sinclair

Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, St. Paul, Minnesota and Best of Opposite Sex on Sunday, January 5, 2014 under Judge Michael J Dougherty. Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Louise Paulson: Gr.Ch.Sirae'Inisfree Baby's Got Bling (Lizzy)

Best of Opposite Sex on Saturday, December 7, 2013 under Judge (Mr.) Luc Boileau

Granite City Kennel Club, St. Cloud, Minnesota and Best of Opposite Sex on Sunday, December 8, 2013 under Judge (Ms.) Sharol Candace Way. Granite City Kennel Club, St. Cloud, Minnesota

Anna Tyler: Inisfree Sirae' Duet Lady of the Dance (Willow)

Winners Bitch & Best of Winners on Saturday, December 7, 2013 under Judge (Mr.) Luc Boileau Granite City Kennel Club, St. Cloud, Minnesota and Winners Bitch & Best of Winners on Sunday, December 8, 2013 under Judge (Ms.) Sharol Candace Way. Granite City Kennel Club, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Anna Tyler: Inisfree Sirae' Duet Lady of the Dance (Willow)

Reserve Winners Bitch on Sunday, January 5, 2014 under Judge Michael J Doughtery Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, St. Paul, Minnesota



Crystal Gadison/Anna Tyler: Inisfree Sirae' Vision Blue Mist Duet (Misty) Winners Bitch & Best of Winners on Saturday,

Winners Bitch & Best of Winners on Saturday, November 23, 2013 under Judge (Mr.) Terry Stacy Minneapolis Kennel Club, Shakopee, Minnesota **New Champion**.

We have 5 dogs that are in the Top 50 AKC Lure Coursing Afghan Hounds! A big **Congratulations** to FC Skyview Wind Of Kassan SC CA, she is in 5th place. CH Inisfree Sirae' Duet Crystal Blue Persuasion SC, he is tied for 11th place. CH Inisfree Sirae'Duet Leave it To Chance, he is tied for 22nd place. Inisfree Sirae' Notorious Duet JC CGC, she is in 27th place. And GCH DC Inisfree's Superior Majic CD RN SC, he is tied for 39th place. Way to go guys!!!!

Susan Weatherhead: Silver Gr. Ch. Jakar Majic Park Avenue JC (Parker) Select Bitch on Sunday, December 8, 2013 under Judge (Ms.) Sharol Candace Way Granite City Kennel Club, St. Cloud, Minnesota

Dwayne Sanders: Utchati The Wild One (Brando) Winners Dogs on Sunday, November 24, 2013 under Judge (Mr.) Whitney J. Coombs Minneapolis Kennel Club, Shakopee, Minnesota

### Legislation

February 4, 2014

The American Kennel Club (AKC) lauds the US Senate for passing a new five-year Farm Bill today that addresses some of the AKC's concerns regarding recent regulatory changes to the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) by the USDA/APHIS Retail Pet Stores and Licensing Exemptions rule. The House of Representatives passed the bill last week.

AKC outlined to Farm Bill negotiators from the Senate and House Agriculture committees that although the intent of the changes to the rule was to regulate large-scale breeders and Internet pet sellers, it also would have required some small hobby breeders who maintain more than four "breeding females" and transfer an occasional dog sight unseen, to be licensed and regulated as commercial pet dealers. The regulation also would have required small hobby breeders who provide foster homes for rescue dogs to be licensed as commercial breeders if they maintain more than four female dogs and occasionally use an intermediary to transfer a foster dog to its new home.

The changes in the Farm Bill (HR 2642) will reduce the number of breeders and dealers otherwise required to obtain a license if the size of their business is determined to be "de minimis" (minimal). The Farm Bill Conference Report also allows USDA to "determine if the number of animals they breed or sell or the gross annual dollar amounts earned are so minor as to merit disregard."

The measure's conference report states that this will free up more USDA resources and recommends that APHIS finalize a rule regarding this change within the year.

"We believe these changes will be welcome to responsible small breeders who not only breed occasionally, but also provide foster homes for rescue dogs," said AKC Government Relations Director Sheila Goffe. "Without these changes, many could have been forced to give up their rescue activities unless they could obtain a USDA pet dealer license."

A second measure supported by the AKC directs APHIS to clarify the term "breeding female". This term is currently used in AWA regulations to define who should be regulated as a pet dealer, but it lacks authority because it does not appear in the underlying statute. The conference report urged APHIS to clarify that only those female animals capable of reproduction and actively being used in a breeding program should qualify as breeding females.

The AKC thanks the many members of Congress, Congressional staff and AKC club members whose dedicated efforts made these changes possible. "We are extremely grateful to the Farm Bill negotiators for addressing some of AKC's concerns regarding the Retail Pet Stores and Licensing Exemptions. We would especially like to thank the leadership of the House and Senate Agriculture committees, Chairman Frank Lucas, Livestock Subcommittee Chairman Rick Crawford and Ranking Member Jim Costa, and Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow and Ranking Member Thad Cochran for their leadership in including these beneficial changes to the AWA in the Farm Bill Conference report," said AKC President and CEO Dennis Sprung.

A third measure in the Farm Bill also codifies the regulatory changes made by USDA/APHIS in the Retail Pet Stores and Licensing Exemptions rule in late 2013.

The measure now goes to the White House for President Obama's signature.

## Until we meet again...



Farewell to Miss Whisper

Whisper was born in Indiana on July 9, 1999. She was given a beautiful name: Majic Mystere. But after a short time in a show home she was returned to her breeder where she was put in crate and given the unfortunate call name of Witch. Time passed and on June 23, 2010, Majic Mystere was removed from her crate, weighing only 20 pounds, her beautiful coat matted with urine and excrement. She was rescued and lovingly cared for by Lisa Bettis & Ryan Wolf. She was groomed and fed and given much needed medical care along with the other Afghans that were rescued that day.

Two months quickly went by and it was time for Majic Mystere to leave Indiana for her new forever home in Minnesota. Majic Mystere traveled in high style in the very nice RV of Mike & Jody Gardner (and Nikki too!) I remember well the day I picked up Majic Mystere from the Gardners. She cried and cried and was terribly

worried. So many changes in such a short time Majic Mystere was a nervous wreck. But more changes

were too come. Majic Mystere was made a member of the Weatherhead family and given a new name: Whisper (which fit as she had been de-barked).

Whisper Weatherhead went from crate dog to family member. She learned walk on a leash, loved going to dog shows and loved coming home even more. Whisper discovered toys and enjoyed hoarding stuffed animals in her bed. She was such a good girl and had many admirers. Whisper attended the Afghan Hound National Specialty twice and in 2011 Miss Whisper led the Parade of Rescue which featured 76 Afghan hounds.



Time passed and Whisper got older. She turned 14 ½ on January 9, 2014. But the cold & snowy winter was taking its toll and Whisper had been diagnosed with

cancer. On January 28th, Whisper was humanely euthanized. She is greatly missed and we hold our memories of her close in our hearts.

Special thanks to Lisa Bettis, Ryan Wolf and Leslie Griffith for all you did on June 23, 2010 and in the days and months that followed. Thanks to the all of the people far and wide who donated money to care for Majic Kennel rescue Afghan hounds. Thank you to Mike, Jody and Nikki Gardner for bringing Whisper safely to Minnesota. Thanks to GTCAHC members who took Whisper into their hearts and made her feel welcome. And we are forever grateful to medical care from PAWS Animal Hospital and to Dr. Michelle Beck who gently eased Whisper to the Rainbow Bridge.

Whisper was preceded in death by DJ, Dali, Flame, George, JR and Joey and Laci. She is survived by Jim & Susan Weatherhead and Princess Parker.

Ch Majic Man of Action Tifarah - "Sean" 4.18.2002 - 1.1.2014
Sean was named after Sean Connery because of his beautiful face. He was a gentle, soft soul who lived a quiet life with me from the time he came home with me in July of 2002. He was a beautifully moving boy who was winners dog at the GTCAHC Specialty and winners dog at the Milwaukee Specialty to finish his Championship. He was never sick a day in his life until he suffered heart failure New Year's Eve to pass on New Year's Day. I am still shocked to lose my sweet boy. He is loved and greatly missed.



### Afghan Hound Tales

The following article was originally published in The Longsdale Library Of Sports, Games and Pastime, Vol XIII: Hounds and Dogs - Their Training and Working, 1932.

Until comparatively recently almost as little was known about the Afghan hound as of his strange, inhospitable country, ringed by inaccessible mountains. Shortly after the Afghan War of 1919 a British Minister and Legation were appointed to Kabul, and the country then became better known to Europeans.

When out riding or shooting it was impossible not to notice the well-bred and beautiful hounds owned by some of the shikaris. They were a great contrast to the smooth coated "longdogs" one is used to on the Indian Frontier, In conformation rather like the English Greyhound, the Afghan hound is sturdy and more compactly built, carrying a thick silky coat which enables him to withstand the cold of the Afghan winter, for at an average height of 6,000 feet the temperature for three months of the year is often below zero and the snow lies in drifts 10 to 15 feet deep. The texture of this coat is a fine silky wool, which is unlike that of any other dog. The distribution of the coat is another characteristic of the breed: the chest, forelegs and the hindquarters are heavily coated with long, rope-like cords leaving the saddle smooth with a short and much darker hair, usually coarser in texture.

The muzzle is clean and dark and an upstanding topknot of long, silky hair crowns the head which has very little stop. The long graceful ears are heavily feathered. The whole effect is rather that of a wig in the time of Charles the Second. They have large compact feet and a thin, sparsely coated tail carried jauntily upward, terminating in a smaller curve. The bitch is usually smaller and carries less coat than the

dog. The expression is kind, intelligent and aloof, and this air of complete aloofness from their surroundings is very noticeable on the show bench. They have charming manners and are essentially a "one-man-dog". I do not advise anyone to keep Afghan hounds in kennels. They are used to living with man, and when deprived of his company they are unhappy and half developed and tend to become disobedient. It seems necessary to them to have a master or mistress to whom they can give their dignified devotion. They are good house dogs, marvelously kind and gentle with children.

Information as to the history of the breed is slight. The Afghans believe they are the dogs taken into the Ark by Noah, and point to the rock carvings of hounds in the caves of Balkh, in northern Afghanistan, as definite confirmation in this belief. The Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone in 1815 writes in his "Account of the Kingdom of Cabul and its Dependencies", "The Greyhounds of Afghanistan are excellent."

In 1857 Major Harry Lumsdem of the Queen's Own Corps Of Guides, who was on a mission to Kabul when the Indian Mutiny broke out, mentions Afghan hounds in his diary, and was apparently able to do a certain amount of hunting there in spite of the difficulties and suspicion he encountered. General Sir Francis Younghusband and Major-General Dunsterville (the "Stalky" of Rudyard Kipling's famous book) also mention keeping Afghan hounds at Maidan, the headquarters of the Guides Regiment in their young days.(Ed Note, Maidan Province is S.W of and immediately adjacent to Kabul Province).

There is usually considerable difficulty in obtaining information about anything in Afghanistan. Centuries of bloodshed and oppression have made the inhabitants of the "God-given

country" more than usually secretive about their own ways. We have sometimes visited villages where really good hounds were known to exist, only to be met with polite and blank assurance that none were there.

Monsieur Hackin, the well-known French archaeologist and Buddhist authority of the Guimet Museum, Paris, who had exceptional opportunities of traveling in the lesser known parts of Afghanistan, told us of a pack of chinchilla hounds, grey with black points, kept by a Governor of a district near the Oxus, if hounds of any other colour are born, they are thrown out of the pack, and, being greatly sought after by the Afghan shikaris, find their way as far south as Ghazni and Kabul. Khan Of Ghazni, a fine, honey-fawn coloured hound, imported into this country in 1925, came from this pack. I had one perfect chinchilla bitch sired by him and I understand that a son of his, Mustavi Of Ghazni, the property of Mrs. Cooper, also sired a number of chinchilla hounds.

The Afghan as a rule is a keen sportsman and most of the shikaris in the country districts keep a few hounds. A lot of nonsense has been written about the bitches being kept solely to guard the women in the harems. The Afghan hound in his own country works for his living and that of his masters, and the same rule applies to the bitch. They are both trained to hunt deer and wolves, and also to course hares and foxes; in fact anything that will bring grist to their owner's mill. Incidentally, they act as watch dogs also. When in Kabul we found that as night fell the latest recruit to our household became uneasy and anxious to go beyond the boundary of the Legation walls in order to hunt. We came to the conclusion that in many cases they were let loose to hunt for themselves at night time.

However, after a few days good feeding, they usually settled down quietly after the evening meal. A constant source of trouble to use in Kabul after purchasing an Afghan hound was the attempts often made to steal back the dogs. They sometimes succeeded in spite of a ten-foot wall and the armed Afghan guards at each entrance. This was very difficult to circumvent as the dogs were always hidden away in the previous owners houses in the high-walled Afghan villages where no European may penetrate. We found the dogs remarkably good tempered among themselves and less inclined to resent a newcomer of their own kind than most English breeds. This was a blessing as we often had twenty to thirty hounds at a time.

We used to ride out over Chardeh Plain in the early mornings with a couple of mounted orderlies to whipin. To see the whole pack streaming along with the galloping horses in the early morning sunlight with the keen air blowing from the snows of the distant Hindu Kush was a sight and experience never to be forgotten and I fear never to be enjoyed again. England is too small and too domesticated! In Afghanistan the hounds never show the slightest tendency to chase the innumerable sheep, cattle, camels and donkeys scattered over the countryside. They are pretty thoroughly trained from puppyhood what to hunt and what to leave alone.

One of the oldest forms of hunting, which is often portrayed in old Persian and Mogul manuscripts, is still carried on in the remoter parts of Afghanistan. The quarry, a small very swift deer called the Abu Dashti, is hunted by Afghan hounds with the aid of hawks. The birds used are of two kinds, the yellow-eyed and the black-eyed, usually distinguished in European countries as the long-winged and the short-winged hawks. The female of both varieties is the larger and more valuable bird. The black-eyed birds known as Chahughs, which build on the low mounds in the Balkh district, are most commonly

used. They are never unhooded except to fly at game and they spot the quarry with incredible quickness at enormous distances, even in the sudden glare of the tropical sun. The young birds and Afghan puppies are kept together, the young hounds being fed on the flesh of deer whenever possible. The food of young hawks is placed each day between the horns of a stuffed deer, later a string is attached to the head and is drawn across the floor, the young bird flapping after it. As soon as they are able to fly they are released and called to this lure. As the training progresses they are flown at a young kid and when they seize it the animal is killed and they are fed on the flesh. When fully-grown the hounds are loosed after a fawn and the hawks flown at it.

The training completed, hawks and hounds are taken to the hills. Immediately the deer is spotted the birds are unhooded and released and they descend above the head of the unfortunate beast, and, by flapping about it, impedes its progress sufficiently to enable the hounds to overtake it and pull it down. The Abu Dashti or Chinkara, as it is known in India, is so swift that it is said that "the day a Chinkara is born, a man may catch it: the second day a swift hound; but the third, no one but Allah".

It is interesting to see quite young puppies whose parents and grandparents have been born and reared in the country climb to a point of vantage in order to watch the flight of a large bird. The Afghan hound possesses very keen vision and hunts by sight.

Two Afghan hound were exhibited at a show of foreign dogs at the Royal Aquarium in 1895. They formed the subject of an article in the "Field" by the late W B Tegetmeir and were sketched by Arthur Wardle. The reproduction of one that I have before me shows a fie upstanding hound, typical in every way except that he has no topknot, the occiput being smooth. When Captain Barff's Zardin was

bought to this country in 1907 he caused a sensation. He was a magnificent specimen, heavily coated and rather larger than the average. His appearance at the Kennel Club Show created enormous interest and he was taken to Buckingham Palace at the request of her late Majesty, Queen Alexandra.

Mr. Whitbread's Shahzada was another early arrival and it is still to be seen in one of the glass cases in the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. The breed is now well established in this country, Holland and France and is growing in popularity every year. The Afghan hound possesses in full those two qualities so rarely seen together, brains and beauty.

Iwould like to add a note of warning. Many of our breeders and judges today clamour for size, for bigger hounds at any cost. The Afghan hound, is, or should be, of the Greyhound type but sturdy, compact and capable of endurance in order to enable him to hunt all day over the barren, rock, precipitous mountains of his own land. The struggle for height so often results in coarseness or weediness at the expense of quality. The origin of the Afghan hound is lost in the mists of antiquity but his Afghan master has kept the breed unaltered for some two thousand years. It seems a pity to alter it now for the English show

(Mrs. Mary Amps 1932)