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[Newsletters](#)[Advertise Today!](#)**Quality VS Quantity**

by Tom Crowe

[Help](#)

I have given much thought and analysis to the title of this article. It appears there is a great deal of confusion between these two words when it comes to dog breeders per se.

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Much of what I read in the "Breeders Forum" on our InfoDog web site seems to form the opinions pertaining to qualified breeders on the basis of controlling the number of litters whelped each year by the same dam and the number of stud services furnished per individual dog each year. That's certainly not what Nature had in mind nor did our Creator perceive such ideas. All I have read or gleaned in my 82 years on this planet is that Nature and the Creator are more concerned with the survival of the species whether it be Human, Beast or Bug. The second equally as profound statement is the QUALITY of the survivors by virtue of their strength and physical attributes. It is equal in assuring the survival of the species. A third factor in survival of the species is that SEX is a pleasurable experience so designed to promote said survival. Estrus in females whether in human or beast is a signal pertaining to the survival of human and beast alike.

The fear or the misunderstanding of the above facts is man-made to protect family values and the responsibility of caring for the offspring of mating couples. (Try telling the young virile male or the young love-struck female that their breeding habits should be limited to once a year.) Birds and beasts as well as humans share the instinct of procreation. We try to teach our offspring the rights and wrongs plus the responsibilities of coital relationships and I suppose this interferes with our thinking about improvement of the breeds and their survival. In other words we really are responsible as breeders for the QUALITY of our efforts no matter

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how many or how few litters we breed.

Breeding poor or mediocre specimens to poor or mediocre specimens does not and will not improve quality no matter how many litters are bred. However, being selective by studying pedigrees and genetic backgrounds will improve specimens of quality no matter how many or how few litters are bred. I believe the formation of a "Qualified Breeders Alliance" is the answer to quality. Breeders of quality will prove themselves by consistently breeding litters representative of their Breed Standards and of quality. Finishing many specimens in those litters to Championships will lead the way in the fight against the breeders of questionable breeding practices. NOW IS THE TIME WHILE THE SUBJECT IS BEFORE US TO BEAR THE ARMS THAT WILL MAKE THE DREAM COME ALIVE. QUALITY IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS NOT NUMBERS.

I have preached time and again that the AKC cannot solve the problem of irresponsible persons seeking to beat the system. The AKC does not have the means or the personnel to tackle this task alone. YOU as the breeder, together with OTHER breeders, have that power. YOU together with all the others of the same persuasion can solve the registrations problems by YOUR banding together as a group and working with the AKC to bring the turnaround about. Most of the responsibility for improvement rests with YOU as a dedicated group (Qualified Breeders Alliance). MB-F and INFODOG have paved the way for YOU to act. More than 11,000 persons have already signed on in the fight to improve the puppy mill situation. More are joining everyday. JOIN WITH US.

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From Where I Sit by John S. Ward

Each year around Westminster time several prestigious awards are announced, usually to the owners of the dogs which have the greatest number of wins or which have defeated the greatest number of dogs in breed competition during the previous year. These awards are well deserved and the owners of these outstanding specimens are indeed entitled to our respect for the significant contributions they have made to the sport.

Since ours is a competitive society, it is logical to single out those individuals in the different aspects of our sport such as breeding, handling, judging and even dog writing. Such recognition provides goals and incentives for the rest of us to stiffen our resolve to do better in the coming year.

Unfortunately however only a handful of dog exhibitors can reach these pinnacles. Many of us fall into the category of "they also serve who only stand and wait". Indeed, without us there would be no awards since otherwise there would simply be no competition. In fact, there is a significant number of other achievements in breed competition which have largely been unrewarded and for the most part unrecognized. These achievements are well within the capabilities of the average exhibitor and need only to be defined to provide instant recognition.

Many years ago I considered this problem and was able to come up with a very respectable list of forms of competition which might interest you. At that time however I was unable to persuade any dog food company to accept my suggestions and they went unfulfilled. With the passage of time we have a new group of exhibitors and I thought perhaps you might be interested in my suggestions. Herewith for your consideration is a list of achievements by the unsung heroes of the breed ring which might qualify for some sort of an award:

The breeder with the greatest number of consecutive all male litters.

The exhibitor with the single dog which has gone Reserve most times in a row.

The breeder who shipped his or her bitch the greatest distance to be bred and then found out it didn't take.

The exhibitor whose dog has the most number of single points without getting that second major.

The owner of the stud dog whose breedings missed the most number of times in the past year.

The breeder who has walked the greatest number of miles between the grooming tent and ringside.

The exhibitor who has spent the most money getting weight and/or coat on his or her dog.

The spouse who has spent the most weekends at home minding the kennel while his or her partner is off showing dogs.

The exhibitor who has shown in the rain the most times.

The judge who has had to turn down the greatest number of national breed specialties because of conflicts with all-breed club assignments.

The breeder of the greatest number of pet puppies which he or she could not unload.

The owner of the male special which has gone Best of Opposite the most times.

The judge who has put up the most number of dogs in the Breed only to have them subsequently go lame in the Group judging.

The exhibitor who has guessed wrong the most number of times as to whether a show would have a major or not.

The handler who has lost the most number of times when the owner was sitting at ringside.

I hope I have given you some food for thought. The list is by no means all-inclusive and I'm sure you can think of similar forms of competition if you really put your mind to it. All that remains is to find sponsors for these awards and I look for your help in this regard.

P.S. And we haven't even begun to consider the possibilities in the performance events.

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Thoughts on Registrations

by Dorie Crowe

If you have been following the discussions on the Breeders Forum on InfoDog you may have seen some interesting ideas on Registrations and what can be done to help keep them pure, to help keep puppy millers out, to stimulate registrations, etc.

To begin with, not everyone thinks the lower registration figures are examples of impending gloom. Many think the lower figures represent more responsible breeding practices by those who truly care for the breed. Those with more popular breeds applaud the lower figures for their breeds – they don't want to have to keep rescuing these dogs that have become the Flavor of the Month because of some TV commercial or movie has prompted irresponsible breeding and selling pups into situations that are not appropriate.

Here's one of the questions we posed: "There appears to be another TV campaign ready to be aired focusing on "bad" registrations. This is, of course, also a smear against all the legitimate, responsible breeders who continue to follow the rules and act in an honest manner. This is certainly a concern for all those involved in the Fancy.

"While you can't legislate that someone be honest and ethical, what do you think should be required when registering (1) a litter and (2) an individual dog from that litter that would help insure the legitimacy of that registration and protect the integrity of the Stud Book?

"Please be specific in your plan and how it could be accomplished. Here's a chance to help in a positive way."

For the benefit of those who have not been to the Breeders Discussion Forum we present several of these ideas here for your thought and consideration. Understandably there were many posts in answer to this question. In presenting the ideas we've included here some full posts and some portions of posts that agreed with other posts but included additional information or presented a slightly different twist. The following posts continue to prove that we have a lot of thoughtful dog people out there with good ideas. We're continually proud of the role we play in providing a forum for these ideas to see light.

BEFORE BEING ABLE TO REGISTER a litter or puppies with the AKC, the breeder must be active in the sport of dogs in some way other than just producing hundreds of puppies every year. They must compete in AKC shows to prove their dogs are at least worthy of the Breed Standard. They must compete each and every year; no one-shot deal just to satisfy the initial requirement.... If breeders were required to exhibit in shows or other AKC sanctioned events, obedience, agility, field trials, lure coursing, earthdog, etc., the majority of the undesirables would be eliminated just by virtue of the fact they would have to take the time to train and compete. If the occasional backyard breeder were to begin to train and compete, this would not be a bad thing, as it would mean this person would become educated as to what a purebred dog really is. In the case of the ones who choose not to compete their puppies would be unregistrable, rendering them worthless to people who want a registered dog. If you want a litter of puppies just for the heck of it, because you think it may be fun, this could be a deterrent. The cost of investigations and prosecutions should decline under this system. Individual dogs would be able to be registered even though the owner did not participate in events. It is those who want to BREED dogs that would be required to participate in AKC events. If they don't compete they cannot register the litter.

IN ADDITION TO COMPETING there must be minimal health requirements met with genetic testing for whatever is of concern in that breed; dogs must be micro-chipped or tattooed and to ensure proper documentation of a litter use DNA. DNA will help eliminate mixed litters being falsely registered. Puppy millers and backyard breeders won't want to spend money on tests, health care and entry fees.

ENFORCEMENTS FOR THE ETHICS required/questioned by clubs before admitting persons for membership. When actions that are frowned on by responsible, respected breeders who are members of individual clubs take place that club should have the authority and the gumption to take disciplinary actions to protect the reputation of not only the club but the sport as well. Stand outside the ring sometime and watch some of the owners coming out

as losers and see their actions and hear their words. These actions are witnessed but tolerated because no one wants to call that person to the mat before AKC or question those actions at club meetings. Until we as individuals stand up not only on Boards, but also at show sites, and question the actions of these persons can we expect the sport of dog showing to exceed the expectations and lend credibility to the responsible breeders?

AKC THROUGH THE CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION should make DNA testing VERY affordable and should make it mandatory that all applicants provide a sample for DNA testing to determine both parentage and predisposition to identifiable health problems. Also, the new owners should be sent notice that if their new dog develops a hereditary disease or disorder they should send veterinary information to AKC which will be made part of the file and set up that it can cross reference the sire and dam and other litter members. This information would be entered on an AKC form that would be included with the registration papers. It seems only logical that funding for the inexpensive DNA testing should come from AKC as registration is their prime mission. (Editor's Note: Many people thought the breeder is the first person to call when a genetic disorder is discovered.) Health research, albeit needed and laudatory, is a secondary goal.

THE STATEMENT that a dog is "AKC Registered" IS a false statement of quality to the uneducated person looking for a puppy, so isn't it about time, since that false security to buyers exists, to give the term "AKC Registered" some teeth? Why is it that under- and oversized dogs are allowed to compete? Why is it that we are not required to show proof of screening for genetic faults EVER? I would be happy to produce proof of my dog being cleared of any problem I need to screen for in my breed. At least it would show that someone CARES about things being done right!

If a breeder ever had DNA come back that they had been deceitful in registration I think the penalty should be a permanent ban from ever registering with the AKC again. The AKC needs to be stronger than they are now. Dogs showing in conformation are supposed to be show quality with possible breeding futures, so adult dogs that do not pass genetic screens for problems should not be considered for showing in an AKC event.

The AKC has made itself so much more than a registry service. The purebred dog world centers on them and the public sees them as the meaning of quality. Rather than shrink from that I think it's time for them to move into the next century and use it as an opportunity to evolve and refine itself to alleviate some of these problems....I for one do not want the AKC to "devalue" itself. They could have too much positive impact on this situation to justify doing nothing. As a competitor I WANT the term "AKC Registered" to mean something. As a breeder I would be delighted to see them enforce quality where it can (by DNA testing, genetic screening, removing obviously over/undersize dogs from a [conformation] show, etc.). (Editor's Note: Dogs with size problems, bite problems, etc., may still be shown in Obedience or Agility, etc. Dogs with size problems may still also be used in breeding programs.)

HOW MANY OF US have sent a bitch out to be bred in another part of the country or even to Canada and have only the stud owner's word that the dog has been bred to the right male. I hope it has never happened, but since we are dealing with human nature who is to say it hasn't. The poor unsuspecting bitch owner should not lose AKC privileges because of the acts of the stud owner. (Editor's Note: What would YOU do to resolve this situation?)

IF DNA WAS MADE MANDATORY and register all new litters by the DNA process that would eliminate ... problems.

Require a swab to be done by a vet who has verified via microchip or tattoo...that the swab is of xyz dog or bitch. If they were to send the sample directly from the office the owner would

have no opportunity to tamper with it. I would have a lot more faith in a vet not wanting to risk being caught lying than a breeder.

The DNA test itself would detect some misrepresentations. The specimens sent in on the sire and dam would by definition HAVE TO BE THE REAL PARENTS. If not, the test would show the discrepancy. This would eliminate "guesstimates" of parentage when the breeding was not witnessed.... I suppose there will always be someone clever enough to get around these things, but verification by microchip or tattoo seems to be a reasonable safeguard.

BREEDERS REALLY HAVE TO GET OUT THERE with the average Joe and shake off that elitist image of the "show dog". People want good pets but many don't realize that most/many "show dogs" are good pets and they produce good pets. Is it that it's easier to ask/expect AKC [to] change in order to meet the public's expectation of quality in registrations rather than educate the public?

I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD THING IF THE AKC DID NOT ALLOW registration of puppies out of parents who were not tested for those type of breed specific [disorders].

SINCE DOGS WITH LIMITED REGISTRATIONS cannot produce registerable offspring why doesn't AKC simply mandate that any puppy sold from a pet store or through the commercial channels be sold with Limited Registration? In fact, why is it that if you neglect to check a box you are automatically sent Full Registration? Since the breeder can lift the Limited, but not take back the Full, why isn't the default registration the Limited option instead of Full?

Having worked in a pet store I can tell you that a lot of customers looking for "pets" wouldn't buy if there was a Limited Registration on the puppies. Also, by having it set up that way puppy mills couldn't get the prices they are getting now because pet stores would have to lower their prices..... Pet stores sell these puppies for these big bucks by telling [the new owners] they can turn around and breed or stand at stud these things. I work for a vet and know this from asking pet owners. One lady told me Petland told her not to neuter her Corgi because she could stand him at stud for \$1,000 because he was registered....If these pups must go Limited, they won't be able to get away with this...if they can't sell for big bucks they won't buy and the millers won't be interested in breeding.

WHAT IS THE POSSIBILITY of getting a law passed banning the sale of puppies and kittens from pet stores? Without this convenient outlet would that help reduce the number of "AKC registered" dogs that were bred for purely commercial purposes?

POINT SYSTEM: The basic idea is to add a "quality ranking" to the registration papers. One point for every Champion parent listed in the pedigree to a specified number of generations; a point for Obedience, Agility and Performance titles; a point for each of the appropriate genetic tests performed with appropriate results; possibly a point for inspections done. You get the idea; low number of points is "bad", high number is "good". Of course there would be a great deal of targeted publicity needed to initiate such a system and promote it. Could this system cut down on puppy mill registrations? It's likely it could have an impact.

PREMIUM PLATINUM PUREBRED PUPPY PAPERS: The Five-P plan is this: Five-P puppies are guaranteed to have both parents certified free of genetic defects with stable temperaments, at least one parent will be an AKC Champion of Record, will have been raised in sanitary conditions, socialized, immunized, will be at least 8 weeks old or more, and any other items felt important, and a spay/neuter agreement attached to those specimens not worthy of breeding. The Five-P papers would be certificate quality suitable for framing. These puppies would be offered at reasonable prices, which would probably be less than pet shop puppies and since these pups would be healthier in the long run they would also cost less to maintain throughout their lifetime because of the careful breeding practices.

As you can see we have some very good and workable ideas out there in the Fancy. Brainstorming in the fashion provided at our web site has given breeders a place to go to rationally discuss some of the problems they face. They've given these problems a great deal of thought and through discussion have been able to refine some of their ideas into reasonable plans. What about you? Can you get behind any of these plans? Do you have any ideas to offer to further refine them? Start talking and then start doing something to help!

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A Word From the AKCCHF

Review Year 2000 Grants at June Meeting:

Since its inception in 1995 the AKC Canine Health Foundation has approved and funded 82 Grants. The selection process has several steps. The first step involves submitting a pre-proposal. This short outline gives the Grants Committee of the Foundation an idea of what the study will entail, so they can match the studies with the interests and mission of the Foundation.

Those pre-proposals approved by the Grants Committee and voted upon by the Board of Directors then moves to the next level, which is full application. These applications are much more detailed and are sent out to be scored by peer reviewers working in the same field addressed by the proposal. The Foundation's grant cycle is currently at this point. Thirty pre-proposals have been approved for full application. These 30 applications will be sent for peer review and voted on by the Board of Directors at the June distribution meeting. This year topics for the full applications include the canine genome map, eye disease, canine cancer, kidney disease, epilepsy, heart disease, behavior disorder, thyroid disease, elbow dysplasia, obesity and alternative medicine.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about the Foundation's currently funded projects, visit our web site at <http://www.akcCHF.org> or call or write: AKC Canine Health Foundation, 251 W. Garfield Rd, Suite 160, Aurora, OH 44202. Ph: 330-995-0807.

Samples Needed for Yorkie Liver Shunt Study:

Karen M. Tobias, DVM, MS is conducting a study of liver disease, at Washington State University. The study is titled, "Determination of Genetic Relationships Among Yorkshire Terriers With Single Congenital Portosystemic Shunts," and the objectives are to determine whether heredity plays a role in development of portosystemic shunt in Yorkshire Terriers, to determine common ancestry among affected dogs, and to identify the mode of inheritance. For criteria and other information on how you can contribute a pedigree, contact Dr. Tobias at her address: Dept. of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, PO Box 1071, Knoxville, TN 37901-1071. E-mail: ktobias@utk.edu.

Universities Form Consortium for Epilepsy:

A consortium of researchers from the University of Missouri, University of Minnesota, the Ohio State University and the Animal Health Trust in Great Britain are working together to discover the mutations responsible for hereditary epilepsy in many breeds of dogs. Owners of epileptic dogs and close relatives of affected dogs from any breed are encouraged to participate in this research by submitting samples. Canine epilepsy information and research participation details can be found on the Canine Epilepsy network web site,

www.cvm.missouri.edu/cen/ or by contacting project coordinator Liz Hansen at 573-884-3712 or hansenl@missouri.edu.

Future Dog Now in Second Printing:

The first printing of the handbook on canine genetics, "Future Dog: Breeding for Genetic Soundness," by Patricia J. Wilkie, Ph.D., was sold out between October and December of 1999. The second printing of the book is now available. The book is published by the Minnesota Agricultural Station in cooperation with the AKC Canine Health Foundation. This educational book begins with the history of dog breeds and addresses such issues as the continuity and diversity of life and genetic mapping. The book details gene selection and applications in dog breeding, and includes a glossary of genetic terms. Illustrated with 55 color photographs and 20 diagrams and charts, this 107-page book makes complex concepts accessible to breeders, veterinarians and other professionals. Price for Foundation members is \$17.95, nonmembers \$19.95. Prices include tax and shipping costs. To order call the AKC Canine Health Foundation toll-free number 1-888-682-9696.

International Kennel Club and Ralston Purina raise more than \$87,000 for Canine Health Research:

The AKC Canine Health Foundation launched its year 2000 fund drive at the International Kennel Club of Chicago Millennium show sponsored by Ralston Purina the weekend of February 24-27. CHF Event Chairs were Lee and Romana Arnold and Bruce Korson. More than \$87,000 in donations was raised, exceeding last year's total of \$70,000. The four-day cluster also includes Park Shore Kennel Club and the Blackhawk Kennel Club.

The Saturday evening main event was the Ralston Purina Charity Ball which culminated yearlong fundraising by Purina for the AKC Canine Health Foundation. The Foundation was presented with a gift of \$21,870, the result of matching funds received from Purina and the IKC for adult-dog entries in the Saturday show. In addition, Purina contributed \$55,000 from ticket sales to the Charity Ball and donations for samples of Purina brand pet foods and treats received in 1999 at the Purina booth at dog show events.

During the Saturday and Sunday shows, the Foundation worked with Ralston Purina to present seminars to visitors interested in canine health. Deborah Lynch, Executive Vice President of the Foundation, gave talks on the top ten canine diseases and the latest research projects in these areas. Lynch also answered questions from the audiences comprised of veterinarians, breeders and pet owners.

On Friday, the Foundation Board and President's Council members staffed the admissions gate to raise donations for the Foundation. The Foundation booth was featured at the show to raise funds through T-shirt sales, memberships and donations for Dollars for Dogs. A raffle coordinated by Schnauzer Club of America members Penny Duffee and Liz Hansen raised \$1500 for the Foundation. This was held in conjunction with the Schnauzer-ama, a Specialty Show featuring Miniature, Standard and Giant Schnauzers.

Dollars for Dogs Campaign

The AKC Canine Health Foundation will work with MB-F, Inc., for a drive to expand its endowment. The drive will ask everyone who owns, works with or cares about dogs to donate at least \$1 toward the development of a canine health research endowment. Tom Crowe, Chairman of the Board of MB-F, the world's largest dog show superintending organization, will chair the campaign. "How can anyone refuse the contribution of \$1 to help dogs everywhere?" asks Crowe. "We expect veterinarians to be key in this campaign by putting donation boxes in their offices and asking their staff and clients to chip in."

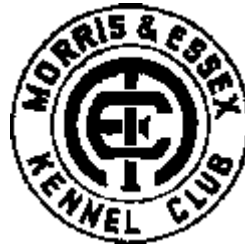
The goal of the campaign will be to raise \$43,000,000 over the next three years. All the money raised will become part of an invested endowment wherein only the interest may be spent on canine health research. "We spend \$26 billion a year on our pets," said Crowe, "but less than 1% of that total on canine health." Recently the Journal of the American Cancer Society and Discover Magazine noted that advances in canine health also lead to advances in human health. "We have already seen this happen with the recent discovery of the gene for narcolepsy in Doberman Pinschers by Dr. Emanuel Mignot, at Stanford University," said Deborah Lynch, AKC/CHF Executive Vice President. "Now that scientists know the genetic components of this disease, treatments and therapies can be developed that will help both dogs and humans."

The Dollars for Dogs campaign will be directed at the 43 million dog-owning households, dog events with their attendees and spectators, dog clubs worldwide, the 16,000 practicing veterinarians and their clients, 27 veterinary schools, dozens of dog food companies, and all other dog-interested organizations and persons connected to canine health. People will be asked to donate at least \$1 to the AKC Canine Health Foundation through mail, the internet and donations points at dog shows, veterinarian offices and other locations. The position is to encourage all dog-related persons to participate on a small basis toward a very large goal.

To make a donation to Dollars for Dogs, log onto the Foundation's web site www.akcCHF.org or www.infodog.com Donors will be thanked online.

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Morris & Essex Out of the Past



(Reprinted from the May 11, 1930 The Sunday Call, Newark)

DODGE ESTATE AT MADISON SCENE OF LARGEST OUTDOOR DOG SHOW

ANNUAL COMPETITION OF MORRIS AND ESSEX KENNEL CLUB TO BE HELD MAY 23 AND 24 HAS MORE THAN 1,500 NOMINATIONS by H.G. Michelson

No event in dogdom stirs more interest than the annual show of the Morris and Essex Kennel Club at Madison. It is unique, not only in that it is the largest outdoor competition in America, but because it is sponsored and supported by one woman, Mrs. Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge, wife of M. Hartley Dodge, daughter of the late William Rockefeller and niece of John D. Rockefeller.

Giralda Farms, the Hartley estate, one of the largest and most magnificent in New Jersey, will be thrown open to the public on May 23 and 24, for the fourth annual show of the club. Prize winners in 25 breeds from all over the United States will compete and will be judged by some of the foremost dog authorities in the world. With the closing of the entries yesterday more than 1,500 nominations were made, including a non-competing division of crowned champions of the important competitions in this country.

Polo Field Scene of Show

The entire Dodge polo field, a large expanse of velvet-like sod, rolled to the evenness of a billiard table, will be the scene of the show. Large tents will house the distinguished assembly of judges, who hail from as far as Germany, Canada, Texas and California. Others will be erected for the accommodation of 5,000 spectators expected and still others for the pedigreed competitors who will vie for the highest rank in their respective classes.

Roads, especially built for the occasion, will lead directly to the polo field. Twenty-five acres of level ground have been set aside for the parking of automobiles and signs have been conspicuously placed throughout the entire estate, directing autoists and pedestrians to and from the field to avoid congestion at any point.

Giralda Farms will be a gay scene on the night of May 23. Mrs. Dodge will be hostess to 500 exhibitors, breeders and dog fanciers at a reception.... On the second day of the show, 2,500 persons will be Mrs. Dodge's guests at a luncheon under the main tent on the polo field.

Hundreds of prizes, in cash or Sterling silver loving cups, have been donated by Mrs. Dodge, and members of her family. Unlike previous shows of the club, entrants this year are mainly from distant parts, as far as the States of Washington and Texas. Although the number of breeds in the competing list is smaller than that of the Westminster or Eastern Dog Shows, the number of entrants in proportion thereto classifies the Giralda Show as the largest in the United States.

Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge inherited the love for animals from her father. William Rockefeller was a breeder of famous dogs and horses. His daughter is regarded today as one of the authorities in judging Shepherd dogs and Beagles. Her interest in horses has been more or less confined to the raising of Welsh ponies, but her stables house some of the finest specimens of that type.

Details Carefully Planned

Mrs. Dodge has personally supervised the arrangements for the show. Her painstaking regard for details is evident at every step on Giralda Farms. The dog kennels have been constructed with an eye for the utmost in sanitation and canine comfort. Cork bricks cover the floors and tiled walls separate the dogs, many of which are worth their weight in gold. A staff of attendants is in every kennel and food is prepared with the same precision and care exercised in a modern diet kitchen.

All dumb creatures share Mrs. Dodge's interest. She has laid aside several acres as a bird refuge, where crops are planted for the sole purpose of supplying food for sparrows, pheasants, robins and other winged visitors. Marble water troughs, on the rims of which are chiseled the words, "Fear Not to Sow Because of the Birds," are scattered all over the estate.

The Dodge kennels in Madison and Princeton comprise more than two hundred dogs. Included are some of the most consistent prize winners.... Mrs. Dodge is a true sportswoman. Although her dogs are among the finest in the land, and she is president of the Morris and Essex Kennel club, she is unwilling to enter the animals in a show held on her own grounds in a competition where the judging might be attended by dissatisfaction.

Judging Is Important Factor

Mrs. Dodge said yesterday that authoritative judging at shows was the boon to the raising of fine dogs. If improperly judged, the animals might be raised to heights undeserved and thereby discourage the efforts of breeders, she said. To insure the best judging possible,

Mrs. Dodge will have as her guest, Capt. Max Von Stephanitz of Germany. He will judge the Shepherd Dogs.

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The Shaggy Dog Stories

A friend and I traveled to Montgomery County Kennel Club's October Terrier-fest a few years back. We had several dogs with us including her veteran Champion. During the weekend she would kid that if he did not win she was going to leave him off somewhere or give him away.

Well, he did not win, but she was nevertheless still pleased with his performance and nothing was said about her comments after the show.

The next day we got up late, packed leisurely, had a nice, quiet breakfast along the route home and generally were in a congenial state of mind. We stopped at a rest area in Northern New Jersey and, as usual, I went first while Sue stayed behind to start exercising the dogs. Heading back to the car, expecting just to take over her duties while she ducked into the ladies facilities, I noticed her running across the parking lot, a fearful expression on her face. I ran after her begging her to tell me what was wrong.

She was incoherent, panic-stricken as she madly dialed a pay phone into which she shouted the statement that we had previously occupied room such and such and.... Before her question could be completed the person on the other side acknowledged, "Yes, we have your dog. He's safe and sound in the manager's office."

That's right. We packed all but him. He had been lying alongside the bed at the hotel while we packed. I thought she put him in the van and she thought I had. (submitted by Jean Derench)

HELLO, MARYLOU

Guy is sitting quietly reading his paper when his wife sneaks up behind him and whacks him on the head with a frying pan.

"What was that for?" he asked.

"That was for the piece of paper in your pants pocket with the name 'Marylou' written on it," she replied.

"Two weeks ago when I went to the races, 'Marylou' was the name of one of the horses I bet on," he explained.

She looked satisfied, apologized, and went off to do work around the house.

Three days later he's again sitting in his chair reading when she nails him with an even bigger frying pan, knocking him out cold.

When he came to, he cried, "What was that for?"

“Your horse phoned.”

(submitted by Rita Lynch via the Internet)

TRADITION

An Irishman by th' name o' Pauly McLean moves into a tiny hamlet in County Kerry, walks into the pub and promptly orders three beers. The bartender raises his eyebrows, but serves the man three beers, which he drinks quietly at a table, alone. An hour later, the man has finished the three beers and orders three more. This happens yet again. The next evening the man again orders and drinks three beers at a time, several times.

Soon the entire town is whispering about the Man Who Orders Three Beers. Finally, a week later, the bartender broaches the subject on behalf of the town. “I don't mean to pry, but folks around here are wonderin' why you always order three beers?”

“Tis odd, isn't it?” the man replies. “You see, I have two brothers, and one went to America, and the other to Australia. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank as a way of keepin' up the family bond.”

The bartender and the whole town was pleased with this answer, and soon the Man Who Orders Three Beers became a local celebrity and source of pride to the hamlet, even to the extent that out-of-towners would come to watch him drink.

Then, one day, the man comes in and orders only two beers. The bartender pours them with a heavy heart. This continues for the rest of the evening - he orders only two beers. The word flies around town. Prayers are offered for the soul of one of the brothers.

The next day, the bartender says to the man, “Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer condolences to you for the death of your brother. You know - the two beers and all...”

The man ponders this for a moment, then replies, “You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well. It's just that I, meself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent!

(submitted by Rita Lynch via the Internet)

OOPS!

A police officer pulls over this guy who's been weaving in and out of the lanes. He goes up to the guy's window and says, “Sir, I need you to blow into this breathalyzer tube.”

The man says, “Sorry, officer, I can't do that. I am an asthmatic. If I do that, I'll have a really bad asthma attack.”

“Okay, fine. I need you to come down to the station to give a blood sample.”

“I can't do that either. I am a hemophiliac. If I do that, I'll bleed to death.”

“Well, then, we need a urine sample.”

“I'm sorry, officer, I can't do that either. I am also a diabetic. If I do that, I'll get really low blood sugar.”

“All right, then I need you to come out here and walk this white line.”

"I can't do that, officer."

"Why not?"

"Because I'm drunk."

(submitted via the Internet)

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