

**MINUTES OF THE BCCA BOARD MEETING
December 21, 2008**

The Bearded Collie Club of America's Board of Directors meeting was held by mail on December 21, 2008.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Sirrine, Alexander, Alspaugh, Blau, Boyd, Freeman, McDonald, Means, Norteman, Szalka, Taylor **ABSENT:** Coxwell

Officers' Reports

Recording Secretary's Report
Notices
Corresponding Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report

Unfinished Business

Results of December Motions

10/08-00 Motion to approve the minutes of the October 26th, 2008 meeting. (Taylor)

Yes: Alexander, Alspaugh, Blau, Boyd, Freeman, McDonald, Means, Norteman, Taylor

Abstain: Szalka **Present:** Sirrine **Absent:** Coxwell

12/08-01 Motion to amend Standing Rule 04/08-03 to read as follows: "The BCCA will not accept ads from non-BCCA members."(Means)

Discussion: The motion recommends that only members are able to advertise in the Bulletin. This recommendation comes from our tax consultant.

Yes: Alexander, Alspaugh, Blau, Boyd, Freeman, McDonald, Means, Norteman, Szalka, Taylor

Present: Sirrine **Absent:** Coxwell

Election of New Members

New Members

Kelly Canham-Tonkin, Nan Matthews and Rod Cornish, and Pamela Schuman

BCCA Applicants – January

Kim Raleigh

5128 Willow Creek Pl. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114
kim@kimraleigh.com
Phone: 505-508-3223
Sponsor: Don Means

David and Sharon Anderson

12639 Ridgecrest Place
Penn Valley, CA 95946
anderso@mindspring.com
Phone: 530-432-2359
Sponsor: Beth Tilson

Audrey and Jim Williams

6324 Arlingham Road
Flourtown, PA 19031
blumobead@comcast.net
Phone: 215-836-9276
Sponsor: Jill Farrington

Leroy Curry and Kathy Jacinto-Curry

P. O. Box 554
Galt, CA 95632
charlesleroy@att.net
Phone: 209-745-1649
Sponsor: Pat Palozzola

John and Judi Frazier
2390 Parental Home Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216
Ladybugjf@aol.com
Phone: 904-724-8369
Fax: 904-725-4467
Sponsor: Tish Pollock

Patricia Rudolph
RR #2, Box 177 Poleline Ext. Road
Pocatello, ID 83202
Phone: 208-237-4444
Sponsor: Joseph DuPont

Carol Brinson
3061 High Point Road
Owensville, MO 65066
brins57@aol.com
Phone: 573-885-2809
Sponsor: Julie Patzius

Bonnie Branson
12161 Olivier Drive
Tecumseh, ON N8N 3G8
CANADA
Phone: 519-735-1406
Sponsor: Carolyn Hoffmann

Donna Reany
2169 W. Garrison Lane
Amelia, OH 45102
reanydaze@gmail.com
Phone: 513-477-7101
Fax: 513-553-4777
Sponsor: Susan Lybrand

P.J. Mong
306 Oread Road
Louisville, KY 40207
pj.mong@gmail.com
Phone: 502-876-2424
Sponsor: Rosemary Schroeder

Trina Neil
Box 547
Rosthern, SK S0K 3R0
CANADA
motlikru@hotmail.com
Phone: 306-232-5445
Sponsor: Susan Lybrand

Jean Kelly
P.O. Box 563
Galt, CA 95632
jkstables@aol.com
Phone: 209-745-3811
Sponsor: Pat Palozzola

New Business

Motions Proposed for January

- 12/08-00** Motion to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2008 meeting. (Taylor)
01/09-01 Motion to approve the decision of the Executive Committee to donate \$2,500 to the Bearded Collie Club of American Charitable Trust. (Taylor)

Motions To Be Considered In February

- 01/09-00** Motion to approve the minutes of the January, 2009 meeting. (Taylor)
- 02/09-01** Motion to amend SR 08/86-23 as follows: Up to fifteen (15) **Award of Merit** rosettes may be awarded at each National Specialty at the discretion of the judge. **The rosettes are to be numbered 1 through 15.** The distribution of **Award of Merit** rosettes in the Best of Breed competition at the National Specialty will be as follows: The **Award of Merit** rosettes **are to be** awarded in **sequential order of the judge's preference.** Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex do not receive **Award of Merit** placing.
- The above language must be included in the show catalog under Award of Merit and lines, numbered 1-15, are to be provided for recording the Award of Merit placings.**
- Prior to Best of Breed judging, the breed judge and ring steward are to be made aware of this procedure to avoid confusion. When marking their judge's books, judges are asked to record Award of Merit placements in numerical order.** (Alspaugh)

Discussion: Every year there seems to be confusion when it comes to awarding the Awards of Merit/Selects. This amendment will hopefully clarify the procedure as well as give guidance to show chairs. "Select" has been changed to "Award of Merit" to make the terminology correspond to that used by most superintendents, as well as most other breed clubs. Changes are marked in ***bold italics***

02/09-02 Motion to approve Nominating Committee Guidelines as follows:

BCCA Nominating Committee Guidelines

A Nominating Committee shall be chosen by the Board of Directors before February 1st. The Committee shall consist of three members. All must be "members in good standing" and only one may be a current member of the Board. The Board shall name a Chair for the Committee. The appointed Chair should be given a copy of these Guidelines. The Chair should make contact with the other Committee members and outline the proposed sequence of communications which will lead to the selection of a slate of candidates for the BCCA Board of Directors. This first contact should include a copy of these Guidelines.

Pursuant to SR 05/82-04, the person receiving the fourth highest vote in Nominating Committee voting is to be the alternate member of the Nominating Committee. The alternate member will be included in all deliberations with all privileges except voting.

Upon selection by the Board of Directors, the Nominating Committee shall, pursuant to the By-Laws, Article IV, Section 4(a), "nominate from among the eligible members of the Club, one candidate for each office, for Delegate who may, but need not be, an officer or Director of the Club and for each other position on the Board of Directors which shall be open for the next official year and shall procure the acceptance of each nominee so chosen."

The President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer all have terms of one year. The AKC Delegate has a term of three years. The six Directors are divided into two classes of three which are elected in alternating years for two year terms.

The Recording Secretary will place a notice in The Bagpipes and on the BCCA website requesting that the names of prospective nominees be submitted to members of the Nominating Committee. Regional Clubs should be contacted, soliciting suggested nominees from members. All members of the Nominating Committee are encouraged to suggest qualified nominees. Members of the Committee may communicate with each other in any way which is convenient to them when selecting candidates for the slate.

The Chair should contact current Board members whose terms of service are ending and inquire whether they are interested in being considered again for nomination. Those answering in the affirmative should be considered with all other suggested persons. There is no requirement that incumbents whose terms are ending must be asked to serve another term.

In selecting potential nominees, the following criteria should be stressed:

- A. Time and interest to contribute to the orderly progress of the National Club.
- B. Regional distribution
- C. Length of time the candidate has been a Bearded Collie owner, breeder, and/or exhibitor
- D. Contributions to the sport of dogs
- E. Contributions to the Bearded Collie breed and to Regional and/or National Club
- F. Special contributions which could be made to the National Club by virtue of talent, education, training or professional endeavor

Each potential nominee shall give written assurance of his/her willingness to:

- A. Run for office

- B. Attend meetings (including annual meeting at National Specialty), contribute to mail meetings, participate in conference calls, serve on committees and be an active and contributing member of the Board, if elected

The Committee weighs the merits of all possible nominees and selects those they believe are most qualified. The Nominating Committee's job is completed when the slate of candidates and their acceptances are submitted to the Recording Secretary prior to March 1st. The Recording Secretary shall notify each member of the Club of the slate of candidates on or before March 15th. (Alspaugh)

02/09-03 Motion to approve co-funding by the BCCA of two ACORN grant proposals from Dr. Anita Oberbauer of UC Davis to identify genes associated with hypoadrenocorticism (Addison's Disease) and hypothyroidism in Bearded Collies in collaboration with the AKC-Canine Health Fund and BeaCon Bearded Collie Health Foundation utilizing monies drawn from the BCCA's Donor Advised Funds (DAF) account with AKC-CHF.(Alspaugh)

Discussion: Last year AKC-CHF failed to approve funding of Dr. Oberbauer's grant application to continue her search for major gene markers for Addison's. This was unfortunate -- especially for Bearded Collies -- as she planned to focus her search for markers in samples from our breed. Since we began our collaboration with Dr. Oberbauer, the field of genetics has advanced exponentially and a new analytic technology (SNP chip) makes it more likely that the currently proposed research will succeed in locating markers for Addison's disease in Bearded Collies. In order to circumvent the need for the AKC-CHF board to approve the research project -- which means it would have to compete with many other proposals presented for their review -- Dr. Oberbauer plans to present two proposals (copies of abstracts attached) for smaller ACORN grants, each worth \$12,500, for a total of \$25,000. AKC-CHF will only fund half of each grant request. This leaves \$6,250 per grant, or a total of \$12,500, to be funded. BeaCon has agreed to provide \$6,250 in funding if the BCCA will match this amount, drawing from the BCCA's Donor Advised Funds (DAF) account with AKC-CHF (current balance is \$52,000). AKC-CHF will allow BCCA DAF monies to be used for these projects.

Project Title: Genome Wide Association Mapping to Identify Genes Associated with Hypoadrenocorticism in the Bearded Collie

Scientific Abstract

The incidence of hypoadrenocorticism in the domestic dog is considered a significant health issue for certain breeds, particularly the Bearded Collie. It is a late onset disorder characterized by deterioration of the adrenal cortex causing an insufficiency of cortical hormones. Evidence from our laboratory indicates a genetic basis to the disorder with a high heritability (0.76) with the suggestion of a major gene of influence. A genome-wide linkage study using microsatellites failed to identify significant linkage. Compared with classical linkage analysis using microsatellites, SNP arrays have increased information content and can be processed with higher throughput yielding greater data. Using discordant sib-pair genomic DNA derived from Bearded Collie blood samples we will use the Affymetrix SNP array to interrogate the genome and identify those regions associated with hypoadrenocorticism in the Bearded Collie.

Lay Abstract

Hypoadrenocorticism (canine Addison's disease) is a late onset disorder caused by deterioration of the adrenal gland cortex and insufficient production of glucocorticoids and mineralocorticoids normally produced by that tissue. These hormones are involved in pathways important to normal body function including energy production, blood pressure, and stress response. Treatment is available but is expensive and life-long. Furthermore, delay in diagnosis and treatment can be fatal. Although hypoadrenocorticism occurs in the general canine population, some breeds show a greater prevalence particularly the Bearded Collie. We have demonstrated that hypoadrenocorticism is highly heritable in this breed and likely reflects the presence of a very small number of susceptibility genes. Thus, the objective of this grant are to use the canine single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) assay to perform an extensive genome scan of the DNA from Bearded Collies with the goal of identifying genomic regions associated with hypoadrenocorticism. Identifying probable locations that harbor mutations will allow the characterization of the gene(s) that cause this disease.

Principal Investigator:

A.M. Oberbauer, PhD.
University of California, Davis
Department of Animal Science

Project Title: Hypothyroidism and Autoimmune Susceptibility Genes in the Bearded Collie

Scientific Abstract

Hypothyroidism is a significant concern to dog owners and is believed to reflect a disruption of immune tolerance. Hypothyroidism is often diagnosed in dogs expressing other immune mediated disorders. Breeds with a predisposition for hypothyroidism also report elevated incidence of other autoimmune diseases. We hypothesize that a single set of predisposing genes exist that confer susceptibility to endocrine immune mediated diseases. The Bearded Collie is an exceptionally well suited breed for this study given the high incidence of both hypothyroidism and hypoadrenocorticism, the low degree of genetic diversity in the breed, and the interest of the dog owners and breeders to improve the health of their dogs. The specific objective of the proposed research is to interrogate the canine genome using the Affymetrix SNP array on genomic DNA derived from Bearded Collie blood samples to identify genomic regions associated with hypothyroidism in a genome-wide association study. The identified genomic regions will be contrasted with the genomic regions associated with hypoadrenocorticism, another prevalent autoimmune disorder in the Bearded Collie in an effort to determine whether a single set of susceptibility genes underlie endocrine immune mediated disorders.

Lay Abstract

Autoimmune disorders, for which hypothyroidism is one, have been continually cited by dog breeders as a concern. The most recent top ten canine research priorities listed by AKC parent clubs included hypothyroidism as well as Addison's disease and allergies; all three considered immune mediated diseases. Reports in the literature suggest that higher inbreeding is correlated with autoimmune disease expression. A diagnosis of hypothyroidism often accompanies other immune mediated diseases and many breeds are afflicted with several autoimmune disorders. This evidence suggests different autoimmune diseases actually reflect a common set of susceptibility genes that express differentially depending upon additional genetic mutations carried by an individual dog. The proposed research will examine extensively the entire canine genome utilizing state-of-the-art technologies to search for chromosomal regions associated with hypothyroidism. We will then explore the genetic relationship between hypothyroidism and another immune mediated disease present in the Bearded Collie population, Addison's disease.

Common genomic regions associated with both diseases would suggest a single set of susceptibility genes underlying endocrine immune mediated disorders.

Principal Investigator:

A.M. Oberbauer, PhD.
University of California, Davis
Department of Animal Science

This concludes the business of the BCCA Board of Directors meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Taylor
BCCA Recording Secretary