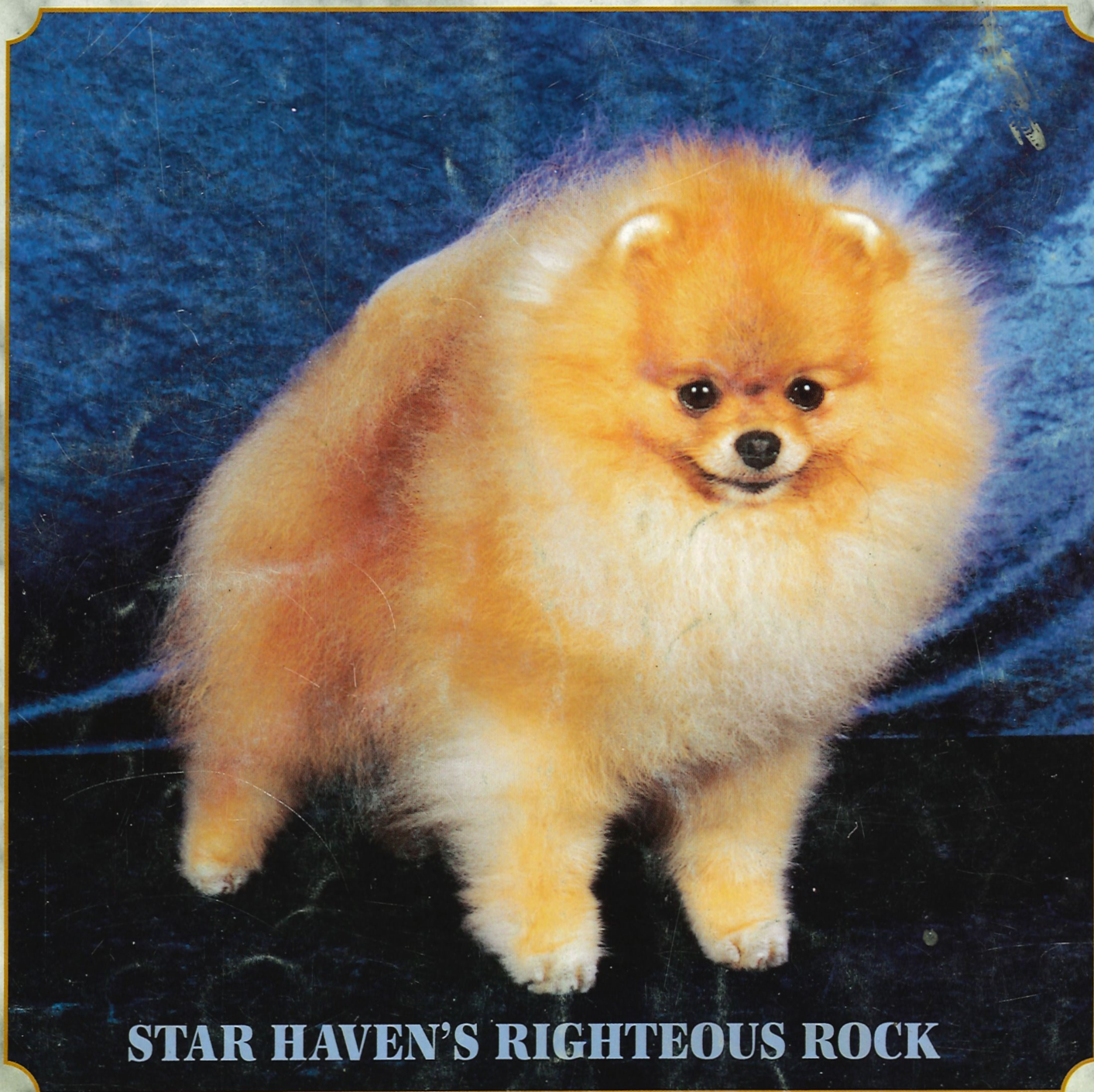


THE *Reader* POM

JULY 1995 · VOLUME XI, NUMBER 5



STAR HAVEN'S RIGHTEOUS ROCK

• ON THE COVER •

STARHAVEN'S RIGHTEOUS ROCK



MRS. RUTH WINSTON

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DR. WILLIAM S. HOUPT

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THE POM

Reader

JULY
VOLUME XI • NUMBER FIVE

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September • Exotic Colors!

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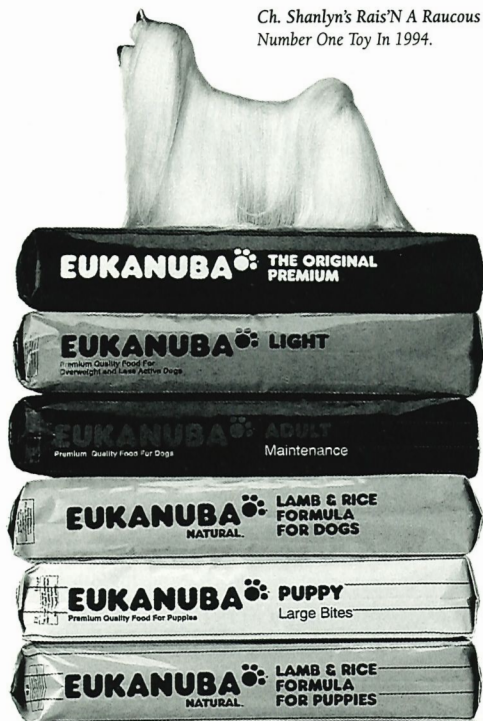
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ShowSight

FROM THE EDITOR

Although to many it may carry great biblical connotations, when applied to the dog fancy I find nothing spiritually-uplifting about the phrase

no room at the inn...

The phone call was a simple follow-up to a function we had held, a typical licensed Specialty show. As is our standard operating procedure, we were checking that our use of a rented facility was in keeping with its policies, and our presence on others' property responsible and trouble-free. We expected the usual response, one which we have received every time we have been involved in a like situation - that being that all was hunky-dorey and that we, our guests, AND OUR DOGS would be welcomed back any time at all. This was not, however, the message we were given on the day.

For this day we were informed that effective immediately, the hotel in question would no longer allow dogs of any size, of any kind, anywhere on the premises. We were dumbfounded, having not only held many functions at this particular place, but having also dumped tons of money into its coffers. Never once had we had any trouble whatsoever involving our club, our guests, or their dogs. When pressed, the manager informed us that, in truth, none of the people involved with our purebred dog function had been party to any offense of any kind; it had been guests attending the all-breed show the following day who had ignored the rules of the facility and brought down this latest injunction against canine guests. "Rest assured," she said, "it wasn't any of *your* people."

How wrong she was. In my book, anyone at all involved in the sport of purebred dogs is OUR PEOPLE, and anything they do reflects on us all. Too often I

hear the general public - dog owners not involved in our sport - blamed for all the trouble in the country: *they* cause pet overpopulation, *they* break leash laws, *they* do not respect the rights of others, etcetera, etcetera. But let me assure you - and unfortunately this is not an isolated incident - that it is, indeed, many of our own that ruin it for the rest of us.

The horror stories I have heard have curled what's left of my hair. In addition to the very real problem of solid waste management, hoteliers report to me instances of bedspreads being used as grooming towels; bathtubs clogged with hair, carpets destroyed or damaged, baseboards, doors and bedside furnishings scratched and chewed. Even minor matters take on greater significance when they involve the discomfort of others - dogs allowed to run off-lead in public areas often cause concern, and certainly a dog barking incessantly in the next room is an irritation to even the most diehard dog lover. But most of us simply point the finger, claiming that we or our dogs *never* do things like that. It's always the fault of others.

And yet we expect to be welcomed in hotels around the country, even when we are aware that these problems take place on a routine basis. And then we are surprised, as I was again today, when another of these places decides it has had enough. And puts up a little sign which has big impact - a sign that says "NO PETS."

Well, I for one am sick of it. Although I truly believe I have never behaved in a



PHOTO BY DUANE DOLL

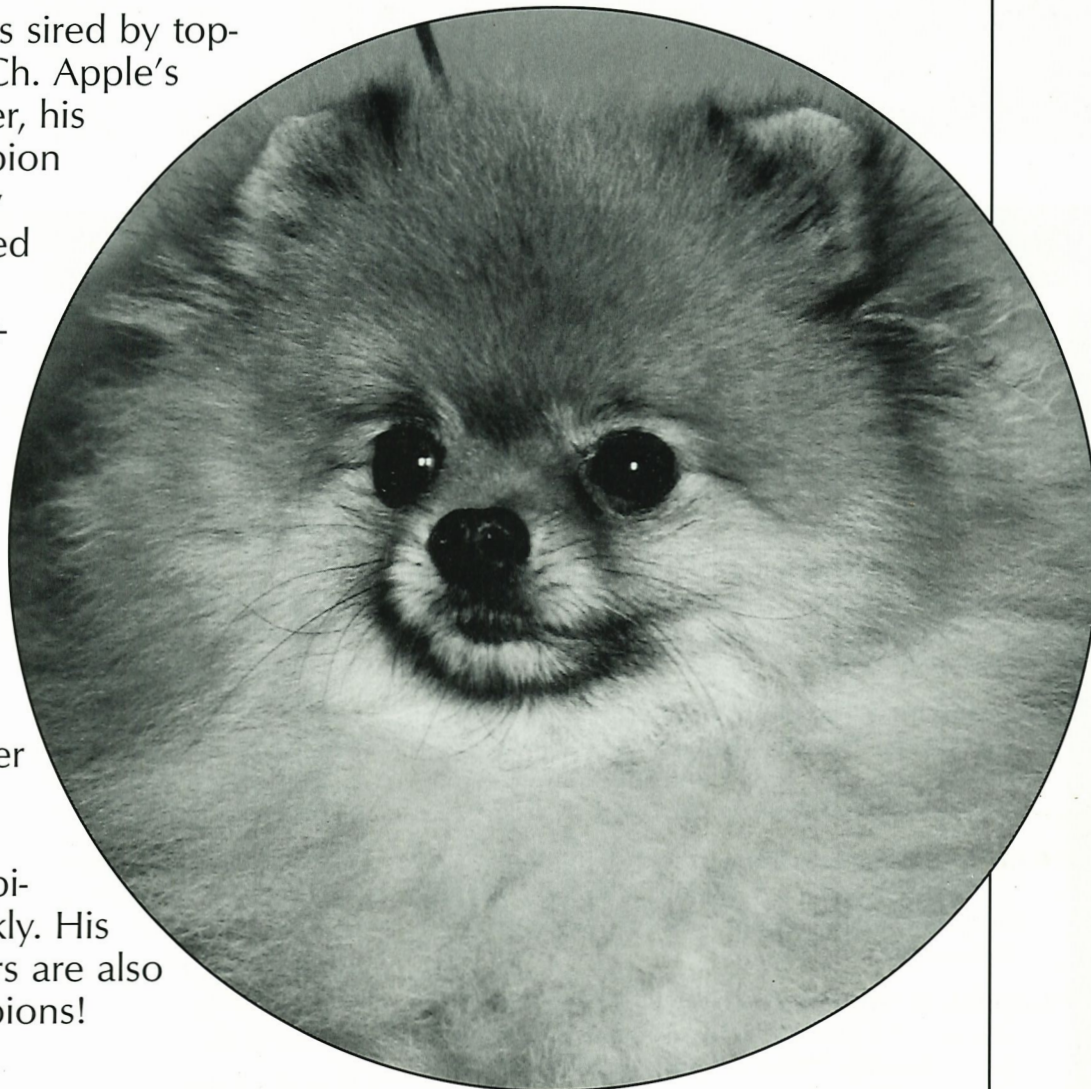
manner that would lead a hotelier to look down upon guests with dogs, that does not relieve me of the responsibility for the behavior of my fellow dog lovers. We are simply going to have to police our sport before outside authorities enact sanctions themselves. And it is really rather simple, I believe, to make the rule-breakers see the light. I say, hit them where it hurts.

I implore clubs around the country to announce, guarantee, and *enforce* punitive measures against members of our sport who break the rules. Inform your local hotel staff that problems will not go un-addressed, nor damages overlooked. Prefer charges against these people, within the local club, their respective parent club, with AKC. Hit them with fines, take away their privileges. Make it obvious to those so inclined that infractions of the rules will not be tolerated.

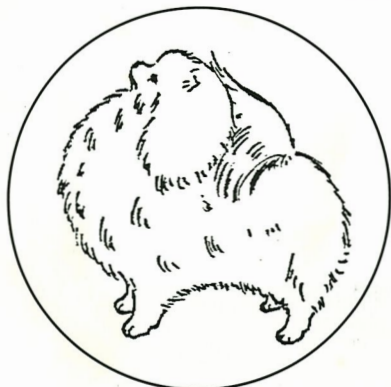
In short, rat on the jerks. For if they aren't stopped, it won't be long before we're all out in the cold, there will, indeed, be no room at the inn. And I have it on good authority that mangers don't have room service.

Philippine Champion SOURWOOD RAMBLING TARHEEL

"Mike" is sired by top-producing Am. Ch. Apple's Traveling Rambler, his mother a Champion Jan-Shar bitch by Rambo. I acquired Mike for future linebreeding/outcrossing to my Jan-Shar and Maxamillian bitches. Many thanks to his breeder, Doris Warren, for letting me have Mike and congratulations to her for this fine dog, who finished his Philippine championship title quickly. His two litter brothers are also American champions!



Congratulations to Janice Young on the Star Haven kennel visit... continued success!



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New CHAMPIONS

C O N F I R M E D J U N E 1 9 9 5

Beltane What A Guy II (D) by Ch. Tim Sue's Just A Bright Lite x Ch. Beltane Such A Spree. Breeder/Owner: Barbara & Paul Curry.

Bri-Cor's Causin A Co-Motion (B) by Ch. Apple's Travelin Diablo D'Elan x Starfire's Toasty Toppol. Breeder/Owner: Brian Incorvaia & Jose Cabrera.

Brilliant's Golden Glory (B) by Ch. Rockn Tradition of Oakridge x Patty's Morning Sun. Breeder: Joyce Winkels. Owner: Jean Baker & Joyce Winkels.

JK's Bayou View Wild Willie (D) by Ch. Bayou View Brass Bandit x Bayou View Bit-O-Honey. Breeder: John Lewis & Adam Verrett. Owner: John & Karen Blackwell.

Kingdom J's Foxy Lady (B) by Kingdom Golden Treasure x Kingdom's Vintage Beauty. Breeder: Rachel Capps. Owner: Jennifer Hernandez.

Legendary Sing Noel (B) by Ch. Wee Robin's Dancer of Oakridge x Shady Park Tinker Bell Rock. Breeder: Nancy Smith & Nina Epps. Owner: Nancy Smith.

Marydon's Tobias of Lenette (D) by Great Elms Tiny Tim x Ar-Bee's Vivian of Lenette. Breeder: K.G. Griffith. Owner: Don & Mary Daniels.

Obsessions Angel The Dragon (D) by Ch. Pedrons Dragon The Conqueror x Watts Little Tina Tyrant. Breeder/Owner: Juan Gomez.

Pinehavens Rumor Has It (B) by Orion's Coaltrain Walker Jr. x Ch. Pinehaven's Just An Illusion. Breeder: Gale Sharland. Owner: Gail Durniok & Gale Sharland.

Pixie's Justa Gem for Neujahr (B) by Pixie's Justa Bit of PJ x Bon Ton's Miss Samantha. Breeder: Evelyn Newyear & evelyn Conley. Owner: Carol Galavich & Evelyn Newyear.

Puf-Pride Sweet Surrender (D) by Puf-Pride Tandilizin Treasur x Ch. Puf-Pride Taunt'G Tempres. Breeder/Owner: Virginia & Warren Dimick.

Shrda's Pillow Talk (B) by Ch. Silver Meadows Love Jeremy x Shrda's Markie of My-T. Breeder: David Edwards & Susan Austin. Owner: Susan Austin.

Star Haven's Righteous Rock (D) by Ch. Rockn Tradition of Oakridge x Star Haven's Glory Michelle. Breeder/Owner: Janice Young.

Tim Sue's High Ryder (D) by Ch. Tim Sue's High Lights x Tim Sue's Melisa. Breeder: Tim & Sue Goddard. Owner: Daryls Flaata.

Wee Hearts I'll Moon You (D) by Causin Music at Oakridge x Golden Aire N Weehearts Luna. Breeder/Owner: Cassandra Ready Evans.

Wood's Little Essence of Tiger (B) by Ch. Great Elms Little Tiger x Model's Essence of Summer. Breeder: Maynard Wood. Owner: Dolores Watts.

Wynmor's Black N Tan Beauty (B) by Ch. Finch's He Walks On Water x Ch. Bev-Nor's Ms Muffet of Wynmor. Breeder/Owner: Roberta Podolin.

NEW CHAMPIONS are taken from American Kennel Club records and are published monthly as space permits.

May 28, 1995... A Memorable Day for
Ruby's Poms



THANK YOU, PEGGY HOGG

for recognizing the soundness and quality of CH. RUBY'S LOVELY COPPER COUGAR (WD - 3pts.) and RUBY'S CHERRY BOMBETTE (WB/BOW - 3 pts.)

THANK YOU MARIA KNEISLER

for loving Cougar and handling him to his Championship.

THANK YOU TAMMY SHARP

for your superb presentation of Cherry on her second time out. Cougar (a proven stud) is for sale to a serious breeder/show home.

Other show/breeding prospects available.

Ruby's Poms

RUBY F. POOLE

ROUTE 1 BOX 190, CLAREMORE, OK 74017

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Did you know...



DID YOU KNOW... That congenital abnormalities can take us by surprise...

It is the dream of all of us that every whelping pen be filled with "perfect" pups. We hope every puppy will be healthy, nurse perfectly, and check out normal at the vet's office. But, occasionally, as in our own lives things do go wrong, we must realize our dream may be a big disappointment.

The word congenital means "existing at birth" and can be used to describe any number of conditions. While some congenital abnormalities caused by heredity are noticeable at birth, others may take years to appear. Finding out about congenital problems early helps us make immediate decisions about the future, and that is of great importance to the breeder.

A kinked or crooked tail or an abnormal gait lets us know that we

may not want to repeat the breeding. When the problems take longer to appear, such as problems with the eyes, it may be too late – the breeding may have been repeated and offspring are on the ground. Congenital defects to be aware of:

- 1) **Open fontanelle**
- 2) **Eye conditions**
- 3) **Skin problems**
- 4) **Tails crooked or kinked**
- 5) **Stenotic nostrils**
- 6) **Trichiasis**
- 7) **Luxating patellas**
- 8) **Heart murmurs**
- 9) **Hernias**

A dedicated breeder knows that what you see isn't always what you get. It is most helpful to keep good breeding records on every lit-

ter from birth to maturity for future reference. We should not only track the show dogs, but the ones placed as companion dogs as well.

Problems that happen in the neonatal period have nothing to do with heredity. These problems can usually be avoided by practicing good preventive medicine.

Females that are to be bred should have all vaccinations up to date, be tested for brucellosis, worms, and checked for overall condition and weight.

When puppies do die, the breeder should make every effort to find out the cause of death. Sometimes this is difficult, but an effort should be made in case the cause was of an hereditary nature.

Breeders know that no matter how much genetic planning is done and preventative measures taken, not all puppies will live or grow up to be champions, but we will have a better gene pool to draw from. Decisions for the future can be made wisely and perhaps we can become a little closer to obtaining the "dream."

by Sharon Masnick

Ch. Star Haven's Gold Edition



Sire: Ch. Star Haven's Solid Gold Chip
 Dam: Chip-A-Way's Angel Star

- Thank you Judge Mrs. Virginia Buchanan (pictured) for a 5 point Major!
- Thank you Judge Mrs. Timothy Catterson for a 4 point major.

Handled by:

Jerry & Betsy Owens
 32510 8th Avenue South #A
 Roy, Washington 98580
 (206) 843-1365

Star Haven's Shadow Sparkle



Sire: Ch. Star Haven's Rock N James Brown
 Dam: Star Haven's Terrific Robin

Thank you Judge Mrs. Lois Wolff White (pictured) for Winners Bitch on her 6 month birthday!

*Congratulations,
 Janice, on your
 Kennel Visit!!*

Julie Javernick

654-A E. El Paso Drive • Chaparral, New Mexico 88021
 (505) 824-0434

DID YOU KNOW...

DID YOU KNOW.....

That knowing your dog's age may be important in a judge's decision? The following article was written by **Nigel Aubrey-Jones**, an author, judge, and recognized expert.

.....

Is Age Important When Judging?

It is by no means unusual to find puppies of many breeds entered in the Open class. Invariably, these are puppies that are either over grown, over developed, or too mature for their age to compete with puppies - or so their owners or handlers assume. Whether this practice is done with the intention of fooling the judge does not matter; for the very simple reason that, just like any other means of changing the appearance of a dog artificially, it is the breeder and exhibitor who are fooling themselves.

In general, I do not believe that age is a matter that weighs very heavily with the knowledgeable and experienced judge. With them it is an accepted fact that, in many breeds, puppies and young stock of different bloodlines - and sometimes of the same breeding - develop at different rates. Some will shoot up to their full height, then stop growing and take quite a long time to fully develop. Others develop more steadily, even in height and bodyweight during their growing period. The bigger the breed, the longer it takes for full maturity to be attained.

Owners of these breeds understand that they have to wait a few years before their paragons are ready to take on all comers. On the other hand, maturity often comes much sooner for some of the smaller breeds.

Past history for many breeds seems to indicate that dogs that take their time to mature will quite

often, in the end, outlast the flashy and glamorous youngsters. For many years it was frowned upon, not only by exhibitors, some judges and the American Kennel Club, for a judge to ask the exhibitor how old a dog was when judging. Quite recently there appears to be some greater understanding why some judges consider it important to know the age of a dog to be able to really evaluate its true merit. Of course we have all heard the old story that it gives the exhibitor more than an opportunity to just simply state the age of the dog!

Through the years I have been involved in discussions over this practice, which is considered as a very normal procedure when judging in some other countries. In this sport that depends entirely on opinion I have learned that even though we accept the fact that every one is entitled to express an opinion, but not necessarily the right to consider that opinion as being correct and beyond dispute. It is for this very reason that it important to grant some degree of respect to those who take the judging of dogs seriously enough to want to know the age of a dog.

The idiosyncracies that are present in the growth and maturity of all livestock are sufficient reason to ask, "is age important when judging?" As with most opinions, there is a copout to answer that question. "Judge them on the day," which I interpret to mean as knowing sufficient about a breed to know just what it should look like on that particular day.

Nigel Aubrey-Jones

.....

DID YOU KNOW.....

Proper nutrition during pregnancy and lactation means tuning in to the bitch's changing needs...

One important factor in a successful litter begins with a healthy bitch and a complete and balanced diet. A bitch should be fed a good quality dog food that is nutrient-dense, properly balanced, and has high levels of digestibility. Adding supplements may only upset this important balance.

Gestating and lactating bitches do need increased intake of dietary calcium and other nutrients to ensure normal growth and development of the puppies.

Supplementation is not the answer, as it can be harmful. Diets supported by research provide the necessary requirements and **GRADUAL INCREASES** in food consumption will fulfill the increased demand for the necessary nutrients.

It is necessary for breeders to monitor the food intake and weight of the bitch during the gestation period. At about 3-4 weeks into pregnancy, **MOST** dams experience an appetite loss for 3-10 days. From the 4th to the 7th week, it is important for the bitch to experience a slow but gradual weight gain. At this point, food intake should increase slightly.

Water is important during this time and it serves as a carrier of nutrients to the developing fetuses and serves as a factor in eliminating waste.

Again, thanks to all for your letters, comments, and calls. Reader input is always appreciated. Remember to watch your dogs in the heat, for it only takes a moment for disaster to strike. See you again next month!

Sharon Masnick
2007 Vestry Drive
Charleston, SC 29414
(803) 571- 6165

by Sharon Masnick

The Pom

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for
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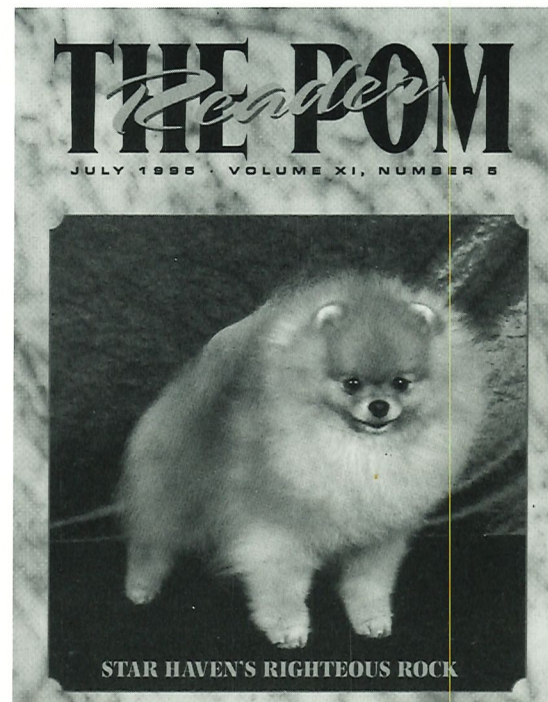
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WNOCK! WNOCK! WNOCK!

Who's There???

THE POM READER VISITS

Star Haven Poms

JANICE YOUNG • ST. CLAIR, MISSOURI

Welcome, Pom Reader, to Star Haven. Located just outside the city limits of St. Clair, Missouri, I share a modest home with my husband and youngest son. The Pomeranians are my project, but I get occasional help with such things as taking one of them to the veterinarian or taking photos.

During my childhood I had a variety of pets. Parakeets, hamsters, tropical fish and, of course, dogs and cats.

My first purebred dog was a male Pomeranian purchased from a pet shop. He was very intelligent and my constant companion until a move to Florida meant finding him another home. Not my choice, but I still lived with my parents and had to do as they wished.

I missed him deeply and knew someday I would have another. After I married and had three children raised to school age, the longing surfaced again. Having been reading dog publications, I thought the show dogs were so lovely. I decided I would like to own and show one. First a male, then later a female for breeding. Well... imagine a complete novice trying to buy a show prospect knowing absolutely nothing.

After about two years and two mistakes that were placed in pet homes, I

learned of Verna Hood of Robinhood Kennel. She introduced me to the Creider line of Poms and let me have three breeding females. I used her champion males in the beginning and in ten years produced ten champions with very limited breeding. My kennel name at that time was Cherokee Pomeranians.

There were no training classes within 50 miles. My Poms were trained on the sidewalks in town. Actually it worked pretty well. The noise of the traffic, children playing and running past, stopping to talk and pet the dogs, was all good socialization. The biggest problem

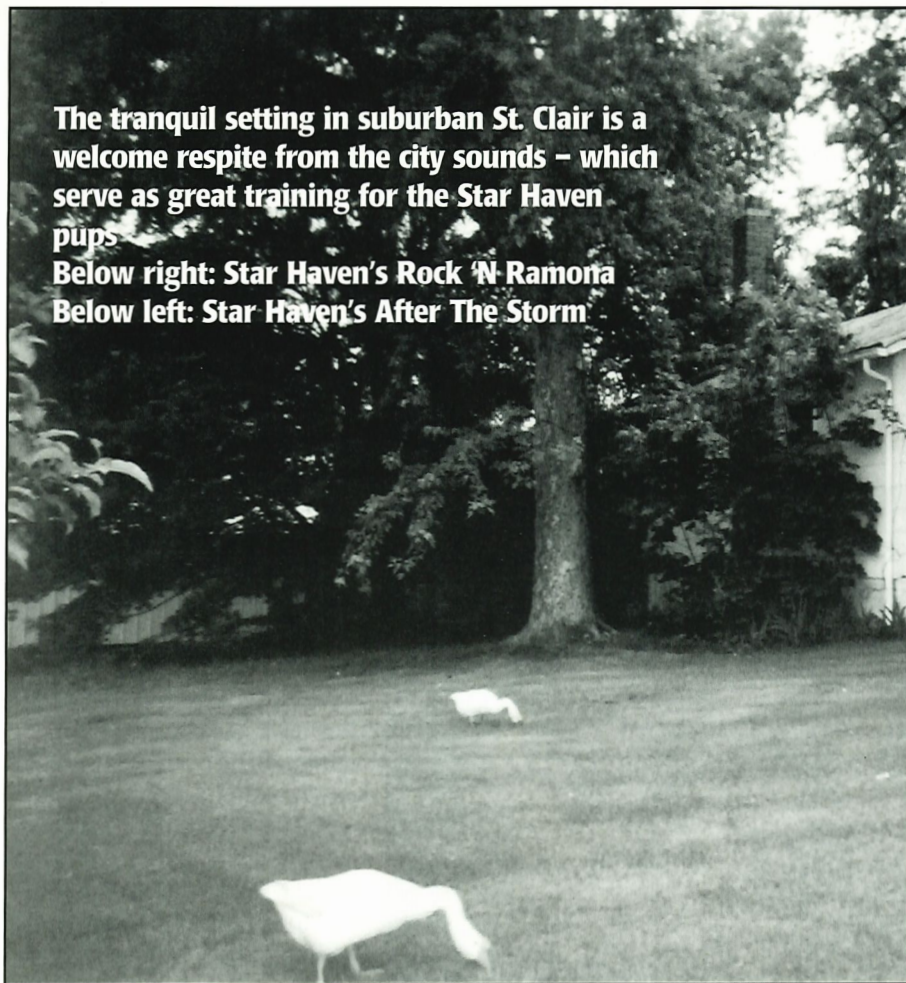


The "King" is on the wall, but the Poms reign supreme at Star Haven

The tranquil setting in suburban St. Clair is a welcome respite from the city sounds – which serve as great training for the Star Haven pups.

Below right: Star Haven's Rock 'N Ramona

Below left: Star Haven's After The Storm



was I had a job and had to work most weekends. That meant finding someone to help me show them.

I met Janice Luginsland of LLL Kennel and soon began a satisfying client/handler relationship. I trained them and took them to their first few shows and turned them over to Janice, who finished them quickly.



I also became acquainted with Nadine Hersil in this period of time. I had a bitch that needed a major to finish her championship. I sent her to Nadine who took her to a Specialty and she took a 5 point major. Great trophies and a new champion! I sent her another that needed a major to finish. Another Specialty win and another new champion. This was fun!

Tragedy struck when I lost my favorite Pom, Cherokee's Dazzlin' Daisy. A daughter of Ch. Bonner's Kristin Starmist, she was the love of my life. The dog everyone must have had... the loss of which leaves a void that can never be filled.

One spring, after heavy puppy losses during whelping, I felt I was getting signals that it was time to quit. I sold all but my older champions. We became a haven for retired show stars... *a star haven*. That was to become my kennel name when I began breeding again four years later.

I missed those bouncing balls

of fluff in my daily life. Something was missing and I knew what! This time I was armed with some knowledge of what is a good Pom and I knew what I wanted. From the perspective of a breeder, I look for a sound dog with a sound temperament. Temperaments are very hereditary. I like a pretty head and have to admit to being a head hunter. The dog should fit within an imaginary circle, presenting a balanced picture. We have such a lovely breed with an abundant coat. It seems a shame to cut so much away. I miss that part of the showing of a few years ago – the natural-appearing Pom with only a minimum of trimming.

I have judged at Fun Matches and at Sanctioned Matches. Matches are enjoyable. Everyone is relaxed and there to have fun. The outstanding puppy is easily recognized; these pups have a "presence" that stays with them from the

beginning. They are the ones that go on to become the Best in Show/Best in Specialty winners. This isn't to deny the nice class dog.

I believe a bitch should be of a size to be able to free whelp her puppies. I like 5 pounds to 6 pounds. It is preferable for the male to be of reasonable size. Using a tiny male seems to backfire and produces a certain number of tiny bitches. I like a male to be 4 pounds to 5 pounds. A superior specimen not within that size range would not be overlooked.

I admire the working dog movement in a Toy. It is truly a thrill to see such a diminutive dog with the reach and drive in the manner of the larger breeds. However, their primary duty in life is to be a companion and if they do not move like a working dog, they shouldn't be penalized for that.

I would like to see all colors allowed. Part of the joy of our breed is the many colors. Why not allow all colors, all marking, as with the Chihuahua breed?

Well, I seem to have gotten away from the subject at hand. A search for a new start.

Probably the newspaper isn't the best place to look for a show prospect Pom, but that is where I started. Knowing there were Pomeranian breeders in the Missouri/Illinois area, my thought was to find out who had puppies available and to see if they had any upcoming litters that might produce something in which I would be interested. Was it luck? Or fate? I answered an ad and went to view puppies in a nearby town. There was one Pom that stood out among all the others and after chatting awhile, it became clear the gentleman was going to sell all his Pomeranians due to health problems. I purchased that special male that was to become Ch. Stylestepper Mark of Oakridge, handled to his championship by Nadine Hersil, after she saw him and evaluated him as worthy. Through Janice Luginsland I had become acquainted with the Oakridge/Millamor lines and knew this was the look I wanted. I tried for some time to talk breeders

into letting me have a nice bitch in those lines, to no avail. So I went a different direction. Having seen some of Carolyn Roberts' Poms in the Pomeranian publications and thinking they were quite nice, I contacted her and soon made a trip to visit. She let me have a nice champion bitch, Chip-A-Way's Heavenly Body. From this bitch came two champions sired by Ch. Stylestepper Mark, Ch. Star Haven's Solid Gold and Ch. Star Haven's Terrific Dancer.

I've always liked black and tans and bought a nice black and tan bitch from

onship. The brother, Star Haven's Rock 'N Tradition, was the one I was going to keep, but when the inquiry came for a specials quality dog, Righteous Rock was recovering from a broken leg, so he stayed and his brother began a new life in another country.

Ah, to have the life of one of our Poms. But what I really find amusing is that Righteous Rock was offered to several people who called and wanted a nice dog to show. I didn't have the heart to tell him no one else wanted him. But I did tell him his day would come.

I had seen Maria Kneisler showing her Jake puppies and I knew she had an interest in what his offspring were doing. I approached her about handling Righteous Rock, call name Riley, since I was still working weekends and unable to do it myself. They have made quite a team, winning friends for the breed wherever they go.

I'd like to take this time to make the point that no breeder is an island unto himself. We all need to dip into the gene pool of another breeder from time to time. If not for the many years of dedicated breeding on the part of the others, small breeders couldn't hope to realize their

dreams. Many thanks to Mrs. Norma Creider, Nina Epps, Kenneth and Eleanor Miller, and Christine Hartz for their contributions to the creation of my very special dog.

Two years ago, after seeing several ads of Cassandra Evans', I called her. She invited me to visit as she owned Ch. Chriscendo Western Express, a dog I once owned. She wanted me to see how he was doing and to see some of his offspring she had bred. It was an 800-mile trip. The scenery was lovely on the way and it was like a mini-vacation. It is difficult to put into words how much Cassandra impressed me. She is so honest, ethical, cooperative and helpful. I found myself wishing I had called her years ago. She has let me have three Western Express daughters from the last litters he sired before old age overtook him. There is no way to adequately thank someone for such generosity. I've made several trips back to visit and Cassandra always manages to find something nice for me to take home when our visit is

Typical Star Haven pups, these sired by Rock 'N James Brown



Sue White of White Haven Kennel. From that bitch came BISS Ch. Star Haven's Rock 'N James Brown.

These were outcrosses and I still wanted to try line breeding. So, if you can't buy one, breed one. What follows is my formula for success. Buy the best bitch you can afford in a line you know to have free whelping bitches. My first ten years had taught me the Creider line was the line for this attribute. Mrs. Norma Creider sold me a lovely girl that was to become Ch. Creider's Mornin' Glory. In that period of time, Ch. Chriscendo Calvin Klein was standing at stud at the Miller's who then lived in Ohio. I took Glory to be bred to Calvin. From that breeding came Star Haven's Glory Michelle - another step closer to what I wanted. Michelle was bred to BIS Am/Can Ch. Rock N Tradition of Oakridge.

And a star is born. Ch. Star Haven's Righteous Rock. My first Group winner. Righteous Rock has a litter brother that is nearing his Puerto Rican champi-



Star Haven's present superstar, "Riley," as a puppy (inset) and today

over.

That's our story - but not the end. We look forward to many more years and many more champions.

For the newcomer to the breed I would say if you are fortunate enough to find people to help you, don't take them for granted. They could be helping someone other than you. Give them a reason to want to help. Live up to any agreements made with them. Don't forget who helped you. You may need them again someday.

You will also need a reliable veterinarian. Preferably one with a sizeable prac-

tice in the Toy breeds. Talk to people in your area. If they rave about a vet, he is probably good. You may need to patronize more than one veterinarian. I went to the same vet for many years, but more and more I found him to be out of town on hunting trips when I needed him. In one emergency situation I was unable to get any vet to take me into their busy schedule when I had a bitch in labor and having difficulty. One finally came in after a field call to a rancher, so all ended well, but it was a hairy situation for a while and pointed out to me the importance of finding a vet who would be

there when I needed him. I now have such a vet, and have been very pleased with his knowledge and expertise and his gentle caring manner.

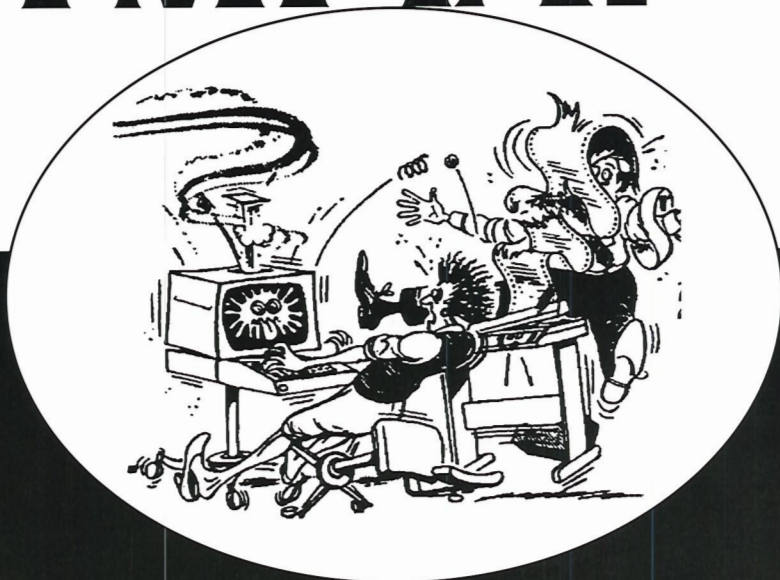
Thank you, **Pom Reader**, for spending some time with us. Our wish is for healthy, lovely Poms in the whelping box and in the show ring for all those special people who work so hard promoting our breed.

*Janice Young, Star Haven Poms
618 W. Springfield Road
St. Clair, MO 63077*

O

LYMPIA!

Dogs Howl And



The Other Side Of The Coin

Dear Lois,

As usual, I found your article in the May Pom Reader of great interest. As you suggest, I am certain there are many times when unethical behavior on the part of the breeder/seller causes problems for the buyer of Poms.

I am equally certain that the purchaser does not always behave in an ethical manner, and is sometimes downright dishonest. We recently had such an unhappy experience. A breeder of parti-colored Poms requested a female. After lengthy phone conversations, I sent a contract which was signed and returned along with a check to cover the price of the Pom and air fare. The Pom was not yet a year old, so I sent her by air with special handling requested.

The novice buyer decided that the Pom did not have a heavy enough coat to suit, although I had explained that the youngster had not yet come into full coat. Since the buyer did not like the little Pom, I am happy she was returned to us, but the way it was done is unbelievable.

Without informing us, the Pom was put on a flight with no special handling instructions, and the purchaser had the absolute gall to send her collect! The Pom was left sitting for many

hours between flights and I was away at a dog show when she arrived at my airport.

To top off this story of "seller beware," the buyer had stopped payment on the check, so I was left paying airfare both ways for a quite stressed out Pom. When I requested payment for airfare, the buyer's words were, "You can just eat it!"

Experiences like this are what make reputable breeders decide not to sell to novices, no matter how friendly they may sound on the phone. Thanks for listening.

Rosemary E. Regoni
Dar's Foxridge Pomeranians

Dear Rosemary,

We are all listening! Since my "buyer beware" column I have had numerous phone calls about sellers getting taken, and your letter says it best. Perhaps newcomers who complain so often to me that they can't get known breeders to sell to them will take pause and consider why! Everyone I talk to these days is absolutely paranoid about selling to anyone they don't know well! It's the wave of the times, with our breed so popular, as mentioned in my June column.

You didn't mention the type of check you

accepted, but everyone should accept only cashier's checks or money orders, unless you know the purchaser very well, and airfare to the buyer should not be in the check; it should be collect-on-arrival.

Your purchaser's way of shipping back is despicable, but not unheard of these days. The only way to prevent that is to accept only the type of funds above and then deduct air fare back, with you making the reservations on the other end, when returning the funds, after the dog arrives c.o.d.

I have known cases where the seller sent the return payment before the dog arrived and found the dog ill or injured, costing the seller vet fees. It's a two-sided coin - who can trust whom? What if the buyer ships the dog back first, and the seller does not return his money? If the seller returns the money first, how does he know what condition the dog will be in when it arrives?

Even when they come to pick up the dog, insist on cash or a cashier's check. I have known cases in which, the minute they get the dog, they go to the bank and stop payment!

It is sad that some newcomers to the breed really are sincere and must suffer because of

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- and last but not least,
- **CH. STAR HAVEN'S RIGHTEOUS ROCK** for ALL his Group placements, especially his GR1 wins. Owner Janice Young and handled by Maria Kneisler. So a BIG congratulations, Jan, not only on your kennel visit, but for having such a super Special!

OAKRIDGE POMERANIANS

Nina K. Epps
Route 5 Box 150
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this sort of situation, but in so many cases the newcomers listen to what you say about the youth of the dog and when it will, for instance, come into coat, yet they have stars in their eyes and really expect a fully coated champion they saw in yesterday's ad walk out of the crate, even if they paid a brood or pet price!

I'm getting so paranoid about referring newcomers to well known breeders that I feel nervous when I get the calls requesting referrals. Many times, I get a "thanks a lot" from the breeder...and they weren't being complimentary.

Olympia

Below is an article of interest by David Olinger as published in the St. Petersburg Times.

AUDIT FINDS PET PROTECTION LACKING

An internal audit of the federal program that is supposed to protect domestic animals from abuse uncovered business practices that would frighten anyone who has ever lost a pet.

Tai disappeared the day before Thanksgiving. It wasn't for the first time. The little Siberian Husky Lisa Johnson's parents presented as a wedding gift had grown into a playful young dog who still needed to learn that home ended at the edge of a Wisconsin dairy farm. Except this time, Tai didn't come home for seven months.

By luck, she was rescued in a sheriff's raid hundreds of miles away, from a man licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to buy unwanted dogs and sell them to universities as research animals.

To her horror, Lisa Johnson learned his license had been renewed repeatedly, despite a record of flouting the law that supposedly prevents animal dealers from sending anyone's family dog to die on a laboratory table.

"For him to lose his license, it took 30 years," she said.

Change has come slowly to the agency that enforces animal welfare laws.

Two years after Tai and 150 other dogs were seized from an unscrupulous animal dealer, a confidential Department of Agriculture report discloses continuing evidence of business practices that would frighten anyone who has ever lost a pet.

Department auditors found two state universities were able to bypass the pet protection provisions of the law – and buy research animals within one to four days of their arrival at

county shelters.

They also found that animal dealers caught with dogs and cats obtained from untraceable sources routinely get their licenses renewed, sometimes even as enforcement agents try to put them out of business.

In one case, four renewals were given to an Indiana dealer accused of operating a clandestine facility, keeping inaccurate records of dog purchases and repeatedly denying access to inspectors.

For federal inspectors, it is impossible to know if a caged dog without a valid purchase record could be a missing pet. What they do know is research dogs fetch a lot of money. On average, dealers get \$240 per dog.

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a/k/a/ Lois Ciliberto

The auditors concluded that their department's animal welfare agency lacks both the legislative authority and the will to make sure pet protection laws are obeyed by a business delivering about 140,000 dogs and cats annually to research labs.

"It looks terrible to the public. We recognize that," said Dale Schwindaman, the agency's deputy administrator for animal care enforcement. He said the agency has begun to increase penalties for mistreating animals and agrees legislative changes are needed.

The Animal Welfare Act, a 1966 federal law, theoretically guarantees humane treatment to the millions of mammals held by research labs, zoos, tourist attractions and animal dealers.

To enforce it, the agriculture department employs a total of 75 field inspectors in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,

or APHIS. They monitor about 8,000 licensed animal facilities.

The audit of this program, completed in January by the department's inspector general, was labeled, "Restricted to official use." It has not been made public, but animal rights activists who obtained copies say it confirms what they already believed.

"It echoes many of the points we have raised for years," said Sally Fekety, a spokeswoman for the Humane Society of the U.S.

"Basically it says that every animal in the APHIS system isn't safe," said Russ Rector, president of the Dolphin Freedom Foundation in Florida.

At research facilities alone, scientists and surgery classes use more than 2.3 million animals per year, according to the latest federal data. Hamsters and guinea pigs were the most popular test animals, but researchers used 106,000 dogs and 33,000 cats as well.

These animals come from three legal sources: people who purposely breed them for research, animal pounds or shelters and "Class B" dealers – middlemen who buy animals from shelters, breeders and individuals who sell dogs and cats they certify raising from birth.

The enforcement controversy centers on the middlemen, who supply 45% of the dogs and cats used in experiments.

Researchers buy what the trade calls "random source" animals from Class B dealers for two reasons: Many local shelters will not provide animals for experiments, and dealers generally offer much lower prices than breeders.

Humane Society officials contend this system is rife with pet theft and fraud.

They say too many dogs and cats are brought to animal dealers by people whose unsavory acquisition techniques range from canvassing classified ads for pets needing a "good home" to using a female dog in heat to lure and capture males.

The animals then may be traded from state to state or sold at auctions, making their origin difficult or impossible to track.

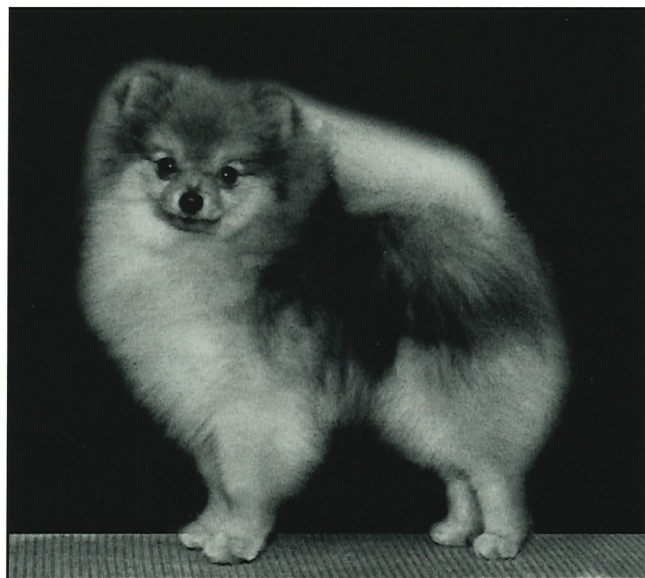
A federal study that tried to trace dogs and cats from purchase records of nine dealers found that of 216 listed suppliers, 50 could not be located. Fifteen denied selling animals to the dealers. Fourteen reported selling a different number of animals than the dealers reported buying. In addition, 49 purchase records contained wrong information about suppliers.

Agriculture department auditors blame weak enforcement of the Animal Rights Act partly on Congress' passage of a law with fine

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- and to Diana Nolan with her wins on Kneisler's Epic Rock Tradition.



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Star Haven's
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(pictured at 5 months)

I am very grateful to have Cody, Janice. *Thank you!*

Peggy Baker
 617 Lindenwood Avenue, St. Charles, MO 63301
 (314) 949-9444

goals and few teeth.

By law, APHIS cannot revoke a license for "serious or repeat violations without a lengthy administrative hearing process," they said – leaving the offender free to sell research animals during a legal fight that may last years.

Other problems spotlighted by the audit vary from loopholes in the law to tolerance of serious violations and of dealers who won't let an inspector in the door.

The agency renewed licenses of at least 28 businesses whose violations were "potentially jeopardizing the health and well-being of the animals under their care," auditors reported. Their findings:

- Federal law requires shelters to keep dogs or cats at least five days before a dealer can buy them, but exempts research facilities. This exemption has allowed two universities, Michigan State and North Carolina State, to buy numerous research animals one to four days after they are brought in to county pounds.
- The interstate travels of one dog were tracked from a Maryland university to an Indiana broker who refused to access his records. Earlier, federal inspectors had "questioned the source of 28 or 29 dogs" this same broker possessed, because "sellers" could not be found or denied selling the dogs in question.
- Penalties for violating the Animal Welfare Act have been small, and payments often tardy or nonexistent. The typical fine per violation – such as erroneous records, unsafe food storage or overcrowded cages – is \$300 or less, which many dealers consider "a normal cost of doing business rather than an incentive to comply with the act."

A check of 389 settlements between the agency and animal dealers showed 108 had not paid their fines; 73 others were allowed to pay one to nine months later.

- Three of 16 dealers refused to let auditors in, yet APHIS did not suspend their business. Generally, "APHIS has not taken sufficient action to deal with facility owners who either openly refuse to allow inspections or are generally not available..."

The Humane Society argues that dogs and cats should be taken immediately from dealers who cannot document legal purchases, because the animals get sold for research – and killed – while APHIS investigates.

"Virtually all dogs and cats that go into laboratories come out dead – whether it's the experiment itself that kills them, or whether they're euthanized at the end of the experi-

ment," said Martin Stephens, the society's expert on laboratory issues.

Stephens said research dogs are used mainly to test the toxicity of chemicals, the effects of drug abuse and in heart studies, which may require inducing a heart attack to test the efficacy of a new medicine. Cats are used in neurological or vision studies, he said, which "can involve cutting certain nerves in the brain" or raising animals in darkness.

Humane Society shelters euthanize unwanted dogs and cats but oppose selling them for research. Fourteen states, mostly in the Northeast, also prohibit selling unclaimed animals for research, while three Midwestern states and Utah require offering them to

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a/k/a/ Lois Ciliberto

researchers.

In Florida, the Humane Society thinks this practice is limited to Hillsboro [sic] County, where voters approved a referendum to let a shelter sell unclaimed animals to the University of South Florida.

Generally, the shelters supplying research animals to dealers and universities to wait five days for animals brought to these shelters.

Christine Williams, director of laboratory animal resources at Michigan State, disagrees. Why, she asks, should a shelter that already had too many animals to adopt be required to keep a dog turned in by its owner for a week?

In 1992 and 1993, Michigan State reported acquiring 1,470 research animals from four county pounds. Williams said much of this work – such as research on heartworms and cat vaccines, and surgery demonstrations in veterinary school – benefits animals overall.

More than 90% of these research animals are killed, but "we don't buy any animals that are not going to be dead," she said.

In states where research animals are unavailable from shelters, other universities rely on "random source" dealers, who supplied about 70,000 research dogs and cats in 1993.

How many missing or stolen pets get sold to these dealers and die in research studies is anybody's guess. In a system where interstate animal sales are common, few owners ever learn that a dealer had their lost dog.

Lisa Johnson is one of the few.

For two weeks after Tai vanished from their farm, she and her husband drove around the Black Falls area, hoping to cross her path.

They called the local radio station, just in case some listener had seen a copper-colored Siberian Husky, 60 pounds, age 2, looking lost.

One thought he had. "That was all we heard until seven months later," Lisa said.

The news that brought Tai back came from their television set.

At a place called the Circle S Ranch, five hours east of their farm, sheriff's deputies had taken 150 dogs from Ervin Stebane, a man licensed to sell dogs for research. His ranch was raided after a videotape allegedly showed him shooting a dog and selling its meat to a couple. He was accused of animal cruelty – a charge later dropped by a judge who ruled Wisconsin law permits owners to shoot their dogs.

Meanwhile, a friend of the Johnsons who lived in the area checked photographs of the seized dogs – and found their Siberian Husky. The dog who came home weighed 30 pounds.

The Department of Agriculture had a substantial file on Stebane long before his ranch was raided. It held reports of missing records, discrepancies in purchase accounts, dog tags with no dogs to match.

In 1994, after a federal investigation found Stebane couldn't account for many of his dogs, he became the first dealer in the history of the Animal Welfare Act to permanently surrender his license. The Johnsons never did learn who took their dog to the Circle S Ranch.

••••

Until the dog howls again...

Olympia a.k.a. Lois Ciliberto
20044 Stamat Drive
Land O' Lakes, FL 34639
Ph: 813-996-5499
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STAR HAVEN POMERANIANS

for

STAR HAVEN'S HEART'S DESIRE "*China*"

(pic.)

and for our lovely "*Toby!*"



Janice, you were most helpful on the Poms with me, and just wonderful to deal with! My heartfelt good wishes for continued success in your breeding and showing program!

China is now being shown by Jackie Rayner. Thank you, Jackie, for your expert handling and special care of our gal!

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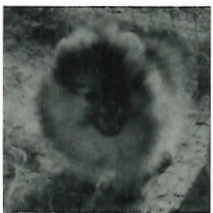
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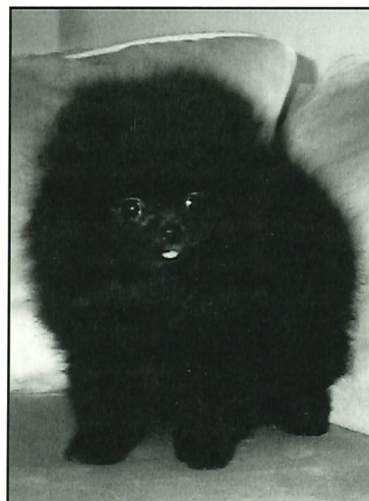
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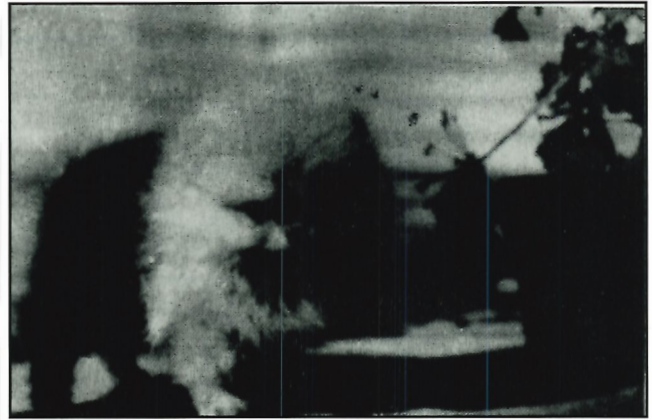
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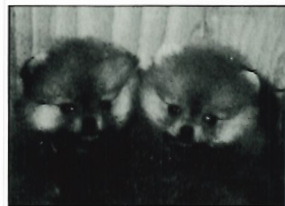
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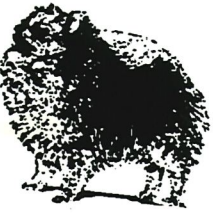


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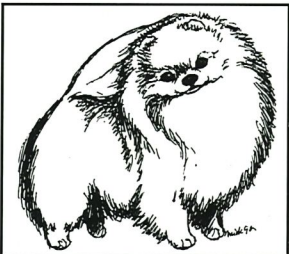
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