

Columbia Bouvier des Flandres Club

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Latest Board meeting minutes are attached for members.

President's Message

Summer has arrived. And we sure knew it at our recent carting tests. Temperatures that weekend (June 3 through 5) reached close to 100 degrees. That is unusual for the Pacific Northwest at that time of year.

Our Club participated alongside the Oregon region's Bernese Mountain Dog Club at the beautiful Willamette Mission State Park just north of Salem.

Friday, our test day, the heat was actually not bad. The Bernese Club had misters set up for the dogs along with a kiddy wading pool and a hose, so there was plenty of opportunity to keep your dog cooled off. And the test site was in a grove of walnut trees which offered shade the entire weekend.

We had a good turnout for our ABdFC test in the morning and the NAWBA test in the afternoon. We had entries consisting not just of Bouviers, but also a smooth collie as well as a rescue service dog. We even had visitors from Montana come with their Bouviers just to watch.

One judge was a Bernese Mtn. Dog judge and the other was a Rottweiler judge. Both were helpful in explaining the courses and the judging processes.

Everyone enjoyed the day, including a few of our Club members who came out just to help as stewards for the event. And a special thanks to Diane, our newsletter editor, for bringing her camera and taking all the photos. Check out the photo gallery at the end of our newsletter.

Cathy Longworth and I stayed on through the weekend and participated with our Bouvs in the Rottweiler carting test held on Saturday in Newberg and in a Bernese test on Sunday back at the state park.

A great three day weekend of carting challenges against different courses and under different breed test rules. I encourage all of our members to consider carting with your Bouvier. It is a fun way to spend time with your dog and if your dog has some basic obedience skills, consider entering our carting tests this time next year. I guarantee you will be provided with not only a competitive experience but also a fun day in the park with a lot of dog owners like yourself.

Enjoy time with your Bouvs this summer!

David (and Hunter)
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What is Special About the Bouvier Specialty at the Upcoming Portland Stumptown Cluster Show?

If dog shows aren't confusing enough – conformation, agility, rally and obedience – this July 23 and 24 at the Expo Center our Club will hold its annual Bouvier des Flandres specialty classes.

There are two kinds of specialties. They can be either "independent" (a separate show) or "designated classes" (where a breed's specialty is held as part of an all-breed show).

A specialty traditionally draws more participants – a few years ago, there were more than 40 Bouvier entries. So a specialty show provides the opportunity to see more Bouviers and the potential of more points if an entrant does well. For independent specialties, the club selects the judges, while for designated shows it is the all-breed show's sponsoring club that selects the judges.

We are having a designated class specialty. An advantage to CBdFC is that Portland Kennel Club pays all the facility and judge expenses. Our club does have some expenses as we provide trophies and rosettes befitting specialty classes. Judging Bouviers this year are Ms. Donna Francis and Col. Harold Brizee.

In addition to special prizes for conformation classes, we are also offering High in Trial rosettes for obedience both days. Bouviers will compete in the regular obedience classes of Portland

Dog Obedience Club on Saturday and the Portland Kennel Club on Sunday. Come to the Bouv specialty and watch the best Bouvs go head to tail in the ring. There will also be conformation competitions for 4 to 6 month old puppies.

The show also features a Barn Hunt training and fun test. Barn Hunts involve finding caged rats. It's a test formulated for Terriers but some Bouviers think it's a lot of fun. There's an hour long training and explanation class followed by a test with your dog. More information is attached and can be found in the Portland Kennel Club premium list at <http://ch.infodog.com/prm/5185/prm5185.pdf>. If you are interested, sign up early, as it filled up before the show last year.

Next Board and General Meetings at the Specialty July 23

The next Board and a general meeting will be held in the grooming area on Saturday following the Bouvier conformation judging. Times for Bouvier judging will be posted on the superintendent site several days after entries close Wednesday, July 6. The Portland Kennel Club schedules will be found at: http://www.infodog.com/show/judgingprograms.htm?_p=Y

Come to the meeting. Enjoy the show, bring a potluck dish or just yourself and your Bouv(s), meet other members and weigh in on future Club activities.

About Club Members: Cathy & Tony Longworth

Cathy and Tony Longworth live in Nine Miles Falls, Washington, near Spokane. Cathy grew up in rural California, but moved to the city after marrying Tony. With young children, Cathy and Tony were interested in a protective breed and through advice from the Redland police, they got their first Bouvier, Boo (a birthday gift for Tony, who was born on Halloween) in the early 1980s. A second dog, Strike, followed. That made for 3 boys and 2 dogs, all under age 5. Time flies, and boys grow and go off to college and Bouvs age and are replaced by a Mini Schnauzer. The return of the Bouvs was initiated by a son in college, who got a rescue Bouv, and it has been all Bouv since then.

Tony primarily works with Xanto, a 3-year-old male, training for protection and as a military dog, including Green Beret dog school with those at Joint Base Lewis McChord.

Cathy and her Dasha, almost 11-years-old now, are a team that has been successful in rally, obedience, agility, and carting. It wasn't an easy beginning says Cathy, as Dasha was a high-strung dog. But Cathy says it helped to have patience and a great trainer in Barbara Gordon (<http://fixadog.com/index.htm>), who provided guidance and continues to be involved. Even the best players can need a coach.

Carting was an important skill. Although, it too was difficult at the start, Dasha saw it as work to

be done, and pulling a cart calmed her down. The training also allowed Cathy to reconnect with her inner country-girl, who used to love competing in gymkhana. She enjoys the challenge of partnering with her dog and succeeding as a pair.

Dasha and Cathy were recognized at the 2015 Bouvier Nationals with the Reserve Multi Level Performance Award (MLP), as Dasha received High In Trial in Obedience, two perfect scores in Rally Advanced and Excellent, and passed two Draft Dog Tests at the event. Dasha was presented the Versatile Bouvier Champion Award, and Cathy was awarded the Performance Owner, Handler "Max" award for 2015. Their success is exceptional, and Dasha was the #3 overall performance Bouvier in the nation in 2015, with multiple titles in obedience, rally, agility and carting. Dasha is getting older, has retired from agility but Cathy has a new partner, Mina, an almost 2-year-old Bouv. Mina has started work in rally, agility and carting, as well as herding. It's the process of working together over months and years that is the joy of a versatile Bouvier, the multiple titles are just the icing on the cake.

Cathy and David Herndon, along with Test Committee members Tony Longworth and Diane Elliot, put on the recent ABdFC and North American Working Bouvier Association (NAWBA) carting tests, and they will be holding tests again in September near Spokane.

Editor's note: If you are interested in an activity described here or prior newsletters, contact a Club member. As new to many activities myself, I can say that uniformly members have been only too happy to share skills and the joy of learning with your Bouv.



Welcome New Members

The Club welcomes new members Susan Signor, Jim Anderson and Claudia Koransky.

Susan Signor actually is not a "new" member to the Club - but one of the founding members re-joining the club after moving with her husband John from Battle Ground to the Yakima area many years ago. She has become a licensed dog trainer, and in addition to Bouviers bred under her "Alpine" kennel name, she also has Berger Picards.

Jim Anderson lives in Beaverton with his family, which now includes Bouvier 'Baas,' acquired from breeder Steven Bowerman in Alaska. Jim is interested in pursuing coursing, conformation and other activities that engage his boy.

Claudia Koransky lives in Puyallup, where she is now free to more fully pursue her dog interests without the worries of working as a registered nurse. She has two Bouviers she bred under her "Celestial" kennel name and is interested in obedience, agility, herding, carting and nosework with her boys Holmes and Watson.

Pet Insurance?

If your pet has had a medical or surgical emergency, you know how costs can quickly add up. Pet insurance was recently reviewed in Consumer's Reports (May 2016). Still less than 1% of owners have pet insurance. Recommendations included, if you do plan to get pet insurance, do it when the pet is young and healthy. Omit the check-up coverage and go with the major medical. Explore coverage, deductibles and exclusions. Most policies still require you to pay the bill and then be reimbursed. It is weighing the annual premiums against the chance your pet will have a major vet bill.

What's your experience with pet insurance and vet bills? Share your comments at dllelliot@aol.com, and we will include them in the next newsletter.

Why I Love Conformation by Cheryl Calm

I was asked to write about why I chose conformation as my primary arena of competition with my Bouviers. Interesting question, when you've been doing it as long as I have.

As a breeder, the conformation show ring is where structural evaluation happens and where you take the Bouviers you have planned, bred, raised, trained, groomed and loved to see how they measure up. Also I have to admit, I'm a competitive person - and bringing my Bouv babies into the top ten nationally brings a lot of satisfaction.

Another big draw for me is the training, communication and teamwork with my dog. Dog and handler teams that truly know each other and what they are doing make it look so easy you can forget that hours of work and mutual understanding have gone into creating the beautiful picture you see in the ring.

I love getting into the heads of each Bouvier to find what works with them. They are all different. And they are training you too. With a Bouvier it is always a negotiation - where hopefully both dog and handler are happy with the outcome.

Conformation also gives me an outlet for artistic expression. It takes a lot of artistry to create a good looking show dog out the pile of hair a Bouvier can be. You have to enjoy that artistic process to be a good show groomer. And realize that hair can create illusions, both good

and bad. With just a couple minutes to make an evaluation, some judges go with what they see.

There's also a great sense of community in the conformation world. Long time friendships based on a common interest. Those are the people that really understand your passion and partnerships with your dogs.

Some days the judging is good. Some days it is not. Even on those bad days, I still get to take home the dog I love.



1980s and more recent with Jobu.



Upcoming Events

Lots going on this summer. Check out Spot magazine for a listing of pet events at <https://issuu.com/spotmagazine/docs/spot-junjul16-web>.

Canines Uncorked Saturday, August 6, benefits the Oregon Humane Society. Fifteen North Willamette Valley wineries participate - owners can taste wines while dogs have activities.

\$40 passport good in August, even if can't make the August 6th event.

Summer Safety

We know you are caring and careful but share this with friends. Even in the shade, with a breeze blowing or when windows are cracked open, cars quickly turn into an oven.

vehicle temperature		
outside F°	inside F°	
	10 mins	30 mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

If you see a dog in a hot car, it's recommended to note make, model and license-number. Ask nearby business to make an announcement to find the car's owner. If the owner comes, educate about the dangers but do not become confrontational. If the owner can't be found, call 911. About a third of States, including Oregon and Washington, have laws to protect animals in hot cars. Oregon SB 614, enacted just last year, gives law enforcement authority to break into a motor vehicle to rescue an endangered animal. However, there is no Oregon Good Samaritan law to protect you if you break into a car to rescue someone's pet. However, most of those rare events are not prosecuted.



Carting Committee and judge (in pink) (minus Tony)



Cathy and Dasha



Robbie and Judith Allen from B.C



Hunter backs up his cart for David



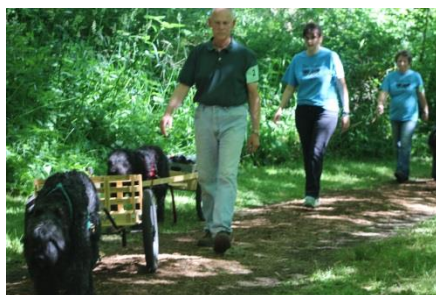
Cheryl saying hello to Hunter



Cheryl Calm and Judy Brock were stewards



Jackie and Dino



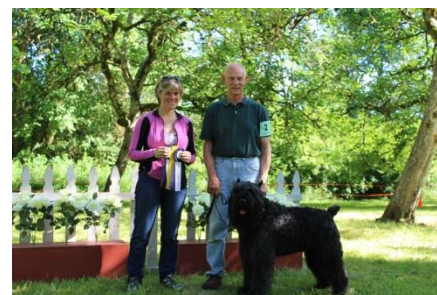
After an obstacle course, all participants do a one-mile freight haul

Please send in your summer pictures for the next newsletter (dlelliot@aol.com).

EVERYONE WAS A WINNER



Judith and Robbie (CH Joy-A-Len's Majestic Robbins) NAWBA High in Trial Bouvier



Susan and Sioux



Michele and Tyco