

Columbia Bouvier des Flandres Club

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Inside this Issue

- 1 President's Message
- 2 Why I Love Working Dogs
- 2 More About Working Dogs
- 3 A Runt's Tale
- 4 If You Die Before Your Pet
- 4 Bucket Lists
- 4 Pet Inheritances
- 5 Upcoming Events

Information about membership is available at our website

<http://www.cbdfc.org/membership.html>.

Latest Board and General meeting minutes are attached.

President's Message

September 5, 2016

The summer has gone by so quickly, and it is already Labor Day with the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays not far off. The leaves have been changing down here in Southern Oregon for the past couple weeks. The horses and dogs have started growing their winter coats. The nights have finally turned cold—it was so hot there for a month or so that the cold nights are very welcome.

This year's ten Indian Runner Ducks (fawn and white) are all grown up and think they are big ducks now. Out on the pond with the Chinese Geese—in fact one of the female geese adopted them when they first arrived at a few days old, and she follows them around everywhere. The dozen female Speckled Sussex chicks that arrived the end of May are almost “hens” now—they have grown so much. And the one little rooster (an Australian Australorp) that came with them—we named him Smoke—is practicing his crowing. He needs to work on it. The older Buff Orpington rooster just ignores him. Buff Orpington roosters are known for being docile, so I am hoping these two roosters will peacefully coexist.

I recently started working on getting Hunter ready for a try at CDX sometime this winter or next spring. He is interested in fetching his new dumbbell and bringing it to me. And he did do jumps when he got his RE title. But putting those two things

together may take us some time. The hardest thing I think will be to get him to maintain the “sit” position for 3 minutes. We will probably master the patterns, the jumps, the fetch of the dumbbell, etc. long before I ever get him to stay in a “sit” for 3 minutes. The boy just drops to that natural Bouvier position of “down” as if it was just automatically programmed into him. And I admit I have used that “down” throughout our carting work these past two summers as that is the one position I knew he would not move from. (I have no concerns about the CDX 5 minute out of sight down!)

But now I am going to have to school him on the “Sit means sit” rule. I am working on it.

The Club has added several new members over this past summer, and I encourage each of you to be active with your Bouviers. Whether you have Bouvs because you want to compete in the fancy ring or in any of the various dog sports that are available, or just want to have a Bouv as your companion, remember that we own a breed that wants to be engaged with its owner. Let's all be sure to make them a part of our daily lives. After all, that (and food) is about the most important thing to a Bouv.

All the best,
David Herndon & Hunter
dave@augustmoonfarm.com

Why I Love Working Dogs

In the last newsletter the Longworths were profiled. However, it was mainly about Cathy. I asked Tony to write about the protection work that he does – another aspect of the versatile Bouvier. 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. **He writes:**

I have always been a purpose and function orientated person. When we got our first Bouvier in 1982, I had been looking for a breed capable of doing police work. I always had a dog earlier in my life – mostly hunting dogs.

The Bouvier had a reputation for being a protective breed. I wanted something "different" than everyone else. I did not realize at the time there was such diversity in traits within a breed. Even though our early Bouviers were from "show lines," they still exhibited a very protective nature. I also liked that everyone who saw our dogs wanted to know more about them. It was entertaining to see all the reactions of peoples' first exposure to the Bouvier. I truly enjoy the challenge of training and maintaining a dog to the standards of law enforcement/military/personal protection dog. I enjoy the scrutiny the working dog world applies towards working dogs.

I trained our female, Boo, to become a police level dog. The combination of my inexperience

and very mellow bloodlines prevented Boo from reaching certification. I got her close, but she was just a tad softer than what I now know is needed.

Without the internet, getting information on a "rare" breed was difficult. After getting Bouviers from working lines after the first 2 dogs had passed, I was hooked. The working Bouvier has an unexplained "thought process." Trying to figure out these working dogs has been an enjoyable challenge for me.

Our current male, Xanto, is a remarkable specimen of the old working type. His coat is nothing like any Bouvier I have ever owned. He is extremely intelligent with even, but strong drives. I can say that this dog has made me more of a trainer than any other influence in my life. The working Bouvier is so fair and even minded that as long as I am fair with him, he will do anything I ask and usually without apprehension. I also enjoy the "depth" of the Bouviers character. They don't tend to be easily affected by errors in training or handling by the handler.

As stated, I tend to look for the practical/tactical value of most everything I own or am around. Having a dog that can and will do the work of a police or personal protection dog is just a given for us. The world is more dangerous and unsafe than in the recent past. I am comforted to know that should I need to deploy Xanto in the force continuum, he will perform as expected.



More about Working Dogs

Rose City Working Dog Association (RCWDA) is a private non-profit club whose membership is committed to train dogs in the sport of Schutzhund/IPO and to support activities and educational programs that demonstrate the advantages of well trained dogs as well as excellence in dog training. Dog breeds of all types are accepted and encouraged. In working trials, Schutzhund/IPO measures the dog's characteristics of mental stability, endurance, structural efficiencies, ability to scent, willingness to work, to show courage, and trainability. This club's objective is to work towards building these characteristics in its members' dogs. You can learn more by visiting their website <http://www.rosecitywda.com/> and attending a training.



A Runt's Tale

The origin of the word “runt” is unknown, but since the 1500’s it has meant an animal that is smaller than average, especially the smallest in a litter. Why one puppy is smaller really isn’t known. Some say it is due to the placenta being located at the bend in the uterus, which is a watershed area with reduced blood flow. Some say it is a pup from an egg that was fertilized and implanted late after the breeding and is “younger” than the other pups. Sometimes it reflects health problems.

A condition of getting Febe was showing her, and if she became a Champion, breeding her, and with Megan McBride’s brilliant grooming and handling skills, that happened. We selected a sire at Nationals, and April 29, Febe had six puppies. The third purple identification ribbon puppy was half the size of the other puppies at about 8 ounces, and she could never suck well. Two vets examined her at birth and a few days later, and neither found any health problem, so we started tube feeding. Initially that was every two hours, involving warming formula, placing a tube down her gullet and syringing in formula. The McBrides were involved and so supportive. Jennifer McBride programmed her computer to play Budapest Hotel (something we could stand every few hours www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHrLPs3_1Fs), and we just kept the feedings going.

She began gaining weight like her littermates, although she always remained behind. Tube feedings were gradually spaced out to four or five times a day but continued until she could eat solid food with her littermates. Febe was a good mother for all her puppies and never rejected the pup, and the runt was

always feisty, snuggling the other pups for warmth and fighting her way out from under when they were on top.

People have different stories about the runt puppy, recalling ones who became champions. Runts often are



said to be loving dogs due to their heightened human contact.

And, because the runt has to struggle to survive, they are said to become plucky, brave puppies.

As she grew, at about six weeks we could see that she had a cleft in her



soft palate, which explained the inability to nurse. That leads to part two of the runt’s tale, her cleft repair.

Purebred dogs have a higher incidence of cleft palate. Most times, its cause is unknown. In humans, isolated orofacial clefts or clefts that occur with no other major birth defects, are one of the most common types of birth defects. It’s thought that it is a combination of exposure and heredity. For example, it is more common if mothers smoke or have diabetes, and the risk is doubled from baseline for subsequent children from parents who have had one child with a cleft. Most pups with clefts have it as an isolated defect, and there is even a website devoted to care of these pups at www.themiasfoundation.com/Caring-for-Orphaned-babies.html.

She saw Dr. Kevin Stepaniuk, a vet oral surgeon, at Colombia River Veterinary Specialists. First, she had

because she has an under bite, she had a lower canine puppy tooth that lined up wrong and poking into the roof of her mouth pulled.

When she was big enough, at 14 weeks, she had her palate repaired. She is almost two weeks out from that and doing well, still needs to be on soft food for a few more days and goes in for a recheck in a couple of weeks.

With the help of the McBrides, all the pups went to loving homes, and she has a lovely family, who has been understanding and supportive throughout this process, waiting for her. They live a few hours away, so it’s been easier for her to stay with me while still getting specialty care.

This is a “P” letter litter, and in honor of her fierce smallness (and her original purple identification ribbon), the puppy is Purple Petra Dinklage, “Petra.” Those Game of Throne fans may recall that one of the wolf pups was a runt, and it grew to be loyal and the only survivor. Also the accomplished actor Peter Dinklage is a favorite character on the show, (and a little person). Petra is the feminine of Peter and also relates to petros or “rock,” and that description fits with her survival skills. She’s the only one of Febe’s puppies who isn’t “show quality,” but she otherwise seems like a typical versatile Bouvier. Check out her herding ducks at

<https://vimeo.com/181551096>

**What are your runt tales?
Send them in and will share them next newsletter.**

If You Die Before Your Pet

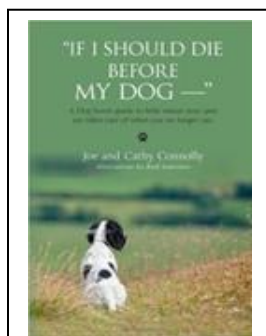
As some of you know, Joe Hinkley, a long time CBdFC member, recently died unexpectedly, leading to a series of emails about his Bouvier. Have you made provision for your pet, if you should die suddenly? According to the American Pet Products Association, only 9% of people with wills have made provisions for their pets. Here are three steps to think about:

First, what is in the contract that you signed when acquiring your dog? Many breeders will have a buy back clause and take the dog back. Check your contract and see if it mentions what happens when the owner dies. It is something to discuss with your breeder and address when first signing any future contracts.

Second is to write a letter outlining your wishes for your pet(s). It should be specific, "In the event of my death, this is what I would like to happen to my pet(s)... this is who I would like to take care of them (a person and an alternate with contact information) and so forth. Of course, you'll need to discuss this with the persons named prior to writing the letter. The letter should be kept with your Will and updated periodically. This is a moral statement telling the Probate Court exactly what you want for your pet. Part two of the letter should be information for those caring for your pet, including what your pet eats, habits, likes, medical conditions, medical records, and vet information. Add how your pet behaves with other people, pets, and situations. This is all information that would be helpful for someone taking over your pet(s) care. No matter what plans you make, this type of letter would be helpful if you were injured and someone needed to step in and care for your pet(s).

Third is to get legal and make it official. To make sure a pet is cared for after you've died you need to create a Trust and include a provision in your Will naming an individual to care for them or give your Executor or Trustee the ability to name that person. You can't leave money directly to your pet (they are property and you can't leave money to property), but you can do a Trust and also stipulate that the person caring for your pet gets a certain amount of money as compensation to care for your four-legged friend(s).

You should include your pet in your Will. However, the drawback to only making provisions in your Will is that it can take a long time to execute. It has to go through Probate Court, which can take weeks (if you're lucky) or months. If your Will is contested it could take even longer. What happens to your pet in the meantime? A Trust kicks in right away.



There are books on the topic, in case you'd like to learn more.

If you become ill and need help with plans for your pet, Safe Place for Pets is dedicated to working in partnership with terminally ill pet

owners to find new homes for their animal companions. Their website is <http://www.safeplacepets.org>.

Not to end this on a somber note, while thinking about a Trust and writing your 'pet information' letter, what about a bucket list for you and your Bouv?

Bucket Lists

Check out these lists as a start for your list and see how many activities you can have already done.



<https://trudog.com/10-things-on-every-dogs-bucket-list/>

<http://bucketlistjourney.net/2015/07/ideas-for-your-dog-bucket-list/>

In Dog We Trust: Biggest Pet Inheritances

Michael Jackson: Jackson left his chimp Bubbles \$2 million payable upon his death. However, fears that the chimp's increasing aggression might be a danger to Jackson's children forced relocation of Bubbles to an animal sanctuary, where he lives to this day.

Majel Barrett-Roddenberry: After dying in at the age of 76, the widow of Star Trek creator Gene set up a \$4 million trust for their dogs, plus an additional \$1 million for a domestic employee to care for them.

Leona Helmsley: The real estate mogul left her dog \$12 million, more than she did her grandchildren. It was contested, and a judge who was clearly ignorant of the cost of a good groomer and a natural dog food determined that the dog could get by on \$2 million. Six million were given to the grandkids, and the rest went to charity.

Oprah Winfrey: The billionaire TV bastion was quoted that if she could only save one object from her home it would be a photo album of her dogs. She has set aside \$12 million as a trust reserved just for them.

Upcoming September Events

Saturday, September 10

Strut Your Mutt 8 AM to noon. Best Friends Animal Society's annual event includes a leisurely morning walk & timed 5K run to raise money for local shelters and homeless pets. Celebrate after with refreshments, photo ops, music, interactive games, and more. At Sellwood Riverfront Park on Portland; registration fees vary; details StrutYourMutt.org.

Grisha Stewart's Teamwork Seminar 1 to 3 PM at Eliot Center-Fuller Hall Portland, OR. Grisha Stewart is well known dog trainer who focuses on clear communication and empowerment during entertaining and active presentation. Humans only seminar; tickets are \$39/10% benefits The Little Dog Laughed Animal-Assisted Therapy. Register at her website

<https://www.grishastewart.com>

See her website as speaking in Bend and Spokane, too.

Guide Dog Graduation Ceremony 1:30 to 4 PM. 32901 SE Kelso Rd., Boring, OR. Commemorating the efforts of students and their dogs; ceremonies are a great way to get acquainted with Guide Dogs. Puppy raisers introduce their dogs to their new partners and bid them goodbye. Tissues required. Campus tours available, Details at GuideDogs.com (under tours and graduation).

Sunday September 11

Dogs Day Out 9 AM to 2 PM. Liepold Farms - 14480 SE Richey Rd., Boring, OR Enjoy the fall season with food & drinks, music, pet-related exhibitors, photo booth, demos, dog-friendly obstacle course and more. Event is part of the Sandy/Boring Corn Cross Cyclocross and is a fundraiser for local dog parks and Fences for Fido (building free fences for families who keep their dogs on chains and

in small enclosures, spay/neuter services and emergency veterinary care). Free admission; donations welcome. More details at CityofSandy.com.

Saturday September 17 (and September 18)

The CBdFC is holding a carting event at Sontag Park at 9808 Charles Road, Nine Mile Falls, WA. More information and the premium are available on the club website <http://www.cbdfc.org/upcoming-events.html> . Come watch, cheer on the Bouvs and learn about carting.

Garden Party Fundraiser, 2 to 4 PM. Spend a beautiful afternoon at English Estate Winery in Vancouver, WA in support of the animals at Second Chance Companions. Silent auction, appetizers and entertainment. \$25/tickets; details SCCPets.com.

Sunday, September 18

22nd Annual Dogtoberfest 11 AM to 5 PM. Portland's biggest dog wash! Bouviers are not charged extra. Dove Lewis volunteers will wash and dry your pups for a suggested donation. Live music, food, beverages, and pet-related vendors all benefit the Dove Lewis Blood Bank. At Lucky Lab Brew Pub on Hawthorne; details DoveLewis.org.

Saturday, September 24

Cascade Sled Dog Club basic pulling clinic in Welches, Or at Wildwood Recreation Site, North & South Mountain View Group Area. Learn all the basics and try out scootering. Experienced mushers from the Cascade Sled Dog Club will teach you how to train your dog to pull consistently and on command through positive reinforcement. They provide all the training equipment, including harnesses, tires for pull training, and scooters to try out. Some equipment is available for purchase. Registration

is \$85 for one dog and one handler, and includes one lunch. An additional \$5 parking fee is required at Wildwood. More information at <http://www.cascadesleddogclub.com/fall-2016-pull-training-c>.

Sunday, September 25

Paws for a Cause 2016 1 to 3 PM. Family and dog-friendly walk to raise funds for the emergency vet care of pups at Oregon Dog Rescue. Details OregonDogRescue.org.

Canine Body Language Talk 4 to 5:30 PM. Learn how dogs express themselves in fun, interactive presentation. Humans only; \$15 suggested donation. Details OregonHumane.org.

Friday, September 30

Yappy Hour featuring Food Trucks 5 to 7 PM. The ultimate dog social hour at Willamette Humane Society! Enjoy beer, delicious eats and mingling with dog lovers while your canines romp in supervised playgroups. Details WHS4Pets.org.

Check the Furry Fun Planner of the Spot Magazine website at <http://spotmagazine.net/events/> for October events.

Where are those summer outing pictures? It is time for brags and wags.

Please send in pictures of your summer and early fall Bouv doings for the next newsletter.

Send pictures and newsletter items to dlelliot@aol.com or text to 503-799-5598.