

1ST QUARTER 2003



DIVISION SIX BCA NEWSLETTER



A newsletter published for the members of BCA Division Six from the great states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri!

This is your free sample! What you see in this newsletter is a sampling of what may be seen in coming, quarterly issues. I will email it to any Division 6 member, in PDF format, if I am provided with an email address. Those without email, wishing to receive the newsletter, will need to pay postage and printing costs. (see page 13 for details) Please send all submissions to the editor, Karen Zimny, karen@pantheonbulldogs.com.

Division VI Officers:

President: Wayne Brower
Vice President: Linda Shelburg
Secretary: Jo Hanson
Treasurer: Robert Cocks

Governors:

Dean Dickey
Rita Guthmiller
Rick Hart
Kym Thew

Councilors:

Marilyn Burdick
Patty Hart
J.W. Larrick
Darlene Stuedeman

Did you know?

The Bulldog Club of America was the first breed club admitted into the AKC.

Until 1903 it took only ten points to become a Champion.

Division VI Clubs and Secretaries:

Bulldog Club of Central Iowa - Linda Shelburg - 515-225-8743 lshelbrg@mchsi.com
Bulldog Club of Greater St. Louis - Kim Peterson - 314-421-6272
Heart of America Bulldog Club - Sandy Aspey - 816-475-2052 aspeybull@aol.com
St. Paul / Minneapolis Bulldog Club, Inc. - Jackie Bergeron donderosadaisy@hotmail.com



Meeting Minutes



Division VI Minutes

Call To Order By Vice President Linda Shelburg:

2/22/03 Six Flags Ramada Eureka, MO

Roll Call: Marilyn Burdick: Darlene Stuedemann: Patsy Hart: Bob Cocks: Jo Hanson: Rick Hart: Rita Guthmiller: Linda Shelburg: Kym Thew

Treasurers Report: Approve As Submitted

Secretaries Report: Amended - under new business should read "Split of national profit Host Club 1/3 Division 1/3 Div Clubs 1/3 BCA \$2,500 or what ever is greater."

Correspondence: Expulsion / Suspension Process was passed around to read.
Division VII Information on Breeders Referral Committee report the referral program will be as it was with the exception there will not be a \$100.00 fee. Division VI referral contact is Dorthea Ellis.

Old Business: A letter from Denny Toskas resigning as a governor was read and a motion made by Bob second by Kym to accept the resignation. Motion passed. Division meeting dates are April 12th HABC St Joseph, MO; August 22nd SPMBC, MN; and October BCCI Mason City, IA.

Update on the 2002 Nationals

Kym passed around the hospitality report. She also announced that we were below budget and that there was a check for \$2,000 to be put back into the Heritage Fund. The board thanked her and Jo for a good job. Jo gave a treasurers report from the Saint Paul Minneapolis Bull Dog Club. There was a profit of \$17,187.84 with \$2,500 already sent to BCA. The split was \$5,729.28 to the Saint Paul Club, \$5729.28 to Div VI, \$1909.76 to the Heart Of America Club, \$1909.76 to the Iowa Club \$1,909.76, \$1909.76 to the Saint Louis club. Russ Schuveiller thanked all the lisions Clubs and Div VI members for their help at the Nationals.

President Wayne Brower suggested that Div VI donate 10% to BCA Chartable Fund and 10% to BCA Rescue from their nationals profits. He suggested that the clubs do the same. This was tabled until the next meeting.

Newsletter Karen Zimny sent a draft of the first newsletter for the Div to look over to see if this is what they want. She also sent questions she needs answers for. She will send out the first newsletter free and let the Div members know that they will be able to receive the newsletter by email or regular mail. If sent by regular mail, it will cost members so much per news letter. This newsletter will be quarterly, and will be pre paid for the year. Money is to be sent to Karen Zimny, payable to the BCA DIV VI. Those with email will not be charged. In the news letter she will explain how she would like for people to contact her. There will club information (submitted by club secretaries). Brags will cost \$1.00 per line with a minimum of two lines. Sunshine etc. A motion was made by Rick, second by Bob to give a check to Karen for \$500.00 to get the newsletter started. Motion carried.

New Business: Nominations for the years 2004/2005 will take place in St. Joseph MO.

Russ Schuveiller was voted in to fill the vacant position as governor.

New Members Approved:

Camtrice Bexten, Lee Day, Dianna Day, Jeff Evans, Carla Evans, Maxine Evans, Robert Webb, Robert Vichattle, Dixie Vichattle, Robert Webb, Debra Julseth, Betsy Milbach, Kathie Riehs, Pam Gafford.

Being no other business a motion to adjourn by Rick, second by Rita.

Submitted by Jo Hanson Secretary

How did BCA Division 6 come to be? And what is a councilor?

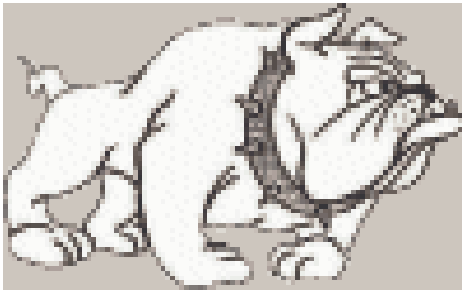
Our present BCA organization came into being on February 13, 1950 with the signing of the new constitution and by-laws in New York. First the members of the bulldog club adopted the constitution, then had it approved by AKC on February 10, 1950, then on to become the official BCA governing document. In 1950 Division VI had five members which increased to 19 in 1951. C.D. Richardson was our first Division President and also our first Councilor. On December 30, 1951 our National Treasury had \$39.46 in it. The National Specialty in 1951 had a total of 87 entries, 12 being specials. Quite a change to the last National held in Plymouth MN with 572 entries including 101 specials. The Bulldog Club of America is the only AKC breed club set up with a club level, a division level and a national level for their governing body. This makes everyone able to participate in the organization if they are interested in doing so.

Each club has their own constitution to govern their club and its member's vote for their officers and how their own club is run. The present division officers and board of governors are the nominating committee for the next division election. They are to select one person for each office. Next, each club in the division may, if they wish, nominate another member for each, or any, office. Then if a BCA member wishes, they can get their name placed on the ballot by getting a petition signed by 20% of the paid up members and turning it in to the division secretary. The person that gets the greatest number of votes for each office will have that office for the next two years. All BCA members are eligible for BCA offices in the Division they live in, and all resident Division members are mailed a ballot to vote.

The National Councilors are elected at the same time as the Division Officers. Each Division gets one councilor for 50 members. In 1950 there were only seven councilors as there were only seven divisions at that time, and no division had sufficient members for two councilors. Division VI has four councilors now and is one of the smaller divisions of BCA. If a BCA member or club has something they want changed, added or deleted from our National governing system they can contact a division officer or governor to get it put on the National Agenda. It will be discussed and voted on at the National Councilor meeting held yearly at the National Show. Some things pass and some do not, both at the division level and at the national level. The mission of all levels of BCA is to work for the good of the dogs, their breeders, owners and exhibitors in every possible way. One way this is done is by the National, Divisional and Club level of Specialty shows.

This should teach us what a dog should look like when it fits our standard. Another is education on all levels, from our seminars, questions and answers meeting and mentoring at our National Show, to the local club educational programs. BCA also prints a number of educational leaflets for its members and others interested in learning about our breed. I got a BCA educational page on bulldogs sent out with my AKC registration papers. This is very good as it gets to bulldog owners that may have no contact with BCA. Another service is the Bulldogger on a National level, and the Division and Club Newsletters. Bulldog rescue also comes under the umbrella of BCA. The Charitable Fund, for the health of our bulldogs, is a program we should all be active in. Programs from different clubs and divisions vary according to their needs. These needs change over the years as circumstances, members and activities change. If you have any ideas for improvements be sure to let someone in the offices of BCA know.

Darlene Stuedemann



The agitated woman had rung 911. "Police, fire or ambulance?" asked the operator. "I want a vet!" demanded the panic stricken woman. "A vet?" said the emergency service operator in surprise. "What for?" "To open my bulldog's jaws." "But why did you ring 911 ?" "There's a burglar in them."



Get to Know Your Fellow Bulldoggers!

Please submit "trivia" about your friends, yourselves, and other members!
Match the Division Six member to the correct statement.

1. I am a "bulldog convert." I used to think that bulldogs were the ugliest creatures ever. Of course, now I love them!
2. I talked on the phone to Mitzi Gaynor. When I was a nurse I took care of her sister-in-law and she'd call everyday to check how she was doing.
3. I wanted to be a meterologist. I'm not, but still addicted to the Weather Channel!
4. I have 80 nieces and nephews.
5. I met and hugged Fabio with my mom in LA, California

Choices: Lois Tisdell, Aaron Johnson, Jenny Boesel, Rita Guthmiller, Kym Thew

Lois, Aaron, Jenny, Rita, and Kym. Your friends submitted this information--your turn to "rat out" someone else! Send information to karen@pantheonbulldogs.com

Answers: 1. Rita Guthmiller 2. Lois Tisdell 3. Kym Thew 4. Aaron Johnson 5. Jenny Boesel

Braggs!



We'll take a brag about anything! We ask a donation for each brag. Brag about children, grandchildren, and of course, DOGS! \$1 per line, minimum 2 lines. Send check made out to BCA Division VI to Karen Zimny, 9106 Wilton Bridge Rd, Waseca, MN 56093

Upcoming Shows and Events!

Sources: www.onofrio.com and www.royjonesdogshows.com plus submissions from our readers!

(O) = Obedience offered (A) = Agility offered (M) = Matches offered

Next Division Meeting is April 12th, St. Jo, MO.

Dubuque Kennel Club, Inc. (M)
Dubuque IA, March 22 & 23, 2003

Sioux Valley Kennel Club, Inc. (O)
South Sioux Valley NE, March 29 & 30, 2003

Scottsbluff Kennel Club (O)
Mitchell NE, March 29 & 30, 2003

Clinton Iowa Kennel Club, Inc. (O) (M)
DeWitt IA, March 29 & 30, 2003

Salina Kennel Club, Inc. (O)
Valley Center KS, April 4, 2003
Wichita Kennel Club, Inc.
Valley Center KS, April 5, 2003
Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc. (O)
Valley Center KS, April 6, 2003

Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.
Topeka KS, April 18 & 20, 2003
Manhattan Kansas Kennel Club, Inc.
Topeka KS, April 19, 2003

Mason City Kennel Club, Inc.
Mason City IA, April 19 & 20, 2003

Ozarks Kennel Club, Inc.
Springfield MO, April 27, 2003

Seward County Kennel Club (O)
Seward NE, April 26 & 27, 2003

Heart Of Iowa Kennel Club
Marshalltown IA, April 26 & 27, 2003

Spirit of the Heartland Kennel Club, Inc
Gray Summit MO, May 3, 2003
Jefferson County KC of Missouri, Inc.
Gray Summit MO, May 4, 2003

Cornhusker KC Of Lincoln, Nebraska, Inc.
Lincoln NE, May 3, 2003
Grand Island Kennel Club, Inc. (O)
Lincoln NE, May 4, 2003

Greater Emporia Kennel Club, Inc. (O)
Emporia KS, May 10 & 11, 2003

Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club (O)
Cambridge MN, May 10 & 11, 2003

Anoka County Minnesota Kennel Club
Fridley MN, May 17 & 18, 2003

Sunflower KC of Olathe Kansas, Inc. (O)
Gardner KS, May 17 & 18, 2003

Key City Kennel Club, Inc. (O)
St Peter MN, May 24 & 25, 2003

Mississippi Valley Kennel Club
Gray Summit MO, May 31 & June 1, 2003

Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club, Inc. (1)
West Fargo ND, May 30, 31, & June 1 2003

Lake Minnetonka Combined Specialty Clubs (O)
Waconia MN, June 6, 2003
Lake Minnetonka Kennel Club (O)
Waconia MN, June 7 & 8, 2003

Fort Dodge Kennel Club (O)
Fort Dodge IA, June 14 & 15, 2003

Wright County Minnesota Kennel Club (O)
Hutchinson MN, July 5 & 6, 2003

Jefferson City Missouri Kennel Club (O)
Sedalia MO, July 5, 2003
August 21-22, St. Paul / Minneapolis Bulldog Club
specialty in conjunction with the St. Croix shows.

Comb Spec Clubs of Greater Des Moines (O)
Des Moines IA, September 5, 2003
Des Moines Kennel Club, Inc.
Des Moines IA, September 6 & 7, 2003
Des Moines Obedience Training Club (O)
Des Moines IA, September 6, 2003

Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc. (O)
Lawrence KS, October 11 & 12, 2003

1ST QUARTER 2003

St. Paul-Minneapolis Bulldog Club In January, we installed our new officers as follows: Russ Schuveiller, President, Kym Thew, Vice President, Jackie Bergeron, Secretary and Jo Hanson, Treasurer. The remainder of the Board Members are Rita Guthmiller, Aaron Johnson, Betsy Milbach, Marcia Tieg and Karen Zimny. We have been having lots of fun at our meetings with lots of bulldog visitors, stories and even a virtual bulldog show. Our specialty show this year is planned for August 21 and 22 to be held the same weekend as the St. Croix Valley show. More details coming soon. We wish all of our fellow division members a successful year in bulldogs. -- Jackie Bergeron, club secretary

"If you don't own a dog, at least not one, there is not necessarily anything wrong with you, but there may be something wrong with your life."
Roger Caras

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"I'm looking up some important stuff: Does tail wagging count as aerobic exercise? How long should you know someone before you lick their face? What do the etiquette rules say about drinking from the toilet?"

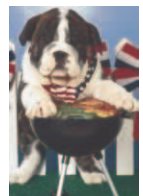
GRACEE'S GOODIES

Gracee will submit goodie recipes, yes, human ones, too with a little help from her friends.
Any submissions are welcome!

Bulldog Banana Bites

Ingredients:

2 1/4 cups whole wheat flour
1/2 cup nonfat dry milk
1 egg
1/3 cup mashed ripe banana
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 beef bouillon cube dissolved in 1/2 cup hot water
1 tbs. brown sugar



Directions:

Mix all ingredients until well blended. Knead for 2 minutes on a floured surface. Roll to 1/4 inch thickness. Use a 2 1/2" bone shaped cookie cutter (or any one you prefer). Bake 30 minutes in a 300 degrees oven on ungreased cookie pans.

1ST QUARTER 2003

DATE: January 29, 2003
TO: BCA Division VI Members
FROM: Jo Hanson
RE: Championship Medallions & Breeders Certificates

All Division VI members are eligible to receive a Championship Medallion when one of their dogs obtain a Championship Title, CD, CDX, or UD, Obedience title for the year. If the dog who has attained any of the above titles was bred by a BCA Division VI member, whether he owns the dog at the time of finishing or not, the member is awarded a Breeders Certificate by Division VI. I would appreciate it if you could complete the following and return it to me no later than March 25th 2003.

These awards will be presented during the Heart of America Bulldog Club Specialty Show Weekend. The HABC will be holding their Specialty Shows and the Div VI specialty on the 11th, 12th, and 13th of April in St Joseph MO. The awards will be presented during their banquet and Raffle on April 12th At the Ramada Inn in St Joseph MO. For further information contact JO Hanson, 6942 Morgan Ave. N. Brooklyn Center MN 55430 (763) 561-8265 Please try to attend and support these shows.

There will be a cost for engraving the Medallions of 20 cents per letter including periods, comas, etc.: Make checks payable to BCA DIV VI.

Please return to me by March 25th 2003 Jo Hanson 6942 Morgan Ave. N. Brooklyn Center MN 55430. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

Check one or both MEDALLION_____ BREEDERS CERTIFICATE_____

DOGS NAME: _____

DOGS REG. # _____

OWNER NAME _____

BREEDERS NAME _____

TITLE _____ DATE ATTAINED _____

Check one or both MEDALLION_____ BREEDERS CERTIFICATE_____

DOGS NAME: _____

DOGS REG. # _____

OWNER NAME _____

BREEDERS NAME _____

TITLE _____ DATE ATTAINED _____

Sincerely
Jo Hanson, Secretary
BCA, DIVISION VI



Good luck
in the upcoming
show season!

The Myth of Canine Incest -- Breeding Methods Examined

Ahh, the 'dangers' of in breeding. You hear people talk about it all the time, or post about it in on line chat rooms. Some less than scrupulous breeders have even taken to adopting it as a sort of mantra - "We don't in breed!" or this one from a large puppy broker's very glitzy website - "we strongly believe in 'out line breeding'" (and if anyone can tell me what exactly 'out line breeding' *is*, please drop me an email! info@bullmarketfrogs.com) can be seen splashed on websites or in ads, all in an attempt to soothe the general public that none of *their* dogs are involved in any of that nasty incest that show breeders get up to all the time.

It's a common misconception among the public at large that 'inbreeding' is responsible for every woe known to pure bred dogs. They'll shake their heads sadly, and reminisce about their old German Shepherd who lived to be twenty three. "He wasn't inbred, so he was so much healthier than those show dogs are!"

This article is meant to examine these beliefs, and to hopefully dispel some myths, about the different methods used by purebred dog breeders -- and backyard breeders, as well -- to reproduce their lines. First of all, let's make one thing perfectly clear -- every single breed of purebred dog, with no exceptions, came about as a result of inbreeding and line breeding. Breeding two dogs of the same type, look, or skill set was done with the aim of producing more of the same. Breeding close relatives, or immediate relatives, was done to try and 'set the type' -- to ensure that the puppies produced all matched with the desired traits as closely as possible. This applies whether the originators of the breed were seeking to produce Collies for herding livestock, hunting dogs to retrieve fowl, or companion dogs simply for their looks. The extent of inbreeding done in the foundation days of most breeds would make even today's most staunchest line breeding advocate blanch. Mothers were bred to sons, fathers to daughters and sibling to sibling until a gene pool of enough individuals of similar type had been formed to afford breeders the luxury of crossing out. Even then, early gene pools would have been so limited as to afford only tight line breeding as an option. It takes generations for a breed's gene pool to obtain enough diversity for their to be the possibility of outcrossing.

Luckily, unless a breeder is involved in the formation of foundation stock for a new or a very rare breed, we have the luxury of employing one of three methods of breeding dogs -

- In breeding - the breeding of closely related animals. Brother-Sister, Parent-Offspring, ½ brother - ½ Sister.
- Line breeding - the breeding of animals that share common ancestors but are not closely related. For example the dogs may share a common great-grandparent.
- outcrossing - generally considered the breeding of animals with no common ancestors within the first 4 or 5 generations.

Each of these breeding methods brings with it it's own benefits, drawbacks and challenges. Let's examine each of them in turn.

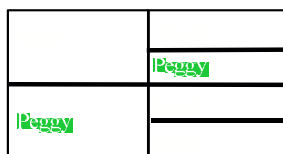
In Breeding

The most hotly contested method employed in pure bred dog breeding, this type of breeding can be used by both the scrupulous show breeder and the back yard breeder alike, although for very different reasons.

Specifically, In Breeding is defined as the breeding of two dogs who are immediate relatives within one generation.

Father/Daughter, Mother/Son, Brother/Sister would all be covered under this definition, with half brother/half sister breedings skirting the line between in breeding and line breeding, depending on which expert source you consult. For our purposes, we will include it.

Here's an example of an inbred pedigree:



Let's explore. Jack is Peggy's son, and was bred back to her. You can also see that Jack himself came about as a result of Peggy being bred back to her own Father. This pedigree is what breeders would refer to as "TIGHTLY" in bred. It would be truly rare to see a pedigree with this degree of inbreeding employed by a modern, conscientious breeder, although there are mitigating circumstances.

Why Tight In Breeding May Be Used

Many people believe that in breeding itself creates genetic disease. This is incorrect. What is correct, however, is that inbreeding, by tightening the gene pool, increases the chances that recessive characteristics, including genetic diseases, will be expressed. A breeder may choose to do a tight line breeding to try to identify and remove potential carriers from their breeding pool. A breeder may also have two dogs, both of which have attributes which are very hard to come by in their breed - perfect angulation in a breed plagued with straight rears, fantastic breathing in a breed which tends towards airway impairments, or any other elusive quality a breeder wishes to capture for the future of their lines.

Another less pleasing possibility is the unfortunate habit of most puppy mills of simply throwing together the closest dogs at hand to produce puppies. Since it is not likely (let's be honest and say it is *impossible*) that a mill will do what is required to ensure the offspring have no recessive defects, which is keep all offspring to maturity, this is definitely a situation to avoid.

In Breeding Situation Number Two

Let's take a look at this example, based on an actual litter we produced:

	Green	Signs
		Signs
		Signs
	Green	Signs
		Signs
		Signs

In this case, the example shown is that of a half brother, half sister breeding. The dogs used share the same mother, but are out of different fathers. This breeding may be used again to try to identify and remove potential diseases from the breeder's gene pool, or it may simply be a case of trying to 'lock in' an elusive breed characteristic which both siblings share, such as correct rear angulation. Again, I would expect to hear from the breeder, if I were a buyer, what their specific reasons were for doing this breeding. The plus is that the non appearance of genetic disease in the mature adults resulting from such a breeding are highly unlikely to be carriers of it, as well.

Intermittent inbreeding within a line or breed is not damaging to the long term health of the animals. However, inbreeding over successive generations can lead to reduced fitness and fertility problems among the offspring, resulting in a phenomena known as in breeding depression. It can take several generations to show up, depending on the traits involved.

Line-Breeding

Without a doubt, line breeding, in one form or another, is one of the most commonly used breeding methodologies in pure bred animals of any form. From livestock to cats, line breeding is used by breeders to increase their chances of 'locking' in valued breed characteristics, while reducing the possible dangers of an in bred pedigree.

Line breeding in its most simple form is the careful choosing of a mating which will involve a dog and a bitch who share common ancestors on at least one side, or possibly both sides of the pedigree. In many line bred pedigrees, the further back you delve into the line, the more common ancestors you will see. Simply put, line breeding differs from in breeding in that both dog and bitch share no immediate ancestors within the first generation.

Here's an example of a line bred pedigree, again from our own kennel:

Rebel		
		Signs
		Signs
		Rebel
		Signs
		Rebel

Note the appearance of Rebel's name. This breeding is a Grandfather/Grand Daughter breeding. A breeder may choose to do this breeding to lock in a specific breed characteristic which he or she feels the common dog may provide. If they feel the bitch used has this characteristic, and the simply want to ensure she is able to provide it to her own offspring, they may say they are doing it to 'fix' type -- in other words, provide the most optimum chances that the puppies produced will both have this type, and be able to throw it themselves.

Here's a second line bred pedigree example, showing shared ancestors on both sides, further back into

the pedigree. Dogs appearing more than once are the same color (all dogs are hypothetical and for example purposes only):

I suppose the easiest definition of this pedigree would be cousin to cousin. A breeder, however, would be much more likely to state something along these lines in their ad copy, or on their website:

"Line bred litter on Ch. Lily, Ch Fearless, Ch Charlie and Ch Joe" -- or, they might condense it and say something like "Line bred pedigree on the Minxie and Kumquat Lines" -- if, of course, these were dogs and or kennels known to be of good quality, and better still, known for reproducing those qualities, as well.

We might also say that a breeder utilizing this method has let previous generations take the risks associated with tight line or inbreeding, and is using the results to create their own line breeding. One can choose the best, healthiest results of in bred or line bred dogs available and use them, without chancing the risks associated with doing such breedings one's self.

According to geneticists, Line-breeding can be carried on for many generations without deleterious effects on the line or breed as long as the individuals involved have few hidden genetic disorders. Testing of both parents, and of as many previous generations as possible, is key to ensuring a line bred litter has the maximum chances of being free of inherited diseases.

		Uce	Ch. Lily
			Fearless
		Spit	Fearless
		Uce	Spit
		Uce	Uce
		Uce	Min
		Ch. Lily	Spit
		Uce	
		Uce	Uce
		Uce	Uce

Out-Crossing

Out-crossing in terms of pure-bred dogs is the breeding of unrelated dogs. On a pedigree no names will be repeated within the first 5 generations. All dogs are hypothetical and for example purposes only.

Note that no where in the pedigree does the same dog's name appear twice. This is a truly outcrossed pedigree.

Such a breeding method has both advantages and disadvantages. With out-crossing you are maintaining the **greatest genetic diversity**, but this also leads to the **least consistency** in terms of physical appearance and other traits. Out-crossing does not guarantee that the animals won't develop genetic disorders, but it does tend to reduce the numbers of affected offspring, if we can assume that neither line are carriers. Simple lack of a common ancestor does not ensure that neither dog carries genetic disease.

Testing is a much more reliable method of reducing disease in offspring, and increasing ones likelihood of obtaining a healthy puppy.

Many people believe that out crossing produces offspring with "hybrid vigor". This is a complete myth, as it applies to purebred dogs, French Bulldogs in particular. **Hybrid Vigor only applies to the animals that are the direct offspring of the crossing of the unrelated strains.** They do not pass this quality on to their offspring, unless the offspring themselves continue to be outcrossed. In a breed with as small a gene pool as French Bulldogs, this is an almost impossibility.

Add to this the fact that there is still the chance that these unrelated strains carry the same genetic diseases, and the likelihood of producing offspring which have less and less of the desired physical characteristics of the breed, and you will see why no breeder chooses to use only outcrossing to create a blood line for their kennel. It would be impossible from one generation to the next to have any idea

what any one litter will produce, in terms of either looks or health.

Summary

Each of the methods above have their place in any given breeding program. The key is to choose the method which gives us the best chances of producing offspring which have the optimum chances of being both physically pleasing and physically sound.

Our responsibility as breeders is to ensure that we are aware of why we use any given method, of the risks involved, and of the steps required to reduce these risks as much as possible. It is the responsibility of buyers to learn to ask questions about health, testing and titles of dogs in their potential puppy's pedigree, without jumping to assumptions about the breeding methods employed.

<http://bullmarketfrogs.com/pages/generalarticles/caninebreedingprograms.htm> Reprinted with permission of Carol

Ask Abbie

This column contains tips about bullies. Please submit questions with/without answers and we'll see if we can get the "long-time" bulldog owners to answer them!

Dear Abbie,

Since my owners have decided I will not be a "mom" to any more puppies, my veterinarian suggested that I be spayed to prevent my getting "Pyometra". Just what is pyometra, and why don't I want to get it?

-- Momma Maybull

Well Maybull, pyometra is definitely something you don't want to encounter in your lifetime and the older you are, the higher the risk. This is what the book, Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Manual has to say about pyometra:

"Pyometra is a life-threatening disease of the uterus which occurs most commonly in females over six years of age. It is believed to be caused by a hormonal imbalance. Pyometra appears one to twelve weeks after the bitch goes out of heat. A bitch with pyometra refuses to eat, appears depressed and lethargic, drinks a great deal, urinates frequently.

Often there is abdominal enlargement. A low grade fever, or a normal (even subnormal) temperature may exist. the condition is due to an abscessed uterus. In the *open* type the cervix relaxes, releasing a large amount of pus which resembles tomato soup. In the *closed* type, pus collects in the uterus. An enlarged uterus may be felt as a painful swelling in the lower abdomen.

Treatment: In order to save the life of the bitch, a veterinarian should be called at once. Hysterectomy is the treatment of choice. It is much better to do this operation on a non toxic dog. Rarely it may be possible to preserve the uterus in a valuable breeding bitch by scraping out the infection and giving antibiotics and hormones. A disease similar to pyometra, acute metritis, occurs in the post partum bitch."

A routine spay surgery done on a healthy female dog is far less risky than doing a "pyo" spay. Another reason not to procrastinate, is cost. A pyo spay is a more complicated operation and the testing required to make the diagnoses of pyometra can be expensive. A routine spay is usually under \$200. The total bill for a pyo spay with blood tests, possible x-rays, clinic care and antibiotics can be over \$500. This is one case where it is a good thing to have a few less body parts! You'll be feeling just fine within a day or so and less to worry about too.

Best Barks to You,

Abbie

Written by Rita Guthmiller

Reference: Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Manual
By Carlson and Griffin

WHY DO WE LOVE OUR BULLDOGS SO?

By Dan Atcheson

Why do we love our bullydogs so?
It seems very strange to so many, you know.
They gaze at the wrinkled up face that seems "smashed."
They whiff doggie odors and gas that's been passed.
If some folks were honest, they'd shout out: "Alas!
You're telling me truly, for this you paid cash?!"
Why do we love our bullydogs so?
Some call us weird and deranged "so-and-so's."
With stark frozen fear, they gaze at the teeth,
the massive broad shoulders and little fat feet.
They gasp at the sight of the jowls and then shriek:
"Someone please save me! Just throw him some meat!"
Why do we love our bullydogs so?
They say we're obsessive fanatics, you know.
An accurate statement, but "Foul !" I protest.
You don't understand why a bulldog's the best!
It's hard to explain; to that I'll confess.
But sit down and listen, to what I profess.
Why do we love our bullydogs so?
And why does our love continue to grow?
I can't speak for all, but I'll say what I know.
To me it is simple, and easy to show:
From the short stumpy tail to the wrinkled-up nose,
they're sensitive children, just dressed in dog's clothes.



It was a cold, dark, stormy night.....

They were together in the house. Just the two of them. It was a cold, dark, stormy night. The storm had come quickly and each time the thunder boomed he watched her jump. She looked across the room and

noticed his strong appearance...and wished that he would take her in his arms, comfort her and protect her from the storm. She wanted that...more than anything. Suddenly, with a pop, the power went out.

She screamed. He raced to the sofa where she was cowering. He didn't hesitate to pull her into his arms. He knew this was a forbidden union and expected her to pull back. He was surprised when she didn't resist but instead clung to him.

The storm raged on... And there came a moment when each knew that they had to be together. They knew it was wrong. Their families would never understand. So consumed were they in their embrace that they heard no opening of doors...just the faint click of a camera..... (see next page)



See joke on previous page.

Beware! Do Not Accept
BULLDOG
Immitations

Beware! Do Not Accept
BULLDOG
Immitations

Beware! Do Not Accept
BULLDOG

This might be a result
of such a night! ----->



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