

Terrier Q & A

Sandy Miles & Foley Harper continued

more exciting and meaningful. We would like to see more breeder judges available for AKC shows.

Are there any overall trends in our breed that should be addressed before they get out of hand? Sometimes we see quite a few Bedlington's that are a bit too tall. Overall, though, we are a fairly uniform breed. Our most serious problem being discussed at present is the fact that our numbers are dwindling. We are having fewer and fewer litters registered. Breeders have been advocating for mentoring more young exhibitors and encouraging them to become breeders.

Who was our mentor? The breeder of my first Bedlington did not live near me. Once I learned the proper Bedlington grooming, being a groomer and handler, I was very comfortable showing my first Bedlington, Celin's Cheyenne Raider. He ended up being the #1 Bedlington for five years. I mentored Foley, and we became Sandon N'Oakhill Bedlington's.

What terriers of the past have impressed us the most? Cheyenne impressed me. Initially I did not want a Bedlington because I had heard they had bad temperaments. He taught me a great deal. He was impressive and a wonderful example of our breed standard.



Blue Terrier Mick

I have had Bedlington's for 46 years and can only say while they require more upkeep than most other breeds, they are the best of all the breeds I have had.

The most humorous thing we've ever witnessed at a dog show? Twice in all my decades of showing dogs, I have gone into the ring with the wrong sex dog. The last time my daughter Linda Kay caught the error not long after we went into the ring, and we made the switch. The first time (decades ago) we didn't catch it until we left the ring. The judge didn't catch it either. The late Jimmy Phillips (Onofrio superintendent) told Foley at her first show not to worry about going in the ring because she couldn't do any worse than the lady he saw who lost her underpants in the ring, stepped out of them and kept on showing!

NANCY NYKAMP



I live in northern Virginia, just outside of Washington DC. I have been in dogs my whole life. My parents breed, raised and showed Airedales and Norwich Terriers from the 1950s until their retirement under the kennel name "Meadowaire". They bred and trained primarily for confirmation and obedience. I started as a Junior Handler, and continued until I entered the military on active duty. While I always had a dog, my military career was not conducive to breeding and showing. A few years ago, I connected with a well-respected breeder in Virginia and decided to get back into dogs. I am elated to carry on the family tradition and the "Meadowaire" kennel name.

I have been impressed with more than several Wire Fox Terriers with their sharp, alert appearance and their presentation by various very skilled handlers. I was also very impressed by the ring presentation of the beautiful Kerry

Assessing our pups is a continual process, starting at a very young age and in different environments. I learned the importance of continual assessment from my parents and other great mentors. At eight weeks we have a "puppy party" where fellow breeders get together to assess and exchange their thoughts. I recall at one puppy party my mom was chatting with Barbara Strebeigh for a good hour while the Airedale puppies were engaging in free play, racing around our backyard. My mom then asked her if she wanted to see any of the puppies on the table. She said that wasn't necessary, as she had been watching them the entire time and already had her two favorites. Wouldn't you know she picked two great ones who finished their championship quickly and went on to be top producers.

Choosing a stud dog in some ways is like choosing a car. I consider Phenotype, Genotype, and my Gut Instinct. How close is the dog to the standard, how does he move, and will he be a good match to my bitch? I also seek dogs who have test results that help to provide a higher degree of confidence in health and soundness of pups. Lastly, I rely upon my instinct. Just like a car, does the stud dog match my style, would he be a good fit with my family. Like Barbara Strebeigh watching puppies, let me watch him and my instincts will tell me if he is a good option.

We always strive to achieve a perfect match for our pups and families. Prospective puppy families complete a questionnaire, interview and in person meeting. This process helps to ensure our families are prepared for an Airedale, and that we can identify puppies that would be a good match.

Regarding which is more important a Specialty win or an all-breed win; all wins are important, and we are grateful when judges recognize our dogs. A Specialty win is especially near and dear to our hearts. Whenever possible we exhibit at Specialty shows and we continue to be big supporters of Puppy Sweepstakes competitions. Fun and chockfull of camaraderie, I was very comfortable with my 11 year old son, starting to show his Airedale puppy in the Sweepstakes. Often the only junior in the ring, the judges and other exhibitors were extremely welcoming, supportive and kind to him. He enjoyed the Sweepstakes so very much he is now exhibiting his Airedale in breed competition.

When asked, if there are any overall trends in Airedales that should be addressed before they get out of hand? I would say that our breed is in good shape. In fact, in a much better place than several decades ago when we had concerns regarding health related issues and size. I attribute this to the National Club's guidelines which include hip, elbow and ophthalmologist evaluation, cardiac exam, and renal disease DNA testing; and responsible, committed breeders, who place betterment of the breed foremost.

When asked who was my mentor, I always note that I have had so many great mentors I simply can't include all of them, but will highlight a few. Growing up, my parents bestowed upon me their love of Airedales and a passion for advancing the breed. Barbara Strebeigh and Adele Abe also motivated me to continuously learn and share information about my breed. More recently, breeder/exhibitor and judge Valeria Rickard has been wonderful sharing her knowledge of the breed.



My most favorite Airedale was the famous CH Bengal Sabu, who was imported to the US in 1957. He was campaigned primarily by well-known terrier handler, Tom Gately (who later became one of my favorite judges to show to as a Junior Handler). Sabu was co-owned by

“The stud dog has to be complimentary to the bitch in type, reinforcing the desired traits on both sides and not doubling up on the same faults.”

Nancy Nykamp continued

Barbara Strebeigh, Tuck Dell and Harold Florsheim (former President, Airedale Terrier Club of America). In the first two years of his campaign he won Best of Breed at 103 of 108 shows, 28 groups, eight specialties and seven Best In Shows. In total he won the Airedale Bowl five times. He also set a new top producer record siring 31 AKC champions.

The most humorous thing I have ever seen at a dog show involved a breeder/exhibitor, who is now a judge so no true names will be provided. This lovely woman, “Mrs. Smith” drove from New England to New Jersey for the big Bucks/Trenton shows. Upon arrival, and aware that she had little time to prepare her Airedales for the ring, Mrs. Smith quickly recruited the Foley Brothers who helped unload and set up for tips. She implored them with her New England charm to swiftly offload her two crates being careful not to disturb her Airedales. The gentlemen set about the task. Dropping the tailgate to her station wagon, they looked inside the crates and scratched their heads. Puzzled by the situation, the more senior Foley Brother timidly piped up “Mrs. Smith, where are your Airedales?” Needless to say, there were two Airedales reported absent that day!

CHERYL PURCELL NCMG

I live in Hanover, Massachusetts and I have over 30 years in dogs.

At what age do I pick a show prospect? I like to look at them at eight, 12 and 16 weeks. Have I ever made a mistake? We all have.

How do I choose a Stud Dog? For me it's mostly instinct. I'll start looking for a Stud as soon as a bitch is old enough to show. I'll be thinking or looking for a certain type then I'll see a dog and just know that's what I want for my breeding program. I don't breed often usually only when I'm looking to keep something for myself so it is extra important to me to feel that it's what I like.

How do I place my pups? I have a list that I place people on, when I have a litter I contact them and we discuss if a pup I have will be a good fit for them.

Is finding good homes easy or difficult? It's getting harder and harder, there is a trend towards designer dogs and not well bred purebred dogs. There is a lot of breeder shaming nowadays.

Is a win at a Specialty more important to me than a win at an all-breed show? For me it means so much more. I have a limited breed and we only get big entries at specialties. My favorite wins are always out of BEE or even better a BOB from the Veterans class.

Are there any overall trends in my breed that should be addressed before they get out of hand? Bad coats and poor movement.

Who was my mentor? I don't have what I would think of as a true mentor, I have learned so much from the people who have been in the breed for 30-40 years. I cherish their knowledge of the breed and dogs in general. The most important thing I've gotten is not to breed for trends but to breed to the standard.

What terriers of the past have impressed you the most? Oh, Mick, of course.

I have such a great love for a good terrier no matter the breed, this group of dogs is so extra in everything they do. Whether is play

or work, they do it with their all. What more could you ask for from a companion.

VALERIA RICKARD



We live in Leesburg, Virginia and have over 30 years in dogs. We purchased our first show dog in 1985. Later, in 1999, we got more “serious” with breeding and focusing on our own program.

At what age do we pick a show prospect? Our first selection(s) are done between eight and nine weeks. The second “elimination round” occurs around 12 weeks. Then,

we run the top one or two prospects until about six to eight months old for the final decision.

Have we ever made a mistake? Yes of course. You “can't control Mother Nature” to that degree of certainty—that's why we call them show prospects, as too many things can change along the way. For the most part, I know our bloodline very well, and if we do a line-breeding, there are usually not that many surprises.

How do we choose a Stud Dog? Primarily phenotype and genotype. The stud dog has to be complimentary to the bitch in type, reinforcing the desired traits on both sides and not doubling up on the same faults. Personally, if available, I prefer to select a line-bred dog with strong mother's side.

How do we place our pups? Other than what we keep for ourselves as show prospects, 95% of Joval pups leave to loving companion homes. Securing a great life for our pups is the most important thing for us. If an occasional “show home” comes along, that's great and “the icing on the cake” but an arrangement such as that is never a priority nor something we seek out or require.

Is a win at a Specialty more important to us than a win at an all-breed show? At a Specialty, there is usually a larger entry and more dogs of higher quality. So, winning against great competition is always more meaningful than winning at an all-breed show with a smaller entry.

Are there any overall trends in our breed that should be addressed before they get out of hand? Breeders need to focus on breeding good “breed type”, without creating new styles, and without lots of exaggeration or ordinality. Focus should also be on preserving and improving good health and temperament.

Who was my mentor? Honestly, I can't contribute my current knowledge to one particular person nor could I call any specific person my mentor. I consider myself a truly self-taught person when it comes to dogs. Through lots of research (books, old magazines, yearbooks, studying successful pedigree combinations), asking questions, visiting kennels and watching shows all over the world—I have been able to learn from those “bits and pieces” what appeals to me the most and develop my breeding program.

Bailey



*Multiple Owner Handled Best in Shows
Multiple Variety Group Wins
Best in Specialty Show Winner
World Dog Show Specialty Champion Class Winner*

**GCHS JOVAL
OPPORTUNITY
KNOCKS**

Owned, Loved & Exclusively shown by Mother/Daughter team NANCY NYKAMP & OLIVIA NYKAMP GARNER

number
One

OWNER HANDLED
TERRIER 2017-2018*

number
Six

OWNER HANDLED
ALL BREED*

France Godbout
PHOTOGRAPHIE

*AKC NOHS stats as of 10/17/18

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Bailey

SILVER GRAND CHAMPION

JOVAL OPPORTUNITY
KNOCKS

NUMBER ONE

OWNER HANDLED
TERRIER*

TOP TEN

OWNER HANDLED
ALL BREED*

MULTIPLE

OWNER HANDLED
BEST IN SHOWS

MULTIPLE VARIETY GROUP WINS
BEST IN SPECIALTY SHOW WINNER

WORLD DOG SHOW SPECIALTY
CHAMPION CLASS WINNER

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Owner/Handled to her titles by Mother/Daughter Team: Nancy Nykamp & Olivia Nykamp Garner

*AKC NOHS stats as of 9/21/18

AIREDALE TERRIER

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THE JUNIOR HANDLERS

1. *What breed do you show in Juniors and why did you pick that breed?*
2. *What do you feel is the most difficult aspect of handling your breed in Juniors?*
3. *Who is your mentor(s) and what do you feel is the most important thing they have taught you?*
4. *What have you learned from participating in Juniors that has helped in you both dog show activities and non-dog show activities?*
5. *If you could pass along any advice to the next generation of Juniors what would it be?*
6. *Will we be lucky enough to see you working as a professional handler down the line?*
7. *What outside interests do you have?*
8. *What's the funniest thing you've ever experienced at a dog show?*

HUGH GARNER



What breed I show in Juniors and why picked that breed? I am a "Terrier Man". I mainly show Airedale Terriers. While they can be challenging to show, they are also smart and very loyal. I have also shown Russell Terriers, Lakelands, and the occasional Westie. I don't know if I picked Airedales, or if the breed

picked me! I am a 4th Generation Airedale owner. My great-grandfather owned an Airedale in Holland. When he came to America he bought one for his farm in upstate New York. My grandparents, Dr. Hugo and Joanne Nykamp breed and showed Airedales from the 1950s through the 1980s. And my mom, Nancy Nykamp shows Airedales. My current show dog, "Berry", is an 18 month old Airedale who I met at a Puppy Party (Puppy Parties are when we all get together and assess a litter for show, and then have cake and ice cream). Berry's name was "Pink" back then, and she stood out as the one who came running right up to me. She sat on my lap, nibbled

on my ears and nose, and we played together. It was as if we were always supposed to be together, like Strawberries and Shortcake!

What I feel is the most difficult aspect of handling my breed in Juniors? Terriers in general can be challenging to handle. My mom says they are like teenagers (my older brother and sister are teenagers). As a handler, I have to convince them dog shows are their idea, and that showing is fun! I am glad though. It makes handling more challenging, rewarding, and exciting. In addition to the challenges associated with handling, there is a ton of grooming on an Airedale. I work with my mom, carding and conditioning Berry, but it takes a lot of time, and an Airedale's hair grows much faster than a Russell or a Westie.

I am lucky because I have a lot of super mentors. My mom and sister, taught me the value of training my puppy at a young age and then continuing to train. My puppy's breeder, Dr. Rickard emphasized the importance of always striving to present my dog to look her best. Lastly, my handler friends, Sarah and Ariel Cukier taught me that some days you win and some you lose, and that it's important to do both in a respectful and dignified way. I should also mention I took mentoring tips on fashion from my teenage brother who approves of my bow ties.

What have I learned from participating in Juniors that has helped in both dog show activities and non-dog show activities? Junior Handling Competition, as well as Breed Judging, Owner-Handled activities, Match Shows, and handling classes, have taught me to never pass up the opportunity to get experience. This is true of life. I want to always open the door when opportunity knocks.

If I could pass along any advice to the next generation of Juniors what would it be? That's simple. Have fun! Enjoy the time with your dog and the friends you meet in the ring. I have dog show friends from all over the country and of all ages.

Will we be lucky enough to see me working as a professional handler down the line? As a fifth grader, it's hard to know exactly what I want to do when I grow up. But I do love showing, and think I will always be involved with dogs, maybe as an owner/breeder handler and then a judge. For now, I sometimes help out my professional handler friends when they need help getting a dog ready for the ring or taking a dog into the ring. I like doing this. I feel like it's being part of the bigger dog show family. A lot of handlers (and judges) have been really, really kind to me in the ring, giving me tips, thanking me for exhibiting, and extending sincere congratulations when I win.

What outside interests do I have? Well besides handling, I like to help my family with raising puppies. Getting the whelping box,

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THE JUNIOR HANDLERS

weening pen and puppy playground set up is truly exciting. I help with puppy training and headstart. It's a ton of work, but so much fun! I am also very busy in Boy Scouts and have started to work towards my Eagle Scout Award. Other than that I sing in the Chorus and hang out with my friends. Oh, and I play Pokemon Go with my friends at Dog Shows.

The funniest thing I've experienced at a dog show? Wow! There are so many funny things at dog shows, I could write a book or make a movie. Wait they already made the movie "Best In Show" and the Terrier won! Yep I am a "Terrier Man".

ALEXIS KUJAWA

I chose an Afghan Hound as my juniors because I had always wanted one from the beginning.

The biggest struggle with Afghans is that they are very stubborn, independent, and you never know what you're going to get with them.



My mom and Deb Ridley are and have always been my mentors because Deb introduced Afghans to my mom and then to me and together taught me everything I needed to know in order to show an Afghan to the full extent for example the hours of grooming and how to properly present an Afghan.

What have I learned from participating in Juniors that has helped in both dog show activities and non dog show

activities? How to give 100% win or lose every time in everything I do.

"The biggest struggle with Afghans is that they are very stubborn, independent, and you never know what you're going to get with them."

UPCOMING JUNIOR CLINICS

Informal FREE clinics, conducted by AKC Registered Handlers Program members, and open to anyone under the age of 18 interested in learning more about handling. The exact times and ring locations are posted at the superintendent's desk on the day of the event. No preregistration necessary. Show up with a dog on a lead ready for some hands-on instructions from professional handlers. Mixed breed dogs are welcome.

For more information, contact Susan Judge at smj@akc.org, (919) 816-3590.

For more information on the Juniors Program email juniors@akc.org.



An AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Program

Harrisburg, PA
Penn Ridge KC | Thursday, August 8, 2019

Enumclaw, WA
Olympic KC | Saturday, August 17, 2019

Raleigh, NC
Durham KC | Saturday, August 31, 2019

Lexington, NY
Northern KY KC | Sunday, September 1, 2019

Lebanon, TN
Tri-Star KC of Williamson County | Saturday, October 12, 2019

Fort Wayne, IN
Northeastern IN KC | Sunday, November 3, 2019

West Springfield, MA
Windham Count KC | Saturday, November 23, 2019



JOYAL SWEET

Strawberry Shortcake



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© Olivia G. Garner



Benny

& HUGH



© Olivia G. Garner



Berry's Wins

- Group Placement from the Puppy Class
- 6 Best In Sweepstakes at Specialty & Supported Shows
- Best of Winners at Bucks County & VA Terrier Shows from the Puppy Class



Sincere thanks to the Judges

WHO RECOGNIZED THE TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL IN THIS YOUTHFUL TEAM

EDD BIVIN, FRANCE GODBOUT, BOBBY HUTTON, PATRICIA KEENAN, DIANE ONDO, PAMELA PEAT, JOE VERRUCCIO
COLLEEN BUTTERFIELD, MARGO DUPRE, ELIZABETH MATTISON, CHARLES "JACK" MCLAUGHLIN & FRED VOGEL



Benny & HUGH

JOVAL SWEET Strawbenny Shortcake

JUNIOR OWNER HANDLER:

HUGH W. GARNER

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