

BeardieMainiacs/New Bearded Collie Club (name TBD)
First Organizational Meeting
April 29, 2006, 1:00 PM

Attendees: Jeanne Ashworth, Jerry Ashworth, Connie Balogh, Carroll Kane, Pat Maloney, Val Maloney, Karen Norteman

The meeting came to order at approximately 1:30 PM.

Formation of the Club

Val began the meeting by recounting her conversation with Maryann Groves, who was unable to attend. Maryann has volunteered to publish a newsletter for the club. Pat offered to help, and Connie and Karen agreed to contribute articles. Perhaps Linda Aronson could be persuaded to write some for the newsletter as well, or she could send up some articles she has already published for us to reprint. Jeanne mentioned contributing recipes, and Jerry mentioned helpful/interesting tips.

Karen volunteered to create a Web site for the club as soon as a name has been decided upon.

Constitution, By-Laws, and Non-Profit Status: Val mentioned that we need to pursue these in order to incorporate as a club. Connie mentioned that AKC has a number of resources available for starting up a breed club. Karen will email Nancy Dillon, president of the Minuteman Bearded Collie Club, and ask about their Constitution and By-Laws.

Correspondence: Val read some excerpts from an email from Barbara Marshall. Barbara is very enthused about the club forming and is eager to become a member. She hopes that we will retain interest in conformation showing as one major focus of the club.

Club Name: The following names have been suggested: Southern Maine Bearded Collie Clan, Beardie Owners of Maine (BOOM). It was thought that maybe using "Southern Maine" might lead the Beardie people in the Midcoast and northward to feel excluded, so "Southern" might be dropped from that name. Some people feel that using "Maine" might exclude people from NH and VT who might want to join, but the state of Maine is an important part of the new club's identity.

Officers: Before we can get to the point of holding elections, we need people to fill in the functions of the club officers/ Board of Directors. The following volunteer slate was created:

Val – President
Pat – Vice President
Connie – Treasurer
Karen – Secretary and Webmaster
Maryann – Newsletter Editor and Activities Chair

Dues: Connie mentioned that \$20/year appears to be the standard these days. Val suggested \$25 per couple/household.

Identity: Val has received a great deal of correspondence from people who love the BeardieMainiacs name and idea. She mentioned that we need T-shirts and a logo. We could probably make some money selling our T-shirts.

Membership: Jerry mentioned the large number of Beardie people and dogs who attended the Bounce at Terry Price's house in Rockland a few years ago. There are many Beardie people around the state whom we haven't found yet, and who should be invited to join the club. Jeanne will speak to Rae LeBlanc, who has a number of puppy people in the area. Barbara Marshall has puppy people and rescue placements in the area as well. Val and Karen have lists, and are trying to find as many people as possible.

We need to create a membership application. Karen has a few from various clubs, and will read them over and create something for the club. The application should appear in the newsletter, on the Web site, and on the BeardieMainiacs list.

Meetings: This is the busy season for many people, so formal meetings might be bimonthly to begin with. We are all in contact often enough so that club business does not need to wait for a formal gathering just yet.

Fundraising

Since this club is starting out with no treasury, we need to raise funds in order to support our activities, pay postage for the newsletter, and so on.

Raffles: Val suggested an online raffle. We could take photos of the items, put them online, and sell tickets. She brought some items she will donate, including a sheep mask and two stuffed sheep. Jerry suggested raffling off a Lynn Paterson print or other Beardie art. Jeanne suggested hand-painted ceramic trivets from an artist she met in York. Val might have an extra copy of Beardie Basics. Karen has a couple of extra copies of Carol Gold's book. Other suggestions include: Photo notecards with pictures of Beardies (and maybe some of Maryann's Photoshop wizardry), wrapping paper (homemade with rubber stamps, or resold), postage stamps with Beardies (which can be made at Snapfish.com or stamps.com), pictures with Santa, pictures with lighthouses, pictures with fishing boats. Jeanne will ask at Preferred Pets whether the owner will let us take pictures with Santa there. Maryann has a digital camera, and Karen has a photo printer.

Another idea would be to raffle off a "Maine basket" containing various dog and people items from Maine.

A notice will be posted online asking for donations of items for the raffle.

Items to sell: Karen mentioned that Cafepress.com features items printed on demand. You can have a logo or artwork printed on anything from T-shirts to coffee cups to tote bags. Cafepress takes the orders, takes its cut of the sale price, and mails the profit checks to the club. If desired, we can also order items in bulk from Cafepress and sell them ourselves as well.

Activities

The following club activities have been suggested:

Beardie Bounces, Beardie Beer & BBQ Bash

Health and Wellness Day: Val (and maybe Karen Kimball) could do a day with mini-Reiki sessions,

TTouch, animal communication.

Show handling: Ask Tracy Shaw or Karen Kimball to come and teach. Maybe have handling class in the morning and a fun match in the afternoon?

Grooming/clipping sessions for show and pet dogs.

Intro to Rally: Ask Joanne Williamson if she would like to come up and do the same intro that she did for the Minuteman club last year. She sets up a simple course, demos with her own dogs, and then coaches interested dog/handler teams through the course.

Holiday party/intro to agility at It's a Dog's World in York? There are also other places we could look into, including Pawz-n-Around in Saco and Tails Up in Falmouth.

Herding: Suzanne White in Appleton is more than happy to do a day of herding lessons and instinct testing for us. Val suggested we look for a venue that might attract people from farther afield as well. Karen suggested American K-9 Country in Amherst, NH.

Jeanne and Jerry had to leave the meeting at 2:30 PM. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Norteman
Secretary