

Celebrations

Resolutions, Changes & Predictions

Kicking off the holiday season with friends at the **Dallas-Fort Worth Toy Dog Club's Group Show** and the **Trinity Valley Kennel Club All-Breed** event was my first gift from Santa! Texans are known for hospitality, class and style. These clubs went out of their way to live up to their reputations. Judges for the shows were guests at the Crown Plaza All-Suites hotel. We were chauffeured around the Texas town in a white stretch limousine. The twenty-foot Christmas tree in our hotel's dramatic ten-story atrium set the tone for everyone to catch the true Christmas spirit! With all news stations reporting our country's probable upcoming war with Iraq, you could feel real love in the hugs between dog fanciers as we shared our holiday greetings.

One-hundred-eighty-one Toy Dogs created a unique atmosphere at the Crown Plaza's red and green carpeted ballroom. The chandeliers shined down on not Santas but dogdoms shining toys.



by Linda Ayers Turner Knorr

Judges **Connie Clapp, Marlene Dunbury, Elaine Lessig,** and **Janice Mercer** narrowed the field for the final Best in Toy Group Show. Handing out the ribbon for the top toy was Texas' own **Dorothy Nickles**. She looked better than ever sporting **another memorable red ensemble.**

Congratulations to **Ted**

Eubank, Dr. Steve Keating, Sheila Myers, Cindy Boulware, Carl Trehus and all of their hard working committee members for putting on a festive event in a great setting.

Tex-Mex food can't be beat and **Abuelo's** is one of Dallas' best places to enjoy it.

Richard Fowler, Larry and Vicki Abbott, Dorothy Collier, Tara Martin and I succumbed to temptation and ditched all reason as we savored the **Los Mejores De La Casa**. Just go there, order it and you'll understand.

Tara Martin showed no sign of jet lag. On a high, she and "**Waldo**" had just returned from appearing on the **Today Show** in New York. **Tara** was invited by David Frei to show off her **Philadelphia Kennel Club Best of Breed** winner, **Ch. Precioso Canelle One in a Million**, and to promote the airing of the show on Thanksgiving Day.

The beautiful daughter of **Vicki Abbott**, **Tara** is following in her mother's footsteps. No handler

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ever looked better than **Vicki** and her Maltese, "**Henry**."

The Bigtown Exhibition Hall, a large converted Wal-Mart store offered plenty of space for the **Trinity Valley Kennel Club** show.

Scottie man **Richard Fowler** has served as club president for over twenty years. Everyone is congenial and the club runs like a "well oiled machine." In Texas terms, they have a large time, if you know what I mean.

The **Grunwalds**, the **Abbotts**, **Connie Smith** and **Suzanne Johnston** round up their members to assure exhibitors enjoy a perfectly run show.

To amuse ourselves at the show I posed three questions to those wanting to participate. I know you'll find the answers very interesting...

1. *What is your New Year's resolution for 2003?*
2. *What positive change would you recommend for the dog world in the New Year?*
3. *Who do you predict will win The Garden?*

Dorothy Nickles:
"Stay healthy so I can enjoy another birthday... I hope Breeders will study and learn to improve their breeding programs so they will produce better dogs... the best dog on that day will win the Garden."



Linda and Dorothy Nickles.

Here is a sampling of responses as we look forward to the New Year.

AKC Field Representative - Robin L. Stansell: "To eat and exercise enough to avoid gaining

weight... all involved in dog shows to discuss the positive quality of the sport as much as the complaints... the dog that shows best that Tuesday evening."

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Onofrio Show Superintendent

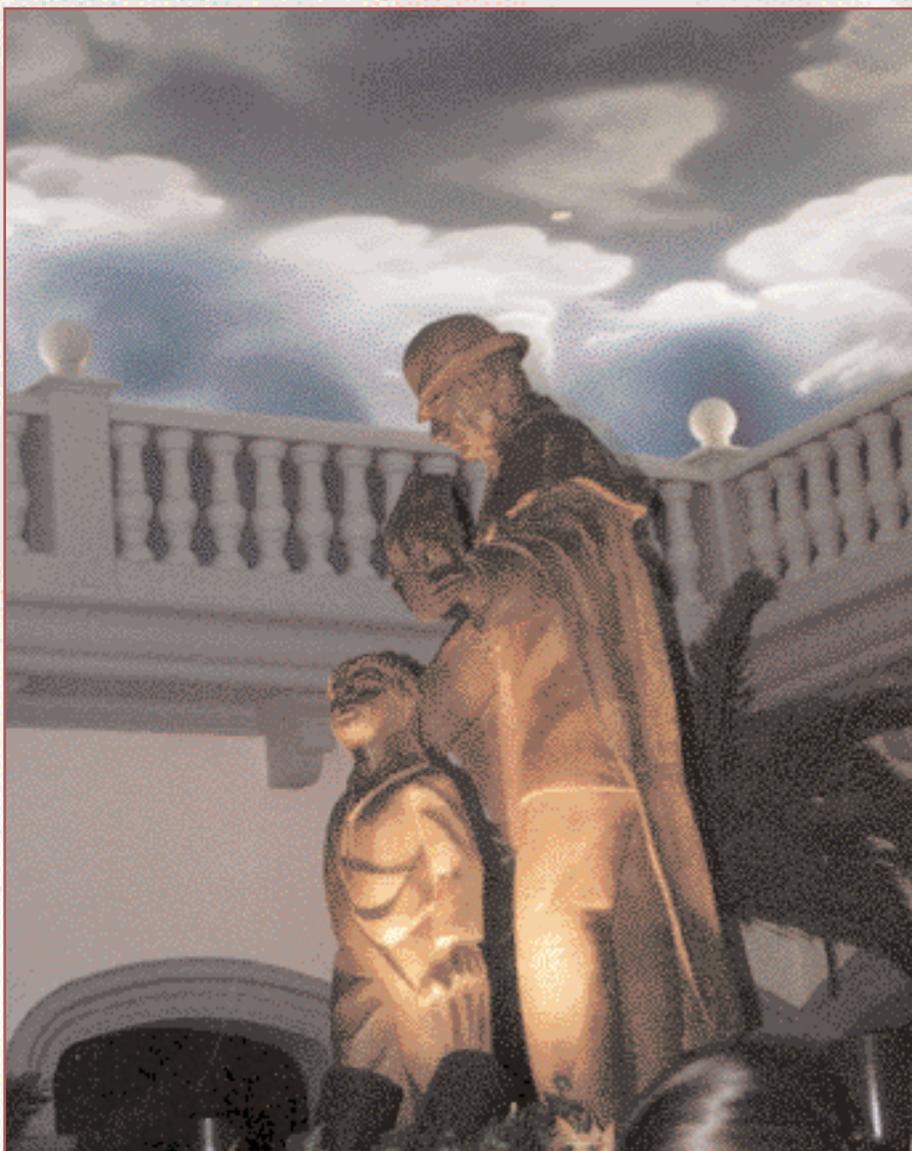
Reginald A. Turner: "Not to worry about my New Year's resolution... to continue to aid new exhibitors in all areas of showing dogs... *"Hiram's Pekingese."*

The Judges responded as follows:

Murrel Purkhiser:
*"Continue to enjoy retirement to the fullest by doing all the things we enjoy, judging dogs, skeet shooting, family and friends... everyone to enjoy their dogs and remember there is another life – so enjoy your life away from the hustle and bustle of dog shows...
Norwegian Elkhound*

Dorothy Nickles: "To stay healthy so I can enjoy another birthday... I hope Breeders will study and learn to improve their breeding programs so they will produce better dogs... *the best dog on that day will win the Garden."*

Clay Williams: "To be less sarcastic... for exhibitors to realize the extent the show giving clubs go for them. This is only a sport, it is not life or death, once the day is over the dogs are still the reason you do this not a ribbon!... *the*



Abuelo's Means Grandfather:

Pekingese Ch. Yankee Leaving Me Breathless at Franshaw.
John Francis (Owner), Hiram Stewart (Handler).

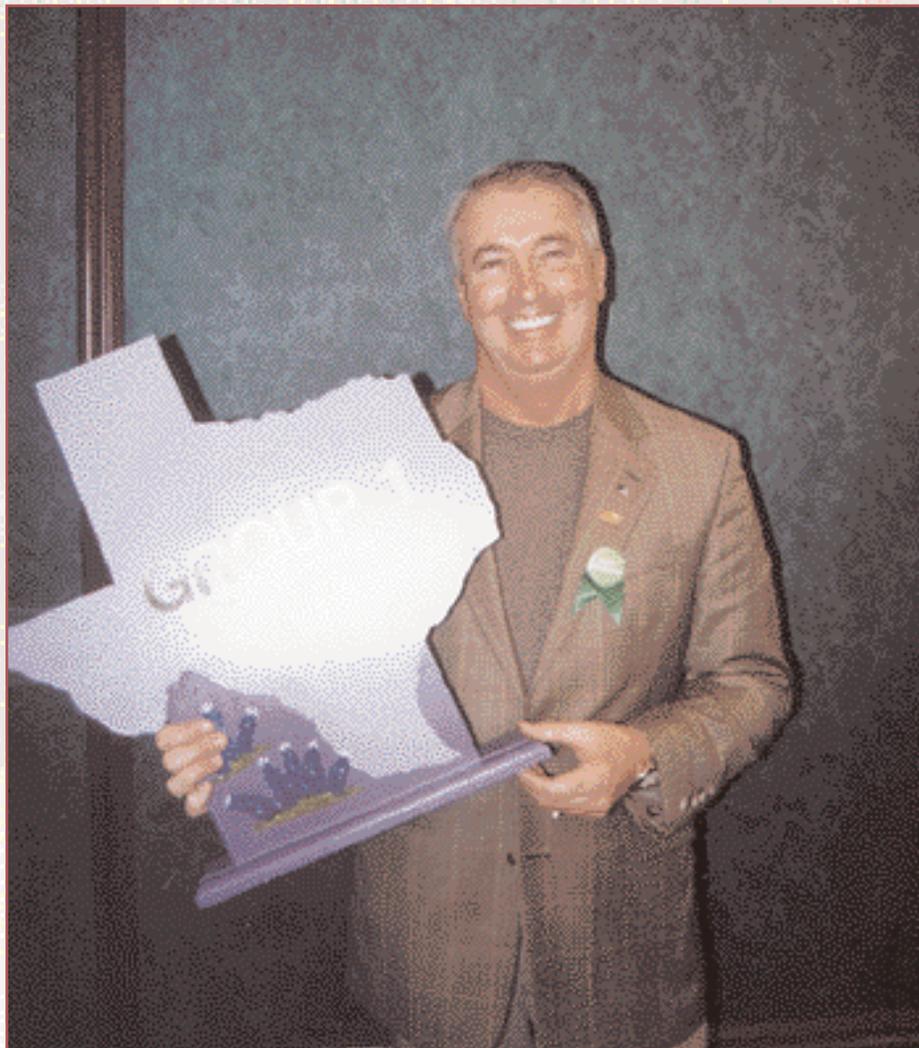
Christina Hubbell: "As always – lose weight and be a nicer person... less shows and no bait in the ring... *the Dobe – Repo-Man."*

Jan Paulk: "Exercise...more interaction with each community especially animal shelters... *"Mick."*

Murrel Purkhiser: "Continue to enjoy retirement to the fullest by doing the things we enjoy, judging dogs, skeet shooting, family and friends... everyone to enjoy their dogs and remember there is another life – so enjoy your life away from the hustle and bustle of dog shows...*Norwegian Elkhound.*

Col. Joe Purkhiser: "To run 100 in skeet... put the sport back in dog shows and get rid of the

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Dr. Steve Keating, Show Chairman of the Dallas-Fort Worth Toy Group Show.

wannabe handlers... **Elkhound.**"

Andrea L. Kosar: "To get up earlier in the morning and not to bring home any more rescue dogs... always clean up your mess... **Yankee Leaving Me Breathless at Franshaw.**"

Bill Shelton: "For Steve and I to go antiquing with Linda Knorr... to no longer have ratings systems for groups and BIS. To have breeders of dogs decide how judges are approved – not judges themselves... **The Newfoundland.**"

Steve Hubbell: "To train my new pup before she eats the house... that a dog must be over twelve months to finish its championship... **you tell me who the last seven will be and I will tell you.**"

Elaine J. Lessig: "To grow up to be Dorothy Nickles... making dog shows charity events... **the dog Mrs. Bivin believes is the best.**"

Karen Arends: "To enjoy 2003 and learn to not worry about stressful resolutions... **AKC**

Tara Martin:

"To meet Linda Knorr's son, Todd Turner and find a breed to show that I don't have to brush... cheaper airplane tickets and free flights for AKC champions... **Jimmy and Dallas."**

attempt to make multi-titled dogs more desirable and recognized at conformation shows... **Mick the Kerry."**

Tom Barrie: "To never own another boarding kennel... more Owner-Handlers... **have no idea, but it will be a great one.**"

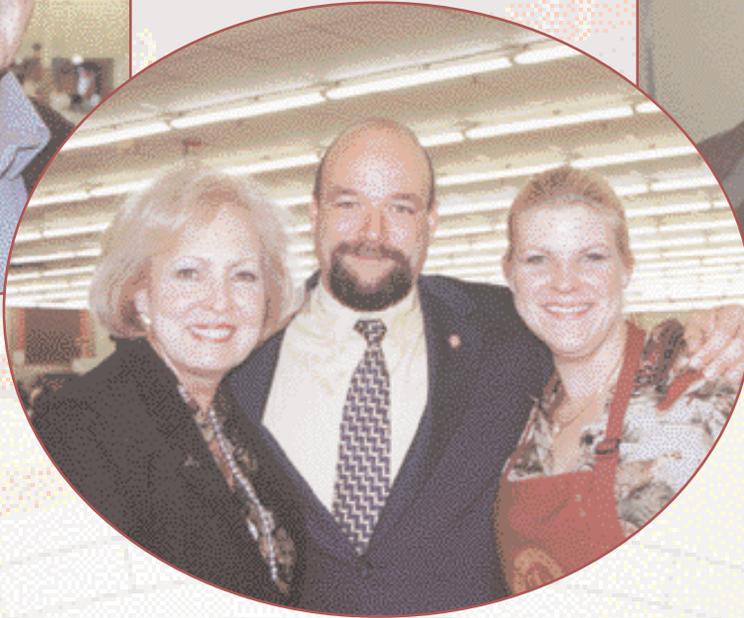
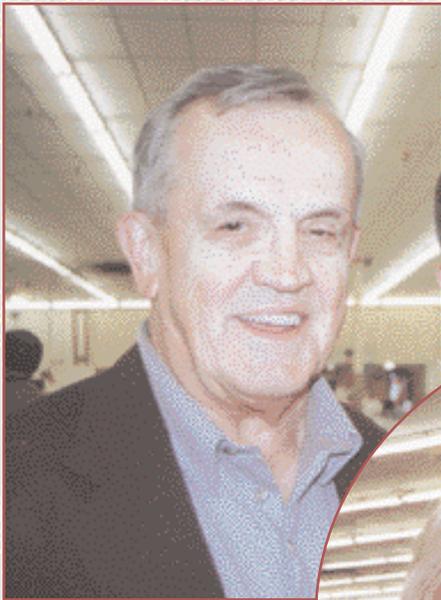
Ed Petit: "To play more golf and lower my handicap... for reserve winners at a Five Point Major Show to get two points... **Dobe.**"

The Owners, Handlers, Breeders and Assistants comments are fun too!

Tara Martin: "To meet Linda Knorr's son, Todd Turner and find a breed to show that I don't have to brush... cheaper airplane tickets and free flights for AKC champions... **Jimmy and Dallas.**"

Carl Trehus: "to learn Office XP... for the AKC House of Delegates to use computers to

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*Left: Col. Joe Purkhiser; Right: Mr. Bill Shelton
Center: Your author with Michael Shepherd and Lacey Epperson*

Tonia Holibaugh:
*“Be on time... a more even distribution of dog shows throughout the year. There are weekends with just a few shows throughout the country and then others with way too many shows...
I plead the 5th!”*

tabulate ballots at the Annual meeting... one of the Group I winners.”

Michael Shepherd: *“to fall in love with a millionaire... less dog shows... Jackie Breazeale’s – Pekinese.”*

Tonia Holibaugh: *“To be on time... a more even distribution of dog shows throughout the year. There are weekends with just a few shows throughout the country and then others with way too many shows... I plead the 5th!”*

Lacey Eppersen: *“An A in Molecular Cell Biology – Gene*

Expression... Handlers to be nicer to their assistants... Kellie Fitzgerald – English Setter.”

J. Nicole Conner: *“not to make any this year... more single men!... Mick the Kerry Blue.”*

Jeff L. Wright: *“the same one as I made for 2002... breeders to breed for their standard, handlers to show and promote good dogs, judges not to fault judge, rather pick a dog with the most positive attributes... Mick – the Kerry Blue Terrier.”*

Jonathan Wolens: *“To spend more time with family and friends... breeders breeding true*

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Dale Martenson:
“No negativity... a mandatory day crating for all of the toys. This would up entries and be safe for the dogs... my choice would be Les the Pekingese.”

to their standards and judges judging groups to the standard and not based on what's flashy and showy in the group ring and who is “hot” at the time... It's always a surprise!”

Deanna Glenn: “To take more time to enjoy life... more single men!... “Mick, the Kerry Blue.”

David S. Sirmeyer: “To get over the negativity of being laid off from my job and to obtain a position in my field of software/application development... that everyone will have a deep appreciation for the breed they represent regardless if they win or not... to move forward and prosper... **The Japanese Chin or the German Shepherd with Jimmy Moses.**”

Nancy K. Greer: “To keep a positive attitude... be happy and let it show... good sportsmanship in the ring... **Leon Slezic's Blue Aussie bitch Judy.**”

Dale Martenson: “No negati-



In a festive mood... Vicki and Larry Abbott.

ty... a mandatory day crating for all of the toys. This would up entries and be safe for the dogs... my choice would be Les the Pekingese.”

Lee Bell: “To appreciate the humorous side of each situation... to lighten up, show patience, consideration and remember it's the dogs that are competing... **Ch. Rowells Moonstruck, 'Cher,' the Pug.**”

Laurie Jeff Greer: “To be able to talk about 'Jamaica' without crying. So far it's been a losing battle... AKC fix at least eight weekends a year where there would be no dog shows scheduled. This would put all exhibitors on a

level playing field and allow dogs and Handlers much needed time off the road... **under Mrs. Bivin it could be anyone – except me!**”

Victor H. Cohen: “To lose weight and maintain a positive attitude at all times... dog shows should reflect good sportsmanship, win or lose... **'Andy' the Shih Tzu.**”

Lee Grunewald: “To keep going on and outdo my aunt – age 101... having a good time showing your dog and remember it's only a game... **who knows?**”

Pat Brown: “get back in the show ring with the new litter of “Bad Boys”... no changes. I think

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Texans, Trinity Valley Kennel Club Members run their show like a “well oiled machine.”

in general we are all doing great and excellent breeding... it's a good guess - but I'm sure it will be a great specimen in its group.”

Caught **Teresa Nail** as she was heading into the ring for Best In Show. Her reply to the question who will win at the Garden is perhaps the best of all. “**Mother knows best!**”

While I enjoyed sitting with **Steve Hubbell** during lunch he proudly announced that he and **Christina** will be celebrating their **fiftieth wedding anniversary** on **October 3, 2003!** Then I learned he has just been approved as an **all-rounder!**

Lee Grunewald
“Keep going on and out do my aunt - age 101... having a good time showing your dog and remember it's only a game... who knows?”

When he told me my eyes welled with tears. I remembered what an honor and thrill it was for our family when my father, **Roy Ayers** became an **all-breed judge**. At that time there were fewer than you could count on your fingers and all of them were not active. **Being awarded the opportunity to judge every breed is a privilege known to few. It brings great joy to those deserving individuals who have devoted a lifetime to our sport.**

My own thoughts on the three questions are: *I will resolve to always put God and family first, live a healthy lifestyle, de-clutter and write more... a positive*

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Vicki Abbott, Linda Knorr, Dorothy Collier, Tara Martin, Larry Abbott and Richard Fowler celebrating at Abuelo's.

*change would be to clear up the "gray areas"... Judges should only judge... **The Garden winner will be the dog Irene Bivin sees on that particular day who comes the closest to meeting its individual breed standard and shows off those qualities to perfection at the time she is looking.***

Like all of you I've had some great experiences in my life that have filled me with a sense of awe and wonder. These experiences have left me with all kinds of "wows" on the inside.

But in my life there's been nothing more wonder-filled or awe-inspiring than this story my moth-

er always read to our family...

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She

Pat Brown
"Get back in the show ring with the new litter of "Bad Boys"... no changes. I think in general we are all doing great and excellent breeding... it's a good guess – but I'm sure it will be a great specimen in its group"

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Michael Shepherd:
“To fall in love with a millionaire... less dog shows... Jackie Breazeale’s – Pekingese.”



wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the

Teresa Nail’s answer to who will win the Garden? Mother Knows Best!

manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Christmas is the birthday of our savior, Jesus Christ.

New Year’s Day, January 1st is the birthday of my mother, **Hazel Ayers. She is the best mother in the whole wide world and I love her with all my heart!**

*Let us celebrate all the joys of the Christmas and New Year with the hope of **Peace on Earth... Good will toward men.** Then all of us will be winners! Happy Holidays to all.*

—Linda Ayers Turner Knorr ■