

# Lines from Linda

BY LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

## Trends vs The Standard



**N**ew York's fashion week introduces exciting trends and a new outlook on what's to come. My own city Greenville's week of fashion shows mirrored the activities of those taking place in the Big Apple. I loved being a part of all of the excitement.

Recently the dog world's social media has been filled with discussions about dog grooming trends. Right or wrong the internet can drive us crazy with all of the "know it all" opinions on what is right and wrong.

Thankfully we have specific guidelines for what should and should not be.

Let's just stick with the AKC Breed Standards! Trends have little meaning if we evaluate the whole dog in relationship to its breed standard.

As Christians, we study the Bible and pray for guidance in our interpretation of its written word. Perhaps we should pray that breeders, exhibitors and judges will consider our AKC Breed Standards as the Bible of our sport, that we will ignore the so-called trends and be blessed with our judgments of interpreting the standards correctly.

Speaking of fashion statements, Houston and Toddie Clark were recently gifted by their children with a long wished for a trip to Branson, Missouri. Not wanting to miss out on the fun, their kids decided to go too. Once there they had the great idea to commemorate the occasion by donning western attire for photographs. Know you will enjoy seeing one of this beautiful family's memories captured on film.

The shotgun wedding photo shoot must have put the Clarks in the mood as Houston and Toddie are renewing their wedding vows this month at the Saint Terese Catholic Church in Tennessee. This special family could set the standard themselves of what we all wish to emulate.

While the world has focused on a recent Royal Wedding, AKC Executive Secretary Gina Dinardo and Pete Gwynne married in Greenwich, Connecticut. Gina and Pete are honeymooning in Paris and Barcelona, two places where fashion trends set the standard. Gina has promised to share wedding pictures and we can hardly wait! Congratulations Gina and Pete from the entire Showsight team! ■



The Houston Clark Family  
Front row: Daughter Debbie Clark Cowan and Toddie Clark  
Back row: Son-in-Law Ricky Cowan, Son-in Law Carson Combs, Daughter Sharon Clark Combs, Daughter-in-Law Trish Clark, Son Jay Clark, Houston Clark