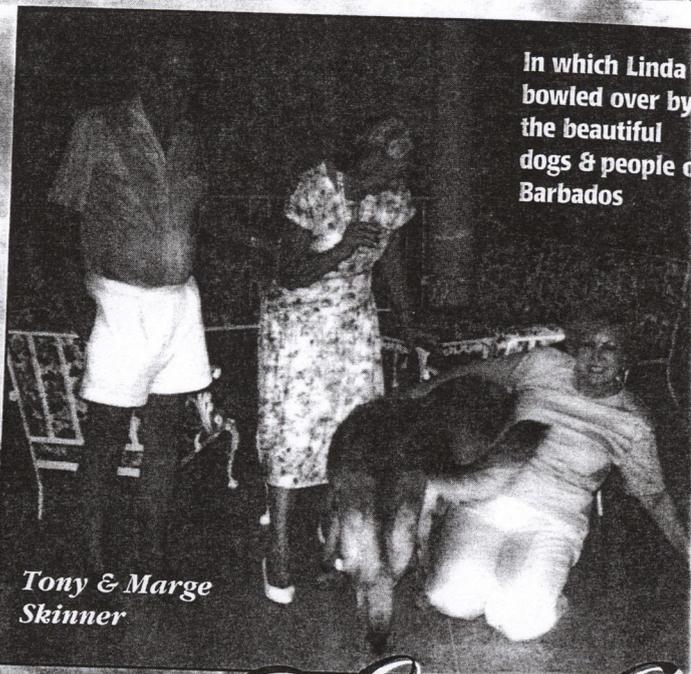


# AWAKE and DREAMING



In which Linda  
bowed over by  
the beautiful  
dogs & people of  
Barbados

Tony & Marge  
Skinner

## Lines from Linda

BY LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

Imagine a world class lifestyle, fiery tropical sunsets, unrestrained freedom and timeless elegance. Throw in magnificent animals with friendly owners and you can judge why our journey to the island of Barbados was a dream come true and more.

As fifteen inches of rain soaked our home in Greenville, Jim and I left South Carolina for our adventure in the West Indies. Determined to end the summer with delicious abandon, we arrived at Sir Grantley Adams International Airport in Barbados in the midst of the worst hurricane season in history. Jerry, Luis, Karen, Iris and Humberto... what a way to awaken the senses!

"Solandra," the island home of our friends **Reed & Kathy Simmons**, is an example of heaven on earth. For eleven glorious days we were the Simmons' guests. They stayed behind in Manhattan, leaving just the two of us to be pampered by their staff of six, including Ingrid and Sylvia, with whom we shared a magical chemistry.

Located in the exclusive Sandy Lane

Estate, from Solandra we could view the Caribbean Sea from every room. Our forty-foot pool was nestled among mahogany trees on three acres of lovely gardens. Six monkeys came every morning and afternoon to watch us play.

Jim and I will forever be daydreaming about Solandra and Ingrid's delightful flying fish - a Bajan delicacy. You must go there and try their national dish, coucou, made of cornmeal and okra and with it have christophenes. Don't wake me if I'm dreaming!

Without my dogs I am somewhat lost and lonely. To my delight, two magnificent German Shepherds, owned by Tony and Marge Skinner, lived next to Solandra. As Jim and Tony planned their golf outings, Marge and I enjoyed their dogs. One thing lead to another, proving

that it really is a small world. The Skinners are members of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Barbados.

Following our visit with the Skinners I received a telephone call from Helen Stoute whose husband Donald was one of the founding members of the club. Helen and Donald and their Best-in-Show-winning German Shepherd male, *Kingston Gildo*, picked us up to join other members of their kennel club and play dog show. We met Peter Gilkes, the President of the German Shepherd club, and his wife Jenny. Their organization boasts a membership of about sixty, quite good for an island the size of Barbados. Other members brought their dogs and we ran and played to our hearts' content. I was selected to be the judge.

The following evening Alex and Martin Hole invited a group of German Shepherd devotees to their "Sylita" estate for an evening around their pool sharing our common interest in the dog world.

The next day I received a call from the president of the Barbados Kennel Club, Gloria Cuke, a well known Boxer breeder and owner of Happy Acres Kennel. Gloria collected Jim and me and as we began our trip across the island to the Cuke home my phobia of riding in a car with someone else driving was intensified. Did I mention that on Barbados' extremely narrow bumpy roads, the cars are driven on the opposite side from the

Gloria had just returned from the controversial Eighth World Congress of Kennel Clubs meeting at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. Having the opportunity to visit with her was a wonderful way to capture the essence of the true meaning of the World Congress. Gloria described it as "a bread basket of kennel clubs, an international forum, a way to meet and exchange ideas" which she felt was extremely worthwhile. This positively radiant lady was most inspired by

having the opportunity to meet our American Kennel Club President, Mrs. Judith Daniels. Talks by our own Wayne Cavanaugh were the highlight of the conference according to Gloria.

Representatives attending and the countries they represented were quite impressive: Mr. Graham Head and Mrs. Judith Balfour, Australia; Mrs. Gloria Cuke, Barbados; Mrs. Betty Leighton, Bermuda; Mr. Robert Whitney, Mrs. Elaine Whitney and Mr. John Lusk, Canada; Ms. Teleri De Jones, Ms. Denys Janssen and Ms. Yolanda Vargas, Columbia; Mr. Andreas Kokkinides, Cyprus; Dr. Jaromir Dostal, Czech Republic; Mr. Pascal Tyndall, Denmark; Mr. & Mrs. Ernst Vanherle and Mr. Hans Muller, F.C.I; Mr. Kari Jarvinen, Finland; Mr. Uwe Fischer, Mr. Jochen Eberhardt and Dr. Peter Beyersdorf, Germany; Mrs.

Voula Papoutsanis, Greece; Mrs. Beth Cooper, India; Mr. J. W. Beefink and Mrs. J. H. C. Brooymans-Schallenberg, Netherlands; Mr. Robert L. T. Dawson and Mrs. Rosemary Kemp,

HURRICANE  
SHELTER



Philippines; Mr. Vladimir Ourazhewski, Ms. Irina Gretch, Mr. Yuri Vishnevsky, Mr. Eugene Yerusalimsky and Ms. Lioudmila Fomina, Russia; Mr. Jim Peat and Dr. Arthur Sneed, Scotland; Mr. Stefan Sinko, Slovenia; Mr. Greg Eva, South Africa; Mrs. J. P. Obeyesekere, Sri Lanka; Mrs. Gunilla Fristedt and Ms. Moa Persson, Sweden; Mr. Roland Wonger and Mr. Walter Blattner, Switzerland;



DOWNTOWN BRIDGETOWN

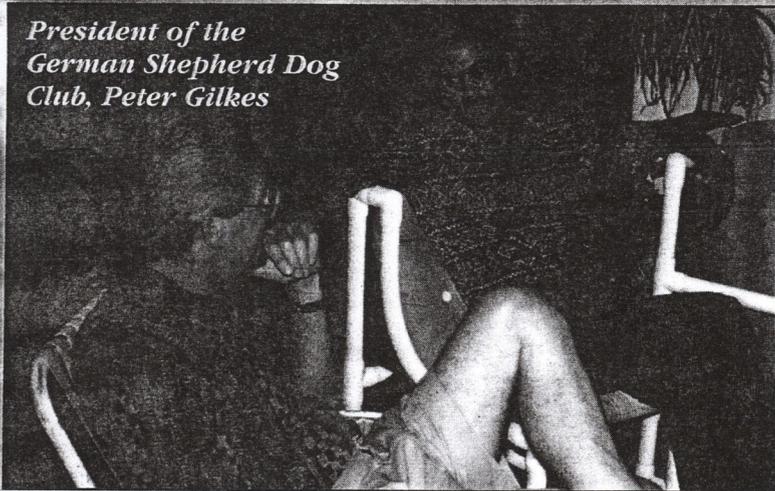
American way. The steering wheel is also on the right (wrong) side. Horrors! I'm awake now!

Being with her Best in Show winning dogs quickly calmed my nerves. There's nothing like a wet kiss from a handsome boxer!



Barbados Kennel Club  
President Gloria Cuke with Jim

*President of the German Shepherd Dog Club, Peter Gilkes*



Mrs. B. E. Ormerod and Mr. Brian Leonard, United Kingdom; Dr. Robert Berndt, Mrs. Judith Daniels, Mr. Wayne Cavanaugh and Mr. John Mandeville, U.S.A.; Mr. Trevor Evans, Wales. One can dream of being a part of this expressive exchange of ideas which could only lead to the betterment of our sport worldwide.

"I am aware that there has been a degree of criticism of these meetings," Mrs. Cuke said. "Even at this last congress, the question was asked, 'What do we achieve? Are we any closer to judges? What are the rules governing such matters?' It was stated that in 1980 there was a meeting of the 'Big Three' in the world of dogs - The American Kennel Club, The Kennel Club (U.K.), and the FCI - at which many matters were discussed, including artificial insemination, tattooing of dogs, microchip I.D., and, in spite of that meeting, no firm decisions were made. Mr. Greg Eva of South Africa pointed out that the meeting of the 'Big Three' probably came about because of congress suggestions. He felt that these meetings

presented a very important platform for discussion and acted as catalysts for talks behind the scenes. Like the majority of other delegates, Mr. Eva felt that the social contacts made and the opportunity for informal

discussion were very important. His views were supported by Mrs. Judith Daniels of the U.S.A., who felt that dialogue was necessary between people with a common interest, even if there were differences in interpretation of breed standards.

"Mr. Uwe Fischer of Germany said that he had learned something from the three congresses which he had attended; he said, however, that they were not designed to order or prescribe, to make rules or authorize. A congress is a forum for

learning and should be continued in a free and easy, relaxed manner for the exchange of ideas. These sentiments were supported by other delegates present.

"Speaking for the small kennel club which I had the honor to represent, the two congresses which I have attended have been learning experiences. At this eighth congress, one of the subjects on which a lot of emphasis was placed was the anti-dog and anti-dog-people lobby which is influencing the thinking of the general public and, worst of all, of governments which have in recent times passed laws that place restrictions on dog owners in many parts of the world.

I was very impressed with the presentation of the American Kennel Club on this subject. The presenter, Mr. Wayne Cavanaugh, is an excellent speaker. He outlined the problems which have surfaced through the animal liberation front, which started in the United Kingdom and spread to the United States. In their view, showing dogs, using them for hunting, herding, and even as guide dogs is a form of exploitations of animals.

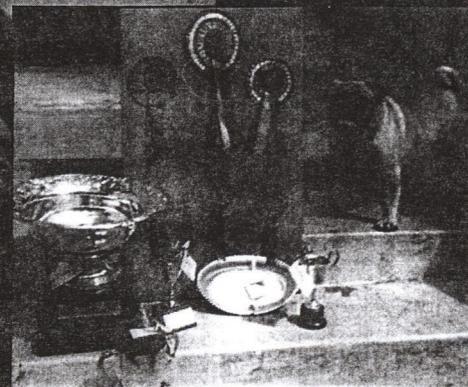
The theme of Mr. Cavanaugh's presentation was that education is the answer, and he told us how the AKC is working on programs which



**Center: All-Breed BIS winning Kingstown Gildo. I wanted to bring "Gildo" home with me!**

**Right: Judge Mr. Freddie Christenson of Norway with BIS Ch. Kingston Ola Far handled by Peter Gilkes; at right is Midross Boss shown by Malcolm Griffith**

**Far right: The Pug, Ch. Maynooth's Puck of Haven owned by Mrs. Linda Greenhill**



start as early as nursery school age with animated cartoons about basic care of pets, and continue up the school system through all grades and beyond to veterinary colleges. These programs are supported by breed clubs. The aim is to portray dog breeders and owners as the 'good guys' instead of the evil exploiters that the activists make us out to be. He stresses the necessity to be pro-active in this area and to work steadily before destructive canine legislation takes effect.

"In this little island, we have faced one hurdle from those who see us as mutilators of dogs because certain breeds have docked tails. Fortunately we were aware that this was the feeling in some other countries, and were pro-active in collecting large numbers of signatures to accompany a petition to the Barbados Kennel Club, the Barbados Veterinary Association and the RSPCA. Thanks to that action, docked breeds remain docked. Mr. Cavanaugh's talk made me realize that we must always be vigilant.

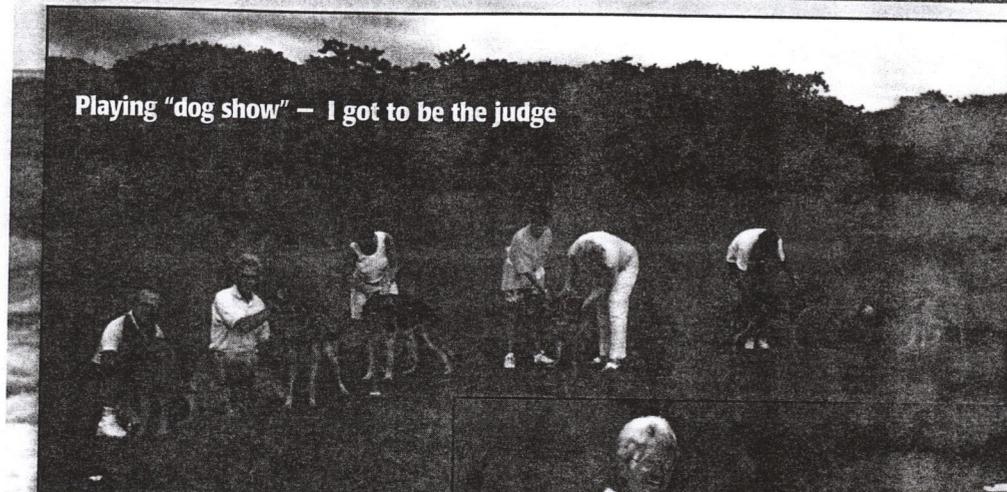
"A disturbing report from the Swedish delegation about the number of breeds which are under threat of a breeding ban in their country because of so-called 'hereditary defects' was a cause of great concern, and emphasized the importance of Mr. Cavanaugh's message that we must learn, educate and go public in our efforts to preserve the pedigreed dog scene and the welfare of dogs in general."

With a history of political stability, the government in Barbados is based on the English model. Likewise, their totally independent Barbados Kennel Club shares rules with England's Kennel Club.

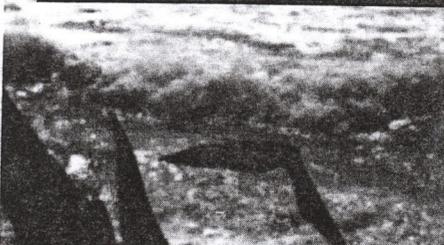
The country only 21 miles long and 14 miles wide, Barbados was settled in 1627, following the landing of eighty English colonists at Holetown. It soon became a thriving colony, trading in tobacco and cotton. Sugar was introduced in 1640 and brought about the formation of large plantations and the importation of African slaves. Although threatened by hostile naval forces on various occasions, Barbados was never invaded and always remained British until becoming one of the world's smallest independent nations on November 30th,



Alex Hole, Peter & Jenny Gilkes, Helen & Donald Stoute

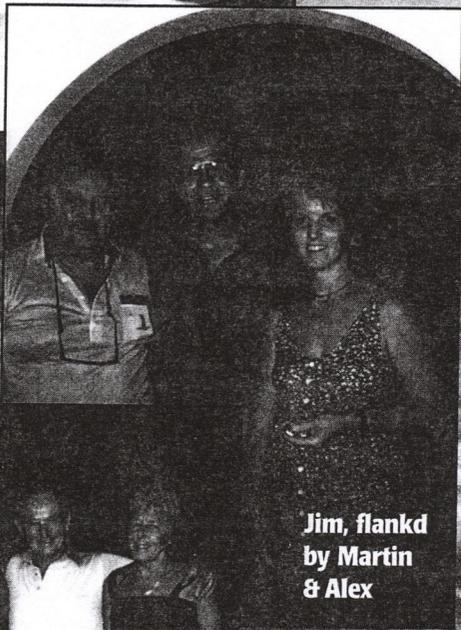


Playing "dog show" — I got to be the judge





**Jane Whitton, one of Barbado's top Junior Handlers, with uncropped and winning Boxer**



**Jim, flanked by Martin & Alex**



**GSD Club of Barbados Members entertained us at "Sylita," home of Alex & Martin Hole**

1966.

The Barbados Kennel Club was founded in 1951 at the suggestion of Dr. Sumner-Moore, a retired Englishman then living on the island. There were quite a number of fanciers of pedigreed dogs before this, and he felt that the time had come for a proper system of registration.

A meeting was held in Queens Park in February, 1951 with Dr. Sumner-Moore as the guest speaker, and from that beginning, the Barbados Kennel Club was born. It has constantly gained strength over the last forty years.

Mr. Dudley Wiles was the first president, and Mr. Bruce Stoute the first Secretary-Treasurer. Some of the founding members are still active today.

Dog shows were held before the kennel club was founded. The moving spirit behind those was the late Mrs. J. H. Wilkinson. German Shepherds and Boxers seem to be the two most popular breeds of Barbadians.

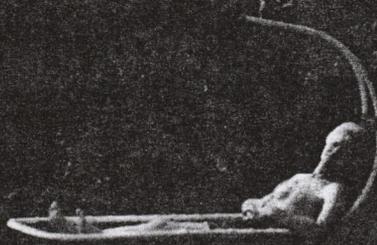
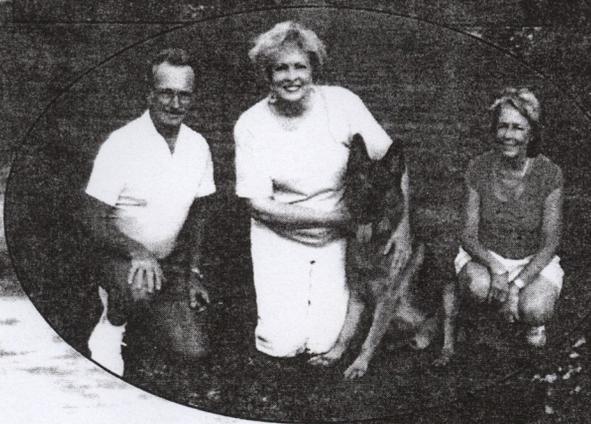
In 1969, a group of Alsatian (German Shepherd) enthusiasts held a meeting at the Civic Theatre in Queen's Park. From this meeting, chaired by Mr. Dudley Wiles, destined to become the first president, was born the Barbados Alsatian Club.

Under the leadership of Mr. Wiles and Secretary Mrs. Edna DuBoulay, the club started its activities by staging a Working Group Championship Show at Wanderers Cricket Club in April, 1970.

Mrs. Susan Acton of Trinidad was the judge.

With this modest start and the experience gained, in early 1971 the club was encouraged to undertake the much more complicated All-Breed Championship Show with our own well known favorite, USA and International judge, Mr. Maxwell Riddle.

The Barbados Boxer Club was founded on June 27th, 1975 following a suggestion from Mr. O.J. Akow, President of the Boxer Club of Trinidad & Tobago. Twenty-seven people attended an organizational meeting on March 21st at Flint Hall House in St. Michael. Mrs. Gloria Cuke, Chairman of the meeting, outlined the history



of the breed in Barbados. Afterwards, those present voted unanimously in favor of forming a club and a steering committee was appointed to draft a constitution. The first annual general meeting was held on June 27th and Mrs. Cuke was elected as the founding president.

In a letter to the delegates for the Eighth World Congress of Kennel Clubs, Mrs. Cuke wrote, "Five all-breed champi-

onship shows are held annually, two by the Barbados Kennel Club and three by the breed clubs. The German Shepherd Dog Club and the Barbados Boxer Club also hold one breed championship show each. Local judges do not officiate at these championship shows, principally because our 'dog fraternity' is a small, nuclear unit, where the knowledgeable people within the breeds are themselves the principal breeders and exhibitors.

**Top Left: CH. FRANELEN'S VALENTINO from the Happy Acres Kennels of Mrs Gloria Cuke**  
**Top Right: Jenny & Jaimie Hole invited me up to their room to share scrapbooks of their dog show pictures**  
**Above left: "Gildo" with the author and Donald & Helen Stoute**  
**Above right: Irish judge Mrs. Francis Hickey with October 1994's BIS winner Kingstone Gildo; Reserve BIS is the Rhodesian Ridgeback (Sarah Hamilton Outcault)**



**Our heartfelt thanks to Ingrid & Sylvia, (pictured with the author) the real "bosses" at Solandra, for making our stay in Barbados an unforgettable adventure - and allowing us to be **AWAKE AND DREAMING...****

Impartiality in such a situation is not always believed. We get better entries for judges who routinely perform on bigger national and international stages and who come into our small community without any prior knowledge of the dogs they are to judge.

"It is always a pleasure for us to welcome visitors from other countries to our island, especially at show time. We hope you will come to Barbados for one of our shows, and look forward to welcoming you. The all breed championship shows are held at the following times:

February, The Barbados Kennel Club; April, The German Shepherd Dog Club; July, The Japanese Akita Club of Barbados; October, The Barbados Kennel Club; November, The Barbados Boxer Club.

"By comparison with other countries represented at this world congress, our club is small, both in membership and numbers of dogs, but in our small way, we aim for excellence and continue to build on the foundation laid down by those dedicated founding members who started our club in 1951."

Gracious simplicity characterizes the lifestyle of this tranquil Caribbean island. Thanks to Reed & Kathy Simmons, being there surrounded by new friends has enriched our lives.

Why not immerse yourself in this dream?

*Linda Ayers Turner Knorr*

