



The Society News

Volume 19

The Society for the Perpetuation of Desert Bred Salukis Winter/Spring 2023-2024

SCOA and the Desert Bred Saluki

Will there Still be Salukis?

The Rodartys

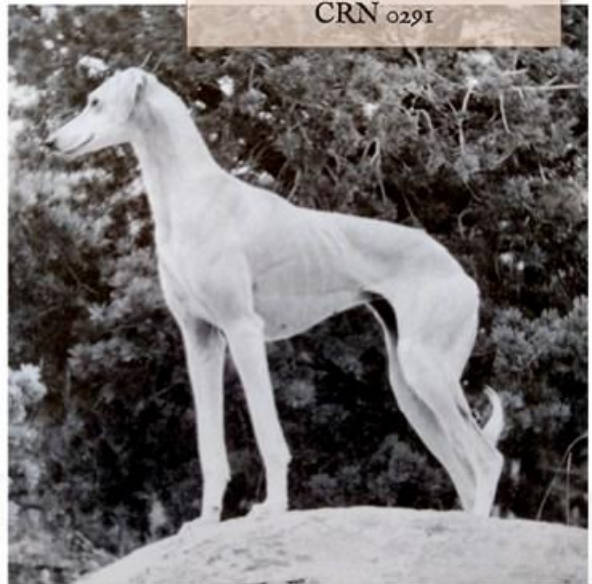
LOOFAH AL-KHALIJ

SAUDI ARABIA



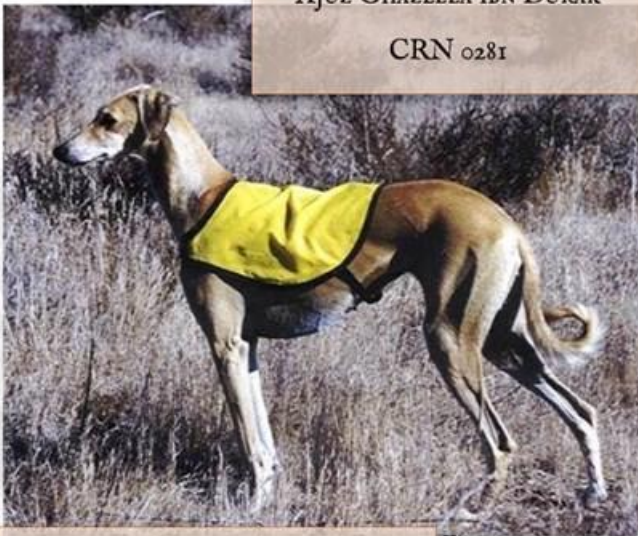
KENINE THABIYA

CRN 0291



AJUZ GHAZELLA IBN DURAK

CRN 0281



AJUZ EMIRA MIRROR HIBAT ALLAH

CRN 0578-009-2



THE SALUKIS

OF

AJUZ

DIANE AVERY

AJUZ TSH TOOKHANO

CRN 0389-000-3



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Cropping Ears



SCOA and SPDBS



Will There Still Be Salukis



Interview with the Rodartys



President's Message

Mary Beth Rogers

I find myself contemplating both how things have changed in our world and how they remain the same. Battles the Society has fought in the past have surfaced again. The Centers for Disease Control has not lifted importation bans for our Countries of Origin as the risk of rabies, retail rescue, climate change, and politics continue to impact directly the homelands of our Salukis. The CDC ban now only affects those who follow the rules, those that do not will always find a way around.

On the positive side, and it is a BIG positive, the AKC PAL program for SPDBS Salukis has been successful. This allows our imports, Gen 1, and Gen 2 Salukis to be able to compete in all AKC Performance events. The 2023 AKC Top Dogs Bowen System Lure Coursing list has a Gen o Saluki at Number 1! We also have an AKC Champion Gen 3 Saluki in third place. Three more Salukis from our roles are also in the top 25. Go run your Salukis!!!

Critiques are now caught up and we are publishing our annual CRN report in the SCOA Newsletter as well as our Society News. We have had two litters born, one is a Gen 2 litter with Israeli roots and one is a Gen 1 Persian litter.

Our Salukis have had some major successes this past year. The 2022 Grand Course Winner was *Kullah of Urfa, imported from Turkey, owned by Kathleen Tigan; and at this year's 2023 Grand Course we again had an import, this time from Iran, *Trevor Sirius! Trevor also finished the year as the #1 AKC Lure Coursing Saluki. Kudos to Kirby Overcash and Trevor!

I want to thank our recently retired Secretary Lauri Domski for all of her help and support over these last years. Lauri never failed to step up even when the going got a bit tough. We are lucky to still have her on our Board.

If you want to help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary. No action is too small.

Secretary's Report

On June 24, 2023, a motion was made by Elizabeth Dawsari and seconded by Kathleen Tigan to accept the proposal put forward by Mary-Wynn Rogers to move the SPDBS website from its current platform (Word Press) to a new platform (SquareSpace) and proceed with site renovations as proposed. The motion was accepted unanimously by the Board.

On January 2, 2024, a motion was made by Mary Beth Rogers and seconded by Daniela Imre to accept the resignation of Lauri Domski as SPDBS Secretary. The motion was approved unanimously with regret.

On January 5, 2024, a motion to seat Kathleen Tigan as Secretary of SPDBS was made by Mary Beth Rogers, seconded by Daniela Imre and passed unanimously by the Board of Directors.

On January 8, 2024, a motion to seat Lauri Domski to the Board of Directors was made by Mary Beth Rogers, seconded by Kathleen Tigan and carried unanimously by the SPDBS Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted.

Lauri Domski, SPDBS Secretary

Society for the Perpetuation of
Desert Bred



Volume 19



On the front cover:

Image by Mary Beth Rogers. Sunset on the Saluki.

On the back cover:

Bedouins, circa 1905-06

John Singer Sargent (American, 1856-1925)

Opaque and translucent watercolor, 18 x 12 inches.

Housed at the Brooklyn Museum

Our Advertisers

SPDBS Board of Directors

President– Mary Beth Rogers

Vice-President– Elizabeth Dawsari

Treasurer– Ken Stahl

Secretary–Kathleen Tigan

secretary@desertbred.org

Directors

Oksana Belova

Marsha Bradbury

Sir Terence Clark

Paul Domski

Lauri Domski

Sue Nelson

Registrar–Mary Beth Rogers

spdbbs.registrar@gmail.com

Oksana Belova/MB Rogers	26/27
Janika Buchwald	70
Carola Butler/Jan Isley	71
Linda Deutsch	56/57
Lauri and Paul Domski	84/85
Stephanie and Brad Gamble	33
Cassandra Kraham	58/59
Eva Milani/Janika Buchwald-	68/69
Kirby Overcash	18-21
Lori Roberts and MB rogers	81
Susan and Bill Schroeder	36/37
Kathleen Tigan	34/35
Lorraine Trenholm	82/83
Mary Beth and George Rogers	86-91

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This Newsletter is a member benefit for the Society's support group. The opinions expressed by the contributors in Society News, the Newsletter of The Society for the Perpetuation of Desert Bred Salukis, do not necessarily reflect the policies of The Society or the opinions of the officers, directors or membership.

Society for the Perpetuation of Desert Bred Salukis Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

For the Period Ending December 31, 2023

BEGINNING BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2022	52,855.96
REVENUES:	
MEMBERSHIPS/SUBSCRIPTIONS	440.00
SUPPORTER FEE	20.00
CRITIQUES/CERTIFICATES/EXPORT PEDIGREE	450.00
HATS/ARABIAN NAMES/SHIPPING	295.00
NEWSLETTER	204.00
ADS	756.00
INTEREST ON CD	669.45
TURKEY/SYRIA EARTHQUAKE DONATIONS	4,225.17
OTHER DONATIONS	1.00
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>7,060.62</u>
EXPENSES:	
DIRECTOR & OFFICER INSURANCE	815.00
SPONSOR SHIP-THE BREED ARCHIVE	175.46
WEB SITE HOSTING/SERVICES	2,316.17
SOFTWARE/MEDIA SERVICES	224.90
PRINTING/POSTAGE/SHIPPING	559.64
SPACE AT 2023 NATIONAL	150.00
ADS	40.00
TURKEY/SYRIA EARTHQUAKE DONATIONS	3,186.99
SUPPLIES/VEHICLE COSTS	3,000.00
PAYPAL FEES/BANK FEES	186.99
OTHER PAYPAL FEES/BANK FEES	83.93
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>7,552.09</u>
CASH RESERVE FOR EARTHQUAKE DONATIONS	1,038.18
UNRESERVE CASH BALANCE	51,326.31
ENDING BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2023	<u>52,364.49</u>

As there were no Nominations from the Floor, the Nominating Committee Slate is seated per our By-Laws.

The Society Board of Directors and Officers are as follows:

SPDBS Board of Directors

President/Registrar - Mary Beth Rogers

president@desertbred.org/spdbs.registrar@gmail.com

Vice-President - Elizabeth Dawsari

Treasurer - Ken Stahli

treasurer@desertbred.org

Secretary - Kathleen Tigan *secretary@desertbred.org*

Board of Directors

Oksana Belova

Marsha Bradbury

Sir Terence Clark

Paul Donski

Lauri Donski

Daniela Imre

Sue Nelson

New Imports



Ordibehesht Melik Delnavaz Ravan Bacht
Import from Germany, Generation 2
Bred by Heike Bräuer
Owned by Mary Beth Rogers
Whelped March 23, 2023, Bitch, Feathered

Ostovar Melik Delnavaz Ravan Bacht
Import from Germany, Generation 2
Bred by Heike Bräuer
Owned by Mary Beth Rogers
Whelped March 23, 2023, Dog, Feathered



Qashani Fillah Saudiyya
Import Finland, Generation 2
Bred by Micaela Lehtonen
Owned by Daniela Imre
Whelped July 27, 2023, Bitch, Smooth

Qashani Fustaq Saudi
Import Finland, Generation 2
Bred by Micaela Lehtonen
Owned by Megan Robertson and
Mike Freeman
Whelped July 27, 2023, Dog, Smooth



CRN 0842-023-3—CRN 0873-023-0

Fossil Creek Raphael
 Dog. CRN 0842-023-3
 Cream, Feathered
 August 31, 2019
 Whelped in Bogota, TX, DNA 10123755
 Breeder: Michael Berry
 By Ikov Ha'Din et Ha'Har 925 Ruah Midbar
 CRN 0777-016-2 x
 El Riyah Zain Safiya
 AKC HP43426701
 Owner: Chad Reynolds



Melik Qashang
 Bitch. CRN 0860-022-1
 Black, Irish Marked, Feathered
 February 24, 2022
 Whelped in Milford, VA, DNA V10015971
 Breeder: Paul Perez and Mary Beth Rogers
 By Melik Nadin Jenn
 CRN 0773-015-2 x
 *Tayre of Urfa
 CRN 0813-018-0
 Owner: Mirko Albertazzi

Melik Qerqi-Abi
 Bitch. CRN 0858-022-1
 Grey/Irish Marked, Feathered
 February 24, 2022
 Whelped in Milford, VA, DNA V10085845
 Breeder: Paul Perez and Mary Beth Rogers
 By Melik Nadin Jenn
 CRN 0773-015-2 x
 *Tayre of Urfa
 CRN 0813-018-0
 Owners: Lauri and Paul Donski/Mary Beth Rogers



CRN 0807-017-1—CRN 0873-023-0

Melik Compelling Qasideh
Bitch. CRN 0861-022-1
Red Brindle/ Irish Marked, Feathered
February 24, 2022
Whelped in Milford, VA, DNA V10035588
Breeder: Paul Perez and Mary Beth Rogers
By Melik Nadin Jenn
CRN 0773-015-2 x
*Tayre of Urfa
CRN 0813-018-0
Owner: Marissa Jo Wagenaar and Mary Beth Rogers



Melik Niqaba Qiyamat
Dog. CRN 0864-022-1
Cream Brindle, Smooth
February 24, 2022
Whelped in Milford, VA DNA V 10035590
Breeder: Paul Perez and Mary Beth Rogers
By Melik Nadin Jenn
CRN 0773-015-2 x
*Tayre of Urfa
CRN 0813-018-0
Owners: Lori Roberts and Mary Beth Rogers



Melik Qalandar
Dog. CRN 0863-022-1
Grey, Irish marked, Feathered
February 24, 2022
Whelped in Milford, VA DNA V10035591
Breeder: Paul Perez and Mary Beth Rogers
By Melik Nadin Jenn
CRN 0773-015-2 x
*Tayre of Urfa
CRN 0813-018-0
Owner: Paul Domski

CRN 0842-023-3—CRN 0873-023-0

Melik Qahreman
 Dog. CRN 0865-022-1
 Black and Grey, Irish Marked, Smooth
 February 24, 2022
 Whelped in Milford, VA, DNA V10035595
 Breeder: Paul Perez and Mary Beth Rogers
 By Melik Nadin Jenn
 CRN 0773-015-2 x
 *Tayre of Urfa
 CRN 0813-018-0
 Owner: Charlotte and Chris Wrather



*Trevor of Iran at Sirius
 Dog. CRN 0867-022-0
 Black and Tan, Feathered
 May 06, 2019
 Whelped in Iran, DNA V10077769
 Breeder: Unknown
 By Unknown x Unknown
 Owner: Kirby Overcash

Miraj Little Sunshine Neshama Tova
 Bitch. CRN 0870-023-1/ ISAP APX 504971
 Silver Grizzle, Smooth
 November 27, 2021, DNA V10084506
 Whelped in Israel, DNA V10084506
 Breeder: Keren Mintz
 By Habibi Me Exal Shel NT
 ISAP APX 504931 x
 Asina Bint Amna Wa Jawi
 ISAP APX 504781
 Owners: Amalia, Brittany, Ehud Gat



CRN 0807-017-1—CRN 0873-023-0

*Change My Mind Jonny Neshama Tova
Dog. CRN 0871-023-2/ ISAP APX 504946
Fawn Grizzle, Smooth
March 06, 2021
Whelped in Israel, DNA V10120847
Breeder: Keren Mintz
By Saham Ashachra ibn Shahin
ISAP APX 504862 x
Buba Shel Neshama Tova
ISAP APX 504640
Owner: Margarat Nee



*Savach
Dog. CRN 0872-023-0/IRAPP 00003320
Black/White markings, Feathered
January 1, 2020
Whelped in Iran, DNA V10123735
Breeder: Unknown
By Unknown x Unknown
Owner: Ryan Scoggins

*Balan
Bitch. CRN 0873-023-0/ IRAPP 00003321
Black and Tan, Feathered
January 1, 2020
Whelped in Iran, DNA V10123736
Breeder: Unknown
By *Unknown x Unknown
Owner: Chad Reynolds



New Litters



*With You Forever Phantom Neshama Tova
HP49087802

X

*Miraj Little Sunshine Neshama Tova
CRN 0870-023-1

Whelped December 17, 2023

4 females, 3 males

Sahar and Ehud Gat
Whelped in Grass Valley, California

*Kuhi of Iran CRN 0866-022-0

X

Rataki Xyla FCh, CC, CM CRN 0803-017-1

Whelped February 20, 2024

4 Females, 4 Males

Lorraine Trenholm and Mary Beth Rogers

Whelped in Ignacio, Colorado



Current Events

This past SCOA National, four SCOA members used social media to attack one of our member's Salukis as they decided this young, smooth, Saluki had improper ears. A document was also circulated throughout out the SCOA membership using images lifted off the Saluki owner's Facebook page without their knowledge or permission asking the SCOA Board to examine our critique process.

Over the course of the summer our Board answered all questions from the SCOA Board and concluded with a Zoom meeting. Throughout this process both Boards worked together and no issues were found. We agreed that we would publish our annual CRN report in the winter SCOA Newsletter and this has occurred.

I need to state clearly that the SPDBS process is not easy. AKC Breeders are required to do no more than send in a form for registration. Our registration process is much more involved, both in time as well as expense. SPDBS has required DNA through AKC since 2009. These Salukis are also microchipped. Most of our pedigrees now can be fully parentage verified however, we do occasionally still have breedings with Salukis in the first generations who were whelped prior to the 2009 DNA requirement. We were issuing Export pedigrees before AKC started its Export pedigree program. The Society voted in 1997 to require Salukis entering our Studbook to have Saluki registration in their birth county if that country had a reciprocal FCI Registry and proof of origin has always been required. We do not register Salukis imported through rescue organizations.

In short, all the concerns brought to us had long ago been addressed. We take our responsibility to our AKC Parent Club very seriously. The Society has kept up with technology advances and the changing landscape of the FCI as it moves into the homelands of all of our Salukis.

I am deeply grateful to all of you who treasure this magical, vibrant, beautiful ancient hunter as I do. Without the support of SCOA and AKC Judges we would not be able to endeavor to perpetuate the indigenous Saluki. Our Salukis succeed in every venue if given the chance and they succeed at the highest levels. Perhaps those who fail to understand who we are should take the time to learn the beautiful history of this perfect hunter.

As you admire the images we have of the Salukis from 100 years ago, remember, he IS still here as he was then.

My Bob Logus

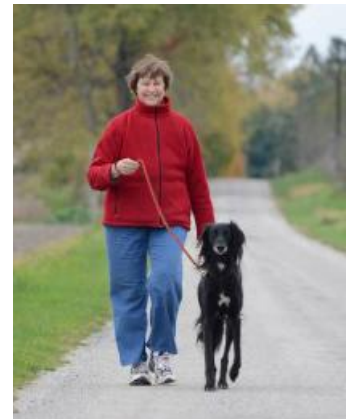
Julia Holder



The Society lost one of our Saluki people in 2023. Julia Holder had a long life with Salukis acquiring her first in 1977. She was a past President of the Society and was very active in various working organizations.

A judge in NOFCA, Julia had the honor of judging the Grand Course as well as breeding over a dozen coursing champions. She was invited to judge a coursing meet in England prior to the hunting bans and also served as a judge in The Coursing Conservancy while it was active.

A great supporter and friend of the Society, Julia will be missed.



Ron Wolfe lived in Egypt for 7 years where he was sent on a Ford Foundation Grant. He was a professor of Classical and Egyptian Arabic. He owned two Salukis in 1977 one a smooth from Egypt and the other a feathered from Bahrain.

An Ancient Standard

This excerpt, translated by Mr. Wolfe, is on Salukis and taken from Kitab al-Hayawan or The Book of Animals, Volume 1 written in the 9th century AD by al-Jahiz who enjoyed the patronage of al-Fath ibn Khaqan, companion of Caliph al-Mutawakkil in Baghdad, now present day Iraq. Written between 847 and 867 it is considered the first extensive study of animals in the Islamic world and was close to being a treatise on the theory of evolution and natural selection.

Wolfe's notes include this disclaimer : "The following excerpt on Salukis is taken from The Book of Animals, Vol 1 written in the 9th century AD by the famous Arab belletrist of Al-Basra, Iraq, who was known as al-Jahiz. It is the first description of a point standard for a dog, of which I am aware in any literature. The reader should be aware that translating ancient texts is a field as technical as that of Saluki anatomy, a difficult task. This translation accurately reflects the al-Jahiz text, but some nuances of the 9th century lore may not be recoverable."

Men knowledgeable in these things say that some distance between the forelegs and the hindquarters of a Saluki is a mark of good speed, but his back should be somewhat short. They say he should have a small head with a long neck, both of which are rather thick, with balanced markings. He should have ears extremely close to the head and well separated. His eyes should be dark and elongated with prominent pupils: he should have a long muzzle and wide jaws, with a prominent forehead. The whiskers beneath his chin should be heavy and arch gracefully, as should the whiskers of his cheeks. He should be rather short in the forelegs, longer in the hind legs, because if he is so built, he is able to run uphill like a jack rabbit. They say that he will hardly be able to catch a rabbit running uphill unless he is short of foreleg and long of hindleg. He must have a long deep chest, broad at the point where it touches the ground (when he is reclining). He should have thick upper arms with straight forepaws, toes tight together so that when he walks, runs, or prances properly, no mud or anything else that might dirty them can enter. He should have an intelligent heart, be active, with a broad back and bone joints, and broad where the joints of his of upper hindlegs join the tail. The upper hindlegs should be long, thick, and strong muscles. He should have a dignified carriage, a narrow waist with a long strip of skin between the point where the upper hindlegs meet the body running all the



Caption: Deer-type, Rabbit and Fox, standing over water.
Title of Work: Kitab Na't al-hayawan (book of the characteristics of animals).
Shelfmark: Or. 2784
Author: Aristotle; ibn Bakhtishu'; (joint authorship)
Place and date of production: Middle East, 13th century
Credit: From the British Library archive

way to the chest with straight hindlegs. His rear shanks should be short and fine, but strong as wooden posts. It is not hateful for a female to have a long tail, but it is disliked in the male; the hair of both should be fine and soft for this indicates strength. Indeed, this feature is desirable in all predators whether birds or four-footed. Soft feathers in birds and soft fine coats in animals, especially old horses is a mark of soundness, Moreover, they say, a dog (he means Saluki) should put up a great resistance to leashes and chains. The rib should be no shorter than three fingers in length. They say that the black Salukis are best tolerant of cold and heat. The white Salukis are more agile if they have black eyes. The best mark of agility is the presence of dew claws on one or both shanks or on the tip of the tail (this is obviously some kind of transcribing error) They should be removed if they interfere with his running,

The best food for a Saluki is bread which has dried out. The water he drinks should be laced with a bit of oil for this is like feeding a horse straight turnips. It makes him run faster. The best food for fattening up a Saluki is cooked head and feet with the hair left on so long as the bones are not eaten. If he eats cooking butter (ghee) in the amount of three bowls two or three times, this will also fatten him. (By the way the author adds parenthetically, this same prescription make a youth out of an old man and gives him the ability to hunt, a good appearance, and strong bone.)

A poem on Salukis by the Arabian poet Abu Nawas from his collection of "chase poetry" This poem is from the 9th century Book of Animals by al-Jahiz.

"I picture a dog whose master's grandparents took joy in his grandsire.

For these folk, all good fortune derives from him and his master is as his slave.

This friend, closest since the days of his litter bed, sleeps with him and upon arising, covers him with his cloak.

Singular! With a white blazed forehead and hoofed forelegs,

He is an animal whose beautiful form delights the eye.

Oh! The beauty of his jaws, and the length of his cheekbone!

Fleet gazelles are strained to the limit by his chase,

He drinks a cup drawn from his prey.

A dog of a weave all its own."

Our thanks to SCOA , this was first printed in the SCOA Newsletter December 1977, Vol 3, No 4, without any changes or edits.



Source: Or. 2784, f.166v

Caption: Two hares eating berries.

Title of Work: Kitab Na't al-hayawan wa-mana' 'ihi (Animals and their Uses).

Shelfmark: Or. 2784

Author: Aristotle; ibn Bakhtishu'; (joint authorship); Ibn Bakhtishu

Place and date of production: Middle East, 13th century

Credit: From the British Library archive

HARE POPULATION REPORT

Observations by Seth Hall

I was asked by Mary Beth Rogers to compile a population report for the Blacktailed Jackrabbit *Lepus californicus* for 2023. I am speaking on this subject based on my own research output as a small mammal biologist on the Jornada Experimental Range here in southern NM, and with my own firsthand experience spending a great deal of time looking for them across southern NM, as well as accounts from friends in western Texas.

The most important context to keep in this topic today is the outbreak of RHDV-2 in 2020 that devastated lagomorph populations across North America, with southern NM being one of the hardest and earliest hit by this devastating disease. (<https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-health/rabbit-hemorrhagic-disease>)

RHDV-2 recovery has been slow with at least one known reoccurrence of the disease in winter 2022 that further knocked back populations throughout southern NM and west TX.



Black-tailed Jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*) range, with colonial borders added . Base map derived from [File:BlankMap-World.png](#). Distribution data from [IUCN Red List](#)



In reference to the Southwestern USA, particularly NM and west TX 2020-2022 were abysmal years for their population. There were slight bumps in the early parts of 2022 but by winter the population crashed again with the resurgence of RHDV-2. Now in winter 2023 we are facing another tough year. The population was recovering in spring, but a super El Nino weather pattern caused the hottest summer on record and far below average precipitation which hurt the young hare population and suppressed breeding that should have been prolific until late October. The rains came around September which allowed a small crop of young to be born but overall the population is still much lower than average. Areas that were already marginal are showing below average populations and areas that are preferred are bastion populations and are in land unfavorable to running dogs.

I have seen a slight uptick in the population in southern and southwestern NM compared to the nightmare times of 2020-22 but they are still tough to find with the average time to jump one hare being one hour of searching. I recommend only harvesting one hare in any outing to avoid harming an already fragile population unless you are in an area that is harboring greater numbers.

According to my friends in west TX the hare population is terrible, and they are spending much longer to find them then they have in the past, with areas around Lubbock north to Amarillo being absolutely loaded with artificially augmented hare populations.

It will be another disappointedly slow year for hare coursing this season in the Southwest USA so get your boots on and get ready to walk long distances. All we can do is hope for rain, and that genetic resistance against RHDV2 sweeps across the population.

Enjoy your hounds!





2023 Grand Course winner!

MBIF, FC ★ Trevor Sirius

SC, CGC, FCh, SGRC, SDRC, GCW



#1 AKC Lure Coursing
#1 Saluki Fast Cat
#1 All Breed NOTRA
#4 Fastest Dog

Owned and campaigned by Kirby Overcash, Maiden, NC



#1 LGRA 2022
#1 NOTRA 2022
#4 Saluki Fast Cat 2023

Melik Ahsalom Darchin Brindle SGRC, SORC, SC, BCAT

The D litter was bred by Kirby Overcash, Mina, and Mary Beth Rogers. They are loved and campaigned by Kirby.

Run Your Salukis!



#2 Saluki Fast Cat 2023

Melik Ahsalom Damoon GRC, ORC, SC, BCAT

DoubleTime's Sweet Basil x Melik Mina Brindle

FC Melik Ahsalom Daana

GRC, ORC, SC, BCAT, FCh



#2 AKC Lure Coursing 2023
#4 ASFA 2023



★ If you do the work
you can reap the rewards

The fact that most canine joint problems were caused by humans is an uncomfortable truth. Sadly, our ancestors didn't know that selecting dogs based on desirable traits like loyalty would eventually have a cost. In this case, the price was paid by dogs, who became the victims of a gradual accumulation of harmful genes. These include genes which code for hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, patellar luxation, and knee ligament injuries. The easiest way to deal with uncomfortable truths is to create an alternative (false) reality. A popular false reality is the myth that very restricted exercise during skeletal development lessens the impact of developmental joint diseases. Exercise advice in puppies has become confused by this myth. In this article, veterinary orthopedic specialist Mike Farrell summarizes the evidence linking joint damage with exercise in puppies.

AN UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTH

WHY AREN'T I TALLER?

I'm only 5'8". How much taller would I be if my parents had restricted my exercise when I was still growing? If they'd been a bit more careful, would I be a 6'6" centre for the Chicago Bulls instead of a diminutive veterinary surgeon? You don't need a genetics degree to spot the false dichotomy: My height has nothing to do with childhood exercise and everything to do with my family's genetic tendency to be short. If it's so obvious people can't outrun their genetic destiny, why do so many people believe dogs can?

In the early 1970s, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded clinical research into canine hip dysplasia. In a groundbreaking study, the NIH's veterinary team analyzed the effects of restricting exercise on puppies. They proved that crate-confined German shepherd dog puppies were less likely to develop hip dysplasia compared to unrestricted puppies. The NIH's study was published in *Veterinary Pathology* in 1975, and the authors attributed the protective effect of restriction to the use of excessively small cages. Their unfortunate puppies grew taller than the cages, forcing them to stand with a wide-based stance. Anyone familiar with the Ortolani test can appreciate the advantages conferred by a wide-based stance. Specifically, it improves hip congruity by rotating the femoral head into the acetabulum.

The NIH used their study to support the practice of fitting Pavlic harnesses to produce a hip-abducted posture in dysplastic children.

LONG DISTANCE RUNNING

The NIH study's authors could never have guessed that their work would form the basis for an unhealthy veterinary myth. Sadly, their genuine conclusion that hip abduction limits dysplasia gradually evolved into the fallacy that exercise restriction prevents hip dysplasia. Fast-forward to 1988. A team of Finnish researchers re-tested the NIH's hypothesis in dramatic fashion. In two studies, Beagle puppies ran for 5 days/week on a 15-degree incline treadmill. In the first study, they ran for 1 hour/day for 15 weeks. In the second study, they ran up to 40km/day for a year. How did their developing joints handle the strain of a daily marathon? Did their cartilage endure or did it crumble? When researchers microscopically analyzed articular cartilage, synovium and synovial fluid, all three appeared grossly normal. The only difference between the test group and control group was focal superficial cartilage matrix change. This lack of degeneration shouldn't surprise anyone. Human studies prove long-distance runners have a lower osteoarthritis risk than couch potatoes.



No caring veterinary surgeon would suggest puppies should be forced to run marathon distances. However, the awful experience endured by these experimental puppies should teach us valuable lessons. It's my task as a veterinary orthopedic specialist and dog lover to pass their message to the public.



BORN TO RUN

If laboratory data doesn't suit someone's personal beliefs, they can choose to ignore it. However, ignoring 750,000 years of evolution might pose a sterner test. Extensive genetic analyses prove that all domestic dogs originate from wolves. Wolf cubs are famous for their vigorous play and awe-inspiring endurance. In Winter, adult wolves usually bring the whole family on hunts. Some of the longest



recorded wolf migrations involve cubs. For instance, one radio-collared pack including an 8 week old cub travelled up to 32km per day. Despite myriad documented feats of wolf cub endurance, the vast veterinary database contains only a single case report of (non-clinical) hip dysplasia in an adult wolf. If exercise was the trigger, wolves wouldn't have survived for 750,000 years and domestic dogs wouldn't exist. This fact is both indisputable and difficult to ignore.

THE GUIDE DOG PARADOX

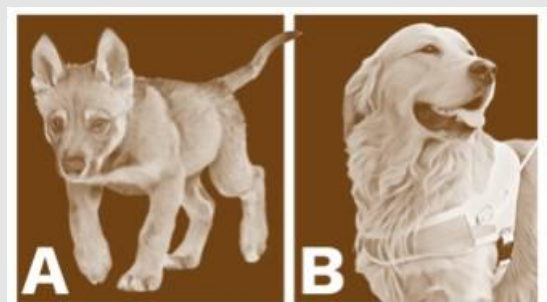
Evolutionary science isn't everyone's cup of tea. Sceptics can scoff while they highlight the obvious morphological differences between wolves and Chihuahuas. However, even a hardened sceptic would struggle to explain the guide dog paradox. While wolves teach us that running doesn't harm developing joints, guide dogs teach us that limiting exercise doesn't help.

According to popular opinion, guide dog puppies receive "ideal" exercise. In theory, a puppyhood of low-impact leash walks should protect their "vulnerable" joints. Unfortunately, the theory isn't supported by reality. The commonest reason for guide dog health withdrawal is musculoskeletal disorders. In 2016, it accounted for 28% of retirements. Historical guide dog hip dysplasia and elbow dysplasia prevalence is 20–30%. Cruciate ligament injuries are also common. Guide dog charities' success reducing joint disease prevalence owes everything to careful breeding and nothing to limited exercise.

MENTAL IMAGERY

Advocates of strict exercise restriction in puppies might try a little mental imagery. Here's how it works. Picture a pediatrician diagnosing your child with hip dysplasia. You're referred to a physiotherapist who explains the problem. Your daughter's dysplastic hips have weak primary stabilizers. They tell you her hip joint capsule isn't working properly, leaving her secondary stabilizers to pick up the slack. They explain that her overworked hip stabilizers form part of her core. Everything's making perfect sense.... until your daughter's physio suggests a program to weaken her core. Here it is:

1. Restrict exercise to 10 minutes of slow crawling three times daily.



The guide dog paradox: (A) Wolf cubs cover marathon distances without increasing their risk of joint disease (B) 'Ideal' exercise doesn't prevent one-third of guide dogs retiring because of musculoskeletal problems.

2. Feed the recommended amount for a normal child even though your child isn't allowed to exercise. This is an excellent way to promote obesity.
3. Ensure your daughter doesn't socialize with other children. Socializing is bad for hip dysplasia.

A caring owner should have no problem sniffing out the glaring flaws in this severely restrictive program. Even so, some veterinary professionals promote similar illogical and unsupported arguments. In the UK, dog owners are often subjected to the "5-minutes of exercise per month of age" fallacy. A well-informed veterinary professional who calls out the 5-minute myth should anticipate the following response: "It's a guideline created to discourage irresponsible exercise." At first glance, this answer might seem moderate and sensible. At second glance, it's anything but. This is a perfect example of what's termed a slippery slope fallacy. How would it sound if we applied the same argument to diet? For example, imagine a friend suggested feeding your dog one carrot per month of age. When you counter that a 100% carrot diet is unbalanced, this is what they might say: "It's only a guideline to stop you feeding grapes and chocolate." It might be easier to accept this guideline fallacy if exercise restriction was safe, but it isn't. We have published evidence that restricted puppies have a higher incidence of hip dysplasia. As an orthopedic specialist and dog lover, my professional advice is simple. Focus on keeping puppies lean and fit. Being lean decreases risk of hip dysplasia five-fold, so limiting body fat must be our priority. If puppies want to run and play, let them run and play. If they want to rest, let them rest.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

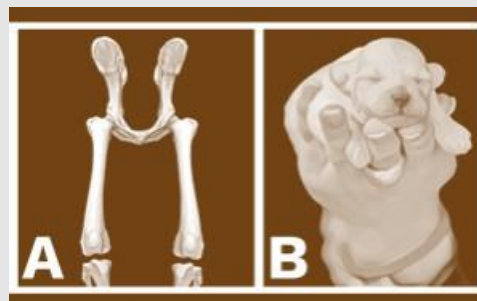
Mike Farrell graduated from the Royal Veterinary College in 1997 and completed internships at Bristol and Edinburgh Universities. He's worked in the UK and Australia as a general practitioner and in the USA and Switzerland as a veterinary anesthetist.

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A. Loose hips rely on a strong core to improve stability.

B. The classic false dichotomy: "This puppy has immature bone, therefore exercise causes inherited joint dysplasias."

A composite image featuring two black and white dogs, possibly Weimaraners, running through water. The image is heavily stylized with a teal and blue color palette. The background is a textured, swirling pattern of these colors. The dogs are positioned one above the other, both facing right. The dog in the foreground is more prominent, showing its black and white coat and a purple collar. The dog in the background is slightly faded. The entire image is decorated with numerous bright, starburst-like sparkles and a soft, hazy glow, giving it a dreamlike or magical appearance.

Yaadi is loved by Oksana Belova
and George and Mary Beth Rogers

Never a dull moment!

Our lovely, crazy, live life at 1000 mph girl!
Yaadi has both her Majors, has won a NOFCA
hunt, is not interested in Lure coursing, but is an
accomplished yoga instructor .
Watch out for kisses when you meet her!



Melik Rataki
Yaadegar e Bokan

Oksana Belova and Melik Salukis – mb.rogers.melik@gmail.com

Have you ever wondered what the ultimate consequence might be for interpreting a breed in a way that eliminates all but the nearly identical animals? Why would breeders do that?

Will There Be Salukis

Let's look at livestock breeders. What do they generally select for? Breeding identical cows—or sheep, chickens, pigs—makes economic sense for their industry because slaughterhouse equipment requires uniformly sized animals to facilitate profitable processing of their bodies. Since the slaughterhouse is their goal, selecting for uniformity makes sense—predictable types and quantities of meat. So they intentionally create uniform animals—a clear outgrowth of the industrial revolution.

A similar mentality prevails in the purebred pet industry when breeders' goals are the show ring. Dogs and cats bred for competition are often no less uniform than are cows bred for slaughter. And therein may lurk a minefield for future generations.

During the first half of the 20th century, westerners recognized the natural variation of types occurring in the hounds' countries of origin. Salukis are not a western-constructed breed, and the “standard” written by the foreigners who came into possession of the earliest specimens demonstrated wisdom and foresight. They accepted Salukis essentially the way individual hounds were presented or acquired, with no evidence indicating any intention to alter or “improve” the breed.



Sheikh Sukheil of the Zagrari Shammar in Iraq, Gertrude Bell photograph 1911. From the Gertrude Bell Archive (<https://gertrudebell.ncl.ac.uk/>)

In the 21st Century?

Following the breed's acceptance by western kennel clubs, salukis entered show ring



In the Negev in 1969. Photo courtesy Zafra Sirik

competition. From then on, breeders appear to have selected for uniformity, effectively stamping out many naturally occurring variations within the breed. The show ring and abruptly closed stud book provided the vehicle for ensuring this uniformity. It is as though an arbitrary decision determined that sufficient numbers of Salukis had been obtained for the show ring thus no more should be incorporated into western registries. What is the price of this decision for future generations of Salukis?

Predictability is at the root of “purebred” dog breeding. People have bred “purebreds” in order to produce dogs capable of functioning as tools in the real world, i.e., hunting, herding, security, and so forth. The needs of the working realm are distinct from the rewards of the show ring; a world of difference exists between functioning ability and pure aesthetic appeal.

How does a breeder select in order to produce winning show dogs? Limiting the genetic pool by excluding unpopular or unfamiliar lines is one way, i.e., bias. Breeding only to top winning show dogs is another way, i.e., preference. Either way, the result is the same; by virtue of an arbitrary decision, the genetic diversity of the breed decreases and inherited or breed-specific issues have

the potential to emerge. If the latter occurs, when is it too late to salvage the breed?



From the Kennel Encyclopedia, 1908.
Photo by Captain Prideaux

Protection from liability exposure and safeguarding economic investment are at the expense of the dogs and unsuspecting breeders. According to some breeders, genetic problems have been noted in specific lines. The only people who speak freely are those whose hounds have been affected adversely. What qualified agency has gathered research into the causes of Saluki

deaths based on data supplied by veterinarians? Does the parent club endeavor to disseminate this information as it is discovered?

A difficult scenario percolated for years before the American Quarter Horse industry addressed the “Impressive” syndrome. Approximately 20,000 Quarter Horses were known to be potentially afflicted with a heritable defect known as the Impressive Syndrome—not counting all the registered Paints, Pintos and Appaloosas, even Half Arabians descended from the source, a stallion named Impressive. The American Quarter

Horse Association stepped up to fund research which resulted in a test determining which horses carried the genetic defect, resulting in diminished numbers of horses bred from that lineage.

Who in scientific circles disputes the need for genetic conservation? How to go about it is the hot topic. Some scientists strive to conserve genetic resources by preserving “breeds” and/or sub-groups within breeds, i.e., the Wilbur-Cruce Spanish Colonial horses or the Babson Arabians. Endorsed by many preservationist horse breeders and some desert-bred Saluki breeders, the American Minor Breeds Conservancy (now known as the Livestock Conservancy—livestockconservancy.org) has provided leadership in this effort. Some scientists predominantly associated with the agricultural industry believe that desirable genes can be retained by mixing them into existing populations. They place the emphasis on useful genes and genetic variation rather than on specific breeds. This position would make sense to a person breeding beef cattle. Would purebred dog enthusiasts endorse this position? Arguments can be advanced. However, who has a crystal ball revealing what a future “useful” gene might be? By contrast, the leadership of the United States canine industry incorporated by the American Kennel Club (AKC), and the Saluki fancy stewarded by the Saluki Club of America (SCOA), appears to focus on dog shows attended exclusively by AKC registered dog populations—somewhat analogous to Nero fiddling while Rome burned. Who is minding the store?

Salukis are domestic animals that evolved millennia ago as a result of mankind’s needs or wants.



Photo from the collection of Wolfgang Wiggers.
Nomads in Iran, dated 1935, taken by an
Austrian dentist.

And, unlike their wild canid cousins, their current existence is dependent upon human whims and fashions, and their future is dependent upon the wisdom of today's breeders. Historically, people kept groups of domesticated animals distinct often due to geographic, cultural or political isolation. The concept of breed registration appears to have developed in 18th century England resulting from an early industrial revolution type of innovation associated with agribusiness. In the 19th and 20th centuries, with geographical barriers significantly eroding due to advances in transportation technology, livestock and pet industry registering agencies were created and employed to keep breeds of domesticated animals distinct from one another. Registries handily replaced geographical barriers until nationalist sentiments collided in World War I.



Elizabeth Al-Hazzam Dawsari with Brandi Bint Dawsari, born in Saudi Arabia in 1979.

The period between World War I and World War II is of great importance to the Salukis in particular. During that era, western powers carved up the defeated Ottoman Empire ignoring antagonisms based on local identities and tribalism. Salukis were caught in the fray. They belonged to indigenous Middle Eastern peoples who were (and still are, in many cases) looked down upon by their colonial conquerors. Judging from the political sentiments and prejudices of pre- and post-World War II, western studbooks were shut, ignoring or rejecting the Salukis remaining in their own native lands. So much for the wisdom and logic of previous generations of westerners.

What about the future? What about Saluki sub-groups, still geographically or politically isolated yet within the breed? As the 21st century approaches, scientists know that genetic information is critical for the continued health, perhaps even existence, of individual breeds and species. But why worry today about domesticated animals such as salukis, developed historically in response to needs, and now no longer essential for modern man's well-being? Domestication of animals

is perhaps one of the greatest contributions to civilization. To cause the extinction of any group of domestic animals makes no sense. Destruction, effectively accomplished by lack of preservation or conservation of healthy individual sub-groups, benefits nobody, by any stretch of the imagination.

What will protect Salukis of the 21st century and beyond? Some perils are on the horizon. So-called “lineages” are being lost because specific breeding populations are not being replaced as they age. Many desirable genetic traits are disappearing due to changes in popularity trends. Intensive inbreeding of certain populations has created the potential for heritable defects. Many Salukis are descended from closely related breeding programs.

High population levels could help to avoid certain genetic pitfalls, but as levels rise, people problems multiply. Throughout the nation animal rights activists are working to enact “animal control” legislation to spay and/or neuter, and prohibit or limit the breeding and keeping animals. Once again, domesticated animals fall victim to the whims of men. If the activists accomplish their goal, which the Humane Society of the US has stated is “Until There Are None,” then nobody has to worry about the future of the breed; there won't be any Salukis. We can become nostalgic reminiscing about the extinct Saluki, and wonder how it all happened on our watch while we were asleep at the switch.

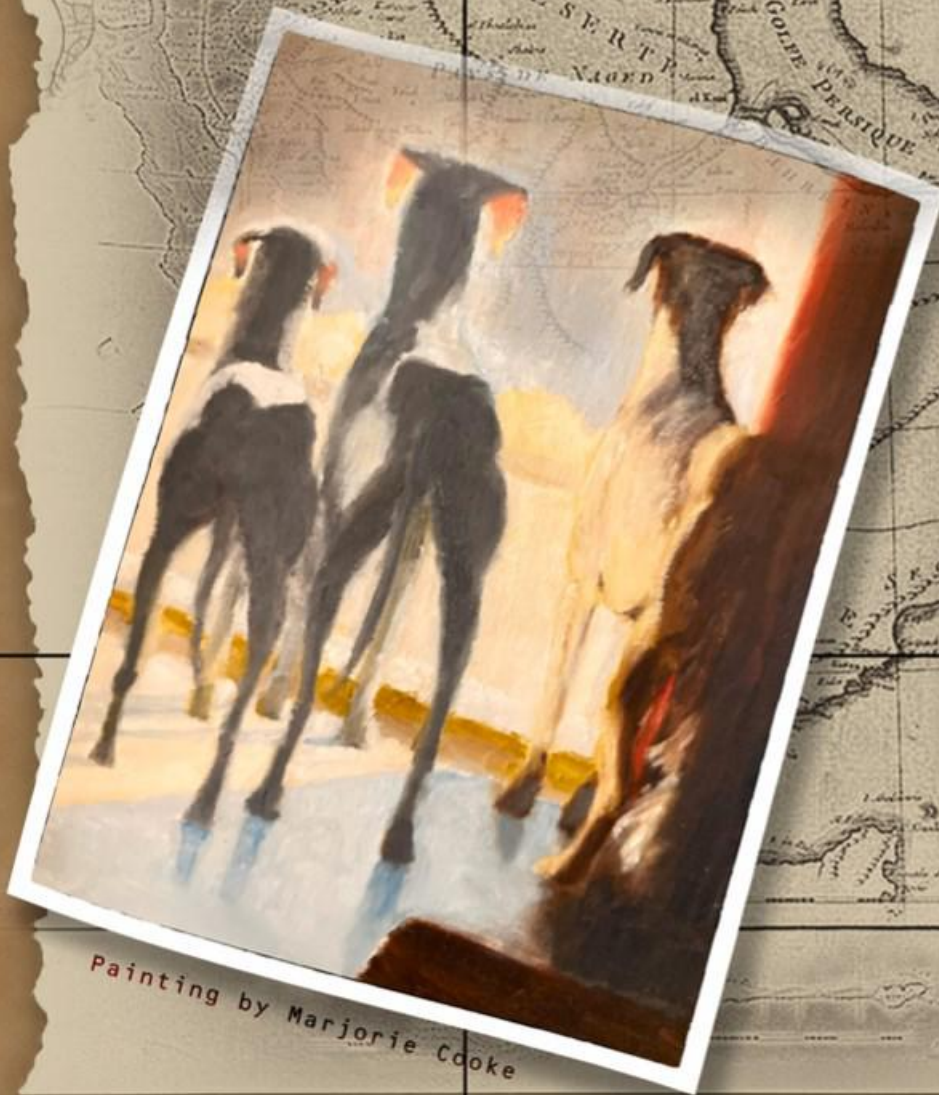
If you think saluki extinction can't or won't happen, think again.



CH Balabar Ulfric S'Tyana JC, Generation 3 descended from Turkish imports Tek Kulak Acik Goz and Tek Kulak Tazi Var. Bred by Monica and Tom Stoner.

Yamadan

Brad & Stephanie Gamble
Yamadan14@gmail.com



Painting by Marjorie Cooke

*Kullah of Urfa CC,CM,GCW

Turk

*Grand
Course
Winner*

©Maxine Levy

Pete

Melik Nazlee License to Kill at HawksView
500CC,CM, GCW2

*Grand
Course
Winner*

Kathleen Tigan and Karen Hoffman- Nevada

Carrying forward the legacy
of his father Turk and mother Pete-- BB...HUNTS

BB Apprentice!

Melik's Milagro of Urfa at HawksView



Kathleen Tigan - Nevada

Born in Iran

Two time
Pyramid Cup
Winner,
Second time
As a Veteran



Dam of a Dynasty!



* *Nazee* FCh,V-Fch

Bill and Susan Schroeder

Generation 3 AKC



Rataki Yaar-Jan at Ash-Shi'ra,
CGC, FCh

From Iran to AKC

Yaar-Jan shows his roots-

In the AKC Showring

In ASFA and LGRA

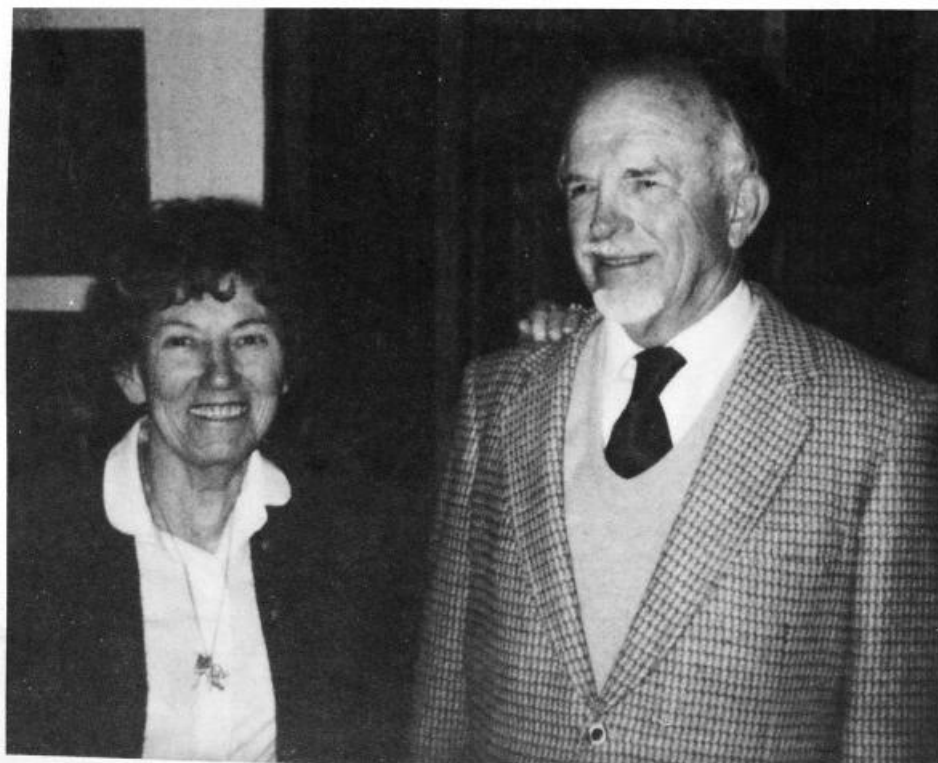
As a treasured companion
and superior squirrel killer



Yaar-Jan

Ash-Shi'ra

Saluki people



The Saluki Quarterly
Talks With
Carl and Kate Rodarty
Ventura, California

This interview was conducted at the home of the Rodartys on March 4, 1989 by Debby Rothman.

When did you first become interested in Salukis?

Kate: It was in 1950, while in Saudi Arabia, that we saw, for the first time, a Bedouin with a smooth Saluki. My husband and I were driving through the desert and he was taking pictures and we were very surprised to see the Bedouin. He had a herd of camels. Carl got out of the car, hoping he could take a picture of this fascinating man with his long pigtailed and native costume. He went up to him and asked him in Arabic, but he shook his head, and then he gave a whistle and we saw his hound come racing along. It was working around the camels, so he had it trained for herding. After he got his hound to sit near him, he then gave my husband permission to take the picture. He had two children as well which we have another picture of, but he was very proud of his hound. This was a Bedouin from the

Murrah tribe, which migrates along the Rub al Khali, which is the largest desert in Saudi Arabia. That's how we saw the first Saluki, and we both were impressed by this very beautiful hound.

I remembered my father in Germany had spoken about the Arabian windhound, but he said that you would never be able to get one, or to afford one; they were much too rare and expensive. Anyhow, the company did not allow us to keep hounds in the camp. We lived in an oil camp, so we had given up on ever having one, but we still remembered this beautiful hound because we had those impressive pictures.

Meanwhile, I had a child, our son. We had some chickens which were kept on this so-called hobby farm outside the company oil camp. One evening in 1955, we saw an American driving in with a couple of feathered Salukis. This was Mr. Tom Whitner. We stood and looked at this man and said, "How come you have Salukis? We are not allowed to have dogs." He told us that he had been invited to visit a Bedouin tribe and was given these Salukis. They were very beautiful. The female, Habiba, was a little bit larger than the male, Shaikh (both from Umm As-Sahik, Al Hasa Province); the female was red and the male was blonde.

They were very beautiful hounds. I asked if he was going to mate them. He looked at me and said, "Oh, one of these days, but then they all have to go to Florida where they will be used for Saluki racing." I had never heard of Saluki races, living in Saudi Arabia. I had no idea there were races going on in the States other than those for Greyhounds.

I looked at him, asking "Saluki racing?" He said, "Yes. If we get these puppies, they will all be shipped off." So time went by and his wife was there one day and said to me, "I guess I have to take Habiba into the oil camp." The bitch had disappeared and Mrs. Whitner said that she was going to have puppies. She kept her in the camp where she had smuggled her out, so to be there when those puppies would be born. After a month's time, the bitch came back with her puppies and I stood there every day, looking at them. There was a little female with a white mark on her forehead which I loved very much. I never could go inside the pen; they were snarling and barking and a lot of commotion went on when the food was brought in. I told the Whitners all the time that, if they ever wanted to sell a puppy, I would love that certain puppy. Mr. Whitner said, "Forget about it, Mrs. Rodarty; they are all going away to Florida." I tried to talk him into it but to no avail.

Then some time went by and we went out to the hobby farm; by this time we had gotten a donkey and two gazelles. Mr. Whitner was putting his dogs all in the car, as he had done before to take them for a run in the desert, but something was different. I wondered what was going on. He said that he was going to have to leave Saudi Arabia. He walked up to Carl and asked if we were still interested in the puppy. Carl said, "Yes, we sure love that puppy." So we got the puppy. The other dogs all went back to the Bedouin. He took them all back because he had to leave suddenly; because of this sudden dismissal from his job, he would not have the time to make arrangements to ship the dogs out.

There were a lot of preparations to make to ship dogs out then; it wasn't done very easily. We had no regular veterinarian; one was stationed in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, at the American air base. If you needed the veterinarian, you had to go there. Vaccine had to be flown in special. You had to call him up, then drive out there for about two hours. I had to take a taxi because women weren't allowed to drive in Saudi Arabia out of the camp area. There was the company bus, but it wouldn't get you to that air base, neither would dogs be allowed on it. You had to take a taxi, and you took your dogs and made arrangements and they got their injec-

tions, then they were fine.

This is how we got our first Saluki in 1955, Laila of Umm As-Sahik. She was beautiful, of perfect composition. She was a perfect little hound. She was feathered and her color was tan. We always wondered how we would get some puppies. With a bitch like that, living over there, we wanted to keep the lineage. Then we heard that Mrs. Eltiste, who lived in the Dammam, had a smooth Saluki, we drove out there to talk to her. We had Laila with us and she liked her.

In Saudi Arabia, they were breeding the smooth and the feathered together; they did not keep them separate, and they were doing it everywhere, in the different tribes. She agreed to the breeding, "That's fine; I don't mind. It's a beautiful little bitch." When the time came, beginning in December of 1959, we had her mated. Mrs. Esta Eltiste had a Bedouin taking care of it. She had them outside in a big fenced area. The male

was Chi of Nariya, a cream smooth. Mrs. Eltiste was training Arabs over there, really doing a big job. She had appointed a Bedouin to watch over the hounds so that they would mate properly.

Three days later, she called us and said, "Mohammed says it's all done, so you can pick her up again." (laughter) That's what we did. Laila had five puppies. We had to smuggle Laila in the camp also. She had them on the sofa in our bedroom; they were beautiful pups. They were mainly all smooth except Snowface, who had feathers on her tail, but the others were all smooth with only tiny feathering indicated on their tail tips.

Did you keep one of those?

Kate: Yes, we kept a beautiful tan male as well as a female. We took Snowface, Wahid and Laila, and brought all to the States in 1960. Mrs. Eltiste had the first choice since we used her male. She took Nejma (Nejma Bint Chi), a beautiful tan

smooth bitch, and Sheikh (Sheikh Bin Chi), a tan smooth dog. Little Saghira (Saghira Bint Chi), the smallest one, a red smooth bitch, was bought by an American, Mr. Helley, who had a smooth Saluki from the Murrah tribe. He had worked with the geophysical corps in the Rub al Khali, that is where he got his smooth Saluki. When he found out we had a few puppies, he came and got little Saghira. Later he lived in Pennsylvania; the Salukis went there where he had a farm.

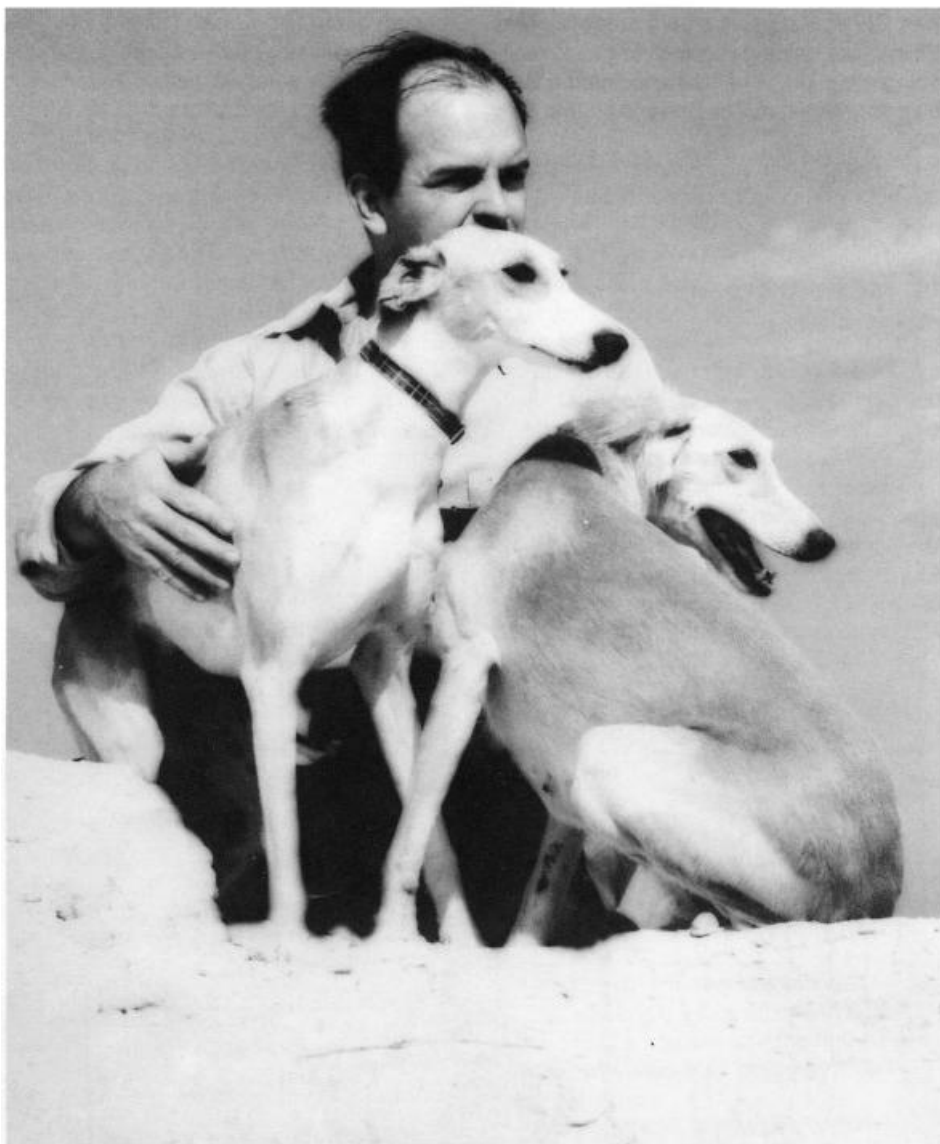
How long were you over there?

Carl: I was in Saudi Arabia for thirteen years and Kate was there for eleven. We left Saudi Arabia in 1961. At that time, we had shipped the dogs back to the States and Mrs. Esther Bliss Knapp had kept them for us until we could get a residence, then we came to California and had the dogs shipped to us there. She kept them for about two years.

Kate: In 1960, we brought the first three Salukis back. KLM was an excellent airline;



Leila and Bruce in Rastanura, Saudi Arabia.



Snowface Bint Chi and Laila of Umm As Sahik.

they shipped them all out. They flew them into Holland ahead of time where they were kenneled because we followed on our vacation trip. We saw them in Holland. Little Laila was taken to my sister in Germany and she stayed with her; the other two, Wahid and Snowface (whose name was Abyad, actually, but I called her Snowface in English) stayed in the kennel. After that, we took them on the liner, the S.S. Rotterdam, with us from Rotterdam to New York. We had quite a time.

Carl: They were well-traveled dogs. They had a first class kennel on the ship.

Kate: They took excellent care of these animals.

How long were you on board?

Kate: The first ship crossing we made in 1953 took seven days. The second in 1960

took five. It was very nice. Our first crossing was with our little boy, and that was a smaller ship. During the first trip, we had terrible weather and were seasick, except for our little Bruce; he was fine but everybody was sick on that boat. This second crossing was a more enjoyable one.

In New York, we rented a station wagon, and wondered what we were going to do with our Salukis. We didn't have good connections in the States, so it was difficult. After living in Saudi Arabia, we did not really know what was going on in the States with Salukis.

Carl: There wasn't too much going on with Salukis in the States, either.

Kate: No, but Esther was a breeder and had a kennel; she was very well-known and was the president of the Saluki Club of America (SCOA). When we visited a couple

of friends who had been in Saudi Arabia, the one in Pennsylvania, Hans Halley, had written to her already and had inquired about getting DB Salukis registered with the AKC. There was no possibility of this because the AKC didn't recognize them then or now-days either. Hans Halley had a fantastic pedigree on his DB Saluki from the Murrah tribe. Mrs. Eltiste's Chi of Nariya we had used for breeding Laila had an extensive pedigree that went back to the Sheiks of Bahrain and Kuwait. It was awful disappointing not to get them recognized here by the AKC.

Our Laila came from this certain Bedouin tribe. We had seen her parents and we knew very well they were purebred Salukis, but the good news was they could be shown. There was an indefinite listing privilege with the AKC at that time, so they could be put into the shows against the domestic-bred Salukis, which we did. Esther Bliss Knapp took our El Wahid Bin Chi for awhile and showed him in 1960. We signed a paper with him and she had the authority to show him, and she showed him against her own. After we had reached Saudi Arabia again, we got a letter, telling us that she took Wahid to the third show where he got four points. He received a total of seven points.

So did Mrs. Esther Eltiste; she took Nejma into the show all the time; she was a very beautiful hound and she became a champion with fifteen points, but that was it! One could at least take them into the show ring if one wished and show them then.

Carl: AKC changed the ruling on that in 1965.

Would the English kennel clubs allow them to be registered if you had a pedigree?

Carl: Yes. The British took them to England and got them recognized and the breed lines established, and other people also took them to Germany and in all of Europe, but the only way they would be recognized in America, they had to come from a country that had an established kennel club, and that was England or Europe. Fanciers then could import them to the States with their papers. From the Middle East countries, there were no recognized kennel clubs, and that was it. In Europe, they have a different system of recognizing a dog, too. They decide, by panel, if a dog has the qualifications as set forth by the FCI.

Kate: There are three judges and the dog is examined; if it has no papers, they compare them for their specifications. After that they can go into the show ring and compete against the others. This procedure is repeated at each following show but is slightly modified. The dog has to be found or

rated "excellent" or a "very good specimen."

Carl: That's what has happened with the other two hounds we have, we have the Sloughi from North Africa, and the Azawakh from Mali. They come from countries with no recognized kennel clubs other than the one in Morocco. They are different types of hounds. Europe has recognized these breeds and they have them in established shows. People in America import them from Europe with all their papers intact already showing three generation breeding. Then the AKC will look at them, but in the case of these two new breeds, they are the rare breed type of dog, so there isn't any established breed club yet.

Kate: The kennel club in Israel is recognized here by the AKC because it is registered with the FCI. Two imports from Israel that are registered here with the AKC came out of a three generation breeding over there, but otherwise, let's face it, people forget that all these hounds here have been imported. Their ancestors all came off the desert. Why is it so hard for them to understand that our own hounds, which do come straight off the desert, look differently? They are not as refined as what they are breeding now, but they still have the deep chest, a good body build and everything that you expect from a good Saluki. Many of these things don't exist here in the domestic breed anymore because people breed and breed. As long as it gets them into the show ring and perhaps becomes a winner, and gets their name into the papers, that is the main interest for them.

Carl: The gene pool here got pretty limited, too. Our parent club, the SCOA, had tried to get recognition of the desert bred with the AKC, but this doesn't seem to come about. It's been going on for about twelve years now. Various committees are formed; I've been the chairman of one for two years, and we have a listing of all the Saluki desert breeds and the people who have them. We've kept records on them; we've had fun matches and have done a lot of work on it. We are losing them because in the Middle East, the desert breeds don't exist much anymore; they are getting fewer. The Arabs don't use them for hunting. In Libya, you hardly see any Sloughi anymore. In Mali, the Azawakh have nearly vanished. In Saudi Arabia, they just don't have many Salukis anymore.

Kate: The Saudis are modern, except some of them who like to live the old way, but there is no more hunting, because the gazelles were already extinct when we lived there and that was what the hound was used for. It came about because of the modernization of the country. Ever since they discovered all the oil - let's face it - they have enormous amounts of money. Kings have



Son Bruce with Snowface Bint Chi and El Wahid Bin Chi.

tried to settle the Bedouins, but a real Bedouin is hard to settle. Still, the old ones die off and the young ones live differently. The Bedouin life-style is tough. We visited with them in their tents.

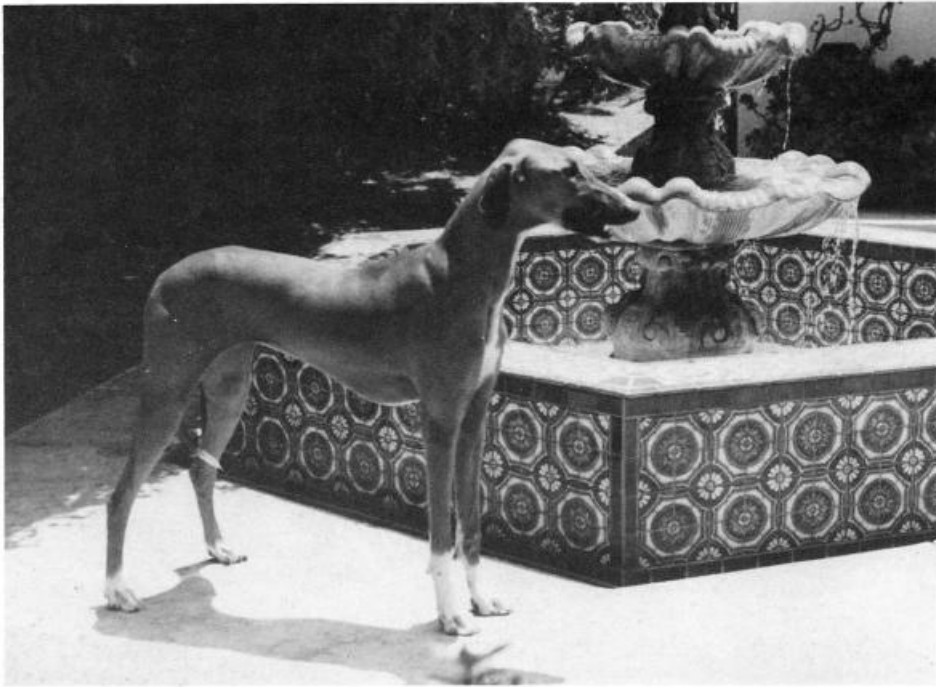
Carl: Later on, we got some other Salukis there directly from a Bedouin when

we went to his tent. We were thinking we were going to be leaving Saudi Arabia for good, so we tried to get some more Salukis before we left. Esther wanted us to do so.

Kate: She had told us to try to get some more if we could find any. She wanted a white one. I told her that I couldn't promise



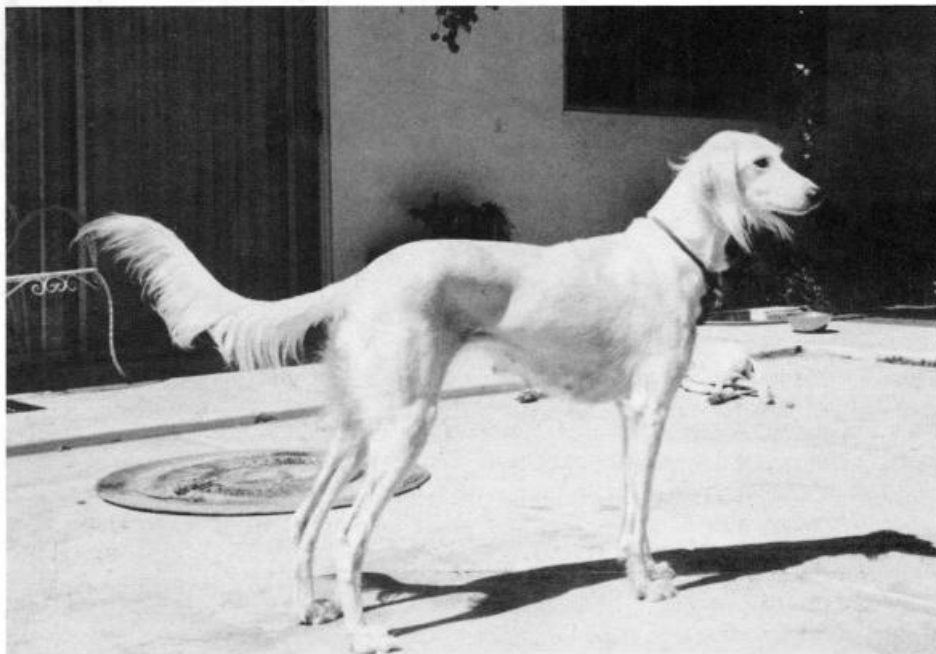
Chi of Jarija, 1958.



Azawakh, Reckendahl Isaac.

her anything. Perhaps we wouldn't even find a Bedouin! You have to look for them; they don't come to you, and then you have to be invited. You can't just go in any place without an invitation. The connection had to be established through another Bedouin who did all the talking and he had to ask if they

had any Salukis. This was also, again, a man who was herding his camels. After we'd gotten back from vacation, we wanted to get some more Salukis before we had to leave. We decided to take a drive to see if we could see some Salukis again, or something. We had to hire a taxi.



Amirah Khalid el Taif.

Carl: The company had really come down on us for having Salukis, even though we had the hounds out of their camp area. They wanted everybody to be the same. We had camps in Ras Tanura, Dhahran, and Abquaiq. Americans couldn't understand why we in Ras Tanura could have Salukis because they couldn't have them. Americans in Dhahran, the company headquarters, were complaining, and many Americans were upset because we had the native dogs. They had to leave their domestic dogs in America and so they were very upset that we had the Salukis, even though we had them away in our own private areas away from the camp.

Kate: We had them at the hobby farm. Horses and chickens were also kept there. We had a monkey, two gazelles and a donkey at the hobby farm as well.

Carl: Two years later after we had gone, the company did rescind their edict that there could be no dogs kept in company camps and they allowed people to bring their dogs from the States, but many people left their dogs behind at that time. Ours were very good pets and they were envious of us who had these hounds. Their children were born over there; they grew all the way up to high school age and never even knew what a dog was. They missed having the companionship of a dog in the family.

Kate: They didn't know anything about chickens, except we had them out on the hobby farm. Their parents would bring them out to show them our animals, and the Arabs came along with wives and children, too, and were looking at all the pets we had there. I grew up with pets and couldn't live in Saudi Arabia without having some animals around me. I had a cat first.

Carl: The Saluki is the only dog the Saudi Arabian Bedouin will consider having.

Kate: Not the oasis Arab; he's afraid of the dogs and didn't like any, but the Bedouin thought the Saluki was the noble hound.

Carl: The Saluki was the only dog he had, and mainly for hunting.

Kate: They had some guard dogs sometimes.

Carl: In relation to the Koran, they don't look at the other type of dogs as being clean.

Kate: The oasis Arab was an entirely different Arab. One couldn't even compare them. The Bedouin was very proud and loved his freedom.

Carl: He used the falcon and the Saluki for hunting, as well as his horse.

Kate: He had him trained. They were very proud of their beautiful and noble hounds.

Carl: A lot has been said about their breeding practices, the culling they did, too.

Kate: I don't know; I have never seen it. Maybe they didn't keep the whole litter. They put them out and kept maybe five. The woman took care of the animals, I knew that. They fed them milk, dates and leftovers. The bitch and the puppies were watched by the woman. The bitch, most of the time, dug a deep hole in the sand to give birth.

They had them in their tribes and gave them away as presents to their own friends, or if someone out of another tribe was around, they exchanged them. We knew that because the mother hound of the last two which we got from the Bedouins of the Beni Hajir tribe came from the Sheikh of Bahrain Island. In other words, puppies here were exchanged and that's how they kept their bloodlines refreshed. The sire of the litter was kept by another tribal member.

Carl: They kept good bloodlines despite their not having a kennel club. They had their own way of doing it. Their bloodline system was probably better than some we have going in America.

Kate: They knew exactly what they were doing, just as they did with their horses. The Bedouins were known horse breeders.

Carl: We went to Libya in 1962 and were there for eleven years. We took our Salukis with us and the Libyan knows the Sloughi, but he never saw feathered types. After World War II, the Sloughi in Africa practically disappeared. There were a few, so a few of the old Bedouins around would look at ours and see the similarity.

Kate: Yes, and that's the only word they knew; that was a Sloughi. You never heard Saluki. That was very interesting because we had two feathered Salukis from Saudi Arabia, and they never looked at them. They weren't interested in those, but the smooth ones, which were the offspring of Laila and Chi in Saudi Arabia, they'd say, "Oh, Sloughi!" They just saw their heads and no hairs on the ears. They were always very fascinated by them. They didn't notice the feathering. It looked as if they considered them as not purebred.

Carl: A few of the Libyans knew Sloughis and what they were looking for, and other Libyans wanted them but they could never find any. That same thing is going to be happening in Saudi Arabia with the Saluki; they won't have them in their country anymore.

Kate: They may have some, but they are going to be very rare. In the latest talk I had with Elizabeth Dawsari, her ex-husband was a Saudi who loves the Salukis, she told me that he was very upset because there are so few left. He is trying to establish a census of how many are still existing there. Losing them has to do with their life-style.



Bedouin Mohamed Mubarek al Beni Hajre with falcon on arm. Note the Saluki by the side of the tent.

Carl: In Saudi Arabia, they've lost the oryx.

Kate: The oryx became extinct.

Carl: They were brought to Arizona and California zoos and bred there; now they are shipping them back from these zoos to Saudi Arabia. We saw them at the hobby farm in Dhahran when we were there.

Kate: They were also in a zoo in Riyadh, the only two left in Saudi Arabia at that time when I was there with the women's club. They would hunt them from their jeeps and use fast guns; they shot them down. They didn't use the old style of hunting anymore. The old style was using a horse or a camel and two Salukis. That's the way they hunted gazelles, and I'm sure the oryx was hunted in similar fashion. Maybe they used more hounds, but now they don't have any more.

So you can see this same thing hap-

pening with their Sloughis?

Kate: Yes.

Carl: That had happened in North Africa.

Kate: From Saudi Arabia, it happened also that a bitch was sent over here lately and mated to a pure Saudi Arabian male and shipped back to have new blood there. Elizabeth Dawsari told me of this.

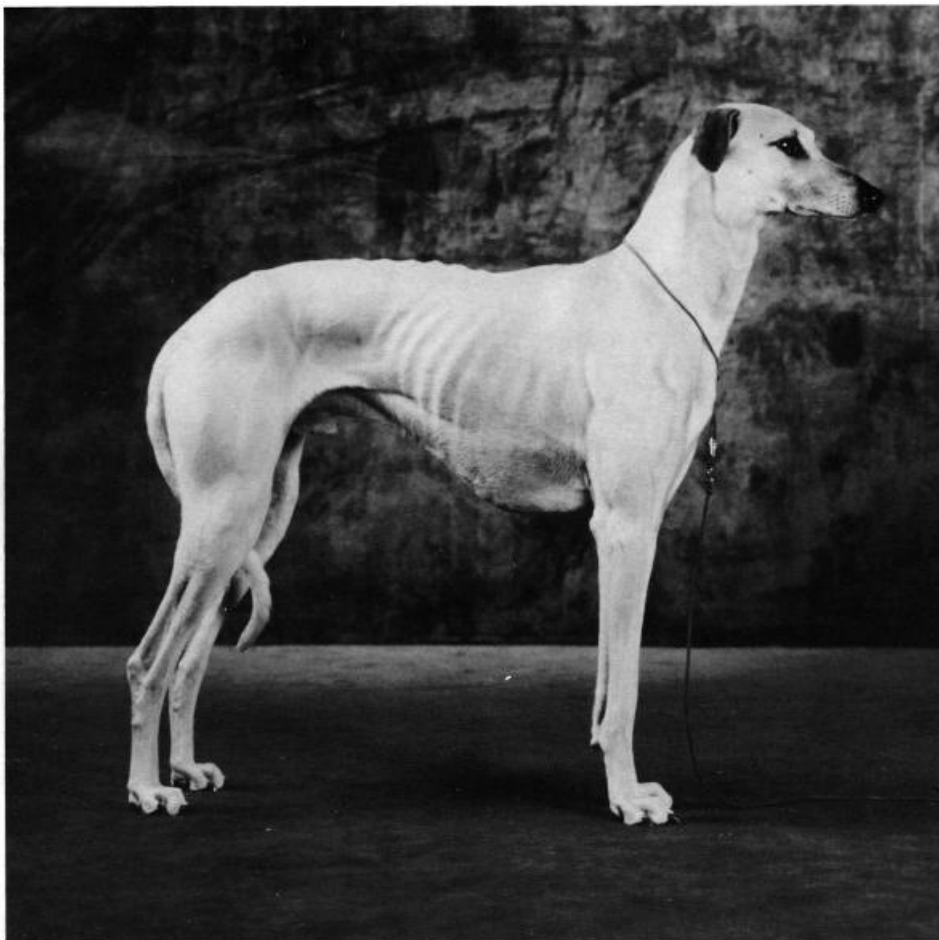
Carl: It's happening now, and with air transportation as it is, the Salukis are going from one country to another.

Kate: It's not as difficult anymore.

Carl: We brought them by boat! (laughter)

Kate: It took so much longer then.

Carl: You can go back. Kate has been looking into the history of the dogs a lot. Some of them had been brought over by the early sailing ships into Holland. The Sloughi



Sloughi, Fursan of Mumtaz-i-Javanadmi.

itself went way back.

Kate: Sloughis were brought into Holland in 1898 by an artist, a painter named Le Gras. He really established a new Sloughi breed in Holland. The French had previously had Sloughis because of the officers in the French colonies in North Africa. The French had occupied those countries and brought them back, but the exact dates and when this happened has not been established. Later, in Holland, it has been documented; from 1898, the Sloughis were brought back by Le Gras. In France, the famous general, Dumas, wrote five books about the Sahara during this time, from 1845 to 1869. He described the life of the Bedouins, the Sahara, the people and the horses as well as the Sloughis.

Carl: Sloughis go back centuries. There is a mummy in the Cairo museum. Many people have seen it and we've taken pictures of it, too. It goes back to the time of the pharaohs. There are inscriptions on the tomb walls as well about them.

Kate: There are many proofs of these hounds, especially in the Egyptian tombs on the murals or frescos.

Carl: It's a shame that they are now becoming extinct in their own countries.

You had taken your first three home. Then what did you do?

Kate: We made another shipment, the two which we got directly from the Bedouin. After we were invited into the tent, we saw three Salukis, the mother dog, which came from the Sheikh of Bahrain, and two young puppies of about six months of age at that time. One was very light-colored, very creamy and beautiful, and the other one was more tan, but they were both very beautiful puppies. We sat and looked at his puppies, wondering how we could get them. It was not easy. Carl started to chat with the Arabs there and all the clan that came. They wondered what we Americans wanted Salukis for.

It was during the first trip while we were talking that I was called away by the mother of Mohammed. With our driver, Carl did all the talking there, while the mother of the Bedouin had called me into her part of the tent. The wives were always separated from the men. I was invited in with them and had

tea and some nuts and dates. I had some cookies with me, because when you go out in the desert, you don't go without food. I put all the food out that I had and we had tea and visited. With the little Arabic I knew, smiling, pointing or indicating and so on, you'd be surprised how much one can talk.

Sitting with the women in their tent I was wondering what was going on. Our two children, Bruce and Laurie, and the son of the Bedouin were playing outside with the goats and lambs, which the Bedouin had running all around the area. Later on, I was called back there and Carl had gotten Shouwa, the tan hound, which was more of a reddish-golden color. I couldn't believe it, but that is the one they parted with. The other one, there was no way; the light-colored one they wouldn't even talk about.

Carl: They like the light colored ones best.

Kate: They didn't care for black, at least the Bedouins we knew. In Kuwait, they had some black Salukis, but in our area, you saw only the sand-colored or beige, tan and reddish. We never saw black for a long time except one that was brought around by a Bedouin to be given to one American, and the American didn't like it either. (laughter)

We got Shouwa. The Bedouin called them all Shouwa. There was Shouwa Umm, the mother, and the two young Shouwas. He walked us back to the taxi, which was some distance away. The Bedouin kept her all the way. He put Shouwa with us in the back of the taxi, sitting her on the floor. Shouwa had been purchased from the Bedouin for 120 Riyals.

I tried to pet her. She growled, so I left her alone. My two children were sitting with me in the back of the car and Carl was in front. On our way out, we got stuck in deep sand. We had to figure how to get this taxi out of this deep sand! The way it happened, Mohammed suddenly came around some bushes; he had followed the car alongside, on the other side of the sand dunes. He suddenly showed up and had a kind of a grin on his face. We were stuck in the sand again. He helped us to get the car out and we made it without any more difficulties.

We had to take Shouwa to the hobby farm. Meanwhile, Shouwa had climbed up on the seat and was sitting between my two children and myself. It looked as if she was comfortable with us. She didn't growl anymore but just sat there. We took her to the farm; it was pitch dark because it had gotten late. We left her there. That was an enormous pen with a high fence where the dog was put. We drove home. I had to get food for her since I didn't know I was going to find a Saluki! I took some corned beef and some

other meat and we drove back. It was nighttime. The refinery flare lit up the roadway and adjacent area well. We suddenly saw a dog crossing the road. Carl said that looked like the one we had just gotten. He hit the brakes, I took a good look and said, "How could she have climbed out? It was a very high fence." Luckily, I had taken my feeding pot with me and decided to see what would happen. I had to go down into the desert area. Sure enough, against the light of the refinery flare you could see her. I had asked the Bedouin before how to call her. He squatted down on the ground and said, "Ta'ala, Shouwa ta'al." Facing the refinery and her, I called her. She was quite a distance from me. I said, "Shouwa, ta'ala," and threw her a piece of meat, watching anxiously to see if she would eat it.

I had to do this all the way back to the place where we had kenneled her, about a mile or more away, in the darkness. I had to go all across the desert there, getting this dog to follow me. I'd throw a piece of meat, but she could have taken off. She would have found her own Bedouin tent, I'm sure. I was wondering if I could get this hound back to her new pen at the hobby farm. Carl was driving way out there on the road and I was going all across the desert alone. She followed me for the meat; she was hungry because the Bedouin hadn't fed her.

I walked into the pen and she followed me inside. I fed her and we were very worried that she would do this again. In this pen we had the big doghouse from our Laila, where she had been kept with her puppies. It was a beautiful pen. The next morning, after Carl left for work at seven, I called a taxi because I was very worried. I took food with me and went to the farm. There was our gazelle next to this pen; on the other side, another American kept imported chickens from Holland. I came to our pen where Shouwa was supposed to be, and no Shouwa. I stood there and started calling. The taxi driver had gotten out of the car and he said, "Here! Here!" I looked, and she was together with the gazelle. (laughter) She had climbed the fence as if it was a ladder. It was unbelievable, but she did not repeat her climbing out again.

Another day, I found her again with the gazelle. The Arab got all upset about it because she might kill her. No, she wouldn't kill her, and she didn't, but it was that she didn't want to be lonely. She could have gotten into that chicken pen on the other side and we would have had a bloody mess, but she never did. I never understood why she didn't go for the chickens. The gazelle probably reminded her of her mother who was red with a masked face, a very pretty

hound. She just wanted companionship. Later on, she didn't do it anymore, but the first few times, it was very scary and I worried about it. It was a wonder that we got her into the pen at all.

We still wanted to get the white Saluki. We made other trips out to the Bedouin tent and had quite a time. Carl went once all alone. These Bedouins got mad at each other because they didn't want Mohammed to sell this light-colored hound. He said he could not sell this hound unless he talked to all his relatives.

Carl: They made a special effort to see where the dogs were going. Two of the Arab women came to our house. They had their children and other tribal members, too.

Kate: We had the hounds already, but before you got the white one, that was not easy; they made it very difficult for Mohammed and had a big argument about it. I can remember this. They were really upset at the mere idea that he would give or sell this dog at all.

Carl: They were left without any puppies then.

Kate: Yes, and she was already trained to go hunting with the mother dog. That was the reason.

Did he finally sell it?

Carl: Yes. I had a rifle, and he got that, my donkey, as well as the gazelle. We made

a good trade in the end.

Kate: He also got some money. We all celebrated the conclusion of the deal with a feast in Mohammed's tent eating freshly killed sheep.

Carl: Sometimes Americans give the impression that they just find a desert dog somewhere, or that somebody has given it to them. You don't come by them that way that easily.

Kate: We went out into the desert because we were looking for Salukis. If we would have known this Bedouin for a long time, he probably would have given us a puppy if they had some, but in this case, we were approaching him.

Carl: We got the good lineages, too. They later gave us the lineage of the dogs.

Kate: The mother hound came from the Sheikh of Bahrain.

Carl: They are just as well-established as the Salukis that have gone to England and Europe.

Kate: Over there was no kennel club or FCI registration, that's why the AKC does not want to recognize them.

Carl: Except we had the desert bred matches when we came back to the States. We had matches and critiques, which is an ongoing process that has been going on with the Saluki Club of America and other Saluki clubs here. They have critiques of the desert



On board the USS Rotterdam.

bred and a competition. They maintained the registry. I had the book here; the last one was put out by Mrs. Eugenia Kissinger, listing all the desert bred Salukis, who owns them and so on, as well as what information we had on them. Some have been bred in the States into domestic stock. These are 100% desert breds and others are 50%, and so on, and these are in this registry listings with the breeders' names. She put this out in February of 1988.

This may be a very naive question, but why would they breed the two together?

Carl: They had the misconception that, if they could get three generations established, they could get an AKC registration and also improve the Saluki gene pool. They do the three-generation breedings for that purpose. They had been misled by some people who have had desert breds that they could do that and that it was forthcoming that the AKC would approve limited registration of these desert breds, but it hasn't come about. This has all been going on for the past twelve years. That is also how they establish it with the European imports. It has to be three generations bred in a kennel club in Europe before they are recognized here. If you bring one in that is only a two-generation breeding in Europe, it wouldn't be recognized in the States. That's why they thought they could do the same here to establish lines, but here in the States, they've taken the option to show them in Mexico. Desert breds, or the ones that have been bred with domestic stock in America, can be shown and receive their championships in Mexico. Through FCI, if you want to go into all those details.

Kate: Yes FCI, but that is the European kennel club or Fédération Cynologique Internationale. Everybody has to be registered with the FCI in Europe.

Carl: We are against it. We have only had the purebred desert breds, and others are also doing the same. Mrs. Elizabeth Dawsari is doing this and has an excellent DB Saluki lineage direct from Saudi Arabia where she once lived, too.

Kate: She has continued this purebred DB Saluki Lineages.

Carl: It makes a lot of difficulty if somebody gets an AKC Saluki that's been bred in with a desert bred; they can't get recognition with the AKC, so they end up with unwanted litters. Homes for them are difficult to find. There are a lot of problems. It's better just to be a purebred DB Saluki fancier. We have been, and we have other friends who have been such fanciers. We keep to ourselves, you know? You can't have the idea you are going to reproduce a lot of litters.

Kate: We just love them. I can care less if I can or cannot get them recognized. They are my pets and that's why I have them. On the other hand, if they could be recognized, it would be very good because these hounds are the same in origin as the other ones and they should be recognized and have the same privileges.

Carl: It's been the aim of the Saluki Club of America "to protect the breed," and to do this, I would say, would be to give them recognition, at least to the desert breds who were judged to be up to the standards of a good Saluki now. They just have not taken it on to recognize these hounds and they've lost a lot of good ones. Ours have disappeared; there is no more of this lineage anywhere.

Kate: Many bloodlines have been lost. **Do you have some now that are desert bred?**

Kate: We have one desert bred female, Amira Khalid el Taif; she is almost eight years old. We had our lineages and Amira was of a different lineage. The mother hound, Buni el Khalid, belongs to an Austrian consul, Mrs. Hella Naumann. She was transferred to America and was looking for a Saluki to mate with her bitch. She called Mrs. Esther Bliss Knapp; she had gotten her name when she walked her bitch on the beach. A young man walked up to her and talked about her hound and he gave her the name of the Saluki Club of America. Esther contacted them and told her to contact us because we were not far from her.

I got a call one day. It was Mrs. Hella Naumann, who said she had a Saluki from Saudi Arabia and she wanted to meet us. We got together and became friends. She mated Buni to a Saudi Arabian male hound import, Habib el Taif, and had a litter of twelve puppies. She was a professional woman. Since she was gone all day it was very difficult for her to take care of so many puppies. The litter was beautiful, and out of that litter we got our desert bred Amira Khalid el Taif. Hella still has two from that litter and is now in Zambia. The old mother hound just died last year. Hella came back here to visit her friends after all these years, we saw her last year. She is another admirer, wants desert breds and nothing else. She has the same liking for them that we have.

Carl: She is not involved in shows. She just likes the memories of her hounds and has them for pets.

Kate: She says that they have their purpose. They are bred for so many years, bred to perfection. She could not see why she should get anything else, or why people want to improve this breed the way they try to do all the time.

Carl: It's like the horse lineages; you only have a few of the original Arabian horses. It is the same with the Middle Eastern or DB Salukis.

If you are not able to have a desert bred, would you have a domestic bred Saluki?

Carl: We've known enough people who have had desert breds, and who still have them, that we can always get one or know where to get one. Since we lived in those countries and remember fondly our times there, we like to keep that connection. This is a personal deal, very sentimental for us, to have them. These hounds are the ones from where we lived and worked.

Can you explain your feelings about the three breeds you have?

Kate: For one thing, each one comes from a different country or area. The Saluki from Saudi Arabia, Sloughi from North Africa, and the Azawakh from Mali. The three breeds were used by the Arab tribes for hunting.

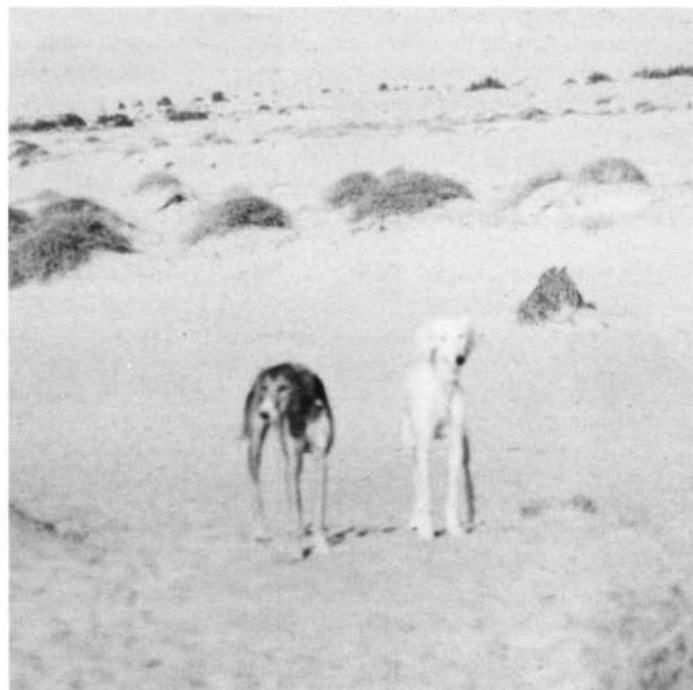
Carl: The most dainty and elegant hound is the Azawakh, from Mali, formerly strictly kept by the Touaregs only. Mali is a landlocked country in West Africa and lies in the Sahara. The Azawakhs come from the Nigerian plateau, Sahel and South Sahara.

Kate: Later on, they were found with other tribes. This was reported by German fanciers who traveled the area looking for Azawakhs. The Azawakhs in Mali were found in areas now that have been settled by farmers and are spread over a large area; they met some farmers that had one or two Azawakhs. It was a long time ago that the nomadic Touaregs had them all to themselves and the export was forbidden.

Carl: It was the same in Libya when we were there. Americans and Europeans didn't come across these hounds at all; they were owned just by the Libyan tribesmen, and they would only breed once every two years.

Kate: We only found out through our Italian veterinarian in Libya about these hounds, that there was a Bedouin with a Sloughi bitch. There was an Italian doctor who had a male with cropped ears. With the Sloughi, the ears are not normally cropped. The Italian estate owners over in Libya knew all about Sloughis, but there were none around, so when they learned about this Bedouin having a bitch on his estate, this doctor went with his male and they mated them. There were seven Sloughis born at that time. The Italians just grabbed them and later took them to Italy.

I found out about them through the veterinarian and Carl and I drove out there to see what they looked like. Since we had seen the smooth Saluki from Saudi Arabia,



In the desert in Saudi Arabia.

we wanted to see what the Sloughi looked like there. We saw Lodga and could see a big difference. It was great; she was beautiful, but not a smooth Saluki. Carl told me that we didn't need another puppy! I had a friend, Heather Van Duyvenbode, who was married to a Dutchman; she was originally from Scotland and had lived in the Middle East and had grown up there. She spoke Arabic and Italian fluently, so she always told me, "Kate, if you ever see or hear about Sloughis, let me know." I told her about this litter. They came to our house and we took them there and they bought a Sloughi puppy bitch, Little Jamila.

Heather came by again a week later and asked me, "Kate, do you want to go with me? I want to get the pedigree of this hound. The Bedouin must know the lineage." I told her okay and went along. It was a long drive to the Italian farm. There was this Bedouin and he had one little male left, but that little male had never gotten enough to eat. I guess the others had always pushed him to the side. I could tell he had rickets. He had that hound in his arms while he talked to Heather. I was waiting in the car and she was writing it all down.

Suddenly, I see him handing her the dog. She came to the car and said, "Oh, Floy is going to kill me when I come home with this dog!" I asked her what had happened. She had been told that they didn't have a home for it and it needed good care very badly. I

figured I'd take it and find a home for it. I asked how much money he wanted for it. It was 30 pounds. He always got that for his puppies, but I told her that we didn't know how long this puppy would live. Anyhow, I had this puppy on my lap and I took the puppy home to my house. I said to her, "We will look for a good home and I'll keep him as long as needed." Well, we never parted with the Sloughi again and we named him Tagiurie. Tagiurie turned out to be a very beautiful hound and we took him back to the States with us in 1973. We also took back with us the Saluki male we had, Ben Wahid. Both died in 1979. We had them buried at the Calabasas Pet Cemetery here in California. That place is very interesting.

Carl: There you can see it from the Ventura Freeway if you look toward the left side of the road as you go through Calabasas toward Los Angeles on Highway 101.

Kate: Ben was the last of our lineage from Saudi Arabia Saluki lineages that we had originally gotten direct from the Bedouin; his mother was Shouwa. His father was Wahid Ben Chi that we had bred from our original first Laila and Mrs. Eltiste's Chi of Nairiya. Ben was from a litter of five puppies born in Libya.

Carl: We had to leave Libya on short notice. We'd been there eleven years, but when Colonel Quaddafi started his "Cultural Revolution" in 1973, I got 48 hours notice to leave. I would have had to leave my wife

temporarily behind, so I decided after talking to the Libyan in charge of personnel (he had his eye on my rocking chair) that he'd get my rocking chair if he'd give me an extension of about another month, so I had more time to get everything in order and ship out the hounds, our household effects and everything else. I was ready to go anyway at that time. It was getting unpleasant in Libya to work and live.

Kate: Living conditions in Libya had changed and it wasn't very nice anymore.

Carl: We got our hounds, cat and the parrot (macaw) shipped out by air.

Kate: The parrot caused a big fuss; it was my pet, but because of the quarantine in the States on parrots it was difficult. We contacted Esther Knapp again. That was a blessing! She would have never said no to us. We sent a cable, asking her if she could take our hounds. She sent a cable back saying yes, anytime. She was always very helpful.

Carl: She was a great admirer of our desert breeds.

Kate: She called them all Salukis. She had our Tagiurie (Sloughi), but she called him a Saluki.

Carl: Even the one that was a brindle Sloughi she had from us, but she called him a Saluki. People have their minds made up that way.

Kate: That was the way she thought, but they are not the same breed. I don't



Laila with her puppies (at hobby farm) in Rastanura.

argue about it. The fact is they are established in Europe as their own breeds and that's the way they should stay. If people want one, they better make up their minds to call them Sloughis.

Carl: We do have an association for the Sloughis and one for the Azawakh hounds.

Kate: Yes, it was formed in February a year ago. The Sloughi association was formed in January a year ago, too.

Carl: So we have formed two associations here in the States.

Kate: This is very good to have initially done, now we can keep track of the owner of these hounds, and we can use our influence with the new owners, whoever buys puppies, although there aren't so many around.

Our Azawakh, Issar, came from the first litter of Azawakhs born in America, from the Reckendahl kennel of our friend Mrs. Gisela Cook-Schmidt. Gisela is very careful to whom she sells her Azawakhs because it is not easy to find good homes for them. Issar is not very easy to handle, as you saw. She is full of spirit. Our veterinarian says that she always reminds him of a filly.

Yes, she does.

Kate: She reminds me of our gazelle.

I thought of a deer while watching her.

Kate: We had a very small gazelle in our backyard in Libya. Issar jumps and moves around with beautiful movement, just like our little gazelle did.

Your Azawakh is so pretty.

back to 1984 by Mrs. Sue Baker. They tried to see the difference.

Kate: People who have been in Europe and have visited the shows know the difference. Don Wiedin, who has judged our National Saluki Specialty show, has spent a long time in England; most of his Salukis go back to the Mazuri kennel there. He has seen Sloughis there and knows the difference. He will talk for the Sloughis over here and not against them, but other people say that they are all the same.

I think the differences are obvious.

Kate: I'm glad you said that.

Carl: They show their own breed and let that be it.

Kate: They can be shown in Mexico, and if our little Issar gets over her panosteitis by two years, and we don't have any recurrence, we will be pretty lucky. I would love to take her to a show to compete against her brothers and sisters, just at fun matches. Her breeder saw her the other day after a year's time and was very surprised and impressed. She said, "Oh, she is very beautiful."

We went the other day to Paso Robles to visit Mrs. Ermine Moreau-Sipiere, a French lady who lives there who breeds Polish Arabian horses that originally came from Poland. She has an enormous stable; she is also a Saluki breeder. She has imported these from France. The latest additions are two brindle males. She had a brindle bitch

in their coats. I think they will change; some may have more brindle or they may have no brindle at all when they grow up, but they are beautiful puppies. She sells them. Ermine is president of our Sloughi Association. Her husband and her son are breeders of these thoroughbred Polish Arabians.

Carl: I've been back to the horse shows in Kentucky. Their stables in Paso Robles are very up-to-date. There is a special lab for the vet in the stable. TV cameras are installed in the stalls. It's a horse breeding farm. Limited partnerships are involved in its operations. The facilities were just recently built.

We do differ with Sloughi breeders who are developing the ear carriage that is close to the head. We are so used to ears that are double-folded and carried back.

Kate: There is a point. The ear carriage of a Sloughi is something the Europeans don't agree on. Way back in 1800, people had traveled through the Sahara in the North African countries of Morocco, Algiers, and Libya. They had seen Sloughis and they always said that the ears were double-folded and carried back; a rose ear, but they are larger than a Greyhound's ear. Then another traveler through the Sahara said that they had seen a brindle Sloughi with ears hanging close to the head, so that's where the argument had already started.

Carl: I think they are close to the head; our Sloughis never had them that way.

Kate: It's interesting. Many Dutch believe very strongly in the folded backward ear carriage.

Carl: I prefer the solid coat cream color type.

Kate: Yes, and no feathering on their coats, legs or tail whatsoever. The Sloughi's coat should be of solid color. No parti coloring or white marking, brindling, yes. The French, in their breeding programs, came up with the ear hanging close to the head, so they now have this written in the standard, "The ear should be hanging close to the head; laid back ear is allowed, but not advisable and not preferred." Still some Dutch breeders and judges don't agree.

Carl: There is a lot of pioneering going into this. Much of it deals with your ability to read French, German, and Dutch articles. There are three languages involved with these standards, and now English, so you can see if you are not bilingual, you are at a disadvantage.

Kate: The fact is, this has been well-studied in Europe, so they are not just saying that this is a Sloughi or a smooth Saluki or

and well-documented.

Carl: They are actually purebred hound strains and not mixtures of strains.

Kate: That is true. We don't want to get involved in these discussions or controversies further. We just love our three types of hounds and have them for ourselves to enjoy. You can clearly see the differences in size, head, ear carriage and how the tail is carried. The Azawakh's tail is kind of swung around and carried in an accentuated curve even when relaxed and this difference is very interesting to note. The Azawakh's hind legs are very stiff-looking and long in proportion to body length, the tuckup is enormously high, the chest most always is deep, and just like the artist's drawings. The breeds are not the same and nobody can try to tell me they are.

That is out of our own observations, let's face it. If we would not have had them, I couldn't say this, but if you have lived with these hounds, seen their differences and characteristics as well, besides their appearance, you would be sure, too. They are lovable, but it all takes a certain amount of time to train them. Even with a Saluki, in a whole litter of Salukis, each one has a different character, if you watch them as they grow up. They act differently; they are not all the same. This difference is in this breed. I have never had a domestically bred Saluki, but I have seen plenty of them. I don't like to see the Saluki breed going down the drain; their breeding habits here in the States are very sad.

Carl: That's right; they are losing sight of the best aims of this hound. They are a little more cognizant of the differences now that go toward the breeding of a good Saluki. When we first came back here to California in 1973 we were shocked to see people showing such bony and skinny hounds that had terrible form. Ones we had and those back East were entirely different. Old-time Saluki breeders were wondering what was happening with the breed.

Kate: The point is the proportions. You have to have the correct proportions and not any overangulation. The deep chest, the brisket down to the elbows has to be there for a good-looking up-to-standard hound. The body form should be fitting in a square and a straight, not round or sway, back. Sometimes the nose has this hump in it or looks like a Borzoi nose - that is impossible. One can see it. In the showing it is very apparent.

Are you active in any clubs?

Carl: We've been with the Saluki Club of America since 1960. I have been vice president of that club three years. I am a member of the Desert Bred Committee and have been chairman of that committee for

two years. Now I am going on my third year as the Regional Specialty Show Chairman. Two of the shows were held in Santa Barbara and now this year's has been changed to Lompoc, California. I've been back to our National Specialty in Lexington, Kentucky, for six out of eight of the annual shows. Kate has been back twice. We took our hounds back; we had a desert bred match in Kentucky once. I took our Sloughi back once so they could see the difference at a seminar. I was sitting right next to somebody who said they were the same breed and they hardly looked at the Sloughi or me. I had our Sloughi, Farhaan. Then certain persons did not want to recognize the difference with the Saluki and the Sloughi, but now many have changed their minds.



Amirah Khalid el Taif.

Kate: That's exactly what it is, some still don't want to see the differences.

Carl: They saw the differences because that was what the seminar at that time on the Sloughi, the Azawakh and the Saluki was aimed at doing. I've been on the nominating committee and acted as its chairman, the ethics committee, and the constitution or bylaws committee of the SCOA.

Kate: I was on a board of the SCOA for eight years. I got off this last year. That was quite a time.

Carl: Our national club has only one general membership meeting a year which is held in Lexington, Kentucky. At that time they also elect the new officers for the year and they have a board meeting following the

election with the new board members. It's all held in June. Normally the club doesn't have any special board meetings, only the one regular meeting that is held during our National Specialty.

Kate: They do it by correspondence, and they call you up sometimes if it's important, but that gets expensive, so we do it by mail.

Carl: It's a national club, and a lot of people seek membership in the club with the idea it's going to be like a local, regional club; they've been told that isn't the aim of it. It just can't function that way. I'm a member of the local Ventura Dog Fancier's Club; we have a representative to the AKC delegates. Every month, we have speeches and we put on a well-attended all breed dog show twice a year. That activity is on a local level; on the national level, it's mainly our national show in Kentucky, and then we have maybe three regionals, the Eastern, Midwest and the Western. The SCOA has a few other sponsored shows such as our Beverly Hills show in January.

Kate: They are put on by the parent club. The parent club is there to inform people who that are interested in the Saluki breed and have it for the first time. People who do not understand the purpose of the parent club just don't want to understand and say, "Why don't you put more shows on here? Why are the trophies not good?" Besides trophies we are having a humane purse arrangement. People donate money to both. Whoever comes in as Best of Breed gets this humane purse or \$250 and it goes to the humane society, animal shelter or veterinary college of their choice. This is a beautiful arrangement, and they want to do away with it because they are not satisfied with the trophies they are getting. To help an animal in distress is much more important than having a lot of silver trophies, but many members of the SCOA don't like it now; one cannot please everyone.

Carl: Especially the new people.

Kate: My impression is that the newcomers don't think of anyone but themselves. The idea of donating to the humane societies was founded by Mrs. Esther Knapp, our former president for over 40 years.

Carl: We do attend the Western Sight-hound Combined Specialties (WSCS) meeting once a month. Our Saluki Club of America is represented on that by Joan Aaron.

Kate: She is also the treasurer for the WSCS and her sister, Joyce Taddeo, is the secretary.

Carl: Since we are Saluki Club of America members, we attend because I'm involved with our SCOA Western Regional Specialty Show. I need to know what is

going on in regards to the show held in July each year. We don't have any voice in the voting or anything like that, but we just go. This year, we had quite a change because our Santa Barbara show date was going to be on July 28th, a Friday, and the Santa Barbara Kennel Club's date conflicted. We could not have Friday; we would have had that Thursday, and our WSCS said that was impossible. There were no overnight facilities for people to stay; they couldn't get the grounds set up properly and so on. The Lompoc Kennel Club offered their show grounds, so we are going to be there this year on the 28th. Also, all the WSCS Hound Groups, except Afghans, are going to be in Lompoc (that's the latest I've heard).

We have had quite an upsetting time here because people don't understand the reasons why the show got changed from Santa Barbara. They will be there on Friday for their show, and then on Saturday there is a Lompoc show, and on Sunday is the San Luis Obispo show, so there is a cluster of three shows there with excellent facilities for people to stay with their campers and so on. It's more reasonable for the show grounds rentals and everything is better. It's only about 45 more minutes of driving from Santa Barbara. The Santa Barbara show used to always be in conjunction with Lompoc, too, but now Santa Barbara has changed. They are having their all breed show the week prior, but it was after our arrangements had been made for Lompoc, so we could not be cancelling out on them to go to Santa Barbara now. Plus we've changed our show superintendent. That's all done with the WSCS, and I haven't really been involved, although I try to keep abreast of what's going on. Our parent club officers had to agree to the change, just as the other parent clubs have to agree for the change of their breed club, too, for Lompoc. It's been rather upsetting.

Kate: Yes, because people don't seem to want to understand why this change is taking place and they want it in Santa Barbara. That is a big name, but Lompoc is very pretty. It's a beautiful drive out there and it's very nice, so I don't understand all this grumbling going on.

Carl: Santa Barbara has a big name as a show site, but they've had a lot of difficulty with the grounds and other things, and with what's been going on there. There are other kennel clubs that are competitive and they want to put shows on in their areas, too. They try to get these shows in other places and different clusters are being developed so more people can attend, so they try to schedule it out. Even in 1990, we don't know where the SCOA show is going to be. Our

SCOA National is in June; after that comes the American Saluki Association's (ASA) national in the Long Beach area in June, then they want to change the date on the Beverly Hills show to have it earlier, and the Beverly Hills is going to be in conjunction with a group of other shows. We have got too many Saluki shows in one bunch.

Kate: If people want to show, they don't care; if they want to show their hounds, they go to these shows and many of them make it a big vacation trip because it's in the summer.

Carl: There are shows also going on in the Bay region at this same time. People even in our own club don't understand that we have to make arrangements for judges a year ahead of time. I'm show chairman for 1989; we have to worry about the activities for 1990.

Kate: That's right. The meetings at the WSCS can be so interesting, and I've invited friends several times, but when they complain about things being changed ...

Carl: Some say they are not being informed and even after being so continue to complain.

Kate: ... if they don't come, then it's their own fault that they don't know about it. They say it's not explained well-enough, and it's all unbelievable.

Carl: It makes for hard feelings among everybody.

Kate: It's beautiful in Lompoc, even the drive up there is nice. The whole area is good.

Carl: Actually in the summertime, it's cool there; even a fog in June and July.

Kate: It's cool, so we have to wear a sweater and everything in the morning. It is chilly in the morning.

Carl: I am the show chairman; usually with the details to attend to. I have to get to the show an hour before it starts to prepare everything - and I also take it down, with no



one helping except Joan, Joyce, Kate - that's about it. None of our SCOA people help; they just sit back.

Do you enjoy it?

Carl: We feel it's our responsibility, with the Salukis, that we do put a show on here and try to participate. We only wish that other members would participate, too. They've been invited; some of them will just stand back and criticize up and down, back and forth, but won't participate at all.

Kate: They have a big mouth. As I say, the trophies are not elaborate, but they are nice and most of the time are donated.

Carl: A lot of people don't realize that a lot of the expenses in the parent club are out of your own pocket. I've had a lot on the desert bred; Mrs. Eugenia Kissinger has had a lot also. It's unbelievable. I've had a lot with the mailings and printing things; it's all out of my pocket. They don't realize this. The national clubs usually have a pretty low membership fee; this does not cover anything except administrative expenses and the newsletter. They do, however, contribute toward the humane purse. People don't realize that we don't have big fundraisers.

Kate: We do it out of love for the dogs.

Carl: In Lexington, they hold a blind or silent auction and things like that, but there are more of them. At Lexington there are Saluki people only and they do get more activities going, yet the show in Santa Barbara has made more in net money than the one in Lexington. Here we have done that because of the volunteer efforts of the people putting it on and with the trophies they've given.

Kate: They haven't collected enormous amounts, which we can spend on trophies. I'm sure you are very well aware of that. They are mainly donated; the artists who present those trophies have made them themselves, and have not charged for them, but people seem to think that they are shabby trophies. That's terrible. I'm happy when I get a ribbon or a rosette. I don't need one of those enormous items to show off. They are dust catchers. They may be okay for Best of Breed, and it is a recognition for your hound, but on the other side, it satisfies the owner's ego.

Carl: We do have fun here with our Arab costume contests, which I've taken part in a few times. I put my Arab costume on and take the hounds along. I've had fun in Lexington. The first year I went there, I got in a Lexington newspaper along with the horse people, which was very surprising to all the Saluki people. We also have a desert fun match in Palm Springs and I got a first place in that one, too.

Kate: That's kind of fun.

Carl: We do have the original Arab costume, but you are competing with the Hollywood version, which is a little hard to do! (laughter) People who have been in the Middle East can recognize authentic Arab clothing. The others are wearing somebody's fantasy Arab costumes. One year we had a parade in Lexington with the horses, and the photographers took many pictures that day. They have also had a falcon demonstration, which was very interesting. The Lexington show has overnight camping facilities. Many participants spend their vacation time going back there. It's hard to get something as nice here in California because people just spend a weekend at the show and then go to another show the next weekend somewhere else. Back East, people don't go to as many shows as they do out here. The weather is so much better here, so they can go to a show every week-end year round.

Kate: However, they have a lot of shows back East, and then look at Westminster. I've never been there but I'd like to go. Somebody made a remark here the other day, that the Beverly Hills show was just as good as Westminster.

Carl: Yes; the size of the arena isn't what it looks like on TV I have been told. It looks good, but ours here is just as big and we can have show rings outside and in the Sports Arena at Beverly Hills.

A lot of your shows out here are becoming very prestigious, too.

Carl: Our officers in the Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association are well-experienced. Mr. Bergum has been our AKC representative now and he's been the president of the club, but he runs this show and it's a privilege working for him. I am more than glad to do anything I can to help him. If you have questions, just ask them; they know what goes on with the national breed clubs, too. They have a very strong dog fanciers club in Ventura.

Kate: Every club has their differences.

Carl: The show looks so nice when it's going on, but the preparation that the Beverly Hills people have to put in, or the Santa Barbara people as well, for running the show is something that people don't realize many times. Sometimes it doesn't go easily.

I don't know how you could manage it if you didn't have people who have had experience.

Carl: That's right. That's why we go to the WSCS meetings once per month, so we'll know what's going on here. Show planning and judge selection has to be made early.

Kate: They have a lot to discuss there; there is a speaker from all the different



hound clubs and that makes it very interesting.

Carl: During the time I've been show chairman for our SCOA Western Regional Specialty, you have to prepare for the show way ahead of time; you have to have the paperwork in and all the filings have to be done right. You need the experience of people who have done it; you can't start from scratch and decide to do it your way.

When I began, I was surprised at the deadlines for all this.

Kate: That's what people don't realize. You have to have all these papers in at a certain time; otherwise, you will miss out. There is no way to get a show off the ground if you don't have your papers in at such and such a time with the AKC.

Carl: We do a lot of judge sharing, too. Judges come from other parts of the country, or from Europe, and we share the expense with another breed club. That makes it very nice here. Through the WSCS, they know that working relationship as well, which helps; you just don't go and look blindly for a judge. They are very experienced people, and a lot of them are judges, too.

As a judge, you'd tend to put in the extra fine points as well that you've particularly liked.

Carl: We've found our WSCS meeting very nice to attend. There are judges of several hound breeds in attendance and they all know their business.

Carl: The other hound breed representatives in it are also very nice. There is one gentleman attending who is very interested

in our young Azawakh; he's been here twice to look at her. He has Italian Greyhounds himself. He really likes her, but she is a character! (laughter)

Carl: Our SCOA National Specialty has been held in other places besides Lexington, but Lexington is a fantastic place for it. Our people here don't realize it, but I know the people back there; I've been there six times and I know them, they know me. We do have people out here in our western part of the country that may be dealing over the phone with them or they may be writing, but you still don't have the personal contact which they really need. A lot of our parent club problems would have been eliminated if there had been more intermingling of the East and the West. We tend to think that we are the only ones out here, and they think they are the only ones back there, so it gets to be difficult.

Kate: There has been much more mingling recently.

Carl: Some of them came out to our shows and enjoyed them. I hope they are coming out again.

Kate: There hadn't been that many before, but last year there were quite a few.

Carl: At our National SCOA Specialty, a big show like Lexington, you are going to go there and run your Saluki around the ring a few times and that's about all you are going to get out of it because there is too much competition. There are at least 200 Salukis in the specialty, so when you get into those numbers, there is not much chance to win show points.

Kate: We are just outsiders, but who-

ever gets selected as Best of Breed, you can hear people say, "How can they select this kind of dog?" Nobody will ever be satisfied. You probably can never find a satisfied show person, except if you win. Everyone else is upset.

Carl: The people back there do enjoy it. They have lure coursing that they like; they have obedience plus a regular breed show. Then they have the Arab costume contest, the silent auction and the horse events to attend at the horse stables. The Egyptian Arabians are there, so they have a lot of events of interest there, even though the competition is beyond words.

Kate: You should be able to enjoy a show.

Carl: Some from California won't go back there because they can't win. They can win out here.

Kate: What can you do? That's the way the cookie crumbles. (laughter) Either you win or you have to be a happy loser. It is no good to sit there and moan and gripe. You can hear such talking sometimes while you sit on the side of the show ring. I'm sure you know about it. Some people may think we are not very involved because we only have a few hounds, but we do know about it. We lived there and visited the Bedouins; we saw the Salukis right on the spot, and how many people have done this? We had to take our chances in the way we did it.

Carl: We knew Americans who had been over there for 30 years, and in all that time they had never even seen a Saluki.

Kate: They couldn't understand why we

liked these hounds.

Carl: They have never seen them.

Kate: They asked us, "Why do you care about these dogs?" It's because we like them; they are beautiful. "I wouldn't be bothered with it; it's so much work!" and all this and that. My kids at least know what exists in this world; they have seen chickens laying their eggs; they have seen little chicks coming out of their eggs. They have seen cats giving birth, a dog giving birth. How would they ever have had an education like that otherwise? We lived in Saudi Arabia, and they never should have known much or been interested in animals if we hadn't had these pets. This is so important.

Carl: Some of the families there were unaware of all this.

Kate: That's what I mean. For recreation many stayed home and played bridge or partied.

Carl: In Saudi Arabia, we had our donkey, Abba, for the kids. That was a lot of fun. In Libya, we had two horses and our daughter, Laurie, shed tears many times when she had to leave her horse and go on vacation to the States. Having animals to care for is really something good for children to know about.

Kate: It does tie one down, let's face it. When we went on vacation, we had to have somebody in the house to take care of all these pets, but we were lucky because we always had very good people, and that is also another point. Before you leave your pets alone, you have to have somebody you can trust to stay at your house.

Carl: We always felt very secure where we lived because we had the hounds. In Libya, I went way out in the desert one time and Kate was by herself at home. They knew when they took somebody to the airport that the wife was still at home and they'd come and ring the bell at night.

Kate: One time when I was alone, somebody rang the doorbell at one o'clock in the morning, I could not risk anything without Carl and the children being there. We had not found anyone at that time that we could trust to care for our pets. I wondered if it was somebody from the company, or perhaps there had been a cable. That was a strange time for it to arrive!

Carl: We had cement walls around our villa and you couldn't see who was on the other side, ringing.

Kate: My dogs were already very alert. Three of them dashed out, two straight for the gate; we had electric gates and you could click them from the inside to open. I looked around the corner of the door and saw three men standing there with a Volkswagen. I didn't make any noise and kept everything

dark; the dogs were all there, barking like crazy. They got back into the car and drove off and that was it.

Carl: They used to go around, checking villas when the husbands were gone.

Kate: Often we were alone when our husbands were in the desert working in the oil fields and these guys knew it. They would come and try to get into the house.

Carl: In Libya, it was a peculiar situation. We lived in Tripoli, but the oil operations were about a three-hour plane flight into the desert. The men were out there for two weeks and the wives were at home alone. We were living in the country; we weren't in a company camp there like we were in Arabia.

Kate: Everybody was close together, all different nationalities. It was very nice actually. There was a Libyan village very close to us. There were little stores and you could buy your fresh vegetables and everything; I enjoyed it very much.

Carl: The hounds gave us a secure feeling. They even do it here at night in the house now. We have two in the back family room, one maybe sleeps in the dining room, and one is back with us. When they hear anything, even somebody driving up with a car and parking on the street in front of our house, they get very excited.

Kate: They know the whole neighborhood, the sounds of all the different cars and driveways. If a car drives up late at night that doesn't belong, they will give a bark. I know it isn't for me to worry, so I calm them down. They will bark when they hear a car and it's all right.

Carl: Here in Ventura we have a big social club in back of us, they are supposed to lock up their gate in the back at eleven p.m. If something goes on late at night there, if somebody is climbing over the fence, the hounds alert us to that. The caretaker hears our dogs and knows when something is wrong. He also has a dog.

Kate: The old male Sloughi, Farhaan, is the only one who will go through the flip door. None of the others will go through the doggy door. Amirah, our Saluki, will sit and wait and I have to open the door for her; she goes out of the sliding doors. She comes back in, goes on the sofa and sleeps. Farhaan is the guy who will go out and check it out for us. If he hears something here, he will bark.

Carl: They know when my car comes up the hill; they can hear it. They are very intelligent. They know when I put a certain pair of shoes on that I'm going out to the store.

Kate: When Carl's father was alive, he would get ready to go visit his father at a convalescent home every day at three



Carl with Ibn-Sloughi.

o'clock. When the closet doors were being moved and clothing was being changed, you could hear the dogs already starting to whine and fuss because they knew he was going and they wanted to go along.

Carl: They are smart; they know everything we are doing and also what's happening around here, so they do serve a purpose. They like to ride in the car at every opportunity, and I give them walks up the hill daily. They expect that, too; it gets to be a thing of habit, but it's good exercise. They need it as much as I do.

Kate: You can't let them run loose. Here in Ventura, that's impossible. When we were in Saudi Arabia, Carl would use the car and the dogs would race after the car and it worked beautifully. Afterward you'd open the car door and they would all jump in. It was the same in Libya. We had Italian friends who lived way out on a big estate. We drove through their fields; the dogs could run free and then we'd open the car door and they'd jump in. They had fantastic exercise. There is no place to do that here and I wouldn't dare to do so. Our little Isaar, our Azawakh, got loose the other day at the veterinarian's clinic and I just about had a heart attack. I covered my eyes and my ears; I thought I had lost her because she ran out on a three-lane highway. I heard a big truck's brakes shrieking.

Carl: We saw blue smoke coming up from the truck's braking. Isaar is so fast. She luckily escaped being hit.

Kate: She came back to us. I still can't believe we got her back unhurt.

Carl: She's now started on her second life. There are problems involved with hounds; if they get loose, they are gone so quickly as they like to run. There are many people who have lost their Salukis this way. A friend of ours shipped one from Libya to Tunisia; the Saluki escaped at the airport and really ran away before being caught. Kate can tell the story.

Kate: This was Akbar Bin Wahid out of the litter we had in Libya. It was a beautiful hound, really fully feathered. This litter was of both smooth and feathered hounds. This French lady had shipped her hound (six months of age) with her to Tunisia to visit her father; she was married to a Palestinian doctor. She arrived in Tunis and talked to the airport director whom she knew, then stood and waited for her hound to come through. He was in a crate. No hound or crate arrived. Suddenly a Tunisian comes and he's all shaky. She asked where her hound was and he talked to the director and threw his arms up in the air and was very upset. He had opened the crate door; the hound jumped out, pushed him over, and ran. So she lost



Bruce with a Bedouin child in the tent of Beni Hajre.

her hound. Her father had connections with the radio stations in Tunisia, and every day they announced about this Saluki. They showed pictures on TV. After about eight days, one of the farmers who lived near the airport reported to her that every morning about five o'clock he could hear a hound near the airport. He knew the time and had watched this, but when he tried to get close, the animal disappeared. They made a stake-out, went to the airport; she stood in the middle of the field. Her husband had arrived meanwhile, with the son and daughter; each stood in different corners of the airport.

Then they waited. Sure enough, about 5:30 a.m., when it got light, they could see the silhouette of this dog standing at the side of the airport, way out there. There was very tall grass around the airport as she described it to me. She stood there and called, "Akbar, Akbar." The way he stood at attention, she knew he was listening, so she called again. Suddenly he started to race towards her. She was a petite person, but he came in full speed and put his paws on her shoulder; she grabbed him, closed her arms around him and they both fell on the cement and she fell flat on her back. She got her beloved Akbar back.

I visited with her later and saw Akbar. It was touching and you couldn't help but cry when you heard this story. It was a wonder to get this hound back like that, and he looked good. He had eaten wild animals.

Carl: These hounds are smart that way; they know how to survive.

Kate: That was one story. Talk about stories! We've had quite a few things happen to us. Akbar was so beautiful. At first she had wanted the smooth, Ben Wahid, but I kept him, then later on she decided on Akbar. We had Ben Wahid here and he died

here. They all loved this feathered hound. One gets very attached to animals.

There was an opossum out here one night and there was a big commotion. I asked our son, Bruce, to see what was the matter, and they had this thing cornered here by the big fence. It was Farhaan and Amirah. I told Bruce he had to help, so he went and pulled Amirah away, but Farhaan didn't give up, so I put the water hose on him and turned all the lights on and he ran away fast. The opossum doesn't like a lot of light at night; they are nocturnal. I put the water on him and made him soaking wet and he climbed up over the fence and disappeared.

We had a huge king snake going around in our backyard once. She was thirsty; it was during the very dry season. Again I turned the water on and she just slithered all through it and got all wet and then disappeared again. They have rattlesnakes here, too.

Carl: Some of our friends have had Salukis that have gotten bitten.

Kate: Skunks, from time to time ... (laughter) There are also wild foxes and lots of coyotes; one can hear them howling at night.

Carl: When it gets dry in Ventura, our hills burn a lot, so we've had an airplane come over and dump their chemicals right on top of the hill there, where there is a horse stable.

Kate: We've had fires come very close here.

Carl: They don't know how they start, but California is a terribly fire-prone place. There may be rain one week, but the next the weather turns warm and the Santa Anas come and we have fire conditions. As much as we would like to live where we could have more dogs in the country, you can't live in places that are going to burn. Here, I hope we have a chance.

We were supposed to leave Libya on a pretty quick notice once because of the Six-Day Middle-East War in 1967. We didn't leave; everybody was leaving but we stayed all behind. The Americans were all going to the air base and we stayed behind with our hounds and everything.

Kate: We had made all the arrangements for whatever happened. Mr. Gale was coming to the house to look after the animals and everything was arranged.

Carl: We had to leave that evening.

Kate: You were coming home and telling me that you had to take me to the U.S. Air Force military base. I looked at Carl ... you see, I lived through the war in Germany and we were bombed. I said to him, "Carl, if anybody wants to bomb the area, they will go bomb the air base, and I'm not going to any base!" I was going to stay in the house, close



Habiba el Beni Hajre by the tent.

my shutters, and stay inside, take care of my family and the animals. On the other hand, none of the Europeans were leaving. Only the Americans were all flown out, women and children first. At night, they stayed in barracks on that air base. This war lasted six days and there were still people staying there, being flown out. We stayed in our house and nobody bothered us. In fact, I went to my vet and he asked for some help. He said that so many Americans had left and their dogs were in their homes. He asked if I would help him to feed them all, so I went around and fed dogs for all these other people who had left.

Carl: When you are in a foreign country, you don't know when you will have to leave. You might have to leave fast and you have to take your dogs and kids along with you.

Kate: Some of these people had just run out. I don't know how one could do that.

Carl: They had phoned or cabled back and asked the vet to check on their dogs; they had already gone!

Kate: There was one dog that he didn't like because he was too aggressive; he asked me if I could handle him. I knew the people very well because they were good friends and I thought I knew their dog. I always had my Saluki with me and I drove around in a little Fiat and parked outside. There were police on horseback, checking on all these vacant homes. They were afraid they would be broken into. They knew that I was feeding these dogs that were left behind. This one was a Shepherd or Collie or something, very large with a lot of hair. I went in and called him. I had food for him to eat the first time I went there. We became friends at once and did fine. I don't know why the doctor was afraid of him, maybe just didn't like the appearance.

Carl: A lot of vets don't like to be bitten more than once or twice.

Kate: I did fine while going around and feeding the dogs. The Libyans didn't bother you unless you got caught in a big parade or demonstration. In Tripoli, they were march-

ing from time to time. If you could stay away from such areas, you didn't have any trouble. Where we lived, at times we did hear gun shots and could see black smoke from fires that demonstrators had set.

Carl: We lived outside of Tripoli about six miles, so it wasn't bad and we had police and soldier protection.

Kate: An American woman drove in to the market; she drove into Tripoli quite often. The Arabs can be very temperamental and excitable. We were all outsiders, foreigners, so sometimes they could be spiteful. This woman ran into one of these demonstrations. She had been to the meat market; they bring the meat carcasses fresh, and the man had dropped blood onto her car. She was driving through this demonstration and they saw this blood on her car, so they started chasing and yelling. She was quite scared. She had her daughters in the car and another woman with her because you always went together, never went alone there. She hadn't even known that there were blood

spots on her car!

That time when so many Americans had left, the next day my doorbell rang. There were several friends of mine from Europe who had been at the embassy. They were just checking to see if I was there and all right.

Carl: There were many exciting experiences we had during that short six-day war. Many persons were leaving in any way they could to get out. We had a very nice place to live and the hounds had a good place to run. We have these memories of how we lived in Libya.

Kate: We like that type of Saluki; that's what we had first and, to me, that is the real type, the original, and we are sticking to that.

Carl: In these other breeds, people go right to their championships practically the first year they have their Salukis.

Kate: Yes, if they grow tired of one breed, they go to another. I would never do that. We lost our hearts on Salukis, the original desert-bred Salukis, that is. We liked the original Saudi hounds. In Bahrain, the sheikh had very beautiful Salukis.

Carl: Bahrain Island is right next to Saudi Arabia. Now they have a causeway so that cars can drive over there.

Kate: You had to fly there by plane before. We got married in Bahrain April 7, 1950. I had flown out from England and Carl was already there. Then we had to go on a launch that took about four hours from Bahrain back to Saudi Arabia. By company bus we proceeded on to Ras Tanura where we lived in a company camp.

Carl: That was a port base, a refinery. Ras Tanura was where the Arabian-American Oil Company (ARAMCO) had their refinery and they were shipping the oil in tankers and so on.

Kate: On my first trip by bus in Saudi Arabia, I thought I would see many camels running in the desert.

Carl: Talk about culture shock - you really had it at first!

Kate: I said to Carl, "I don't see any camels!" I thought we'd see them all over the desert. There were flatlands and dunes, but not one camel. I was so upset. I said, "This is Saudi Arabia?" Carl belonged to the camera club there and he took many pictures. That's why I always wanted to go out there, to see if we could see something somewhere. We lived in a company camp which was in a very secluded area. That's why we went on those trips out in the desert and found that nice Bedouin.

Carl: They used to have thousands of Bedouins get together outside of Jubail. There were camels and everything there, but they have quit making that kind of migra-



Litter sired by Habib el Taif (left), out of Buni al Khalid.

tion long ago. The country has changed so much.

Kate: It is very modern now and everything is at the latest, except for the women. They still cannot drive.

Carl: Alcohol is not permitted either. Then they have to pray four times a day. They are very strict.

Kate: You didn't have to worry about being attacked or anything because they were very strict. If anybody would break into your home and rob you, they cut off the right hand first, and if the offense was repeated, then the foot. For murder or adultery they were beheaded. That was done on Fridays in front of the mosque when everybody was going to prayer. That is still the same; the law has not changed. The women dress fashionably, but if you went out, you had to wear your abeeya, that black cloak that they put on with a veil. They still don't have any male teachers for the girls except on the TV; they have female teachers. There are certain things that they will not change, but they go to study all over the U.S. There are quite a few Saudis in school. Our daughter was in school in Switzerland and there were also Saudi girls there. They study everything, and once they go back to Saudi Arabia, they have to put the veil on again. They are a strong people, especially the Bedouins. They were always very proud and free.

Carl: They like their feasts, too. They have the Rhamadan, which is when they fast for a month. Then after that, they kill the sheep and have some joyous times, celebrating their religious days.

Kate: During Rhamadan, they are not allowed to eat or drink during the day. They can't touch water or anything. Only during the night, they eat.

Carl: We lived near a mosque in Libya.

Kate: Every morning at five, we could hear the call to pray. My parrot had started to repeat that.

Carl: "Allah akbar!" (God is greatest.)

Kate: She could say it. She was very beautiful and very clever.

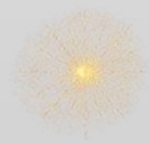
Carl: Our parrot was the only casualty that came back to the States, because when she came back here, she was a feather plucker. She resented the change. We lost her later on. She used to eat out of the mouth of one of our Salukis.

Kate: Yes, I have pictures of that.

Thanks a lot. This has been very interesting.

Kate: I'm glad you enjoyed it. It was practically half a lifetime.

Carl: Yes, it was quite different than tying yourself to breeding one hound to another hound and just keeping track of all the litters. •



Tal Al Arz Jasmine

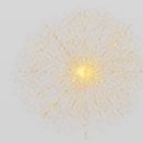


Preserving our
Country of
Origin
Heritage



El Riyah Azar Cassiel

Linda Deutsch Bangor, PA



Tal Al Arz Rebecca El Riyah



Tal Al Arz Rhythm El Riyah

Tal Al Arz Rapunzel El Riyah

Bred by Linda Deutsch and Stephanie Annee

Owned by Linda Deutsch

TaaDeutsch@yahoo.com



Melik Boorchin Owrang
Generation one Persian
✧Ghobad x
✧Qushabee of Boorchin

My Soleil . . .



Iti Be'Libi Tihit La'ad Ruah Midbar
Generation 2 Israeli/Persian
✧Ben-Hoor Silver Ruah Midbar x
El Riyah Rami Suhayla

♥♥♥ My Libi ♥




Nuraya Melik Avandeh Ravan Bacht
Generation 3 Persian/German (El Riad)

Hayal el Riad x Tabriz Bibak

Bred by Ravan Bacht

Martina Kissener/Heike Brauer

A composite image featuring three dogs in a vibrant, multi-colored field. In the foreground, a large, sleek, light-colored dog with a dark collar stands on a patch of grass. Behind it, another similar dog is visible. To the left, a smaller, tan-colored dog is captured in mid-leap. The background is a soft-focus field of colorful flowers in shades of purple, pink, and green. A large, irregular purple shape with a golden star pattern is overlaid on the left side of the image, serving as a backdrop for the text.

My ray of Sunshine,
Filled with Joy

Sweet tiny
Pocket Rocket

Cassandra Kraham - Paws of Enchantment - Silver Spring, Maryland

SCOA AND THE DESERT BRED SALUKI

As most of our readers know, this past summer four members of SCOA petitioned the SCOA Board of Directors questioning the SPDBS critique process. In the course of dealing with questions to the Society from the SCOA Board, it became apparent that our history and relationship to the AKC Saluki Parent club (SCOA) is not understood or appreciated. It is my hope that this article will put the relationship into perspective.

It needs to be understood that the Saluki has thrived for multiple millennia outside any registration or showing criteria. When the Saluki Club of America was formed, the Saluki was already an ancient breed, without any influences of our modern world. It is this basic truth that should need no explanations yet now seems to be relegated to a footnote of little to no importance.

In the beginning, 8000 years ago, our Saluki became such a perfect creature he would go forward through time relatively unchanged. His faultless form, keen eye, and unwavering focus were celebrated along the Silk Roads, so much so he was given as a rare gift, memorialized across all Silk Road cultures in art and poetry..... until 100 years ago.

The dog we know as Saluki has a very long timeline. He is not a human-created breed in the modern sense; he is the result of the perfection of *Form Follows Function*. The Saluki is exactly what he needs to be to do his job perfectly, and his job has never been to be an exhibition animal. He is a hunter. The Salukis we see in photos from 100 years ago are the same phenotypes bred the same way as many of the Country of Origin import Salukis the Society registers today.

Our Saluki today began his journey in the west about 150 years ago. Prosperity in Victorian England allowed the rise of a middle class. This was coupled with the European investment in Africa and increasing reliance on trade with Africa and the Near East including strategic needs based on commerce and transport through the Suez Canal, built in 1869. The ultimate effect had a momentous impact in England as well as in Europe.

Our focus is on how these economic and political changes affected the Saluki. Unlike the past, increasing prosperity meant dogs were no longer the exclusive purview of the aristocracy. By 1852 the Toy Dog Club in England had held its first dog show, in 1859 the Gun dog club held its first dog show, and by 1873 The Kennel Club had been organized to bring consistency to the new thriving “sport” of dog shows and trials. America was not that far behind. It was not until 1874 that the first of what we know as an organized dog show was held in the U.S., delayed by the Civil War and Reconstruction. As in England, this show was for Pointers and Setters. Four very successful shows and the first Field Trials were held in 1874 for Sporting Dogs. Ten years later the American Kennel Club was formed in 1884 for the same reasons as The Kennel Club in England: the need to bring uniformity and continuity to the new world of Registered Dogs, shows, trials, and judging.

The beginnings of the Saluki in England and his recognition as a breed by The Kennel Club are beautifully written by Brian Duggan in his book *Saluki*. It is well worth the time to not just read this book but to study and understand it. There are many areas of the Saluki’s homeland where the same experiences of the late 1800s and early 1900s remain available to the intrepid traveler today. The Salukis written about by Mr. Duggan still live in these areas just as they have for the last 8000 years, under the same selection pressures, doing the same job. These are the Salukis the Standard was written to describe; the same Salukis that were transported from their lands of birth to the United Kingdom and Europe, and the same Salukis all modern western registered Saluki descend from.

These are the Salukis of the Society for the Perpetuation of the Desert Bred Saluki.

The Kennel Club granted the Saluki breed status in 1923 and accepted the standard put forward, 265 words that still stand today here in the U.S. The Saluki was now well established in England and gaining in popularity. While the Saluki had been found in the United Kingdom as well as Europe for

centuries, this recognition was the initiation of the path we now walk.

Four years later the Saluki Club of America was given formal recognition in 1927. The Standard used was the standard developed in Britain in 1923. My personal feelings on this Standard are that it is a document developed based on personal experiences of military personnel and their families returning home after the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire. Most had been in the areas around Damascus, Syria and TransJordania (Palestine/Jordan) and most had experience hunting with Salukis. While a brief document, it is written to describe the working Saluki in his countries of origin and allows for the totality of regional differences normal within our breed. It does describe perfectly, in my opinion, a working Saluki. Once our AKC standard is understood, so too is the Saluki. *We are not a “cookie cutter” breed.*

It is doubtful the founders ever thought the day would come when the majority of Salukis in the west would be divorced from their countries of origin, or that the future of the Saluki in the Middle East would be in peril. Nor could they have anticipated the deleterious effects of a closed studbook much less that the studbook would ever be closed. In Britain, the studbook was not closed nor was it closed in the European system of FCI. At its inception the Saluki AKC studbook was also open to new imports from the birth countries of the breed. We should also be mindful that registries such as the AKC were a new concept for breeders.

From the outset, the SCOA was closely involved with, and supported Salukis imported from the Middle East. *There was no other choice.* Catherine and Carlene Kuhl have an excellent detailed history published in *The Saluqi, Coursing Hound of the East*, edited by Gail Goodman. On page 428 the Kuhl sisters detail the original imports.

To summarize, there are 28 original imports listed from 1926 to 1931. All came to the U.S. via the United Kingdom. Most were what we know today as Generation One Salukis. Of these 28 only 5 were unrelated to the remaining 23 whose origins were in Britain. Of those 5, only one comes forward into Founder status. (When a “Founder” is referred to it means that individual has had its genetic potential dispersed successfully through the western studbooks and has not become extinct.) Sadly, of these 28, only 11 have survived genetically, and the other 17 have gone extinct. I should emphasize - these kinds of individual Saluki genetic extinctions are found through ALL studbooks.

Post 1931 the COO import availability for fresh genetics decreased dramatically. In this period five Salukis were imported from the UK. Of these 5 only El Zolaro was a direct country of origin descendent as a Generation 2 son of Ali Baba of Iraq (Malik el Zobair (Iraq) x Hama of Homs (Syria)). The remaining 4 were either never bred or were now relatively far from their origins at Generation 3 and 4. This distinction matters as without the breeding criteria found in its origin countries; Salukis (as with any breed) change due to different selection parameters.

It was in this period that AKC permanently closed the AKC studbook to any dog with a less than 3 generation pedigree. AKC and Canada were alone in this policy. Britain and the FCI countries all maintained ways in which import dogs without complete 3 generation pedigrees could enter the studbooks and, in most cases, compete in the same events and on equal footing. While AKC closed the studbook, it allowed Indefinite Listing which meant it was not uncommon for Salukis to be shown and bred without AKC registration or bias.

1945 was the next time the AKC studbook saw an actual country of origin import Saluki. Mr. Aldrich came into possession of two Salukis who needed a home as their owner had a change of duty station. This was the pair of Salukis Abdul Farouk and Lady Yeled Sarona Ramullah both of whom were taken in by Mrs. Knapp, Pine Paddocks. Abdul Farouk completed his AKC Championship as a Listed, not registered dog. Mr. Aldrich worked hard with AKC to get Abdul Farouk, Lady Yeled and their progeny

entered into the Studbook and in 1950 AKC agreed that Ch. Abdul Farouk, Lady Yeled Sarona Ramullah, as well as the parents of Abdul Farouk (they were known), would be accepted into the AKC Studbook. However, even this crack in the studbook was based on progeny being accepted after three generations despite the Championship earned by Abdul Farouk.

For the next decades the only way to access imports from the Middle East was to import Generation 3 progeny from imports in Europe, principally England. SCOA breeders had no other option as AKC maintained a closed studbook. Those who tried the path used by Abdul Farouk and Lady Yeled saw their hopes dashed and their Salukis excluded when AKC tightened up ILP rules in 1965. The showing was no longer allowed for dogs with an ILP number nor could progeny ever be registered.

An example of this was the male El Wahid Bin Chi, who was born in Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia. His sire was a smooth male owned by the Eltiste's (Billa de Esta), his dam was a feathered bitch owned by the Rodartys. This boy arrived in the U.S. in June of 1960 and he and his sister were left in the care of Mrs. Knapp when the Rodartys returned to the Middle East. Mrs. Knapp promptly obtained an ILP number and showed him on July 17, 1960 in Painesville, Ohio where he earned a 4 point major. Wahid went with Rodartys in 1962 to Libya with seven points earned towards his AKC Championship and lived the rest of his life in Tripoli where he died in May of 1973.

The 2004 *Classic Saluki Annual* contains an exhaustive list compiled by Peter van Arkel. This Founder list is very enlightening regarding what was actually happening as far as Import breeding in the various western studbooks. Importing to the U.S., while easier today, was quite difficult meaning there was no easy access to European Salukis or vice versa. European studbooks continued to periodically incorporate new genetics yet were relatively unknown here in the U.S.

However, there was another major event that was becoming very important to Saluki breeding programs in the west, particularly to the AKC Saluki breeders.

To back up a bit in time, in 1932, after 30 years of conflict and conquest, the country of Saudi Arabia was formally founded by Ibn Saud uniting the four regions of what was known as Arabia. King Ibn Saud was very interested in the oil as a way to solidify his government. In 1933 an agreement was reached between the new country of Saudi Arabia and Standard Oil of California that would change the world. A subsidiary company, California Arabian Standard Oil Company (CASOC), was formed to manage the agreement, and by 1935 the exploration for oil began. 1938 saw the first commercial oil production. After WW II the petroleum boom was on. First known as the Arabian American Oil Company (until 1988), Aramco transformed the Arabian Peninsula as well as the world. Oil brought many Americans as well as Europeans to the Peninsula to live, many working within the oil industry as well as the diplomatic

Camels at the wells of Umm Gemagen, Arabia -

Frank G. Carpenter collection Photograph by Alois Musil. 1910
Frank and Frances Carpenter Collection (Library of Congress).



corps and defense industry. These communities also established European support offices as well as banking. UAE joined the oil boom in the '60s as did Qatar although Qatar was extracting oil in the late '40s. Petroleum not only changed the nomadic way of life throughout the region, but petroleum also ended the traditional Nomadic way of life. While the Peninsula benefited financially from its oil holdings as the region holds 60% of the world's oil reserves, its traditions and culture were irrevocably changed.

Oil changed foreign exposure to tribal Salukis. Salukis were now coming to the west as pets as those working in the region returned from long tours of duty in the Middle East. These were not breeders or hunters per se, these were people who met Salukis in their homelands and fell in love with a particular treasured companion.

SCOA was very aware of these Salukis.

Some of them found their way to the SCOA BOD as Harry Rymer was gifted Slim of Wadi Talith, Esther Knapp always had desert breeds in her kennel and maintained an open door policy at Pine Paddocks. Kate and Carl Rodarty both served on the Board of SCOA, and they had lived in the region. Major kennels with names that ring loud in our collective memories had both incorporated desert breeds and/or owned them after World War II. These kennels would include Bille de Esta, Montebello, Jen Araby, Pine Paddocks, Samarin, and Sedeki, to name a few. Like the Rodartys, the Eltistes (Billa de Esta) had lived in the Middle East as Bill Eltiste was an Engineer for Standard Oil.

By the beginning of the 1970's SCOA was continuing its support of desert breeds and Mrs. Knapp referenced them often in her Gazette writings. The changes in the AKC ILP program were now fully felt as entire kennels on both coasts ceased breeding because their Salukis had either never been registered with AKC or were not eligible to be registered as they did not have the needed three generation pedigree. Exclusion from AKC events, including the showring, was having a serious consequence.

This was the SCOA that Eugenia Kissinger found upon returning to the U.S. after her travels for the State department. The SPDBS Studbook contains a good amount of Eugenia's correspondence as she tried to obtain AKC registration for her Salukis that had enjoyed full FCI privileges throughout her travels and yet were not allowed to participate in the U.S. The foundation of Eugenia's family was not sequestered this way in England and Dorothy Lees was actively involved in the Saluki world in the UK. Mrs. Knapp was fully supportive of efforts to get AKC to change their rules on registering and knew Mr. Aldrich had succeeded with AKC by using the genetic diversity issue as our foundations were so limited, particularly since breeding within a closed book inevitably leads to genetic losses.

By this point SCOA was no longer a club based on Salukis from their homelands; it had become an entity based on dog shows and now long-established AKC and UK breeding practices. From the SPDBS viewpoint, the club was blessed with many who were not only familiar with the Saluki in the Middle East; they had direct experience with these Salukis. The SCOA 1976 Fall *Newsletter* has a wonderful retrospective penned by Kate Rodarty on their introduction to Salukis in Saudi Arabia, subsequent exporting, and incredible photos of their early Salukis dating back to 1950. However, Esther Knapp and our other founding members were no longer young members of SCOA. Many of the founding members who were familiar with desert breeds were now aging out of the club.

The 1976 issue of the SCOA *Newsletter* also contains the report that SCOA had officially formed a committee for obtaining a census of desert bred Salukis in the U.S. That committee seated Esther Knapp, Harry Rymer, Rodger Smith, Carl Rodarty and Eugenia Kissinger. This was the beginning of the SCOA effort to get AKC to open the Studbook to allow the re-introduction of the Saluki the Club was founded to preserve. It built on work started in 1974 with the fledgling Critique Program

developed by SCOA. The SCOA 1977 *Newsletter* tells us how important desert breeds were to the membership as the December issue has the candidate biographies for the 1978 election. Mrs. Knapp makes a point of noting her ownership of three desert breeds. Carl Rodarty was the nominee for Vice President, and he also emphasizes his desert bred program as does Board nominee Dr. Harry Rymer.

It would take another 2000 words to explore the next 13 years in the SCOA as the Club made two attempts to get AKC to agree to opening the studbook. That first attempt was in 1982, and it did succeed in showing the SCOA Board HOW the AKC Studbook might be opened, However, a reliance on the Newsletter to impart information, combined with telephone conversations was not a beneficial paradigm for the club to operate under. There continues a misunderstanding, including today, that SCOA was not in support of desert breeds. Records clearly show the club's continual support of desert breeds, and a great deal of sparse club resources, both financial and in club member time, were expended in the effort to get AKC to move. Both ballots, 1982 and 1989, had overwhelming member support despite personality conflicts. Both ballots did not achieve the required 2/3rds majority of the membership, however the 1989 vote showed the club clearly supported inclusion.

SCOA President Sandra Cody made the decision to disband the Desert Bred Committee in 1989 after the AKC made clear it was not interested in opening the Studbook although they were quite interested in the efforts SCOA had already made. The SCOA members who were the beginnings of what would formally become SPDBS were asked to take all the work already done by SCOA and start another effort outside SCOA. 1989 was also the year AKC closed another door to participation in AKC by desert bred Salukis as desexing was now required for participation in the ILP program. These actions directly led to the official formation of The Society for the Perpetuation of Desert Bred Salukis in 1990 as a Registry, and the start of SCOA's Desert Bred Education Committee and Exhibition. While the next decade's work was done outside of SCOA, the Exhibition provided a way to keep the results of the Desert Bred Program and SPDBS in front of the general Saluki fancy at the SCOA National Specialty Show.

While there were certainly misunderstandings along the way, personality conflicts, and misconceptions due to inefficient communication, it was this separation that found the path for SCOA and SPDBS to gain AKC support. SPDBS was incorporated as a non-profit organization while SCOA continued to host the Desert Bred Exhibitions. By 1993 SPDBS had a vibrant core group working together to build a viable, sustainable, internationally acceptable Domestic Registry. Herb Wells was exploring the already AKC-accepted National Greyhound Association, how it worked, and if it was a possible path for the Society. The SCOA Exhibition had become an annual event at the SCOA National Specialty and was highly regarded both in the U.S. and in FCI countries.

It was not long before SPDBS had found its "feet" and was able to come back to SCOA with a realistic proposal for AKC. The AKC BOD had also moved on and new Board members were no longer vested in maintaining a closed studbook as science was speaking loudly about genetic depletion and the dangers of the closed studbook model. As the Saluki fancy was dealing with our Desert Bred registration issues, the Basenji fancy had succeeded in getting its book opened for Basenjis imported from the Congo, and Dalmatian breeders were able to get the backcross project breedings to Pointers allowed back into the AKC Studbook.

A mere 10 years after the unsuccessful effort in SCOA, the SCOA Board was again presented with a possible path for Desert Bred Saluki inclusion. All of the needed pieces were in place, the Registry side was working very well, the community was working together, and there had been sufficient time to allow SCOA to recover needed perspective.

In November of 1999 the SCOA Board unanimously approved the motion to request recognition of the Society as an AKC Domestic Registry. The vote within the club resulted in 126 in favor of the Domestic Registry and 28 opposed. This exceeded the 2/3rds requirement stipulated by AKC. President Linda

Scanlon immediately contacted AKC and the next phase was now underway.

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to AKC Executive Secretary Jim Crowley as he worked with then President of SPDBS Elizabeth Dawsari, SCOA President Linda Scanlon, and our Delegate Don Adams. Mr. Crowley was specific in what was required and both SCOA and SPDBS worked together to get to AKC the needed documentation. The other pillar in this effort was Peter van Arkel and his work with Elizabeth on our SPDBS Studbook. Elizabeth and Peter spent hundreds of hours verifying pedigrees, removing Salukis that had incomplete files, and removing Salukis who were also registered with AKC as it was vital to not be perceived as being in competition with AKC for registrations. The Society does not register any Saluki beyond Generation 3. We are the Saluki Import Studbook for Salukis originating in a country of origin without a 3-generation pedigree. This does not mean to imply others were not part of this effort as the list of SCOA and SPDBS members who gave of their time to see this succeed is quite long.

Mr. Crowley contacted SCOA in April of 2001 with the concerns of AKC and specifically requested additional information before rendering any decision. Mr. Crowley and AKC's concerns about setting a new precedent were clear and the needed responses to his requests were turned over to SPDBS. The Society rose to this task with both written documentation as well as a formal presentation by the Society in the fall of 2001. (I will interject here this part should be made into a movie as the original meeting was scheduled for September 11, 2001, needless to say it did not happen and the Saluki Fancy lost Rodger Smith as he passed away only four days later, September 15, before the meeting was rescheduled.)

Succeed they did.

In January of 2002 the AKC Board of Directors voted to formally approve the Society for the Perpetuation of Desert Bred Salukis as an official AKC Domestic Registry for the registration of Country-of-Origin Salukis. The SCOA effort to embrace desert bred Salukis and give Saluki breeders the option of including these priceless genetic repositories was now complete. Thirty-seven years after AKC closed off our desert bred population, desert breds were again accessible to the fancy through the Import Studbook maintained by SPDBS.

As of this writing, the SPDBS Registry has recorded 874 CRN numbers although not all issued numbers have converted to completed registrations. 472 of those CRNs have been issued since the 2002 AKC acceptance. Since 1988, 146 individual Salukis from the SPDBS Studbook have been bred with 227 SPDBS Gen 3 Registrations. Since 2010 there have been 83 out of a possible 93 AKC Open Registrations (transitions to the AKC studbook).

Aside from the dry numbers, what the Society's Registry offers to the general fancy is the opportunity to incorporate Salukis only 3 generations or less from the original selection pressures that have made our treasured breed what he is today. Our Saluki Breeders now have the same access to country-of-origin genetics as Breeders did at the formation of our AKC Parent Club. We should take care to not only preserve this access, but to safeguard what has been achieved.

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Classic Saluki 2004 Annual

SCOA and SPDBS Correspondence with Jim Crowley

The ears of Cropped Salukis By Sir Terence Clark

Reprinted from the SPDBS Newsletter 2005

People seeing Syrian Salukis for the first time are always struck by the fact that so many have their ears cropped. Indeed some have even suggested unkindly that it must be done to disguise their faulty hang. However the existence of hounds with intact and perfectly normal ears easily gives the lie to such suggestions, so there has to be another explanation.

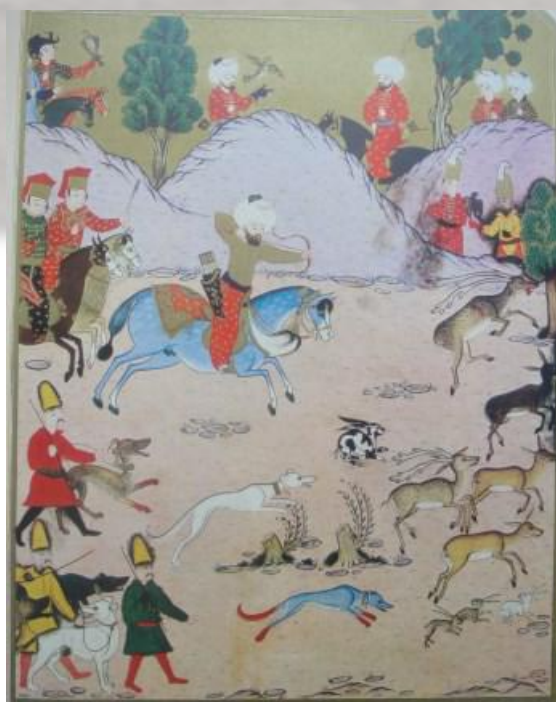


Tayra, Sir Terence Clark's smooth Saluki from Iraqi Kurdistan. ©Sir Terence Clark

Ear cropping is an old custom, which may even have its origins before Islam, when the ears of domestic animals were slit to show those which were not for slaughter. Certainly it was well established by the Middle Ages as can be seen in some miniatures of Persian or Ottoman nobles out hunting. In this example of the Ottoman Sultan Bayazid out hunting you can clearly see how the hounds' ears have been cropped quite short. With their hennaed feet they look exactly like the hounds of the Tai tribe that I saw near Qamishli.

However, one breeder in Hama gave a new slant on the practice. He assured me that only males had both ears cropped: whereas females had only one. Certainly I saw many examples to confirm this but by contrast I also saw examples of females with both ears cropped! So what is the truth of the matter?

Sultan Bayezid II hunting in vicinity of Filibe in 1483. From a folio housed in Topkapi Serail-Bibliothek, Topkapi Palace, Istanbul Turkiye



Black & tan Turkish dog. ©M Ratcliffe

It is difficult to get to the bottom of the practice of cropping, as different people give different explanations. Some say it is for speed; others say it is for beauty; yet others say it is to prevent damage when running through thorn bushes or in fights with other dogs, foxes or even wolves; and some say it is for alertness.

All these are perfectly plausible reasons but they do not explain satisfactorily why the cropping is often done so unevenly. Sometimes the ears appear crudely mutilated so that what remains sticks out at a twisted angle. Sometimes only the tips are cut off, while at other times the ear is cut back close to the skull. And, as mentioned, sometimes only one ear is cropped.

I suspect that the real reason has been lost in the mists of time and that today the breeders do it simply because it has always been done. They choose a particular style for no other reason than to distinguish their hounds from others, as a mark of identification. These stories are part of the local folklore that is handed down from one generation to the next and really should not be examined too closely. For whatever the original reason for these and other curious customs their existence today merely serves to illustrate the continuity of a relationship between man and these hounds that has endured for centuries.



Smooth Syrian Grizzle dog. ©Sir Terence Clark

Black & tan Turkish Bitch. ©MB Rogers



DEL'NESHIN



KAMAND

Mother Kamand at our Kennel Del'Neshin proudly present her Gen1 children with the greatest variety of colors and types. Parents: Mamnouna's Edschiras x Kamand.



Located In Germany

Ashurbani
Del'Neshin



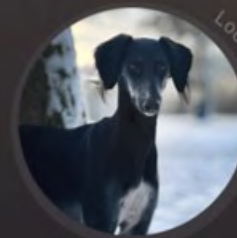
Located In Germany

Anoushak Azimi
Del'Neshin



Located In Germany

Andira
Del'Neshin



Located In Germany

Aishusha
Del'Neshin

KAMAND

import/iran

Allow me to introduce our Gen0 Saluki from Iran, named Kamand. Arriving in Germany in July 2021 in top condition, Kamand seamlessly became part of our pack. She is a confident and hunting-loving Saluki who knows exactly what she wants! "Always ready" is her motto, both figuratively and literally, as Kamand gives her all, even when overcoming fences. On one hand, she's a focused hunter, never missing prey; on the other, a playful spirit who enjoys some lighthearted fun, never shy of joining in.

Kamand took care of crucial formalities, including phenotyping for registration in the local breeding book as Gen0, breeding approval, and obtaining her racing and coursing licenses. Thus, her path for sports and breeding was fully paved in 2022.

During her exciting journey, Kamand met 'Mamnouna's Edschiras,' a sporty and characterful male from one of Germany's oldest kennels / bloodline. They instantly liked each other, and their commitment endures! Kamand whelped 8 puppies on May 2023 and her wholeheartedly embraced her role as a mother, convincing everyone with unconditional love and dedication to be a fantastic thoroughbred mom.

Now, her wonderful Gen1 offspring live with loving families. We enjoy witnessing their development and their happiness with their human companions.

Overall, we couldn't be happier that Kamand has enriched breeding in Germany, passing on her wonderful genes to her offspring in various countries.

Heart sono: 2023 = clear / NCL: free / SSADHD: free

Color reference: Ay/at, Kb/ky, Em/eg

S/S, B/B (2 different mutations tested)

D/D (2 different mutations tested), l/i

Date of Birth: 1 January 2020

Country of birth: Iran

Country of standing: Germany

Owner: Eva Milani

Del'Neshin Salukis Germany
Eva Milani & Janika Buchwald



Eva Milani & Kamand



Located in Czech Republic

Arosa az' Yildi
Del'Neshin



Located in Finland

Ahani Azimi
Del'Neshin



Located in Germany

Aylia
Del'Neshin



Located in Germany

Asmanjuni
Del'Neshin



Abraca de Diba of Boorchin (Imp Iran) x Qashani Kamila Hama (100% Syrian)

Bred by Micaela Lehtonen, Finland
 Email: qashani@gmail.com / WhatsApp: +35 841 4832630

Owned by Janika Buchwald, Germany
 Email: janikabuchwald@gmx.de / WhatsApp: +49 151 10729488

FCI registered with the DWZRV/VDH
German "breeding license"/Ankörung
Clear for NCL and SSADHD

Lure Coursing and Racing Licensee
Heart doppler as of May 2023 clear
Frozen semen is available

Bassam is comprehensively DNA-tested at MyDogDNA (genetic diversity, color genetics panel, genetic diseases panel). He has been my enthusiastic and reliable sports companion for years now, never giving it less than his all. Beyond that he's a wonderful character to have around, the solid bedrock of my pack and good as gold in any situation he finds himself in.



Photos by Eva Milani and Curtin Bengtsson. Ad by Vittoria Guvattia

DC Melik's Baanu-Abee e Sheyda Laa Yudaani

CGT
TRN
SK



Our Thanks to
Terence Wright
for breeding this litter
To Melik kennels
for sharing her with us
and to Ron Bigford
for piloting Abi.
Abi finished the year as
#3 lure coursing Saluki and
earned her AKC championship

Jan Isley and Carola Butler
Marietta, Georgia

Homozygosity mapping in the Kazakh national dog breed Tazy

Anastassiya Perfilyeva¹, Kira Beshpalova^{1,2✉}, Sergey Beshpalov³, Mamura Begmanova¹, Yelena Kuzovleva¹, Olga Vishnyakova⁴, Inna Nazarenko⁵, Gulnar Abylkassymova¹, Yuliya Perfilyeva⁶, Konstantin Plakhov⁷, Leyla Djansugurova¹ & Bakhytzhan Bekmanov^{1,2}

The Tazy is a breed of sighthound common in Kazakhstan. The identification of runs of homozygosity (ROH) is an informative approach to assessing the history and possible patterns of directional selection pressure. To our knowledge, the present study is the first to provide an overview of the ROH pattern in the Tazy dogs from a genome-wide perspective. The ROH of the Tazy was found to be mainly composed of shorter segments (1–2 Mb), accounting for approximately 67% of the total ROH. The estimated ROH-based inbreeding coefficients (F_{ROH}) ranged from 0.028 to 0.058 with a mean of 0.057. Five genomic regions under positive selection were identified on chromosomes 18, 22, and 25. The regions on chromosomes 18 and 22 may be breed specific, while the region on chromosome 22 overlaps with regions of hunting traits in other hunting dog breeds. Among the 12 candidate genes located in these regions, the gene CAB39L may be a candidate that affects running speed and endurance of the Tazy dog. Eight genes could belong to an evolutionarily conserved complex as they were clustered in a large protein network with strong linkages. The results may enable effective interventions when incorporated into conservation planning and selection of the Tazy breed.

The Tazy is a well-known national sighthound dog in Kazakhstan. Previously it was shown that it is a genetically divergent ancient dog breed with a strong position in the phylogenetic tree and a high level of genetic diversity¹. In recent years, it has become apparent that conventional breeding methods alone cannot lead to significant progress in this breed. Genetic research is required to improve the accuracy of the genomic evaluation of each dog and to make long-term genetic progress. In this regard, ROH analysis to estimate genome-wide inbreeding levels and selection signatures is a potential way to improve the efficiency and precision of conventional breeding.

ROH are defined as contiguous regions of the genome in which an individual is homozygous at different sites². The number and length of ROH reflect individual and population history. Long, contiguous ROH segments (over 10 Mb) indicate recent inbreeding about five generations ago. Short ROH segments reflect distant or ancient inbreeding, as recombination allows for the breakdown of segments over time. Distant inbreeding can be classified as inbreeding events that occurred between 50 and 12.5 generations ago when ROH lengths range from 1 to 4 Mb, respectively^{3–5}. The ability of ROH segments to provide information about genetic events in a population makes them a useful tool for studying the breeding process over time. In addition, ROH analysis provide useful information about genetic relatedness between individuals, helping to minimize inbreeding depression. It is known that the F_{ROH} is more accurate than inbreeding coefficient estimates from pedigree data in determining inbreeding effects⁶. Moreover, the F_{ROH} can be used to derive information about the degree of inbreeding when genealogical information is not available⁶. Finally, the extended blocks of homozygosity on a megabase scale appear to be best explained by selection, so studies using ROH may contribute to understanding the genetic basis of important traits or diseases⁷.

Since determining the extent of genomic inbreeding and patterns of selection pressure are fundamental to setting conservation and selection priorities, mapping of homozygosity has already been performed in Chinese

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indigenous dog breeds⁸, the Braque Français⁹, Bernese Mountain dogs¹⁰, Border Collie dogs¹¹, Bullmastiff dogs¹², German Shepherd¹³, and Livestock Guardian Dogs¹⁴. Using the ROH approach, variants involved in a number of morphological and behavioural traits have been identified in dog breeds⁷.

As far as we know, the ROH patterns in the Tazy have not been studied yet. The aim of this study was to analyze the genetic history and genome-wide signals of positive selection, as well as to evaluate genomic inbreeding in the Tazy dogs using a ROH approach.

Results

Characteristic of ROH. A total of 1699 ROH were identified in all 39 Tazy dogs (Supplementary Table S1). The ROH were predominantly short. In total, there were 1143 ROH of 1–2 Mb in length (67%), 306 ROH of 2–4 Mb (18%), 136 ROH of 4–8 Mb (8%), 67 ROH of 8–16 Mb (4%), and 47 ROH > 16 Mb (3%) (Fig. 1a). Short ROH of 1–2 Mb in length covered 1.62% of the genome, the largest proportion compared to the other groups (see Table 1). Overall, the proportion of the genome covered by ROH was 5.37%.

ROH were found on all chromosomes. A graphical representation of the mean length and frequency of ROH for each chromosome is shown in Fig. 1b and c, respectively. The longest ROH were observed on chromosome 27 (5.16 Mb) and the shortest on chromosome 19 (1.66 Mb). The highest number of ROH was detected on chromosome 1 (126 ROH) and the lowest on chromosome 38 (9 ROH). The number of ROH per dog ranged from 24 to 76, with an average number of ROH for the sample of 43.56 ± 12.31 . The relationship between ROH number per

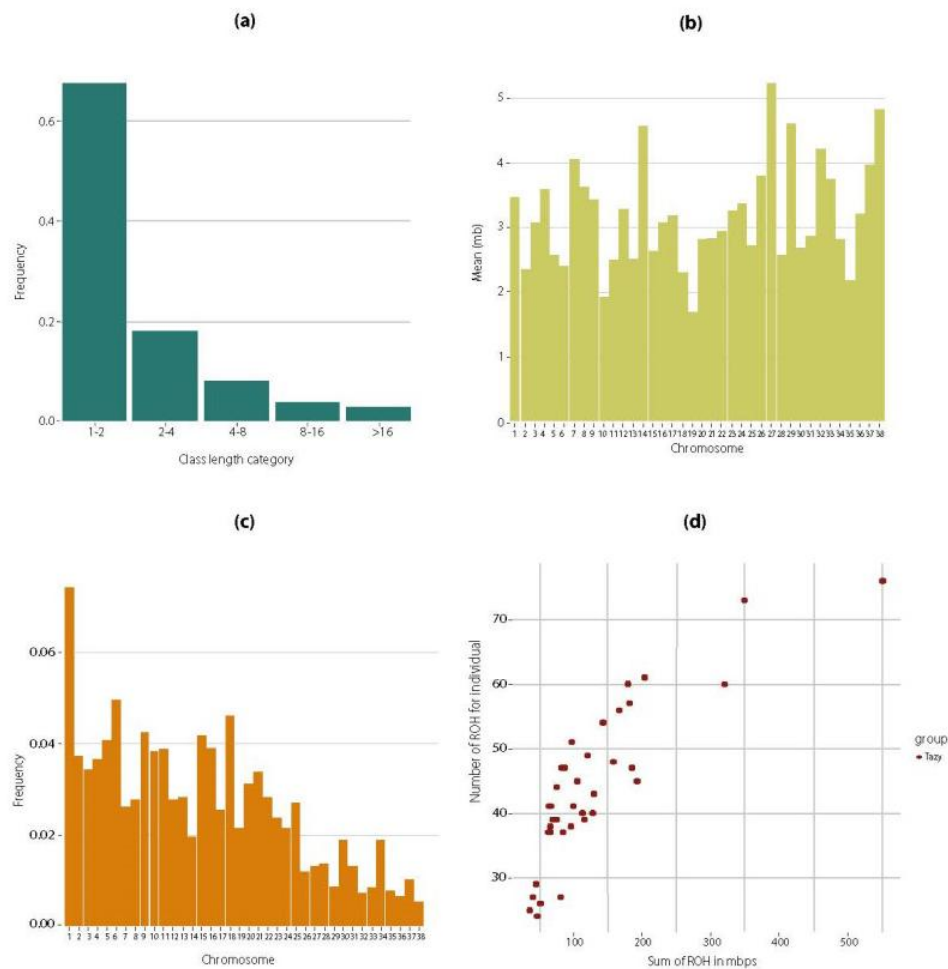


Figure 1. ROH characteristics: (a) Frequencies of ROH for each length class. (b) Mean length (Mb) of ROH for each chromosome. (c) Frequencies of ROH per chromosomes, (d) Relationship between ROH number per dog and total length of the genome covered by ROH. Each point stands for one dog.

dog and the total length of the genome covered by them is presented in Fig. 1d. Most individuals clustered near the coordinate origin, which could be due to the frequency of the shorter ROH. The six longest ROH (> 35 Mb) were found in three dogs: T17, T86, and T90 (see Supplementary Table S1).

The distribution of eROHi (extreme runs of homozygosity islands). The genomic distribution of overlapping ROH of the Tazy was inconsistent in length and position on chromosomes. Figure 2a shows the SNP occurrences in ROH across the genome. The highest chromosomal peaks were found on chromosomes 18, 22, and 25.

A total of five eROHi on these chromosomes were identified in at least 20 samples (see Table 2). The strongest pattern was observed on chromosome 18, where an overlapping ROH region was present in 27 Tazy dogs. To determine if the identified eROHi are breed specific for the Tazy, we found overlapping ROH regions for the closest relatives of the Tazy breed, the Saluki and the Afghan Hound. The genomic regions with the highest frequency of ROH were found on chromosomes 1, 6, 13, 19, 22, and 30 in the Afghan Hound and on chromosomes 1, 2, 4, 6, 15, 22, and 34 in the Saluki (Fig. 2b and c, respectively). The location and size of the identified eROHi in these two breeds can be found in Supplementary Table S2.

The functional relevance of eROHi of the Tazy. A total of 39 genes were present in the five eROHi of the Tazy (see Table 2), including 12 candidate genes with known functional significance (ZPBP, SPATA48, VWC2, KPNA3, EBPL, RCBTB1, SETDB2, CAB39L, CDADC1, MLNR, FNDC3A, and CYSLTR2). The annotation of these genes and the functional characteristics according to the categories GO and KEGG are shown in Supplementary Tables S3 and S4, respectively. Overall, they were found to be involved in 39 GO terms (14 biological processes, 15 cellular components, and 10 molecular functions) and 9 KEGG pathways. In the BP category, candidate genes were most enriched in the G protein-coupled receptor signaling pathway (GO:0,007,186), whereas in the CC category, candidate genes were most enriched in the cytoplasm (GO:0,005,737), plasma membrane (GO:0,005,886), and integral component of the membrane (GO:0,016,021). The most enriched molecular functions and KEGG pathways were associated with protein binding (GO:0,005,515), G protein-coupled receptor activity (GO:0,004,930), and interaction between neuroactive ligands and receptors (cfa04080), respectively.

Interestingly, eight genes, namely KPNA3, RCBTB1, SETDB2, CAB39L, CDADC1, MLNR, FNDC3A, and CYSLTR2 from the annotated genes were clustered in a large PPI network (Fig. 3) and showed significantly more interactions than expected (PPI enrichment p-value < 1.0e-16).

A total of 175 eROHi SNPs were mapped in five eROHi, of which 58 eROHi SNPs were found in candidate genes ZPBP, SPATA48, VWC2, KPNA3, EBPL, RCBTB1, SETDB2, CAB39L, CDADC1, MLNR, FNDC3A, and CYSLTR2. Most SNPs were mapped in intronic (49%) and intergenic positions (41%). The only SNP missense position (rs23023309) was found in the CAB39L gene. The detailed Ensembl VEP annotation of the eROHi SNPs is shown in Supplementary Table S5.

ROH-based inbreeding. F_{ROH} was estimated for each chromosome and dog. The highest mean F_{ROH} values were determined for chromosomes 27, 33 and 38 (Fig. 4a). The mean value of F_{ROH} per dog was 0.057 ± 0.045 with a range from 0.017 to 0.250 (Supplementary Table S6). Three dogs had high F_{ROH} values > 0.1 (dogs T120, T86, and T90). Two of them showed extremely high F_{ROH} values per chromosome: F_{ROH} was > 0.7 for chromosomes 8, 14, 24, 37 in dog T86 and for chromosome 38 in dog T120 (Fig. 4b). The highest F_{ROH} value was observed for ROH 1–2 Mb in length (0.058) and ranged from 0.016 to 0.249 (Table 1).

Discussion

In this study, for the first time, we presented an overview of the ROH patterns of the Kazakh national dog breed Tazy from a genome-wide perspective. According to the obtained results, there was strong evidence of distant inbreeding in this breed about 50 generations ago, as most ROH fell into the short (1–2 Mb) category, which allowed ROH decay by recombination over a long period of time⁵. Since the generation length of the Tazy is 1.7–3.1 years, it is likely that the genetic diversity of the Tazy was influenced by the social and climatic disasters in Kazakhstan in 1868–1938. The Russian-Kokand War (1850–1868) took place throughout southern Kazakhstan, which may have been the place of origin of the Tazy¹⁵ and was probably the main area of Tazy dogs during that period. World War I (1914–1918), in which the indigenous population of Kazakhstan was partially mobilized, the mass starvation of livestock due to ice in Kazakhstan in the late 19th and early twentieth centuries, and the

collectivization of a large number of farms in the 1930s may have indirectly affected the Tazy population by leading to a decline in population and economy.

The mean ROH-based inbreeding coefficient per dog (0.057 ± 0.045), which ranges from 0.028 to 0.058 for the different length classes, indicates a low level of inbreeding in the Tazy dog. It is like the inbreeding coefficient estimated from homozygosity runs for the Jack Russell terrier (0.061)¹² and lower than for the Braque Français (0.112 ± 0.023)⁹, German Shepherd (F_{ROH} for lengths > 1 MB– 0.119)¹³, and the Bulldog (0.151)¹², but did not reach the level of F_{ROH} for wild dogs. For example, the F_{ROH} for African wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*) is much lower (0.0045 ± 0.0012)⁵. These results, combined with the previously shown high diversity of the Tazy breed¹, suggest that the current genetic status of the Tazy dog population is comparable to that of diverse breeds such as the Jack Russell terrier¹⁶. Therefore, the long-term survival of this breed is unlikely to be affected by deleterious genetic

Length class	Average length of ROH (Mb)	Average number of ROH per animal	Genome coverage (%)	Mean F_{ROH}	Min F_{ROH}	Max F_{ROH}
1–2	1.33	29.31	1.62	0.058 ± 0.045	0.016	0.249
2–4	2.68	7.85	0.88	0.041 ± 0.043	0.005	0.228
4–8	5.63	3.49	0.82	0.033 ± 0.041	0.002	0.211
8–16	11.02	1.72	0.79	0.035 ± 0.042	0.004	0.198
>16	25.13	1.21	1.26	0.028 ± 0.032	0.007	0.137
Total			5.37			

Table 1. Characteristics of ROH and F_{ROH} of the Tazy for different length classes.

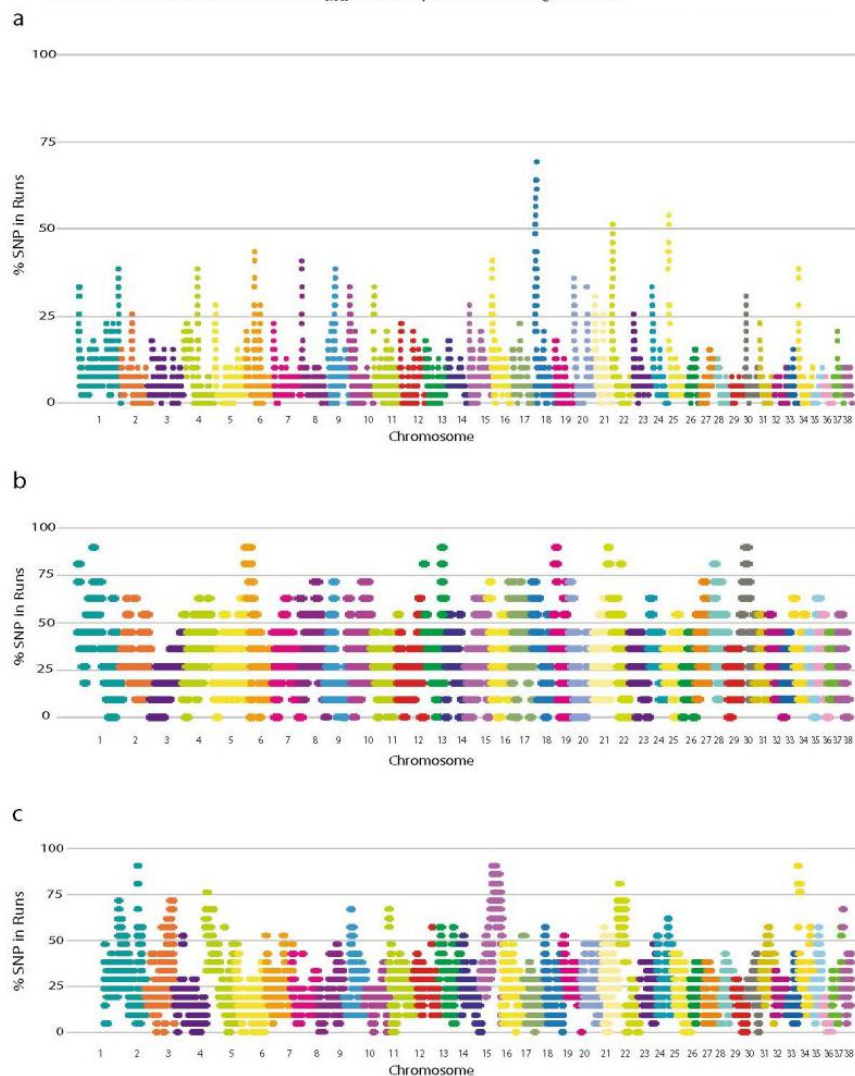


Figure 2. Manhattan plot of the distribution of ROH in the genome of the Tazy (a), Afghan Hound (b) and Saluki (c).

eROHi ^a	Chr	nSNP ^b	from	to	Size (kb)	nDog ^c	Genes
1	18	15	913,868	1,221,882	308,014	20	LOC111090815, LOC111090792
2	18	17	1,272,707	1,583,327	310,620	21	VWC2, ZBPB, LOC119864151, SPATA48
3	18	57	3,319,077	4,393,071	1073,994	27	LOC606902, LOC100687611, LOC119864094, LOC119864356, LOC111090858
4	22	69	2,029,245	2,904,155	874,910	20	KPNA3, EBPL, LOC102151128, RCBTB1, SETDB2, LOC119865111, CAB39L, CDADC1, LOC119865167, LOC102152970, MLNR, LOC119865166, FNDC3A, LOC111091797, LOC119865168, LOC111091799, LOC102153123, LOC119865169, LOC119865170, CYSLTR2
5	25	17	863,981	1,230,408	366,427	21	LOC102153908, LOC111092399, LOC119865890, LOC106557760, LOC119865889, LOC100683497, LOC100683578, LOC02153976

Table 2. Characteristics of eROHi of the Tazy. ^aExtreme Runs of Homozygosity islands. ^bNumber of SNPs within each eROHi. ^cNumber of individuals that occurred in each eROHi.

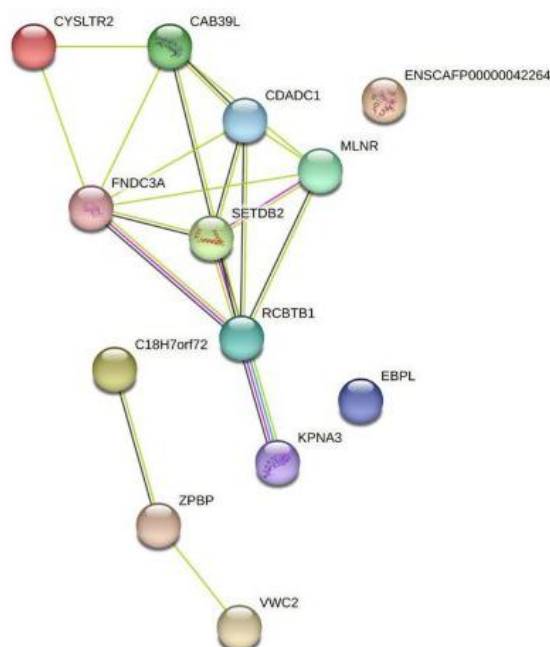


Figure 3. PPI network for genes mapped in eROHi.

factors associated with inbreeding depression. However, three of the 39 Tazy dogs studied were highly inbred, indicating a practice of consanguinity that should be considered in future breeding strategies.

In addition to demographic history and inbreeding evaluation, ROH analysis is an effective approach to determine the direction of genetic selection^{6,17}. Homozygous sequences are probably not randomly distributed across genomes. The ROH patterns shared by a large proportion of individuals in a population can be used to identify genomic regions that contain traces of genetic selection. Our analysis focused on the genomic regions with the highest frequency of ROH, that were presented in more than 50% of the Tazy dogs. The five strongest signals were found on chromosomes 18, 22, and 25. Regions of chromosomes 18 and 22 include twelve candidate genes with known functional significance: ZBPB, SPATA48, VWC2, KPNA3, EBPL, RCBTB1, SETDB2, CAB39L, CDADC1, MLNR, FNDC3A, and CYSLTR2.

The most notable genes from this list are ZBPB, SPATA48, FNDC3A, and CYSLTR2, which play important roles in spermatogenesis and fertilization. Genes regulating spermatogenesis represent a category of commonly enriched genes in many mammalian species¹⁸. Further analysis showed that a ~ 500 kb region on chromosome 22 containing the FNDC3A and CYSLTR2 genes is under selection in dog breeds with a hunting background (Beagle, Border terrier, English Bulldog, Gordon Setter, Irish Wolfhound, Newfoundland, Rottweiler, Weimaraner)⁷. Akkad et al. identified a longer region (~ 1.0 Mb) on chromosome 22 while comparing pointing and herding dogs¹⁹. This region contains the candidate genes CDADC1, MLNR, RCBTB1 и SETDB2, in addition to

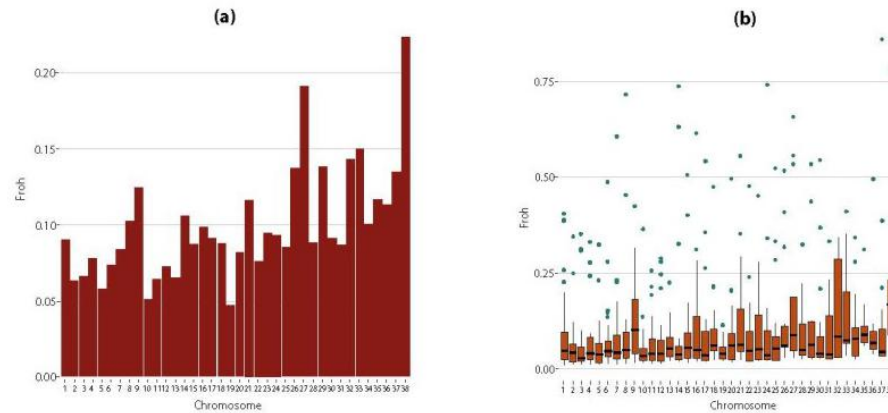


Figure 4. F_{ROH} of the Tazy dogs. (a) Average F_{ROH} per chromosome. (b) The distribution of inbreeding by chromosome, calculated as the proportion of the chromosome in ROH over the length of the chromosome covered by involved SNPs. The black dots are maximum values of F_{ROH} .

the FNDC3A and CYSLTR2 mentioned above, which agrees well with our study. Akkad et al. showed that only dogs of the pointing dog breeds (English Setter, German Longhaired Pointing dog, Gordon Setter, Irish Setter, Great Munsterlander, and Weimaraner) were homozygous for this region, which was significantly different from the herding dog breeds (Berger des Pyrenées, Giant Schnauzer, Kuvasz, and Schapendoes). The authors suggested that the region of chromosome 22 is a prerequisite for pointing. In our study, the region of chromosome 22 (~900 kb) also shows strong evidence for positive selection in the Tazy breed. The candidate genes KPNA3, EBPL, RCBTB1, SETDB2, CAB39L, CDADC1, MLNR, FNDC3A, and CYSLTR2 in this region were clustered in a large PPI network with strong linkages. But hunting with a Tazy dog differs from hunting with a pointing dog. Pointing dogs are trained to find a prey animal and indicate its location so the hunter can approach and flush it, while hunting with the Tazy is called sonar. In sonar, the Tazy dog searches for the prey animal, catches and kills it or holds it until the hunter-rider arrives. It is possible that the region of chromosome 22 is important for the hunting characteristics of both a sighthound and a pointing dog, such as sensory perception, search field activity, and the ability to think at the pace of one's movement. This hypothesis agrees well with the fact that the Afghan Hound and Saluki had similar regions of chromosome 22 under selection in our analysis (~200 kb and ~2.6 Mb, respectively).

Interestingly, only in two Chinese hunting sighthounds (Liangshan, Qingchuan) was no evidence of selection found in any of the regions of chromosome 22 that we have identified, possibly due to the evolution of their hunting abilities during adaptation to high altitude⁸. In addition, the Shaanxi Xi dogs had other SNP outliers despite their phenotypic similarity to the Tazy dogs⁸. The newly available genotypic data from these dogs will enable future phylogenetic analyzes to understand their relationship with the Tazy dogs and the differences in their selection.

Functional annotation of candidate genes identified in eROHi of chromosome 22 confirmed the enrichment of terms that may influence traits of interest to hunters. The most enriched molecular function was the G protein-coupled receptor protein signaling pathway, which is primarily attributed to olfactory signal transduction^{20,21}. Among the KEGG terms, a signaling pathway related to the processing of environmental information, such as neuroactive ligand-receptor interaction, has been identified. The gene CAB39L has been linked to the positive regulation of the AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) pathway, which in humans maintains energy homeostasis during exercise²². Since the AMPK activator AICAR (5-amino-1-β-D-ribofuranosyl-imidazole-4-carboxamide) increases running endurance in mice²³, the CAB39L gene may be critical for the outstanding running ability of Tazy dogs. It is known that the Tazy dog can accelerate up to 80 km per hour and track prey for a very long period. Perhaps the CAB39L gene is the strongest candidate in our study, as the only SNP missense position (rs23023309) was found in this gene.

While the functional significance of some candidate genes was clear, the involvement of others was unexpected. Among the genes with strong selection signal was the KPNA3 gene. The gene is associated with nuclear protein import and therefore plays a role in *Salmonella* infection processes, as the bacterial pathogen has been shown to manipulate host cell immune responses by interfering with the nuclear transport mechanism²⁴. The possible significance of this mechanism for the positive selection of the Tazy is unclear, given the historically privileged position of the Tazy and the carefully considered nature of their diet. However, most of the dogs with this selective signal were from the northern region of Kazakhstan, which historically has the highest incidence of salmonellosis. In addition, in the north of Kazakhstan in the nineteenth century there was a loss of norms and traditions related to the keeping of Tazy dogs, when their diet included even food scraps.

Unfortunately, the functional significance of the remaining genes on chromosomes 18 (chr18:913,868–1,221,882 and chr18:3,319,077–4,393,071) and 25 (chr25:863,981–1,230,408) is still unknown. We have also not found orthologs for these genes in humans, rabbits, and rats. There is a possibility that the regions on chromosomes 18 and 25 are breed specific for the Tazy, as the candidate regions of these chromosomes have not overlapped with previous studies in other breeds. In the Braque Français, a French hunting dog breed, such genomic regions were identified on chromosomes 9, 15, 30, and 36, in addition to the region on chromosome 22 that appears to play a role in the phenotypes of most hunting dogs⁹. In Bernese Mountain dogs, eROHi were identified on chromosomes 1, 2, 6, and 14¹⁰. In Border Collie, the highest frequency of SNPs in ROH was found on chromosomes 2, 5, 14, 24 and 26¹¹. Moreover, the closest relatives of the Tazy breed, the Saluki and the Afghan Hound, do not have selective signals on chromosomes 18 and 22, as our analysis shows. Further study of these regions will be of great importance to uncover the genetic basis of differences between dog breeds.

A limitation of the study is the relatively small sample size due to the low number of purebred Tazy dogs with the highest expert scores in our country. Nevertheless, it provided important initial information for the conservation and breeding of this unique breed. In addition, only the eROHi approach was used in this study to identify selection signals. A future study should focus on comparing the obtained results with the results of other complementary and effective approaches, such as the integrated haplotype score (iHS)²⁵ and the number of segregating sites by length (nSL)²⁶, to find the most reliable selection signal in the Tazy breed. Moreover, the X chromosome has a high gene density and a lower recombination rate²⁷ and may therefore be a good target for detecting selection signatures²⁸. Further enlargement of samples and analysis of selection patterns on the X chromosome certainly leave much room for a better understanding of selection processes.

Conclusion

In the current study, we investigated the homozygosity of 39 Tazy dogs using a high-density genotyping array consisting of > 170,000 SNPs. We found evidence of a historical bottleneck in the Tazy population about 50 generations ago. The degree of genomic inbreeding showed that the Tazy breed has high genetic variability. Deciphering the selection signatures led to the identification of five strong regions on chromosomes 18, 22, and 25. The regions on chromosomes 18 and 22 may be breed specific. The region on chromosome 22 overlaps with the regions of hunting traits of other hunting dog breeds, including the closely related Afghan Hound and Saluki. Among the 12 candidate genes that showed the strongest selection signals, the CAB39L gene may be a candidate that affects the running speed and endurance of the Tazy dog. This study provides new insights into the history and selection of the Tazy breed.

Material and methods

SNP genotyping data. In this study, we used SNP genotype data from 39 Tazy dogs (25 females and 14 males) obtained with an Illumina Infinium CanineHD Genotyping BeadChip (Illumina Inc. San Diego, CA) from our previous study⁴. All procedures with animals in this study conformed to the guidelines of ARRIVE, were approved by the Ethics Committee of the Institute of Human and Animal Physiology, Almaty, Kazakhstan (number 3, September 15, 2020), and were performed in accordance with the relevant policies and regulations of our institution. All owners gave their written consent to use samples from their dogs for genetic studies.

In addition, publicly available SNP array data from 11 Afghan Hound dogs (3 females and 8 males) and 21 Saluki dogs (5 females, 2 males and 14 with missing sex) from the Dryad repository (datadryad.org, doi:10.5061/dryad.v9t5h;doi:10.5061%2Fdryad.pm7mt) were used in the study.

Quality control and ROH analysis. Quality control and ROH analyses were performed using PLINK v1.9²⁹. In the input report, 172,115 SNPs of the 39 Tazy dogs, 166,171 SNPs of the 11 Afghan Hound dogs, and 198,983 SNPs of the 21 Saluki dogs were filtered using the following steps (PLINK commands in brackets): only autosomal SNPs were retained (–not-chr X,Y,MT), the proportion of identity by descent (IBD) between two individuals was set to more than 0.4 (–genome; PI_HAT>0.4), the individual call rate was set to 0.90 (–mind 0.10; did not apply to Saluki because of the many missing genotype data), and the minimum SNP call rate was set to 0.95 (–geno 0.05). Neither minor allele frequency pruning (–maf), no Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium test (–hwe), or LD pruning was performed³⁰. The number of SNPs retained for calculations after the filtering process was 164,310 SNPs of the Tazy, 160,303 SNPs of the Afghan Hound, and 133,013 SNPs of the Saluki.

ROH segments were determined using PLINK v1.9 with an overlapping window approach (–homozyg). A 50-SNP long sliding window was used to scan the genome (–homozyg-window-snp). All ROH detections were performed with less than a 1000 kb gap (–homozyg-gap) between adjacent ROH and a density of SNP coverage within the ROH of no more than 50 kb/SNP (–homozyg-density). The proportion of homozygous overlapping windows was 0.05 (–homozyg-window-threshold). The minimum number of SNPs forming a ROH was calculated using the L parameter (–homozyg-snp) following Lencz et al.³¹ and Purfield et al.³². The minimum length of an ROH was set at 1 MB to exclude short ROH (–homozyg-kb), as many of them might be due to inheritance

of common allozygous haplotypes³³. One heterozygous SNP was allowed (–homozyg–het) and one SNP could be missing (–homozyg–window–missing)³⁴.

ROH were divided into five different categories according to their length: 1–2 Mb, 2–4 Mb, 4–8 Mb, 8–16 Mb, and > 16 Mb. Genome coverage by each ROH class was calculated by multiplying the average number of ROH per animal by the average ROH length, then dividing by the total ROS_Cfam_1.0 genome size (2396.86 MB), and finally multiplying by 100 to obtain the percentage value³⁵. Graphical representations of ROH were obtained using the R package DetectRUNs³⁶.

The eROHi were identified by selecting the SNPs most abundant in ROH³⁷, i.e., those that were present in at least 50% of samples of the Tazy. For the Afghan Hound and the Saluki, the threshold was 0.9 and 0.7, respectively, due to a limited sample.

The NCBI Map Viewer of the ROS_Cfam_1.0 (GCF_014441545.1) genome was used to identify genes in the eROHi (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/gdv?org=canis-lupus-familiaris&group=caniformia>). Gene ontology (GO) analysis including the cellular component (CC), molecular function (MF), and biological process (BP)³⁸ and Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway analysis³⁹ were performed for these genes using the R/Bioconductor package BioMart⁴⁰ and the Database for Annotation, Visualization and Integrated Discovery (DAVID) (DAVID Bioinformatics Resources (ncicrf.gov)⁴¹, GOLF: Gene and Ortholog Location Finder (<https://rgd.mcw.edu/rgdweb/ortholog/start.html>) were used to search for orthologs. The STRING database (version 11.5; <https://string-db.org>) was used to predict protein–protein interaction relationships (PPI) between annotated genes⁴².

The SNPs in the eROHi are referred as eROHi-SNPs. The eROHi-SNPs were annotated on the ROS_Cfam_1.0 (GCF_014441545.1) genome using the Variant Effect Predictor (VEP) of the Ensembl genome browser (<http://asia.ensembl.org/info/docs/tools/vep>)⁴³.

A F_{ROH} was estimated for each dog and chromosome as the sum of all ROH divided by genome (or chromosome) length using the method described by McQuillan et al.⁴⁴.

The evaluation of the generation length of Tazy dog. Two methods were used to determine the generation length of the Tazy dog⁴⁵. In the first method, pedigree analysis was performed, and the lifespan of several generations was divided by the number of generations. The analysis of 15 pedigrees showed that the average length of a generation of the Tazy dog was 3.11 ± 0.65 years. In the second method, the length of a generation was calculated as the sum of the average age at mating and the duration of gestation. The age at first estrus in the Tazy is nine months, as is the length of time between estruses. The duration of gestation is two months. Thus, the generation length of Tazy dog is 1.7 years.

Data availability

The genotype data of the Tazy analysed during this study are available in the previously published article¹. The genotype data of the Afghan Hound and the Saluki are available in the Dryad repository (datadryad.org, doi:10.5061/dryad.v9t5h;doi:10.5061%2Fdryad.pm7mt).

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Author contributions

A.P.: conceptualization, data curation, formal analysis, methodology, project administration, supervision, writing—original draft. K.B.: conceptualization, data curation, investigation, methodology, resources, visualization, writing—review & editing. S.B.: data curation, resources, visualization. M.B.: investigation, methodology. Y.K.: data curation, formal analysis, investigation, methodology. O.V. and I.N.: data curation, resources. G.A.: investigation, methodology. Y.P. and K.P.: writing—original draft and review & editing. B.B. and L.D.: writing—review & editing.

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Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

Additional information

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Paul and Lauri Domski, New Mexico

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5 times out

One hunt win, one placement

THIRD place at this year's
Grand Course

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Melik Nadin Jenn CC, CM x *Tayre of Urfa

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Hazel

Paul and Lauri Domski

Mary Beth and George Rogers

Persian Tazi

We have been breeding Salukis from their homelands since 1991 with great success. Our building blocks are Kurdish from both sides of the Zagros mountains. Many shared cups of chai and the recognition that I could never hope to know what those in the villages have forgotten have taught us much.

George and I will always be grateful for those who have feely shared their knowledge and their Salukis as well as those who have believed in what we are doing and gone on to show us all just how good this family can be.

We do not breed for the show ring, we breed functional Salukis who rock the coursing fields AND can do well in the show ring. We breed phenotype, not pedigree and the results bear out the wisdom of that choice.

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