

THE LUCAS POST

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE LUCAS TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA

Vol.1 Number 1



Sir Jocelyn Lucas, center, down in a badgers den, sporting a wool cap, tweed hunting jacket and handlebar moustache.



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The Lucas Terrier Club of America

Club Mission:

To promote and protect the Lucas Terrier breed.

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From The Secretary's Desk

Club Newsletter Born!



The Lucas Post, a newsletter for U.S. Lucas Terrier lovers and club members is finally here. The newsletter's purpose is to introduce fans of the breed to one another and to keep you informed and excited about our little four-legged friends.

Many wonderful folks contributed to make this issue a success including : Pamela Harrow, Ann Blyde, Bob Mason, Susan Hall, Wendy Schrank, Carolyn Farb and Marie Boisvert. Special thanks to Wicka, a talented, surfboard-riding Lucas who lives Hawaii and is owned by club member Ann Blyde. Wicka penned an article about her recent move to Hawaii from the U.K. and it will debut in this issue as a three-part series.

I would also like to thank Bob Mason, from Providence Rhode Island. Bob was the first person in the U.S. to respond when I sent out an email investigating whether or not anyone would be interested in forming a US Lucas Terrier club. In this newsletter you will get to meet his Ollie, a handsome Lucas originally bred by Jumbo Frost in the U.K.

For those of you interested in history, be sure to read Beth Danford's recollections of Sir Jocelyn.

For those interested in the future, please read about Susan and Max Hall's Mrs. Maggie Cooper, whose litter will make Lucas history as the first puppies to be officially registered into the U.S Club data base preserving and protecting the breed for generations to come.

And finally I'd like to thank my husband the talented Bradley Crouch who helped us with design and layout. The first issue looks great! Thanks Brad.

This newsletter is a work in progress so all suggestions on how to improve it are welcome. If you can think of anyone else who would enjoy getting the newsletter, please let me know.

Until next time.

Laurie Crouch
Miss Maggie Cooper's Mom

A Letter From Pamela Harrow



Pamela Harrow, in the early 1990's at the time she first became involved with the Lucas breed.

Dear Friends,

The Lucas terrier first came to my attention at the beginning of the 1990s. I had telephoned Brian Plummer, who was a friend of mine at that time, (Brian was a well known author of books on, mainly, running dogs and terriers and had developed a strain of working terrier known as the Plummer terrier), and was told he had gone to Wiltshire in England to meet with Jane Irwin and 'Jumbo' regarding Lucas terriers. I assumed that 'Jumbo' was Jane's Lucas terrier!

When Brian returned he told me about the history of the Lucas terrier and that the breed was in severe dire straits. Since the death of the Enid Plummer some 4 years previously some efforts had been made to keep breeding the dogs but lack of understanding on the subjects of genetics and dog breeding generally was proving to be a major stumbling block. Jane Irwin had set up a Breed Society in an attempt to keep in touch with owners and to encourage and help with breeding plans they may have had but nothing much was happening. Jane had contacted Brian for assistance, having read an article on developing breeds he had written, as she could see her beloved Lucas dying out if things continued as they were going. I also discovered that Jane's Lucas terrier was called 'Bessie' and Jumbo was a human being - Ann 'Jumbo' Frost. Jumbo had known Enid Plummer for many, many years, had spent much time with her at her kennels and had been along time owner of Lucas terriers, all males so she had never bred a litter.

“I decided there were 3 things that had to be done immediately. Firstly, the Club had to be rejuvenated, secondly we needed to get a feel for the number of dogs that were actually out there that could contribute to a breeding programme and thirdly we had to see what they looked like.”

Brian asked me if I would be prepared to help out. Jane was very busy with her business and whilst she was still keenly interested in preserving the Lucas the project had had to be shelved to an extent. I agreed that I would lend a hand. After giving the situation some thought I decided there were 3 things that had to be done immediately. Firstly, the Club had to be rejuvenated, secondly we needed to get a feel for the number of dogs that were actually out there that could contribute to a breeding programme and thirdly we had to see what they looked like. The third part was to be achieved in two ways - owners were requested to send me photographs of their dogs and I agreed with Brian that holding a Show so that we could see the dogs in the flesh was a very good idea.

A Letter From Pamela Harrow

Continued from previous page

I wrote to all the people who had contacted Jane over the years about Lucas terriers including those who were currently members of the Society. I explained that we intended to make a major effort to try and save the Lucas and appealed for their support. There was a very good response, many photographs dropped through my letterbox of dogs living and deceased and most were accompanied by copies of pedigrees. I quickly realised, however, that there was no uniformity in type. This was something I felt had to be addressed over time. Therefore, I set about drawing up a Breed Standard based on the writings of Sir Jocelyn Lucas and his description of the dogs.

The first Lucas Terrier Club Show (the name had been changed from Lucas Terrier Society) was held in Southam, Warwickshire, England in October 1991. It was very well attended and seemed to fire up the enthusiasm of most who attended to keep the breed going.

Whilst Brian was involved to some extent behind the scenes, most of the calls and enquiries were starting to come my way. Whilst I was experienced in dog owning and breeding I did feel some pressure because it is one thing to be responsible for your own breeding programme and having to live with your own successes and failures but to have to make decisions on behalf of an entire breed (particularly one that was hanging in the balance) was quite frightening.

I felt that if I was going to be advising people on potential matings then I should have a sound understanding of genetics, even if it began and ended specifically with dogs. I began reading books, I joined a canine genetics list on the internet, I took a canine coat colour genetics course online through Cornell University and read many, many articles (with many, many viewpoints!) on the subject of dog breeding and establishing a type.

With careful planning of matings slowly the Lucas has taken a few steps back from the slippery slope of extinction. Everyone involved with the Lucas has worked diligently to produce a recognisable type of dog, and it has been done whilst avoiding close inbreeding, though nothing other than the original parent breeds of Norfolk and Sealyham has been added. And we still have our annual Show each October.

I have to say that the amount of progress made would not have been possible without the support of Jumbo Frost. Jumbo has put her life on hold for the past 15 years and everything she has done in that time has revolved around Lucas terriers. She went from having no females to owning two small Sealyham bitches, Bimbi and Chippy, and all her Lucas terriers go back to Bimbi. When I first met her she had a small saddle and tan Lucas male, Mtoto, he has since been followed by two Lucas males, Tippy and Samson, and 6 Lucas females, Ginger, Tango, Gertie, Martha, Mistletoe and Faithful. She currently also has two Sealyhams, Eloise and her son, Guinness. I believe we work very well as a team and it is unusual for us not to agree - we are not a mutual admiration society, however, and we have had the occasional contretemps but we get over it!

I came into the Lucas seeing this a short-term project that would take up a year or two of my time. Instead it has stretched to 17 years and I wouldn't have missed a minute of it. Maybe even one day I will own one!

Pamela

member profile

Bob and Ann Brooke Mason's Oliver Meriwether Lewis Frost

Ollie will be eight years old on May 1st.

He was the first Lucas Terrier that Jumbo Frost sent to the United States from the Great Britain.

We got to know the breed through our daughter Sarah, who lives in London.

Sarah owns Ollie's older half brother, Archie. Archie has won a lot of ribbons at the Lucas Terrier Show held at Crockwell Farm, near Eyedon, north of London, which is where Jumbo has her country house. The show is held in October each year.

Jumbo wanted Ollie to be named after an American explorer, as he was her first dog going to the US.

Since my wife is originally from Virginia, we choose the famous Virginian explorer, Meriwether Lewis, of Lewis and Clark fame. His official name is Frost's Oliver Meriwether Lewis.

We absolutely adore him.



Ollie

Registered Name:

Frost's Oliver Meriwether Lewis

Birthday:

May 1, 1999

Breed by:

Jumbo Frost of Great Britain

Address:

Providence, Rhode Island

Dines on:

Eukanuba Small Breed Kibbel

Sleeps:

In open door kennel in his master's bedroom!

Initial Impressions from a Lucas Terrier on life in Hawaii.



*Name: Wicka
Sex: Female
Age: 11 mos.
Color: Black and Tan
History: illustrious father and grandfather won 1st and third in Winners category in recent Lucas Show and grandmother won second in Winners bitch category!*

Aloha! Recent events include a massive change in lifestyle. After an idyllic two months in Dorset amid meadows, rabbits, foxes, badgers and glorious UK countryside with my companion, Asta (a 7 year old cesky terrier and a Sealyham mix like me), we were somewhat rudely bundled into a dual cage divided by a screen which was required by airlines since two dogs of different breeds are not allowed to travel together. Then a trip in a bone shaped, very noisy vehicle high in the sky to an island called Maui, part of the Hawaiian chain.

Just as Bermuda is known as another world by the people who live there, this island is known as paradise.

Additional notes about our trip; no food for 18 hours - ugh, primitive!

Our cage was specially sealed to comply with the quarantine regulations since Hawaii, as UK, is rabies free and animals from UK and only three other countries are permitted to enter without any quarantine or inoculations--(came later). The Captain of the ship (plane) had to escort us in transshipment at San Francisco to Honolulu segment to ensure we were not contaminated

by local dogs huh!? But at least no 6 months quarantine ..hurrah! Hawaii has the same import regulations as UK.

Where we now live is virtually in the middle of the Pacific and Big Island which is nearby is the southernmost point of USA territory on the globe.

Now we are known as Poi dogs, usually also as schnauzers because no one has heard of Lucas or Cesky as breeds if you would like to see us in action we usually walk to and from this beach at 7.15 A.M.. Mondays which is 6.16 P.M. UK time (this is typed Oct 12 so after the hour goes back in UK it will be 5.15pm---we don't change our clocks here.)

www.mauirealestate.net/video.html.

By the way, Poi is local food (tasteless) from the Tara plant and poi is the local word, euphemistically, for dog and since there are many Asians living here I don't think I will go any further down that route to the table as the association might not be too pleasant!!

To be continued in The Next Lucas Post

AS I recall she had 5 or 6 of them at
That Time. I do have letters
Sir Jocelyn, but they must be
lost. I had all about for them
if I ever find them
Them on to you - I do
Packer (The Sealy) but a
in Wisconsin He has
home.
Have put my name
Kennels For a Norfolk -
until JAN - since would
Young 205 Federal Hill
(508) 987-0077 - She
Them. They are fantastic

Looking Back By Beth Danford

We got our first Lucas from my mother, Mrs. John Lucas, in the late 1960's.

Mother got her first Lucas as a result of running into a friend in Palm Beach, Florida and admiring the dog by the woman's side.

When the friend told her it was a Lucas Terrier, mother decided right then and there that she had to own one. Not only was the dog adorable but also it shared her name, so it really was a perfect match.

Mother began writing in earnest to Sir Jocelyn. After months of corresponding and proving to him that she was of good character and worthy, Luke I arrived in the United States. Luke I was later joined by Truffles. Both were tan in color.

My husband Eddy and I went to England in the early 1980's and met Mrs. Plummer in Cornwall. She was the caretaker for Sir Jocelyn's dogs. As I recall, she had 5 or 6 of them at that time.

My first Lucas, Puck was out of Lucas I and Truffles. We have owned and loved Lucas Terriers ever since.



This is a photograph of an oil painting the Danforth commissioned of Luke I and Truffles.

Making History

On September 6, 2006 Mrs. Maggie Cooper, owned by Susan and Max Hall of Atherton California, gave birth to six puppies, three girls and three boys.

Mrs. Coopers puppies are the first in the United States to be entered into the Club's new central database and receive registration numbers in an attempt to preserve and protect critical breed information for generations to come.



Mrs Cooper's puppies include: Emmett, Bella, Miss Maggie, Lexi, Lucas and Bentley.

As of January 2007, there are less than 30 Lucas Terriers living in the U.S. today. Out of that 30, it appears that only 5 or fewer are intact males of breeding age and only 7 or so – perhaps fewer, are mature, intact females.

As Hall said: "The families that got Mrs. Cooper's puppies all expressed a real sense of gratitude. They felt 'lucky' to own a Lucas. If we are going to keep the breed going, we are just going to all have to work together."

They felt 'lucky' to own a Lucas.



Mrs Cooper's puppies include: Emmett, Bella, Miss Maggie, Lexi, Lucas and Bentley.

Sir Jocelyn's ScrapBook



Dear Fellow Lucas Terrier Lovers,

Here's Lucas during the holidays. He loves being a Texan transplant. Lucas is now 6 months old and very active. He never meets a stranger and one of his favorite things to do is to be out and about in the neighborhood meeting and greeting.

Best Regards,
Carolyn



Penny
Shrank soaking up the sun
on her deck.



Teddy Schrank bird watching from
the comforts of a porch chair.



Bea's adorable Sealyham puppies arrived
just in time for Christmas. Bea is owned by
Wendy Shrank who lives in Wisconsin.

Closing Thoughts

Portrait of Miss Maggie Cooper
by Caroline Crouch
Age 5
Richmond, Virginia



Caroline
Age 5