

The Shaggy Rag

The Bearded Collie Club of Southern California

Founded January 12, 1997

BCCSC website: www.bccsc.net



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President's Message

Dear BCCSC members:

Thank you members for sharing the love of this spectacular breed and attending events when you can. I know we have not been together as much as we'd like... life happens and we all do what we can. As the pandemic continues to ease, we can feel safer to engage and have more fun. Our park romps have been the best, the dogs are so happy to be together and play. I sure do miss gathering with fellow club members so let's get back to it.

I hope you are all doing well, staying healthy, as we all try our best to do the same.

Please reach out to help us with new idea for events. We are located all over Southern California and I'm sure YOU can think of somewhere near where you live where the club can host it.

Thank You for Submitting Your Adorable Beardies (and Other Dogs)!

A big thank you to everyone who shared photos of their beloved Beardies and other furry friends for the Shaggy Rag! I always receive so many emails from members telling me how much they enjoy seeing all of our members' dogs. That's why this issue's highlight is dedicated to showcasing them. I hope you enjoy seeing the adorable faces as much as I did!

In addition to all the wonderful photos, I came across an interesting article that I think you'll all appreciate, as well as an entertaining story about dogs and popcorn. I can't wait to share it with you!

Susann and a gaggle of Beardies



The Beardie Board Room

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A friendly reminder that our annual membership fee is due and payable during the month of October. We will be sending eblasts with the form link and its ALWAYS available on our club website.

If paying after November 1, your dues is then considered delinquent Please add \$10.00 to your membership renewal.

For those that pay on time: Thanks so much!

Remember, you can always use Zelle to pay your membership fee to our treasurer. Super easy! The email for that is on our renewal form.

Our club's Beardie Blast newsletter is sent via email, so please feel free to send ads/brags/advertising to Susann Brody at any time. Susann can design something special for you OR you can do it yourself OR have it done and submit it.

The Beardie Blast is sent to all current members!! Please send checks to the Mary Parker, treasurer, payable to the BCCSC.

Please feel free to reach out to any of us on the Board with questions.

We are here for all members.

We would love to hear from you with ideas for events you want to attend.

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**We've done our best to name people and dogs and there may be errors and/or omissions. If there are any, we apologize in advance.*

Teaching Your Beardie Manners

by Nona Horsley

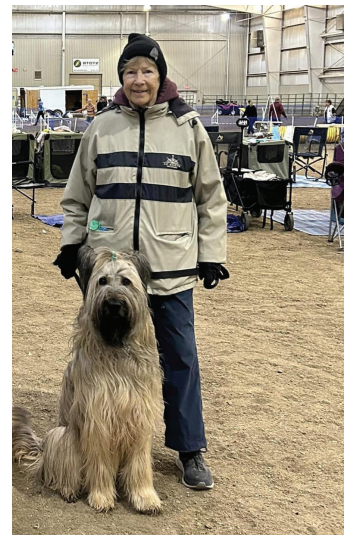
"What I have learned about Beardies" should probably be the name of this overview of the Bearded Collie. I am by no means an expert on the breed, but I have been owned by two of them, three if I count my daughter's, and I do have what some people think is an oxymoron: a Beardie with a Utility title. My purpose is to acquaint you with the very special Beardie temperament and some of its needs. Bearded Collies are very bright, but, since they are herding dogs, they are also independent thinkers. After all, their job is to get those sheep where they were supposed to go without a human standing next to them. They may think their way of doing something is better than yours. They might also think they do not have to do what you tell them. Training can bore them if it is not fun and if different methods are not utilized. Friendly and outgoing dogs, they can be easily distracted and would, perhaps, rather visit with the dog or person across the room than focus on you. They seem to know that they are cute and may try to manipulate you. Sometimes their desire to please isn't as great as their desire to play. Translation: they can be stubborn. When they know they are the center of attention, they can put on quite a show. As anyone who owns a Beardie knows, "Ham" is their middle name. Beardies tend to be fun-loving, cheerful, happy dogs who like nearly everyone. But they are unique. I would never find my Briard sleeping in the bathtub, but I might find my Beardie there.

In order to have a well-adjusted outgoing dog, I can't emphasize enough how important early socialization and play are. Whether you want to show your dog in conformation, obedience, agility, or whether you simply want a well-adjusted and loving companion, your pup should be exposed to all kinds of situations, noises, people, and other dogs. This socialization should begin as soon as you get your puppy and should continue for its entire adult life.

Taking your Beardie everywhere with you both in the car and by foot and visiting all dog friends who will allow your pup in the house will ensure that you won't have a shy or fearful dog who jumps or runs away whenever there is a loud noise or unusual situation. Getting your dog used to being around other dogs in a variety of situations is also important. Meeting another dog on a walk should be a pleasure not an ordeal. This early socialization will also prepare your pup for other dogs in the ring at a dog show. Taking a puppy obedience class is especially helpful in this early socialization, for part of the class always includes time for puppies to play with one another and to learn acceptable behavior with other dogs.

Your dog also must learn to cope with a variety of distractions and noises such as grocery carts (think about handlers dragging crates by when you are in the ring or the remodeling next door), crowds of people (think about spectators right outside the ring when you are trying to get your dog to focus on you or you and your dog at a soccer game). A well socialized dog will consider the sound of a lawn mower or vacuum as a normal part of life not as something frightening. The sound of a car backfiring won't send it into the next county. Deliberately and calmly get your dog used to as many everyday sounds as you can think of. The back yard or kennel is, of course, not the place for this to happen. Your Beardie will thrive on new people and places, for they are naturally curious. Your Beardie will love the family reunion picnic or the soccer game if it has been conditioned to noises and crowds when it was a pup.

Take your dog to malls, grocery parking lots, PETsMART, school playgrounds, soccer games, friends' homes. Be creative and take your pup to different places at least three times a week. The trip doesn't have to be something special. It might simply be to the library, but the dog is with you. Letting it out of the car and getting it used to a different environment takes just a few minutes. Encourage interaction with people that



TEACHING YOUR DOG MANNERS (CONT)

you meet along the way. (It is a rare human who can resist a Beardie!) I carry a fanny pack filled with treats and encourage petting and allow people to offer my dog a treat. At the same time I can begin to teach puppy manners such as not jumping on the person. I also begin here to teach sitting for the treat. The more experiences the dog has the more stable it will be.

Because the Beardie is such an intelligent dog, it should be easy to train, right? Not necessarily. Remember, the Beardie is also an independent thinker. And, like so many of the students I teach, it just wants to have fun. Most Beardies do not like to be wrong and may shut down if they can't get an exercise right and don't know what you want them to do. This may appear as stubbornness, but it may be either that they don't quite understand the exercise or that they are insufficiently motivated. Standard motivators are food and/or toy, praise, and play. You must decide how much and which combination of methods work best for your dog. Just as we get tired of the same old food night after night, a Beardie may perk up if offered a variety of treats (not all at once of course) such as chicken, liver, cheese, or rollover. Just as important as food in motivation is play. Get your dog used to a little rough housing. Play with its feet, tickle its tummy, blow in its nose, play tug of war with a rope toy. Run with it, play hide and seek. Use your imagination. Your Beardie will develop a gleam in its eye that you will find irresistible. It is your responsibility to make training fun and exciting. You must practice, no matter how dull you feel you are, on being the most fun and exciting and important thing in its life.

Beardies are very sensitive dogs and quickly pick up their owners' moods. If your Beardie knows you are getting angry or even mildly irritated during training, it may shut down. Body language, as well as the voice, tells your dog what you are thinking. Be patient and positive. If you are getting angry, stop the exercise. On the other hand, a Beardie may push you as far as you will push. Firmness and fairness are the two "f" words I believe in. Instead of nagging your dog with either a voice or a series of little corrections, one firm (not harsh or hard) correction given with authority may be all you need to let her know who is boss. However, because Beardies have excellent memories and a keenly developed sense of fair play, I would err on the side of positive methods rather than negative ones if possible. If reserved for those times when you know your Beardie is taking advantage of you, the negative ones will then be more effective.

Playing fetching games with your pup using a Frisbee, ball, soft toy—anything to get your pup to chase the object and bring it back to you— is great exercise and teaches your dog to come to you. This can make your job that much easier if you do formal obedience training and do get to Open work. Then you won't have to force the dog to retrieve the dumbbell. It will be just another toy and a form of play. Even if you are not considering formal obedience training, teaching your dog to fetch is a great way to give your dog exercise when you are too tired to take her for that walk or run.

Socialization and play are just the beginnings of the relationship you will be building with that furry piece of heaven. The key is to start early when it is a puppy. If you wait until the dog has earned that championship, you have lost some of those best months when your puppy is so impressionable.

Because Beardies are such energetic and curious dogs, obedience training may be just the job for them. It gives them an outlet for their energy and helps to develop that strong bond between owner and dog. Dogs that have something to do are healthier and are better balanced mentally and physically than the bored dog left to her own devices.

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS

GEORGIA & RAINEY

LOVED BY SUSAN RUPPEL



NOODLE

LOVED BY JOANNA KAYE

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS



BART

LOVED BY LONNIE CARPENTER

PICOLLA



LOVED BY PATRICIA GERPHEIDE

SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!

ARCHIE HARRISON CASSIDY



ARCHIE GUARDS SHAGGY DOG PURSE

LOVED BY SUE CASSIDY

EVAN



LOVED BY MARTIN LOWENTHAL

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS

ANNABEL AND SIMON



LOVED BY SHERRY DAVIS

MADELYN JO



LOVED BY LINDSEY RISCALLA

SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!

LIVI



LOVED BY PAMELA SCHUMAN

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS

O'MALLEY



SUCH A SILLY O'MALLEY!



LOVED BY NOLI CASWELL

SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!

LUNA



LOVED BY JOSEPH PERRET

ABBIT HAD A VERY EXCITING SUMMER!



ABBIT

LOVED BY TAMMY BEGLER

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS

Casey



LOVED BY DEBBIE BRUNNER

SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!

FOZZIE



LOVED BY FERN & ROSS BLOOM



MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS

DUCAT



POPPY PARKER



LOVED BY KIMBERLY NICHOLSON

SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!

Deeks - Gibbs - Jewel - Kensie



Tootsie - Emerald



Sapphire



A GAGGLE OF BEARDIES LOVED BY SUE BRODY

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS



IN MEMORY OF ANNIE



ANNIE AND JACKSON



LOVED BY LOUISE RISHOFF

SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!



NOAH



ELLIE



LOVED BY CHRIS AND MARY PARKER

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS

Belle



Loved by Sheila and Jax Mangel



SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!



Left to Right: Honey, Jill and Ginger



Clockwise Top Left: Gigi, Jack, Honey, Ginger, Jill
Bottom Left: Tootsie



Tootsie (2.5 years old) Ginger (8), Jack (12), Honey (8) Jill (14), Gigi (8)

Gigi, Jack and Tootsie live with Mark & Anne

Jill, Honey and Ginger live with Carol

Loved by Mark & Anne Dundon and Carol Wathen

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS

GROVER



In memory of sweet Grover

PENNY & HAPPY



LOVED BY JENNIFER SANDERS

SHOWCASING OUR BELOVED PETS!

FERRIS BUELLER



HERCULES



LOVED BY LAURIE SIEGEL

MEMBERS' CORNER - OUR DOGS



Parker



LOVED BY MARILYNN & TOM SEVERSON

Jack and Barron



Erik



THE POPCORN WARS

by Judith LeRoy

This is a tale about my daughter's popcorn party. Actually, she simply made herself a bowl of microwave popcorn to munch while she watched a DVD of an old Spencer Tracey, Kathryn Hepburn movie. I think it was "Adam's Rib", though it could have been something else.



Daughter Simone, home during a college break, was dog-sitting for me. At the time, we lived in Tucson, Arizona, and we had six house dogs, a yard and a house large enough to accommodate the hairy tribe. The canine score card included Cholla, a Samoyed, and five Bearded Collies. Mike was the eldest Beardie and, along with Cholla, was in charge of the household. Dylan was Mike's and Cholla's First Lieutenant, joyfully enforcing their every command. Madoc was the easy-going, "Whatever ..." next dog in line. Huck Finn got the blame for any wrongdoing in the house (and usually rightfully so), and then there

was teen-age Dickens ... gawky and a little insecure in this family of eccentric dog characters.

Like canines all over the world, our dogs loved parties ... any kind of party. And they'd kill for popcorn. Well, that's getting ahead of the story. Sure, they'd prefer the butter-drenched stove-popped variety, but even air-popped microwave kernels were valued in our household. The dogs stood before the keeper of the bowl, nudging, jostling and grumbling at any dorm mate that seemed to be making more popcorn inroads than himself. In short, it made it hard for a human to remember a movie's plot, and it put a lot of pressure on a popcorn muncher who was willing to share, because she had to make sure that each dog—in order of rank and age— got precisely the same number of kernels. (I swear they could count.) Those are two reasons why I gave up popcorn while watching TV. But then, I'm a lot older and I'd been trained by lots more dogs than my daughter. The event I'm writing about happened when I was out of town, and daughter Simone was the human in charge. It was a Saturday night, she felt like popcorn and I wasn't there to lend a note of caution.

Simone, being a smart girl, soon realized the error of her ways. She discovered that she simply couldn't devote her attention to "Adam's Rib" in black and white on the TV screen while Mike, Cholla, Dyl, Madoc, Huck and Dickens in full, living technicolor were milling around her feet, looking for popcorn. So, being an inventive thinker, she paused the DVD, popped another two bags of microwave popcorn and doled the kernels into six freshly washed dog bowls. The four younger dogs, who Simone assumed would have less self-control, got their bowls in various



rooms of the house. Simone put bowls for the two elder, more prudent dogs (or so she thought) on the family room floor, each bowl positioned six feet from the other to allow for bowl circling behavior—circling being a prerequisite for most dog-dining experiences and most necessary with edibles like popcorn, where each popped kernel has a life of its own and is notoriously hard to capture if the diner doesn't have thumbs and fingers.

The dogs were ecstatic. They couldn't believe their good fortune. Never had this happened before. Their stingy mother-owner would never think of anything so amazing!

So, Simone's ploy worked—to that point, at least. No creature sat on her feet begging for a hand-out as she plopped down on the couch, grabbed the remote and put the DVD back on Play. But come on, folks. We veteran, cynical owners of multiple dogs know that couldn't last. Don't we?

After perhaps three minutes of "Adam's Rib" viewing, the situation deteriorated. It would have held a bit longer, perhaps, if Mike hadn't been a hoarder. He always endeavored to have his food, his treat, his chewing bone last longer than anyone else's so he could flaunt its possession to the envy of canines more impulsive and less controlled than he.

Cholla, resident ten-year old Samoyed with NO impulse control whatsoever, emptied his bowl first. Cholla's sled dog ancestry taught him to eat fast and finish first—whether it be the classic Iditarod dried fish snack or a culinary delight from our Arizona table, it was meant to be gobbled. Cholla was fully aware of the likely retribution for poaching on nine-year old Mike's food cache, but Cholla ignored his better judgment. I could rationalize his behavior in several ways: perhaps Cholla thought popcorn, being different from kibble, Milk-Bones or Greenies, might have its own rules? Or, maybe he thought that Mike didn't like popcorn (Mike was a very fussy eater) and if so, he, Cholla, should get to the bowl before one of the younger Beardies did? Or, he simply lost his marbles. Whatever the reason, Cholla listened to his primal urges and decided "What the hell, give it a try," and plunged his furry white muzzle into Mike's popcorn bowl.

Mike, however, liked popcorn ... or even if he didn't like popcorn, he didn't intend to let any other dog grab his property. He let out a bellow of rage and flew at Cholla. A ridiculous situation. Cholla and Mike, the sanest dogs of the household, were NOT gladiators. The younger, more impetuous dogs in our family, Dyl, Mad, Huck and Dickens, considered Cholla and Mike to be the peacemakers, the sages, the calm elders who could be trusted to mete out rules and justice in times of crisis. Upon hearing the uproar, they raced into the room where they watched, in open-mouthed awe, as their usually circumspect role models locked in mortal combat.

Well, it wasn't really mortal combat. Cholla, a canny soul, realized that if he took time to react or retaliate, he'd lose his popcorn advantage, so he kept his head buried in Mike's popcorn bowl—further infuriating Mike. Now and then, Cholla lifted his muzzle from the bowl to let out a garbled growl, just to assure Mike he was aware of the proceedings, then he'd plunge his black nose deeper in the remaining mound of white kernels.

That, of course, left Mike next to hysterical. He knew his popcorn supply was disappearing at an alarming rate and there didn't seem to be anything he could do about it. Even though he grabbed various parts of Cholla's white furry body with his somewhat age-dulled teeth, all Mike seemed to get were mouthfuls of cottony fluff and no reaction whatsoever from Cholla. Mike was clearly feeling very frustrated by his inability to inflict damage—transient or permanent—on the voracious beast vacuuming HIS popcorn from HIS bowl. It drove him simply nuts, and his amplified vocalizations really impressed both Simone and the younger Beardies. It didn't seem to faze Cholla, though, who just kept gobbling.

Simone, momentarily paralyzed by the sudden ruckus, recovered and leaped to her feet. Discovering that Mike was attached to Cholla's left elbow, she reached a hand down to grab Mike's collar—a definite no-no in

the midst of a dog squabble—just as Mike, attempting to find a more damaging grip, released Cholla’s elbow and lunged for another part of his anatomy. In so doing, he caught Simone’s thumb between his upper and lower incisors—small teeth, as dog teeth go, and unlikely to cause much harm, if any. Although Mike had inflicted no real damage on Simone’s person, he did manage to raise her ire. Grabbing the large wooden popcorn bowl from the coffee table, she lifted the bowl over Mike’s noggin with her left hand as his teeth closed more firmly on her right thumb.

Mike, thoroughly chagrined when he realized that the object between his jaws was Simone’s finger rather than Cholla’s liver, spit it out immediately—just as the popcorn bowl landed smartly on his head. The swift lowering of the bowl caused the remaining contents in the half-full bowl of popcorn to rise in the air like bubbles from Yellowstone’s Old Faithful geyser in its hourly effusion. The younger Beardies’ eyes rose with the popcorn bubbles, and they watched intently as the kernels floated down, down, down to the family room’s Mexican tile floor. Cholla, having emptied Mike’s popcorn bowl, lifted his head to observe the descending popcorn, and Mike, now disconnected from both Cholla’s elbow and Simone’s thumb, also watched the leisurely wafting kernels. Six heads lowered as one ... six mouths started scarfing the popcorn that soon blanketed the family room floor.

Luckily, every kernel disappeared at about the same time, so there was no reason for further dispute. Well, all of them disappeared except for one. One huge, blossom-shaped popped kernel remained, resting precariously in the middle of young Dicken’s back—precisely where it landed during the popcorn blizzard. Eyebrows raised as canine eyes stared first at Dicken’s back ... then glanced speculatively at each other. Who was going to make the first move?

Mike, who was the most popcorn-deprived of the bunch, sidled up to Dickens, eyes on the popcorn kernel on Dickens’ furry rump. But Dickens had just witnessed Mike’s violent assault on Cholla, the much-venerated co-leader of his canine household, and Dickens got understandably nervous. Was he, the youngest and least coordinated animal in the house, next on Mike’s list? Warily, he watched Mike edge toward him.

Mike sensed Dickens’ frame of mind and correctly classified him as a flight risk. Mike didn’t want to witness that last lone kernel fly out of the room on Dickens’ furry brown backside, so he reached to pluck it off. Just then, Dickens turned his head, and the two Beardies met, eyeball to eyeball. Poor Dickens, convinced of immediate annihilation for God Knows What, panicked. He lowered his head, tucked his tail between his legs, put the pedal to the metal and roared out of the room. Mike slammed into high gear and raced stride for stride alongside him, neck stretched gazelle-like and muzzle reaching for the fast-moving kernel of corn.

When I got home, Simone told me the popcorn story. She said she knew she was responsible for the whole ridiculous fiasco and, if it weren’t for the fact that her finger still hurt, she’d think it was downright funny. But the experience taught her something: she changed her mind about inviting Beardies to popcorn parties. In fact, she gave up the idea of eating popcorn in front of the TV set while dog-sitting more than a single canine. The other benefit of the event, in her estimation, was that Mike positively fawned on her for the next six months. The soul of contrition, he expressed undying love, respect and reverence at every opportunity and promised never to snatch any part of her anatomy ever again nor let any other dog do so. He pretty much stuck to his word.

When I got home, I also noted that teen-aged Dickens was treating Mike with new respect and more than a little forbearance. In fact, he wouldn’t come anywhere near him. Mike didn’t seem to mind, though, because Dickens wasn’t wearing any more popcorn, so there was no real incentive for proximity.

So, peace was restored. At least as much peace as is possible with a six-pack pooch posse of very hairy, very smart dogs. Bless them all.

SPECIALTY RESULTS - full results are on our website

Hair at the Fair 2024 Specialty Results

Sweepstakes

Judge: Gaye Brockett

Best Puppy - 15-20 months bitch - **Seafarer Lucinda Blaze**

Best of Opposite - 9-12 months dog - **Meraviglioso del Cuore Impavido**

Best Veteran - 7-10 years bitch - **Sebring Get Off My Cloud**

Conformation

Judge: Angela Stein

Best of Breed - Scott's Georgia On My Mind

Best of Opposite Sex - Scott's Rebel Without A Cause

Winners Dog - Headlines Going West In Time

Winners Bitch - Chamberlin's In Her Element at MtnView

Select Dog - Sebring Thunderstruck

Select Bitch - Burlesque Seize This Moment

Award of Merit - McCrystal Everblaze



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Kirsten Haarsager Andreassend, showchair, for her hard work and dedication in making the BCCSC show the best it can be. We appreciate all you have done.



SPECIALTY

Bearded Collie Specialty Trophies

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a dedicated page on our club's website to celebrate the achievements of past and future Bearded Collie Specialty Trophy winners. This special section is designed to honor the dogs and their owners who have received the award at our Specialty.

The Bearded Collie Specialty Trophies page is more than just a list of winners; it is a tribute to the dedication, hard work, and passion that define our community.

What You'll Find:

The Beardies who have achieved top honors in previous years, showcasing the best of the best and as we continue to hold Specialties, this page will be updated to include the latest winners, ensuring that their accomplishments are forever remembered.

Best of Breed

- 16 - CH Sebring Black Velvet "Ellie"
- 17 - CH Brigadoon's One Day at a Time "Razz"
- 18 - CH Traleigh Castle Comb Chadbury "Chad"
- 19 - CH Willowisp Never Say Never "Joey"
- 10 - Aellen Jive Talkin "Bee Gee"
- 11 - CH Papaw Tailwind Up The Ante "Ace"
- 12 - CH Aellen Hasta Be Shasta "Shasta"
- 13 - CAN/AM GCH BISS Wigglesworth Thriller "Johnny"
- 14 - GCH Wigglesworth Thriller "Johnny"
- 15 - CH Scott's Glamour Girl "Jill"
- 16 - GCH Dunhill Will I Am "Will"
- 16 - GCH Dunhill Will I Am "Will"
- 17 - GCH Dunhill Will I Am "Will"
- 17 - GCHS Larkagen's American Trendy Girl "Jewel"
- 18 - GCH Sengalas Amelia McCrystal "Amelia"
- 19 - GCH Heartstone "Over There, Over There" "Patton"
- 19 - GCHS Larkagen's American Trendy Girl "Jewel"
- 12 - GCHB McCrystal Forever Timeless "Everett"
- 12 - GCHB McCrystal Forever Timeless "Everett"
- 13 - CH Valle de Bereka Kadosh "Noe"
- 14 - GCH Scott's Georgia On My Mind "Georgia"



Visit the Page: We invite you to visit the [Bearded Collie Specialty Trophy](#) page on our website and explore the rich history of our community. Whether you're looking to reminisce or find inspiration for the future, this page is a testament to the enduring excellence of the Bearded Collie breed.

Future Plans: We hope to be able to include pictures and stories about these special Beardies.

We hope this new feature will be a source of pride for our members and an inspiration for those aiming to achieve greatness in the future.



SPECIALTY

