

AKKAOA Midwest Planning Barbecue Report ~ Saturday, April 21, 2007

In attendance were:

Matt and Kristi Dushek

Barb and Alan Weibelhaus

Denise Johnson & Alan

Joan and Mike Anderson (did not go to the show)

At the show but not able to attend the picnic were:

Debbie Clifton

Karen Street

I had one person from Buffalo, MN, Calissa Hanson, who had planned to attend but could not come. Sharon Verdugt from South Dakota had hoped to come but was not able to.

I have received emails expressing support from Tammy Martin and Lanie McWilliams.

From this, it is our observation that there is sufficient support to have a Midwest Group of AKKAOA similar to the Golden West Group in CA.

Minneapolis would probably be a reasonable place to start, but it is my thought that a show site a couple hours south of the Twin Cities might be better. We probably would not lose any of the people already mentioned but might pick up a few more from the plains states. I'm not sure if there is a suitable location there or not.

I believe a winter show when our dogs are in their full coat would be the most desirable to the owners around here. There aren't many shows then, so something in the Nov-Feb time range that does not conflict with holidays is our first choice.

So, the next steps are:

Find a chair

Get a group name

Determine how many volunteers are needed to be successful

Start to plan the first Midwest event

Because I work full time in addition to law school, I am not sure I will be able to do much more for the Midwest group while I am also Secretary for AKKAOA. Once I take up the position, I can reevaluate and see if I have the time but I absolutely want this to happen.

I hope this is the beginning to a group dedicated to representing the best of the AKK, which of course live in the Midwest :)

Matt