



# Ay Chihuahua!!

Vol.7 Issue 2 June 2005

Website: <http://www.chihuahuclubofhawaii.com>

Picture Gallery: <http://www.pbase.com/cchawaii>

Newsletter of the Chihuahua Club of Hawaii

☺ Your Chihuahua Could win the title of 'Chihuahua I dol' 2005!!!!

## OUR OWN CHIHUAHUA IDOL CONTEST.....

{AFTER THE HAWAIIAN HUMANE SOCIETY PETWALK}

Catagories for judging are:

\* Funniest \* Best Trick \* Best Singer \* Best Dancer

Please bring whatever props or costumes you wish for your Chihuahua to show off his/her talent. If you need music you need to bring your music player too. Club Members will vote on the winners for this game.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2005

ABOUT 10:00 AM

MAGIC ISLAND, ALA MOANA BEACH PARK

Diamond Head side of Magic Island, makai of the Magic Island Parking lot. Look for the Club sign. The Petwalk is at 8:00 am, and the Chihuahua I dol Contest will be held after the Petwalk. Please bring something to sit on, your own lunch and drinks to munch on, and a small dessert to share.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PLEASE!!!!

\*\*\*We really need help from the club to reserve our picnic site early before the Petwalk. We also need walkers to represent the Club, and we would also like to request that you consider making a small donation to the Humane Society in the Club's name. If you are willing to help out by walking or donating you can email the club at [cchawaii@hotmail.com](mailto:cchawaii@hotmail.com) or call Tam at 551-9671. Please help by walking or donating at this website:

[www.justgiving.com/pfp/chihuahuclubhawaii](http://www.justgiving.com/pfp/chihuahuclubhawaii)

PLEASE RSVP so we can plan our prizes. We will also be calling you as a friendly reminder.

Call Virginia at 261-3275 or Tam at 551-9671

Or you can email the club at: [cchawaii@hotmail.com](mailto:cchawaii@hotmail.com)

## History and Legend of Chihuahua

### Beginnings

A Letter Reproduced With Permission in  
its Entirety

Authored by Elizabeth Bickel, Brite Star  
Chihuahuas

Hi, Elinda,

The account concerning the introduction (or re-introduction, if you buy into the Arizona theory) of Chihuahuas between the US and Mexico around 1884 is pretty accurate.

The AKC was established in 1884; so folks were beginning to keep more accurate records concerning Pure Bred dogs around that time. Therefore, "factual" history after 1884 time is known. It is fact that Midget was the first Chi in the AKC stud books, etc.

However, what might have happened prior to 1884 is what keeps us all guessing. Without concrete evidence and record keeping - to prove one theory over another - we can only speculate.

I like the story about Ruby eyed Chihuahuas guiding their masters to the other World because this says that they were highly prized. I don't like the part, however, where they had to go **with** their master. Instead, I would like to change this story to think that it was the Ruby Eyed Chis **already at the Rainbow Bridge** that were the guides of their beloved masters in the long journey from this world to the next. VBG. I like a happy story. But that's just personal preference. However, I'm sure that the dogs possibly were sacrificed to accompany their masters - if this story is true.

That is a version of Chihuahua history that seemed to be accepted by my own Chihuahua mentor:

*The Chihuahua is the only breed of dog truly indigenous to the Western Hemisphere. Legend and history are rich in tales of the ancestors of the present Chihuahua. The breed's name indicates the ancestors of the dog came from the state of Chihuahua in Mexico. However, the breed's origins more properly belong to the southern part of Mexico or to the whole of the country rather than to the specific state that bears its name.*

*It is thought that the Chihuahua is derived from an earlier breed known as the Techichi, which was popular during the Toltec period around the seventh*

*century. This breed was well known among the Aztecs as well as the Toltecs.*

*Legend has it that the Chihuahua was also involved in the religious worship of the Aztecs. The dog was presumed to have the power of leading the dead through the fearful regions of the underworld. When a dog was sacrificed at the time of the death of a human, the sins of the human were supposed to be transferred to the animal that appeased the gods. The pyramids of Cholula, Mexico are of Toltec construction. One finds here some carvings of the early specimens of the breed.*

*In America, the Chihuahua Club of America was organized in 1923. Since then this dedicated Club has continued to work toward the betterment of this unique and loved toy breed. (Grace L. Shroyer)*

Then, there are the stories about raising Chihuahuas for food to eat. IMO, it would have been easier to raise Cornish Game Hens than Chihuahuas. Myth or truth, the much larger Xoloitzcuintili were supposedly raised "for food" once upon a time. So I question why would anyone then bother with the hassle of trying to breed "bite size" Chihuahuas for the dinner table, too? I don't think so.

This seems more likely: **"The Aztecs bred two types of dogs. The larger one was eaten and the smaller one was kept as a companion and used in religious ceremonies. It was believed that these little dogs acted as a guide for the dead enabling them to cross the River of Death to the Underworld. The dogs were killed and cremated with their owners to guarantee a safe passage."** So we're pretty much back to theory #1 again. Only without my happy ending.

### **Who knows?**

I've also heard the Asian theory told in various variations. Those might have some valid points because it is thought that all domesticated dogs originally sprung up out of Asia. Some migrated to the West (Europe) and to Africa, etc, and there, they were selectively bred to be various new Breeds. Meanwhile certain other Asian dogs refined (through selective breeding) into known Asian Breeds of Dogs to be companions for the Ruling Classes (like the Pekingese with the ancient Emperors).

If the ancestors of Chihuahuas came from Asia, there is a good chance that they came as a companion animal and not a delicacy.

An Asian origin is possible. This is interesting " it is known that the Chinese were adept at developing miniatures of larger breeds of dog. It may be possible that the Chinese developed a dog similar to the Chihuahua, the Spanish traders came to possess this

dog, and from China, traveled to Mexico with it. As the Spanish traders crossed Mexico, they had contact with the native population, both the traders and the dogs. In any case, after the Spanish were finished with destroying the Aztec culture, buildings, and as many people as they could, the fate of the dogs were left to the native people that adopted it into their families, and nature."

I also find this Web Site interesting <http://www.prouxchihuahuas.com/id52.html> because it shows photos of pre 1880's art work; which depicts European dogs that sure look like Chihuahuas. Does that perhaps mean Chihuahuas *were in Europe* before they were first recorded to be in the US??? If so, then what happened to that big chunk of Chihuahua history? You don't start to hear any details about Chihuahuas in Europe until around the time they start to pop up on the US history scene. That little dog in the "Scenes from the Life of Moses" (circa 1481-82) sure resembles a Smooth Coat Chi, doesn't it?

Also, notice all the Long Coats painted in the late 19th Century. Hum??? So which one did come first? Or have there always just been BOTH coats. I kind of think this myself.

Anyhow, the early, European artwork points to this theory. "Another theory put forth is that the Chihuahua is actually of European descent. That it was the Spanish conquistadors that brought this dog with them to the New World. For proof, the people who support this theory point to the island of Malta where a small breed of dog existed that possessed a natural molera. A molera is like an open fontanel in a human child, a soft spot on the top of the skull where the three sections of the skull bone meet. The molera is extremely rare, and uncommon to other breeds of dog. The Chihuahua, however, does possess this natural molera, it is believed that this points to its descendants as being from Malta. Further proof is offered in of all places, the Sistine Chapel. A painting by Sandro Botticelli, completed in 1482, depicts a dog that is very much like today's Chihuahua. Since this painting was completed before Columbus sailed for the New World, it offers proof that the dog is of European ancestry."

Or how about an European Terrier with a Mexican Toltec Cross? "Spanish conquerors that invaded Mexico, the Caribbean, and South America. It is conjectured that they had with them a small, black and tan, terrier type dog. These Spanish dogs were far more friendly with the native dogs than the Spanish conquistadors were with the native peoples. Due to this crossing of the black and tan terrier type dog with the Techichi, it is surmised that the Chihuahua resulted.

Some other people, who buy into the Fennec Fox theory, just skip the terrier part and say that Chihuahuas merely **mutated** from the little foxes. Of course, lately people are blaming "mutation" for a lot of things connected to Chihuahuas. So I frankly wouldn't put much value on mutating foxes turning into Chihuahuas. But a fox/canine terrier cross? Interesting, if nothing else. The Fennec Fox **does** have similar characteristics to Chis. And then, there are those ears. The fennec theory (with or without the terrier) is one of the newer theories.

Some also claim that Chihuahuas originated in Egypt 3000 years ago. I suppose that some Chis (with a "plainer" head and a curly tail) may somewhat resemble a miniature Pharaoh Hound. I remember when I saw my first Pharaoh Hound back in the 1970's, I thought they were a cool Breed. In a distant way, they really did instantly remind me of Big Chihuahuas. Maybe it was just the ears. They don't really look like "my" Chihuahuas, but there was just something about the Pharaoh Hounds that I can relate to and something about them had a Chihuahua "feeling". So maybe 3000 years ago, Pharaoh Hounds and Chihuahuas were related. Unfortunately, I can't find any concrete, detailed history about this possibility. Only mentions here and there in various accounts of Chihuahua History.

Or how about the true Wild Dog theory? This one is a good one. Supposedly, at one time, Chihuahuas evolved in the wild on the Desert as a Species (not just a Breed) of wild canines that evolved with large ears to collect moisture from the air in time of draughts; plus longer toes and nails to dig burrows where they slept during the heat of the day. I'm not exactly how that legend claimed those first Chihuahuas changed from a Canine Species to a Dog Breed instead. Maybe the Big Eared, Wild, Water Catchers mated with Terriers. LOL.

This discussion could go on forever. But we just don't know at this time. Many of the various possible theories **could** be true.

However, I do seriously doubt the mutated Fennec or the Wild Desert Canines or the Wild, Mexican Tree Dogs theories. ROFLOL.

One thing is for sure, that **modern Chihuahuas** are a man made creation as a result of selective breeding - as are all Purebred Dogs. Beyond that, early Chihuahua history is still a mystery. Maybe all the theories together have (except for the wild dog ones) have some merit. Too bad there isn't more concrete, historical documentation before those days just prior to the AKC.

Liz

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Our Famous Chihuahua Olympics will return on August 14, 2005 at Thomas Square, starting from 1:30 pm. More on this later.

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### Book Recommendation:

#### Little Dogs: Training Your Pint-Sized Companion

By Tena Davis and Winsten too!

For anyone who has had trouble training their pint sized companion this book is for you. It has really helped me with Winsten. Since he is my first small dog I thought he would train as easily as my last dog, Max, my 160 pound Great Dane. I had no idea what a chore this would be. I almost gave up and thought just let him be, but then I came across a wonderful book call: "Little Dogs" Training your Pint-Sized companion, written by Deborah Wood. It's a real easy read with lots of wonderful tips on training using only positive reinforcement. This type of training will help your little mate adjust to your lifestyle as well as his. We still have a lot of work to do but we are getting there. I really recommend this book for any new small dog owner, because their needs are so different to the larger breeds. Good luck and happy reading.

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## DOGGY RECIPES CARROT PEANUT CAKE

1 cup whole wheat flour (or rice flour if allergic to wheat)  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1Tbsp. soy flour  
1/4 cup chopped peanuts  
1 egg  
1/4 cup oil  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1/3 cup honey  
1 cup grated carrots

Mix dry ingredients; mix and add rest of ingredients quickly.  
Bake in greased ring mold or rectangular cake pan for approx.  
40 min. at 325\*  
Optional- "ice" with liver pate; a little cream cheese, or ???.



### **\*\*Breeder Section\*\***

NOTE: The Club does not endorse any particular breeder, and reserves the right to pull any ad for any reason. If you would like to place an ad, please contact the club, as noted above. The Club has more information on our website under "Finding a Chi."

#### **Giron Chihuahuas**

Oahu Ph. 946-0006

AKC Smooth coat and Long coat Chihuahuas

Most 4 pounds and under. Raised with Children. Excellent Temperaments. Health Guaranteed. Dogs from New Zealand, Australia, and the Mainland.

Email: Commish123123123@aol.com

#### **Ursula's Chihuahuas.**

Oahu Ph. 284-5611

Are you looking for a Chihuahua to show? In search of stud service? Or simply seeking a well bred pet Chihuahua? Ursula is catering to the needs of Chihuahua lovers. Offering long/short coat Chi's with unique qualities. Call or email today.

Email: ursulainhawaii@yahoo.com

Web Site: <http://home.hawaii.rr.com/islanddogz>

#### **Lamaki Chihuahuas**

Oahu Ph. 226-0703

Long-coat and smooth-coat pups occasionally. Imported British and U.S. Mainland lines.

Email: ozako@hotmail.com

Website: [www.pbase.com/lamaki/lamakis\\_chihuahuas](http://www.pbase.com/lamaki/lamakis_chihuahuas).

#### **Kaimana Chihuahuas**

Oahu Ph. 595-3765 Call

or email Claire: [chilover@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:chilover@hawaii.rr.com)

AKC Long-Coat Chihuahuas. New Zealand and American imports. Champion lines. Puppies available occasionally. For pet or show quality. Breeding for soundness, conformation and temperament.

#### **Kiana's Chihuahuas**

Big Island ph.885-4176

AKC long-coat and smooth-coat Chihuahuas from imported Australian and U.K. lines. Puppies and adults occasionally available to approved homes for pets and show.

Email: [kianas@hgea.net](mailto:kianas@hgea.net)

#### **Island Kennel**

Maui Ph. 250-1103

Cindy Edlao

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