

Norwegian Lundehund

A breed seminar presented by the
Norwegian Lundehund Association of America,
Incorporated

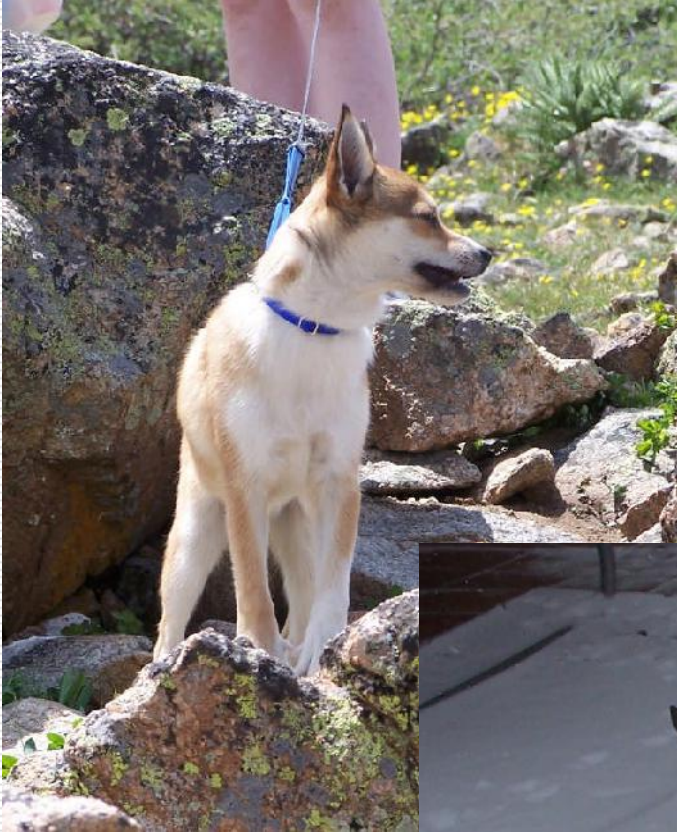


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- Geographic considerations
- Breed History
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- Question / Answer



A Lunde-WHAT?



Norwegian Lundehund

- ❑ One of the rarest dogs in the world
- ❑ Current estimates
 - 1,500 – 2,000 world-wide
 - 350 in US



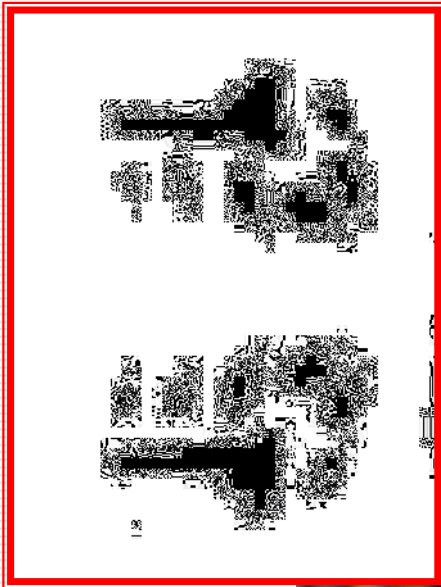
Unique Features

- 6 toes per foot
- Flexible neck
- Flexible shoulders
- Foldable Ears

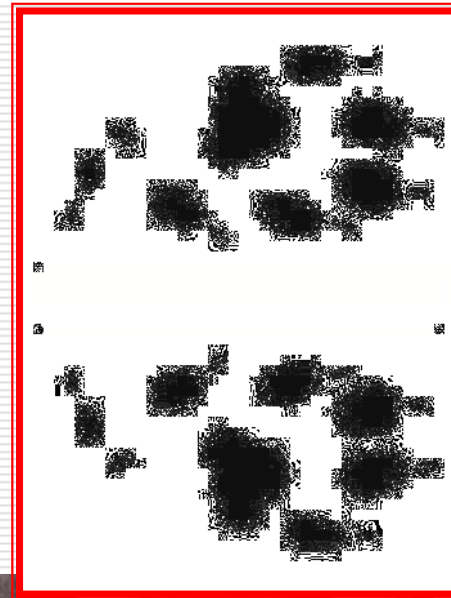
Toes

❑ Minimum of 6 toes on each paw

❑ Rear



❑ Front



Feet in action



Neck

☐ VERY flexible



Shoulders

- ❑ Very flexible
 - NOT double-jointed, as commonly stated
 - Agility vital to their cliff climbing abilities



Ears

- Ears can fold tightly in 2 directions
 - Keeps dirt & water out when they are hunting



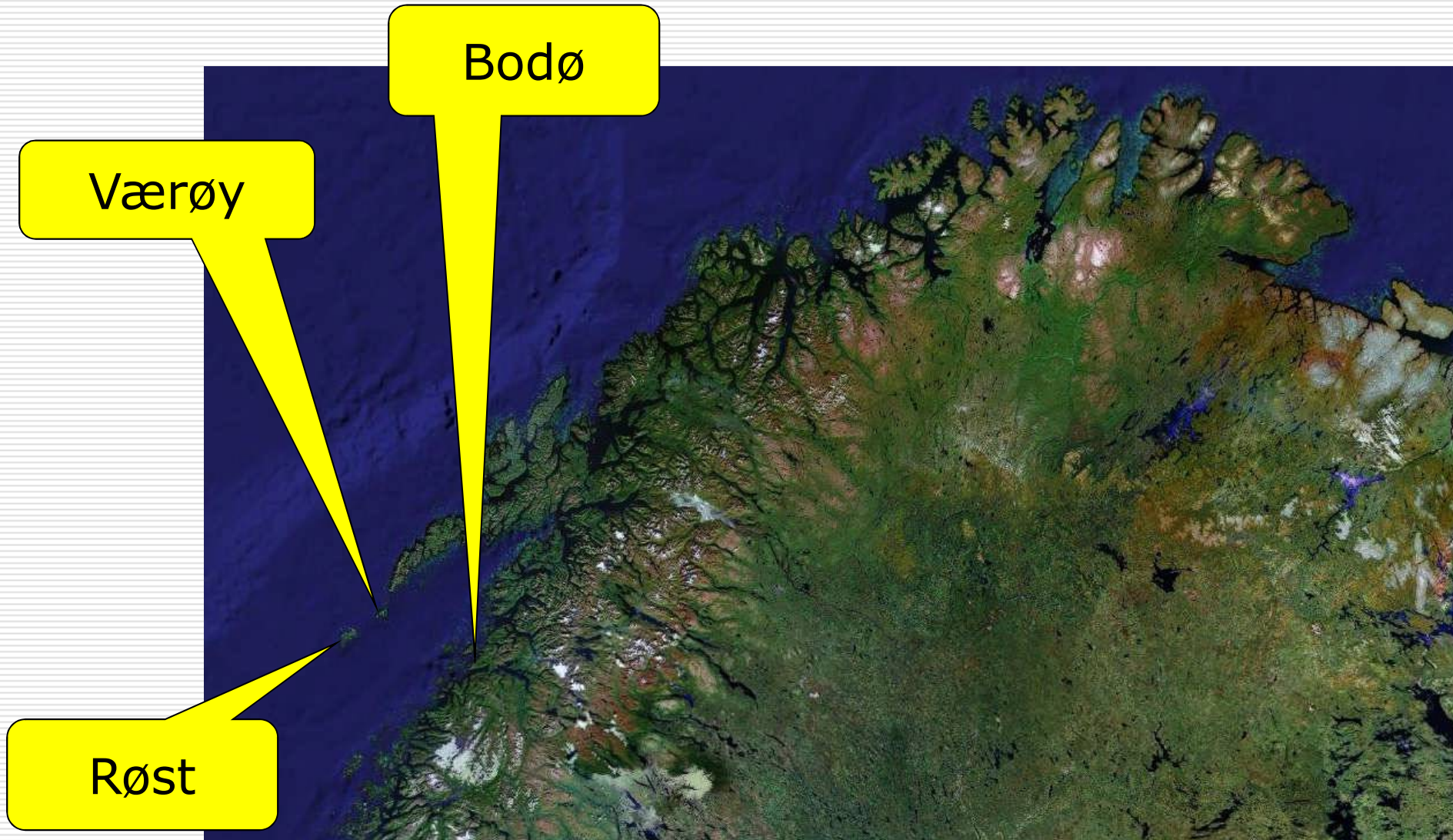
Geographical considerations

Where do they come from?

A map of Norway is shown in a light blue color. A yellow callout box with a black border points to the Lofoten Islands in the northern part of the country. The text "Lofoten Islands" is written inside the callout box.

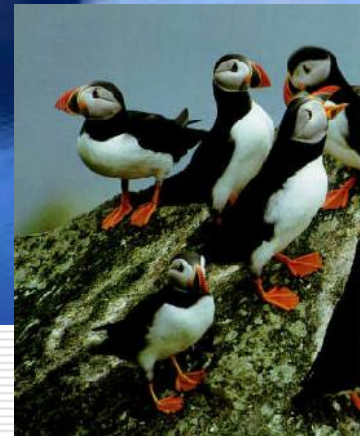
Lofoten Islands

Geographical remoteness



Værøy

- Steep cliffs on Værøy provide the world's largest puffin nesting area

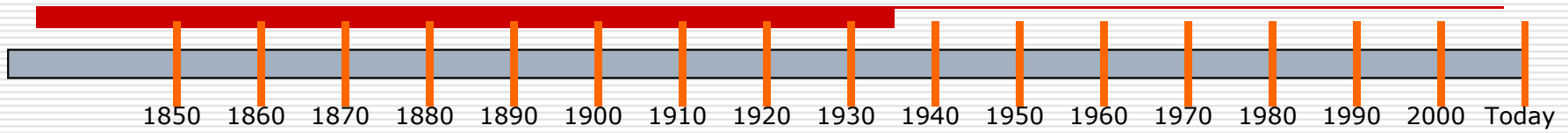


Værøy – village of Måstad

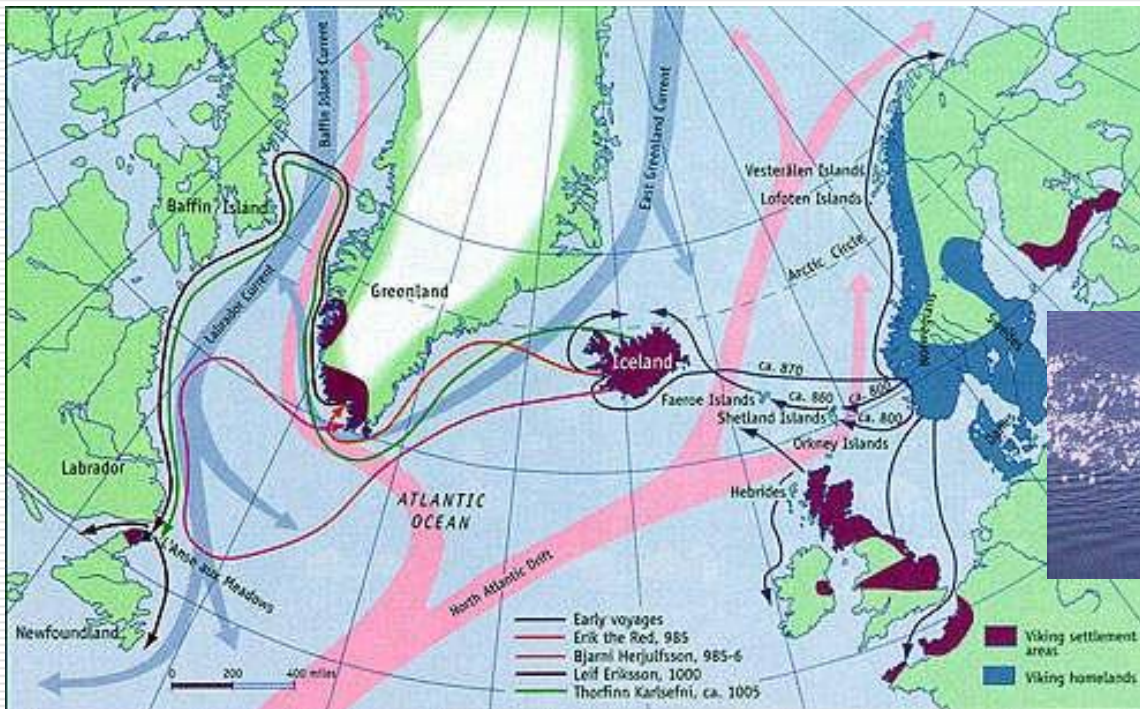


Early Lundehund History

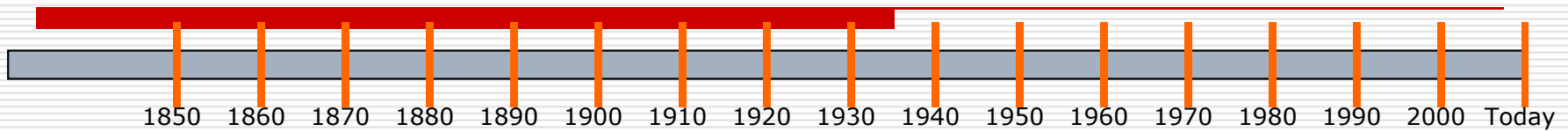
Early Lundehund history



- ❑ Speculation – may have survived last Ice Age
- ❑ Fact - traveled with Vikings



Early Lundehund history



- Viking interaction with indigenous peoples & animals



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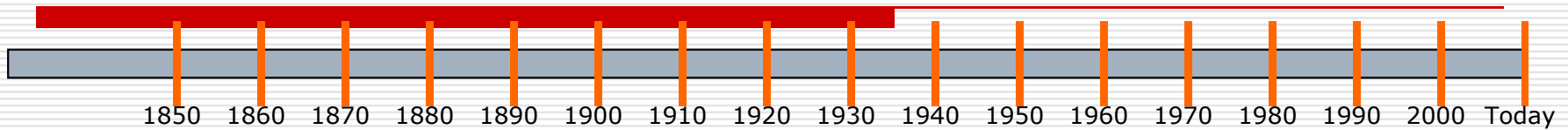


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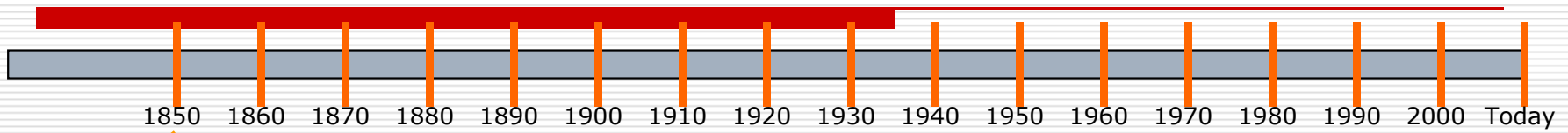
- Another possible descendent:
- Shetland sheepdog

Early Lundehund history

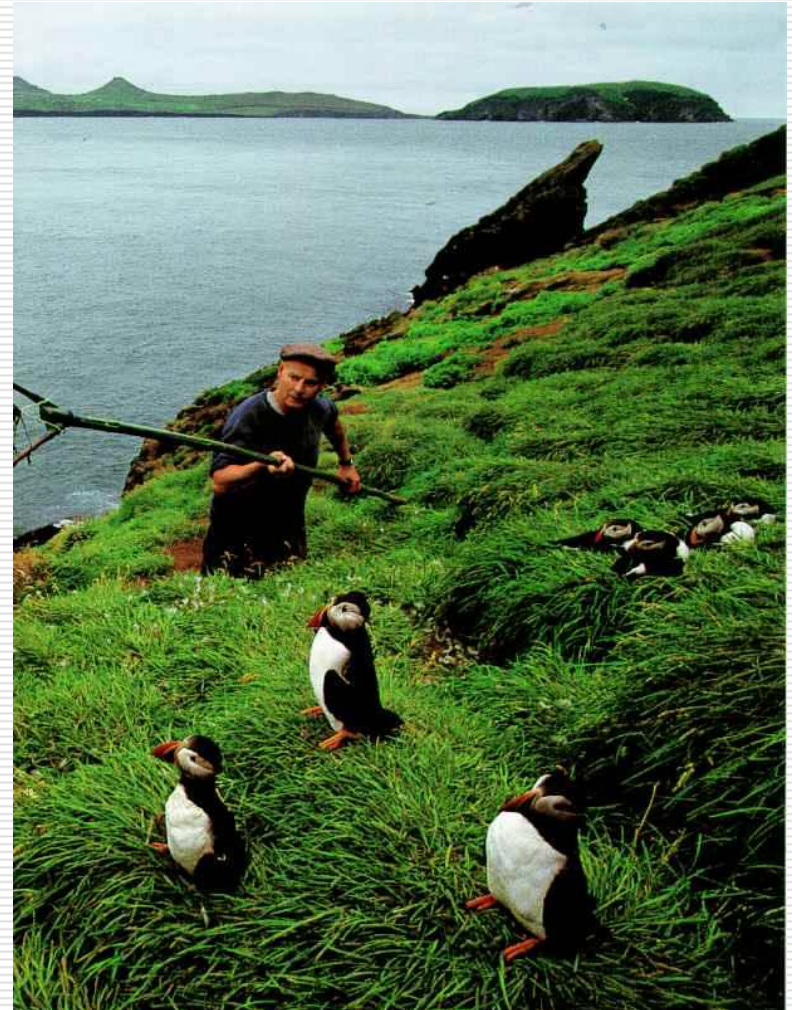


- 1432 – Earliest recorded sighting in Scandinavia
- 16th, 17th & 18th centuries – Dogs seen used for puffin hunting on Værøy, on the Lofoten islands, in Bergen & in Finland

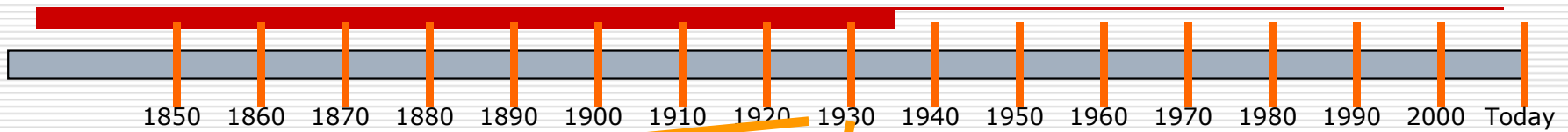
Early Lundehund history



Hunters began catching puffins with NETS, not dogs



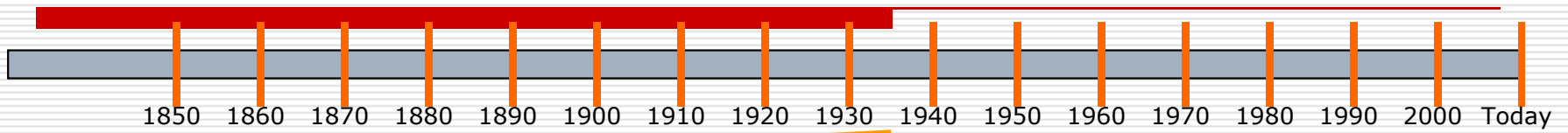
Early Lundehund history



□ 1925 - Magazine article: "Bird-dog on Road to Oblivion"

□ Most homes now only keep 2 or 3
□ Total 60-70 in entire village

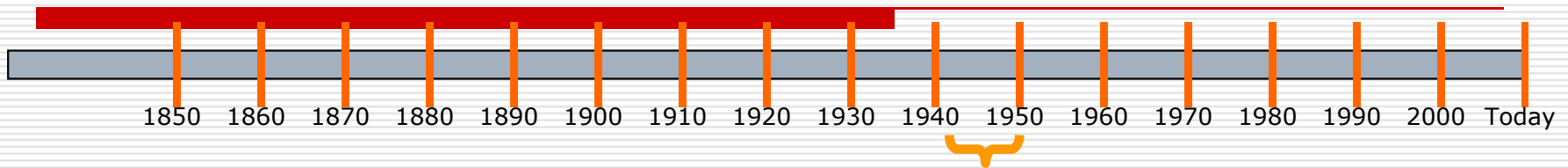
Lundehund history



□ Eleanor Christie, of Hamar, Norway

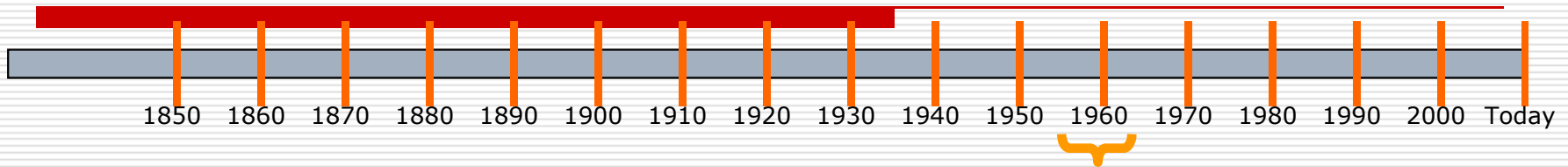


Lundehund history



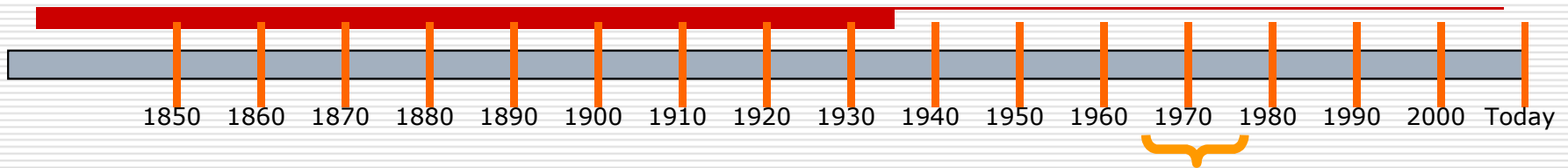
- 1942 – WWII – distemper vaccine not available
 - Hits Værøy – kills all but 1 on island
 - Mrs. Christie sends 4 back to Værøy
- 1944 – Distemper hits mainland
 - Kills all but 1 of Mrs. Christie's dogs
- 1950 – Mrs. Christie gets 2 new puppies
 - No litters from this pair

Lundehund history



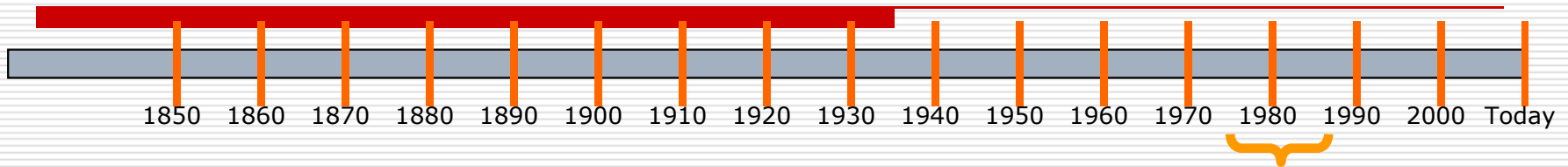
- 1955 – Værøy now bird sanctuary
 - Puffins are protected species
 - Lundehunds in crisis
- 1960 – Mr. Mikalsen sends Mrs. Christie three pups from same litter
- 1961 – Mrs. Christie announces a litter
- 1963 – Distemper hits Værøy again
 - No Lundehunds left on island
 - Mrs. Christie sends Mr. Mikalsen 2 puppies, which arrive on his 75th birthday

Lundehund history



- 1963 – **Only SIX Lundehunds left alive world-wide**
- 1972 – Norwegian TV makes film
 - Popularity soars! Long waiting lists
- 1974 – Population up to 350
- 1976 – Mrs. Christie, now in her 80's, has an audience with King of Norway

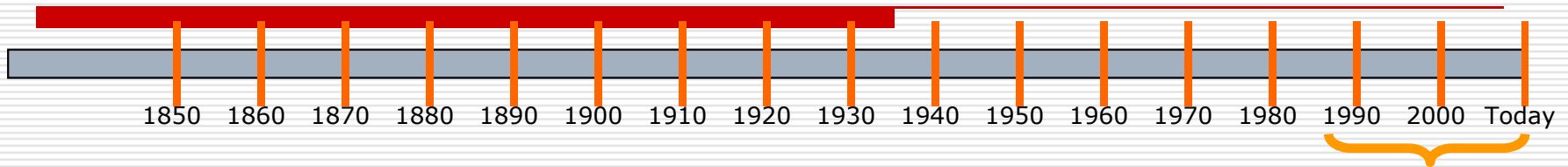
Lundehund history



- 1987 – Paul Ross, UK ex-pat, brings 1st Lundehund to US
 - World-wide population 500+
 - Christen Lang, Mrs. Christie’s friend & protégé, personally delivers 3 more
- 1988 – Harvey & Judy Sanderson form 1st Lundehund club in US



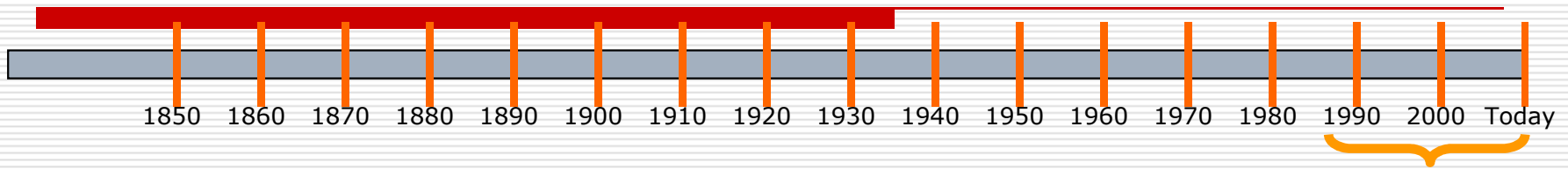
Lundehund history



- 1989 – 1st US Specialty held by NLCA
 - Christen Lang flew in to be judge
 - Knows every pedigree by heart
- 2004 – 1st Specialty held by NLAA
 - Has been held annually since
 - Christen Lang invited to judge
- 2005 – NLAA recommended Parent Club status by AKC/FSS®



Lundehund history



- 2007 – AKC Board of Directors votes to accept the Lundehund
 - Entered the Miscellaneous Class on July 1, 2008
 - Currently projected to enter the Non-Sporting Group
 - Anticipating a move to the proposed Northern Group

Breeding

Breeding

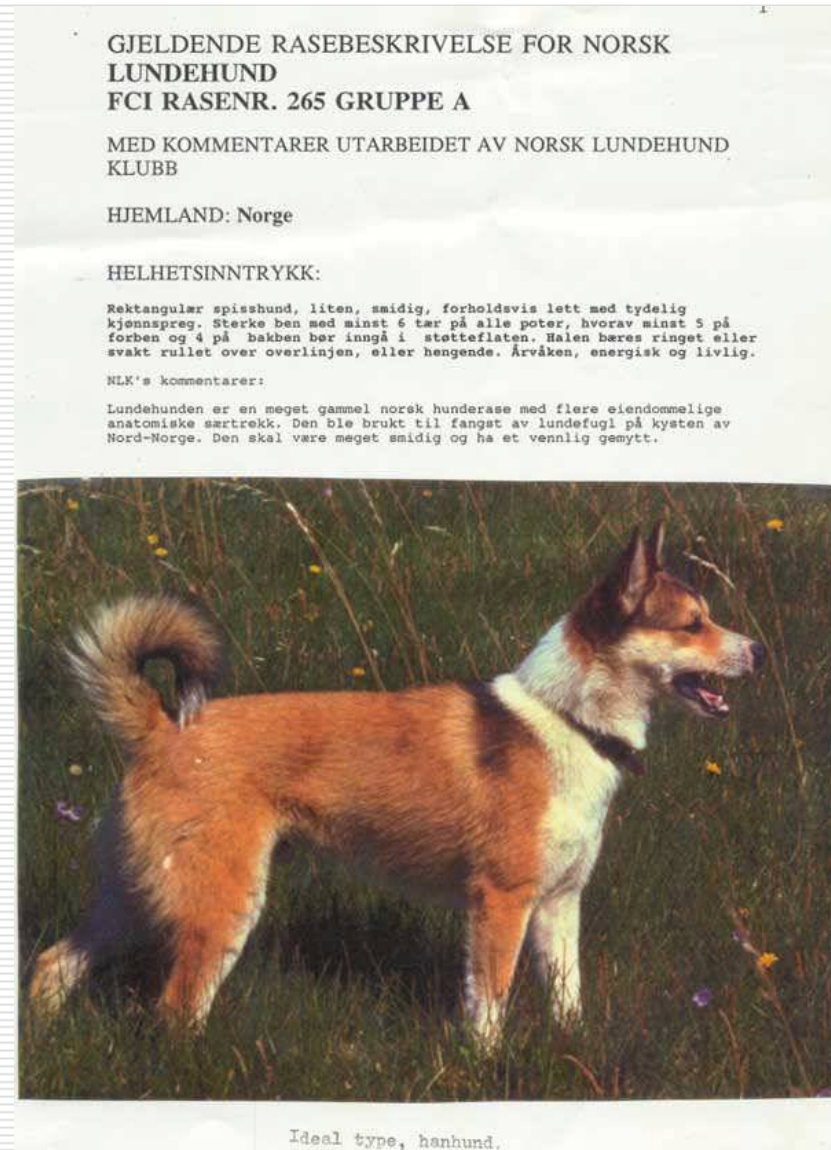
- ❑ In Norway, all breedings must be approved by NLK
- ❑ NLK standards call for a minimum of a 3 generation gap before a crossing



Breed Standard

Breed Standards

- ❑ Norsk Lundehund Klubb established 1st standard
 - Recognized in FCI Group 5, Section 2
 - ❑ Current revision dated December 03, 1999
- ❑ UKC recognized breed on January 01, 1995
 - 1995 FCI version
- ❑ IABCA & ARBA uses current FCI standard
- ❑ AKC standard dated June 01, 2007



Breed standard (cont.)

- The following is from the AKC approved standard, written & submitted by the NLAA
 - Used NLK standard as baseline

Breed standard (cont.)

□ General Appearance –

- the Norwegian Lundehund is a small rectangular and agile Spitz breed with unique characteristics not found in any other breed. Originating on remote islands of arctic Norway, the dog was used to wrestle and retrieve live puffin birds from the crevices of steep vertical cliffs.

Breed standard (cont.)

□ General Appearance (cont.) –

- To enable the dog to climb, descend, and brake on these cliffs, unique structural characteristics have evolved and must be present as they define this breed: a minimum of six toes on each foot and elongated rear foot pads, an elastic neck which allows the head to bend backwards to touch the spine, letting the dog turn around in narrow puffin bird caves, and shoulders flexible enough to allow the front legs to extend flat to the side in order to hug the cliffs. This shoulder structure produces a peculiar rotary movement.

Breed standard (cont.)

- General Appearance (cont.) –
 - Finally, the ears close and fold forward or backward to protect from debris. The temperament is alert but not expected to be outgoing towards strangers.

Breed standard (cont.)

- Size, Proportion, Substance, Height
 - The desired height for adult males is between 13-15 inches and 12-14 inches for adult females. Size consideration should not outweigh that of type, proportion, movement and other functional attributes. Proportion - length of body is slightly longer than height at the withers. Depth of chest is approximately one half of the height. Substance - the Lundehund should be athletic and agile, never coarse or heavy. Bitches are distinctly feminine but without weakness.

Breed standard (cont.)

□ Head

- The head is wedge-shaped, of medium width and clean. The skull is slightly rounded with prominent brows. There is a pronounced but not deep stop and the bridge of the nose has a slight arch. The muzzle is of medium length and width, tapering gradually to the end of the muzzle. Length of the muzzle is approximately two-thirds the length of the skull. Nose and lips are black.

Breed standard (cont.)

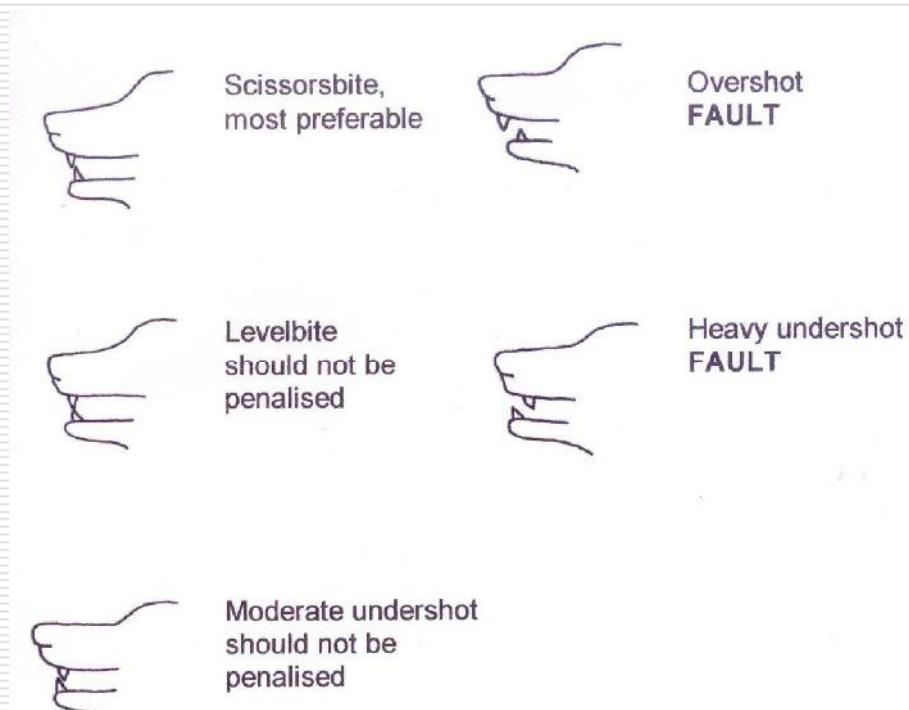
□ Head



Breed standard (cont.)

□ Teeth

- Scissors bite is preferred but level and reverse scissors-bite are permitted. Missing premolars on both sides of the upper and lower jaws are common and allowed.



Breed standard (cont.)

□ Eyes

- Almond shaped, yellow-brown to brown with a brown ring around the pupil. Light eyes are preferred. Eye rims are dark and complete.



Breed standard (cont.)

□ Ears

- Medium size, triangular, broad at the base, carried erect and very mobile. The ear leather can be folded and turned up, backwards or at right angles so that the ear openings are clamped shut.



Breed standard (cont.)

□ Neck

- The neck is clean, of medium length and strong without being thick.

- **NOTE:** *The judge should never ask the handler to demonstrate the characteristic flexibility in the ring as the dog can not relax sufficiently at a dog show.*

Breed standard (cont.)

□ Body

- Level back, short loin and slightly sloping croup, slight tuck up. Ribs are carried well back, well-sprung but not barrel shaped.



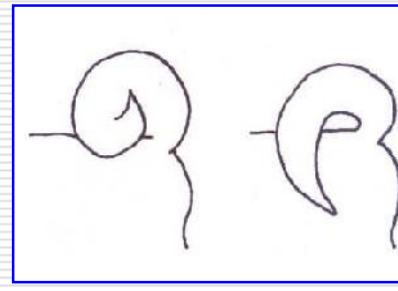
Breed standard (cont.)

□ Tail

- High set, medium length with a dense coat. When the dog is moving, the tail may be carried trailing or in a graceful arch over the back with the tip touching the back. A tightly curled tail or one that falls too far to either side is undesirable. When at rest, the tail hangs with a slight curve.



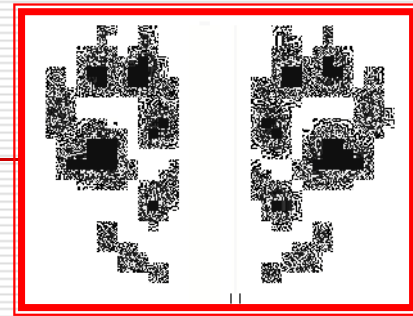
Correct



Incorrect



Breed standard (cont.)



□ Front feet

- The feet are oval with at least six fully developed toes, five of which should reach the ground. Eight pads on each foot. The additional toes consist of one three jointed toe, like a thumb, and one two jointed toe along with corresponding tendons and muscles which give the foot a strong appearance.



Breed standard (cont.)

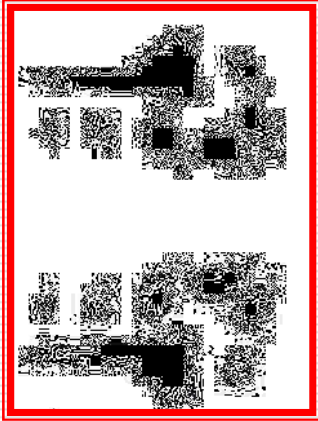
□ Hindquarters

- Moderate angulation in balance with the forequarters. Strong muscular upper and lower thighs.

Breed standard (cont.)

□ Rear Feet

- Oval, slightly outward turned with a minimum of six toes, of which four support the dog's weight. There are seven pads with the center pad elongated. When viewed from behind, the rear legs are close but parallel.



Breed standard (cont.)

□ Coat

- Double coat with a harsh outer coat and a dense, soft undercoat. The coat is short on the head and front of the legs, longer and thicker around the neck and back of thighs. It is dense on the tail with little feathering. The male typically has a thicker ruff around the neck. The Lundehund is presented naturally with no trimming.

Breed standard (cont.)

□ Color

- Fallow to reddish brown to tan with black hair tips and white markings or white with red or dark markings. More black hair tips with maturity. Dogs with a completely white head or with 50% of the head white should have complete dark eye rims and lashes.



Breed standard (cont.)

□ Temperament

- A Lundehund is alert, very energetic, loyal and protective. He can be wary of strangers, but never aggressive towards people.

Lundie on the rocks... a series



Lundie on the rocks... a series



Lundie on the rocks... a series



Lundie on the rocks... a series



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Lundie on the rocks... a series



Question / Answer time

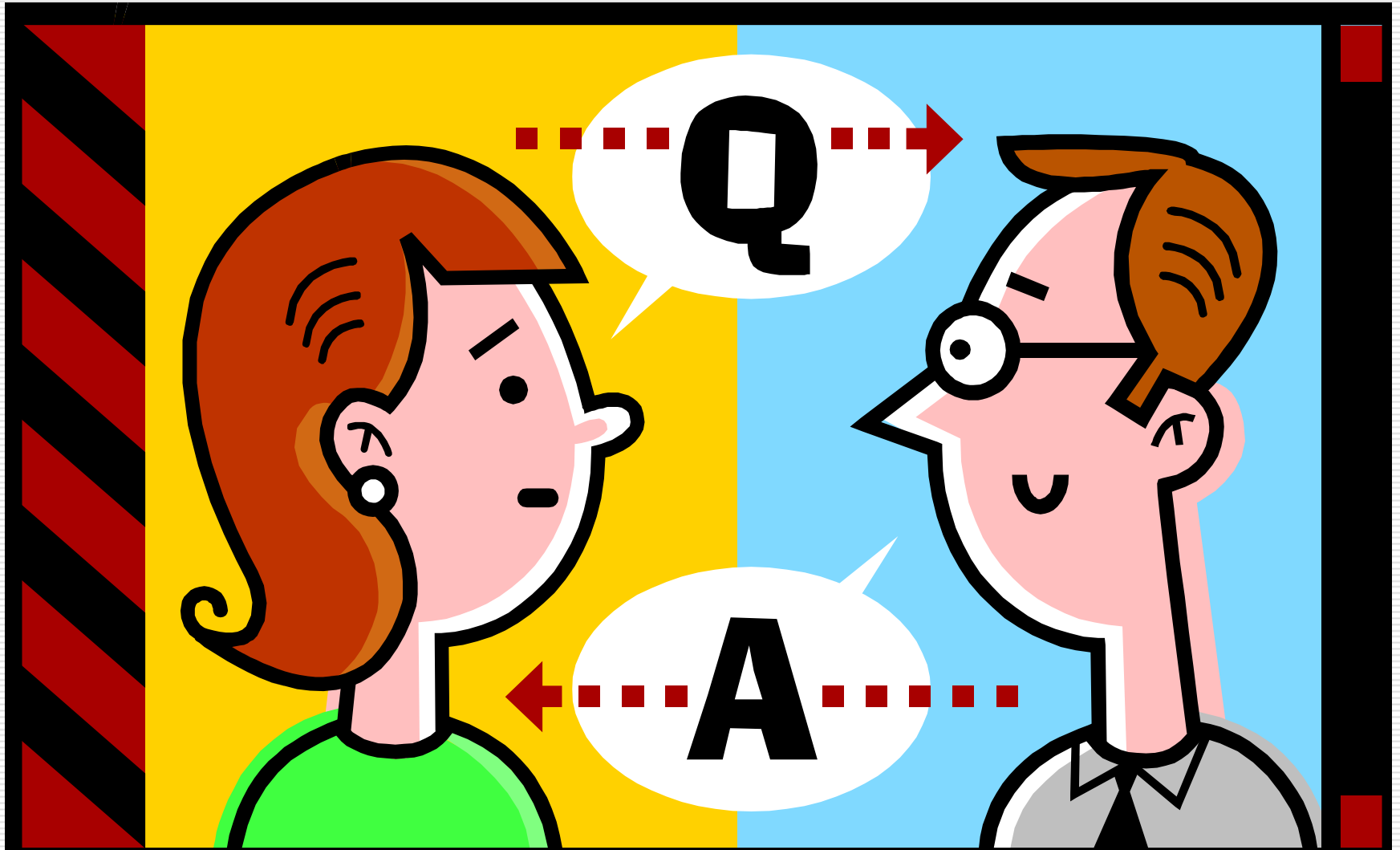


Photo credits

- ❑ Christen Lang
- ❑ Cliffhanger Kennels - California
 - <http://www.cliffhangernorwegianlundehunds.com>
- ❑ Eriksro Kennels - Finland
 - <http://www.eriksro.com>
- ❑ Kennel Keeza's - Denmark
 - <http://www.keezas.dk>
- ❑ NLAA, Inc.
 - <http://www.nlaainc.com>
- ❑ Sakari Kennels - Colorado
 - <http://www.sakarikennels.com>

Thank you!



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