

SOUTHWEST AUCTION HOSTS BREEDER SEMINAR!

It is always the same scenario. A breeder wants to sell out their kennel. They contact the auction company and book a date. Flyers are sent out to notify potential buyers of what will be available. Longtime breeders and new breeders come to buy dogs to upgrade or start out their kennels. But what if the new breeders aren't sure of what they are getting into or who to contact for information on the breed they are interested in? That was the question on the mind of Bob Hughes, owner/operator of Southwest Auction Service and also Publisher of the *Kennel Spotlight*.

Bob wanted to do something different. He decided to host an educational seminar on the night before the Bulldog Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 9th. He wasn't sure how it would go or how many breeders would attend. He contacted Steve Ruggles of Pro Pac dog food to help sponsor the event. Dr. Sam Harkey of All About Pets in Purdy, Mo. was contacted to speak. Dinner was planned and product suppliers were contacted for door prizes. Everything was in place, who would show up? EVERYONE! It was a HUGE SUCCESS! Well over 100 breeders came to listen and learn from Dr. Harkey who has extensive knowledge in puppy care and bulldog breeding and handling. The breeders that attended really took advantage of learning something new and sharing thoughts and ideas from the Q & A session. Lots of door prizes were given out and the American Kennel Club had a breeder rep there to supply everyone with educational handouts on English & French Bulldogs. The lecture, (that was only scheduled for an hour), ended up lasting over 2 ½ hours with Dr. Harkey still speaking to a handful of breeders after the rest had gone home.

This educational seminar was not only a great success, but a wonderful opportunity to dispel the negative 'stigma' of dog auctions being compared to 'flea markets', where dogs are just run through without care of breed standard and health. We at Southwest Auction Service & the Kennel Spotlight would like to give special thanks to **Pro Pac Dog Food** for sponsoring the event and all the suppliers who donated door prizes; **Revival Animal Health, VS Supplies, Lonewolf Pet Transport, Southwest Kennel Supply, Countryside Supply, Tuffys/Nutri Source dog food, American Kennel Club, and Plasticrate.** **Dr. Harkey** even donated some free progesterone testing as well! We appreciate all the breeders that attended this wonderful event and we look forward to doing this again in the future!