

akc gazette

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BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

Sporting and Working
January, April, July,
and October

Hound and Terrier
February, May, August,
and November

Toy, Non-Sporting,
and Herding
March, June, September,
and December

The 20th running of the American Kennel Club Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship was held at the Branched Oak Field Trial Grounds near Lincoln, Nebraska, last month. The 10-day event is the largest all-breed Pointing Dog Championship held in the United States. It consists of two championship stakes (retrieving and non-retrieving), and for the first time, a supporting Open Derby Classic.

Despite the cold temperatures and occasional snow flurries, the trial proceeded as planned. The Branched Oak grounds have hosted the Championship four times in the past and once again drew a great group of dogs from across the country, with owners from 25 states entering the event.

Dogs entered in the Championship demonstrated the skills for which they were bred: drive, style, intelligence, sustained concentration, and a cooperative spirit. Participants enjoyed watching these combined characteristics come to life.

The love the gundog community holds for the sport was clearly shown by the size of the gallery—even on days when the wind-chill factor made temperatures feel as though it were in the teens.

I'm very pleased to congratulate the following winners:



Winners of the first Open Derby Classic

First: Eshod's Doc Holiday, GSP; Owners: Jim Ferrell and Ray Dohse, Handler: Ray Dohse

Second: Trinity's Million Dollar Baby, English Setter; Owners: Wayne and Trish James, handled by Ray Dohse

Third: Firestarter's Country

Girl, Brittany; Owner: Andrea Christensen, Handler: Ben Garcia

Fourth: JJJ Single Malt (Whiskey), GSP; Owner June and William Johnston, Handler: Jim West

JAM: Sure Shot's It's a Jungle Out There (Lindsey), GWP; Owners: Penny Ljungren and Bernee Brawn, Handler: Jim West

JAM: Millstar Templeton Rye, Vizsla; Owner-Handler: Laura Miller

AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog

Championship Winners (Non-retrieving)

First: Brillows Big Wild West (Wiley), GWP; Owners: Todd Tuls and Rhonda Haukoos, Handler: Jim West

Second: Snowy River's Cuttin the Edge (Edger), GSP; Owners: Chase Verdoon and John Jones, Handler: Chase Verdoon

Third: FC/AFC Palm Glades Lee's Madeline (Maddie), GSP; Owner: Bradley Taylor, Handler: Dave Walker

Fourth: Ringafire's Eclipse (Suzie), Pointer; Owner-Handler: David Taylor

JAM: FC Eshod's Revolution (Mason), GSP; Owner Ed and Trudy Moody, Handler: Ray Dohse

JAM: NAFC/FC/AFC Brownhaven Steel Magnolia (Rachel), Irish Setter; Owner-Handler: Jim Baker

JAM: FC Uodibar's Pearl Booth, GSP; Owner-Handler: John Rabidou

AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship Winners (Retrieving)

First: I'm Maddie, GSP, Owner: Todd Tuls, Handler: Jim West

Second: NGDC/DC/AFC JB's Asker Bout Birds (Kinze) Vizsla; Owner-Handler: Joanne Beckley

Third: FC Dress Blues (Buddy), GSP; Owner: Mike Aldrich; Handler: John Rabidou

Fourth: Tumalo Teddy, GWP, Owner-Handler: John Williams

We'd love to hear from you about what you think about our organization and our staff. Please write to us at feedback@akc.org

Sincerely,

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO

New Title: Barn Hunt Fun for Dogs, Easy for Clubs

The Barn Hunt Association and the American Kennel Club have announced that the AKC now recognizes titles earned in the new sport of “barn hunt.”

Barn hunt is based on the hunting and teamwork skills historically used by “rat catchers” who traveled the countryside ridding farms of vermin. Dogs and handlers work as a team to locate and mark rats (in safe and aerated tubes) hidden in a maze of straw or hay bales. The event is open to all dogs.

“Barn hunt tests the nose, speed, agility, and surefootedness of dogs that have a history of above-ground vermin hunting,” says Robin Nuttall, founder of the Barn Hunt Association. “We quickly found out that many breeds and mixed-breeds enjoy the search and can excel at this sport.”

Barn-hunt events include a pass/fail Instinct class for owners who want to familiarize their dog with the test. The AKC will recognize titles at four testing levels above Instinct. Courses are made increasingly difficult by adding more obstacles, additional diversions, and more rats to find. The BHA has developed the sport to be fun for all participants, plus easy and inexpensive to hold.

Dog-and-handler teams earn legs toward barn-hunt titles by completing the course within maximum course time. Placements based on time are awarded, but barn hunt is a noncompetitive event and teams do not have to beat other dogs to title.

“We are pleased to work with the Barn Hunt Association to recognize barn hunt titles on a dog’s AKC record,” says Vice President of Companion and Performance Events Doug Ljungren. “Barn hunt is another great way for dogs to test their instinct, and for both owners and dogs to enjoy a fun activity together.”



Title and Club Info

If owners choose to apply, barn-hunt titles will appear on their dog’s AKC pedigree. The barn-hunt title application form and information regarding holding barn hunt in conjunction with AKC events can be found at akc.org/dog_shows_trials/titles/barn_hunt/index.cfm.

For more information, including the official rules and event-application process, visit barnhunt.com. Send comments or questions to PerformanceEvents@akc.org.

Correction

In our March issue, we reported on the use of a new breakaway tire in AKC Agility (“Agility Re-tires Old Obstacle,” page 6). The article should have stated that the tire was being judged as of March 1. We regret the error.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

For years, animal-rights extremists have focused on attacking the health of purebred dogs based on what they determined were improper breeding programs, and have indiscriminately discredited dog breeders with unsupported anecdotal stories as opposed to facts. We all know the unsubstantiated accusations all too well.

Unfortunately, the rather gullible media simply accepted these allegations. A case in point is the untruthful story about Bulldogs published in the *New York Times Magazine*. We supplied significant factual information about the health of Bulldogs, as did the Bulldog Club of America, but the article was selective (just a nice word for “biased”) in the use of those facts. In the end, the story was simply propaganda, not journalism.

But starting last year, there was a subtle, yet very noticeable shift in the tactics of the two largest animal-rights organizations. Previously, for the most part, they had either ignored or dismissed the AKC. They did not see us as an organization of any concern in their quest to eliminate dog ownership through the elimination of breeders. As they have made very clear, their stated goal is “no new puppies”—a goal they intend to accomplish through legislation and ballot initiatives to mandate spay/neuter and restrict breeders to the point of oblivion.

They Can't Ignore Us

So, what changed? We did.

In the past few years all of us—you, your clubs, and the AKC—have become more aggressive, more organized, more vocal, and more visible in legislative matters.

The tipping point appears to have been our approach to the proposed APHIS rule changes. Our proactive response to APHIS caught the extremists completely by surprise and sent them into a whirlwind of activity that amounted to nothing. Most likely, their evaluation after the storm was that the AKC needed much greater attention from them.

But the plan around the APHIS rule changes was just the tip of the spear the AR extremists have been feeling of late. AKC Government Relations, led by the pleasantly indomitable Sheila Goffe, has made our presence, knowledge, and commitment felt on myriad legislative issues around the country. Last year, Goffe's department monitored more than 1,500 pieces of legislation. Contrary to what the AR extremists would have people believe, we are a respected resource in dog legislation for legislators and governmental organizations. Our Care and Conditions of Dogs Policy is accepted as an intelligent and fair standard. Our careful analysis of proposed legislation helps reveal unreasonable requirements buried in a bill that would make it virtually impossible to be in compliance. Our individual financial support of legislators' campaigns has made new and strong friends for the AKC and our mission. And your clubs, and the hardworking state and local AKC legislative liaisons, have made significant inroads in protecting our rights.

“Extremists are now attacking us, using propaganda tactics of lies and innuendo.”

Today, the AKC is neither being ignored nor dismissed by the AR extremists. Instead, those organizations are now attacking us, using propaganda tactics of lies and innuendo. I believe our position as squarely in the sights of the AR extremists is a status and a challenge we should accept with resolve and great pride.

“Quickly, Broadly, Emphatically”

As a former ad guy, I am reminded of a 1915 ad for Cadillac considered one of the greatest print ads of all time. It ran only once, in the *Saturday Evening Post*. I believe that ad, “The Penalty of Leadership,” captures the essence of the AKC and the challenges we face from AR extremists. The ad explains why companies that honor “standards of excellence” become “targets of the envious”:

“The leader is assailed because he is the leader. The follower seeks to depreciate and to destroy. If the leader truly leads, he remains—the leader.”

How are we leading in this fight for our rights?

First, we are proactively taking our messages to the public; we are presenting the facts about purpose-bred dogs and the desirability of owning a well-bred purebred; and we are telling stories of the passionate commitment of our breeders to protect, preserve, and improve purebred dogs. We are doing it through an aggressive public-relations strategy, utilizing every media opportunity imaginable to get our story told correctly and fully.

Second, we will always be aggressive in responding to AR propaganda posing as media stories. The difference in our response to the Bulldog story and the *Times* attack is a demonstration of our new commitment to act quickly, broadly, and emphatically.

While the cost of having a day-in and day-out public-outreach program and an immediate-response program is significant, we can afford it. In fact, we can't afford not to have it.

Your comments and suggestion are welcome atk@akc.org.

Sincerely,



Alan Kalter
Chairman

Play Your ACE

We're looking for a few good dogs

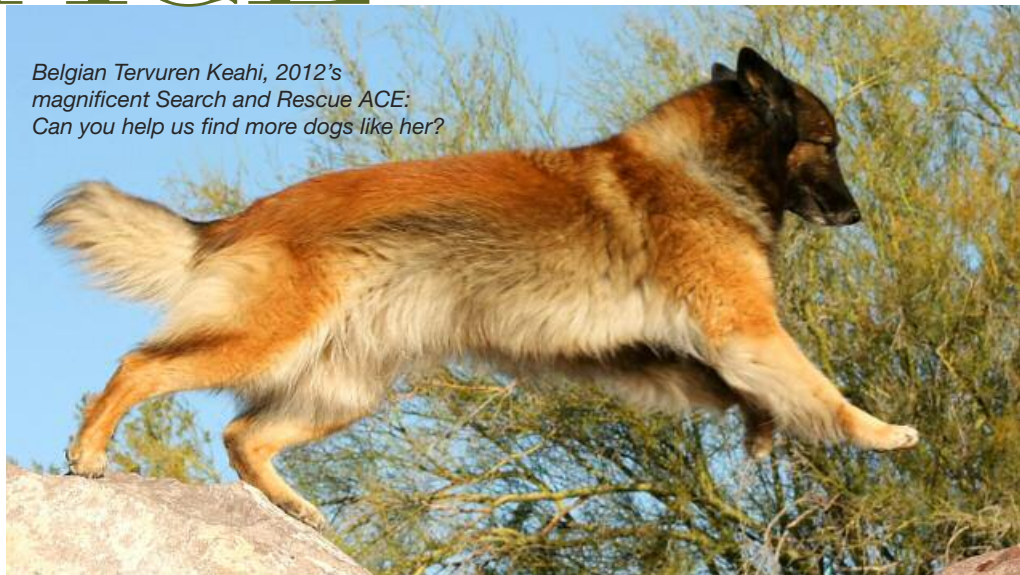
The AKC Humane Fund is seeking nominations for its Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE). Nominations are open to all dogs, purebred and mixed-breed.

Since 2000, the ACE program has honored dogs who have provided meritorious service to an individual or community in the categories of Exemplary Companion, Law Enforcement, Search and Rescue, Therapy, and Service. Honorable Mentions are awarded to outstanding entries in each category.

The five honorees will receive an engraved sterling-silver medallion and an all-expenses-paid trip for dog and owner to Orlando, Florida, to be saluted at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in December. A \$1,000 donation will be made in each recipient's name to a pet-related charity, and their names will be inscribed on the ACE plaque on permanent display at AKC headquarters in New York.

Honorable Mention dogs will be awarded an engraved bronze medallion, and all entrants will receive an ACE Certificate of Recognition in acknowledgement of their nomination.

Anyone, including the dog's owner or handler, may submit a nomination. Everything required to make a nomination can be found in the ACE pages at akchumanefund.org. Nomination-submission deadline: **June 1**.



Belgian Tervuren Keahi, 2012's magnificent Search and Rescue ACE: Can you help us find more dogs like her?

MARTIN NEW FIELD REP

The AKC has announced that Bryan Martin has been hired as an executive field representative. He joined the staff on April 15 and will be based in the Portland, Oregon, area.

"Bryan brings a broad base of knowledge to the position of Executive Field Representative, with many successful years in the sport as an exhibitor, professional handler, club member, and superintendent," AKC Senior Executive Field Representative Patricia Proctor says. "The American Kennel Club is proud to welcome him to the staff."

Martin has 50 years' experience exhibiting dogs and began handling

professionally in 1983. He and his wife, Nancy Martin, are members of the AKC Registered Handlers Program. In 2011, Martin was named AKC Registered Handler of the

Year. He has held leadership positions in several clubs, most recently as a director of the American Polish Lowland Sheepdog Club.

Martin has been a superintendent assistant for Webb Dog Shows, a licensed "R" Steward for the American Horse Shows Association, and the owner of a horse-show management company. He received a bachelor's degree in journalism and advertising/public relations from Iowa State University.



American Kennel Clips >>>

Hot Dogs with Everything

ST. LOUIS—The AKC Museum of the Dog presents *The Dachshund in Art!*, featuring pieces from the museum's extensive collection, as well as whimsical works in bronze by well-known local artist Joy Kroeger Beckner. The exhibition is presented in conjunction with the Dachshund Club of America's national specialty at the Purina Farms Event Center.

The Dachshund in Art! runs May 3 through May 19.



Meet Us in New York

The AKC and The International Cat Association have announced that they will co-host their fifth annual Meet the Breeds event over the weekend of September 28 and 29 at New York's Jacob K. Javits Convention Center.

AKC Meet the Breeds is the world's largest showcase of dogs and cats. It offers prospective owners a unique opportunity to experience hundreds breeds and talk to responsible breeders and owners.

"AKC Meet the Breeds is the perfect way for people to learn about the predictability of purebred dogs and figure out what breed is right for them," the AKC's Gina DiNardo says. PetPartners, Inc., will be the event sponsor.

Sweet 16 Make Extravaganza History

TULSA, OKLAHOMA—The AKC crowned 16 winners (11 National Agility Champions, a National Obedience Champion, and four AKC Rally National Competition class winners) from an entry of more than 1,600 dogs at the inaugural Companion Events Extravaganza over the weekend of March 15.

"Congratulations to our new National Champions and class winners," AKC Director of Agility Carrie DeYoung says. "We'd like to thank everyone who made the first Companion Events Extravaganza possible, including the entrants, volunteers and AKC staff. The Expo Square facility and the city of Tulsa were wonderful hosts."

See the agility pages at akc.org for all the results.



Colo. Federation, Stone City KC Honored

The Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs and the Stone City (Illinois) Kennel Club have won AKC Community Achievement Awards.

Community Achievement Awards support and recognize outstanding public-education and legislation efforts of AKC-affiliated clubs, AKC-recognized federations, and their members. Awards go to those who promote responsible dog ownership or who have successfully introduced, monitored, and responded to legislative issues affecting dog ownership.

"We are pleased to recognize the Stone City Kennel Club and the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs for their innovative programs reaching out to members of the pet-owning public," AKC Director of Government Relations Sheila Goffe says. "Their programs and presentations demonstrate the many aspects of responsible dog ownership."

Award nominations are accepted year-round. Honorees receive a certificate of appreciation and a \$1,000 check payable to their AKC club or AKC-recognized federation to further public education and government-relations efforts. To make a nomination, visit akc.org and search "Community Achievement."



times past

The Storyteller

Journalist Walter Fletcher covered the dog-show beat for nearly 50 years. If ever a reporter could be described as beloved by the people he covered, it was Fletcher. At Westminster, 1995, when it was announced that he was retiring from writing, the Garden faithful gave him a standing ovation. He died in February 2000, just hours before Best in Show was awarded at Westminster.

All dog writers owe Fletcher a debt of gratitude for the rich body of work he left us. Anyone researching the history of the 20th century's show scene will eventually encounter Fletcher's sleek prose and canny eye for detail.

*Among Fletcher's best friends was his colleague Red Smith, perhaps the most gifted sportswriter to ever beat a deadline. Here's an excerpt from Smith's affectionate introduction to Fletcher's 1979 best-selling book, *My Times with Dogs*.*

"The dog has got more fun out of Man than Man has gotten out of the dog," James Thurber wrote, "For the clearly demonstrable reason that Man is the more laughable of the two animals."

This is one of those half truths or three-quarters-truths or seven-eighths truths which, like the varnished blonde in the chorus line, looks good until examined at close range. Walter Fletcher is as warm, friendly and companionable a man as you could catch if you set a bear trap in the aisle of a cathedral, but no reader of this book could possibly believe that dogs have got as much fun out of him this last half-century as he has got out of dogs. He is one of those rare beings fortunate enough to have found a job he loved, and to have loved it his whole adult life. ...

One afternoon at the Westminster Kennel Club show I mentioned to Walter that I had been watching a judge work Old English Sheepdogs. Oh, Walter said, sure, he knew that judge. Fine fellow.

Some years back, Walter said, the judge had fallen for a Radcliffe lady who owned a Great Pyrenees, a breed named for a mountain range, aptly. They had married and gone off on their honeymoon in a Volkswagen bug, with the dog in the rear seat, more or less.

They lost the dog in Yellowstone Park. Probably he just spilled out of the Volks. They were frantic for a day or so. Then a park ranger phoned. "I think we've got a line on your dog," he said. "A tourist reported sighting a polar bear."

To Walter Fletcher, this was just an anecdote to be tossed off in the press room in Madison Square Garden. For me, it was raw material that made a whole column, bless his heart.



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Dog People

Catherine O'Hara, Eugene Levy, and Norwich Terrier Can. Ch. Urchin's Bryllo in the classic dog-show comedy **Best in Show**, recently released on Blu-ray. Filmmaker Christopher Guest recalls that directing show dogs was easier than working with human actors: "Oh, the dogs were nothing. They were absolute professionals. Show dogs—no barking, no pooping, no peeing, no misbehavior, not for one second. I was very lucky."

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ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by a breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's history and function. A national parent club comprises dedicated breeders and fanciers, and it represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to the fancy in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year.

Information and opinions expressed in the breed columns represent the views of their authors, not necessarily those of the breed's parent club or the AKC.

sporting **Brittanys**

Guest columnist Dave Webb has been active in showing, field trialing, and writing about Brittanys since 1973.

Field Ch., Show Ch., Dual Ch., or None of the Three

Among the sporting dogs, the Brittany is a somewhat unique breed. He is the smallest of the pointing dogs and has a rich history, the breed having been developed in France by the thrifty peasant farmers of the province of Brittany. The breed was known for being a tough little animal with excellent retrieving and bird-finding abilities. He was the French family's hunting dog, guardian of the farm, and family pet.

The history of the Brittany began thousands of years ago, at a time when humans began to domesticate dogs and use them to help find, trail, and take game animals and birds for food. Eventually, four separate types of dogs evolved: dogs to guard, to herd, to sight-hunt, and to scent-hunt.

Being of the scent-hunting group, the Brittany was bred by the French peasants from several different types of dogs. Predominantly these included the English Setter, Irish Setter, and the red-and-white Welsh Springer, which had been crossbred with a small French land spaniel to produce the Brittany. By the early 1900s the Brittany had evolved into a distinct breed.

Ultimately there was a need to develop a standard to describe the

Brittany. This was accomplished by using the physical characteristics of the hunting field dog. The American Kennel Club recognized the breed standard in 1934. This AKC standard was translated from the original French standard with a few minor alterations. The French standard had been first written in 1907.

Let's backtrack and consider the development of all dog breeds. During the latter part of the 19th century, change was rampant. The Industrial Revolution was affecting the order of rural life. Dog fanciers of that time realized that their dog breeds—of all types—were disappearing. It was then that standards for breeds were established. The era of purebred dogs had begun, with a focus on the show dog. Further, it must be considered that these standards for the sporting dogs were developed based upon each field/hunting breed's physical characteristics.

The establishment of these various dog breeds has had and will have a profound effect on DNA research for both dogs and humans alike. An article in the February 2012 *National Geographic* focuses on the spectacular variety of dog shapes and sizes and the importance of the various dog breeds, and on how canine genetic research is helping to unravel the complexity of some human genetic diseases. Genetic scientists analyzed 85 dog breeds and found chromosomal similarities that clustered dogs into several different categories as the result of humans breeding dogs for

specific purposes—such as for hunting game or herding livestock. Thousands of years ago man domesticated wolves, and humans selectively bred this animal into the various dog breeds that are in existence today. The purebred-dog community should be proud of continuing this important legacy.

This article will be continued in the next issue. —D.W.

Thank you, Dave, for sharing your expertise with us, and we look forward to reading Part Two in the July issue.

—Martha Greenlee,
mhgreenlee@gmail.com

American Brittany Club website:
clubs.akc.org/brit

Pointers

Our guest columnist is Berna Welch.

Extreme Breeding!

This is an age of extremes—extreme sports, extreme fashions, extreme politics, extreme everything! In breeding programs, however, we tend to steer away from extremes. The dogs with heavier bone or size, more angulation or coat, or who are “fancier” are the dogs we often overlook when selecting breeding partners. Many breeders don’t incorporate the extreme dog into their program because they don’t want that style of dog.

However, continually taking this approach can lead to the production of the generic show dog. While these dogs are correct, they are not in any way special. Although often rewarded, they lack the capability to improve subsequent generations when used as breeding animals. Eventually this will lead to more mediocrity than quality.

When assessing a class of dogs, my eye gravitates toward the ones whom I consider “breathtaking.” More often than not, these breathtaking dogs can be called extreme for one or more reasons. They are what I call “breeders’ dogs.”

Years ago a stunning young dog appeared in our ring. He had style, charisma, lots of bone, beautiful coat, and possessed big, open side gait, and

breeders either loved or hated him. He was maligned for being overdone and extreme. Yet when bred properly, he was not only a great producer in his own right, his offspring and their offspring went on to be very influential in many of our mainstream breeding programs. Even when used as an outcross, breeders who chose him for their bitches were able to add things he offered without the extremes he exhibited.

We must always be future-oriented when breeding dogs. While adding the extreme dog to a breeding program might not produce everything we hope for in the first generation, the next generation will often be the most influential producers in a pedigree line.

The next time you see a dog you consider extreme, instead of discounting him as a potential breeding animal look at what he could bring to your breeding program. A dear friend, mentor, and successful breeder of many champions once said, “I didn’t produce what I have without taking some chances along the way.”

Every breeding brings an element of chance, and even what we might think are the safest choices can produce some great surprises. It behooves us to be forward thinking and look to dogs who can offer our program what it needs, instead of becoming stuck in the middle. —B.W.

Thank you, Berna, for this informative column.

Please visit the APC website for information on our wonderful breed. Your suggestions and comments are welcome.

—Helyne E. Medeiros,
seasydehm@aol.com

American Pointer Club website:
americanpointerclub.org

German Shorthaired Pointers

The 50th National Specialty Show

In February 1964, the board of directors of the breed’s newly reorganized parent club announced plans to hold its first national-specialty

show, with member Gene Ellis first in line volunteering to organize the event.

The polo grounds at Farmington, Connecticut, was selected as the site, and the show would be held in conjunction with the Farmington Valley Kennel Club’s all-breed show because the GSP entry at that show in the past two years had been the largest of any U.S. show. The date was set at July 4, 1964. The FVKKC agreed to provide the grounds, judge, field exhibition birds, and one dollar for each dog entered. The parent club would be responsible for trophies, hospitality, and event promotion.

Gene sent out a letter explaining that the show would provide a medium for GSP breeders across the country to exchange ideas and get to know one another. At this time breeders and owners tended to stay in their geographical locations, with only two dogs being actively campaigned outside their local show areas.

An open invitation was sent to all GSP owners and enthusiasts, but Gene specifically targeted owners of specialty-show, group-placement, and Best in Show winners. He referred to the event as the “greatest gathering ever” of “the GSP clan,” a term he used often. He reminded the owners of top dogs of their responsibility to have their dog present, and he challenged them to enter their dogs for the “good of the breed” regardless of whether they thought they might win. In his estimation this would exhibit sportsmanship and devotion to the GSP breed he so dearly loved.

The total cost for the 1964 NSS was \$657.17, with the final balance sheet indicating a profit of \$89.93, pending two outstanding bills.

In a follow-up letter, Gene commented, “I am sure that they will find out, as we have, that the German Shorthaired Pointer clan is the greatest, and that there are many, many members who are only interested in what they can do for the breed and not what the breed can do for them! Believe me, that realization is a wonderful experience.”

The enthusiasm of Gene's "clan" for the breed was infectious to all as they gathered each year to talk dogs, plan dinner reservations, and hold cocktail parties in their respective rooms.

With a wry sense of humor and Gene as the instigator, his clan was the first to award a "Tippy Toe" trophy to the handler exhibiting the least graceful moments in the ring. That tradition, in addition to the "Velvet Elvis" award (begun at the '95 NSS), continues.

Having begun as a single-day event, the breed's 50th national-specialty show, to take place in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, at the Eisenhower Convention Center, will run for seven days next month, May 5–11, ending with another tradition, the annual awards banquet. True to the GSP spirit of humor, the Tippy Toe and Velvet Elvis awards will be announced at the banquet, along with the other prestigious awards of accomplishment for the year.

Gene died of a heart attack in 1999, but with each national specialty his spirit and that of his GSP clan live on, because those of us fortunate to know him will be there to explain and carry those traditions forward in a manner that would make Gene proud.

And who knows what new tradition may take root at the 50th NSS.

—Patte Titus, chexsix@mac.com

German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America website: gspca.org

Curly-Coated Retrievers

No Time Wasted

As there are now more Curlies taking part in the AKC field events, I thought I would share some ideas about training in the field.

A good foundation in obedience training is a must. Start early with the pup, teaching *come*, *sit*, *wait*, *hold*, *give*, and *finish* (both on the left side of the handler and on the right side). While pup is learning all of this, remember that many of these commands will flow over to other performance activities.

The other day I observed the owner

of a Flat-Coated Retriever making good use of her long wait in the holding blind. She had him perform different obedience exercises while waiting. They were just the different finishes and a short recall, but he was learning instead of becoming bored.

I spoke with this handler later, and she told me that she always has her dog sit as he leaves the blind and starts to walk beside her to the line. (The *line* is the spot from which the dog leaves the side of the handler as he goes off to retrieve the bird.)

If when starting fieldwork you encounter a problem never before heard of, do not give up. I certainly have had many ups and downs with my Curlies over the years. My first Curly whom I trained for field activities did not have a good obedience foundation, and she got away with tearing off with whatever she retrieved, causing a lot of wasted time. Not only should I have had a long line on her to prevent this, but I should have stopped the field activities and concentrated on basic obedience work until she was more mature and reliable.

With my now-mature Curly, she decided when new to fieldwork to take her bird or bumper back to her "lair" (the car or motor home). I stopped any formal fieldwork right then for a few months and concentrated on a reliable return to me with whatever she retrieved.

I now have a new challenge with my young Curly-Coated Retriever. She is actually too avid in her water work at this point. At a very young age it was evident that she would like to swim and never come out. She is now *always* on a long line while in the water, but all swimming has been stopped. At this time, I am concentrating on her obedience work, and she will attend her first obedience seminar in a few days. I decided that there was no good reason to keep repeating her lack of improvement and stop wasting time there. Hopefully, concentrating on basic obedience activities will flow over to improved water work.

In a future column I shall report on her progress with water retrieving.

—Ann Shinkle, annshinkle@aol.com

Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America website: ccra.org

Flat-Coated Retrievers

Controlling Your Ever-Friendly Flat-Coat

Flat-Coats are social, friendly, and full of joy all their lives, and we love them for that. However, the very enthusiasm we love them for can cause problems, both for them and for us. We want our dogs to be affectionate with ourselves and with others, but jumping up and other body contact can be dangerous, especially when an adult or a child is caught off-balance or is on a stairway, on snow or ice, or carrying a shotgun on a hunt.

When a Flat-Coat makes physical contact—whether jumping up, leaning, or bumping with the nose, shoulder, or rump—he feels approved of. Therefore, correcting these behaviors is difficult, when the dog already feels rewarded. *Preventing* these behaviors is far more successful. Flat-Coats have to be trained to wait to be petted or touched instead being allowed to make physical contact themselves.

With a litter of puppies, we keep moving and call to them to follow until we put their food down or throw toys. If we stood still, they would all be jumping up. While they are very young, we get down on their level to pet them and be affectionate. When we separate one puppy from the others, we teach the puppy to sit and wait (if he's to be strictly a pet, obedience, or hunting dog) or stand and wait (for the future show dog—four feet on the ground, head up) for a biscuit or a treat.

The puppy doesn't need to be treated for every sit or stand, but he should know that he will not get anything he wants until he does what *you* want. If this is done by the adults in the new family and also with the children (we have worked with children as young as 1½ years), the puppy will

learn that children are not fellow puppies to be jumped on and playfully bit but rather are small people who are in charge of what he wants.

The puppy should also sit or stand for treats for visitors. The first step in teaching a puppy to wait to be petted is to wait for a treat or a biscuit. Have visitors to your home and people you meet on a walk have your puppy sit or stand and wait for a biscuit or a treat and eventually quiet petting. If your puppy moves toward the visitor during petting, pick up the puppy or take him away on lead before he succeeds in touching the visitor. Then stop and have him sit for you to pet. The more frequently the puppy has to wait for a treat or for petting, the more controllable he will be. If you have a visitor who insists on over-stimulating your puppy, take your puppy away and put him in his crate with a biscuit and a toy.

When the puppy or adult dog is heeling on a lead, physical contact with the owner can be discouraged by making tight circles to the left or about-turns to the left. Teaching your Flat-Coat to “down-stay” with all kinds of distractions, which teaches self control, and to walk on a loose lead as well as “heel” are critical to controlling physical contact.

—Sally Terroux, sjterroux@aol.com

Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America website: FCRSAinc.org

Golden Retrievers Diversity

In the current political climate where diversity seems to be the watchword, the Golden Retriever is leading the charge. Diversity has long been a hot-button issue in the breed, with the original yellow hunting dog morphing into what some in the past considered a fluffy show dog with minimal talent in the field. During recent decades, however, the Golden has continued to evolve and grow, proving that beneath the fluffy coat still beats that famous heart of gold.

That evolution was on full display at the 2012 GRCA national specialty in

St. Louis last September, hosted by the Golden Retriever Club of Greater St. Louis. Held at the new Purina Farms Event Center in the heart of the Midwest, the 2012 national drew the best of the best from all corners of the country. Conformation entries closed with 398, agility entries topped 500, and over 600 Golden Retrievers were entered in four field trial stakes, three hunt test levels, tracking tests, and two levels of working tests.

Such a large entry in a wide variety of venues is indeed proof that diversity is alive and well in today's Golden Retriever. Most significant, however, was the entry for the parent club's CCA (Conformation Certificate of Assessment) evaluation. Of the 60-plus dogs entered, 40 received passing scores.

The CCA is a noncompetitive area of participation (as opposed to competition) in conformation that is offered by GRCA member clubs. The CCA test provides a platform where dogs are assessed against the breed standard rather than against other dogs, and thus can prove their merit as sound representatives of the breed.

Throughout the year, there are countless Golden Retrievers proving their talent in the field, obedience, and agility, as well as warming beds as beloved companions, and many are excellent representatives of the breed. Yet for lack of time, opportunity or desire, these dogs do not compete in the breed ring. The CCA is an opportunity for those dogs, many from working venues, to prove they conform to the standard established for the breed.

Based on a scale of 100 possible points in 10 different categories, and judged by three different evaluators, the CCA judges the individual dog on its physical conformation and temperament as set forth in the breed standard—“primarily a hunting dog, he should be shown in hard working condition.” A minimum of three scores of 75 or greater are necessary to qualify, and qualifying dogs receive the official GRCA CCA title.

Those 40 dogs who earned the CCA title, as well as all the success of all the dogs who participated in the national, are further evidence that diverse talent still thrives in today's Golden Retriever.

—Nona Kilgore Bauer, nona@non-abauer.com

Golden Retriever Club of America website: grca.org

Labrador Retrievers Labrador Retrievers Pulling Their Weight—and Then Some

The early Labrador Retrievers of Newfoundland were often asked to haul wood. Modern Labradors are still capable of this work. It is even possible to participate in weight-pulling events where one can compete against others or obtain achievement titles.

There are hundreds of pulling events held annually throughout the country, and no less than six different organizations govern events. “Pulls” are held on snow with a sled, on dirt or carpet with wheels, or on carpet with rails. Generally dogs can pull three to five times as much on wheels than sleds. Rails prove even easier to pull on.

The “weigh-in” is the first part of any competition. Classes are broken up into weight divisions with different start-weights and different load increments. Titles are awarded based on percentage of body weight pulled. Dogs in the smallest weight classes may pull a more appropriately proportioned vehicle, but don't take diminutive stature for granted; smaller dogs often pull a higher percentage of their body weight than larger dogs. At last year's International Weight Pull Association Championships a 30-pound dynamo named Penny pulled an impressive 60 times her body weight, while the top weight-puller in the highest weight class “only” managed 26.87 times his weight—it is difficult to think of pulling 3,600 pounds as an “underachievement”!

The one piece of equipment mandatory for weight pulling is an appropriate harness. Freight harnesses are

designed to allow the dog to use his back and rear to the fullest. The traces slope downward, and about four inches behind the dog's rear legs is a wooden spreader that keeps the traces from becoming tangled.

Once a dog is in harness, he is led to the start line, where he is attached to the vehicle and commanded to stay until the handler passes the finish line down the chute. The distance varies, but most organizations use a 16-foot chute. The timer is started upon command from the handler or when the dog commences pulling. The dog has 60 seconds to get the front of the vehicle over the finish line. The fastest time for pull determines the winner of any tie.

No food or other bait/lure is permitted to encourage the dog to pull—just voice and body language. It is considered very important to keep the event positive for the dogs, so no aggressive behavior is tolerated on the grounds. Officials are also dedicated to seeing dogs end their pulls with a positive experience. Once a dog has given up, they will give the vehicle just the smallest of nudges to ensure that the dog completes the pull successfully.

Participants are permitted to pass up to two weight increments in a row. There is some strategy to pulling or passing; it is wise to not waste energy on lighter pulls, because eventually the dog will be asked to make a maximal effort. However, by passing on a pull there is the risk that the handler will misjudge the conditions of the day and skip the weight that might have been the dog's best effort.

Pulling comes naturally to many dogs. Anyone who has struggled to walk an untrained, enthusiastic Labrador Retriever on leash has probably experienced this. Harnessing this energy successfully for weight pulling has three main elements. Conditioning gives a dog the muscles to pull with. Practice will give the dog the experience to understand the task and how to best use his muscles. However, what ultimately makes for the very best pulling dogs is heart and willingness to

please—something that Labrador Retrievers have in abundance.

For more information on weight-pulling, visit iwpa.net/index.html, weight-pull.com, ukcdogs.com, and ak9wpa.org/home.

—Lee Foote

The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.,
website: thelabradorclub.com

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers Versatility Is Spelled R-U-S-T-Y-J-O-N-E-S

As we near our 10th anniversary of AKC recognition (Miscellaneous class July 1, 2003), I have been reflecting on what drew me to this breed 18 years ago. In a nutshell, it was its versatility. In the early 1990s, I was competing in obedience and agility with a Labrador Retriever. When it came time to add a second dog to the household, I was looking for one who would enjoy those sports. I found all that and more in our first Toller, eventually adding conformation, field, and rally to my repertoire.

Although the NSDTRC (USA) sponsors a robust versatility program based on points accumulated in various performance areas and levels, the Rusty Jones Award has always represented to me the gold standard of versatility in our breed. According to Marile Waterstraat, a founding club member, “the intent of the award was to showcase and encourage the versatility of the Toller, showing correct structure and style, trainability, and hunting ability.” To be eligible, a dog must have earned an NSDTRC (USA) or AKC conformation championship, an NSDTRC (USA) or AKC Companion Dog title, and an NSDTRC (USA) Working Certificate.

The award was approved at the club's board of directors meeting on September 30, 1994, the year of the club's 10th anniversary. In the Fall 1995 issue of *Quackers*, the first year it was awarded, it was formally announced as the Rusty Jones Award, and six Tollers qualified for it.

To date, over 150 Tollers have been recognized with this award, which is presented each year at the NSDTRC (USA) annual awards banquet to Tollers who have completed the requirements over the previous year.

The award is named after Sylvan's Rusty Jones, one of our earliest versatile Tollers. Rusty was from the first litter of Tollers registered in the United States, bred by Sue and Neil Van Sloun of Sylvan Kennel, and owned by Marile Waterstraat and John Hamilton.

Rusty's sire was Chalk Bluff's Redwood Jack, and his dam was Can Ch. Sproul's Foxii Nana. Rusty's registered name complete with all of his titles was WR NSDTRC/Can Ch./Can. OTCH Sylvan's Rusty Jones, NSDTRC CDX, WC, Can. WCX, TT. Rusty was also awarded the Canadian Doberstein Award and Hyflyer Award, and he was the first Toller to achieve the Canadian conformation championship, UD, and WCX.

Marile described Rusty as “willing, happy, eminently trainable, a quick learner, loved everyone, a great ambassador for our breed ... a superb pheasant dog and good duck retriever, though he found sitting in a blind boring and was unmerciful if we missed a shot.” Does that remind anyone of their own little red dog?

If you haven't tried one of the sports required for a Rusty Jones Award but are interested, your first step is to find knowledgeable resources. Local dog training clubs, NSDTRC (USA) club members, and your breeder are all good places to start.

Owners of dogs who have completed the requirements for this award from July 1 through June 30 of any given year can contact Kim Simons (duckdogs@earthlink.net) for more information.

It is important to note that titles may be earned over several years, especially if you are like many of us and are working on these requirements as an owner-handler.

—Heather Green, zephyr341@sbglobal.net

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever

Club (USA) website: nsdtrc-usa.org

English Setters *Salud!*

It's April, and income tax talk is in the air. If you are looking at your tax-deductible donations for 2012 on your tax form, you might be wishing you had made a donation that will benefit the future health of English Setters and all dogs. Now's the time to plan your 2013 donations to make sure you cover the causes that are near and dear to your heart—and perhaps reduce your taxable income in the process.

You might consider making a donation to the AKC's Canine Health Foundation (CHF). The AKC created the CHF in 1995 as a 501(c)3 charitable organization, with the mission of raising funds to support canine health research. Its mission, as stated on the CHF website (akchf.org), is "to advance the health of all dogs and their owners by funding sound scientific research and supporting the dissemination of health information to prevent, treat, and cure canine disease."

Armed with information gathered from parent clubs, veterinarians, and dog owners about health concerns specific to a breed or group of breeds, teams of researchers make proposals to study those health concerns in a scientific, organized way with the aim of reducing or eliminating them. The CHF itself may fund studies, and an individual parent club or group of parent clubs may do so.

By clicking on "Funded Research" on the CHF site, you can tailor your search to find out what research has been conducted concerning a particular health category, a particular disease, or a particular breed. If you search on English Setters, you will see three studies have been completed—two on deafness, and one on thyroid disease.

Compared to many other breeds, English Setters are fortunate in that we have fewer serious inherited health issues. Still, we should do our best to understand and take steps to eliminate or mitigate those we do have.

Each year, the CHF sends to the English Setter Association of America's

Health and Genetics committee a list of studies that might be relevant to English Setters. The committee reviews the proposals and prioritizes those that would seem to be of most benefit to our breed, and funds we have raised are allocated with ESAA board approval.

It takes money to fund research that will lead to answers to our most pressing health questions. There are many suggested ways to donate under the "How You Can Help" tab on the CHF site. You can earmark your donation for a specific breed, and your money will be waiting in a donor-directed fund when research is proposed that English Setter fanciers might wish to fund. You can click on a particular project and, if it touches your life in some way, click on a button that will allow you to donate to that project.

If one of your beloved dogs or a friend's dog passes away, you could make a donation to the CHF in that dog's name as a tangible way of remembering that dog and helping all dogs.

With the CHF, the AKC has provided us with a resource to deal with health issues in our breed, to help us better plan breedings so as to avoid inherited genetic diseases, and to deal more effectively with such diseases when they occur. And, all CHF donations are tax-deductible.

—Jill Warren, Esthete.es@comcast.net

English Setter Association of America website: esaa.com

Gordon Setters

This is the fourth column in our breeding and whelping series based on interviews with and information drawn from articles provided by Autumn Davidson, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVIM, VMTH SAC, of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis.

Breeding: Managing the Prospective Mom

How does a breeder begin breeding management of the female prior to breeding?

The canine estrous cycle consists of four phases: *proestrus*, *estrus*, *diestrus*, and

anestrus. Proestrus and estrus are commonly called "heat" or "season." During proestrus, the start of the estrous cycle, the female attracts male dogs but is still not receptive to breeding.

What happens next?

The female may become playful or passive as proestrus continues. A blood-tinged vaginal discharge (of uterine origin) is present; the vulva is moderately enlarged and turgid. Cells from vaginal cytology smears change over a period of four to seven days from non-cornified (small "parabasal" cells and small and large "intermediate" cells) to cornified cells ("superficial-intermediate" cells and "anuclear" cells).

What do these changes in vaginal cytology mean or signal to the breeder?

These changes reflect increasing estrogen from the ovarian follicles. Red blood cells are usually, but not invariably, present. Proestrus can last from three days to three weeks, with nine days the average. Proestrus progresses to estrus.

What happens during estrus?

The normal female displays receptive (or sometimes, passive) behavior, enabling breeding to occur. Vaginal discharge normally *diminishes* at this time, and it may become lighter in color or even be clear. Vulvar edema tends to be maximal and the vulva flaccid to facilitate breeding. Vaginal cytology during estrus consists of 80 to 100 percent cornified cells. Red blood cells tend to diminish but sometimes persist throughout estrus.

How long does estrus normally last?

Estrus can last three days to three weeks, with nine days being the average. Receptive behavior begins when estrogen concentrations decline and progesterone concentrations increase. The duration of receptivity to male dogs is variable and may not coincide precisely with the fertile period, which occurs during estrus.

When does ovulation occur?

Ovulation is triggered by a surge in the luteinizing hormone (LH) produced by the pituitary gland. Ovulation of immature, infertile primary oocytes

(eggs) begins approximately two days after the LH surge; oocyte maturation occurs over the following one to three days. The life span of the secondary (fertile) oocytes is two to three days. The female's *actual fertile period* extends from three through six to seven days after the LH surge. The LH surge occurs at the same time as an initial increase in progesterone concentration, enabling ovulation timing by measurement of either hormone.

How does the breeder time ovulation?

Ovulation timing should be performed using a combination of serial vaginal cytologic exams, ideally serum (blood) progesterone concentrations. Testing for LH can be used in some cases (such as for infertility or frozen-semen breedings).

Start vaginal cytology exams during the first few days of proestrus; perform every two to three days. When more than 70 percent of the epithelial cells are cornified ("superficial" cells), serum progesterone testing should be done every 48 hours to detect the day of initial progesterone rise (usually between 2–3 ng/ml), which correlates with the LH surge triggering ovulation. That is called "day zero." The female is most fertile, and can be bred with good conception rates, between two and seven days after "day zero." The number of breedings and the optimal day(s) of breeding depends on the type of semen (fresh [e.g. live-cover or trans-cervical insemination], chilled/extended, or frozen).

If LH testing is used to determine the most precise ovulation timing, daily serum samples must be taken once the vaginal cytology contains more than 70 percent "superficial" cells. Initial rise in progesterone or occurrence of the LH surge is confirmed around 48 hours later by running an additional progesterone test. *At the time of breeding, progesterone should be above 5 ng/ml.*

To economize ovulation timing, daily serum samples can be saved (refrigerated or frozen) and selected for later LH testing based on estimated initial rise in progesterone.

Thank you, Dr. Davidson, for this information.

Now we need the stud dog! Look for my July column on management of the stud dog and semen collecting.

—Carolyn Russell Gold, *spell-bound24k@netzero.com*

Gordon Setter Club of America
website: *gsca.org*

Irish Setters A Sense of Style

What is "style"? If one reads the *New York Times*, style means one thing. If you read one of the tabloid magazines, it means another. If you get your sense of style from movies or television, you get a different perspective depending on what you watch—for example, the difference between the elegance of *Downton Abbey* and the grittiness of the many crime shows on network TV provides a stark contrast in style.

How does this translate into the dog world? Astute and experienced breeders can tell whether a dog will have *style* from the time he stands on his unsteady legs in the whelping box. The late, great Annie Clark said she could tell immediately whether one of her Poodle puppies would have the quality of style that would set him apart from the others as he grows up.

If a dog enters a show ring saying to the world by his presence, "Here I am—you have to look at me," that dog has style! There was an Irish Setter years ago whose very presence commanded attention. This dog had his detractors, of course. But there was no denying his presence. Other exhibitors, bystanders, and the judge in the center of the ring all recognized that this was no run-of-the-mill dog. He had star quality. He had style!

Dogs who excel in all sorts of venues also may have style. A hunting dog locked up on a staunch point has style. A hound covering ground as though he was flying has style, just as a model carrying herself like a queen has style.

Style is an inborn quality. It cannot be taught. Nor can it be denied. Dogs

cannot fake it, though some of their human counterparts try. Style and elegance go together. They might even be synonymous, though not always.

Style in humans can be taught to a point. One can dress up a person to make him or her appear to be "stylish." But the minute the mouth opens, it becomes apparent that this person has no style. Not everyone has a mentor like Henry Higgins in *My Fair Lady*.

Style shows in other ways aside from outward appearance. Dogs who are born to be guide dogs, or service dogs of any sort, have style. This is the term being used in its broadest fashion. It is an instinct, bred into the genes, that makes one breed different from another.

Sometimes dogs will surprise you by the style they reveal during times of joy or stress. We once had an Irish Setter who displayed both qualities at different times. He loved boat rides, and he would trot over to the neighbor's on our lake just in order to jump into a waiting boat that would ferry him across the bay, as he proudly stood in the prow, feathers flying, king of all he surveyed. On another occasion a bicyclist came racing down the road, greeted by Casey, who, teeth bared, knocked the unwelcome guest off his seat.

The term "style" can be as broad or as narrow as the person wrestling with the term wants it to be. There are many judges who view style as a nice polish to an otherwise acceptable dog in the venue in which he is competing. In some breeds, style is built-in to the model; one can hardly imagine an Afghan Hound who does not exude style. On the other hand, one rarely can describe a Bulldog as "stylish," as unfair as that statement may be for this honorable breed.

Personality is a major component of style, especially in dogs who are less complicated in behavior and their approach to life than people. We equate style with attitude, and that is probably as good a simile as any.

That brings me to a venue in which

style is everything, and can make the difference between winning and losing. The Irish Setter Club of America national specialty will be held April 14–20th at the Hyatt Fairfax at Fairlakes, Virginia, in Fairfax. The show itself will be held at Frying Pan Park in Fairfax, with all attendant festivities at the host hotel.

The Irish Setter Club of America has a great mentoring program during the specialty. We also provide opportunities for health screening, an educational seminar on the legal aspects of dog owning, and great opportunities to mingle, make new friends, reconnect with old ones, and generally have a great time enjoying our “rollicking” breed. All information can be found on the ISCA website, irishsetterclub.org.

—Connie Vanacore,

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Irish Setter Club of America website: irishsetterclub.org

Irish Red and White Setters

Important IRWS of the Past, Part Two: Top Bitches

Our previous column featured several of the greatest IRWS stud dogs of the past chosen by breeder-judges from the United Kingdom, as discussed in a July 1996 *Kennel Gazette* [U.K.] article titled “The Judges’ Choice.”

Several of the judges also commented on some of the most important dams in the breed. This did my heart good, as I am a firm believer that behind every great stud dog is a greater dam, and that the girls rule! So let’s look at some of the U.K. top girl choices of that era.

Gaye of Knockalla was the dam of Harlequin of Knockalla, chosen to be the all-time greatest IRWS of his time. She was also the dam of Ch. Meudon Blaze and Meudon Amber Glow, Best Rare Breed at Crufts. Her second litter produced Meudon Count Regent, Best Rare Breed at Crufts, and Sh. Ch. Meudon Gaye Princess, who also won Best Rare Breed in 1983. Meudon Lady of Coolfin produced the famous

Int. Ch. Coolfin Commanche. Another top choice was Heide of Meudon, described as “a bitch of good size, well constructed with lovely color,” having great success in the ring, but excelled as a brood bitch producing very typical IRWS.

Also listed as lovely bitches were Shannonlee Lark of Searpoint, Coolfin Emerald Princess, Sh. Ch. Dogtanian Ruby of Gameshot, and the breed’s record-holder Sh. Ch. Spyefire Pandoras Box.

Int. Ch. Mount Eagle Belle produced a great sire, Ir. Ch. Sheebhin Baire. Her progeny had become foundation stock in many countries as winning and working IRWS.

As we move on, Winnowing Goldfinch produced Sh. Ch. Majestic Flame at Copperdale, Sheebhin Siog produced Glennessa Fire on Ice, who produced the famous Glennessa M Litter. Shannonlee Lark of Spearpoint produced Sh. Ch. Spearpoint Sambooka Flame

Glennessa Fire on Ice produced Glennessa My Ameme, who produced the top-winning bitch at that time, the beautiful Sh. Ch. Spyefire Pandoras Box, who was considered a true representative of what an IRWS should be.

Another choice was a lovely bitch Sh. Ch. Shannonlee Little Grebe, described as “very feminine and well balanced,” along with Shannonlee Fire Belle, who produced the foundation stock for most of the leading kennels of that era.

Last but not least in the long line of outstanding bitches is Sh. Ch. Glenoshea Paper Lace, who conformed to the breed standard perfectly with great substance and a lovely, feminine head and expression. Her show career took off from the very beginning, and she was a great favorite with all-round gundog and breed judges.

Finally worth noting were two bitches imported from Ireland in 1978, Beulagh and Boreen. These two bitches helped to form the foundation for the breed in England. Boreen was flown back to Ireland and mated to the famous Harlequin of Knockalla. The

litter was born April 18, 1980, and was the first litter born and registered in England since the early 1940s.

Additional note: If I had been asked to select the all-time greatest IRWS bitch of that era, it would have to be Gaye of Knockalla, who was behind many of the outstanding dogs and bitches mentioned in this article.

Hope you enjoyed reading this article as much as I enjoyed writing it.

—Lee Robinson, Robilee6@myfairpoint.net

Irish Red and White Setter Association of America website: irishred-whitesetterassociation.com

Clumber Spaniels

This is the piece I wish I had written. It is by Corgi breeder and professional handler Doug Bundock and first appeared in the July 1979 *Western Animal News*, and was later reprinted in the Jan.–Feb. 1980 issue of the *CSCA Bulletin*.

Quality of Life

Indignant! I had just refused to sell her a dog, and the lady was downright indignant about it.

It was the “typical” American family: medium-size house and yard, one wife, one husband, one child, two cars, and two TVs. But now they wanted a family dog to complete the picture. And I had not only refused to sell her a dog, but I would not even refer her to another breeder.

In discussing what kind of home the dog might have, it soon became apparent that their new addition to the family would be an “outdoor dog”—a label indicating a lot of unsaid things.

The so-called outdoor dog lives outside, as opposed to the picture most of us have of the canine family member as an active part of the household, sharing in the daily routine, greeting Dad when he comes home from work, and settling down with the rest of the family as they watch TV. That’s a dog’s life as most of us would like to imagine it.

But the outdoor dog faces a completely different life. If lucky, he has a

fenced backyard as his world. He can sit there and listen as his humans come and go, and he can try to play within the limited boundaries of his existence. Lacking any close contact with humans, his manners leave much to be desired. When one of the family does happen into his domain, it is a moment of high excitement. Human contact is so limited that he behaves like an idiot, jumping and leaping with unbounded joy at this rare sight—further proving there is no place inside for this wild, uncontrolled creature. After all, he is dirty, sheds, and (in his battle against loneliness) barks too much.

As he gets older, the constant exposure to the extremes of weather becomes only too evident. Cold, wet nights make him stiff and sore. He grows fatter, less active, and less interested in the limited, isolated world of his backyard. At this point his humans take him to be “put out of his misery.” Thus is the short and not-too-happy life of the backyard dog.

But it could be worse. No fenced yard means running loose or being chained for life. Running loose leads to the dog killing chickens, chasing livestock, and being teased by children until he becomes a biter. This career ends by his being shot, poisoned, or taken to the shelter to be destroyed.

Long ago the dog gave up his life in the wild to become both partner and companion to man. And millions of dogs and humans have lived together ever since, each sharing and profiting from a special relationship. While many dogs still work with and for man, today most exist primarily for one role: sharing in the companionship of man. Anything less can lead to a life of suffering from loneliness, taking away his very purpose for existing. —D.B.

Reminder: If you would invest in friendship, buy a dog.

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D., bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com

Clumber Spaniel Club of America website: clumbers.org

Cocker Spaniels

Hair Today, Hair Tomorrow—Cocker Coat

Are Cockers known for coat? Following are the references to coat in the breed standard.

Under *Head*:

“Ears well feathered.”

Under *Coat*:

“On the head, short and fine; on the body, medium length, with enough undercoating to give protection. The ears, chest, abdomen, and legs are well feathered, but not so excessively as to hide the Cocker Spaniel’s true lines and movement or affect his appearance and function as a moderately coated sporting dog. The texture is most important. The coat is silky, flat or slightly wavy and of a texture which permits easy care. Excessive coat or curly or cottony textured coat shall be severely penalized. Use of electric clippers on the back coat is not desirable. Trimming to enhance the dog’s true lines should be done to appear as natural as possible.”

Note well: *The texture is most important.* The Cocker’s coat, a great source of beauty and appeal, can be a source of frustration for the Cocker’s human companion, especially if coat texture is faulty. Cocker breeders must heed the standard and the practical realities of grooming by selection and breeding for good coats of proper texture. Avoid specimens with curly or cottony coat in your breeding plans. Producing specimens with correct coat is a start toward reducing grooming chores. Coping with a correct coat instead of a cottony coat is much less of a maintenance burden.

Still, we acknowledge that the proper coat requires certain handling and care to maintain the health and beauty of the dog. The particular climate condition and environment in which a Cocker lives can have a huge bearing on the care his coat will need. High humidity can precipitate matting of the coat, while an overly dry area can cause breakage of the coat. The surface on which the Cocker exercises can contribute to coat problems: Is there dust from a rock run that causes coat dryness? Is he on a concrete run, which can cause coat breakage or staining? Are

there certain soils in the geographic area that cause staining? Clearly you must experiment with flooring and exercise-run materials to determine the most workable.

Air-conditioning helps to alleviate the effects of a too-humid environment, and proper exercise-area flooring will help with breakage and staining issues. Good grooming products (again a matter of experimentation as to what works for your dog) including shampoo, conditioners, moisturizing products, and sprays are helpful. Select carefully all brushes and combs you use; you want to remove dead/loose coat but not excessively pull the coat or break it.

Talk to handlers, breeders, and groomers for ideas regarding helpful grooming routines, products, and equipment. Also, keep an open mind; the most expensive products and equipment are not automatically the most effective. Longtime groomers have a store of general household products that can be used effectively as grooming aids, such as cornstarch, baby powder, and hydrogen peroxide.

Proper bathing and drying methods are also important in preserving coat. Shampoo must be thoroughly rinsed out, and the hairdryer must be used carefully so as not to dry the skin and coat. Then there are the coat oils that can help as well—both those externally applied to the coat, and those used nutritionally. Another whole subject!

Coat today, coat tomorrow ... you will find yourself educated by experience in producing Cockers with correct coat and in finding the coat-preservation methods that work best for you and your dogs.

—Kristi L. Tukua

American Spaniel Club website: asc-cockerspaniel.org

English Cocker Spaniels

It’s a Wonderful Life ...

Yes, it’s a wonderful life ... but no one promised it would be an easy one!

We all know the highs and lows of

whelping. On November 8, 2011, I delivered my ninth litter—a perfect second pregnancy of a healthy champion mother, whose first litter was textbook healthy.

Although the seventh and last puppy was a bit smaller, he latched on just as eagerly after the usual post-birth routine. Through the night, though, as I kept watch, I noticed he would slide off the nipple easily. As dawn broke, I took my flashlight again and held him up next to a window, opened his mouth, and my heart sank: In the light of day, a thin, dark line running the midline of the roof of his mouth was evident. I held him, cried, and knew I would never see him again as my husband left with him for our vet.

An hour later I received the call—but not the one I expected: “I am bringing him home!” Our vet, experienced with many clients who are Bulldog breeders, examined the puppy and told my husband the puppy was healthy, and there was no reason he couldn’t survive—although he warned it would not be easy.

He was right. Seventeen days of tube-feeding every two hours, and 11 more days of tubing every three hours. At 4 weeks we began trying to give him dry kibble and teaching him to drink from a hamster bottle.

I cried the first time he finally ate the kibble—at that point Itzy was barely one-third the size of his littermates. Once on dry food he took off, and by 8 weeks he was one-half their size and kept closing the gap. We were warned to watch for sinus infections (he never had any) and outings to remove grass and other debris from the cleft.

I found there are many causes of clefts. One source says, “Although heredity is considered the primary cause of this problem, nutritional deficiencies, viruses, and poisons that affect the mother during pregnancy may also increase the risk of cleft palates in developing puppies and kittens.” (Reference: acvs.org/animalowners/health-conditions/smallanimaltopics/cleftpalate/)

Giving folic acid during pregnancy can help prevent some nutritional clefts, but even stress on a certain critical day or exposure to corticosteroids can result in clefts.

Although we had planned to keep him the first year to see him through surgery, a college senior headed to vet school fell in love with the puppy, and after several visits we allowed a trial visit. Itzy, now Jagger, never looked back. He is a beloved mascot and study buddy at the University of Florida vet school now, over a year old, smart as a whip, and healthy as any other young ECS (full size as well!). The loving and funny pictures we receive regularly from his owner remind us it was all worth every moment. (The title of this article? His registered name!)

My advice after this experience? Work with an experienced vet. Not all cleft puppies need to be put down, but not all can be saved, either. Read as much as you can, contact other breeders who have successfully raised cleft puppies (several helped me, from several breeds), and when the time comes for surgery—if you choose that route—be sure to discuss the different types. (This puppy had a successful double-flap surgery at 7 months, rather than the usual single-flap surgery at 4 months).

Helpful resources include:

henwood.tripod.com/id88.htm

This site offers information on how to feed and raise cleft-palate puppies.

vgl.ucdavis.edu/cghg/projects.php

This research program at UC Davis is in need of blood samples from cleft-palate puppies and their littermates.

Also, please feel free to e-mail me at newsteadecs@carolina.rr.com, and I would be happy to send details of Itzy/Jagger’s feeding and cleaning routines.

—Robin Tingley, newsteadecs@carolina.rr.com

English Cocker Spaniel Club of America website: esca.info

English Springer Spaniels
Show Your Dog, Not Yourself

Judge Carol Callahan has had her hands on English Springers and her eyes on handlers in the breed ring for over 30 years. Having bred champion Springers since the mid-1960s, Callahan (donahanspringers.com) judges lovely, sound dogs with a practiced eye. Always gracious in her desire to mentor new exhibitors and breeders, she generously shares her wisdom for handlers who ask, “How can I do a better job showing the best assets of my dog in the conformation ring?”

“As a handler, try to be as inconspicuous as possible. Show the dog, not yourself. The dog’s grooming should appear as natural as possible. Our standard calls for ‘barbering’ to be penalized. The dog should be trained to stand and accept the examination in the ring without a great deal of handling. Of course, some exception would be made for puppies.”

When asked how novice breed handlers can best gain confidence and smooth handling skills in the ring, Callahan offered the following advice: “Sit ringside and watch the handlers who catch your eye; concentrate to see handlers’ movements that are smooth and efficient. Handling skills come from practice, practice, practice. Attending a handling class taught by a good handler is also an excellent idea.”

Callahan offers a caution about handling, saying, “I do not want a handler to try to ‘paint a picture’ for me. By this I mean constantly running their hands over a portion of the dog that they think is his good feature—such as a good topline or long neck. Let me be the judge of that. I like to see a handler with a smile who pays attention to instructions while in the ring and is presenting a clean, well-groomed dog.”

Judge Carla M. Mathies (CreeksideCavs.com) is licensed to judge 22 sporting breeds, Dachshunds, and Junior Showmanship. She has judged English Springers for 13 years and has handled numerous Springers to their championships.

Her best advice for handlers is “Make it appear effortless!” She points

out that a clean dog is fundamental, and that clean does not mean “a dirty dog with pounds of chalk piled into hair!”

Mathies emphasizes that an excellent conformation dog “must hold still and show confidence for examination.” Handlers should appear “tailored, wearing nothing too flashy to distract from the dog they exhibit.”

How can novice breed handlers best gain confidence and smooth handling skills? “Have someone videotape you in the ring so you can see what the judge sees.”

What makes the best impression in the ring? “Smooth gaiting, [so that] I don’t even notice the handler.”

What always leaves a bad impression with a judge? “Snatching a ribbon from the judge’s hand.”

Mathies suggests a careful reading of *New Secrets of Successful Show Dog Handling*, by Peter Green, for both new and seasoned conformation handlers.

Before you pilot your dog into the breed ring or begin grooming your beautiful Springer for exhibition, make sure you have studied the breed standard at essfta.org/english-springers/the-standard-for-the-english-springer. Bookmark that page!

Know your standard. Presenting your lovely dog with a picture of the breed standard in your mind’s eye will make you well prepared to show your dog with style and precision. Let your dog catch the judge’s eye while you disappear until it’s time to reach forward, smiling, to accept your ribbon.

—Sarah A. Ferrell,
saf@abrohamneal.com

English Springer Field Trial
Association website: essfta.org

Sussex Spaniels

Sussex and Toys

I was once shocked when someone who had only two Sussex informed me that she had visited a breeder and was upset to see that the dogs there had no toys. I tried to explain to her that this was not neglect on the breeder’s part, but that many Sussex will simply not share toys.

Some of mine will share, but only with certain other dogs. And some will not share at all. It doesn’t seem to matter if the object is a cow-hoof, chewy, plushie, or squeaky toy. Some Sussex don’t care for toys at all. Most, when you have multiple dogs, just want *all* of them—or *none*—no matter what!

Rina, one of my housedogs, has always been very possessive. She has a certain crate she likes, located in a bedroom, and she sneaks toys and bones out of the living room or kitchen, where most activity takes place, and secures them in the back of this crate. Periodically, when I notice a lack of dog-type objects to fall over, I go and look and crawl in and pull out a pillowcase-full. The stuffed toys then go directly to the washing machine, and the others are dumped in the kitchen. She always gives me a dirty look when she sees me do this.

I have found that the competitive aspect seems to decline as the toys get older. It is the new ones that set things off. For the dogs who like toys, I have found the best way to introduce new toys is to separate the dogs—put them in crates or different rooms, give them the toys, then pick the toys up before letting the dogs all run together again.

And some Sussex, no matter what toy or chewy you try, simply do not want them.

The older dogs who liked toys in the first place like to simply just *have* them as they age. It is the “pride of possession” of having a new toy or a chewy to just simply guard and own. It makes them feel good to have something, even if they don’t use it. (Much like a magpie who will steal something shiny just to have it—I have yet to see a magpie *wearing* a diamond ring!)

Trust a breeder to know their dogs. If their dogs don’t have toys, there is a reason, and it isn’t that we don’t provide them. Sussex often prefer to play with other dogs, particularly other Sussex, more than anything else. They generally like wading pools, garden hoses, and running and wrestling with one another. They are also good at digging,

birdwatching (sometimes catching), and squirrel chasing.

Best toy ever for puppies? Those cardboard rolls from bathroom tissue and paper towels, or even better—the stronger ones from giftwrap! They’re lightweight, recyclable, easily replaceable, and cheap!

—Marcia Deugan,
ZiyadahReg@aol.com

Sussex Spaniel Club of America
website: sussexspaniels.org

Welsh Springer Spaniels

Girls Rule!

When looking for my first Welsh, I was very firm that I wanted to buy a bitch. It perplexed me that the breeders all wanted to know *why* I wanted a bitch. I had no interest in breeding, was only buying a family pet—so why did I want a bitch?

The simple answer was that most dogs I had owned up until that time were bitches. The breeder who eventually sold me my first Welsh was kind enough not to tell me that was a dumb answer. Beth told me that in her experience, the boys were sweeter, more biddable. “The bitches want to take over your house,” she said. I was undeterred.

After being on a waiting list for two years(!), the litter was whelped. Bad news: There were only two bitches. Beth was keeping one, and a longtime friend had dibs on the other. It was take a dog, or wait until her next litter. I took the dog.

Ike was sweet and biddable, as promised. He was a happy show dog, believing all the applause was for him. He was the perfect first Welsh and show dog for me. (More on how long it took this novice to finish that first championship will have to wait for another column.)

Like most Welshie owners, I found that one was not enough; in the course of five years, I had three male champions living in my house and (mostly) co-existing peacefully.

Being firmly bitten by the dog-showing, Welshie-loving bug, I decided I wanted a bitch to finish and poten-

tially breed.

The breeders I went to, Carla and Keith, hesitantly brought up the issue of personality differences. “You know the girls are bossier, right?” asked Carla. My friend Shelley said, “I can’t wait to hear how you like having a girl in the house.”

By this time I had spent countless hours with bitches owned by my friends, and I thought all this stuff about gender differences was a bit overblown.

Mamie came to live with us almost three years ago, and I have this to say to my Welsh Springer friends: You were so right! Mamie effortlessly runs the boys in the house. Mamie wants the toy, she gets the toy. The boys seem almost befuddled when Mamie streaks past them in the yard and snatches the toy from their jaws. (“Hey! Didn’t I just have that?”) Mamie wants to be closest to me on the couch, the boys move down the cushions without a grumble. Mamie jockeys to be the first out the door, the boys make room. Mamie wants me to stop reading and look at her ... well, this is where she runs into resistance. She will actually swat a book from my hands and crawl into my lap to stare adoringly in my face. I dump her on the floor and return to reading. It is clear she can scarcely believe it. *Someone defies my wishes! What to do?* She swats again, crawls up my front, cocks her head, and licks my nose. Who can resist that? I can. She finally takes the hint and settles down next to me with a martyred sigh. If there is anything I have learned in three years, it is this: She is only resting and planning her next attack.

Girls rule!

—Wendy J. Jordan, wendy.jordan@cap-strategiesgroup.com

Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America website: wssca.com

Vizslas

What to Pack for the Vizsla National

With the Vizsla Club of America’s 2013 national specialty show

and companion events coming up at the end of this month, this seems like a good time for planning what to bring with you to Minnesota for maximum enjoyment of these events.

Whether this is your first national or your 31st, you’ll want to be prepared to have an excellent time.

Following are some of the most important items to remember to bring along—and they won’t take up any space at all in your luggage!

- *Anticipation.* Every national event offers a chance for conversations with old friends and introductions to new friends from all over the country.

- *Curiosity.* There are so many dogs you’ve seen in photos or read about in magazines or on the Internet—now you get to see them in real life. And in conversations with other Vizsla owners there’s always something new to learn, such as different perspectives on the breed standard, various approaches to training, tips on show handling, updates on health issues, opinions on raising puppies, and so on. This year’s VCA Educational Seminar will feature Patti Strand, a recognized expert and consultant for animal issues and responsible-dog ownership who is the founder and chair of the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA).

- *Sense of humor.* If you’re prepared to laugh, you can have a good time no matter what happens at nationals—even if your dog invents a brand-new obedience exercise or decides to polka all the way through the down-and-back.

- *Good sportsmanship.* The competition is intense. No matter how the judging ends up, sportsmanship allows every handler to exhibit grace and class. Words of thanks to stewards and committee members are always welcome.

On the practical side, here are additional items you won’t want to forget:

- *A flashlight or headlamp.* Plenty of plastic bags will be provided for poop pick-up, but when you take your dogs out at night, the job is a whole lot easier if you’ve got some light. If you see me in one of those baseball caps with a built-in light, you’ll know why.

- *Raincoat, sweater and sunglasses.*

Springtime is absolutely grand in Minnesota, but no matter what the forecast says, it’s a good idea to be prepared for any kind of weather.

- *Camera and the instructions for using it.* You won’t want to spend your time trying to figure out how to turn off the flash or set the self-timer.

- *Items for the raffle (large or small).* Vizsla-related items are especially popular, but anything dog-related is a good choice. Besides helping to ensure that the costs of the events are covered, the raffle has a high level of entertainment value.

- *Chargers for whatever electronic devices you bring along.* Keep in mind that batteries typically wait until the moment of maximum inconvenience to go dead.

- *Tissues or handkerchiefs.* There’s likely to be a moment or two (especially during the Veteran classes) when you’ll get misty-eyed.

- *A little extra space in your suitcase.* Some excellent merchandise vendors will be present, so you’re likely to find something wonderful to buy—for your dog, for gifts, or for yourself. And of course you may need room to pack a trophy or rosette.

When the week is over and you’re getting ready to go home, don’t forget to wrap up the good memories and store them in your heart.

—Beth Nash, nash@centurylink.net

Vizsla Club of America website: vcaweb.org

Weimaraner Sticks and Stones

The exact origins of many dog breeds are unknown. The documented origin of Weimaraners fall into this “unknown” category, but the most prevalent theory suggests origin in a combination of a variety of breeds that existed in Germany during the early 1800s.

After a very recent incident, I have a brand-new theory. I think those crafty Germans bred some beaver into our dogs. It’s the only way to explain the

incessant (and often inappropriate) bouts of gnawing, chewing, and swallowing.

What brings me to this theory? I awoke one sunny morning and my first look at my Weimaraner elicited a “Yikes!” (Actually, the language was a bit more colorful, but you get the idea.) Under his left eye was a lump the size of half a golf ball, and his eye was watering heavily. His face looked terrible. When I tried to open his mouth, he screamed in pain.

I live within a half hour of the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary Hospital and know only too well the most direct route to their emergency service. We arrived and quickly learned they had a dental department that would be seeing us shortly.

In the space of a few hours, dental surgery was performed. The doctors told me that my darling dog had wedged a piece of wood three-quarters of an inch long between his palate and his jawbone. As these things go, it was a simple surgery—with no puncture of the sinuses and no interrupted blood flow to the teeth, which might have necessitated extraction.

My first reaction was relief. It was followed, however, by the eternal question, “Why do they have to chew on *everything*?”

As we all know, the Weimaraner’s chewing menu is extensive and includes the most dreaded of items: rocks. Chewing rocks destroys their beautiful, white teeth, and worse yet, when rocks are swallowed they can be lethal. I’ve known many an owner who has had to take their dog in for surgeries to remove rocks. Note that I use the plural of “surgery,” because for many owners they have had multiple rock-eating incidents that led to surgical interventions.

If you own a rock-eater, you’re only too familiar with the drill of watching them like a hawk but eventually not being there to intervene when a rock slides down their gullet.

I’ve talked about this problem with a number of frustrated owners, and only

two viable solutions have emerged. The first tactic is to prevent contact with rocks. To do this, owners make an investment in basket muzzles. Unfortunately, basket muzzles have drawbacks. First, there’s the constant on-and-off of the muzzle—an exercise akin to bundling kids into snowsuits. The moment you get it on, they want it off. And then there’s the learned behavior of using the basket muzzle as a battering ram. Once this behavior is learned you should consider your Weimaraner “armed and dangerous.” They’ll bull their way through, using the newfound protection of their basket muzzle to clear the way. People, other dogs, and outdoor furniture will bear the brunt of your muzzle-wielding Weimaraner.

The second solution is one that I’ve successfully used with generations of my dogs. I start them out as puppies. When they have something in their mouth, I encourage them to bring it to me, and I’ll “buy” it from them. Initially I’ll barter with a food reward, and quickly they find more value in food than chomping on a yucky rock. We trade the rock for a snack, and it becomes a game.

What’s the drawback to this one? You’ll have little collections of rocks and pebbles deposited at your feet or waiting for you on your porch. I’ve gone out my back door and found little heaps of rocks, some of them still warm from being carried around.

Come to think of it, it’s not much of a drawback, and it beats having emergency surgery, and maybe I can start that rock garden that I’ve always wanted.

—Carolee Lee Richards, *ymar_column@yahoo.com*

Weimaraner Club of America website: weimaranerclubofamerica.org

Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Necessity Is the Mother of Invention

It is said that necessity is the mother of invention. This could also be said

of the development of the versatile breeds, those dogs whose job it is to search, point, track, and retrieve on both water and land. Among those breeds is the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon, whose development took place at much the same time and for the same reasons as the other versatile breeds.

During the Middle Ages, there were pointing dogs whose purpose was to find coveys of game birds and point them while holding them in place until their master could throw a net over them. Man and dog quickly became a successful hunting team working together in this fashion. Some of these early pointing dogs were also used with falcons and hawks to aid the hunter in locating and capturing game.

Hunting was a sport largely reserved for the aristocracy and noblemen who had the financial means, land, and staff to maintain a large kennel of dogs for the game hunted. Some kennels had hundreds of dogs of different types. There were hounds hunted in packs, flushers, retrievers, ratters, pointers, and other sorts of dogs all in the same kennel.

Farming began to evolve with the development of better techniques for growing grain in large expanses—and with it, game birds that thrived on the seeds, living in the protection of the hedgerows. The large kennels began to develop their own types of dogs specifically for hunting their land, and thus began the development of unique breeds. Kennel masters crossbred the different types of dogs, developing more specialized hunters for their own localized purposes.

Not only did agricultural practices change the face of hunting as it was known, but also the emergence of firearms, greatly shifting the advantage to the hunter.

The most significant change to the face of hunting was the emergence of the middle class in Europe. What had previously been a sport exclusive to the wealthy, privileged upper class became a sport open to middle-class professionals like doctors, lawyers, and merchants.

While they had some financial means, they did not have the wealth or the space for an entire kennel to serve all their hunting needs. In the middle of the 19th century, these middle-class hunters had to create a single, multipurpose dog who could do all the jobs of the specialized breeds at once—as well as live in a home in the city with a family.

There were several European hunting enthusiasts like Eduard Karel Korthals, founder of the Wirehaired Pointing

Griffon, who began experimenting with breeding dogs with different abilities and qualities until they arrived at the single, ideal specimen—a versatile dog who could do it all.

Nearly 100 years ago, Dr. E.B. Ilyus, the first president of the Griffon Club of America, wrote:

“The chief characteristics in which the griffon excels, and is superior over setters and pointers, are his ready adaptability to all species of game, all climates,

and all varieties of terrain, his exquisite nose, wonderful vitality and endurance, and the pronounced instinct which makes him the easiest of all dogs to train on game. As a retriever he has, in my opinion, no superior, and being very intelligent and affectionate, he makes an ideal man’s companion.”

His words still ring true today.

—Ann Allen, ams2allen@aol.com

American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association website: aupga.com

Akitas

What’s Your Hurry?

You bought a show-potential puppy, you’ve attended a few shows, maybe gone to a few classes or a puppy match, your pup is approaching that magical 6-month age, and you’ve got the entries all sent in. You attend that first show and are proud of whatever placement you received, and you think you are on the path to greatness! You continue to show or have your dog shown, and you anxiously await the next magical age of 2 years so you can breed a litter.

But what is your hurry? There are so many things you need to learn and understand before you breed that first litter. Do you understand the Akita breed standard? Have you sat down with a distinguished, longtime mentor to look at pedigrees and researched the dogs in them? Do you understand the difference between genotype and phenotype, and do you have a basic understanding of line-breeding versus inbreeding and when it’s a good idea to do either (or neither)? What about the dog you are starting out with? Sure, you love Bear—but does he meet the standard, or have glaring faults? Even having finished a championship does not always mean a dog should reproduce or has qualities worthy of reproducing.

Some people coming into the sport seem to be in a hurry to get many dogs, breed litters, and think they will make breed history. What they fail to understand is that by breeding to the “flavor of

the month” dog and only looking at what they see in flesh and blood in front of them, doing outcross after outcross, keeping dogs that do not conform to the standard, and continuing to use those dogs in their “program” (and I use this word lightly), they will only produce more dogs with major faults—and, in some cases, with genetic problems.

Please understand that *novice* is not a bad word! We all started somewhere, and it’s OK to ask questions and then *listen* to the answers. Please do not be an “*I know, but ...*” person. It is extremely disheartening to spend time mentoring someone, answering questions and making suggestions, only to hear, “*I know, but*”—followed by a list of excuses as to why you cannot or will not do what is being suggested. Understand that your mentor, if you’ve chosen her well, most likely has at least a decade (if not several decades) of experience under her belt, and she is not making unfounded suggestions. It is also crucial that you read and understand the Akita standard—and *breed to it!* If, after careful consideration, you choose to breed, be aware of where the “problems” are, whether they are genetic issues, flaws in type, structure, or temperament, or just plain mediocrity.

All things considered, and considering what is at stake—your dog’s well being, your potential puppy buyer’s future companion, and your reputation in the breed you profess to love—take your time, and do your homework. After all, what’s your hurry?

—Julie Strawsburg-Mayes,

DarqWitch@aol.com

Akita Club of America website: akita-club.org

Alaskan Malamutes

Malamute Truths That Are Self-Evident

In my 40-plus years in the breed, I have found that there are certain unalienable Alaskan Malamute truths that exist—at least for me.

First, males are dumber than females. In fact, my best male show dogs have been dumber than a post. As my handler once said, just how smart can a dog be, when he is asked to run around in left-handed circles for 15 minutes and look happy about doing it?

Consider the puppies. Who is first out of the whelping box? Who has the nose in mama’s food dish, and mama is *not* happy? It’s the bitch. The males are still back in the whelping box, trying to figure which way is up.

Take bait. Males will eat anything that comes out of your bait-pocket. However, with the females, I’ve had to carry a selection of stuff—chicken, last night’s steak, liver—to keep them interested in what’s coming up next gastronomically. And hopefully doing what I wanted them to do in the ring.

When it comes to old folks, I have learned that when one of my veterans (and I have eight of them) starts acting differently, it isn’t old age; there’s something wrong. And due to the Malamute’s extreme toughness, when the Mal has to be gravely ill before it

goes down, one needs to be very vigilant. Because once a Mal goes down, it is usually all downhill from there.

Take Wonder, age 12. He had begun walking stiffly in the rear, but then most Mals his age walk that way. I walk that way, and figured he just ached like the rest of us. Then Wonder, with his love of everyone, started getting grumpy. *That's it*, I thought, and I took him into the vet.

Surgery revealed the largest prostate tumor ever seen by my vet. She did what she had promised to do: kissed him on the nose and didn't wake him up.

Lesson learned. When one of my old folks start doing something that is different from their usual behavior, it's illness, not old age.

And finally, let's say you have a Mal who is starting out really well. In my case, it was a bitch named Snazzy. She was covering herself with glory in the show ring, and I thought she was doing well, maybe a bit better than usual.

I was watching her in the ring at a show in Washington, and a handler walked up to me and said, "Dian, that's your once-in-a-lifetime dog. Everyone has one once, and this one is yours."

I had no idea what she meant, but as the years went by and Snazz piled up more honors, I began to see what she meant. Snazz retired at age 6, having defeated more Mals than any other Mal in breed history.

So I hope you have a little Snazzy fall into your Malamute life—a Mal whom you will cherish, in or out of the ring. Look closely at your young bitch who is beginning to beat your winning special. She just may be the one ...

It happens once in a lifetime.

—Dian McComb, alcan@att.net

Alaskan Malamute Club of America
website: alaskanmalamute.org

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

Breed Type 101

"Excellence is in the details. Give attention to the details, and excellence will come." —Perry Paxton

My first teaching assignment after

graduating from college in 1968 was at an elementary school whose principal, Martha Miller, was a longtime breeder-owner of top-winning German Shepherds. When my husband and I acquired our first Anatolian Shepherd Dog in 1974, we looked to my boss, who was both an outstanding educator and an exceptional mentor when it came to discussions about pedigrees, conformation, breeding, and exhibiting purebred dogs.

For the nine years I was privileged to work with Martha, she lectured us repeatedly: "If you are committed to promoting the Anatolian Shepherd in the U.S, you and your fellow owners and breeders must demonstrate, in your breeding programs, a thorough understanding of *breed type* if you are to move forward successfully with the goal of AKC recognition of your breed."

Ideal *breed type* is defined by the official breed standard. Therefore, when one is discussing breed type, one must understand that breed type is all of the parts (or traits) taken together as a whole: breed outline, breed character, head, body, coat, color and markings, movement, and function. That total picture is what makes the Anatolian Shepherd look, move, and act so he can continue to perform the job he was originally bred to do in his native Turkey.

We should always be striving for *ideal breed type*—excellence in our breeding programs. Anne Rogers Clark once wrote in her article "Think Ahead," published in the March 2000 issue of *Dogs in Review*, "An untypical dog that is sound is worthless; a typical dog that is sound is priceless."

A dog who is strong in *breed type* will be an outstanding example of the breed. Judges passing judgment on our Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, and breeders as well, should be looking for a dog who is large (not giant), powerful and impressive, and physically and temperamentally capable of guarding flocks from predators. Breeders and judges must consider the whole dog and not overemphasize any one part. Anatolian

Shepherds with superior breed type, excellent conformation, good health, and correct temperament are all needed to pass on soundness and correct type.

An Anatolian Shepherd Dog that is most typical of the breed as defined by the breed standard is not exaggerated; he is the ideal; he is functional; he is perfectly balanced.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America is currently working on an illustrated standard. Once it is completed, the *Illustrated Standard* will be a pictorial guide and an educational tool, meant to convey to breeders, judges, and exhibitors—and novice owners—the particulars of the breed standard, leading to a better understanding of and appreciation for the desired Anatolian Shepherd breed type.

It has been nearly 40 years since Martha Miller began passing on her knowledge and years of experience with purebred dogs and sternly lecturing us on the importance of understanding correct *breed type*. I only wish Martha were alive today to see the success we have achieved with our impressive livestock guardians.

—Marilyn Harned, anat404@cox.net

Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America website: asdca.org

Bernese Mountain Dogs

Guest columnist Sandra Novocin shares observations after judging in Australia, at the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Victoria Championship Specialty Show in November 2012.

Judging in Australia

Judging shows in Australia is a great experience. First, the trip is memorable. Secondly, the shows are set up differently. Third, the dogs in Australia are representative of dogs throughout the world, due to importation. Finally, the workers and exhibitors at the events make each assignment an honor to judge.

Australia's dog clubs have more say in their shows than clubs here do. Shows differ from ours in several aspects.

Catalogs are not uniform in size, usually consisting of several stapled printed pages. Clubs often invite professional stewards who take full responsibility of the ring and judge's book—which the judge signs but doesn't mark. Handlers are usually owner-handlers or friends, as there are no recognized professional handlers.

Exhibitors must plan to stay the day, since show times are not assigned. Getting an idea of ringtime requires reviewing the entry and determining how many dogs are ahead. Class winners are eligible at the breed level for best in every class offered at the show. The Best Class of Breed competes at the group level with others from that group who were each best in their class. At day's end, there is a Best in Show for every class offered for each breed, before the overall Best in Show—which makes for a very long day.

Instead of vans and RVs, dog trailers in varying lengths, called "floats," that hold two, four, or more dogs are parked around the show site. Dog floats are very nice half-trailers with built-in dog crates, venting, and fans, plus storage compartments for show paraphernalia.

Australia has strict regulations regarding dog importation. Importing can take months. Consequently, many breeders import frozen semen. Interestingly, frozen semen shipped into Australia can only be that from a live dog, as proof must be provided of the dog's recent rabies titer and brucellosis test. Due to the very high cost, many breeders import larger quantities of semen, sometimes selling it to other breeders. Because of this wide use of frozen semen from dogs internationally, Australia's dogs would be good breed representatives worldwide.

After judging the Berner specialty, I watched Berner exhibitors show for two more days. I talked with them about questions they had concerning U.S. Berners and about pre-breeding health tests. They were eager to discuss health issues and tests, and they were interested to know what the dogs in their pedigrees really are or were like.

Some breeders had been to or plan to come to a BMDCA national specialty. Attending this is a real dream for many.

The support these exhibitors gave to each other in the ring and the polite attitudes towards judges were qualities that would be nice to see worldwide.

Being able to evaluate Berners in Australia and visiting with their breeders was really an honor, a pleasure, and a *great* experience for me. —S.N.

Thank you, Sandy, for sharing your observations regarding shows and Berners in Australia.

In Memoriam: Mark Milligan

Mark Milligan, respected AKC judge, president of the Southeastern Wisconsin BMDC (and secretary of the club's 2013 specialty show), and conformation chair of the BMDCA national, passed away unexpectedly on November 27, 2012. Mark is survived by his wife, Ann, also an AKC judge and the BMDCA's website coordinator. His passing is a great loss to the Berner fancy.

—Julia Crawford, cwyemede@dmv.com
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America website: bmdca.org

Black Russian Terriers Temperament

Our Black Russian Terriers are really starting to take hold here in America. It seems that every month I get more calls about the breed, and with the calls come many questions from both parties. I usually screen the caller to see if he or she would be a good owner for one of our dogs, and to see if he or she understands all the time and effort it takes to raise and own a Black Russian. It usually takes a conversation of at least two hours to accomplish this, but it well worth every second, because this can make the difference between a dog going to a home that can handle a BRT or a dog ultimately being returned to the breeder, ending up in rescue, or worse.

Which brings me to the topic of temperament. As breeders, we spend a great deal of time checking on the line-

age of our dogs, going as far back as we can. We pay close attention to things such as hips, elbows, OFA ratings, and bite, as well as any type of serious illness. We must of course consider all of these things, but temperament should be the first thing we look at when deciding to breed. It does not matter how good-looking a dog will be in the ring; if the dog is overprotective, "sharp," timid, or fearful, it will not be a good representative of the breed. Our breed is courageous, sensible, protective, and trainable—not aggressive, fearful, or timid.

Many breeders who have a dog returned to them will say it was because the owner did not raise the puppy correctly and ruined its temperament. This may be true some of the time, but might breeding play a part as well?

Careful screening of puppy homes is very important. Just because someone may think this is the breed for them, it is still up to the breeder to make sure the prospective buyer understands everything about our breed before the puppy is sold. When someone meets a Black Russian that has been well trained and socialized, they must understand all the work that went into that dog. All they see is a big, black, fluffy dog that is obedient and affectionate. (And I'm not even going to get into the constant grooming that a Black Russian needs!)

Black Russian Terriers are very intelligent, sensitive dogs that will protect their family and home with every inch of their being, and they do not need to be trained to do this. They must respect their owners and not make their own decisions—this is done with training and socialization.

You cannot oversocialize a BRT; no amount of socialization will keep him from always protecting you. I have had countless people hug, kiss, and pet my dogs when I do a "Meet the Breeds" event with them, and my dogs are never put away when I have parties in my home, yet I know my dogs would protect me if need be.

I know that with careful breeding, screening, education, and training we can help to keep our Black Russian Terrier breed as it should be. We have had an increase in dogs coming into rescue, and it is up to all of us to protect our great breed and to do everything we can to keep it from an undesirable fate.

—Mary Curtis,

blkdiamondmc@yahoo.com

Black Russian Terrier Club of America website: brtca.org

Boxers Playing It Safe

Bad things can happen to the very best of dogs in the most loving homes. For example, recently a cherished Boxer boy escaped his fencing and was tragically run over by his owner in the stable yard where he loved to play. On another occasion, a 6-year-old male Boxer outside of Hartford, Connecticut, was left in his fenced yard while the owners went to work. Sadly, he, too escaped his confinement—and in this case, he was hunted down and killed by a police officer who was convinced he was doing the right thing to protect the neighborhood. In still another instance, in New Jersey, a 10-year-old, nearly blind and deaf Boxer got out of his house, and when he did not respond to a policeman calling to him on the sidewalk, he too fell victim to a gun.

We must all remember that Boxers are not immune to problems of breed discrimination. A large percentage of the uneducated public thinks that Boxers are “pit bulls.” Much of law enforcement thinks they are pit bulls. Many shelters consider them pit bulls and will not even attempt to rehome them if turned in. We must be the best advocates and protectors of our breed.

Above all, fencing be secure so that the Boxer cannot dig under it nor climb or jump over it. Some dogs are easily contained, while others are notorious escape artists. It is not wise to leave your dog alone for hours in a fenced area, lest he either escape or be

victimized by a thief or a poisoner.

Many years ago our family Boxer was poisoned with strychnine in her suburban yard by an unbalanced dog-hater. She survived, but many of his other targets did not.

Boxers who are not accustomed to being loose in a neighborhood often have the instinct to run if they are suddenly freed. If they are lucky, they are seen by a friendly rescuer and coaxed to safety until their owners can be located. If not, however, they are likely to fall victim to not only the automobile but also to the misguided efforts of some who seek to prove they have saved the area from the wicked, marauding “dangerous dog” on the run. I don’t believe I am overstating these concerns.

Every Boxer puppy should be sold with a proviso that he be microchipped. At least that might save some who are turned in to shelters or veterinarian’s offices. It is a first line of defense, at any rate. Enrolling in the AKC’s Companion Animal Recovery will, for \$15, provide recovery services across the country for abandoned or at risk dogs—for life. And every new owner should be instructed on the care and safety of that Boxer they take into their home.

The American Boxer Club’s “Meet the Boxer” booklet outlines many safety concerns and solutions for the puppy as well as the adult dog. For example, how many of us have our front doors protected so that if an unexpected visitor opens it, the dog does not have the option to run outside? Food for thought.

Please take these warnings to heart—they just might save your Boxer’s life one day.

—Stephanie Abraham,

Landmarks.properties@snet.net

American Boxer Club website: americanboxerclub.org

Bullmastiffs

Guest columnist and veteran breeder Carol Beans writes about the responsible breeder.

Being a Responsible Breeder

It is of primary importance for the responsible breeder to be selective, honest, and extremely careful in placing puppies, and there is another factor that comes even before these in fulfilling that role.

Form follows function is the bedrock of the purpose for a breed’s development, and “form” of temperament as well as structure applies. The Bullmastiff was developed to be an agile, tractable, athletic, territorial guard. The responsible breeder should adhere strictly to a breeding program that maintains not only sound structure, but the *type* of sound structure that enables the dog to do the job the breed was developed to do.

There is a trap of “if a little is good, a lot has to be better” that has made some breeds change so as to be unsuited for the job for which they were developed. We have to be very careful not to make our dogs fashionable for the group ring rather than functional for their original purpose.

It has been apparent for a long time that Bullmastiff owners are often as stubborn as their dogs. There is a breed standard for a reason, and personal preferences that ignore that standard are dangerous.

If you prefer a dog who looks like a Bulldog or a Ridgeback, then by all means own one—but don’t try to justify producing Bullmastiffs of incorrect type. The standard describes a dog built for the job of working with a gamekeeper to apprehend poachers, defend against their dogs, and deliver the intruders in one piece to the law.

The Bullmastiff breeder must also be careful to maintain the temperament that enables the Bullmastiff to do the job for which he was intended. Based on this, breeders must be careful to place puppies only in homes that can deal with proper Bullmastiff temperament. It is *not* a breed for everyone. Too many people are presenting this dog as a breed for anyone and everyone.

If I hear one more time “I am owned by my Bullmastiff” or “Bullmastiffs are

all just big babies” (or “teddy bears”), I may be ill. The reason I may be ill over those statements is that such images are so far from what the breed was developed to be that they are dangerous to the survival of the breed. These statements encourage all the wrong kinds of owners.

Yes, the breed is extremely loyal and loving. However, when the owner will not be the alpha in the household, a Bullmastiff with the proper temperament will be. This is when problems can happen. This is when breeders get those panicked phone calls about someone having been sold a “bad” dog. In 47 years of owning Bullmastiffs, I have *never* had one who didn’t believe I was in charge. Maybe as a youngster the occasional dog tested my resolve; never twice. I love assertive, dominant Bullmastiffs. They are bright, loving, and amusing. However, they are quite capable of understanding who runs the show.

The safety and future of the breed depends on breeders who are responsible enough to make the welfare of the breed their top priority. Breed to the standard, and screen prospective buyers to be sure they understand and are capable of controlling an extremely smart, extremely willful, and independent-minded dog. —C.B.

Thanks, Carol, for your wisdom and advice.

—Helene Nietsch, ABA columns coordinator

American Bullmastiff Association
website: bullmastiff.us

Doberman Pinschers Breeders: The Basis of Our Sport

When I was looking for my first Doberman, I went to the local dog shows and saw which dogs appealed to me. At that time there were over 80 Dobermans entered at all the big shows in the Pacific Northwest. I talked to the people there and got the names of breeders. The people were friendly and the dog show was exciting, so we thought we might enjoy showing.

Now when I bring my dogs to events such as the state fair, people remark that they never see our breed any more. They can’t find breeders, and they would like to purchase a Doberman.

This brings up the question: Where have all the Doberman breeders gone? It seems like they are an aging population. Today my champion owners don’t want to breed their dogs—the only way they will be bred is at my house.

Having a litter is a huge commitment. It starts with the health of the mom and moves to the health and mental welfare of the babies. Having a cropped breed is another challenge; it is very hard finding a vet who will do the ears. Then you have to evaluate the litter and choose the right home for each pup. And of course there’s the follow-up to make sure each pup is thriving in its new home.

We should covet our breeders. They are the front line of our breed. Sometimes I think we lose sight of our goal, which should be to further the breed. We think everything else is so important that we forget the most basic aspect. Breeders make our breed. Just as a society can’t exist without children, our breed will perish without Doberman breeders.

Michael Canalizo, the AKC’s director of Event Management, said: “The American Kennel Club knows that the breeders of purebred dogs are the backbone of our sport, so we’re proud to honor them each year at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. Being recognized as Breeder of the Year is one of the highest honors achievable.”

You can’t have a breed if no one will breed. We need to encourage our new owners to breed their good dogs. We need to help each other to ensure that each litter is a success and share our knowledge. We can’t quit breeding because there are dogs in rescue or dogs with serious health problems; with that reasoning, we will lose this wonderful breed. Maybe we need to consider the glass as half full and embrace the

opportunities for improvement, instead of limiting possibilities with the glass-half-empty approach. Let’s support our breeders.

In my next column, we will discuss how to encourage and inspire breeders.

—Faye Strauss, sherluckmm@msn.com

Doberman Pinscher Club of America website: dpca.org

Dogues de Bordeaux Newbies, Mentors, and the Future of the Dogue

I recently had my first litter in many years and had the joy of selling one of my boys to a “Bulldog guy.” A local man who was once into that breed, he is no longer in the show scene. We spent a lot of time talking about this. He got his first Bulldog, and the breeder became a good friend and mentor to him. He started to show, started to have fun, and started to win—and then he saw the kind of nastiness that can raise its head among any group of humans. People who once were his “friends” began to talk negatively about him behind his back. People criticized his dogs and other people’s dogs. He was no longer having fun, so he stepped away.

Before he stepped away, he learned much about the breed from his mentors and friends. When he started looking at the Dogue de Bordeaux, he took the time to learn about the breed—the pluses and minuses, the ups and downs. I thought to myself, “Bulldogs lost a good person.”

This made me start to think: In the past 15 years, how many times have we seen new people in our breed? How many of them are now gone, and how many have stayed? How many times do we huddle and say, “Oh, she won’t be here long.”

Why are we doing that? Why are we not embracing new people who come into our fold? We should be welcoming them, becoming friends and being mentors. If this had not happened for us when we were “new,” would we still be here? Probably not. And who will be here when we are gone? The newbies

whom we take the time to say hello to and bring into our group. They are part of the future of our breed.

Of course, not everyone will stay; not everyone will be an ethical, honest person, and not everyone will be your friend down the line. However, we should be taking the time with each new person to make their experience with us and our breed beneficial. If at some point they leave the breed or even are no longer your friend, don't regret having shared information about the breed with them. You never know; you passed along knowledge—perhaps knowledge that someone once shared with you—that in the future might benefit the breed and or another owner.

While we are discussing mentoring new people in our breed, let's not forget the children. We take them to the shows and teach them not to run, not to pet a dog without asking, and not to step in the poop. They get a little older, they start in Juniors, and they begin learning to show—but we should also be taking the time to teach them the history of the Dogue de Bordeaux, and teach them the standard, making it fun and enjoyable, because they too are the future of the Dogue de Bordeaux. One day they may be us, sitting ringside and mentoring a newbie.

Take the time to mentor anyone who asks. Make friends. Don't shut people out. We need to secure the future of the breed by sharing our knowledge with others.

Second Printing of Breed Book

I have heard rumor that there will be a second printing of Raymond Triquet's *La Saga du Dogue de Bordeaux* in English. Stay tuned—this is a great tool for our breed!

—Andrea Switzer-Bialoblocki, *pnkn-hbrdx@aol.com*

Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America: *ddbbsa.org*

German Pinschers Crop and Dock, or Not?

Most German Pinschers in the United States are cropped and

docked. This has been done since the first German Pinschers came into the country and is not only generally accepted, but is expected. Thus the breed's AKC standard says: *Ears—set high, symmetrical and carried erect when cropped.* However, there is also a provision for natural ears: *If uncropped, they are V-shaped with a folding pleat, or small, standing ears carried evenly upright.*

Many German Pinscher breeders crop and dock their puppies before sending them home to new owners. A few will leave the ears natural if a buyer specifically requests it and the puppies have not yet been cropped. Some simply leave whether to crop or not up to the puppy buyers.

Anyone considering leaving their German Pinscher's ears natural needs to understand that with that can come some potential problems. Even though some breeds that are traditionally cropped may experience increased ear infections when ears are left natural, that is not true with the German Pinscher; even natural ears will stand erect at the base, allowing sufficient airflow over the ear canal. Natural German Pinscher ears do not lie close to the head. However, many German Pinschers with natural ears will split ears at the tips when shaking their head and hitting an ear against a hard object. This is especially true in cold weather. Not only does this create a mess, it is very difficult to get healed.

Also, if the puppy is going to be shown in conformation, it should be understood that some judges will not seriously consider a German Pinscher with natural ears. While some of the breed have titled with natural ears, few have excelled as show dogs.

Even though cropped ears have become somewhat optional in the breed, tails are almost always docked. The AKC standard says: *Tail—moderately set and carried above the horizontal. Customarily docked between the second and third joints.*

Internationally, it has become more common to see German Pinschers who are completely natural, as many coun-

tries have outlawed cropping and docking. This is a completely different look and takes some getting used to before the eye can flow smoothly over the dog. Most young imports are cropped and docked once they arrive in the U.S. It is more difficult when an older dog is imported who is completely natural. In most cases, the new owner does not have a lot of expectations.

The majority of AKC conformation judges are reluctant to place a completely natural dog, even after they consult their breed standard to see if they are even allowed to have a tail. While there are some exceptions, it is not easy and can be very frustrating. To be successful in the show ring with a completely natural German Pinscher, you need to start with an exceptional dog who has an outgoing temperament and is a real showman. Even then, it will be the hardest thing you will ever do in dogs.

The best comment made by an AKC judge right before placing one of these all-natural imports in the Working Group was, "I hate the ears and I hate the tail, but I cannot deny the dog."

—Deidre E. Gannon, Esquire, *chocori@aol.com*

German Pinscher Club of America
website: *german-pinscher.com*

Great Pyrenees Spinning Pyrenees Hair

I am learning how to spin. No, not dog hair. Not yet anyway. But eventually I will master the art of turning a huge wad of Pyrenees undercoat into a skein of yarn. And it won't be as easy as doing the same thing to sheep hair. That is, it won't be the same as turning wool into yarn.

There is a reason that people have traditionally used wool for this purpose (and these days synthetics and cotton) rather than dog hair. The wool simply wants to be yarn—it spins readily and is just the right length to make beautiful yarn. Dog hair is not. In fact, most people who spin Pyrenees hair mix it with either synthetics or wool while preparing the hair to make a better yarn that

is easier to work with.

So, then why spin Pyrenees hair at all? Well, first of all because it is there. As anyone who has Pyrenees will readily tell you, every spring these dogs shed an enormous amount of undercoat. If you live in a cold climate where the dog has been outside in the snow (the kind of weather that this breed loves the best), as the weather warms each spring, the dogs will shed the undercoat that has kept them warm all winter. It is easily possible to fill a large plastic garbage bag with the undercoat from just one dog. And it is important to get that coat off the dog, because if you leave it uncombed, the coat will mat to the dog's skin and leave very unpleasant hot-spots.

To get rid of it, you just take a large comb and reach down to the level of the skin and out comes the shed hair by the handful. If you have a male, the area around the head develops a particularly large "mane" that is great for spinning since it is often somewhat longer hair.

You prepare the hair by washing and carding, and then you can spin—or you can just throw it away. If you have a club of Pyrenees fanciers, making things out of Pyr hair for auction at club events is a surefire fund-raiser that will help your club. And it will feel so much better to actually use that hair rather than just throw it away. The official *Complete Great Pyrenees* book even has a chapter with direction about how it is done.

I once bought a really lovely shawl that had been crocheted from Pyrenees hair. It was open-work and lacy. I imagined I would wear it over a dark evening dress for special event. And when someone complimented it (which I assumed was going to happen), I would casually tell them that it was made out of dog hair. What fun!

Actually, I discovered that although it was beautiful and looked just right hanging over that black dress, it shed—just like the dogs themselves. Well, since I lived with Pyrenees and was very accustomed to picking hair off my

clothes, having white hairs all over my black dress was just a normal event.

—Gail Knapp, Ph.D., J.D.,
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Great Pyrenees Club of America
website: *gpcaonline.org*

Great Danes

This month we reprise an excellent article on socialization written by Paddy Magnuson, who retired in December 2011 as this publication's columnist for Great Danes after serving in that role for more than 40 years.

The Importance of Early Socialization

When one is a Great Dane breeder-owner-handler and trains and participates in performance events, one becomes aware of the great intelligence and athleticism of our Danes, their powerful structure, and their majestic elegance—the combination earning the breed its stature as "The Apollo of Dogdom."

I have lived with this breed for most of my life. I got my first puppy when I was about 7 years old, and I was told he was my responsibility from the moment I took him in my arms and brought him home. What a heavenly day that was! We were inseparable. He traveled on tramcars, climbing the open metal staircase to the upper deck. He followed us as we went horseback riding and bicycling. He resided courtside as we played racquet sports. He had a seat on the train when we traveled to shows in Dublin, Ireland. Wherever we were, I can remember the kids gathering round us and my poor, ever-patient Mum trying to keep order. Those were the days when people and dogs enjoyed freedoms that must sound so foreign to some today.

When both parents pass the tests of temperament, health and longevity, and sound physical structure, and the progeny from such is given the opportunity to develop to their full potential, the Great Dane's versatility is unlimited. However, such is only obtained when the puppies are handled from birth and are socialized from 5 to 6 weeks of age

by rides in the car and outings such as visits with children at the local high school. Mine visit school at 5–6 weeks, and they love it. They are very easily lead-broken at this age—they automatically follow along, and their training continues gradually, without them being aware. At such a young age, they are learning mostly from body language, and the lead is a guide.

Motivational training takes place a little later, when conformation training begins with stacking, baiting, and gaiting. This I begin in earnest at 3 months. By 4 months the puppy is looking forward to the workouts. He loves the baiting! And his socialization has continued daily, with trips to the store or mall and mingling with other puppies at puppy school. Nothing is forced.

A well-socialized puppy doesn't develop idiosyncrasies of temperament, and fear or aggressiveness does not surface when pups are given the opportunity to develop mentally, eliminating fear of "unknowns."

Performance events are also introduced at a young age. Simple obedience exercises are started in puppy school, as well as the agility exercises. With all jumps and obstacles set very low, they learn the routine, and they have fun running through the tunnels! (This is not to say that an older Dane is untrainable. There are many older Danes who tackle the agility course to add to their titles!)

Bloodlines are important, as they propagate the level temperament and sound structure required. Such can be wasted, however, if the puppy is not socialized from an early age. It will never obtain full security and stability unless given the opportunity to do so through loving, caring, hands-on guidance as it matures.

Breeders take years developing the bloodlines of champions. Appreciate how fortunate you to have acquired a beautiful, well-bred puppy. Put your heart and soul into helping him into a stable, mature dog who can strut into a show ring, speed through an agility course, climb a mountain, be a loving

family dog, and fearlessly perform whatever is asked. The potential is there; it is up to you to develop it. —P.M.

—Great Dane Club of America website: gdca.org

Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

The GSMD at Crufts

I made my first visit to England to watch the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog breed make its debut at Crufts on March 10. As advertised, Crufts is truly a one-of-a-kind dog show. The five huge halls were all buzzing with activity, and there were more vendors than one person could visit.

The GSMDs were shown in the Any Variety Imported Register (Working). This is similar to AKC Miscellaneous competition. The other new breed that was shown with the GSMD was the Beauceron. There were 19 GSMDs and nine Beaucerons entered.

The entry was broken into six classes for both sexes. Mr. S. W. Hall judged these classes, which included Special Puppy, Special Junior, Post Graduate, Limit, Open, and Good Citizen. Both breeds showed together in their appropriate class, and first through fourth places were awarded. A best dog, best bitch and Best of Breed were awarded. Best Dog and BB went to Crown's Circle of Life at Springhaze, owned by Steve and Sue Briley and bred in the United States by Michael and Amber Rusk. Best Bitch was Samala's Country Rose, owned by Annette O'Brien, and bred and handled by Kimberley Barton in the United Kingdom. This bitch was out of a U.S. import as well.

I asked Sue Briley about their Crufts experience and for a little history on the breed in the United Kingdom, and she shared the following:

"The GSMD was accepted by the KC here in the U.K. in 2008, and the breed was put on the Import Register. In 2010 the KC accepted the Interim Breed Standard, which then allowed the GSMDs to be shown in Import Register classes only at Open and Championship shows.

"This year has been a major milestone, as for the first time the KC allowed breeds on the IR to be shown at Crufts. All the groups had their own classes. However, the BOB winners are still not allowed to compete for Best in Group or go forward for Best in Show.

"There were a total of 28 entered in the Working classes at Crufts, with 19 GSMDs and 9 Beaucerons. Two GSMDs were from overseas—one from France, and one from the Netherlands. Many of the competitors had never shown at Crufts before so did not know what to expect. The reality was it was no different than any other Championship show. The atmosphere at the ringside, away from the hustle and bustle of the main shopping areas, was calm and relaxed. The dogs took it all in their stride and did not seem fazed. The GSMD club celebrated with a cake and drinks to toast the first-ever showing of GSMDs at Crufts.

"The breed is progressing well within the U.K., with a strong demand for puppies. There are currently 126 GSMDs in the U.K., and this number is expected to increase, with six litters planned this year and new stock being imported worldwide."

I found the British breeders and exhibitors to be very excited about the breed. Several shared their hopes that the breed would soon be able to show in the regular classes and advance to the Groups. The breed is slowly but surely making progress in the United Kingdom. I think the restrictions on importing dogs have made their progress a little slower, but we commend British breeders on their success and wish them good luck in the future.

—Cathy Cooper,
shadetreegsmd@embarqmail.com

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club
of America website: gsmdca.org

Komondorok

A New Veterinarian?

Recently I had to make a very tough decision and ended up switching to a new veterinarian and clinic. It was something I had been

thinking about for a couple of years. The hospital I had used since 1993 had been sold to a new doctor, due to the original vet wanting to retire. Slowly changes were made in personnel, quality of service, and care, plus their prices were on a steady rise.

I was hesitant to leave, because I did like several of the remaining staff, and I'm a relatively loyal consumer; if I'm happy with the service, I don't mind paying a little bit more. Also, with the clinic's help my success rate in using frozen semen and getting live puppies had been quite good, especially since we have no reproductive veterinarians within a 200-mile radius. Another consideration was that this part of the country has limited veterinary choices. But it was time to begin the search for a new doctor.

Whether you have moved or the time simply has come to change veterinarians, where to start is the hardest part. Ask others who they use and why they use them. In my case I asked for opinions of longtime dog friends and puppy buyers.

A number of doctors were mentioned, but then one vet and clinic started to be mentioned more often. I checked this clinic and doctor out online and found others were also saying positive remarks, so I set up an appointment for an interview.

In the interview I explained my situation and what I did like about my current veterinarian, and I discussed what I thought I was no longer receiving. I told him my expectations, my length of experience, and the fact that I show and breed.

I made it very clear that all of my dogs pass their health clearances prior to breeding and that I am a responsible breeder. Because of perceptions about puppy mills and overflowing shelters, many veterinarians have a different idea of what a breeder is, and I wanted him to understand the difference.

In turn, he interviewed me. This young veterinarian impressed me with his honesty and his willingness to work with me. He also took the time to

explain his fees, and he even made suggestions on how I could save money by putting one of my older Komondors on an alternative medication.

Finally, I felt ready to switch doctors. I started with one dog who needed a biopsy. I was very happy with the care and pricing. Now all our dogs go there.

I would like to remind people that it is OK to change veterinarians. If you are having second thoughts about your dog's doctor, then you should consider a different one. Also, it is a good idea to have a backup clinic, just in case your usual clinic is not available.

—Adrienne Freyer,

kburgkom@aol.com

Komondor Club of America website:
komondorclubofamerica.org

Kuvaszok

Our guest columnist is Steve Oppenheimer, who carts with his Kuvasz Attila—more formally known as IABCA/Int. Ch./GCh. Double Rings Barbarian, CD, CGC, NDD, VPA.

Carting With Your Kuvasz

Although primarily a livestock guardian and general-purpose protection animal, as with a lot of large farm dogs, the job of the Kuvasz has sometimes included draft work. Today, one U.S. Kuvasz hauls groceries as a service dog, and several enjoy recreational carting, including competitive draft tests.

Many draft breeds are easygoing, and they move relatively slowly and steadily when freighting. Kuvasz, though, are light-footed, fast-moving, and surprisingly quick natural livestock guardians. That has implications for carting.

The breed's natural gait covers a lot of ground in a hurry, and its normal carting speed is much faster than that of most traditional draft breeds. A carting dog hauls a payload over a variety of terrain, which adds levels of complexity to heeling. You want to move quickly so your Kuvasz can maintain his natural gait—and so he stays focused on the job and doesn't have time to start scanning for "predators."

At the same time, you have to adjust your speed to the terrain and control the dog's speed accordingly. Practice tight, continuous speed and direction changes at heel, in addition to formal *slow*, *normal*, and *fast*, so you can throttle back just enough.

A carting dog must keep working even when other dogs on the route act stupidly. With Kuvasz, you should work extra hard on distraction-proofing—especially proofing your dog for distractions from noises and other animals. You won't have those extra seconds that owners of slower-moving, milder-tempered dogs have, so your command has to be extremely effective, with no nonsense accepted.

Thorough socialization, obviously, is crucial. Working your dog in public from the earliest training gives you the needed "undistractability."

A second dog—the more energetic, playful, and high-spirited, the better—is a great training aid when you can cart in a well-fenced area. I do German Shepherd rescue and often let my snarky latest foster girl loose while training my male Kuvasz in a fenced area. She will run in our path, tease and nip as an invitation to play, and so on. The carting dog must stay focused on teamwork regardless.

For driving, of course, you need excellent command-response. You're sitting well behind your dog, and all you have is your voice. Reins won't help if your dog goes into predator-control mode. "Leave it" must be inviolable.

Training for competitive carting is much like training for any competitive dog sport, and Kuvasz independence has pretty much the same implications here as with other activities. The Kuvasz will work hard if he enjoys the teamwork and has accepted the job as his responsibility. However, a self-respecting Kuvasz will shut down or rebel if pushed too hard without sufficient fun and approval.

So relax, breathe, and have fun! That's what it's all about, anyway. You can talk to (but not touch) your dog in competitive carting, so lay on the praise! My

Kuvasz's tail starts wagging as soon as he sees his cart and harness come out, and it doesn't stop until I put them away. I feel much the same way. —S.O.

Steve, thanks for sharing!

—LeAnn Miller, solarikuvasz@att.net

Kuvasz Club of America website:

kuvasz.com

Leonbergers Proudly Presenting Leonberger University

William Butler Yeats is said to have penned the phrase *Education is not the filling of a pail, but the igniting of a fire*.

While members of the fancy are often possessed of what can undoubtedly be characterized as a fiery passion for their breed, the Leonberger Club of America has undertaken a massive education program designed to ignite fires of learning among Leonberger enthusiasts worldwide.

Modeled after The Basset Hound Club of America's "Basset Hound University," the Leonberger Club of America's "Leonberger University" is an excellent resource for the breed. Leonberger University offers free online education courses on many topics of interest to Leonberger owners, breeders, and enthusiasts worldwide. Through a series of interactive modules housed within the rich interface of Leo U's website, users can avail themselves of a wide variety of course topics. Thus it's simple to tailor a course load to each individual's interests whether they are in California, New York, Stockholm, or Italy.

While online information is accessible to all, one of the biggest limitations of an Internet environment is the lack of hands-on, real-time experiences. To bridge that gap, Leonberger University offers a wide variety of practical experiences for the LU student at Leonberger gatherings around the country. Live demonstrations and interactive work-sessions are offered at regional shows, educational days, fun matches, and specialty shows. Such popular topics as draft work, agility,

clicker training, and therapy work are planned for the future.

Who is a Leonberger University student? The answer is simple: anyone who wants to learn more about the Leonberger breed. Courses on the breed's official standard and its structure and movement might be of particular interest to judges and the show fancy. Breeders can benefit from the special courses on the ABC's of breeding and whelping. The pet owner will enjoy the Leonberger History module, and the performance owner will find the obedience, agility, and other working topics of particular relevance.

The mission statement of Leonberger University is "To preserve and protect the breed and the past and future legacy of the Leonberger Club of America by providing an engaging learning environment of continuing-education programs in all areas of Leonberger interest."

Recognizing our obligation to cultivate the breed's future, Leonberger University offers a program for children. Courses will focus on Junior Showmanship, games to play with your Leonberger, and general dog safety. Interactive quizzes, puzzles, and worksheets will make the coursework come alive for kids in a meaningful way.

The Leonberger Club of America has always been a steadfast proponent of education. We owe a debt of gratitude to longtime Leonberger experts Ann Rogers and Lara Bohinc for founding Leonberger University, and to Sharon Betts for sharing her technology skills as Leonberger University webmaster. These three dynamic women are joined by a larger team of Leo fanciers who are committed to continuing the Leonberger Club of America's deep commitment to education for the past, present, and future of our breed. Lara, Ann, and the rest of the Leonberger University team invite you to tour the University at leonberger-u.org.

For information and curriculum suggestions, please contact Ann Rogers (ann@leo-u.org) and Lara Bohinc (lara@leo-u.org).

For website problems and suggestions, contact Sharon Betts (sharon@leo-u.org).

—Astrid Robitaille,
astridrobi@gmail.com

Leonberger Club of America website: leonbergerclubofamerica.info

Mastiffs

Our guest columnist is Kay Routten, who shares her experiences in obedience-training Mastiffs over the last 25 years.

You Want Me to Do *What?*

We all know what we're in for when we get a new puppy: hours and hours of training, lots of playtime and house-training. We feel good from all the mini-achievements after they come to our homes. Then our little puppies get bigger and stronger—and they quickly train us, their owners!

The Mastiff is a very noble and loyal breed. They were bred to be guard dogs and are known to be very loving and eager to please their owner. However, at the same time they can also be obstinate if pushed.

When looking for a new obedience puppy, look for the one who is most outgoing and full of energy. Some breeders will even give the litter a temperament test.

Once you bring your new Mastiff home, register him for a puppy class between the ages of 12 to 16 weeks. When starting this class, use of treats and a clicker are very helpful.

This is an important time to introduce your puppy not only to other dogs, but to a variety of people as well. Taking a few classes will head you in the right direction, but the class time alone will not be enough to prepare your Mastiff to enter the obedience ring. Work each day with your puppy, but only for a few minutes; any longer than that will cause him to start losing interest. It is important to make each training session fun, give lots of praise, and never forget to reward correct behavior with treats.

It is well worth all the time and

effort when you finally see the light bulb go off inside their heads!

At some point in this journey, you will hopefully feel comfortable enough to enter your first obedience trial. When I first started showing in obedience, most of the judges commented that they had never seen a Mastiff in the obedience ring. Now there are quite a few Mastiffs showing in obedience. When you and your companion receive that first qualifying score, it makes all the work worthwhile. The bond you will develop with your dog will last a lifetime.

Once you receive your Novice title, which requires three qualifying scores, you can start training to compete in Open. All of the Open exercises are done off-lead and consist of the following exercises: heel off-lead, figure eight, stand for exam, throw the dumbbell on the flat, retrieve a dumbbell over a jump, and broad jump. After all of the dogs in the class have done these exercises individually, the dogs are required to perform together a three-minute sit and a five-minute down, with handlers out of sight.

The next and most difficult level of obedience is Utility, which is also done off-lead and uses a great deal of hand signals rather than verbal commands. The dogs must perform off-lead heeling, signal exercises, scent discrimination, directed retrieve, moving stand for exam, and directed jumping. There is no out-of-sight sit-stay or down-stay in this class.

Although there are likely to be many ups and downs along this journey you will share together, it will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Enjoy each and every moment of your training together, and if things don't go as expected in the ring, there is always another trial waiting to be entered. —K.R.

Thank you, Kay!

—Toni Hyland, tonihyland@sbc-global.net

Mastiff Club of America website: mastiff.org

working Neapolitan Mastiffs

The *Mastino Napoletano* and the AKC Standard PART ONE

To love dogs is to love life. I am proud to say my breed is the Neapolitan Mastiff.

The United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club (USNMC) has recently undertaken discussion within its community of a proposed revision of the AKC standard. Every word has a meaning in the standard, and much deliberation, discussion, and debate is being given to each proposed revision.

I wish to first take this opportunity to explain what a Neapolitan Mastiff is from the point of view of a passionate lover of the breed, and then go on to the standard.

His character should be the first thing you notice about him. Yes, we have a large, massive, rectangular dog with wrinkles—but there is much more to the *Mastino Napoletano*.

A true fancier of this breed is looking for a dog who evokes strong emotions. A great dog *must* be able to see well to evoke such an emotion. The intense glare of a beautiful, healthy *Mastino* is breathtaking. You can feel his presence even without looking at him. Without looking at the *Mastino* a person can sense his presence. This is demonstrated by the prickly, primitive feeling you get at the back of your neck when you feel someone or something is “out there” looking at you. At night you know he is there in the shadows, though you cannot see or hear him.

He is very much like the great cats of the world. He moves in silence—proud, confident, and strong—with the reaching extension of the forearms and hind legs. He is like the tiger and the lion in the emotions that he evokes in the reveler.

To quote William Blake’s “The Tiger”:

*In what distant deeps or skies
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?*

This same fire changes to pure love when the *Mastino* greets his master, after even a brief time apart. It is as

equally intense an experience. This is a *Mastino*.

The Neapolitan Mastiff is an Italian breed. The current breed standard of the mother country is being refined. This is the very reason why the USNMC is looking at revisions and honing our AKC standard at this time. Does it change our dogs? It doesn’t? With that being said, we do not wish to have an American Neapolitan Mastiff and an Italian Neapolitan Mastiff.

It is the goal of the USNMC to educate and instruct everyone on what a true *Mastino* is, and in that spirit we will move forward.

For fanciers and judges, we would say that it is not the intention to rewrite the book but to take all the work that has been done in the United States and continue to move it forward.

Long live all dogs, and long live the *Mastino Napoletano*.

—Joseph Attaway, MBA (vice president, United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club), jowaatt@yahoo.com

United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club website: neapolitan.org

Newfoundlands

Newfy Comfort in Times of Crisis

A recent spate of horrific mass shootings throughout the United States, culminating in the unspeakable slaughter of first-graders in Newtown, Connecticut, blasted the world with heartbreaking images of chaos, panic, and grief. It was almost too much to process—so sad, so senseless, so very, very wrong.

And then sandwiched into the midst of these tragic scenes, a single photo of a Golden Retriever, sitting calmly at the feet of a traumatized Newtown resident, its head in her lap, caught my eye. Suddenly my own heart lightened a bit, as I felt the pure acceptance and unconditional love of this dog, offered so sweetly to a total stranger, radiating even through a digitized picture.

Although dogs have long proven effective in a variety of animal-assisted therapy roles, crisis response is a rela-

tively new branch of the field. It began when a few individual handlers took therapy dogs to Ground Zero in the aftermath of the 2001 terrorist attack on New York. Emergency responders there, shocked by the events and overwhelmed by their job of recovering the victims and cleaning up the wreckage, responded warmly to furry new friends eager to kiss away the tears that even macho men must sometimes shed. No judgment. No well-intentioned comments falling short. Only love.

As the field of animal-assisted crisis-response evolved, so did national organizations dedicated to the further screening, training and coordination necessary to deploy dog and handler teams to situations far beyond the scope of traditional therapy work. Though the job is basically the same—to offer comfort, support, and encouragement—the setting can require bombproof poise and confidence in both dogs and handlers, plus extra vigilance to avoid physical danger and psychological trauma.

The first Newfoundland certified in crisis-response was a big, lovable Landseer named Applejack, who served from 2002 to 2006. Owned, adored, and handled by Dori McLaurin, Applejack had already shown an innate genius for therapy work. As a crisis-response canine, he went on to share big doses of Newfy love and kisses with both civilians and emergency responders affected by multiple wildfires, a school shooting, a train derailment, and Hurricane Katrina. Applejack visited shelters, attended memorial services, drew frequent media attention, and even met the president.

Only a handful of Newfoundlands, including my own dear, departed Terra, have followed Applejack’s paw-prints into crisis-response work. Each of them has drawn special notice and appreciation in a field dominated by Labs and Goldens, the canine colleagues Terra and I called “little blonde dogs.” Certainly, no breed is better suited to therapy work or the additional rigors of crisis response than our beloved gentle

giants, with their enormous hearts and stalwart history of daring rescues despite stormy seas and wintry weather.

For those drawn to the work and rewards of canine-assisted therapy, crisis response offers added dimensions of service, experience and partnership with your Newfoundland.

—Sandra Millers Younger, *sandrayounger@gmail.com*

Newfoundland Club of America website: *ncanews.org*

Portuguese Water Dogs

Health Update: New Form of PRA Recognized

The PWDCA has recently notified all club members that a new form of progressive retinal atrophy (PRA) has been recognized in Portuguese Water Dogs. This new form of PRA appears to be an early-onset variety, as the affected dogs are approximately 2 years of age.

Since this “new” PRA was only diagnosed in our breed a few months ago, we do not yet have an age as to how young or how old a PWD needs to be before they show clinical signs of this new PRA.

The PWDCA is working closely with Dr. Gustavo Aguirre and his staff at UPenn to collect data and identify affected and at risk dogs. As in the past for other genetic conditions, the club’s objective is to once again have our researchers identify the cause and develop a test to identify normal, carrier and affected PWDs.

All owners and breeders of Portuguese Water Dogs 10 years old or younger are encouraged to have their dog’s eyes examined:

“The mode of inheritance is not currently known, and the incidence of this disease is not currently known nor will be unless all PWDs are evaluated.”

It is recommended that dogs should be examined by a veterinary ophthalmologist, and a CERF or ERC exam requested.

A veterinary ophthalmologist can be found near you by checking the list of

names at the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologist website (*acvo.org*). Also, many local dog clubs offer eye clinics where an ACVO vet can examine your dog.

The club notes, “If there is anything suspicious about a young dog’s behavior or any question about a vision problem, it is vital to have an eye exam, as soon as possible.”

On the PWDCA website, in the health section under “Eyes,” can be found an Eye Exam Checklist and a Health Release Form that owners can print out and complete with their dog’s information needed for an eye exam. The form also includes a request from Dr. Aguirre for some clinical information from the examining ophthalmologist, should a dog be diagnosed as affected.

Dr. Aguirre will be in contact with the PWDCA’s eye committee, and any new information on this PRA will be shared with PWD owners and breeders on the PWDCA website.

“Let’s work together and rise to the challenge to beat this disease as we’ve done in the past with GM-1, JDCM, and prcd-PRA. Cooperation, honesty, and the best interests of the breed are what we’re all about.”

For further information or to report a dog affected with this new PRA, please contact Joan Bendure, chair of the PWDCA Eye Committee, at *joan@benhilpawd.com*.

My sincere thanks to the PWDCA board of directors and the PWDCA Eye Committee for permitting me to quote and summarize important points from their recent Business Notice sent to all PWDCA members and from the PWDCA website.

A very special thank-you also to the breeder of the affected litter and stud-dog owner for their courage and honesty as they came forward to share this information with the club, as we all work together to ensure the future health of our beloved PWDs.

—Carole Prangle-McIvor, *mcivor_carole@yahoo.com*

Portuguese Water Dog Club of America website: *pwdca.org*

Rottweilers

Our guest columnist is Frank Nelson, longtime owner, trainer, exhibitor, and supporter of the breed and an instructor of evening obedience classes.

Presenting the Rottweiler in a Positive Light! PART TWO

In my training classes I use my personal Rottweilers as demo dogs. Students whose dogs are ill or recuperating from surgery are offered one of my dogs to work in the class. Often children accompany a parent for class. I offer children the opportunity to work my demo dog in class. This is an opportunity for me to educate my students what a well-bred, well-socialized, and well-trained Rottweiler can be.

In one class I brought Dillon who, unfortunately, is large with bowed legs and a giant, bulbous head. I joke that he could haunt houses. Fortunately, he is a kid and chick magnet—he attracts them in the classes, in vet-office waiting rooms, or just walking down the street. While walking to rehab with a repaired ACL, Dillon greets other walkers and is now known as the “mayor” of our township.

Dillon met twin girls who were in class with Mom and the family Yorkie, and every time I tried to use Dillon for demo I had to pry him away from the girls. At the next class their father appeared and demanded to meet this Rottweiler named Dillon. I introduced him to my big fellow, and the man shared his story. The previous week his twin daughters came home, and they had a special request: They didn’t want a thing for their birthday or Christmas—they wanted a dog just like Dillon!

Another class night, I looked over and found an older woman lying on the floor beside Dillon. I ran over thinking she stumbled and fallen. She advised that Dillon’s eyes called to her and she wanted to lie beside him.

I introduce my demo dog at the start of my Beginner classes and inform the class of the different canine venues the

dogs participate in. Most of the general public have no idea that the demo Rottweiler was herding sheep the week before or spent last evening pulling a cart. An element in our training club does carting with their Rottweilers. Our family dogs make quite an impression as they pull their cart down our road. People stop their cars to inquire. We utilize the opportunity to explain all the wonderful things the breed is capable of accomplishing.

We are very realistic in describing our breed. They are high maintenance and expensive to maintain. They are independent and will make decisions and judgments on their own unless their owner takes control. They carry the same liability as owning a firearm in the wrong hands.

We do not promote ownership of the breed, but instead we present the Rottweiler as a multitasking working breed. This Rottweiler can be totally awesome for owners who love and understand him. —E.N.

Thank you, Frank.

—Gwen Chaney, gachaney2@aol.com

American Rottweiler Club website:
amrottclub.org

Saint Bernards

This month we revisit a look at the breed's two coat types written by Dave Maxwell.

One Breed, Two Coat Varieties

The original Saint Bernards were all shorthaired dogs. More than 175 years ago, the monks in Switzerland found it necessary to bring some new blood into their breeding, and they interbred long-coated breeds such as Newfoundlands of the day with their Saints. Today the influence of that breeding is still with us, and we now have two coat varieties, with the long-coated dogs often called "roughs" and the short-coated ones known as "smooths."

The dense, luscious coat of the smooth lies mostly flat and is very tough yet not rough to the touch. The

smooth's thighs and tail are slightly bushy. The longhaired dog must resemble the shorthaired variety in every respect except for coat length. The rough's coat is of medium length, straight to slightly wavy. It is never curly or shaggy. The greatest difference between the rough and the smooth is the rough's bushier thighs and feathering on the legs and the tail. The rough has short, soft hair covering the face and ears and often features longer, silkier hair at the base of the ears.

At conformation shows, the coat types are often shown separately in the *Open class* to determine the best of each. After this the judge brings the best dogs of each type back into the ring to compete for the top honors.

Unlike the Collie, Dachshund, and several other breeds, the Saint's coat types are not judged as distinct and separate varieties that are each eligible for championship points and to proceed to group competition. Why the difference? The Saints are judged under a single standard. The standard was written to describe the shorthaired Saint Bernard. The standard addresses the longhaired dog only to explain the differences in the two coats. Otherwise they are judged exactly the same. Deserving dogs, regardless of whether they are shorthaired or longhaired, should be considered equally for awards.

Breeders who want to breed standard-type Saints use both coats in their breeding program. Best practices demand interbreeding the smooth and rough to ensure better type, greater soundness, and richer coats. Roughs typically hold size and bone the best, while smooths appear to maintain type and soundness. Two smooths bred together usually produce both coat types, but two roughs always produce only rough coats.

No one should let the length of the coat be the determining factor when buying a dog. The Saint Bernard is distinctive and unique regardless of which coat he wears. The care and condition of the coat is far more important than

the length. I have no coat preference regarding individual Saints, for I am drawn to the most beautiful dog, and coat does not enter into the equation.

Seldom do all the elements come together in one breed specimen. Because of the difficulty of achieving the feat and the resulting rarity of its occurrence, I will simply submit an enduring fact. A well-muscled, athletic, smooth-coated Saint that also possesses correct proportion, symmetry, balance, and movement is a delight to behold. The innate power in the chest, loins, and hindquarters is clearly visible and cannot be faked by artful trimming and grooming.

Such dogs honestly exhibit the majesty of this breed and are a worthy, yet seldom attained goal of every serious Saint breeder. I have been told that you can't buy one but must breed your own, because no sane breeder would ever part with such glory. —D.M.

—Pam Leighton (SBGA column coordinator), sierrasaint@sbcglobal.net

Saint Bernard Club of America website: saintbernardclub.org

Samoyeds

Our guest column this month is from a longtime Samoyed fancier.

Consider This Type of Samoyed "Rescue"

The term *rescue* is often used to refer to efforts that help homeless canines. There is another definition of the word, however, that can be associated with efforts that help your own Samoyeds—ensuring that your dogs will be taken care of should something happen to you. This type of "rescue" is the focus of this article.

Envision driving home after a successful show, recalling every detail of the day and reveling how you and Snowball did in today's group ring. Your imagery drifts toward next weekend, and you begin assessing your chances for the ever-elusive Best in Show. Deep in thought, while dialing your cell phone, you miss a turn—but not the oncoming truck! Your disem-

bodied spirit asks, “Who will rescue my dogs?” But simply by having information already in place, you can continue to advocate for your dogs.

One way to help reestablish a sense of calm in this stressful situation is to provide a way for emergency workers to call your dogs by name. Hearing familiar sounds—even from an unfamiliar voice—can help. Clearly labeled crates can accomplish this. Labeling should be waterproof and include the dog’s call name. Emergency workers are likely to use the dog’s name if they know it.

To allow for removal of traumatized dogs from the scene, consider leaving a collar, leash and rabies tags attached to each crate. Using familiar items that retain your scent can ease this situation. Animal-control officers indicate a preference of using a lead rather than a noose to remove a well-behaved dog. Attaching rabies tags to crates provides a rescue worker with added confidence.

Uninjured dogs typically go to a government facility until claimed, and injured dogs to a veterinary facility. Another strategy to ensure care of your dogs is to keep a card behind your driver’s license containing pertinent information. Mine includes a waiver stating that I or my estate will be responsible for the animals in my vehicle, and it provides veterinarian names, emergency contacts, and dog names, along with tattoo and microchip numbers.

While next of kin make arrangements for the disposition of your mortal remains, the AKC maintains a record of your ownership of your dogs. To rest easier, explore ways to influence their rescue!

First, get a real will, and indicate who will have power of attorney. Avoid “do-it-yourself” versions. After all, you wouldn’t try a C-section on your best bitch, would you? Your will’s executor receives authority to carry out your wishes, probate, and dispense your property to new owners. Your executor is able to access bank accounts and disperse assets. State laws vary, so consult your attorney!

Options that will property to animals or create trusts may be well intended, but typically these can result in money going toward administrative fees and less toward care of your animals. Willing dogs and assets to a specific rescue group is also problematic. By the time of your death groups may have disbanded or reorganized under different names, thereby negating disposition of your assets as if you had no will.

The best solution is to keep with your will a written list of your dogs, with each dog’s name and registration number. Include a name and telephone number of a person willing to accept responsibility for each dog. Your executor can then sign the transfer registration—and now your dog has been rescued!

Accidents and death are not subjects on which we like to dwell, but knowing that your dogs will truly be rescued through your power of attorney and your will can provide unparalleled peace of mind. —C.A.M.

Thanks to our contributor for this excellent and vital information.

—Heather LoProto, hloproto@comcast.net

Samoyed Club of America website: samoyedclubofamerica.org

Siberian Huskies Garden Wisdom and Pest Control

Before the introduction of chemical pesticides and insect repellents, old-time gardeners relied on simple yet effective means to control pests in their gardens and homes. These “words of wisdom” were passed down from generation to generation, but as new products entered the market promising instant success and more convenience, many were forgotten.

As ecology-minded gardening has grown in popularity, old-time wisdom has been rediscovered by a new generation of gardeners looking for a less toxic approach to managing the “enemy.”

Ten years ago, my husband and I challenged ourselves to develop a more

natural approach to pest control in our outdoor kennel runs, with the surrounding woods providing the ideal laboratory for the experiment. Armed with *A Miscellany of Garden Wisdom*, by Bernard Schofield, we sought advice from our favorite garden center, whose owner was intrigued with our plan.

The final blueprint called for a three-foot-wide gravel path separating the kennel pad and the raised flowerbeds that would surround the kennels and serve as a buffer to keep the insect-repelling plantings beyond the dogs’ reach and to provide drainage.

This year will mark the eleventh season of our ongoing experiment, and we continue to learn and make improvements. While the insects have not totally vanished, their numbers have been reduced to levels that do not cause discomfort for the dogs. Nearby insect-breeding grounds have been minimized with the elimination of any standing water in close proximity to the kennels.

Over the years, plant selection has slightly varied but continues to be determined by climate zone, length of the growing season, and a variety of bloom times that ensure season-long benefits. (Being in Zone 4a, we consider all herb and most perennials to be annuals, and they must be replanted yearly.)

With a bit of research, the selection of plants and herb is not complicated. Those with known insect-repelling qualities can be classified according to the pests they repel. Any “lemon” variety of an herb is a sure bet, with members of the mint family also a good choice; both fend off a variety of insects. (To prevent mints from overrunning the flowerbed, plant in containers and set them in the flowerbeds.)

Plants known to repel mosquitoes/gnats include basil, lavender, lemon balm, lemon thyme, marigolds (French and African), and scented geraniums. Ants dislike lavender, marigolds, mints, and chives. For fleas and ticks, add mints, pyrethrum, chamomile, ferns, and santolina. Flies

dislike basil and santolina. Old-time gardeners regarded santolina as the most effective insect-repellent in the garden and advised planting one in each corner.

Most plants require daily watering and should be touched or rubbed to release their insect-repelling scents. A few years back, we added cedar mulch to the beds and found it further reduced the number of flies and mosquitoes, plus it decreased weeding time and helped retain soil moisture.

Last year we added a few tall “butterfly plants,” which may not repel insects but attracted a variety of butterflies that provided hours of entertainment for the dogs when the resident chipmunks were out of sight.

Since the flowerbeds and kennel runs are separated by only three feet, and with concerns about *E. coli* contamination, we do not harvest the herbs. For dog owners with limited space, container gardening can offer a small-scale alternative that is also effective in reducing annoying insects.

It is also important to note that the use of insect-repelling plants and herbs should not be viewed as a total substitute for flea and tick treatments recommended by veterinarians—rather as a natural, supplemental means of making summer outdoor kennel-time a bit more comfortable.

—Jane Steffen,
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Siberian Husky Club of America
website: shca.org

Standard Schnauzers

A Tail's Tale

Having participated in numerous conformation and performance events over the past 45 years, I've observed many a telltale tail. How a Standard Schnauzer carries his tail gives insight into the personality, temperament, and character of the dog.

Our breed standard says, “the Standard Schnauzer has highly developed senses, intelligence, aptitude for training, fearlessness, endurance and resistance against weather and illness.

His nature combines high-spirited temperament with extreme reliability.” It describes the SS tail as “set moderately high and carried erect . . . docked to not less than one inch nor more than two inches,” and faults a squirrel tail.

The standard also says, “dogs that are shy or appear to be highly nervous should be seriously faulted and dismissed from the ring. Vicious dogs shall be disqualified.”

SS are working dogs, bred as all-purpose farm dogs for a multitude of tasks such as guarding, hunting, and herding, that rely on their even disposition, strong character, and fearlessness. Nervous or fearful dogs can't be depended on to guard property or people, hunt rats or other vermin, or herd skittish animals like sheep.

It's rare to see a shy, nervous SS dismissed from the ring, and even rarer to see one disqualified for biting, but I've seen it happen. (This can kill a major!) I've seen SS in the conformation ring shy away from the judge and slink around the ring with his tail down. (How is a judge to know that dog isn't a fear-biter?)

People attend dog shows and performance events as prospective owners, expecting to see different dog breeds and interview breeders. What sort of impression does a shy, fearful performer give the public? What about the obedience or rally dog who performs tail-down, cringing from the owner's hand? Would prospective SS owners feel comfortable with their children near such a dog?

Standard Schnauzers are an ebullient, energetic lot who take great pleasure in doing their job well, whether it's guarding, conformation competition, performance sports, or taking care of the kids in the backyard.

The SS greeting the judge with a wagging tail and moving confidently around the ring with his tail up endears himself to his audience—judges, competitors, and prospective owners alike. A joyful, tail-wagging SS in the conformation, obedience, or agility ring is a delight to watch.

Breeders should breed only SS with solid temperaments, and they should raise puppies gently so they enjoy their early lives and activities. Owners and trainers should continue educating the puppies in a way to produce the happy, tail-wagging adults we want to see at home and in the ring. The tail tells the tale of the alert, highly intelligent, spirited, reliable character of the Standard Schnauzers we know and love.

- As Memorial Day approaches, remember your beloved pets and make provisions for their continuing care in your wills or powers-of-attorney in case of your serious illness, accident, or death. Assure that someone responsible will be notified to transport your animals if necessary and/or enter your home to see to their care.

- Come chat with us at Schnauzapalooza at Purina Farms, Gray Summit, Missouri (just west of St. Louis), May 8–12. Entries close April 17 (caper-dogs.com). This will truly be a “Festival of Schnauzers,” with parent clubs of all three Schnauzer breeds holding their national specialties simultaneously at the same place. Get the latest updates at schnauzapalooza.com/latestnews.htm.

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Standard Schnauzer Club of America
website: standardschnauzer.org

Tibetan Mastiffs

A Winter's Tail: Care of the TM in Wet Weather

Though the Tibetan Mastiff is a hardy breed who developed in a challenging environment, he may be poorly adapted to deal with certain aspects of the relatively luxurious conditions we offer him in the West.

If you and your Dokhyi happen to live in a dry environment—whether warm, cool, cold, very cold, extremely cold, or even cold enough that the local “flashers” content themselves with merely describing their “attributes”—you may rejoice (especially if it is the latter). TMs can tolerate considerable cold, as long as it is dry.

If, however, you live in a place in which winter is described as “the rainy season,” as I do, this article is for you.

Tibetan Mastiffs were never meant to live in moist conditions. Most don’t like to get their feet wet. When it rains, my dogs fling themselves about, sighing loudly. As soon as the weather clears, they are frantic to rush outside for a variety of reasons: They have the greatest ability to retain their urine and feces of any breed I’ve known.

Also, their inborn sense of duty to guard their property causes them to rush out the moment it is possible to see what might have happened when they were sheltering indoors.

Since most of us live in heated homes, and the dogs actually prefer coolness, they tend to run in and out at this time of year, first checking “their” property, then their beloved people, then the yard—again.

It is this in-and-out that causes problems, especially for the heavily coated individuals. As they pass from one temperature to the other, condensation forms under the coat and remains on the skin unless something is done about it. While the tendency is to concern oneself with a wet outer coat, the moisture underneath must also be carefully dried if the dog’s skin is to remain healthy.

At this time of year, I keep a few large microfiber towels and an ionizing hair dryer near the door. There is a giant microfiber mat by the door to dry their feet and to trap mud.

They love their towel ritual, because I massage them completely while drying them off. The dryer is as quiet and safe as I can make it but is still an untrustworthy object as far as they are concerned.

When towel drying isn’t good enough, a quick, gentle, ionizing breeze dries and cleans the coat of odors and

the like. I also use a massaging, ionizing, detangling brush, and I go over them very carefully with my fingers for ticks, which take refuge in a warm dog’s coat whenever possible in wet weather.

A biscuit mollifies the dog, somewhat, afterward.

There is one other necessary daily task during this season. We have both edible and poisonous mushrooms here that sprout after rain. I’ve taken pounds of mushrooms out of my yard during my daily rounds.

Once TMs have been dried, they are always sweet-smelling and shining. That is part of the glory of the breed. It may be a bit trying to have to maintain a TM’s skin and coat properly in wet weather, but the results are well worth the effort.

—Mary Fischer, meryt@worldnet.att.net

American Tibetan Mastiff Association:
tibetanmastiff.org

GZ DELEGATES' ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB MARCH 12, 2013

Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 384

Abilene Kennel Club—*Neil A. Bates*
Affenpinscher Club of America—*Letisha Wubbel*
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*
Airedale Terrier Club of America—*Aletta L. Moore*
Akita Club of America—*Sherry E. Wallis*
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia A. Peel*
Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary M. MacCollum*
American Belgian Malinois Club—*Ms. Nancy L. Bennett*
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—*Ms. Janina K. Laurin*
American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—*Robert Urban*
American Bloodhound Club—*Mary L. Olszewski*
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—*Patte Klecan*
American Boxer Club, Inc.—*Bruce E. Voran*
American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Judith Tighe*
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Carol Williams*
American Chesapeake Club, Inc.—*Dyane Baldwin*
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—*Marilyn E. Currey*
American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold Miller*
American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—*Don Hanson*
American Maltese Association, Inc.—*John R. Barnes*
American Manchester Terrier Club—*Roberta Berman*
American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—*Don Farley, II*
American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen R. Spey*
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—*Dr. Geno Sisneros*
American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*
American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth W. Mader*
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—*Marjorie Tuff*
American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sally L. Vilas*

American Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Julie Viroteck*
American Tibetan Mastiff Association—*Martha Feltenstein*
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Antelope Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Daniels*
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Mulvey*
Ashtabula Kennel Club—*Kathleen Kinney*
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A. LaBerge*
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Joyce Rowland*
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Nina Schaefer*
Baltimore County Kennel Club—*Lucy C. Campbell-Gracie*
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—*Katie Campbell*
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Sanda J. Launey*
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—*Wayne Boyd*
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—*Gloria Marshall*
Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Kathy Coxwell*
Beaumont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carl Holder*
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Phyllis Belcastro*
Bedlington Terrier Club of America—*Diane Pearson*
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Barbara Swisher*
Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carole A. Wilson*
Berks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally Birgl*
Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Gerald H. Yarbrough*
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*George Sikes*
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Griffin*
Black Russian Terrier Club of America—*Susan Sholar*
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Ruth A. Naun*
Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—*Barbara O'Neill*
Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathleen M. Kelly*
Briard Club of America, Inc.—*Michael Gibson*
Bronx County Kennel Club—*Ms. Alexa Samarotto*
Brookhaven Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marie A. Fiore*
Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Helma Weeks*
Bull Terrier Club of America—*Rebecca Poole*

Bulldog Club of America—*Robert L. Newcomb*
Bulldog Club of Philadelphia—*Lynn E. Smith*
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*
Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Pam Davis*
California Collie Clan, Inc.—*Robette G. Johns*
Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*
Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Vivian A. Moran*
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*
Carroll County Kennel Club of New Hampshire, Inc.—*Cheryl Snedaker-Sims*
Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*
Catonsville Kennel Club—*Beverly A. Drake*
Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc.—*J Richard Seelbach*
Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.—*Julian Prager*
Central New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane D. Almy*
Central Ohio Kennel Club—*David W. Galloway*
Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club—*Paul Kouski*
Chaparral Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pam Goldman*
Charleston Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*
Charlottesville-Albemarle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Linda King*
Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Kenneth Saenz*
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nick Pisas*
Clackamas Kennel Club—*Steven E. Nielsen*
Clarksville Kennel Club—*Robert A. Schroll*
Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—*Dr. Stephen Lawrence*
Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*
Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marjorie Underwood*
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Maureen R. Setter*
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Judy Hiller*
Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Harold W. Sundstrom*
Colorado Kennel Club—*Mrs. Louise Leone*
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Sidney L. Marx*

GZ delegates' annual meeting

Columbia Missouri Kennel Club—*Robert Brown*
 Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—*Norma J. Ryan*
 Connecticut River Working Group Association—*Fred G. Ferris*
 Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry D. Cavanna*
 Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*
 Cudahy Kennel Club—*Don H. Adams*
 Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—*Larry Sorenson*
 Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Charles Garvin*
 Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Dorn*
 Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Barbara L. Mann*
 Dayton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Groeschel*
 Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merlyn A. Green, D.C.*
 Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*
 Delaware County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Brenda A. Algar*
 Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—*Dr. A. D. Butherus*
 Devon Dog Show Association, Inc.—*Meg Weitz*
 Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*
 Dog Owners Training Club of Maryland—*Kathrynann Sarvinas*
 Eastern Dog Club—*Mr. Theodore C. Hollander, Jr.*
 Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Tabor*
 Elm City Kennel Club—*Dr. Gregory J. Paveza*
 Empire Beagle Club, Inc.—*Christopher Keenan*
 English Setter Association of America, Inc.—*Mr. John P. Nielsen*
 English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, Inc.—*Susanne Burgess*
 English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois—*David H. Hopkins*
 English Toy Spaniel Club of America—*Vanessa N. Weber*
 Erie Kennel Club, Inc.—*Peggy Helming*
 Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*
 Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cathleen Rubens*
 Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margaret B. Pough*
 Finnish Spitz Club of America—*Cindy Stansell*
 First Dog Training Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Lydia Maduri*
 Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc.—*Kurt Anderson*
 Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—*Charles Arnold*
 French Bulldog Club of America—*Mrs. Ann M. Hubbard*

Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cathy De La Garza*
 Garden State All Terrier Club, Inc.—*William J. Berry*
 German Pinscher Club of America—*Deidre E. Gannon*
 German Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia*
 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—*Mr. Kenneth A. Marden*
 German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia W. Laurans*
 Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—*Kimberly Demchak*
 Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America—*Bruce H. Sussman*
 Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Bonnie Lapham*
 Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Carole L. Richards*
 Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*
 Grand River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Lettis*
 Great Dane Club of America, Inc.—*Thomas Sandenaw*
 Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Robert M. Brown*
 Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc.—*Ms. Karen J. Burgess*
 Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Shaw*
 Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club—*Patricia B. Staub*
 Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia M. O'Connell*
 Greater Murfreesboro Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margaret DiCorleto*
 Greater Naples Dog Club—*Steven D. Gladstone*
 Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—*Linda L. LaFrance*
 Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—*Marlene Steinberg*
 Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.—*Caulder Ripley*
 Greenwich Kennel Club—*Margaret K. Curtis*
 Greyhound Club of America—*Melanie S. Steele*
 Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Miller*
 Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert D. Black*
 Havanese Club of America—*Jane F. Ruthford*
 Hawaiian Kennel Club—*Zane Smith*
 Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—*Patricia M. Cruz*
 Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*
 Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dick Blair*
 Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gwen McCullagh*
 Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc.—*David Helming*
 Ibizan Hound Club of the United

States—*Luane V. Williams*
 Idaho Capital City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Wyoma M. Clouss*
 Illinois Capitol Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann L. Cookson*
 Illinois Valley Kennel Club of Peoria, Inc.—*Dr. John F. Davidson*
 Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rita J. Biddle*
 Intermountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michael L. Van Tassell*
 Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Karolynne McAteer*
 Irish Terrier Club of America—*Douglas L. Rapport*
 Irish Water Spaniel Club of America—*Evelyn M. Van Uden*
 Irish Wolfhound Club of America—*Linda Souza*
 Italian Greyhound Club of America, Inc.—*Carole Plesur*
 Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally McNamara*
 K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—*Dave Morgan*
 Kanadasaga Kennel Club—*Mrs. Beverly M. Nosiglia*
 Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John D. Sawicki*
 Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, Inc.—*Mrs. Gwen Wexler*
 Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—*Thomas Powers*
 Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—*Margaret Doster*
 Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton*
 Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Inc.—*Charles H. Schaefer*
 Kennel Club of Riverside—*Sylvia A. Thomas*
 Kennesaw Kennel Club—*James F. Gibson*
 Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jacquelyn J. Fogel*
 Komondor Club of America, Inc.—*Michael Harman*
 Kuvasz Club of America—*Constance D. Townsend*
 Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia Van Doren*
 Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Kathi Brown*
 Ladies' Kennel Association of America—*Ruth Winston*
 Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Diana Skibinski*
 Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Crecia C. Closson*
 Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carolyn M. Vack*
 Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan Croft*
 Langley Kennel Club—*Ms. Dianne E. Franck*
 Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert N. LaBerge*
 Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dominic P. DiBalsi*

GZ delegates' annual meeting

Leonberger Club of America—*Don James*
 Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sue Goldberg*
 Lima Kennel Club—*Dr. Anne Midgarden*
 Long Island Kennel Club—*Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.*
 Longshore-Southport Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan L. Fisher*
 Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—*David M. Powers*
 Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Judy R. Melear*
 Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Sandra B. Barker*
 Manatee Kennel Club—*Pat Edgington*
 Manitowoc County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Romana Arnold*
 Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynn Garvin*
 Maryland Kennel Club—*Gary Sarvinas*
 Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. William R. Newman*
 Memphis Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Robert D. Smith*
 Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jeannette Nieder*
 Middle Tennessee Amateur Retriever Club—*John Russell*
 Middleburg Kennel Club—*Shelley C. Roos*
 Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—*Giselle Simonds*
 Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—*Sandee White*
 Mispillion Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Blackie H. Nygood*
 Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—*Gretchen Bernardi*
 Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—*Robert H. McKowen*
 Monmouth County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Harold E. Perry*
 Montgomery County Kennel Club—*Ms. Ida E. Weinstock*
 Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry A. Hoovis*
 Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—*Mrs. Ruth W. Crumb*
 Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Judith V. Daniels*
 Nashville Kennel Club—*James Efron*
 National Beagle Club—*Eddie Dziuk*
 National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson*
 National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi Strouse*
 Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Viola Burgos*
 Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Mary W. Price*
 Newnan Kennel Club—*Willie Crawford*
 Newton Kennel Club—*Catherine H. Murch*
 Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane F. Taylor*
 Nisqually Kennel Club—*R. H. Hachtel*

Norfolk Terrier Club—*Robert Lachman*
 North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F. Coletti*
 Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club—*Stephen Skolnik*
 Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club, Inc.—*Billie Ponton*
 Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc.—*Margaret K. Mott*
 Norwich Terrier Club of America—*Betty McDonnell*
 Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—*Marile A. Waterstraat*
 Oakland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michael Sosne*
 Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia C. Scully*
 Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—*James M. Ashton*
 Okaloosa Kennel Club—*Mrs. Gayle G. Stillwell*
 Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.—*Martha Nazak*
 Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Christiana Gaburri*
 Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Felice Jarrold*
 Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Harvey A. Mueller*
 Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—*Daniel R. Cunningham*
 Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.*
 Ozark Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mark A. Chambers*
 Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club—*Mr. Carl E. Gomes*
 Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—*Link Newcomb*
 Papillon Club of America, Inc.—*Miss Arlene A. Czech*
 Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—*Gary Koepfel*
 Pasanita Obedience Club Inc.—*Sheila Miller*
 Pasco Florida Kennel Club—*Patricia J. Lombardi*
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne Bowes*
 Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dennis J. Gallant*
 Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert W. Gilmour*
 Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America—*Anne Gallant, Ph.D.*
 Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Dominic P. Carota*
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Larry Wilson*
 Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joachim N. Blutreich*
 Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Margaret Vohr*
 Plainfield Kennel Club—*John McCullagh*
 Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—*William E. Ellis*
 Pocatello Kennel Club, Inc.—*Fred*

Hughes
 Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Mary Ellen Fishler*
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Robert A. Amen*
 Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*James Primmer*
 Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Savage*
 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Brytt B. Hasslinger*
 Progressive Dog Club—*William H. Blair*
 Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Richard E. Grant*
 Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Michelle R. Anderson*
 Ramapo Kennel Club—*Jeffrey D. Ball*
 Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*
 Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.—*Michael J. Teeling*
 Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Jan M. Ritchie*
 Riverhead Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bonnie Lane*
 Roanoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Charles Kerfoot*
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Ronald H. Menaker*
 Rockingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Janice S. Gardner*
 Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*
 Sahuaro State Kennel Club—*Rita L. Mather*
 Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—*Mrs. Barbara Furbush*
 Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club—*Bob Busby*
 Sammamish Kennel Club—*Dr. Robert C. Gloster, M.D.*
 Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
 Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*Audrey Sutton*
 Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laurence J. Libeu*
 Saratoga New York Kennel Club—*Wanda H. Allen*
 Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Andrew I. Kalmanash*
 Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia—*Kay Allred*
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*Helen A. Prince*
 Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Nancy Perrell*
 Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Frei*
 Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sharyn Y. Hutchens*
 Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*
 Shreveport Kennel Club, Inc.—*LuAnn Moore*
 Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego—*Nancy Dandrea*
 Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—*William J. Feeney*

GZ delegates' annual meeting

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—*John Mandeville*
 Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Billie McFadden*
 South County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Graafin Ginger M. Leeuwenburg*
 South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Linda B. Willson*
 South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*
 South Texas Obedience Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Gerry Dalakian*
 South Windsor Kennel Club—*Margarette (Peggy) Wampold*
 Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club—*Ricky Blackman*
 Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*John V. Ioia*
 Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lee Arnold*
 Spinone Club of America—*Karen Luckey*
 Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*
 St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—*Kit A. Bostrom*
 St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Deborah J. Wilkins*
 St. Joseph Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dale Hunsburger*
 St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—*Dr. Gerry Meisels*
 Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—*Jenny Merritt*
 Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*Holly E. Sheltry*
 Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser*
 Steel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Miss Susan M. Napady*
 Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert Eisele*
 Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Marcy L. Zingler*
 Superstition Kennel Club, Inc.—*Roger Arbuthnot*
 Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laura Trainor*
 Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Florence Duggan*
 Sussex Spaniel Club of America—*Mr. John R. Lewis, Jr.*
 Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marylyn DeGregorio*
 Talbot Kennel Club—*Pamela Helmer*
 Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Manning-Stolz*
 Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kelly Yarish*
 Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Steve Schmidt*
 Tibetan Spaniel Club of America—*Mr. Herbert H. Rosen*
 Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Stacey La Forge*
 Tidewater Kennel Club of Virginia, Inc.—*Jane Brumley*
 Tonawanda Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ranae Hanson*

Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert E. Bostrom*
 Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—*John Shoemaker*
 Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*
 Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joseph Martyn*
 Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*
 Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*
 Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—*Patricia C. Sables*
 United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*
 United States Lakeland Terrier Club—*Alfred J. Ferruggiario*
 Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Sharon Sakson*
 Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
 Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—*Mr. William F. Dumas*
 Virginia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bradford W. Noyes*
 Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Lynn Worth-Smith*
 Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia Rowland*
 Walla Walla Kennel Club—*Rod Strand*
 Wampanoag Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Naida L. Parker*
 Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*James W. Smith*
 Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Anita A. Lustenberger*
 Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary A. Eschweiler*
 Weimaraner Club of America—*Judy Colan*
 Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Richard Rohrbacher*
 Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Peter J. See*
 West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Thomas H. Barrie*
 West Volusia Kennel Club—*H. G. Geoffrey*
 Westbury Kennel Association, Inc.—*Geraldine Jaitin*
 Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*
 Westminster Kennel Club—*Harvey M. Wooding*
 Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.—*Colleen McDaniel*
 Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Candace Mogavero*
 Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frederick R. Vogel*
 Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*
 Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Rosann Sexton*
 Worcester County Kennel Club—*Debra A. Hokkanen*

Yakima Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Adele Keyfel*
 Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia D. Reynolds*

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB DELEGATES MEETING MARCH 12, 2013

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Chair introduced the persons seated with him on the dais: Chairman, Alan Kalter; Vice Chairman, Dr. Robert Smith; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Jim Crowley, Executive Secretary; Mark Schaffer, the court reporter.

Today is the annual election of Directors.

The Executive Secretary read the report of the Nominating Committee and the report on additional nominations as follows:

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the Nominating Committee, Gretchen Bernardi, Mississippi Valley Kennel Club, Chair; Karolynne McAteer, Irish Setter Club of America; Patricia A. Sample, Anderson Obedience Training Club; Patti L. Strand, Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon; Meg Weitz, Devon Dog Show Association, appointed by the Board of Directors at its July 2012 meeting, has nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as are to be filled at the annual meeting of the Club on March 12, 2013. There are four vacancies for the Class of 2017. Class of 2017: Carl C. Ashby, III, Unites States Kerry Blue Terrier Club; Alan Kalter, American Bullmastiff Association; Gail A. LaBerge, Atlanta Obedience Club; Harvey M. Wooding, Westminster Kennel Club.

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as candidates for vacancies on the Board of Directors for the Class of 2017, to be filled at the annual meeting of the Club on March 12, 2013.

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Class of 2017: Lee Arnold, Southern Colorado Kennel Club; Judith V. Daniels, Mt. Baker Kennel Club; Dr. Thomas M. Davies, Springfield Kennel Club.

[There was a brief recess and the Delegates cast their ballots.]

The Chair reported on the passing of Jarratt L. Brunson on February 4th. He was the Delegate for the Kennel Club of Pasadena since October 11th, 2004.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the names of the Delegates seated since the last meeting

Dian Albright, to represent Tucson Kennel Club

Brenda A. Algar, to represent Delaware County Kennel Club

Bob Busby, to represent Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club

Judy Corbett, to represent Badger County Kennel Club

Annette M. Didier, to represent

Northeastern Indiana Kennel Club

Don L. Hanson, to represent American Lhasa Apso Club

Jane Harding, to represent Ox Ridge Kennel Club

Theodore C. Hollander, Jr., to represent Eastern Dog Club

Dr. Scott E. Holmes, to represent Lexington Kennel Club

Barry A. Hoovis, to represent Monticello New York Kennel Club

Geraldine Jaitin, to represent Westbury Kennel Club

Karen G. J'Anthony, to represent Skye Terrier Club of America

Fred T. Kampo, to represent Labrador Retriever Club of America

Linda King, to represent Charlottesville-Albermarle Kennel Club

Karl H. Kreck, to represent Hoosier Kennel Club

Robert Lachman, to represent Norfolk Terrier Club

Sylvia K. Meisels, to represent

Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club

Nicky Patterson, to represent Middlesex County Kennel Club

Harold E. Perry, to represent Monmouth County Kennel Club

Virginia Rowland, to represent Wachusett Kennel Club

Stephen J. Skolnik, to represent Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Laura Gilbert Trainor, to represent

Susque-Nango Kennel Club

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting since approval, were introduced from the floor:

Brenda Algar, to represent Delaware County Kennel Club

Bob Busby, to represent Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club

Richard Grant, to represent Providence County Kennel Club

Don Hanson, to represent, American Lhasa Apso Club

Theodore Hollander, Jr., to represent Eastern Dog Club

Barry Hoovis, to represent Monticello New York Kennel Club

Geraldine Jaitin, to represent Westbury Kennel Club

Adele Keyfel, to represent Yakima Valley Kennel Club

Linda King, to represent

Charlottesville-Albermarle Kennel Club

Robert Lachman, to represent,

Norfolk Terrier Club

Harold Perry, to represent, Monmouth County Kennel Club

Stephen Skolnik, to represent Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Zane Smith, to represent Hawaiian Kennel Club

Laura Gilbert Trainor, to represent

Susque Nango Kennel Club

(Applause)
The Chair welcomed the new Delegates and reported that the minutes of the December 14, 2012 Delegates meeting were adopted.

Alan Kalter gave the Chairman's report as follows:

Thank you, Dennis. Good morning, fellow Delegates.

For years, animal rights extremists have focused on attacking the health of pure-bred dogs based on what they determined were improper breeding programs, and have indiscriminately discredited dog breeders with unsupported anecdotal stories as opposed to facts. We all know the unsubstantiated accusations all too well.

Unfortunately, the rather gullible media simply accepted these allegations without objective investigation. A case in point is the untruthful story about Bulldogs published in the New York Times Magazine. Interestingly, while we supplied significant factual information about the health

of Bulldogs, as did the Bulldog Club of America, the article was selective – which is just a nice word for “biased” – in the utilization of those facts. In the end, the story was simply propaganda, not journalism.

But starting last year, there was a subtle, yet very noticeable shift in the communication tactics of the two largest animal rights organizations. Previously, for the most part, they had practiced a strategy of either ignoring or dismissing the AKC. Simply put, they did not see us as an organization of any concern to them in their quest to eliminate dog ownership through the elimination of breeders. As they have made very clear, their stated goal is “no new puppies” – a goal they intend to accomplish through legislation and ballot initiatives to mandate spay/neuter and restrict breeders to the point of oblivion.

So, what changed? We did. In the past few years all of us – you, your clubs, and the AKC – have become more aggressive, more organized, more vocal, and more visible in legislative matters.

The tipping point last year appears to have been our proactive approach to the proposed APHIS rule changes, which included both a well-documented, reasonable, and thorough review of all the issues with suggestions to make the intent of the regulatory changes achievable without unnecessarily damaging hobby breeders, and a petition of support signed by over 75,000 concerned dog owners. Our response to APHIS caught the extremists completely by surprise and sent them into a whirlwind of activity that amounted to nothing. Most likely, their evaluation after the storm was that the AKC needed much greater attention from them.

But the proactive plan around the APHIS rule changes was just the tip of the spear the AR extremists have been feeling of late. The AKC Legislative Department, led by the pleasantly indomitable Sheila Goffe, has made our presence, knowledge, and commitment felt on a myriad of legislative issues around the country. Last year, Sheila's department monitored more than 1,500 pieces of legislation. Contrary to what the AR extremists would have people believe, we are a respected resource in dog legislation for legislators and governmental organizations charged with animal care oversight.

Our Care and Conditions of Dogs Policy is accepted as an intelligent and fair standard. Our careful analysis of proposed legislation helps reveal unreasonable requirements buried in a bill that would make it virtually impossible for a legislator's constituents to be in compliance. Our individual financial support of legislators' campaigns has made new and strong friends for the AKC and our mission. And your clubs, and the hard-working AKC legislative liaisons at both the state and local levels, have made significant inroads in protecting our rights to own and breed our dogs responsibly. Today, the AKC is neither being ignored nor dismissed by the AR extremists. Instead, those organizations are now attacking us using the same propaganda tactics of lies and innuendo. I believe our position as squarely in the sights of the AR extremists is a status and a challenge we should accept with resolve and great pride.

As a former ad guy, I am reminded of a 1915 magazine ad for Cadillac considered one of the greatest print ads of all time. It only ran once - in the Saturday Evening Post. I believe that ad, titled "The Penalty of Leadership," captures the essence of the American Kennel Club and the challenges we face from AR extremists. The ad explains why companies that honor "standards of excellence" become "targets of the envious."

Here are a few pertinent sentences: "In every field of human endeavor, he that is first must perpetually live in the white light of publicity. The reward is widespread recognition; the punishment, fierce denial and detraction. When a man's work becomes a standard for the whole world, it also becomes a target for the shafts of the envious few. If his work be merely mediocre, he will be left severely alone. If he achieves a masterpiece, it will set a million tongues a-wagging.

The leader is assailed because he is the leader. The follower seeks to depreciate and to destroy. If the leader truly leads, he remains - the leader."

How are we leading in this fight for our rights?

First, we are proactively taking our messages of the Good Things We Do (the Parent Club rescue network, AKC kennel inspections, AKC CAR, and our collective commitment to improving the

health of dogs) to the public; we are telling the facts about purpose-bred dogs and the desirability of owning a well-bred purebred as the family dog; and we are telling the stories of the passionate commitment of our breeders to protect, preserve, and improve purebred dogs. We are doing that through a combination of an aggressive public relations strategy utilizing every media opportunity imaginable to get our story told correctly and in its entirety. In addition, we now have an expert in social media, which gives us the ability to tell the narrative of the AKC throughout the world of social media. For the first time, we will have a constant and consistent platform to reach the general public every day. Second, we will always be aggressive in responding to AR propaganda posing as media stories. The difference in our response to the Bulldog story and the response to the New York Times attack on the AKC is a demonstration of our new commitment to act quickly, broadly and emphatically.

While the cost to have a day-in and day-out public outreach program and an immediate response program is significant, we can afford it. In fact, we can't afford not to have it.

With Churchill as inspiration, our mantra now is this: we will fight with growing confidence and growing strength; we will defend our rights, whatever the cost may be; and we will never stop fighting.

Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Kalter: One other note on a personal level, I would like to recognize Bob Smith. Bob has served on the Board for the last four years; he has served as the Vice Chair in this last year, and Bob has made the personal decision that he is now, effective at midnight tonight, stepping down as a Delegate.

I want to wish him well. He's going to be a loss to the Delegate Body; certainly a loss to the Board; he is a true dog man and all around judge and the greatest fountain of knowledge I have personally had access to in the sport and the world of dogs. I appreciate him and I want you to join me in recognizing and thanking Bob for his service.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung gave the President's report.

I have a few topics to share with you.

First are the entries for calendar year 2012: Performance 252,587; Conformation 1,575,717; Companion 1,368,164.

Starting off with performance, field trials increased by almost 1,000 entries, while coonhounds declined by 3,300 and earth dogs by 170, respectively. Herding had an increase of over 1,500 entries, followed by more than 3,000 in hunting tests and almost 5,200, or 31%, in lure coursing. In the conformation arena, All Breed Shows declined 1 ½%, or 22,300 entries. Group shows were up 4%, 1,650 dogs, and Specialties declined by 3600. The Open Show and Beginner Puppy contributed by 300 and 2,220 entries respectively.

In companion, obedience is at plus 7,300, up almost 5 ½%, as well as tracking being up 5 ½%, while rally dropped by 8 ½%, or 6,400.

Our fastest growing sport, Agility, surged by over 11%, with an increase of more than 117,000, and ended the year with over 1,150,000, the second sport to exceed more than one million in a calendar year.

The year ended with an overall growth of 103,538, up more than 3.35%. Our aggregate entries for 2012 were 3,196,468, the most ever in the history of the American Kennel Club.

I find it gratifying to note that a ten year comparison shows an overall increase by 489,000 entries. I don't believe anyone would have predicted an increase of this magnitude in 2002.

While we certainly cannot rest on our laurels, this is proof that with 5,000 plus dedicated clubs, our breeders and exhibitors are continuing to enjoy and benefit from core services, which include at their heart AKC events.

To keep you informed on public relations and communications developments, Lisa Peterson will give you an update at this time.

Ms. Peterson: Thank you, Dennis.

Good morning. I'm going to give you a little overview of what the Communications Department has been up to over the last year.

Here's an overall comparison from 2011 to 2012. I'm just going to hit on the top four PR campaigns that we had. Last year

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we had a publicity value of \$67 million. "Publicity value" means that in order to reach a certain number of eyeballs this is how much we would have to pay to get our message in front of people.

With PR efforts, it doesn't cost us as much as 67 million, obviously. But this year saw an increase of more than 48 percent in our publicity value over 2011. And in fact, we reached more than one billion media impressions last year. I'm going to go over our top four campaigns, which are registration statistics, RDO Day, AKC Meet the Breeds and the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

But first we are going to show you the difference in positive versus negative press that the AKC receives. Now, this looks like a big pie chart that says, "100 percent." Now, obviously that's not true; but our negative press last year was only .23 percent of AKC's total press coverage. So out of those one billion media impressions, less than a quarter of a percent was negative.

As many of you know, in January each year we announce the most popular dog breeds in America. It is our biggest PR campaign to the public every year, and it is well received. Last year and every year, we hold a Today Show exclusive announcement. We also have a press conference at the AKC headquarters, and last year this generated about \$7 million in publicity value, which is a 196 percent increase over the year before. We were on the Today Show, we were on Good Day New York, and featured in the New York Post, the Wall Street Journal and the AP had a wonderful story that went to hundreds of syndicated newspapers.

AKC Meet the Breeds, our annual educational outreach event at the Javits Center, was another big PR campaign for us, generating nearly \$4.4 million in publicity value. Again, this was a 75 percent increase from last year, reaching an audience of 630 million. Also, it's important to note that New York City is the number one media market in the country and that we have our press preview for the event here. We appeared on Fox and Friends, Good Day New York, CBS 2 News, New York 1 as well as many other New York outlets.

Responsible Dog Ownership Day celebrated its tenth anniversary last year, and I would personally like to thank all the

AKC clubs that participated in this program. We had more than 650 events nationwide last year, which was a record. In fact, everything about RDO Day was a record last year. We had \$2 million in publicity value, which was a staggering 615 percent increase over the year before; we reached nine million people nationally, and we launched a social media campaign for legislators as well. The program appeared in many local outlets, such as The Tampa Bay Times, WRAL down in Raleigh, the flagship, as well as other newspapers across the country. And of course, the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship is one of our other big PR campaigns that we do; and, again, this is a broadcast show, so it's a great educational outreach to introduce America to all the different wonderful purebred breeds that AKC recognizes. Again, \$2 million in publicity value, an audience reach of 292 million, which is up 7 percent over the year before. We had four separate segments on Good Day Orlando in the local market prior to the event. Also, the Orlando Sentinel, Reuters and Orlando Magazine, among many other outlets covered this event. And besides our top four campaigns, we use other news coverage throughout the year. As Alan said, beyond spreading the word of the good works campaigns that we have, we also do something called McClatchy Tips. Weekly we put together tips for responsible dog owners and send them to the McClatchy syndicate, which reaches over 600 newspapers every week. This is a great venue for us to also drive traffic back to AKC.org, where people can find more information based on what the tips are.

We also do Agility, Canine Good Citizen, Canine Partners, our ACE Awards. Pet theft is a big campaign to promote microchipping your dog. So besides the top four campaigns throughout the year, we have a lot of different areas that we promote AKC.

And I think I was here in September talking about social media; but as you all know, social media, it's become our Number 1 way to communicate to dog lovers across the country. These are the social media channels that AKC has: We have Twitter, Pinterest, YouTube, a podcast, Facebook and blogs. So it is important to know that in relation to traditional PR, which is TV, newspapers,

radio, we also now have social media, and the two are blending together to help AKC communicate on an even broader level.

Next what I'm going to do is show you a couple of clips of what we've done since January, TV clips. Before we start, though, I'm just going to give it a little set up.

The four clips are the first one is the Today Show, where Gina DiNardo talked about the most popular dog breeds in America. The second is Good Day New York, the day after, and I want you to look at the difference between those two clips.

Gina's clip was a great clip; it was very positive, they were happy to have her. My clip, on the other hand, started off with an ambush question about bulldogs. So I want you to see the difference between how we sometimes have to handle it.

The third clip is Fox and Friends, where we introduced the new breeds. Again, here we have a host who seems to be most interested in just talking over the spokesperson. But you have to kind of go through that, so you're going to see that. The fourth clip was the O'Reilly Factor, during Westminster, where their reporter ambushed Dennis ringside at the show with two cameras coming at him and started asking him questions. So I'll let you see that; and I will also say kudos to Dennis for doing a good job with that. But the point of all this media is, since January, we have introduced eight breeds, three new breeds; and also this Friday we are doing a segment on Fox and Friends with three more Irish breeds. So we have shown the public eleven different AKC breeds that have been purposely bred purebreds by responsible breeders. This is the kind of positive outreach that we do at AKC.

(The video is shown.)

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, and your entire department, Lisa.

When I participated in the Breeder of Year ceremony at the AKC Eukanuba National Championship, and congratulations again to Jim Smith, I thought of an idea to expand this program to honor breeders in all of AKC's sports. As a result, staff will be developing breeder awards for each of the Performance and

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Companion events. And we welcome your input.
(Applause.)

Mr. Sprung: As the world rapidly changes and social media increases as a dominant ingredient and driver in our daily lives, we have recognized and taken the necessary step to fill this important need. Allow me to introduce to the Delegate Body Chris Walker, Assistant Vice President of Social Media and Communications, who will be managing our PR, Communications and Social Media Department. Needless to say, with that responsibility, you will be hearing from his staff very often.
Chris, stand up, please.
(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Welcome.
In addition, it is my privilege to announce three promotions. I've waited to make this information public for the first time at today's Delegates meeting. Our new vice presidents are Gina DiNardo, Mark Dunn and Daphna Straus.
(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: I congratulate them on their accomplishments, business acumen, and most of all, their dedication to our organization.

The Chair called on the Chair of the Tellers Committee, Kim Johnson of KPMG, who gave the results of the balloting for the class of 2017 as follows: The total number of ballots cast was 373. The number of invalid ballots was zero. Therefore, the majority to elect was 188. The results of the ballots were as follows: Lee Arnold, 168; Carl C. Ashby, 181; Judith Daniels, 173; Dr. Thomas M. Davies, 156; Alan Kalter, 242. Gail LaBerge, 124, Harvey M. Wooding, 186.

The Chair declared that Alan Kalter was duly elected a member of the Class of 2017.
[There was a recess and the Delegates proceeded with another ballot.]

The Chair called on Peter Farnsworth, CFO, who gave the financial report as follows:
Mr. Farnsworth: Thank you and good morning.

Why is it Dennis always puts me after these happy, special clips from NBC TV, and last time it was the Humane Fund? We have nothing that interesting here in the financial world.

But the 2012 results are fine. I'm not going to stop for Q and A at the end of this, due to other pressing matters for the Body today, but I will be at the foot of the podium at the end of the Delegates meeting to respond to any detailed questions you may have in as much detail as I can provide, and if not, I will follow up. I want to make sure we have as much financial information as you can possibly stomach.

Thank you and let me begin.

Today we are going to cover how the year ended for the AKC, and the results of the first two months of 2013.

In the first slide, we're focused on 2012 and we make comparisons to actual results for 2011. That middle column where the arrow points is 2012. I want to make sure that one is made clear. In the top two rows, you seeing regular operating revenues and operating expenses.

The large revenue change in 2012 reflects the net change of several major effects. First, revenues were boosted when we gradually increased prices of dog registrations in 2012. It was announced at the beginning of 2012, but it went into effect somewhat slowly as we honored subscriptions and offers that were already out there during 2011.

But offsetting this, there was a continued drop in litter and dog registrations, and a related drop in other revenues that were related to those registrations. How big was that drop? Well, there was a 7.7 percent decrease in litter registrations and a drop of 10.6 percent in dog registrations when comparing 2012 to 2011.

Third, the unexpected management turnover in the spring of 2012 in the Marketing area contributed to a fall in new expected revenues there; and unexpected management turnover, such as Jim Stevens' departure and in a number of other areas also created challenges to achieving target results in revenue.

But the Board of the AKC and the management took prompt action as soon as it was apparent that revenues would not keep pace with expectations. They slashed plans for future controllable expenses as much as possible. But some were already spent, accounting for most

of the \$800,000, represented there by point eight, an \$800,000 increase in expenses.

In all other areas, expenses were able to be held in check during the second half of the year just ended. The net effect is one we can be relatively pleased with.

While the increase in revenues was there, largely from that increase in dog registration prices, expenses were held back and the net operating income jumped from nearly a breakeven \$800,000 up a healthy \$2.5 million, or about four percent on revenues.

In the area of investments, investment gains, the results are dramatic. We can see there was a \$9,000,000 turnaround from minus a million to plus seven million on returns on investments held by AKC.

Not shown here on this slide, but positively affecting the AKC as we'll see in a minute, there was a similarly strong return on investments held by the pension custodian, New York Life Insurance Company, as directed by the Pension Committee. The markets had improved during 2012, and none too soon, as I'll mention in second.

The other figures just above that, what we say here is dollars to CHF and the Museum of the Dog, are largely the amount AKC donates to the Canine Health Foundation, with the smaller amount to the Museum of the Dog. Today, all other nonprofit affiliates of the AKC have evolved to a point where they fully support themselves and do not take funds from the AKC.

And I think I'll pause for a second, because I sit on the AKC Canine Health Foundation Board, and particularly thank Lee Arnold who just concluded Directorship their at his 71st meeting at AKC CFH Canine Health Foundation, and he helped steer it to this year's four-star Charity Navigator financial rating. So we thank him for his perseverance and achievement.
(Applause.)

Mr. Farnsworth: So congratulations to the AKC then because overall the net income shows a large change, an increase of 11 million dollars from last year's results.

But celebrate quickly, however; because this positive change is expected to be short lived, because the dog registration

price increase is not repeated in 2013, and because investment markets are fickle, as we know. We needed that jolt in investments, because continued low interest rates have increased our unfunded pension liabilities, even though the pension itself was frozen two years ago. So our cash in investments rose to \$88,000,000 at the end of the year, but we are not out of the woods; because as mentioned in December, we need those funds to ensure first, that we can make good on the promises we made to employees; and secondly, to ensure AKC's safe and secure future with our operating reserve. So we have no spare change with which to fool around. So let's move to the first two months of the year, February YTD:

First comparing 2013 in the center there. There are several factors accounting for these good comparative results. You will recall that last year, an increase of registration fees was phased in, and had not gone fully into effect in January and February of last year; whereas this year, the increased fee is in full effect on each registration.

Then, again, in January we received some licensing fees this January which had not been anticipated, boosting revenue above last year's January.

Finally, in the area of expenses, we had wage increases from last year that are not the same—not at the same pace as this year, due to continuous cutbacks and unfilled positions. So the combined effect has pushed our operating income from about zero last year to about two million dollars in the first two months of this year, through February.

Comparing the budget, in the right column, many of the same factors apply, but not to the same degree. Because, for example, we knew that registration fees would be what they are now. So we had increased the budget accordingly. I expect these month to month aberrations to even out as the year progresses. You may note at the bottom right corner, we're blank for the purposes of budgeting for investment gains. I prevailed on the Board to change the past practice of budgeting for such uncontrollable things as investment gains, for two reasons. One, no one has ever had the foresight or the courage to budget an

investment loss; have they? But sometimes these things happen, don't they? And secondly, people see a large positive number in the area of budgeted investment gains and they begin to figure out how to spend that money that hasn't happened yet and may not happen, and you don't know until the last day of the year, do you? And that's a very dangerous practice, so we will not be budgeting capital gains and losses.

But as you can see, we have a healthy 2.4 million dollar increase in capital gains in the first two months of the year. We will just have to trust God and the financial markets to do their best.

So I'll try to end on a high note by recapping some of 2012:

- Cash flow rebounded and we delivered \$15,000,000 that's available for continued investments in our people, our projects and to shore up our ability to make good on the promises we've made to our terrific employees over many years.
- Secondly, achievements were made despite unexpected turnover.
- The AKC charities remain strong and able to produce and do their good works.
- And the February results year to date are promising.

So you will hear more from other management and the Board over time, about investments in people, time and money to address trends that are affecting all of us in the industry, but we're off to a good start in 2013.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your time this morning. (Applause.)

The first vote was on the proposed amendment to Article III, Objects of the Club, of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. The proposed amendment was brought forward by the Delegate Bylaws Committee. This amendment would simply add an object which AKC has in effect espoused for decades with support of canine health research.

It has been published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette and is on the worksheet previously distributed. The Board recommends the approval. A two thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.

The Chair recognized Ruth Ann Naun, Delegate for the Border Terrier Club of America, who spoke as follows: I stand to propose an amendment, supported by my Board, that we move the underlined phrase to the first line and put it immediately after the word "be" and can speak to why we recommend this.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second?

An unidentified Delegate: Second.

Ms. Naun: It is the feeling of the Border Terrier Club of America that the well being and health of the canine was always an objective of the American Kennel Club. I've been coming to meetings here for many, many years, and I enjoy them very much.

I see us as an extremely diverse group of people with extremely diverse commitments and interests. However, I think we are unanimously agreed that the well being and the health of the canine is a very important reason why we do this. It is first as to why we do this, for the canines that we love.

However, it's always been implicit that that was so. It's our feeling as a club that in the 21st century, the American Kennel Club needs to put the well being of the canine out front as to what the American Kennel Club is all about.

And while I know that for many people in this group, this has something to do with politics, to put it very subtly. It isn't about politics that the American Kennel Club in the 21st century has to be identified, straight away, when anybody wants to know what we are about, we are about the well being and the health of dogs.

Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: The motion is to change the placement of the wording, "to advance canine health and well being" after the word "be" in the first line.

Is there further discussion on this motion?

The Chair recognized Gretchen Bernardi, Delegate for the Mississippi Valley Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Now I'm speaking as Chair of the

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Bylaws Committee, which first brought this amendment to the Body through the good works of Bill Feeney, who was then on our committee.

We discussed this possible amendment, and we thank the Border Terrier Club of America for the courtesy of bringing it to the Bylaws Committee to discuss. And we discussed it at length and we decided unanimously to leave it where we had originally placed it in this Article, because we thought that retained the historical context of this Objects of the Club.

There was a vote on the adoption of the motion to amend by placing the words "to advance canine health and well being" to the first sentence following the word "be." This required a simple majority vote.

There was a majority in favor, and the position of the words was changed in the amendment.

There was a vote on the proposed amendment to Article III as amended, Objects of the Club, of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. There were two thirds in the affirmative and the amendment as amended was adopted.

The next vote was on the proposed amendment to Article IV, Sections 1 and 3, of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. This change would expand the eligibility forms for AKC membership, to permit licensed Agility Clubs that meet the criteria to apply to become AKC Member Clubs. The proposal was brought forward by the AKC Board of Directors.

During discussion the following people spoke in favor of the amendment:

Ruth Crumb, Delegate for the Mount Vernon Dog Training Club

Doug Ljungren, Vice President, Companion and Performance Events

Robert LaBerge, Delegate for the Lawrenceville Kennel Club

Patricia Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America

Don Adams, Delegate for the Cudahy Kennel Club

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club:

Marcy Zingler, Delegate for the Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno

Dick Blair, Delegate for the Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club

Robert Amen, Delegate for the Port Chester Obedience Training Club

Joyce Rowland, Delegate for the Australian Cattle Dog Club of America

The following Delegate spoke against the amendment:

David Michael Powers, Delegate for Los Encinos Kennel Club

There was a vote on the proposed amendment to Article IV, Sections 1 and 3 of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club.

There were two thirds in the affirmative. The motion was adopted. (Applause)

The Chair called on the Chair of the Tellers Committee for the report on the second ballot. Ms. Johnson spoke as follows:

The total number of ballots cast was 392. The number of invalid ballots was five. Therefore, the majority to elect was 195. The results of the ballots were as follows: Lee Arnold, 172; Carl C. Ashby, 187; Judith Daniels, 171; Dr. Thomas Davies, 139; Gail LaBerge, 110; Harvey Wooding, 203.

The Chair declared that Harvey M. Wooding, and previously Alan Kalter, were duly elected as members of the class of 2017.

Dr. Davies withdrew his name.

[There was a recess, while the Delegate cast the third ballot]

The following Proviso was considered before the vote on Article XVIII, Section 1 of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club:

"Should the amendment brought forward by the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee be approved and accepted by the Delegate Body at the regularly scheduled meeting, March 12th, 2013, the amendment's stipulated changes will remain in effect for two years.

Whereupon, the continuance of the reduction of meetings shall stand for

reaffirmation by the Delegate Body. A simple majority vote will be required for continuation."

A majority vote was required for adoption of the Proviso.

The following discussion followed:

The Chair recognized Whitney Coombs, Delegate for the Catoctin Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I rise to encourage you to vote in favor of this Proviso. The Proviso is an interesting parliamentary tactic, if you will. It allows us to take a vote coming up on an article to change the Bylaws on an interim or short term basis only; and then to come back and to decide whether or not we really liked a change or not.

When we vote on this Proviso, it has no impact whatsoever on the Bylaws change, which would be completely separate and handled subsequently. But what this says is that should that amendment be approved, which will not go into effect for two years because there's a two year lead time of when the next meetings of the Delegate Body are scheduled. This amendment will go in in 2015; would be in effect for two years, and then we as a body would come back with a simple majority vote and in 2017 and decide whether it was a good idea or a bad idea.

This is an opportunity to try something. That is all the Proviso says. So I encourage you to vote for it. It's a good idea. It doesn't matter what you vote on the actual article. It's a good Proviso. Thank you.

Ms. Laurans: I like the idea of doing something for two years. I like trials. But I'm not sure that I'm comfortable that it's at the end of two years, it's only a majority vote and is no longer requiring a two thirds vote. Is that something that it has to be?

Mr. Crowley: You could amend it to make it two thirds, which would be within the scope.

Ms. Laurans: I would like to amend that if the motion goes through, and I'll talk about my committee's feelings about that later, that we amend it so that continuation would still require the two thirds

vote.

Steven Gladstone, Delegate for the Greater Naples Dog Club, seconded the motion.

Mr. Sprung: Now we're going to discuss making the Proviso two thirds for continuation. There is a motion and second on the floor to amend.

Is there any further discussion on the two thirds?

If not, Jim can you read the new wording?

Mr. Crowley: Should the amendment brought forward by the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee be approved and accepted by the Delegate Body in its regularly scheduled meeting, March 12, 2013, the amendment's stipulated changes will remain in effect for two years. Whereupon, the continuance of the reduction of meetings shall stand for reaffirmation by the Delegate Body. A two thirds vote will be required for continuation.

Mr. Sprung: So the question is on the adoption of the motion to amend. All those in favor, please stand. Thank you. Those opposed, please stand. Thank you. The motion carries. It's now amended to a two third vote.

Now we are back to the main motion, the Proviso.

The Chair recognized Maureen Setter, Delegate for the Cleveland All Breed Dog Training Club, who spoke as follows:

If this is voted in, it's not going to take effect for two years because of the dates that have already been negotiated or contracted. So my question is: This goes into effect for two years, but at that point, things will have already been negotiated and contracted for meeting dates of contracted for another two years. So it's actually going to be in effect for four years?

Mr. Sprung: Maureen, could you clarify the question, please, so everybody is on the same page?

Ms. Setter: If we vote this in today, it's

actually not going to take effect for two years, because you already have negotiated contracts for meetings for the next two years.

My question is: Then in two years when this goes into effect you are going to have possibly negotiated contracts for the following two years afterwards. So is it actually going to be four years before we go back to whatever? I know I'm confused, but I want it just clarified.

Mr. Crowley: The only firm commitments we have are through December, I understand, of this year; so we could change it as early as 2014 in April, if it was the will of the Delegate Body. So it's actually a one year rather than a two year time frame as far as our commitments.

Mr. Sprung: It would go into effect on January 1 of 2014.

The Chair recognized Judith Daniels, Delegate for the Mt. Baker Kennel Club. Maureen's question is valid because the Bylaws stipulate that Delegate meetings must be set two years in advance and given to the Delegate Body for planning.

Mr. Crowley: That's only the December Delegate meeting that has to be set two years in advance.

Unidentified Delegate: I think that Maureen's real question is in March of 2017, if two thirds of the Delegates do not then vote to continue the schedule, when will the reversion to the old schedule be effective? After that vote in March of 2017? I think that's the question.

Mr. Crowley: It could be one year after; so this would in effect be for three years. Even if the Delegates voted to cease it after two years, the meeting commitments would have been made for the next year.

Unidentified Delegate: At a minimum.

Mr. Crowley: Yes, at a minimum. So it would actually be in effect for three years, rather than two, after they voted after two not to continue it.

Unidentified Delegate: Right. I think that was Maureen's point. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Gwen McCullagh, Delegate for the Huntington Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I'm sorry, but I am a little confused. We have not yet voted on the issue of the Proviso, but the discussion seems to be on the main motion?

Mr. Crowley: No, the question on the Proviso is: Would it actually be a two year wait, or would it be somewhat longer than that because of scheduling commitments. And the response is: If you vote on it after two years, it's actually going to be in effect for three years.

Mrs. McCullagh: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: The question is on the proposed Proviso to Article XVIII, Section 1 of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, as amended. Those in favor, please stand. Thank you. Those opposed, please stand. Thank you. There is a majority in the affirmative, and the Proviso as amended is adopted.

The final vote is on the proposed amendment to Article XVIII, Section 1 of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. This proposal will reduce the number of yearly Delegate meetings from four to three, and that two meetings will be expanded from two days to three days, in order to enable increased attendance at the various Delegate committee meetings. This amendment was brought forth by the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee, and is being brought forward without recommendation from the AKC Board. It has been published in two issues of the online Gazette and was on the worksheet distributed. A two thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption. Is there discussion?

Ms. Laurans: Besides being Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, I'm speaking as Chair of the Parent Clubs Committee. We have discussed this at four Parent Clubs Committee meetings, both the reason and rationale, but what it comes down to is that we would have longer periods of time between our committee meetings, and that is something we prefer not to have; because it means less involvement,

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less personal time the Delegates get to spend together, and with the Staff and with the Board.

But once again, for the fourth time, the Parent Club Committee has voted unanimously not to support this amendment.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. Any further discussion?

Mr. Gladstone: As a Director, I want the opportunity to meet with you four times a year, to hear what your concerns are, and to get input from you. And for that reason, I think that we should stay with the four meetings a year. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Ms. Bernardi: I'm speaking as Chairman of the Bylaws Committee, and strike up the band, Pat Laurans, Steve Gladstone and I are all in agreement on this. We have once again voted unanimously to not support this amendment, because we feel it diminishes the opportunity for interaction with Delegates.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Ann Wallin, Delegate for the Atlanta Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: I'm speaking as the Chair of the All-Breeds Club Committee. I'm just here to also concur with the other Chairmen that have spoken, that we also discussed this many times in our meeting, and our committee was unanimously against having three meetings but wanted to continue the four, for all the benefits that have already been spoken about. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Mr. Coombs: I'm the lone voice in the wilderness. Unlike Pat, I don't happen to represent any particular committee. I'm not chairman of any committee. I'm a mere Delegate, and that's all I am. But I happen to be supporting this for a couple of reasons. And I'll ask you all just to sit back and think about these things. Not emotionally, but rationally. What we are talking about is going from four times a year that you fly here, take a hotel room and flop for two days and fly home again. That gives us eight days face

to face with other Delegates, with Staff when they're here and with Board members. Eight days of meetings.

During those eight days of meetings, each in two day segments, you are able to attend two full committee meetings, but only two full committee meetings, because there are so many overlapping each other.

There is today a three month downtime between Delegate meetings held four times a year. We do have technology that allows any committee, via telephone, computer, all sorts of other methodology, to hold interim meetings between those days. I agree that the face to face meetings are far more effective. I personally am old enough that I prefer those kind of meetings. But there are options and alternatives.

Going to three meetings per year will save my club about \$500 in expenses to get me up here and back that it doesn't have. It will allow people who fly in on Saturdays anyway to get a lower price; to get three day meetings while they're here at basically the same airline cost. It will allow, as I said before, eight face to face days, no change there; the committee meetings will be spanned a month further apart; and that's the whole change. That's the whole difference.

There are economic benefits to the AKC to holding only three face to face meetings a year; not as great as we had hoped when we started out, but there are savings, and there are savings to the individuals.

Before you vote to defeat the idea, I just ask that you simply think about it and decide whether you are voting emotionally or whether this is really such a dramatic and different change, particularly with the Proviso that it will be re-addressed after two years. Thank you very much.

The Chair recognized Susan Sholar, Delegate for the Black Russian Terrier Club of America, who spoke as follows: Mine is twofold as well, the club of course would like to save money. We are a small entry breed. My perspective is, Pat, you have me no more matter what. I represent a Parent Club.

However, every time I'm here, there are committee meetings that I would like to attend and all you chairman say you want to keep it the way it is; I'm not able to

attend those. And I would really like to go attend some of these other committee meetings and learn a little more. Thank you.

The Chair recognized John Ronald, Delegate for the Samoyed Club of America, who spoke as follows: When the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee first decided to come up with this idea, they did a select survey of certain people and I was given it and I didn't like the idea at the time, and then we met and talked; so I've had several years now to consider my original response. And after thorough consideration, I still prefer the four meetings a year for a number of reasons, and I won't bore you and take up too much time.

One of the main reasons is we've just had a lot of turnover in Staff. We have some great people who've just come on Board with very little dog background. We come here four times a year, but who are we? I look around the room, and I've been a Delegate about 25 years, and I see people I've known for decades who bring a wealth of dog experience and success, both in their private business as well as in the dog game.

At a time when, and I'm pleased that the finances seem to have stabilized as of the end of this year, we are still in some pretty touchy times as far as the future of our sport. This body represents the depth of experience of the Fancy. You are the support.

And at a time when AKC is trying to find their way back into a stable and positive future, this wealth of experience is necessary to provide guidance and support and timely feedback for proposals like this. And if we go to three meetings a year, I don't think we are doing what we originally intended to do for the benefit of our clubs, and certainly for the future of this sport.

So I am against this motion and I strongly would encourage you to be against this motion as well. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Carl Holder, Delegate for the Beaumont Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

The Beaumont Kennel Club has instructed me to vote against this, and it's

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for a reason that's not been brought up yet. Because we have some people that are active against the animal rights people. And we don't think that the American Kennel Club Delegate Body should diminish its meetings when the animal rights are not diminishing their effort to do away with us.

And we just feel that there are a lot of untapped, extremely valuable people, Delegates here, that can be used; and if you just diminish the meetings, you'll start losing that.
Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Felice Jarrold, Delegate for the Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, who spoke as follows: Tucson is a dusty cow town in southern Arizona. It's on the wrong side of the Mississippi. My club has instructed me to vote for three meetings a year. They can afford to send me to two meetings, two meetings a year. Right now I attend 50 percent of the meetings. If this motion was passed, I would then be able to attend 66 and two thirds percent of the meetings. For my club and for all of us that have to come long distances, that's a significant increase. Therefore, I would like to urge everybody, most of us that have to fly across the country to come to these meetings, to support it. Three meetings a year, we can't come oftener.
Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Marge Calltharp, Delegate for the Chinese Shar Pei Club of America, who spoke as follows: I'm just asking for a clarification. Is this a simple majority or two thirds vote?

Mr. Sprung: A two thirds vote.

Ms: Callthorp: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Marylyn DeGregorio, Delegate for the Taconic Hills Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: I have a full time job. I can take off Monday and Tuesday. When it goes into Wednesday, it's more than half the week and it becomes a problem. And I think that there might be other people in the

same situation.

I enjoy coming to these meetings, I enjoy spending two days, I'd like to spend more time in the committees, but I check the agendas and I hop from one committee to the other because I will also hit the Coordinating Committee, and then I read the minutes.

I would prefer to leave it at four meetings a year, because I don't see these people very often. I like seeing them here. There are things I sometimes want to get caught up on. I have questions. And sometimes I don't come across on emails.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized John Nielsen, Delegate for the English Setter Association of America, who spoke as follows.

I speak as a strong advocate for four meetings a year. One of the downsides of this has been mentioned or one of the positives of this has been mentioned, that you will be able to attend more committee meetings.

I have a proposal that I will present to the DAAC Committee without the need for discussion today, unless people choose to. I believe that you could very nicely go to three committee meetings on a Tuesday, rather than the two current meetings, which would help to alleviate some of the concerns.

If we start an hour early, end an hour later, cut lunch by half an hour; and I will, as I said, submit this to the DAAC committee and it passed, we could have three committee meetings on our Tuesdays.

The Chair recognized Shari Wallis, Delegate for the Akita Club of America, who spoke as follows:

I'm a little baffled. There were a number of people who wrote on the Delegate List that their clubs send them to two meetings a year and that they can only afford to come to two meetings a year. So I really don't understand the math by which you would now be able to come to three meetings a year; because you can only come to two. And if you think that you are going to save money on the airfare, if you have to fly in on Saturday to get a better rate, and now you have added an extra day, you have added \$168 or so to your hotel bill, or maybe \$300.

I'm not good at math, so maybe it would be like \$426 in hotel bills. So that's actually quite a bit of money. Then you are not saving anything at all. So I think you need to look at the math of how much money you'd be saving your club by doing this.

The Chair recognized Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club, who spoke as follows:

I'm a person who pays my own way to the meetings. My club cannot afford to send me to the meetings. I voluntarily do this. I knew what I was getting into when I volunteered to be a Delegate. So you'd think I would be in favor of three meetings a year; well, I'm not. I'm in favor of four, and there are a couple of reasons for that.

One is that I am on a committee; our committee has a very hard time finishing all of our business given the four meeting a year arrangement. I think with three meetings a year, we would always be running behind.

We need this contact with Staff; we need the contact with the Board; we need the contact with other Delegates.

The meeting schedule has already now been put on a rotating basis so that we are not always conflicting with the same other committee; which is good, because I would like to be able to attend some more committee meetings.

But the biggest reason that I am for four meetings a year: Our lives at home tend to get very complex. I work part time for a senior center. I have my dogs to take care of. I have friends, I have family, I have all sorts of other things that I do; and I'm not always aware of the things that are going on at the AKC that my club needs to be aware of.

When I go back from these meetings, I am charged up. I am full of all the things that I have learned; I am full of all of the issues that my club needs to know about. I get back. I get on the computer, send emails to our email list, I call people, I organize; I do all sorts of stuff. That takes about a week, and then I run out of steam again.

If I were only here three meetings a year, my club would be missing one quarter of what they get from me right now. And I think that's a valuable one quarter and I would not like for them to miss it.

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Mr. Adams: One doesn't have to be a great whip counter to decide to come to the conclusion that the two thirds vote requirement is going to be difficult. So I rise basically to propose that we consider some dissenting opinion, because this has probably come up in the past. We all have communications problems. A lot of us take back to our individual clubs the information we get at these committee meetings.

It would be a reasonable trade off, first of all, there has been no assessment by the Board as to what the cost benefit or what the savings would be.

So my question would be is this the best way, if it costs \$75 or \$100,000, is this the best way to spend that? My conclusion is yes, it is, unless we can come up with some way to offset that a little bit.

One of the things that would offset that a little bit in my mind would be if the individual committee meetings were recorded, so that we could appropriately channel those; Agility to our Agility Committees, Obedience to our Obedience Committees, and the individual clubs would then know what's coming down the pike. It would be very economical to do that with our modern technology, and it might take a little bit of the sting off of the lack of communication.

Thank you.

The Chair recognized Gloria Marshall, Delegate for the Bayshore Companion Dog Club, who spoke as follows:

Before I can objectively make a decision on how I would vote on this, there's information that I'm not aware of that perhaps has been made known. One would be where would these meetings take place; and secondly the months that you have locked in of April and August concern me, because April is a month with many holidays which will impact on the Delegates leaving family; and August is a summer month when many people are on vacation.

So from that point of view, before I could really feel what's the best for the AKC, I would need some answers to those questions.

Thank you.

The Chair recognized Suzanne Hampton, Delegate for the Kennel Club

of Northern New Jersey, who spoke as follows:

I would like to remind everyone of the Proviso. When we vote on this, it's not in cement. And all of the bad comments we have heard about what would happen if we had only three meetings a year are just presumptions. Why don't we try it for a couple of years, and if you're correct, we can go back to four meetings a year then. I think it's a wonderful opportunity to try something that's a new idea.

The Chair recognized Robert Schroll, Delegate for the Clarksville Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I would like to call the question.

Unrecognized Delegate: I would second.

Mr. Sprung: The question has been called and required a two-thirds majority. All those in favor of calling the question and stopping the debate please stand. Thank you

All those opposed that wish to continue the debate, please stand. Thank you
Two thirds are in favor of stopping the debate.

There was a vote on the main motion of the proposed amendment to Article XVIII, Section 1 of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. There were not two thirds in the affirmative. The amendment was not adopted.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club: "If the amendment to Article VII, Section 1 is adopted effective immediately, it will not apply to any current seated AKC Board members, who may complete their current term and serve an additional consecutive term if eligible under the third paragraph of this section."

This amendment is to Article VII, Section 1 of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. This amendment would preclude any former AKC employee from serving on the Board of Directors.

The proposal was submitted by the Lewiston Auburn Kennel Club. The AKC Board of Directors did not approve or disapprove this proposal, so it is pro-

ceeding for a read and vote as required in Article XX, Section 3, of the AKC Bylaws.

It will be published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it at the June, 2013 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed to you.

The following discussion took place:

The Chair recognized Sue Goldberg, Delegate for the Lewiston Auburn Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: It's from my club that this has emerged. We heard some wonderful changes made today, some very important changes to the AKC. We are welcoming a new AVP of Social Media, we've changed our objectives and added something very important, I'm sorry. I can't say "object;" it's an objective of the club, and we've added Agility. All of these are positive changes, and they recognize the fact that AKC has to move forward from its original intent and its original purpose. I want to dispel a rumor, right from the beginning that I have heard about this particular proposal. This proposal was first discussed individually with every single Board member at the June meeting last year. It was brought to the Board in July. It is only because the six month time period has elapsed that it happens to come at this particular meeting. It is not directed at any one person or any individual, and I want to dispel that rumor and take it right off the table.

In addition, it will no effect on this election, it will have no effect on any sitting Board member. It protects them from their current term and from running for re election. It has no effect on that at all. This has been in place because it's never really has been looked at. It's just a bad business policy, a no brainer for people who work in corporate America.

Let me give you a little history. When this AKC was formed in the late 1880s, it was a club of clubs. It was a group of sportsmen who enjoyed their dogs and sat around and had these meetings. Nobody at that time envisioned that it would become a 60 million dollar corporation with two corporate offices and, at its peak, over 400 employees. It was never envisioned at that time. So none of this was ever thought about.

When someone is elected to a Board of Directors of any corporation, they have

to come with objectivity, with impartiality, and with only the best intentions of the corporation at heart, unencumbered by any bias or preconceived notions. In any corporation, as we all know, there are people who serve well; and at some point in their career, opt to retire, they want to go play golf, they want to be with their family. There are other people who are encouraged to retire. And if you understand what that means, it's because they are given an opportunity to save face. There are also people who are fired for nonperformance, for cause, for harassment; I mean, we all know about the flagrant things that happen in corporate America.

Judges are cautioned against the appearance of impropriety. As this stands now, because this has never been addressed before, there is opportunity for impropriety and opportunities for subjective decisions to be made based on grudges or past bias. And those are obvious.

We don't need to add any possibility of bad publicity or bad press for the AKC. Alan talked earlier about setting tongues a wagging. The AKC needs to avoid that at every turn. Imagine some day in the future the potential for a future employee that's been fired for cause, now a member of the Board, sitting and voting on the pension, on the bonus, on the compensation of the very boss that fired him or her in the first place.

It is true that some corporations, and those of you in the business world know this, have retirees on their boards. They have been invited. They have been invited by the Board, who has intimate inside knowledge on the quality of their service and the circumstances under which they left the employ. We Delegates don't have that information. And if truth be told, very often these elections are popularity contests.

The AKC is now a business. It's been for a long time. We need to set in place people who are on the Board based on sound business judgment, the highest integrity, objectivity and impartiality. We need to bring people who come with no preconceived notions nor bad intent. So this is a bad business practice that we just need to correct, and it's never come to the Body before. It's just slipped through the cracks. So here we have another opportunity to make a change for good, and move the AKC forward. I

hope that our clubs will acknowledge that this amendment is important to adopt and vote in its favor when it comes up in June. Thank you very much.

The Chair recognized Blackie Nygood, Delegate for the Mispillion Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I could not disagree more. I am very sorry to disagree with her, but I can say there have been some very wonderful members of the AKC Staff, recently retired, who would be wonderful on our Board, because they have bred dogs, raised dogs, shown dogs, hunted dogs, had a wonderful time with their dogs, understood dogs.

This has always been one of the complaints about the Board members as well. What did he really do with dogs? What did she really do with dogs? Well, she had a mutt when she was a child; oh, that's a wonderful qualification for a Board member.

But in any case, I don't think it is right to discriminate against anyone who has qualities that we might want on our Board. And I am thinking of two recent retirees who all of you know very well. Thanks.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair called on Marlene Steinberg, Delegate for the Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers, who spoke as follows:

I agree with Blackie completely, and I also find this offensive. I'd like to think that this Body is intelligent enough to make decisions based on other things, and if we feel someone's not qualified, we will not vote for them. And if we feel someone is qualified, even if they are a retired Staff person, we will vote for them. And I think that we should not eliminate people just because they used to work for AKC.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Julian Prager, Delegate for the Central Florida Kennel Club., who spoke as follows:

I certainly have no problem restricting Board membership from people who are current employees of the AKC, but I have serious problems with people who are past employees of the AKC. First of

all, as a bulldogger, I can think of several well-known bulldoggers who would be welcome additions to the Board of the AKC if they were Delegates. And second of all, I think that the Board is chosen by the Delegates, and we ought to be able to choose, just as clubs can choose who their Delegates are, we ought to be able to choose who our representatives on the Board are.

The Bylaws Committee had long discussions, and they're still working on proposed changes to who may be a Delegate, and their goal is to expand that so that more people who can be useful to the AKC in achieving its goals can be Delegates. And I think we need to have the widest range of potential candidates for the Board.

Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Ms. Goldberg: I am just asking that all of you consider the big picture. Again, this is not directed at anybody presently running for the Board, a past employee who recently retired. It's not about that.

It's about the fact that we as Delegates don't really know about the service of that person or the circumstances under which they left. And the value that someone brings to the Board because they have so called inside knowledge is far outweighed by the possibility for bias and for personal gain that might happen, and I'm not speaking about anybody presently or recently retired that is now eligible. I am talking about a business practice, and I'm asking all of you to consider this as a business decision and nothing more, and look at the big picture. Thank you.

The Chair called on the Chair of the Tellers Committee. Ms. Johnston spoke as follows:

The total number of ballots cast was 389. The number of invalid ballots was four. Therefore, the majority to elect was 194. The results of the ballots were as follows: Lee Arnold, 195; Carl C. Ashby, 196; Judith Daniels, 184; and Gail LaBerge, 87.

The Chair declared that Alan Kalter, Harvey Wooding, Lee Arnold and Carl Ashby have been duly elected as members of the class of 2017.

(Applause)

The Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 14, Rules for Pointing Breed Trials, of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds as follows:

This amendment is to Chapter 14, Rules for Pointing Breed Trials, of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds. This is a new section allowing the Irish Setter Club of America to hold a Gun Dog Championship open to walking handlers only. The proposal was submitted by the AKC Performance Staff and is approved by the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it at the June, 2013 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed to you.

The Chair announced the on Tuesday, June 11th, the Delegates meeting will be held at the Hilton in North Raleigh, North Carolina. The Conference and Travel Department will place that information on the Delegates Portal as soon as the block of rooms becomes available.

The following discussion took place during New Business:

Ms. Goldberg: I would like to present something else for us to consider as far as the reduction of the meetings from four times a year to three, and I should have brought this up earlier.

Many of us feel that it's important to attend as many of the committee meetings as possible, and as it's structured now, it's very difficult. However, most of these meetings on Tuesday end very early in the day, sometimes lunchtime, sometimes two o'clock.

Why is there no consideration given to having some of the meetings Tuesday morning, or Tuesday afternoon? We're already here; you just take a little bit of a later flight if you want to go to these meetings, and either have some of them Tuesday morning and all day Monday, have some of them Tuesday morning, move our Delegate meeting slightly up, and give people a chance to perhaps attend a third set of committee meetings; or do the Delegate meeting in the morning and then do the committee

meetings in the afternoon, and those that wish to stay are already here; hotels are already paid for and they could stay. Please consider that. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Patte Klecan, Delegate for the American Bouvier des Flandres Club, who spoke as follows: I was asked to retell this little story for the benefit of those that weren't at the caucus yesterday. The story is an illustration for the good for AKC people. As many of you remember, at Westminster there was a dog that created quite a stir, winning the First Reserve Best in Show. And this was Swagger, the Old English Sheepdog.

And there was a lot of support for this dog that was heard in the stands, but I want to tell you a little story about what happened and how this was generated behind the scenes.

As you know, Westminster's a bench show and all the winners, the breed winners from Monday night, were asked to be benched on Tuesday. Well, the handler of Swagger, Colton Johnson, had other duties, so he asked his father, Doug Johnson, to stay at the benching site. And all day long, people approached Swagger and Doug, and said, we watched the groups on TV Monday night and they made a specific trip to Westminster to see Swagger on Tuesday.

And unbeknownst to Colton, all day long his dad took that dog in and out of the crate so he could have his picture taken with the people that came to see him. And that's what generated this fan club for Tuesday night.

Well, Swagger created a stir in his local community and the following weekend were the Denver shows, and according to a friend of mine that was there, there were at least 200 people standing ring-side, watching Swagger. And Ken went up to Colton and said, "What can I do to help you?"

He said, "Can you help me get to the ring." So afterwards he came out and there had been field trips of school kids and another field trip of special needs kids. And this young boy, special needs in a wheelchair was outside the ring, and Swagger went marching right up to him and put his big old head in the young boy's lap, much to his delight, and he

squealed with delight at this.

But there was, pardon me, news coverage there, there was news print and TV cameras all there to see Swagger.

What makes this story really special is that the Johnson family, Doug and Michael Ann, the year before opened up their boarding kennels to area residents as a result of the fire. And at no charge to these people, housed over 300 dogs and almost 100 cats. Some of them are still there, because the people's homes have been completely destroyed. Doug and Michael Ann Johnson were AKC Breeders of the Year a few years ago. These are the stories that need to be made public that once the tuxes and the sequins are hung up, this is who we are, this is what we do in our communities. And I would strongly suggest that AKC start promoting these types of human interest stories. I'm sure there are many others in the fancy that do similar good deeds, and we need to promote this.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

The Chair recognized Barbara Shaw, Delegate for the Greater Collin Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

This morning our Chairman of the Board, was discussing a tag line from one of the auto makers.

We cannot take from the auto maker, but Mr. Sprung is one of our own, and he had a tag line which I believe we really need to use.

You said, "If you are looking for integrity, look here," remarking about the show. I would recommend that we use "If you are looking for integrity, look to the AKC." Please use it.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Mr. Nielsen: I have an inquiry from one of my constituents, who is breeding a litter and intends to DNA the entire litter, which I think is something that the AKC would encourage, perhaps more in the future than now. His question has to do with that it seemed to him in the past there was a discount for multiple DNAs which no longer exists. And the question I have is, is something like this considered for the future?

Mr. Sprung: I'd be happy to have that looked into.



delegates' annual meeting

Ms. Bernardi: I can't believe I keep running up here. I just want to recognize, as long as we are recognizing our own, our own Patty Haines, who is the Delegate and a former member of the Board of Directors, was just been elected Chairman of the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association, which is quite an honor. If you are interested in reading that press release, it's on the OVMA website. Thank you.
(Applause.)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Vanessa Weber, Delegate for the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, who spoke as follows: If any of you have been feeling frustrated because you really want to know how to tell the story that Patte Klecan told better, you want to find your audience to convey that information to, if you've considered, even remotely, writing a book because you don't know how else to share your expertise with dogs, if you want to share what it really means to be a responsible dog owner in your community, any of those things, but you don't know where to start, there is an opportunity next week in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. I have a ticket at low cost, possibly even nothing to you, to attend an intensive two day seminar on how to do any of those things.

I have been participating in a program for the last year learning how to do this, learning how to become a recognized expert in an unrelated field. I would be happy to share that ticket with you; I have one available, I'm giving one to the AKC today. And if you'd like to pick my brain about this and what I've been going through over the last year with anybody today at lunch; and if you see me I'm happy to share what I've been doing, because it's really been amazing, fascinating and it really has propelled me into a completely new world.

But I think anyone who is trying to figure out how to convey the messages that we have been hearing here will benefit by it, and I'm happy to share it. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Carol Fisher,

Delegate for the Valley Forge Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

When we receive the statistics for the title holders for the parent clubs, none of the levels of the Grand Champions are included. And so when people come up and question, "Why haven't I been recognized for bronze or silver or whatever level," we say, "we don't get that information." And I'd like that looked into, because the people would like that recognition.

Mr. Sprung: We will look into that. Thank you.

As no further business came before the Delegate Body, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.



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MISSION STATEMENT:

The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

Attention Delegates

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh, in Raleigh, North Carolina, on June 11, 2013, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m. It will follow the 9:00 a.m. Delegates Forum.

Delegates Credentials

Robert Bergman, Centennial, CO, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club

Virginia Denninger, Rochester, NY, Genesee Valley Kennel

Jeffrey Drogin, New York, NY, Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club

Robert Edward Ekle, Columbia, MO, Columbia Missouri Kennel Club

Diane D. Fyfe, Pikesville, TN, East Tennessee Retriever Club

Judy A. Hart, Knoxville, TN, Tennessee Valley Kennel Club

C. Edward Lane, Newton, NC, Greater Hickory Kennel Club

Dr. William R. Newman, Bedford, PA, Golden Gate Kennel Club

Elizabeth Tilley-Poole, Dunnellon, FL, Pekingese Club of America

Jane Wilkinson, Springfield, MA, Holyoke Kennel Club

Notice

Robert Paust (Carthage, MO), an AKC approved judge, was reprimanded for conduct prejudicial to the sport as a result of comments made in a public forum. This action was taken by the AKC Board of Directors at its February 8, 2013 meeting.

Notice

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Ms. Jennifer Kerr (Englewood, CO)

Notice

Mr. R.C. Carusi (Oxford, MA) Action

was taken by the Great Barrington Kennel Club for conduct at its February 3, 2013, event, Mr. Carusi was charged with abusive or foul language/ verbal altercation. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the report and set the penalty at a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Irish Terrier, Lakeland Terrier)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Sherrie Rouse (Sarasota, FL) from all AKC privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, effective March 13, 2013, for refusing to make her dogs and records available for inspection when requested. (Australian Shepherd)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Sarah Astor (Old Fort, NC) from all AKC privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, effective March 13, 2013, for non-compliance with AKC's record keeping and dog identification requirements. (Yorkshire Terrier)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, for having submitted or caused to be submitted litter registration applications that they knew, should have known, or had a duty to know contained false certifications (DNA exclusions):

Effective February 11, 2013

Ms. Debra Jensen (Las Vegas, NV)
Shih Tzu

Ms. Mildred Whitman (Bowdon, GA)
Multiple Breeds

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for fifteen years and imposed a \$3000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best inter-

ests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC's *Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy*:

Effective February 27, 2013

Mr. Mike Chilinski (Jefferson City, MT) Alaskan Malamutes and Siberian Husky

Effective March 13, 2013

Ms. Carla Ann Thomas (Saint Petersburg, FL) Multiple Breeds

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for ten years and imposed a \$2000 fine for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC's *Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy*:

Effective February 11, 2013

Mr. Brian McCarthy (Radcliff, KY) Chihuahua
Ms. Joyce McCarthy (Radcliff, KY) Chihuahua

Effective March 13, 2013

Ms. Jennifer Hobbs-Butler (Yoder, CO) German Shepherd Dog

Proposed Amendment to Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.

The Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club has proposed the following amendment to **ARTICLE VII: Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, to be voted on at the June 11, 2013 Delegates Meeting. The AKC Board of Directors did not approve or disapprove this proposal.

The following **Proviso** is to be considered before the vote on **ARTICLE VII, Section 1**:

If the amendment to ARTICLE VII, Section 1 is adopted, effective immediately, it will not apply to any currently seated AKC Board members, who may complete their current term and serve an additional consecutive term if eligible under the third paragraph of this section.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1

Excluding the President, who serves as a non-voting member, no members of the Board of Directors may be currently or formerly employed by AKC, any AKC division, subsidiary or affiliated organization nor may they receive remuneration from the AKC on a consulting or contract basis nor be a member of the household of same.

Proposed Amendment to Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds

The American Kennel Club Performance Staff has brought forward the following amendment to **Chapter 14, New Section: National Championship Events, Section 18A** of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds*, to be voted on at the June 11, 2013 Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 14

National Championship Events

Section 18A. A National Gun Dog Championship for Irish Setters may be held not more than once in any calendar year. The event must exceed the AKC's minimum standards to qualify as a National Championship event. The event shall be for dogs over six (6) months of age. The stake must be held by the Parent Club which shall file an application for permission to run it under procedures approved in advance by the Performance Events Department. The ISCA may develop entry qualifications that exceed the AKC minimum standard. Dogs placing in this stake shall be credited with championship points in accord with the schedule for Field Championships and the winner shall be entitled to the designation "National Irish Setter Gun Dog Champion of 20. (NGDC)

Notice

Reprimands and Fines

Notification of reprimands and/or fines imposed on clubs for late submission of applications.
Chapter 2, Section 4 & 9.

Poodle Club of Tulsa, Incorporated\$120.00
Yankee Siberian Husky Club\$60.00
Western Pennsylvania Dachshund Club\$90.00

Keystone English Springer Spaniel Club\$110.00
Keystone Collie Club\$90.00
Great Dane Club of Pennsylvania\$60.00
Weimaraner Club of Columbus\$70.00
Garden State English Springer Spaniel Club.....\$90.00
Crawford County Kennel Club.....\$240.00
Cocker Spaniel Breeders Club of New England, Inc.\$160.00
Bay Colony Pomeranian Club.....\$90.00
Western Massachusetts Shetland Sheepdog Club.....\$60.00
South Coast Vizsla Club.....\$60.00
Harrisburg Shetland Sheepdog Club\$320.00
Delaware Valley German Wirehaired Pointer Club\$60.00
Garden State Weimaraner Club.....\$100.00
Cocker Spaniel Club of New Jersey, Inc.\$120.00
Union County Kennel Club, Inc.....\$60.00

Notification of reprimands and fines imposed on clubs for late submission of judges' panel, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 4, Section 1. Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Poodle Club of Tulsa, Incorporated\$120.00
Yankee Siberian Husky Club\$60.00
Weimaraner Club of Columbus\$70.00
Crawford County Kennel Club\$200.00
Western Massachusetts Shetland Sheepdog Club.....\$60.00
South Coast Vizsla Club.....\$60.00
Papillon Club of Tulsa.....\$60.00

Notification of reprimands and fines imposed on clubs for failure to comply with the rules set forth in *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 9, Section 10 and Dealing With Misconduct Section II and Section V in connection with their event.

Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.\$500.00

Notification of reprimands and fines imposed on clubs for failure to comply with the rules set forth in *Dealing With Misconduct* Section I in connection with their event.

National Beagle Club\$250.00

CONFORMATION JUDGES

As a result of the October 2010 Board Meeting, publication notice in the Gazette was combined into one notice, therefore the judging approval process continues to include an opportunity for the fancy to respond to each permit judge.

Letters concerning judges and permit judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received by AKC concerning their qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and JS judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations at (919) 816-3593 or email, judgingops@akc.org.

PERMIT JUDGES

The following persons have been approved on a **Permit** basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. **They may now accept assignments** and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Mrs. Cynthia Cool (95893) CA

(707) 447-9636
ccoolpugs@aol.com
Pugs, JS-Limited

Mrs. Jerrilin Lois Naylor (95671) KY

(502) 225-0479
jnaylor4@bellsouth.net
Papillons, JS-Limited

Mr. Joseph Smith (95833) GA

(678) 412-2265
rubyd2000@aol.com
Doberman Pinschers

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mrs. Terry L. Berrios (7393) GA

(678) 447-6383
albertoberrios@yahoo.com
Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, Japanese Chin)

Mr. David Chan (53836) MD

(410) 268-3896
chrott888@yahoo.com
Doberman Pinschers

Mr. Whitney J. Coombs (5555) PA

(717) 359-9459
ncoombsmaranatha@embarqmail.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Plotts, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Mrs. Catherine Cooper (18399) VA

(276) 340-4636
cocooper@sitestar.net
Akitas, Bullmastiffs, German Pinschers, Great Pyrenees, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs

Mrs. Sally George (82793) CA

(707) 321-8567
sally@aberglen.com
Balance of Terrier Group (American Staffordshire Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Rat Terriers, Russell Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers)

Mrs. Rosalind Kramer (37191) VA

(703) 779-2299
rlkramer1@gmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Poodles, Toy Fox Terriers), Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Bloodhounds, Borzois, English Foxhounds, Greyhounds, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Plotts, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds, Whippets

Mrs. Diane R. Landstrom (36322) AZ

(623) 935-4214
dlandstrom01@cox.net
Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Leonbergers, Portuguese Water Dogs, JS

Mr. Andrew Ritter (92968) NJ

(908) 996-7355
cerri.bmd@att.net
Leonbergers, Newfoundlands

Mr. Robert L. Robinson (6039) AZ

(602) 253-6260
brobinson4@cox.net
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Plotts, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Mr. E. A. (Skip) Thielen (34041) OH

(937) 324-2014
skip.thielen@earthlink.net
Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES

Mr. Guy H. Fisher (95929) MI

(810) 384-1844
murbe_boxers@msn.com

Mrs. Robin A. MacFarlane (95827) CT

(203) 405-1500
armor16@aol.com

Mr. William Matlock (95829) ME

(207) 667-5101
wwwnewf@gmail.com

Mr. Nathaniel Whitney (95889) FL

(727) 871-8940
nwhitney3@gatech.edu

PERMIT ASSIGNMENTS COMPLETED

The following persons have **completed** their Permit Judging assignments in the breeds listed, and their names have been added to the list of regular **approved** judges.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Ms. Nancy J. Edgington (93231) CA
(909) 628-9347
Journeyaff@aol.com
Afghan Hounds

Ms. Linda J. Moore (53713) OK
(918) 493-3572
concharty@att.net
French Bulldogs

Mrs. Richella M. Veatch (93787) TN
(931) 788-1478
HollicoveCollies@aol.com
Collies

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mr. Gary L. Andersen (6176) AZ
(480) 991-7485
glandersen@cox.net

Balance of Non-Sporting Group
(American Eskimo Dogs, Finnish
Spitz, Keeshonden, Lowchen,
Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan
Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers), Alaskan
Malamutes, Siberian Huskies

Mr. David L. Anthony (25447) PA
(814) 434-0822
dragonpatch@gmail.com
Balance of Herding Group
(Beaucerons, Belgian Malinois,
Belgian Tervuren, Canaan Dogs,
Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish
Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs,
Norwegian Buhunds, Swedish
Vallhunds)

Mrs. Deborah L. Anthony (25446) PA
(814) 434-0822
dragonpatch@gmail.com
Balance of Herding Group
(Beaucerons, Belgian Malinois,
Belgian Tervuren, Bouviers des
Flandres, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher
Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds,
Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian
Buhunds, Swedish Vallhunds)

Mr. Gary M. Bassett (19542) WI
(920) 494-1826
baxwood@new.rr.com
Keeshonden, Belgian Malinois, Belgian
Tervuren, Bouviers des Flandres, Old
English Sheepdogs, Pulik

Dr. Albert P. Bianchi (5459) VA
(757) 436-4868
k4ux@cox.net
Norwegian Elkhounds, Mastiffs,
Newfoundlands

Mr. George D. Boulton (6298) AZ
(520) 247-3645
geobolt1@live.com
Balance of Hound Group (American

Foxhounds, American English
Coonhounds, Black and Tan
Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds,
English Foxhounds, Harriers,
Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds,
Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens,
Pharaoh Hounds, Plotts, Portuguese
Podengo Pequeno, Redbone
Coonhounds, Treeing Walker
Coonhounds)

Mr. Wayne E. Bousek (6498) WI
(715) 799-4360

wbousek@frontiernet.net
Balance of Non-Sporting Group
(American Eskimo Dogs, Finnish
Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian
Lundehunds, Shiba Inu, Tibetan
Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli)

Ms. Marge B. Calltharp (17384) CT
(860) 873-2572

marbo@portone.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Lhasa Apsos,
Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds,
Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan
Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Ms. Christine Cameron (5648) OR
(541) 598-6288

chowfull@hotmail.com
Dalmatians, Bearded Collies

Mrs. Carrie A. Chase (36690) WV
(304) 274-5939

humnbird1@earthlink.net
Australian Shepherds, Bearded Collies,
Briards, Old English Sheepdogs

Mr. Vincet P. Chianese (5760) NC
(919) 368-2659

vchianese@nc.rr.com
Chow Chows, Dalmatians,
Keeshonden, Schipperkes

Ms. Sandi Irene Chryssanthis (60062) OR
(503) 623-3541

sandi@sanlynbassets.com
Dachshunds

Ms. Sharon L. Clark (76781) SC
(864) 862-2537

42sharonclark@gmail.com
American English Coonhounds,
Bluetick Coonhounds, Plotts,
Redbone Coonhounds, Salukis,
Whippets

Ms. Bonnie Linnell Clarke (3735) NC
(919) 567-2103

b0824@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers,
English Toy Spaniels, Havanese,
Maltese, Manchester Terriers,
Pekingese, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers,
Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

Mr. Kenneth W. Clemons (6798) AZ
(928) 636-7938

snomelsc@hotmail.com
Bluetick Coonhounds, Plotts,
Redbone Coonhounds

Ms. Patricia A. Darke (39766) MN
(612) 743-7998

pdarke@darkeassociates.com
Irish Setters

Ms. Lisa R. DeRoulet (7623) WA
(425) 742-7369

deroulet.lj@frontier.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Boston
Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow
Chows, French Bulldogs, Lhasa
Apsos, Lowchen, Shiba Inu, Tibetan
Spaniels

Ms. Helen Dorrance (19022) TX
(512) 964-3294

goldducat@fastmail.fm
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling
Retrievers, English Springer
Spaniels

Mrs. Edy Dykstra-Blum (20342) FL
(352) 465-7142

bizzeeboots@gbwebs.com
Balance of Herding Group
(Beaucerons, Briards, Canaan Dogs,
Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish
Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs,
Norwegian Buhunds, Pulik,
Pyrenean Shepherds)

Ms. Leita A. Estes (7375) VA
(619) 922-2025

shortales@rocketmail.com
Golden Retrievers, English Springer
Spaniels

Dr. Bev Sigl Felten (65674) WI
(262) 251-3808

gero@execpc.com
Irish Setters

Mr. Ronald V. Horn (65755) CO
(303) 797-8642

vnnewf@gmail.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Boxers, Great
Pyrenees, Portuguese Water Dogs

Mr. Douglas A. Johnson (17190) IN
(812) 332-5923

clusexx@aol.com
Affenpinschers, Cavalier King
Charles Spaniels, English Toy
Spaniels, Havanese, Italian
Greyhounds, Japanese Chin,
Papillons

Ms. Karen Justin (64864) NY
(845) 726-3437

impyrial@aol.com
Newfoundlands

Mr. Steven Kass (25625) WA

(425) 754-5367
stevek@nas.com
Basenjis, Ibizan Hounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Scottish Deerhounds

Ms. Diane Kepley (90370) MD

(301) 865-7184
westhavencockers@comcast.net
English Cocker Spaniels

Mrs. Wendy M. Kobrzycki (6378) MI

(517) 368-5359
wmkoby@frontiernet.net
Affenpinschers, Papillons, Poodles, Yorkshire Terriers, French Bulldogs,

Mrs. Cheryl Tice Koenitz (61137) NJ

(973) 927-2857
koti55@verizon.net
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Siberian Huskies

Mrs. Paul (Beth) Lachnitt (6180) TX

(903) 662-5846
blachnitt@cumbytel.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Keeshonden, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels

Mr. Ralph M. Lemcke (1320) IN

(317) 858-7521
rmlemcke@aol.com
Dalmatians

Mr. Richard J. Lewis (18253) WA

(509) 697-6032
richelieu@elltel.net
Balance of Herding Group (Beaucerons, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Pyrenean Shepherds)

Mrs. Marilyn Little (2758) AZ

(928) 535-5385
okaklabs@frontier.com
English Setters, Irish Setters, Weimaraners

Ms. Audrey Lycan (5788) GA

(678) 432-4932
winterway@bellsouth.net
Maltese, Papillons, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mr. Clyde R. Morris (43041) TX

(936) 443-3714
cmorris2486@yahoo.com
Salukis

Ms. Susan Nikkel (6837) CA

(760) 728-2139
adogjudge@sbcglobal.net
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Mrs. Sue Sellers Rose (1897) MI

(517) 676-4168
roses@msu.edu
Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, Boykin Spaniels, Spinone Italiani, Vizslas

Mr. David Samuelson (39541) MN

(612) 201-3930
samuelsond@aol.com
Dachshunds, Norwegian Elkhounds

Mr. Harry H. (Butch) Schulman (59014) KY

(502) 643-2278
hhschu01@louisville.edu
Pointers, Siberian Huskies, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Bouviers des Flandres, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds

Dr. Arthur Sorkin (5366) AZ

(480) 461-8440
art@web-oasis.com
Ibizan Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds

Mr. Thomson P. Stanfield Jr. (18810) CO

(303) 659-3445
stanfieldt@aol.com
Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Komondors, Portuguese Water Dogs, Standard Schnauzers

Ms. Laurie King Telfair (18751) TX

(972) 227-4293
ltelfair@aol.com
Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Borzois, Dachshunds, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Salukis

Mrs. Patricia V. Trotter (6420) CA

(831) 624-3954
vinmelca@comcast.net
Bulldogs, Finnish Spitz, Schipperkes, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Briards, Norwegian Buhunds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik

Mrs. Lisa Warren (6013) PA

(610) 285-6425
lwdox@ptd.net
Balance of Sporting Group (German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Sussex

Spaniels), Bichons Frises, Bulldogs, Shiba Inu

ADJUNCT JUDGES

Mr. Dennis Morgan (5462) WA

(360) 757-6568
ringsideboxers@comcast.net
Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux

Ms. Betty Nelson (39858) TX

(903) 684-3091
avalonkennel@aol.com
Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES

Ms. Sheila Taylor Allen (66830) WA

(360) 563-9296
sheez-beez@comcast.net

Mrs. Terry Dennison (47424) AK

(907) 373-7376
katagnik@yahoo.com

Ms. Katie Effert (92196) WA

(206) 856-5627
keffert@uw.edu

Miss Susan Emily Jacob (18283) CT

(203) 393-3832
susan@susanjacob.com

BEST IN SHOW

The following person, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they are **approved**, has been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Ms. Christine Erickson (22529) AZ

(480) 892-415
chris.erickson@cox.net

REINSTATED JUDGE

The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.

Mr. John P. Wade (5936) CA

(916) 652-7979
tanglewoodfarm@earthlink.net
All Hound, Working, Terrier breeds, Australian Shepherds, Bearded Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, JS

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Nicholas J. Furillo, Sr.
Mr. Victor Joris
Dr. Gerda Maria Kennedy
Mrs. Bettie L. Krause
Mr. Stuart R. Rogell

Application for Breed-Specific Registered Name Prefix

The following applications for a

breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club. Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary:
 BEAUBRIAR – Irish Setters – Michelle DeChambeau
 HAPPY TRAILS – Australian Shepherds – Jennifer Hampton
 HEAGAPE – Golden Retrievers – Leslie M. Heatherman
 HIGH PARK – Poodles – Carol A. White
 INDYA JADE – Cocker Spaniels – Christy Davenport
 ISENGARD – Mastiffs – Jake E. Gray & Erika L. Gray
 KAALOGI – Papillons – Jana M. Muneta
 LA CHANSON – Bouviers des Flandres – Pilar N. Kuhn & Rodney S. Ott
 LINSCA – Bernese Mountain Dogs – Linda K. Jacobson
 LITTLE BROWNIES – American Water Spaniels – Paul R. Morrison & Lynn A. Morrison
 LONG VALLEY – Norwich Terriers – Georgia R. Crompton
 LONE PINE – Miniature American Shepherds – Kelli M. Reichert
 POP-A-TOP – Bulldogs – Chris M. King & Rayna L. King
 SHADOWRIDGE – Rhodesian Ridgeback – Linda G. Helling
 SHADY HARBOR – French Bulldogs – Vincent J. Schettino & Lorraine P. Schettino
 SPICEISLE – Manchester Terriers – Zandi Spicer
 SON-SHINE – Black Russian Terriers & Yorkshire Terriers – Katherine M. Christenson
 STOCK OPTIONS – Australian Cattle Dogs – Kim R. Broster
 THUNDERHILL – Shetland Sheepdogs – Michelle D. Miller & Marty A. Miller
 WIGGLEBUTT – Miniature American Shepherds – Angela P. Ogle & Bill P. Ogle

Registered Name Prefixes Granted

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:
 BOARDWALK – Portuguese Water Dogs – Kendal L. Walters & David D. Walters
 GEISER GLEN – Irish Setters – Fiona O. Geiser

FENDANESYLCREST – Great Danes – Kathleen J. Fennell & Gloria Batchelor
 JET AIRE – Airedale Terriers – Diane M. Turba & John E. Turba
 KEEPSAKES – Chihuahuas – Carole M. Paulson
 KRISKEE – Keeshonds – JoAnn Lewis-Franklin & Richard Franklin
 MIRALABELLA – Yorkshire Terriers – Mirrella L. Green
 MONTVIEW – Labrador Retrievers – Julie A. Oghigian
 MTNMIST – Welsh Springer Spaniels – Sandy Edwards-Zickrick
 NEWPOINT – German Shorthaired Pointers – Nancy E. Ward
 REIGNINGSTARZ – Pomeranians – Charlene I. Marsh
 VENERIE – Norwich Terriers & Norfolk Terriers – Pamela Beale & John Beale

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MARCH 12-13, 2013

The Board convened on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 2:05 p.m. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Assistant Executive Secretary. Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the February 2013 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were unanimously adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION. It was reported out of this session that the following Board officers were elected:
 Alan Kalter, Chairman
 Dr. William R. Newman, Vice Chairman

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Kalter reported that the Ad Hoc Judging Approval Process Committee would be having its final meeting later in March. It would be submitting a final report including recommendations for amending the process. This report will be reviewed at the April Board meeting.

There was a discussion on the agendas for Board Meetings. It was agreed that more items should be included in the

Consent Agenda, including all items discussed at previous meetings. The Board also directed Staff to send the Agenda to the Board members at least two weeks in advance so there is more time to review it and to ask questions before the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previous Action items assigned to the Staff.

Events and Entries Update

Mr. Sprung gave an event status report for the month of January 2013. Entries were down by 0.67% and Events were down by 3.59% compared to January of 2012.

LEGAL REPORT

Margaret Poindexter, General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. She presented a status report on pending litigation and other activities for the month of February 2013.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT 2014 Board and Delegate Meeting Schedule

Mr. Crowley presented a proposal for the 2014 Board meetings. During the discussion it was suggested that the meeting schedule should be prepared at least three years in advance. It was also recommended that the Delegates be polled to determine if there was sufficient interest to warrant a Sunday/Monday format for at least one meeting (June 2014). This will be considered further at the April 2014 Board Meeting.

CONSENT

Following discussion, there was a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Arnold, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent Items:

Delegates For Approval

The following Delegates were approved:

Sharon Collins, Decatur, IL
 to represent English Cocker Spaniel Club of America

Robert Edward Ekle, Columbia Missouri
 To represent Columbia Missouri Kennel Club
 Jane Wilkinson, Springfield Kennel Club
 To represent Holyoke Kennel Club



Proposed Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Standard Revision

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the Size, Coat and Disqualifications sections of the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen breed standard as submitted by the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America, Inc. The Board VOTED to publish the proposed standard revisions in the AKC Secretary's Page for comment.

Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 4, Section 2 – Electronic Premium Lists

The Board considered a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to amend Chapter 4, Section 2 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows to allow for the sending of premium list electronically to reduce expenses on postage and printing. However the Board interprets the current rule to already allow for the sending of premium lists electronically. The rule only requires that the premium list be sent and it is not specified they must be mailed.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Mark Dunn, Michael Ganey, and Lisa Peterson, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting. Connie Percy, AKC Staff, participated by telephone conference.

Staff prepared reports to the Board on various Marketing initiatives. Updates were provided on Registration and Canine Partners.

Use and Acquisition of URLs

Based on a Board request, staff provided a report on the domains that AKC currently holds the rights to. Staff will continue to review the list of domains owned to identify domains that are no longer useful and to acquire new domains to support products and marketing efforts.

Addressing Health Issues of Dogs in Publications

Based on a Board request, Staff reviewed how health issues are portrayed within AKC publications. There was discussion relating to how broadly listing information about potential health issues within a breed can lead to aiding the misconception of purebred dogs having more health issues than mixed breeds. In AKC publications, the caveat that all dogs are susceptible to a wide range of medical issues is included when discussing canine

health. Additionally, when relevant, it is noted that AKC has improved the life of dogs through the canine health research it has funded.

Meeting adjourned on Tuesday March 12, 2013 at 5:30 pm

Meeting reconvened on Wednesday March 13, 2013 at 8:00 am.

All Directors were present as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss personnel matters. It was reported out this session that the following officers were re-appointed:

Dennis B. Sprung, President and Chief Executive Officer
Daryl G. Hendricks, Chief Operating Officer
Peter W. Farnsworth, Chief Financial Officer
James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Tim Thomas, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by telephone conference.

Judging Application Analysis

Based on a Board request, staff provided analysis on the approval rate of judging applications for the last three years. Analysis was completed to include the number of New Breed and Additional Breed applications received, the number of breeds applied for, the number of breeds approved, percentage of breeds approved, and the number and percentage of applications approved, limited or denied.

Feedback to Judging Applicants

Based on a Board request, Judging Operations will, with the aid of the Judges Review Committee, document the factors resulting in an application being denied or limited. That information will be provided to the applicant with their letter notifying them of the results of the committee's review. It is intended that this information will assist the applicant in future submissions for approval.

Judging Survey

Based on a Board request, Staff will conduct a second survey on the current judging approval process. The survey will

be sent in April to all AKC approved judges that have completed the new application process for additional breeds and who were not included in the original survey conducted in October 2012.

Exhibitor Feedback

Based on a Board request, Staff presented its plans for a pilot program to gain feedback from exhibitors, show chairman, and other members of the Fancy on AKC Conformation judges. Feedback will be sought through a questionnaire on topics such as quality of judging, ring procedure and demeanor.

Multi-Group Judges

Based on a Board request, Staff developed and presented strategies to increase the number of multi-group judges.

CONFORMATION

Alan Slay, and Bri Tesarz, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by telephone conference.

Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulation Changes

The Board reviewed a staff recommendation to amend the *Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations* to allow dogs owned or co-owned by professional handlers to be exhibited, if handled by a non-professional handler in this event. This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Open Show Regulation Changes

Staff presented the results of a survey to clubs about the Open Show format. The Board reviewed suggested changes to the regulations. There will be discussion on the status of the Open Show at the April 2013 meeting.

COMPLIANCE

Margaret Poindexter, AKC Staff, participated in this section of the meeting.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

COMPANION/PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by telephone conference

Agility – Providing Flexibility in the “100 Miles Between Events” Rule

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow agility trials to be held within 100 miles of each other if the club desir-



ing to hold a new trial obtains the written permission of the club holding an established trial on the same dates. This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Labrador and Golden Retrievers Eligible to Participate in the Spaniel (Upland) Hunting Tests

The Board reviewed a request from The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. and the Golden Retriever Club of America to participate in the Spaniel (Upland) Hunting Test program. Both breeds can currently participate in the Retriever Hunting Test. This request is in keeping with AKC's program allowing versatile hunting breeds to be tested in two hunting test programs if the test is consistent with the purpose for which the breed was developed. This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting. Under the Staff proposal, Spaniel Clubs would have the option of giving preference to Spaniel entries, only taking entries for Retrievers if the limit had not been reached.

Beagle Two Couple Pack - Spayed and Neutered Dogs May Participate

The Board reviewed a proposal to amend *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures For Beagle Field Trials - General Procedures Governing Beagle Field Trials & Two Couple Pack Hunting Tests* - Procedure 2, to allow spayed and neutered Beagles to participate in Beagle Two Couple Pack Hunting Tests. This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

FINANCE

Peter Farnsworth, Chief Financial Officer, participated in this portion of the meeting.

He reported on revenues and expenses for February 2013, as well as the performance of AKC's investment funds, which was the same information proved to the Delegates at the March Delegate Meeting.

It was VOTED to adjourn March 13, 2013 at 12:30 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary

Parent Club Links

Sporting



American
Water Spaniel



Boykin Spaniel



Brittany



Chesapeake Bay
Retriever



Clumber
Spaniel



Cocker Spaniel



Curly-Coated
Retriever



English Cocker
Spaniel



English Setter



English Springer
Spaniel



Field Spaniel



Flat-Coated
Retriever



German Shorthaired
Pointer



German
Wirehaired Pointer



Golden
Retriever



Gordon Setter



Irish Red &
White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water
Spaniel



Labrador
Retriever



Nova Scotia Duck
Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone
Italiano



Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer
Spaniel



Wirehaired
Pointing Griffon

Parent Club Links

Hound



Afghan Hound



American English
Coonhound



American
Foxhound



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan
Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick
Coonhound



Borzoi



Dachshund



English
Foxhound



Greyhound



Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish
Wolfhound



Norwegian
Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset
Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Redbone
Coonhound



Rhodesian
Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish
Deerhound



Whippet

Parent Club Links

Working



Akita



Alaskan
Malamute



Anatolian
Shepherd Dog



Bernese
Mountain Dog



Black Russian
Terrier



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Doberman
Pinscher



Dogue de
Bordeaux



German
Pinscher



Giant
Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss
Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan
Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese
Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard
Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

Parent Club Links

Terrier



Airedale
Terrier



American
Staffordshire Terrier



Australian
Terrier



Bedlington
Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie
Dinmont Terrier



Fox Terrier
(Smooth)



Glen of Imaal
Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue
Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull
Terrier



Miniature
Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich
Terrier



Parson Russell
Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Soft Coated
Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire
Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland
White Terrier



Wire Fox
Terrier

Parent Club Links

Toy



Affenpinscher



Brussels
Griffon



Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese
Crested



English Toy
Spaniel



Havanese



Italian
Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester
Terrier (Toy)



Miniature
Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

Parent Club Links

Non-Sporting



American
Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese
Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian
Lundehund



Poodle
(Miniature)



Schipperke



Poodle
(Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan
Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

Parent Club Links

Herding



Australian
Cattle Dog



Australian
Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian
Malinois



Belgian
Sheepdog



Belgian
Tervuren



Border Collie



Bouvier des
Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh
Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher
Mountain Dog



Finnish
Lapphund



German
Shepherd Dog



Icelandic
Sheepdog



Norwegian
Buhund



Old English
Sheepdog



Pembroke
Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland
Sheepdog



Puli



Pyrenean
Shepherd



Shetland
Sheepdog



Swedish
Vallhund



AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/handlers/>

To view the AKC Registered Handlers Membership list, click here:

www.akc.org/handlers/states/allstates.cfm

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics:

http://www.akc.org/handlers/jr_clinics.cfm

http://www.akc.org/handlers/adult_clinics.cfm