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THE NEW LOOK OF ADVANCED NUTRITION

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FOR ACTIVE DOGS

- FOR EVERYDAY EXERCISE
- SPORT COMPETITORS

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A New Year

As we begin 2021, we are excited for brand-new opportunities and look forward to achieving many successes. The past year has been one that required us to rise above unexpected challenges, and find innovative ways to engage with each other. We take those lessons into this year with renewed energy and commitment to our dogs and our sports.

We kick off the year with The AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin® airing on its new network, ABC, as a three-hour special this Sunday, January 17, at 2 p.m. EST. The show features thousands of dogs from around the country and the world competing for the coveted title of National Champion. It will introduce our show to new audiences nationwide and increase the strength of our brand with dog lovers old and new. Make sure you tune in for the fun!

Hosting our 20th Anniversary broadcast is veteran sportscaster Mary Carillo, with AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo and noted sportscaster Carolyn Manno handling the paw-by-paw duties. This year’s AKC National Championship was the largest dog show in North America, with 4,008 dogs entered in Conformation from 49 states, Washington, D.C., and seven countries, combined with competitions in agility, obedience, rally, diving dogs, and AKC Fastest Dog, bringing total show entries to almost 8,000. Dogs competed for multiple titles across various events and more than $150,000 in prize money, the largest in the world of dog shows.

We are excited to share this show with the world and thank everyone involved for helping us create such a safe and successful event in the midst of a pandemic. It was no small feat, and yet we managed to have amazing events. If you love nostalgia, we are excited to share with you that the AKC Museum of the Dog has opened its new exhibition, Hollywood Dogs, on display from January 6 through April 11. Hollywood Dogs examines the history of dogs on film from the very genesis of the medium through the “Golden Age of Hollywood Dogs.” It features original movie posters for some of the biggest canine blockbusters, Lassie to Old Yeller and more. Famous animated cartoon dogs are highlighted as well and on display throughout the Museum. They are featured in unique pieces like the celluloid from the hit movie All Dogs Go to Heaven, and many others.

A virtual tour of Hollywood Dogs will be available on the AKC Museum of the Dog website at a later date. The virtual tour will be free. Those wishing to enjoy the show in person can do so at 101 Park Avenue in New York City, while adhering to the Museum’s social-distancing guidelines and protocols.

We look forward to this year and while there are still challenges ahead, we know that we are stronger together and that we can and will make this year a success. Here is to a productive year! Thank you for everything you do to move our sport forward and for the benefit of dogs.

Dennis

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO
Museum Honors Menaker

NEW YORK—We are happy to report that the AKC Museum of the Dog is humming with activity. The museum has just received a major acquisition: a pair of paintings by the great Maud Earl. And staff is, as of this writing, busy installing an exhibition celebrating the famous dogs of film history. Hollywood Dogs will feature several items from the AKC GAZETTE collection.

We will report more on these stories in future issues. This month, we draw your attention to another AKC Museum initiative. Here’s a note from Jeana Wunderlich of museum staff:

“The AKC Museum of the Dog will be honoring longtime friend and board member Ron Menaker in a free livestreamed Night with the Museum on February 12.

“He has been involved in the sport of purebred dogs for more than 40 years and has contributed to it greatly through his work with fundraising, particularly hosting the annual Theater Benefit, which has raised thousands of dollars for AKC affiliates such as the Humane Fund and the AKC Museum of the Dog. Menaker was also a contributor to the DOGNY project honoring the K-9 teams of September 11, 2001.

“We hope you can join us on February 12 for a night of special guests, a virtual silent auction, video segments, and more.”

More information: mod.givesmart.com
On January 1, the Biewer Terrier entered the Toy Group as the 197th AKC-recognized breed. “We’re thrilled to have the Biewer Terrier join the registry,” AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo says. “This wonderful little dog makes a great companion for a variety of people, and we’re excited to introduce dog lovers to another fantastic breed that may be a perfect match for their family.”

The Biewer Terrier marked the beginning of what is now known as the Biewer Terrier breed.

“Along with their new look came the new name of German Yorkshire Terrier. Their veterinarian suggested they name the dog after Mrs. Biewer. They chuckled as they contemplated the name Gertrud Biewer Yorkshire Terrier. After much consideration, the Biewers found the Biewer Yorkshire Terrier to be a more fitting name; the a la Pom Pon was later added at the suggestion of Margot Eskens, the famous German singer.

“The Biewer Yorkshire Terrier a la Pom Pon made its actual debut in 1986, and quickly became a hit in Germany. The VDH (Verband Für das Hundewesen e. V.) had marked these dogs ‘not for breeding,’ which upset the Biewers, so they started their own registry to document the Biewer breed development.”—Biewer Terrier Club of America

**FROM THE STANDARD**

The Biewer Terrier is an elegant, long-haired, uniquely colored toy terrier with a breed signature ponytail. The coat parts down the middle, hanging straight and evenly on both sides of the body as though a comb has been used to part it. The back is level, with height at withers being equal to height at the croup. Although the outline of the dog gives the appearance of a square, the body length is slightly longer than the overall height. The tail is set high and carried well arched over the body, covered with a long luxurious plume. …

Height at the withers is the same as the height at the croup, measuring 7 to 11 inches.

Head coloring is blue/black, gold/tan, and white in good symmetry. … Any combination of the following two colors: blue/black and gold/tan or gold/tan and white in good symmetry are acceptable. … Body coloring: Hair on the back is blue/black and white. Amounts of each color are of personal preference with no dominating patterns.

**PARENT CLUB CONTACTS**

**President** Myrna Torres
president@biewerterrierclubofamerica.org

**Secretary** Bobbi Michelle Wehrfritz
secretary@biewerterrierclubofamerica.org

**Judges’ Education Chairman** Ed Valle
edrey524@gmail.com
Here are the stories that you our readers made the most popular GAZETTE articles of the past 12 months, based on statistics compiled by Zmags, provider of our viewing platform.

If you would like to contribute an article or images to the GAZETTE in 2021, write to gazette@akc.org.

FEATURES
“Vet School, Quarantine Style”
Hannah Loonsk
A Penn Vet student’s journal of a virtual day in the life and the dogs who keep it real.

“The Lassie Within” Robin Tricoles
When things look bleak, when you really need a hero, will your dog be there for you?

“The Evolving Role of DNA: A Breeder’s Perspective” Patti Strand

“Your Best National Ever” Don James
An AKC Delegate’s tips on how to avoid Heartbreak Hotel and other national-specialty pitfalls.

BREED COLUMNS
“Turning Pandemic Blues into Red, White, and Blue” Alice L. Lawrence, Havanese Club of America

“Are Non-Show Breeders Ever Considered Reputable?” Roseann Fucillo, Papillon Club of America

“Purpose” Phoebe Booth, American Whippet Club

“The Benefits of Using the Electronic Ballot for Club Votes” Dr. Grace Massey, Australian Terrier Club of America

“Socializing Puppies and Dogs While Social Distancing” Susan Reed Davis, Belgian Sheepdog Club of America

“Build for the Big One” Marianne Sullivan, Collie Club of America

“A Breeder’s Miracle” Phyllis Hamilton, Alaskan Malamute Club of America

“Puppies During a Pandemic” Eibhlin Glennon, Otterhound Club of America

“Dog People” Alice Bixler, Briard Club of America

NEWS/OPINION
“Ringside: AKC National Championship”

“Dugan, Soul of Mirth” Elizabeth Trainor

“Being There: Westminster 2020”

“Belgian Laekenois Joins Herding Group”

“Welcome to the Club: Barbet and Dogo Argentino”

“Black and Tan at 75”
The AKC Breeder of the Year by Sport Award is given to those who have dedicated themselves to improving the health, temperament, and performance of dogs in a given sport.

**PERFORMANCE EVENTS**

**Pointing Breed Field Events:** Fred Ryan (German Shorthaired Pointers); **Spaniel Field Events:** Richard Krueger (Spaniels); **Hound Field Events:** Wayne Wilson and Barbara Arm (Beagles); **Herding:** John Holman (Border Collies); **Lure Coursing:** Katie Belz (Ibizan Hounds); **Earthdog:** Dawn Watters (Dachshunds); **Coonhounds:** Dr. Joe Burkett III (Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

**COMPANION EVENTS**

**Agility:** Susan Bintliff (Shetland Sheepdogs); **Obedience:** Gayle Watkins (Golden Retrievers); **Rally:** Barbara Biewer and Michael Book (Golden Retrievers); **Tracking:** Lew Olson (Rottweilers)

“Knowledgeable breeders are critical to the continued success of canine sports. These breeders have shown a long-term dedication to enhancing breed instincts and breeding sound dogs with good temperaments,” AKC Executive Vice President for Sports and Events Doug Ljungren says. “Their accomplishments represent the highest level of commitment to their breeds and sports.”

American Kennel Club members could save on GEICO auto insurance with a special discount!

Each time a member completes a new auto insurance quote, GEICO gives back to the organization.
During the recent AKC National Championship festivities, the AKC commemorated the legacy of Samuel Evans Ewing III, “Mr. Irish Wolfhound,” with the second AKC Posthumous Breeder of the Year Award. The first Posthumous Award, given in 2019, honored Sunny Shay and her celebrated Grandeur Afghan Hounds.

Ewing died in 2004. During his 52 years in the game, he built and maintained a line of top-winning hounds whose influence on the breed is profound. Eagle Farms produced five national-specialty winners over four decades and the first Wolfhound to win the group at Westminster.

Those who knew Ewing best remembered their friend’s love for the dogs, and the care he gave his puppies—and there were lots of puppies at Eagle Farms. His partner, Sam Houston McDonald, said that when there was a new litter, no one would see Ewing outside the kennel for days.

In the March 2007 GAZETTE, Anne Gallant recalled that Ewing “thoroughly enjoyed his puppies and would sit with them for hours holding them and gently blowing into their faces. After years of being apart from Sam, his dogs recognized him.

“He knew the history of the breed, its form, and function, as if he were a medieval Irish king. He knew pedigrees from all over the world and imported bloodlines that might serve his vision.”

After reading our Facebook post about the posthumous honor, Karen Staudt-Cartabona wrote: “No one is more deserving of this award than Sam Ewing. A true icon of the sport, Sam is high on my list of mentors, those who offered so much to novices or anyone interested in understanding correct Sighthound form and function. I feel personally indebted to Sam for his help in forming my ideas for establishing my own successful breeding program.

“At many of the Northeastern shows Sam would conduct an impromptu hands-on educational discussion, where he would point out the merits or otherwise on his own IW.

“His wisdom was invaluable during the time as AKC delegate. Delegates turned to Sam many times for his so sensible advice.”

With Shay and Ewing now in the books, we asked our Facebook friends, “Which late breeder would you nominate for next year’s Posthumous Breeder of the Year Award?” Here are some responses.

Leslie Crawford: E.I. Eldredge (Tirvelda Irish Setters) and C.N. Myers (Blue Bar English Setters)
Ashley Hammock: Dr. Robert D. Smith (American Foxhounds)
B. Morse Lynch: Art and Mary Lou Tingley (Phydeaux Briards)
Lynda Anderson Marsh: Julia Gasow (Salilyn English Springer Spaniels)
Frances Hereford Colonna: Mary Howell (Bayard longhaired Dachshunds)
Chris Roper: Freeman “Bud” Dickey (Dassin Poodles)
Christine Cameron: Joel Marston (Starcrest Chow Chows)
Hugh Scott Kellogg: Mel and Bee Schlesinger (Melbee Kerry Blue Terriers)
Anita Noll: Lina Basquette (Honey Hollow Great Danes)
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www.akcpetinsurance.com/akc-breeder-rewards-program
Teen Idols

Since the 1930s Junior Showmanship has been a showcase for the fancy’s future stars, and the gathering in the AKC National Championship Juniors rings continued the tradition of youthful poise and pride coming to the fore.

To qualify, junior handlers were required to have three first-place wins in an Open Class, earned between October 10, 2019, and October 7, 2020. Qualifiers had to be under age 18 at the time of the wins. (Age on the day of the show had no bearing.)

Juniors required a grade-point average of at least 3.0 or equivalent for the September 2019–June 2020 school year.

Adrienne Hill and Kellie Dahlberg judged the Junior Showmanship preliminaries, and Chelsea Pickett Smithy judged the finals.

David Woo returned from Orlando with this slideshow portfolio from around the rings.
ORLANDO, FLORIDA—A total entry of 3,872 converged on the Orange County Convention Center for the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin, held December 12 and 13, 2020. The 20th-anniversary edition of this prestigious event provided a triumphant ending to an otherwise challenging year for the dog fancy.

Despite the strict adherence to safety protocols and an absence of spectators, the annual celebration of America’s top dogs in conformation and companion sports came off without a hitch. Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to the exhibitors, club members, judges, and AKC staff responsible for staging a memorable anniversary show in these trying times.

David Woo was ringside to provide the following extended photo coverage.
FEATURE

Results: 2020 AKC National Championship

BEST IN SHOW
Judge Jim Moses
Whippet GCh.P Pinnacle
Kentucky Bourbon

RESERVE BEST IN SHOW
Pekingese GCh. Pequest Wasabi

GROUP WINNERS
Sporting: Lagotto Romagnolo
Ch. Kan Trace Very Cheeky Chic;
Hound: Whippet GCh.P Pinnacle
Kentucky Bourbon; Working: Boxer GCh.P Cinnibon’s Bedrock Bombshell; Terrier: Welsh Terrier
GCh.G Brightluck Money Talks; Toy: Pekingese GCh.
Pequest Wasabi;
Non-Sporting: Standard Poodle
Ch. Hightide Tarquin Venus;
Herding: Australian Shepherd GCh.S
Stonehaven Bayshore Secret Sauce
Miscellaneous Class: Biewer

BEST BRED-BY-EXHIBITOR IN SHOW
Pekingese GCh. Pequest Wasabi; breeders: David Fitzpatrick and Peggy Steinman

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP
Judge Cheslie Pickett Smithey
Best Junior Handler
Jacob Waters

2020 AKC NATIONAL OWNER-HANDED SERIES FINALS
BEST IN SHOW
Judge Harold “Red” Tatro III
Berger Picard GCh.G Eclipse Hive Talking

RESERVE BEST IN SHOW
Brussels Griffon GCh. Norkus’ Looking for Trouble

GROUP WINNERS
Sporting: Labrador Retriever Ch. Joan of Arc Aina Labs Pdl;

AKC BREEDERS OF THE YEAR
Gail S. Wolaniuk and Joan E. McFadden (Unique Standard Poodles)

Links
• AKC.tv event coverage
• AKC National Obedience Championship and AKC Rally National Championship
• AKC Agility Invitational
• Fast CAT Invitational

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FEATURE

National Owner-Handled Series
FEATURE

Sporting Group
FEATURE

Hound Group

DAVID WOO ©AKC
FEATURE

Working Group
FEATURE

Terrier Group
FEATURE

Toy Group

David Woo ©AKC
FEATURE

Non-Sporting Group
FEATURE

Herding Group
FEATURE

Best in Show
This classic Ashbey win shot is among dozens that we couldn’t jam into our overstuffed “The ’70s: Pride and Polyester” issue last June. We thought, though, you would like to see it before the leftovers were returned to the archive.

Am./Can. Ch. Rimar’s Rumpelstiltskin, ROM, was among a stable of top-winning Lhasa Apsos of the 1970s out of the Rimar kennel of Steve Campbell, a bank officer from Flemington, New Jersey. Rumpy sired two champions in his first litter: Anbara’s Rufflan and Anbara’s AbraKa-Dabra, multiple BIS brace winners.

From Anna Katherine Nicholas’s breed book The Lhasa Apso (1989) we learn: “Steve has bred four Best in Show Lhasas, which is certainly a record to view with satisfaction. They are Champion Rimar’s J.G. King Richard, American and Canadian Champion Rimar’s Rumpelstiltskin, ROM (co-bred with Barbara Wood), Champion Anbara-Rimar’s Grin ’N Bear It, and Champion Anbara-Rimar’s Mary Puppins.

“Rumpelstiltskin, known as Rumpy, was the top Lhasa in the United States in 1978. He won the American Lhasa Apso Club’s Eastern Regional Specialty in 1977 and 1978, owner-handled by Steve in 1977 and by Jean Lade in 1978.

“During 1978 and 1979, Rumpy was campaigned by Jean Lade for Steve in partnership with William and Betty Jo Bowman. Since retirement, he is now Jean Lade’s house pet, thoroughly enjoying life with her and her family. “Born in September 18, 1974, Rumpelstiltskin was sired by Championship Yeti’s Paper Tiger ex Champion Arborhill’s Lho-Lha of Rimar. He earned a total of three all-breed Bests in Show and six regional specialties during his ring career.”
VIDEOS

Photo Contest Winners
Enjoy the winners and honorable mentions from the 41st annual AKC Publications Photo Contest. 1:55

A. Who?
From the AKC Museum’s “Artists Who Don’t Exist” series: Alan Fausel discusses mystery artist A. Weir and the painting “Words of Comfort.” 6:59

ANC Flashback: Whiskey for Breakfast
2018 ANC BIS Whiskey, littermate of 2020 BIS Bourbon, visits Good Morning America. 3:39

Coyote Patrol
From Wyoming PBS: Gorgeous footage of livestock-guardian dogs keeping their flocks out of harm’s way. 7:50
It was a pleasure to watch Jimmy Moses running his Best in Show ring with such aplomb in Orlando last month. The legendary handler has a long history with big AKC shows: He handled German Shepherd Dog Ch. Covy-Tucker Hill’s Manhattan, ROM, OFA, to Best in Show at the AKC Centennial Show in 1984. During his distinguished career Moses handled a Best in Show dog and six group winners at Westminster. In 1999, he was inducted into the Dog Show Hall of Fame.

“I have pretty much spent my whole life dedicated to handling, and now judging, dogs,” Moses says. “I have shown probably 50 different breeds to championship levels. Handling has been my whole life and judging is just a continuation of it.”
About the Breed Columns

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by the breed’s national parent club, which preserves the breed’s standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed’s traits, history, care, and training. A national parent club is made up of dedicated breeders and fanciers and represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to serious dog fanciers in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate quarterly 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. For questions about the breed columns, e-mail Arliss.Paddock@akc.org.

THIS MONTH

**SPORTING GROUP**

26 Brittanys  
27 German Shorthaired Pointers  
27 Pointers  
29 Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes  
29 Curly-Coated Retrievers  
30 Golden Retrievers  
31 English Setters  
33 Gordon Setters  
34 Irish Setters  
34 Clumber Spaniels  
35 Cocker Spaniels  
36 English Springer Spaniels  
37 Field Spaniels  
39 Sussex Spaniels  
39 Welsh Springer Spaniels  
40 Vizslas  
42 Weimaraners

**WORKING GROUP**

43 Alaskan Malamutes  
45 Anatolian Shepherds  
46 Bernese Mountain Dogs  
47 Boxers  
48 Bullmastiffs  
49 Doberman Pinschers  
50 German Pinschers  
51 Giant Schnauzers  
52 Great Pyrenees  
53 Komondorok  
54 Leonbergers  
55 Mastiffs  
57 Neapolitan Mastiffs  
58 Newfoundlands  
59 Portuguese Water Dogs  
61 Samoyeds  
62 Siberian Huskies  
64 Standard Schnauzers  
65 Tibetan Mastiffs
It was the long-awaited weekend for Sam’s first field trial. He was entered in both the puppy and derby stakes. The young lieutenant had been conditioning the year-old Brittany with daily runs of two miles: Both dog and handler would be physically ready for the field trial.

The young lieutenant was scheduled for the night-duty watch. He knew travel time was going to be tight; it would be difficult to make the trip and arrive on time at the field trial. He would be off watch at 6 a.m. His ship, USS Sumter, was docked at Little Creek Naval Base near Norfolk, Virginia. Back to his apartment to get Sam, and they would be on the road by 6:30, headed north to eastern Pennsylvania and the field-trial grounds. His dad had told him Sam’s start time would be between three and four o’clock that afternoon. If the traffic was light, he should just about make it on time.

Once back from his watch, he loaded Sam and his overnight case in the car traveling north. He’d been thinking faster time would be made by taking State Route 17, and then Interstate 95; however a few miles into the trip, road construction caused a major holdup. Once onto I-95, a Virginia state trooper caused further delay.

Total travel time was seven hours, with a stop for gas. Lunch was a sandwich shared with Sam. As he turned into the trial grounds and parked the car, he was informed they had missed the “breakaway” of Sam’s brace. Under American Kennel Club rules, the handler has 15 minutes to bring his dog to the line for running in the field-trial competition. If the dog is not there, he is disqualified. Thus instead of two events, Sam would only be in one—the derby stake, which would be the following day.

The next morning was unusually hot for late in the month of May—almost too hot to run dogs. Further, it was dry, with low humidity. The lieutenant knew the sun was going to be highest with the 1 p.m. start time, when his Sam was scheduled to compete in a brace with another Brittany. The afternoon arrived; time for Sam’s field-trial debut. The breakaway of the two Brittanys kicked up a cloud of dust as the derby pups raced toward the tree-line objective. The handler moved toward the area where Sam was focused with all the intensity of his point. The quail flushed, and with the shot from the blank pistol, the pup took several quick steps to mark the bird’s flight. Then he gave chase for 50-some feet out across the field, until he was turned by several blasts from the handler’s whistle.

Continuing on down the treeline, the pup scented and pointed two more birds. The handler kicked the cover, flushed the birds, and fired as Sam chased those thundering wings. The back course of the trial grounds found the two competitive brace-mates casting along opposite sides of the field and on toward a pond. Both Brittanys jumped into the water for relief from the blistering heat. As Sam jumped from the water with renewed energy for pursuit of more birds, the young handler was pleased. “All right, Sam—good pup!” He smiled to himself as he fingered the whistle. Two short blasts moved the pup as if he were a streak of lightning, up
the hill and out toward the woods for what the handler knew would be the last cast.

The 30-minute derby stake had been a good one. The pup pointed, held, and allowed the quail to be flushed. The casts had been great, even in hot weather. Sam had shown endurance and stamina. It was more than a good run, and good event. The young handler took a deep breath, and his chest filled with pride as he heard the judge say, “Son, time is up. You may pick up your dog. Your pup did a nice job!”

The young lieutenant responded, “Thank you, sir!”

—David A. Webb, davidaawebb@aol.com
American Brittany Club

German Shorthaired Pointers
THE CONUNDRUM OF AN ILLUSTRATED STANDARD

In an effort to enhance breed education for judges, in recent years the AKC has asked each of the parent clubs to produce an illustrated standard for their breed. The ideal place for such a document to be used is at a judges’ education seminar presented in conjunction with a breed’s national specialty show. An illustrated standard allows an individual who might be unsure of how to interpret the standard’s written description to see it—and if still unsure, to ask for clarification.

The illustrated standard can be further reinforced by a hands-on and/or ringside observation, because even the best illustrations cannot provide the same experience as putting one’s hand on the dog. Touching will indicate what is actually there, where an illustration or photograph may only provide an illusion.

From an educational standpoint, a teacher or instructor usually has a teaching syllabus. Depending upon the scope and degree of detail found therein, the syllabus may or may not enhance the learning process.

Herein lies part of the conundrum, because an illustrated standard is based on the approved breed standard. Some standards are short and simply written, while others may be long, with intricate detail. No doubt there will be disagreement as to what are the most important elements to be illustrated that convey the written description so that the individual can determine them while going over the dog. Ideally the illustrations should enhance or reinforce the written description found in the standard.

The illustrations themselves lead to another aspect of the conundrum: selection of an artist and/or illustrator.

There are many excellent artists who can do animal portraits or technical illustrations, but if the material provided to the artist is of poor quality, small in size, or contains a lot of background clutter, it puts the artist at a disadvantage. This may lead to interpretation of what the artist sees to be illustrated and the written description in the standard. If the artist is unfamiliar with the nuances of the breed to be illustrated, this may lead to more subtle problems—“It just doesn’t look right”—when in fact it may be technically correct according to the written part to be illustrated.

The process to achieving a completed illustrated standard can be long, laborious, and subject to personal opinion and politics within an organization. Often there is a misconception of what the illustrated standard is to be and what it will look like upon completion. Some take years to complete, morphing along as committees or parent-club boards change, and upon completion may be scrapped in total, only to begin the process again. Stories surface about committees that splinter and bitterness that ensues, of friends who no longer speak and some individuals who subsequently drop their club membership.

If all the stars align with committee agreement, document format, approved illustrations, and subsequently parent-club board approval, the document will go to the printer for printing.

Once finalized in print and distributed for use comes the final part of the conundrum: scrutiny by the breed fancy that will no doubt set the social media abuzz with conversation.

—Patte Titus,
chexsix@mac.com
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America

OUR GUEST COLUMNIST FOR THIS ISSUE IS
Andrew H. Brace.

TYPE AND MOVEMENT—IT’S NOT A MATTER OF EITHER/OR!

I first became involved with the fascinating world of purebred dogs more than 50 years ago, mixing with a variety of exhibitors, breeders, and subsequently judges, all of whom shared a common passion. Over the years there have been thousands of conversations, many of them quite lively, at ringside or at home, with my peers. And strangely, over half a century, the topics that generated the most comment have changed very little.

One of the most common subjects regards breed type and movement: Which is more important in the show dog? This was something that always fascinated yet puzzled me from the start, as even as a young enthusiast I could never really separate the two. Whatever
breed you may be talking about, the starting point has to be the physical structure of the animal. Breed type in the static dog will be dictated by size, shape, balance, coat, and head, and depending on the breed, its aficionados may well have slightly different priorities. If you talk to Whippet people (possibly more so in the U.K. than the U.S.), they will happily trot out the old adage of the dogs not walking on their heads, whereas Pekingese or Boxer breeders may fervently hold on to the belief that “Ours is a head breed.”

When we are evaluating type, we need to examine the conformation of a dog in the context of its original function, from nose to tail. The neck should be of a certain length, the shoulder laid at a particular angle, the ribcage of a given length and depth, and the angulation as required for that breed to do the job it was originally designed to carry out. Given that the construction of an individual dog is correct as detailed in its breed standard, if that dog is in hard, muscular condition and moved at the optimum speed it should display a gait that is entirely breed specific. That individual movement is, in my opinion, very much a part of breed type, and it is never a matter of having one or the other.

No matter what the breed happens to be (yes, even Whippets!), it is the head and expression that give each dog his individuality, character, and personality, so the head is very much a major contributor to breed type. No matter how well constructed he may be, a Boxer for example who has a long muzzle and down-face can never really have breed type.

Over the years I have had many interesting discussions with fellow judges about the importance of the head, and I vividly recall talking to an American lady many years ago at a Scandinavian judges’ dinner who was adamant that her priority was “I have to have a rear!” Somewhat puzzled, I asked said lady if she happened to have her passport with her. She rummaged around in her purse and produced the passport, which she handed to me. I took one look at the photo page and asked her if she thought it strange that the photograph was of her face and not of her legs. To this day I’m not sure she really got the point! But I digress …

Movement is an integral part of breed type. When we see an outstanding example of any breed, when it takes that first step in the show ring it should move exactly as is expected of its breed.

The American breed standard for the Pointer hints at carriage and movement in its opening paragraph:

“The ideal specimen gives the immediate impression of compact power and agile grace; the head noble, proudly carried; the expression intelligent and alert; the muscular body bespeaking both staying power and dash. Here is an animal whose every movement shows him to be a wide-awake, hard-driving hunting dog possessing stamina, courage, and the desire to go.”

This clever use of words immediately gives us a “feel” for the breed long before we get to the specific section relating to movement, when we further learn:

“Gait: Smooth, frictionless, with a powerful hind-quarters’ drive. The head should be carried high, the nostrils wide, the tail moving from side to side rhythmically with the pace, giving the impression of a well-balanced, strongly-built hunting dog capable of top speed combined with great stamina. Hackney gait must be faulted.”

Without detailing the minutiae of the footfall, out, back, and around, again this description summarizes that overall picture of a Pointer in motion. Of course as a Pointer is circuiting a show ring, no judge will be evaluating the width of the nasal aperture, yet the colorful description conveys the overall look of the dog on the move. It is not necessary to get into specifics when we read that the gait
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should be “smooth” and “frictionless,” as these simple demands eliminate dogs whose movement is any way jarring or unsound, and the required movement will result from construction that is correct for the breed.

To summarize, given that a dog is put together as the breed standard requires, exhibited in the optimum condition, and moved at a sensible speed, it should show movement that is every bit as important as a contributing factor to breed type as any physical characteristic. —A.H.B.

Thank you, Andrew.
—Helyne E. Medeiros, seasydehm@aol.com
American Pointer Club

Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes
2021 NATIONAL SPECIALTY APRIL 8–11, IN ALBANY, OREGON

The NKCUSA’s 2020 national specialty weekend that was originally to take place in the Pacific Northwest last spring and was cancelled due to the pandemic will now take place April 8–11, 2021, at the same location—Albany, Oregon, in conjunction with the Chintimini Kennel Club’s all-breed shows. So, we hope you’ll join us for “Waggin’ Tails on Oregon Trails” this April! Events will include the national specialty, performance events, seminars, judges’ education, the annual membership meeting and awards banquet, three days of supported entries, individual dog evaluations by our Dutch judge, and other highlights of what will be a very enjoyable get-together of Kooikers and their owners.

One exciting aspect of the week will be an educational presentation by Dr. Marty Greer, well-known reproductive veterinarian, author, speaker, and experienced breeder. Marty will discuss the basics of breeding and cover such topics as the importance of testing and timing, various insemination methods, the birthing process, common infertility issues and treatments for stud dogs and bitches, the science behind back-to-back breeding, and spay-neuter updates. She will answer those questions you have always wanted to ask about breeding, stud dogs, bitches, and timing but never had the chance. Marty received her DVM in 1981 from Iowa State University, and her law degree from Marquette Law School in 2010. She and her husband own Veterinary Village in Lomira, Wisconsin, where she has developed specialized expertise in canine pediatrics and reproduction and operates the Canine Semen Freezing Center, International Canine Semen Bank—Wisconsin (ICSB-WI/IL). She is a PennHIP and Fear Free–certified veterinarian.

A prolific writer, Marty has contributed articles to Veterinary Economics and a number of AKC breed-club magazines. NKCUSA members who attended the Perry shows may recall one of her articles on tube-feeding neonates in their packet. Marty is the author of the popular veterinary text Canine Reproduction and Neonatology.

Auction fundraiser kicks off this week. Speaking of the national specialty, starting January 15, look up “Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA—Auction Fundraiser” on Facebook and bid on some great dog-related items. This fun online sale always offers some fantastic stuff and helps to raise money for our club and our national specialty.

For more details on the 2021 national specialty and information about Kooikerhondjes in general, visit the parent club website below. Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA

Curly-Coated Retrievers
SWEET POTATO NEWS

I have never appreciated sweet potatoes as much as I have since acquiring our latest Curly-Coated Retriever puppy. She joined our family at a few months of age, and right away I noticed little problems with her gastrointestinal system. Something was upsetting her tummy, and I needed to remedy it. Each morning I would arise to a big mess, and I tried different foods, all slowly introduced, and different little over-the-counter remedies. Also, we had activities to attend, and I asked friends for advice, with no luck; nothing seemed to work, and yet she was perfectly normal throughout the day and had a very good appetite.

I finally recalled a Curly owner friend of mine who had encountered a similar problem quite a few years ago, and I spoke with her. With her Curly, she had tried a certain limited-ingredient dog food that worked. It contained just three ingredients, in kibble form, one of which was sweet potato. I kept her on that food for many months, and by then she had matured enough that I could venture into trying adding some fresh-cooked meat, which worked just fine along with the kibble ingredient.

Everything was going well when she started
what I call “the empty-stomach syndrome.” Each night she would regurgitate a small amount of bile. I had been giving both my Curlies a dog biscuit last thing when I put them to bed, but evidently that was not the answer to helping her with this problem. I had one or two other Curlies over the years who demonstrated this same problem—but theirs was not every night, rather just every so often, and they soon grew out of it.

We have a delightful little bungalow in Mt. Dora, Florida, that carries outstanding products for dogs and cats. I decided to check with the proprietor there to glean her ideas. She suggested a couple of slices of cooked sweet potato. That did it! No more empty-stomach problems. Not only are sweet potatoes (also called yams, I believe) good for humans, but for my Curly girls, over the years, they have been good for them too!

Speaking now of another subject to do with our Curlies, the once-a-year Curly-Coated Retriever national specialty, which was supposed to take place in the lovely state of Colorado September 2020, was cancelled due to the coronavirus. However, at this time our first field event has been planned for October 2020, in Pennsylvania. The Curly-Coated Retriever Field Committee chairperson, MaryAnn Minner, has, with the committee members, scheduled a field event in Pennsylvania that will be attended by a limited number of Curlies.

One big plus about field events is that with planning, it appears to be easier to space dogs and their owners than at any indoor event. There are quite a few of us looking forward to getting back into Curly activities, and this appears to be a very worthwhile beginning!

—Ann Shinkle, annshinkle@aol.com
Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America

Golden Retrievers
COMFORT LIKE NO OTHER

In times of tragedy and loss, comfort can take many forms: a hug or warm cup of tea with a friend, perhaps a quiet place to pray or meditate. Or, in the case of the fire-ravaged communities in California and Oregon, a visit from the Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) K-9 Comfort Golden Retrievers.

In September, three teams of these Golden therapy specialists were deployed to Southern Oregon, an area especially hard hit by the fires. Their mission, as always, to offer furry comfort to the victims who had lost their homes and possessions.

Rich Martin, LCC Director of K-9 Deployments, and Goldens Ruthie, Cubby, and Isaac arrived, with their handlers, at the
Jackson County Expo Center in Medford, where dozens of the homeless were sheltered. Most were residents of a local retirement community of 55 homes, where 42 homes had been destroyed.

“It’s tough to see people in such a state,” Martin said. “But it’s great to be with them here with presents and prayer. The response has been overwhelming.”

This was Isaac’s first deployment, but he needed no on-the-job instruction. Like his two teammates, he intuitively sought out those who were suffering most. Many of the residents had lost their pets in the fire, and the dogs provided a furry shoulder to cry on and friendly paws to hold, while their handlers offered prayers for comfort, understanding, and renewal. There were no social distancing restrictions for the dogs, and they eagerly nuzzled into laps and welcomed all the hugs and petting.

In addition to the victims of the fire, the dogs were also there for the first responders and volunteers who had been working non-stop since the fires first broke out. They were exhausted and discouraged, but the sight of these pretty, blond Goldens, with their happy smiles and wagging tails, instantly lifted their spirits, and they reached out to share some of that special furry therapy.

“It’s amazing, the amount of caring,” said St. John’s Lutheran Church pastor, Gary Clark. “Just like music, seeing the dogs is like a universal language. It gives people a sense of comforting and healing.”

Martin, Ruthie, Cubby, and Isaac and their handlers traveled south from Medford toward Ashland and four more towns in the Rogue Valley to deliver more smiles and furry comfort wherever needed. During September, three other LCC K-9 Comfort teams deployed to multiple fire sites in Southern California.

LCC K-9 Ministries currently has 130 Comfort Golden teams throughout the U.S. Each team stands at the ready to go again, wherever there is the need for the peace, mercy, and compassion of Golden comfort. The group never charges those they serve but instead relies on gifts and donations to cover their expenses. For information on how you can help or support their work in canine-assisted therapy, visit www.K9Comfort.org.

—Nona Kilgore Bauer,
nona@nonabauer.com
Golden Retriever Club of America

English Setters

To continue the subject begun with the October 2020 column, this month we hear from two more people who have reached the highest levels of training achievements with their English Setters.

OUR HIGH-ACHIEVING ENGLISH SETTERS PART TWO


It seems as though there is no limit to the number of titles that Terry Barnes can earn with her English Setters. For many people, however, Terry will always be associated with the unforgettable Rival. Here she tells how Rival came into her life and what the tricolor was like.

“I had told Roy Smith that if he ever bred his two field-champion English Setters, Jack and Sandy, I would like to buy a puppy—but only if I could get the first pick of the litter. In 1996 there were nine tricolor puppies to choose from when this much-awaited litter was born. I visited and played with them...
weekly from the age of 4 weeks to 8 weeks. From the first visit I was attracted to this one little girl who soon became my Rival. She was bold, driven, and focused on me and the toys that I had every time. She was very intense on the bird wing, with wonderful style. She was a very busy puppy, so as she grew she kept me very busy with her training.

“At 6 months old she won both her puppy points and derby points at her first field trials. At 2½ years she earned her Field Championship and Amateur Field Championship. The next year she earned her Master Hunter title and started to pursue her obedience titles. At 3 she finished her CD by going High in Trial at the English Setter Association of America national specialty.

“Rival was so much fun to train and show. While pursuing her CDX, she was recognized by Front and Finish magazine as number-one all breeds in their rating system for Open A that year. After she earned her Utility Dog title we pursued the UDX, and she started earning OTCH points by winning Open B and Utility B classes. One year later she earned the UDX2 and the Obedience Trial Championship! It was over 100 degrees that day, and we were showing at a trial outdoors. Rival won the Open B class with an awesome score of 198! It was a glorious way to finish her OTCH, under one of our favorite judges.

“That year she also earned her Rally Excellent title and started earning agility titles. The next year she became the first English Setter to earn the UDX3, she earned her RA, and she earned her Excellent titles in Agility, all the while she continued to compete and win in field trials. Rival won many High in Trials and High Combined scores during this venture. Rival was always owner-trained and handled in all venues.

“Rival had a wonderful sense of humor and many times liked to put her own twist on exercises in the obedience ring. People still comment on what fun she was to watch. Rival lived a very active 15 years and passed away in 2011 while sleeping next to me, once again doing it her way.” —Terry Barnes

Laurie Engel and Rose Miller went to the same high school. Rose trained Morgan horses during the same period when Laurie and her mother were breeding and showing them. They also had field English Setters at the same time. When Laurie got her first show ES, she went to Rose for help with grooming. They have been best friends for some 20 years. Cooper’s sire was Ch. Set’r Ridge Winning Colors (aka Joshua), and his dam was Aerden’s Chatterbox.

Laurie and Rose describe Cooper’s career:

“Ch./RACH Aerden’s Talk of the Town, UDX4, OM7, GN, VER, RM3, RA3, JH, TKA, known as ‘Cooper,’ seemed to be destined to achieve a lot of firsts in our breed. He was in the first litter co-bred by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie. In obtaining his breed championship he was shown by Rose and Laurie.”
Cooper was mature enough to start his obedience career, there was no stopping this team. He was the first English Setter to earn a UDX4, Obedience Master level 7, HIT at four nationals (spanning six years), and multiple all-breed HIT awards.

“Retired from obedience at the age of 10, Cooper wasn’t satisfied resting on the couch, so Rose set her sights on becoming the first rally champion. Cooper earned his RM and RACH in just under six months, at the age of 10½ years. His last ring appearance was at the 2019 national specialty, and he didn’t disappoint: Cooper won the High Triple Q award. Two months later he succumbed to lymphoma. For his entire career he was loved, owned, and trained by Rose.”

Today Rose continues to climb the heights with English Setters, working with Quincy (Ch. Aerden’s Game Changer, CDX, PCD, RM, TKA), who was the number-four Novice dog in the entire country for the year 2019, according to Front & Finish.

So, the next time someone questions your English Setter’s intelligence or ability to be trained, take them to the obedience ring and show them what English Setters can do.

—Carlotta Cooper, eshever@embarqmail.com

English Setter Association of America

**Gordon Setters**

**OUR DOGS BRING COMFORT**

We are too many months into this Covid crisis, and every day seems to bring something new, something different, something dangerous, and something unexpected. It’s frightening to turn on the news or read a newspaper, either in digital or paper form. As this is written there seems to be no end in sight. There were dog events, then there were none, then there were a few, then there were new rules and regulations. Where can anyone turn for some consistency in these crazy times?

Have you tried sitting down on the floor or the couch, putting your arm around your Gordon Setter and just pouring your heart and your frustrations into the Gordon’s ear? Trust me on this one, the dog will listen, and you may even get a head placed on your lap or shoulder.

Just about any Gordon can fill that role, though a puppy or younger dog may grow impatient after a bit—unless there’s perhaps a cookie or two involved as an inducement to stay and not go investigate what that strange noise is that they heard but you didn’t. Just be patient: If they go bounding off, they will soon be back (it’s the cookie thing).

But if you are fortunate to live with a more senior Gordon, then you are doubly blessed. There is no one who knows your moods, your frustrations, or your habits more than a senior Gordon. They haven’t spent their lives with you just existing and waiting to be fed; they have used that time to learn all they need to know about you. True, some of that learning is predicated on getting you to do what they want, but a significant part of that learning is because they honestly love you.

They may wait patiently off to the side while the younger dogs get the attention they’re insisting on because the older dog knows the younger ones will go bounding off, and when that happens the couch and you are all theirs. They will listen to you. Perhaps it’s the stoic demeanor the older Gordons acquire with age and experience, but a lot of it is just love.
They can’t solve the problem, but they will listen. And if the young ones come charging back after investigating that noise, it only takes a hard stare or very low growl from grandma or grandpa to let the young ones know that seniority rules.

Take the old one for a walk, to a dog show, out hunting, or for a ride in the car. Teach them something new and just love them. The older Gordon is one of the truest treasures we are granted in this life, and it’s a treasure that can be gone in an instant. We would be wise to make full use of them while they are here with us.

—Jim Thacker, dunbar6@sbcglobal.net
Gordon Setter Club of America

Irish Setters
A PROVING GROUND OF FORM AND FUNCTION

The first line of our standard says it all: *The Irish Setter is an active, aristocratic bird dog.* The evidence of this was at an ISCA field event I recently attended. Brace after brace, Irish Setters streaked through fields—beautiful to look at, conditioned to run, and all of them, from the most senior to the most junior, having a great time. Upon their return to the “dog wagon,” tongues were hanging out, but all tails were wagging. It had been a day in pursuit of their purpose!

It is interesting to take a look at some of the statistics from the event. The Master Hunter pass went to a show-champion bitch, of solid show lines and trained solely by her owner. She returned to run in Open Gun Dog on Sunday. The Senior Hunter pass went, again, to a dog of solid show lines, who also returned Sunday in Open Gun Dog. Junior Hunter passes came from a wonderful mix of show and field, some bred of one type and some of both bred together. Placements on the field-trial days came from breed and field lines.

For me it was a visual proving ground of not only form and function, but also of instinct meeting breeding, training, and opportunity. There seemed to be a good bit of dual potential showing its nose, and this is great news for our breed.

Where to start if you have an interest? Field trials can be daunting as a starting place on your bird journey, but they can be a potential destination. The AKC Hunting Tests are a wonderful place to begin. A Junior Hunter may be a dog of any age, junior designating proficiency, not age. All you need are good boots, a whistle, and a gun, and usually all but the boots can be borrowed! For hunt tests your dog does need to come and obey—but don’t we want a mannerly companion for ourselves anyway? It is amazing to watch the uninitiated dog gain confidence. Many clubs have “fun field days,” and there are a number of trainers who focus on just the hunting aspects of our breed and other sporting breeds. Get out and enjoy a day on birds! — Karlyonne McAtee, 2010
Irish Setter Club of America

Clumber Spaniels
BEST PRACTICES

While serving for 21 years as Delegate, noted over the course of many meetings have been recommendations concerning “best practices.” Each of the three main categories of AKC clubs—all-breed, parent, and performance—has its own dynamic. As recorded in monthly Delegate reports to my parent club, the following could perhaps be of interest especially to other parent clubs as well. I emphasize these are in no way original but simply noted over several years, with special thanks to the Leonberger Club of America.

Basic philosophy. Greater Transparency/Inclusiveness/Participation (TIP) to increase both the club’s effectiveness and its membership.

Open monthly Board meetings. Members entitled to listen in; no voice or vote. Closed executive session at end.

Hold quarterly “Town Hall” meetings. Virtual, open to all club members. Topics sent in beforehand and questions to the Board.

Quarterly parent club journal. With free one-year online subscription for first-time buyers of the club’s breed. Attract new members at no cost to the club.

Two-tiered dues. Regular dues for members receiving the parent club journal online; higher dues meeting actual costs to receive printed copy.
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_Breeders’ roundtable._ Virtual; twice a year for club members currently breeding or interested in doing so.

_Breeder Referral List._ To be listed, breeders must pledge:
—To observe the club’s Code of Ethics.
—To provide owners with advice as needed after purchase.
—To aid puppy buyers in becoming parent club members. (If a potential buyer is deemed unacceptable for parent club membership, they are accordingly unacceptable for owning a puppy.)
—To be responsible during its entire life for any puppy bred.

_Annual feedback._ As each new Board is installed, email inquiries to all members requesting ideas for improving our club. Answers by email, or by unsigned U.S. mail.

_Membership secretary._ Targets:
—First-time owners of the breed.
—Members failing to renew. Why? Answers to be shared anonymously with club members.
—Members of breed’s regional clubs but not of parent club.
—Owners-exhibitors of the breed who are at the parent club national specialty, AKC National Championship, Westminster, and so on but are not parent club members.
—Owners appearing in the parent club’s annual breed calendar but who are not parent club members.
—Owners living in the U.S. who are members of the breed’s various foreign parent clubs, but not of the U.S. parent club.

_**Regional clubs.**_ Annual report encouraged; shared with parent club membership.

Reminder: “The greatness of a nation can be judged by how its animals are treated.” — Mahatma Gandhi

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.,
bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com
Breed Historian and Delegate
Clumber Spaniel Club of America

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**Cocker Spaniels**

**WHAT DOES APPEARANCE HAVE TO DO WITH IT?**

The Cocker Spaniel official standard at its very beginning has a section that reads, “General Appearance: The Cocker Spaniel is the smallest member of the Sporting Group. He has a sturdy, compact body and a cleanly chiseled and refined head, with the overall dog in complete balance and of ideal size. He stands well up at the shoulder on straight forelegs with a topline sloping slightly toward strong, moderately bent, muscular quarters. He is a dog capable of considerable speed, combined with great endurance. Above all, he must be free and merry, sound, well balanced throughout.”

Cocker Spaniel: “Free and merry, sound, well balanced throughout”
SPORTING GROUP

throughout and in action show a keen inclination to work. A dog well balanced in all parts, is more desirable than a dog with strongly contrasting good points and faults.”

Why are the Cocker’s appearance features described in the standard’s “General Appearance” section so significant? Why should these features be preserved in the breed? The answer to both questions is because these features bear directly on the function for which the Cocker Spaniel, as a flushing spaniel, was originally developed.

The Cocker Spaniel was developed as a hunting companion, to scent birds and flush them out of denser brush. The Cocker is to appear as the smallest member of the Sporting Group. Why small? Because the Cocker was designed to have the specific function of being able to travel closer to the ground and showing his nose through some brush in an area of railroad tracks. All of a sudden (really sudden!) my Cocker, Sunny, found and flushed two large pheasants! It really surprised me, and I was filled with admiration for this little dog’s instinct. Shortly after that I attained my first show-prospect particolor, who became a champion. Years later, we hosted a field demonstration at my 15-acre property on a river for owners of Cocker Spaniels and English Cocker Spaniels. We had a Cocker owner demonstrating the Cocker’s abilities and practical training methods with his trained particolor who was from those “show” bloodlines. Although this dog was from dogs bred primarily to compete in shows, the hunting instinct and ability were strong. We all had great lessons that day in how the standard means, linking general appearance and intended function.

—Kristi L. Tukua
American Spaniel Club

English Springer Spaniels
WHAT’S IN YOUR BOWL?

The most interesting nook in a dog fancier’s home may be that drawer or cabinet where they stash the supplements, special meat, oils, and elixirs they add to their dogs’ meals. The ritual of feeding can run the gamut from simply tossing the dry kibble in the bowl, to taking out a loan to pay for the extras. Thanks to several Springer folks below for sharing their supplement regimens with me.

Ruth Dehmel (Rendition) told me: “I add several Nature’s Farmacy supplements at breakfast: Probiotic Max Ultimate; PhytoFlex Cran-Tri-C; and Kelp. For their evening meal, I add ProBiotic Max Ultimate, PhytoFlex and Grizzly Omega Health Omega-3 supplement. I have used Nature’s Farmacy products for many years. I feed twice a day. Each dog gets four ounces of raw Blue Ridge Beef, and one-quarter cup of kibble. I cover their food with filtered water. I do not let them exercise for one hour before and one hour after they eat.”

Many companies sell excellent probiotics. Your veterinarian and other dog owners will have information on their preferred brand. Nature’s Farmacy formulates probiotics to “support digestion of food and nutrients, help maintain and nourish proper gut flora, support bowel health, and support beneficial function in the intestinal tract. Kelp is rich in iodine which helps support gland function, especially the thyroid.”

Ann Reamy feeds her dogs, Drew and Annie, Earthborn Venture Grain Free, limited ingredient, pea-free kibble. They get “one level cup, moistened with warm water, plus ¼ teaspoon Sustenance Herbs Canine Wellness Blend; ½ teaspoon Animal Essentials Plant Enzyme and Probiotics; ½
teaspoon Earth Animal Natures Protection Daily Herbal Internal Powder; 1 ml. Amino B Plex; 1 cube Primal freeze-dried Cube; and 1 tablespoon plain Greek yogurt. They eat this regimen two times a day. Annie also gets one cranberry capsule in the morning."

Why do many dogs get cranberry supplements?

Veterinary Practice Today, in an article by Brennen McKenzie, VMD, states: “The more popular theory today is compounds in cranberry juice, particularly a group called proanthocyanidins, interfere with the attachment of some bacteria to the bladder mucosa, reducing colonization and the establishment of infection.”

Janet Kolakowski, who for decades has owned and exhibited Pride and Joy Springers, has a litter on the way. Kolakowski told me, “With Gee’s maternity diet she is getting Proviable once a day and Grizzly Salmon Oil once a day. Max and Bliss get Standard Process Whole Body Support and Pepcid. Bliss also gets Cranidin.” Salmon oil, explains the Grizzly Products website, “supports a dog’s needs for DHA and EPA, healthy skin and coat, nerve-based functions for cognition and vision, the immune system and fertility.”

Jordanne Smith (Ivy Hill) describes her feeding regimen: “For Annie, Ranger, and Fudge, I alternate adding Dogzymes probiotics, Proplan Fortissimos-Flora probiotics, and Proviable to meals. I also add a fish oil capsule. Annie, who recently had a puppy, gets half a capsule of Ester-C once per day.”

If you have ever wondered, “What is Ester-C?” the nutritionist at LiveStrong.com explains: “Ester-C is pH neutral, with a different composition from regular vitamin C, which is ascorbic acid. The main component of this product is calcium ascorbate.”

Whole Dog Journal’s article by Bob Griswold and Nancy Kerns explains, “Stress is the best-known cause of vitamin C depletion in dogs. Physical stress comes in many forms: gestation, lactation, growth, hard work, vaccinations, injuries, tail-docking or ear cropping, or illness. Researchers can measure the level of stress a dog experiences by measuring the degree of depletion of (vitamin C) in the dog’s blood. Conversely, many studies have found that dogs (as well as humans) that are supplemented with vitamin C show greater resistance to disease, and a better ability to recover from injuries or illness.”

Lauren Howard (Keswicke) shared her feeding experience: “My dogs eat Victor Active dog food, which is a large-breed food with low calcium. They get water in the kibble. I don’t supplement unless I see a reason to. When a bitch is pregnant, I move her to puppy food. I take her off it three weeks after whelping. In the past I have used vitamin C whenever there is an assault on the immune system in the environment. I’ve also used kelp for the same purpose. I have tried a couple of coat supplements and never felt that they did anything. I feed my standard Poodle and Lagotti a raw chicken leg for dinner, but the Springers throw it up, so no raw chicken for them.”

Dogs have their own guideline about feeding: Make sure it arrives on time! —Sarah A. Ferrell, Locust Grove, Virginia, saf@abrohammeal.com

Field Spaniels

**IMPSH ANTICS AND PERSONALITY PLUS**

It is no secret that we Field fanciers relish the humor of our chosen breed, and some of their silly behaviors are legendary. There are the well-known snorers, the beloved water-bowl dribblers, and the “merry spaniel” attitudes. Then there are the stories we really remember … the ones who love to
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roll in the grass with reckless abandon, even sliding down hills and off of furniture. The ones who so fervently build comfy nests out of their blankets and crate-pads. The cavorting young pups, and the oldsters who still act like they’re two. The yodeling, gurgling, warbling, whuffling vocalizations within the breed that vary among individuals.

I fondly recall my case of the mysteriously disappearing grooming implements. I eventually found them tucked into an upstairs open crate; they had been hoarded behind my back as I groomed a local Golden. Many Fields are excellent toy collectors.

Harmless pranksters run rampant in our breed. There is the silly guy who steals a terrycloth robe and wears it around the house. Athletic dogs display prowess at going around, through, under, or over whatever they deem an obstacle, and their creativity and diligence can border on genius. Our dogs are thoughtful in their problem-solving and take great care in finding new ways to achieve their goals, be it getting an object of desire, or working their way onto furniture and people.

Our standard may not point out the unique schmoozing and the spaniel-gaze hypnosis we owners have come to treasure, but these are obvious to those close to our dogs. How can you not chuckle at the brown hound who thinks life looks better upside-down, or the black (and tan?) flash of charisma who grins and flips the other dogs’ ears with their nose? We laugh at their cute behaviors and human-like (anthropomorphism aside!) displays of communication, be it a droll face, an eyebrow lift, or the ever-wagging bums.

We know Fields who carry their ears or like to “hold hands” and sing for their supper. Clever dogs who act as rearing ponies and dancing bears and charm the trainers among us by showing their repertoire of tricks and positions in the hopes of a nibble of your popcorn or apple. I revel in their characters and conveyance of emotion, especially when they seem to enjoy the smiles and laughs that they inspire daily.

If your bitch makes faces by the icemaker or your dog develops funny sounds and gestures for meatballs, know you are not alone, and savor the characteristics that make for great canine humor.

Granted, it may not be so funny when your obedience dog rolls over and washes his face on the long down or decides to rip around or levitate or show off their dumbbell to the judge or crowd (never mind the infamous “butt scoot to heel,” which personally taught me to always express their anal glands a few days before trialing).

If your agility star runs amok, making up her own courses or repeating the tunnel for “zoomie” fun, know it is in fine humor. Many a bird story has been told as well, even those of retrieving other dogs to hand.

We know of Fields who hide in compost bins, snort and carry objects, and rapidly “dig to China” on beds and cushions. Typical doggy behaviors of “trampling the grass” or circling before lying down take on a whole new style and flair when our breed takes it to a level of sophisticated pattern—perhaps even squeezing into the tiny cat bed after an elaborate dance routine.

They teach us faith and trust, from snoozing at our feet to ramming their heads into our knees with the glove or the toy we should have believed they had in the first place, to gliding around the ring on a loose lead in harmony with their handler.

Fields seem to be expert at gaining nicknames.
**BREED COLUMNS**

**SPORTING GROUP**

Endearing behaviors and personality inspire monikers and terms of endearment. You all know who they are in your home!

Talent abounds among our dogs—whether they are helpful in retrieving bowls from deep crates, or tracking the horse who got out, or using scent and bird skills. In more entertaining ways, they continue to amaze and amuse.

It should be noted that while a sense of humor is required to properly enjoy our dogs, they are quite capable of rather quickly converting those who are seemingly impaired in that department. Chuckles escape when observing an otherwise dignified animal roll around, flap his ears and lips, and talk to you via a series of grunts, warbles, and physical gestures. Facial expressions and apparent joy of life are displayed, and so we appreciate the tap-dancing, butt-wagging, throaty hellos, and play.

So the next time those paws slap you, or you get tagged, only to see a spaniel bum flash around the corner as they take off, don’t feel frustrated! Know you are worthy of a fine-tuned canine game, honed by a breed who finds ways to have fun.

Get down on your knees and join in on the jolly. Share in the “dogjoy”! I promise you won’t be disappointed.

—Shannon Rodgers,
shannontrodgers@gmail.com

**Sussex Spaniels**

MENTAL PREPARATION FOR YOUR SUSSEX FOR THE SHOW RING

Whoever thought that I would ever have a whole box full of masks? Now we all have masks—different colors, patterns, and (of course) depicting our breed or dog, or possibly Snoopy!

Even if you object to them personally, I encourage you, for the sake of your dog’s confidence in the show ring, to get them used to seeing you and others in masks. You certainly don’t want your dog backing up from a judge wearing a mask. Having had dogs who weren’t keen on judges wearing heavy doses of perfume, multiple dangling bracelets, large hats, and so on, I can assure you that practicing with these things beforehand is well worth it. You may look silly, but try wearing a hat, bracelets, or a mask while feeding dogs. It will combine strange things with a pleasant experience.

Sussex are not good with change. They like a routine, a schedule, and worry even if you move furniture or crates. It takes a bit of time for them to accept new things.

One of our longtime breeders found this out the hard way when she discovered, at a show, that she had only trained her new puppy while wearing white tennis shoes, and the puppy totally would not have anything to do with walking near those strange red things! Taught us all a lesson.

The SSCA is planning our 2021 national specialty for September, in conjunction with the Salisbury, Maryland shows. We are all planning and praying that this comes to pass. Having no national in 2020 was a blow. It was hard on everyone—especially for our older members, like me, who count every year that we are able to participate as golden. Please join us in Salisbury. We want to see old friends and make new ones and totally enjoy all the Sussex we can.

—Marcia Deugan,
ZIYADAHreg@aol.com
Sussex Spaniel Club of America

**Welsh Springer Spaniels**

THE WELSHIE TEMPERAMENT

The standard says the Welshie is an active dog displaying a loyal and affectionate disposition. Although reserved with strangers, he is not timid, shy, nor unfriendly. To this day he remains a devoted family member and hunting companion. What does this mean for a first-time Welsh Springer family?

Let’s start with active. As with many breeds, this means a Welshie would love to have 30 to 60 minutes of vigorous playtime every day. He won’t care if it is raining or if he has to leap through snowdrifts to find the tennis ball you tossed for him. Welshies love exercise and may become bored and destructive without it.
fenced yard is ideal; for those who cannot fence their yards, long walks on a lead that allows the dog plenty of mobility are a must.

The Welshie is a flushing spaniel, and he will “quarter” the ground ahead of you, hunting for a bird or squirrel to flush. Quartering is the habit of ranging back and forth in front of you, from the far right to the far left side of your path. The trait to do this has been bred into the breed for generations, and they will get frustrated if not allowed to do it. Should you teach your dog to heel and move quietly at your side? Of course. But also allow him to “do what comes naturally” on your walks.

A loyal and affectionate disposition can mean many things. Many Welsh Springers will follow their owners from room to room in the house. They want to be with their family members above anything else. Expect to have your dog draped across your lap as you watch television.

The Welsh Springer is typically reserved with people he doesn’t know, and this can lead to timidity if not recognized and dealt with when the puppy is young. Take your puppy for walks in your neighborhood or town. Let people bend over him and play with him, as they will naturally want to do when they see how adorable he is. Take care that he is not unduly frightened by children who may not realize how easily they can scare a puppy with a friendly hug. Getting your puppy out and about in new situations is essential when he is young so that he can build the confidence to accept new situations when he is older.

The fact that Welshies were bred to be hunting companions has a lot to do with your new puppy’s behavior. Squirrels beware! Most Welsh Springers will jealously protect their yard from encroachment by squirrels and other furry creatures. A Welsh Springer is easily distracted by birds, but he may find any small creature equally appealing—especially while he is young. Bred to have a soft mouth, your puppy may surprise you by proudly coming to you with a live baby bird, squirrel, or turtle in his mouth. He will be very sad if you shriek in horror or display other agitated behavior. It’s hard sometimes, but when he brings you one of these unexpected gifts, it is always best to praise your puppy and encourage him to give it to you.

—Wendy J. Jordan, wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com

Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

Vizlas

**FECO: SERVING IN THE U.S. COAST GUARD**

USCG K-9 Feco is a Vizsla with a vocation: He serves in the U.S. Coast Guard as a Canine Explosive Detection Dog on the U.S. Coast Guard Canine Explosive Detection Dog Feco and his handler, ME1 Cory Sumner, are based in San Francisco and have been a team since December 2014, working to keep U.S. ports and waterways safe.
Maritime Safety and Security Team, working to keep U.S. ports and waterways safe. Feco and his handler, ME1 Cory Sumner, are based in San Francisco and have been a working team since December 2014. Their work sites include commuter ferries, cruise ships, and container ships, where a skilled canine nose can detect even the smallest quantity of explosives. They sometimes are assigned to sporting events, parades, and other events around the U.S. to help provide a visible presence and ensure a safe environment. Explosive Detection Dogs can also be called on to assist other agencies in situations such as bomb threats.

In a typical year Feco’s primary assignments involve patrolling the Bay Area’s commuter ferries and terminals, which serve about two million riders a year in nine counties. In recent months, with ferry service significantly reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they have focused on their other assignments, and they have even had to stay mission ready. Both dogs and handlers participate in ongoing training to keep their skills sharp and set them up to fail. Coast Guard K-9s, unlike most military working dogs, live with their handlers instead of in kennels, and this greatly increases the trust that is critical to the team’s success. “I have to trust my dog’s nose,” Sumner explained, and Feco must be able to trust that his handler will keep him safe and not set him up to fail. Coast Guard K-9s, unlike other agencies in situations such as bomb threats.

One important aspect of training is finding what motivates the dog. Feco has a favorite toy—a squeaky tennis ball on a rope. He has a great deal of drive and always wants to work. In fact, Sumner said, sometimes the challenge is to get Feco to stop working.

When Feco hears the command “Find it!” he knows it’s time to go to work, using his innate sense of smell and his rigorous training to search for explosives in any environment. He knows the difference, Sumner said, between actively working and his related role of maintaining a visible presence and interacting with people. When Feco is actively working, Sumner tries to avoid things that would distract him, but afterward Feco can “hang out” in the area, and people often want to interact with him. Sumner believes that people tend to be more comfortable approaching a dog like Feco because a sporting dog’s appearance can be less intimidating than that of a German Shepherd or Belgian Malinois.

ME1 Sumner noted that trust between the dog and the handler is a crucial element in the team’s success. “I have to trust my dog’s nose,” Sumner explained, and Feco must be able to trust that his handler will keep him safe and not set him up to fail. Coast Guard K-9s, unlike other agencies in situations such as bomb threats.

An explosive detection dog needs to be able to take extraordinary experiences in stride. The training program prepares him to do his job both onshore and offshore, sometimes in tight spaces or loud engine rooms. Some shipboard spaces are accessed via ladders, so the dog must be able to go up and down a ladder with confidence. A significant aspect of the USCG training program involves getting the dog accustomed to things like being hoisted into a helicopter or transferred to and from the deck of a ship.

Vertical Delivery (VDEL) is the capability to deploy a Canine Explosive Detection Team by helicopter. The trust between dog and handler is especially critical here. The training begins with a still helicopter on the pad and then proceeds carefully, step by step, as the dog becomes comfortable with the helicopter. For example, the dog gets used to going in and out of the cabin of a still helicopter before learning to enter and exit with the rotors turning on the pad. Sumner said introducing a dog to rotor wash is often the most challenging step, requiring time and patience. Eventually the dog is introduced to flight and to being raised and lowered by a cable.

In addition to learning to handle helicopter duties, a USCG K-9 needs to be comfortable being transferred to and from the deck of a ship. Vessel to Vessel (V2V) transfers involve another careful sequence of training steps. ME1 Sumner emphasized that experienced USCG K-9s and their handlers participate in ongoing training to keep their skills sharp and to stay mission ready. Both dogs and handlers are held to very high standards, and the handler’s role involves significant levels of training, commitment and dedication.

To follow the adventures of Feco and other Coast Guard dogs on Facebook, look for “USCG K-9 Unofficial.”

—Beth Nash, nash@centurylink.net

Vizsla Club of America
How did my search begin? My obsessive quest originated from the slightly yellow, slightly crisp pages of the 1960 Weimaraner Club of America’s nationally distributed Weimaraner magazine.

Many years ago I was lucky enough to have a collection of old Weimaraner magazines come into my possession. The issues went back into the 1950s and offered a wealth of information on what the Weimaraner world was like in years gone by. After devouring issues after issue, learning about the dogs and people who populated the Weimaraner Club of America, I spotted an advertisement that haunted me. It jumped off the page and shouted, “You have to find this.”

This tempting advertisement brought together two of my interests: Weimaraners and vintage designer jewelry. In 1960, the Weimaraner Club of America offered for sale a brooch that was based on the crest of Weimar. It was designed by a famous fashion house of the time and only a limited number were going to be produced for the Weimaraner Club of America. Here’s some of the text from that ad:

Beautiful rhinestone studded Crest of Weimar is being offered to the ladies of the Weimaraner Club of America for a very limited time.

The brooch was designed by Hattie Carnegie Inc. especially for you.

Place your order now. Don’t be disappointed. Only enough brooches will be ordered to fill your requests.

I wondered how many existed. Could I track one down? Could I find a person who owns one? While I had a picture, what was the size, and what did it look like in person?

I started looking and asking Weimaraner people about the brooch. No luck finding anyone among my Weimaraner acquaintances who knew what I was talking about. When I say that I started this search, you probably think I dashed off a few Internet searches; oh, no, my quest started in the pre-Internet days. No one had eBay, Google was a nonsense word, and Amazon was a river. Instead of electronically searching, I asked “old timers” in the breed, haunted antique shops, and dug through piles of old costume jewelry. Nothing turned up, and as time went by my zeal to find a crest of Weimar brooch waned but was not totally extinguished.

With the advent of the Internet, I’d occasionally look at likely websites, but nothing came close to the picture that I had. If I didn’t have the persistence of a Weimaraner, I probably would have abandoned the search. I’ve learned from my dogs to not give up. Persistence is often rewarded. And at last it was.

An Internet search on the name of the designer narrowed the possibilities but still produced a seemingly infinite number of sites that listed hundreds of pieces of jewelry. I decided to limit myself to an occasional search, but I didn’t give up. Then one day, a single query brought up a page of an antique dealer in Ohio who specialized in fine vintage jewelry. In went the name of the designer, and there it was. It was simply listed as a Hattie Carnegie brooch; no mention was made of the crest of Weimar. Apparently, the seller knew nothing of the history of this piece.

Credit card in hand, I plunked down the asking price, and in a couple of days I was finally in possession of a crest of Weimar brooch. When the brooch was offered for sale in 1960, it cost $10. Curious what that would equate to in today’s dollars, I found a conversion table, and it showed that $10 in 1960 was equivalent to $85 today. It was close to what I paid for my long-sought treasure.

It’s time to check through Granny’s old jewelry, and see if you’re as lucky as I was in my search for the crest of Weimar brooch. If anyone does find one and knows any additional history about the piece, please drop me an email. I’d love to hear about the one that you have.

—Carole Lee Richards, zarasweimaraners@yahoo.com
Weimaraner Club of America
You are standing in powder snow beside a freshly groomed trail, amid spruce groves 2,500 feet up in the Twisp River Sno-Park, in the Cascade Mountains of Washington state. It’s mid-morning in full sun, and so calm that even this zero-degree day feels warm, because coming toward you is a breathtaking sight: a dog team of six fit, gorgeous Malamutes driven by their breeder: the leaders moving at a brisk trot, keeping the gangline tight, and every dog on the team focused and moving forward with cadenced energy.

Behind them, two teams of four Malamutes each, driven by novices who have traveled thousands of miles to be here, eyes shining and voices full of excitement as they call out the commands and master the timing essential to dog sledding in an experience they will remember for the rest of their lives.

This is the story of Mountain Home Alaskan Malamutes, the bloodline and the lives of Sue and Roy Fuller, AMCA life members, whose shared vision over 30 years ago created one of the finest bloodlines in the history of our breed. Their dedication to a genetically trainable and non-confrontational temperament, deep working instinct, classic type, and physical soundness and athleticism, combined with a milieu of learning from puppyhood to be cooperative members of a large pack, created a bloodline that stands as a testimony to the finest qualities of our breed. Best of all, the Mountain Home bloodline is alive today, with dogs in the hands of carefully chosen, devoted friends around the world, excelling in working and obedience events, in the show ring, and as loving companions.

Roy and Sue Fuller grew up on Vashon Island, Washington State, the largest island in Puget Sound. As newlyweds they visited...
**BREED COLUMNS**

**WORKING GROUP**

friends in the Twisp Valley area and fell in love with the high country in the rain shadow of the Cascades—an astonishing region in which 300 days of sunshine a year and warm, dry summers combine with temperatures below zero and four feet of snow every winter, from late October into April: an ideal climate for training and sledding almost six months a year.

Making a living in such a remote setting takes ingenuity, flexibility, and old-fashioned grit. And with the timber industry sharing this region with federal and state natural lands and tourist attractions, the Fullers made ends meet. Roy became a timber harvester, and Sue worked for the Forest Service as a lookout and a firefighter. This left winters free for sledding and earning their first dogs’ Alaskan Malamute Club of America working titles: WTDX (Working Team Dog Excellent), WLDX (Working Lead Dog Excellent), and WWPD (Working Weight Pull Dog).

With 14 acres of their own, and surrounded by national forest land, the Fullers could enjoy miles of trails right outside their gates, and terrain ranging from gentle slopes for novices to steep and challenging for the most experienced mushers. These first years with the dogs gave the Fullers an inspiration: to share the joy of recreational sledding with people from all walks of life who simply loved the dogs and wanted to experience the excitement of actually driving a dog team. And so, in 1990, they founded Malamute Express Dog Sledding Adventures, with the goal of giving guests the knowledge and experience of actually driving a dog team. It was the first business of its kind in the area, and a complete contrast from others who merely gave customers rides in the sled. Here people were thrilled to meet teams of lovely, well-trained Malamutes, learn how to give commands, and manage the dogsled—all within a safe and well-designed program.

Malamute Express grew steadily, garnering national press coverage, and guests came from all over the world to have a real, hands-on sledding experience harnessing and driving their own four-dog team. With Roy or Sue in front, driving a six-dog team, two customer teams followed, allowing the Fullers to make sure they could safely stop the guest’s team if needed and get everything organized once more. A ten- to 20-mile distance at a steady, five-mile-an-hour trot proved to be the perfect distance for customers, many of whom received the trip as a surprise Christmas or birthday gift.

For 13 years, the Fullers operated the business without a single accident; it was only in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, tragedy that, by 2003, the soaring cost of insurance forced their business to close. Despite this setback, the Mountain Home breeding program is as sound and successful as ever. Mountain Home bloodlines were built on a foundation known in our breed as “Old Tote-Um” type, bred by AMCA Members Dianne and Dick Ross in the Pacific Northwest in the 1960s and ’70s.

The Fullers acquired their foundation bitch, Battan’s Arctic Williwaw, WTDX, from a litter sired by Ch. Targhee’s Chipawa Chipper, bred by prominent AMCA member and judge Al Holabach. In succeeding years, working with respected AMCA members, they used such outstanding sires as Ch. Strawberry Mountain Ice-Fall, CD, WLD, WWPD, WPD, bred by Vicky Stiller-MacLean and owned by Pat Putman; BIS/BISS Am./Can. Ch. Oopik’s Lil’ Bit a Canuck, Am./Can. CD, WTDX, breeder-owner Lorna Muir; and BIS/BISS Am./Can./Aus. Ch. Williwaw’s River Dance, breeder-owners Al and Mary Jane Holabach, and other top sires with proven excellence as working dogs as well as breed champions.

In the early years of their breeding program, the Fullers often kept entire litters, raising and training them amid their adult groups and expanding their teams. From the start, the Fullers set their priorities for their bloodline: the whole package—solid temperaments, sound structure, and good breed type. Keeping a focus on genetically based, non-confrontational traits and raising each new generation amid a true pack structure is Mountain Home’s greatest strength. Being able to maintain a home-based lifestyle centered on the dogs, especially through operating their sledding business, the Fullers have been able to use the majority of their time observing and proving the mental and physical soundness of their bloodline.

All the traditional strengths of Old Tote-Um type are here: the depth of muzzle, the thickness of ear, the generous backskull, solid topline, laid-back shoulder, ample length of leg, bone like ironwood, and a real snowshoe foot, which is big, and oval, and deep, with tight, arched toes. The harsh coat is here too—the kind which, with one shake, sends snow and ice flying, leaving the dog warm and dry. And the expression in the eyes of the Mountain Home dogs, welcoming and greeting each new person, engaging them in a wonderful new friendship, is just as real as every other strength of the bloodline. Intelligence, working instinct, learning ability, and a harmonious mind are all wrapped up in outstanding breed type. (To be continued in the April 2021 issue.)

—Phyllis I. Hamilton, benchmarksal@gmail.com
Alaskan Malamute Club of America
Anatolian Shepherds

IN THE BEGINNING …

The beginning for the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America was in 1970, in California. The club was started by Robert “Bob” Ballard and his wife Dorothy, after Bob returned to the U.S. from a Naval posting to Turkey. Bob and Dorothy brought two dogs back from Turkey when they returned home. Those two dogs—a male, Zorba, and a female, Peki—while not the first of their kind in the U.S. (that is for the next column), were instrumental to the successful founding of the breed in the United States, and its parent club as well.

Earlier this year I was fortunate enough to be working at a straight racing event where I ran into someone I’ve known far longer than either one of us would like to admit. She told me that she was cleaning out some old bookshelves and had come across two ASDCA newsletters from the early 1980s, sent to her when she had written and asked for information on the breed. Did I want these two club newsletters from the early 1980s? Does a dog bark when a doorbell rings in a TV commercial? Silly, silly question indeed.

I eagerly tore into the envelope when the package from my friend arrived, and I found a trifold pamphlet on the Anatolian and two newsletters, complete with a coffee-cup stain and an old phone number written on the margin of one. I spent the next hour or two poring over every single word on each yellowed sheet of paper. I looked for names that I recognized, pedigrees that I could follow. I wallowed in the words as if they were a bubble bath after a long day at a dog show.

Those items showed me a club that was going strong in its first decade of existence. The ASDCA was already holding its own specialty shows for the breed, which included a handling class prior to the actual show for owners who were newcomers to the dog show scene, and potluck opportunities after the show for building community. While we no longer offer a handling class pre-show, the club instructions for holding a regional or national specialty include instructions to prepare either a potluck or catered luncheon. Forty years later, and people are still happier with food in one hand and a dog in the other.

There were litter listings with enough information to come up with a three-generation pedigree, and evidence that the club was actively encouraging members to get their dogs’ hips X-rayed and post the results in the OFA database. Fast-forward to the present, and the club has now taken steps to have the breed included in the OFA CHIC program, in the hopes that diligent testing will allow breeders to produce healthier dogs.

There was evidence that the club was actively attempting to help people place dogs in working homes where they would be kept with livestock, and the working traits that are so very important to the breed would not be lost. The club now has a working dog committee that attempts to help owners, whether they are members or not, with working questions about the breed.

In one of the newsletters I found a report of a club function that met with Dr. Raymond Coppinger, who presented information to those present about the livestock guarding dog program at the New England Farm Center associated with Hampshire College. This is hugely important, because the club and its founding members donated dogs and money to the LGD program. They also paid to send Dr. Coppinger and Dr. Susan Goldhor to Turkey to observe shepherding practices in the country of origin, and bring dogs back to the U.S. These dogs would take part in the...
**BREED COLUMNS**

**WORKING GROUP**

LGD research program at the Farm Center, and then later they would join the gene pool of the breed in the U.S. The research done at the LGD project would go on to influence the use of dogs as LGD for years to come, and was instrumental in introducing the practice of using LGD to guard livestock to meat and wool producers in this country. The club’s participation in this cannot be understated. Anatolians are first and foremost a working LGD breed and should always be bred as such.

One thing that is apparent from these old newsletters is the love that the club founders had for the breed and their desire to see the breed successful in this country. That has not changed in the ensuing 50 years.

Unfortunately for us, the 50th anniversary of the club landed smack-dab in the middle of 2020. Our 50th anniversary national specialty that was planned for Purina Farm in September of this year was cancelled—but I have been told that 51 is the new 50, so join us for our slightly delayed Golden Anniversary celebration of the ASDCA at Purina Farm in September 2021! It may be 51 years, but it will still be our 50th specialty, and we will celebrate the breed with all the Anatolians and their people who show up.

—Jo Lynne York,
Eboracumk9@yahoo.com
Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America

**Bernese Mountain Dogs**

**THE ELUSIVE RETRIEVE**

Welcome to a new year, which presents with new challenges and joys. I have had the joy the last few months in learning to apply a training technique. I have written about Conditioned Emotional Response (CER) a couple of times. CER is associative learning with classical conditioning. It traditionally is the practice of teaching your dog to be relaxed and to have joy in stressful or unusual places, so I started to apply it to a part of training that had not been very successful for me.

I have seen Berners retrieving happily, yet the joy of having a retrieving Berner has eluded me. A few would retrieve a tossed ball a few times but lose interest when attempting to transfer that behavior to a dumbbell. Following common practice, I have started each as babies, chasing and tugging with toys, but my boys decided early that toys weren’t fun unless they got to destroy them. My Elle was one who would retrieve a ball occasionally. Two or three times was fun; toss it a fourth, and she sat, looked from me to the ball saying, “Hey, you threw it, you go get it.”

So when my class instructor described using CER to increase focus on the dumbbell I had nothing to lose, and retrieving to gain. Starting in August, I have used CER to teach my Berners to retrieve. This actually has been broken down into tiny increments.

I thought my first goal was for them to hold a dumbbell; truly, however, my goal was for them to like their dumbbell, to want their dumbbell. There needed to be a transfer of value and joy to the dumbbell. The suggested method is to use the joy and excitement when you return home and focus it on the dumbbell. The scenario is to walk in the house, grab the dumbbell and cradle it, talk to it, and dance around with it, then put it up and then pay attention to the dogs. I used mealtimes. For a couple weeks twice a day, I would put their food dishes on the counter, pick up the dumbbell, and dance around as described. My dogs never got to touch the dumbbell.

Next step was to dance and talk joyful nonsense while holding the dumbbell within reach. Within seconds my boy was grabbing at the dumbbell. Imagine my joy! The next increment was to add “give” when I wanted him to release it to me. Since that was a cue from other scenarios, it quickly was another happy dance for us! Soon I added “take it” when he reached for it. Imagine my elation when I had a good “take it” and “give.”

Then came a snag. The next increment was to lengthen the duration of the hold. If I lessened my pressure on the dumbbell, he spit it out, and the game was over. Apparently my timing on the click was not giving him the appropriate information. My instructor suggested using “chin” in conjunction with the dumbbell. The chin cue was one he was very familiar with already. “Chin” means the dog rests his head in my hand. It can be taught simply: Place your hand under the dog’s jaw, then click and treat. When giving the treat, present it slightly lower than the dog’s jaw, so he presses into your hand. This practice is very useful for vet appointments, cleaning eye boogers, and now the “take it” part of retrieve. When
Boxers
REBIRTH

Like the rest of the U.S. population, the purebred dog world has been economically devastated by the pandemic. The professionals employed in the sport, including the handlers, judges, AKC representatives and employees, local and national breed clubs, trainers, and others, have all been impacted financially. Also, the many event venues and surrounding businesses have suffered financially as well.

Aside from the economic impact, we have also recently lost many of our enthusiasts to the virus. It’s heartbreaking to hear yet another friend, longtime breeder, judge, exhibitor, or the lady who always said “Hi” when passing at a show has left us.

But—with the innovations of modern medicine and human adaptation—there appears to be light at the end of the tunnel. While the recovery will be slow, we have a chance to reevaluate ourselves and adapt to the “new” life in the purebred dog community. Adaptation has become the name of the “new world,” and we are accepting it quite readily.

The American Boxer Club had been forced to delay and then cancel the breed’s national specialty, which was to have been held in May. However, by October the opportunity to hold our national futurity became available, in conjunction with the regional specialty held in Ohio. Over 200 Boxer enthusiasts masked and traveled to help initiate the revamped COVID dog shows.

Slowly, shows are restarting—a rebirth of sorts. As the time passes, we are still subjected to cancellations and changes, but we know there will be a rebirth.

However, in interviewing many of the canines involved, they don’t share the same angst as their people.

Many canines have indicated they love the fact that they have been on long hikes with their humans outdoors, instead of treadmill exercise. The family time without all the hustle and bustle of travel has been relaxing. The dogs have created extra games to keep their humans occupied—teaching them how to throw balls, and how to take daily naps and practice new cooking techniques. Also, they have reinforced the reasons why we are involved in this sport.

As breeders, we have had the time to breed the bitch we always were too busy to breed. We had the time to remember the joy of watching puppies grow into the show dogs we hope them to become.

As judges, there was additional time to study
breeds through the myriad of resources available that we would like to add to our judging portfolio.

As dog sport enthusiasts, there has been more time for training and bonding with our athletic companions.

Our friendships haven’t faded; many have been reinforced, because we had time to talk and correspond with old friends and meet new friends through the wonders of social media.

As time passes, we will be back in full force with our sport. There will be some changes, some adaptations—but the passion for our sport and the love of the canines will always be primary with our goals.

—Virginia Shames, arribatali@aol.com

American Boxer Club

Bullmastiffs

Jan Logan is a veteran Bullmastiff fancier and has been an ABA member for nearly 30 years. A former ABA Board member and volunteer in many capacities, Jan has given countless hours to our national and regional clubs. She competes with her Bullmastiffs in the competition and performance rings, using her kennel name LogansRun. Thanks, Jan, for writing as a guest columnist about this important aspect of your volunteer work and sharing this experience with your fellow Bullmastiff lovers.

VAMPIRES!—THE GOOD WORK OF CANINE BLOOD DONORS

Carson (GCh. Bastions Great Spirit at LogansRun, CGC) and Star (Ch. Bastions Dancing With the Stars) love their vampire and get very excited when she comes to visit.

I should explain! Their vampire is Tracy Hendrickson, MLS, (Medical Laboratory Scientist), specializing in hematology. Hendrickson is founder and CEO of Companion Pets Blood Bank in Oklahoma. She has been providing this much-needed service for over 12 years. The canine blood bank is a non-profit division of Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories, which Tracy established 24 years ago. This is one of a handful of commercial animal blood banks in the U.S. With this service, canine blood is banked (stored) at a laboratory or an animal emergency clinic until requested by a veterinarian.

My Bullmastiffs have been serving as canine blood donors at the Companion Pets Blood Bank for six years, beginning when I learned of the need for donors. I have known Tracy for more than 25 years, as we met when we were both using the same training facility. (Tracy is an excellent trainer and has highly trained, winning Boxers.) I started donating canine blood with my previous generation of Bullmastiffs.

I investigated the procedure, found that it was not much different from when we humans give blood, and learned that it was possible for the dogs to give blood while relaxed in our own homes. Of course, there are some basic requirements that the dogs must meet in order to qualify for the program: The donors must be over 50 pounds, and Tracy prefers that they come from show homes. She has explained to me that owners from conformation or working homes are most likely to ensure that their dogs have their vaccines, are socialized, have received direction/structure in their life, and are stable in unique situ-
breed columns

WORKING GROUP

Dogs who can be examined and handled with ease keep all involved safe during the procedures, which do take some time to complete. Once blood is drawn, Tracy then has several steps to go through with each donation made. The blood must first be drawn, is then tested and typed, and is finally stored so that it can be sent to the veterinary hospital with the highest need at any given time.

My dogs love to see Tracy because they consider her a friend. There is always a lot of love, as well as kisses and treats to be given, before the draws begin. Tracy’s assistant holds the dogs and gives chest- and belly-rubs while Tracy draws the blood. Tracy goes for the jugular, and the dogs are relaxed and willing to allow her in that close proximity of them. She is, after all, in their personal space. After all these years of participating, none of my dogs has had any ill effects from a draw. We do follow Tracy’s instructions. When Tracy has the draws completed, the donor dogs are given all sorts of nutritious treats and offered plenty of water. After resting for 10 to 15 minutes, donors are then allowed to return to normal activity and go about their days.

I think we can all agree that it is important to give back, whenever we can. My involvement in the dog world has given me beloved companions, lifelong friends, and a wonderful hobby, so I consider it a blessing that my dogs and I can help other dogs in need. The last draw on Carson and Star helped save a litter of parvo puppies over 100 miles away.

If there is a veterinary blood bank in your area, I encourage you to get involved. It saves lives, and your dogs are the heroes!—J.L

Thank you, Jan!
—Lindy Whyte,
tryumph@comcast.net
American Bullmastiff Association

Doberman Pinschers
THE FUTURE OF THE SPORT: WHERE TO NOW?

With another year upon us, it’s a logical time to ponder the state of purebred dogs and the future of our sport. A while ago the DPCA was asked to provide the names of suggested AKC breeder-judges to be interviewed for a Doberman Pinscher feature in an all-breed publication. The board members came up with more names than needed, in case someone did not want to, or could not participate.

When the list was compiled, something jumped out at me: Most of the people on the list were in their early to-mid 60s. Chock full of boomers. This revelation lead to contem-
plation about the “graying” of our mentors and breeders. Of the DPCA’s members, only a small percentage are juniors. Youngsters in their teens or people in their 20s or 30s are a rare sighting at our national specialties—though AARP is well represented!

Some AKC events, such as dock diving, lure coursing, and agility, are filled with younger participants. The conformation rings, however, are not overflowing with new entrants.

What can we do to generate interest in the sport with the “instant” crowd, the Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, and selfie set? How can we get the next generation of breeders, exhibitors, and mentors to be excited and interested in participating in a sport that requires years of experience to obtain excellence?

Our sport is also one with high expenses. When a child becomes interested in handling, whether by watching Westminster or going to a local show, it’s a long road ahead. It takes the support of a junior’s family, both financially and emotionally, to enable the junior to follow their dream. Our breed does not have the additional cost in time and equipment of daily grooming, bathing, and more, like a Poodle or terrier. Hand-stripping a Norwich or Cairn takes much time to perfect, and one must have access to others who can teach.

I would say the average purchase price of a Doberman puppy companion, probably sold on limited registration, bought from a show-bred litter from a well-known kennel is $2,500. A show prospect can be thousands more—a high cost for a young teen. Then the cost of finishing a conformation championship is high, including entries, clothing, transportation, and lodging.

Breeding a litter of Dobermans can be very expensive. A litter of nine or 10 can cost more than $12,000 to the age of 10 weeks. This total does not include crates for puppies, the whelping box, ex-pens, bowls, and other necessary equipment a breeder already has from years of breeding.

Breeding is not about making a profit. Breeding is about a passion for the breed, for the sport. The goal should be preserving the breed’s foundation and purpose, and with each successive generation, improving health and soundness.

Without “raising” new breeders, mentoring them, and fostering a new generation that will become handlers and judges, the sport will wane. Decades ago there were many people willing to take a newbie under their wing and share the knowledge of the breed that got them hooked “in dogs.”

Our lives are so busy today, many people do not seem to be taking the time to talk to the owner-handler showing their dog for the first time. To be available to answer a question, or offer advice when approached by someone we do not know. We need to remember what it was like when we first ventured into this world and were welcomed by that person or persons willing to talk, educate, and console. We need to figure out how to recruit, engage, and enrich a new crop to go forward: To sustain and grow the sport of dogs.

The answer to “Where to now?” must come from those experienced in all phases of the sport. It is our responsibility to look ahead and help provide a map for the future.

—Leslie Hall, pajanit@aol.com
Doberman Pinscher Club of America

German Pinschers
GOOD OLD DOGS

German Pinschers are shorthaired, medium-sized dogs, part of the AKC Working Group. They’re an older breed, and they were originally bred to be general farm dogs. They are also generally healthy, with few inherited health issues. German Pinschers often live 12 to 15 years, occasionally even longer, and can enjoy active and healthy lives for much of that time. Owning a German Pinscher means living with an active dog who is likely to enjoy a long, relatively healthy life.

What does it mean to live with an older dog?
Many of these changes, like sight and hearing loss or chronic pain, develop gradually. We may not notice small, incremental changes, and when we do finally realize, it often feels like our once-inexhaustible puppy grew old overnight.

Changes I’ve seen in Blue as he’s reached 13 years: He doesn’t see as well, he gets cold sooner, and noises—like thunder and the ringing sound of metal on metal—that never used to bother him, do now. He’s also several steps slower when there’s a rabbit in the backyard. (This is not entirely a bad thing ...)

On the other hand, he still smells every bit as well as he ever did, which compensates for some of the changes in his eyesight. He hears pretty well. He still climbs stairs, jumps in and out of the car, and plays with his toys. He enjoys a 30-minute walk every morning, expects his meals on time, and insists on sitting right next to me on the couch. He goes tracking once in awhile, and he participates in Barn Hunt trials a few times a year.

Exercise and good nutrition continue to be important for older dogs, though exactly what that means may change. A walk every day—even if it’s split over two or three shorter walks—and having sniffing, puzzle, and food games to keep his or her mind active, plus some simple fitness exercises and even a training class or two all help to keep older dogs happy and active.

Living with an older dog can be comfortable, rewarding, and both joyous and a little melancholy. It’s important to be aware of their health and their changing needs, and also so important to just enjoy your time with them every day you can.

—Deb Coates, charmingbillie@gmail.com
   German Pinscher Club of America

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Giant Schnauzers

A NEW YEAR

Last year brought the COVID-19 viral pandemic in the U.S., causing cancellations for many of our local kennel club classes, conformation and performance events, and seminars, as well as educational and community-associated canine programs. It also saw the cancellation of many national specialties. With CDC, AKC, and local government guidelines in place, the Giant Schnauzer Club of America, and its Board of Directors, members, and specialty committee moved forward with its 2020 independent national specialty in Brooksville, Florida. Congratulations to Henry—the national/regional BISS winner, GCh. Momentumm King of Hearts, BH.

Many AKC virtual innovative programs and titles came about as a result. The AKC
programs are great to keep one engaged with our dogs during this stressful time. These programs also offer great ideas for training structure, goals and fun.

The programs include:
- Virtual Top Dog conformation show
- Video Trick Dog, available through any CGC evaluator. Novice to Elite Performer certifications are possible. These are fun goals for all to achieve with your Giant.
- Virtual Home Manners (VHM), which is also evaluated by a CGC evaluator. This is a great beginning for future in-class CGC and AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy class.
- FitDog, to encourage all of us to get out with our dogs and walk daily.
- Rally Novice, where you video completing one of five predesignated courses to pass for certification by an AKC judge.
- Virtual Water Test, where your video is sent to AKC for evaluation by a field trial or hunting dog judge.

These AKC programs have helped a lot of dog owners stay engaged with our dogs and enjoy our days in the changed times of the pandemic. (I was able to get one Trick Dog certification!)

2021 comes in with continued hope and excitement for the fancy. We hope to return to normal and enjoy our AKC clubs, classes, shows, and friends once again.

May the new year bring you health and happiness.

—Giant regards,
Mary E. Falls
Classicgiantschnauzers@gmail.com
Giant Schnauzer Club of America

Great Pyrenees
VERSATILITY AND THE GREAT PYRENEES

Some Great Pyrenees owners use their dogs to guard their livestock, yet take them from the field, give them some grooming, and bring them into the show ring. Others use their Pyrs for service work, education, general farm work such as carting and guarding, therapy work, and so on. There are also those owners whose dogs perform many of the aforementioned duties! The Great Pyrenees is a very versatile breed.

During my earlier years with this breed, I used to do many different activities with my Pyrs. My first two Pyrs used to accompany me on hikes, breed-education events, therapy work, and public-education activities. Those who followed were shown in conformation and also did school visits to educate young children about the breed and about general canine behavior. When attending regional and national breed club gatherings, I always heard about people getting titles on their dogs—mostly for conformation, and to a lesser degree in obedience and versatility. Often I felt a sense of envy. What could I do with my dogs to show that they did a lot of activities not under the umbrella of the aforementioned canine sports? That’s when I heard about the Great Pyrenees Club of America’s Versatility program.

The GPCA Versatility program provides GPCA members and affiliated club members with the opportunity to honor their Pyrs by participating in earning Versatility titles based on activities they do with their Pyrs. The GPCA Versatility program has gone through numerous changes since I joined the club in 1994, with the number of activities that count toward different levels dramatically increased.

Great Pyrenees owners highly value the breed’s versatility.
**BREED COLUMNS**

**WORKING GROUP**

In a world that I remember. Below are the levels, in order of achievement:

- Versatility Ambassador
- Versatility Emissary
- Versatility Excellent
- Versatility Advanced Excellent
- Versatility Ultimate

One of the unique qualities about the GPCA Versatility program is the number of different types of activities you can do with your Pyr that allow you to progress to the next Versatility level. Some national breed clubs rely solely on AKC titles for their versatility program awards. The Great Pyrenees Club of America Versatility Award includes all AKC awarded titles, and the program goes beyond those titles to include other types of accomplishments such as service work, mountain climbing, therapy dog visits, hiking, carting, participation in parades, and more.

Many Great Pyrenees owners who don’t show in conformation or other AKC events have a way to recognize the accomplishments of their Pyrs. I believe it would be good for our club to be more inclusive of all types of owners, allowing the expansion of our membership base. Also, you don’t have to be a member of the Great Pyrenees Club of America to earn versatility titles. Anyone who owns a Great Pyrenees who is not a GPCA member but is a member of a regional club is welcome to participate.

Given the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, you may wonder how you can accomplish any of these activities with your Pyr. Well, the AKC offers virtual events that you can participate in from the comfort of your own home! For more information, please visit [https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/sports/akc-titles-programs-can-home/](https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/sports/akc-titles-programs-can-home/).

For more information about the GPCA Versatility Award, you can contact Judy Skorup at jasckorup@hotmail.com or visit our website at [http://gpcaonline.org/versatility.htm](http://gpcaonline.org/versatility.htm).

—Karen Reiter, karenreiter@comcast.net

**Great Pyrenees Club of America**

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**Komondorok**

**BOAT!**

Deep-bodied dogs are susceptible to bloat (gastric dilatation-volvulus), and Komondors are certainly in that undesirable club. I’m not a veterinarian, but unfortunately I have had too much experience with bloat, and I have learned some hard lessons I would like to share.

Bloat is when the dog’s stomach fills with air, a condition which is life threatening. The stomach can flip over, and this blocks the air from escaping while it is blowing up. Whether the flip or the blow-up happens first and which is the result of the other are both unknown, and it probably can happen both ways. In the old days we used to blame food that expanded in the stomach as a major cause. Now most good-quality foods don’t expand with soaking, and yet bloat still occurs. We have seen bloat that seemed to have a physical cause (when a dog went out and ran around on a full stomach), an emotional cause (such as the dog was reacting to thunder or to a new situation, like dog show travel), and an identifiable medical cause (a malformed pyloric valve, the exit to the stomach). In all cases the condition is life threatening, and it is essential that you know how to recognize bloat early and work with your veterinarian to get effective treatment.

Bloat often happens overnight, so the first step in recognizing it is having the dog within earshot at night. The main certain diagnostic for bloat is “the drum response,” when the dog’s abdomen is so blown up that it is enlarged and tight. If you see this, you have an immediate emergency on your hands. Your dog will tell you something is wrong before this happens, if you are there to listen. First, they fuss (not normal for most Komondors), and they might drool. The condition hurts, so they might oddly rub their belly against the ground, pant heavily, or groan. We all know that Koms aren’t complainers, so this particular groan is one you won’t forget once you’ve heard it. If the victim is trying to vomit but only producing ropey saliva (not food), it is another sign that the stomach is closed off. We keep on hand an antacid with simethicone for gas relief (Gas-X is one). If you catch the issue early and the stomach is not flipped (and closed), this might relieve early symptoms. There is a surprisingly simple diagnostic you can try early on: Offer the dog water. Since they are uncomfortable, they’ll usually lap some up. If it comes right back up, the stomach is closed and probably flipped. Time to get to a vet right away.

I have had the experience where this happened and the vet would be opening in a few minutes. We called ahead and hurried over. The (inexperienced) vet who arrived doubted my opinion because there was no drum response (yet). I insisted on sedation and trying to drop a tube. I told him we were doing the bloat surgery as soon as possible no matter what. The tube went in, and this confirmed his belief that I was wrong. He pulled the tube and went away for five minutes. When he came back, the bitch was in full drum response. I insisted on sedation and trying to drop a tube. I told him we were doing the bloat surgery as soon as possible no matter what. The tube went in, and this confirmed his belief that I was wrong. He pulled the tube and went away for five minutes. When he came back, the bitch was in full drum response, dangerously blew up. This time the tube was blocked from getting to the stomach because of either pressure or being flipped. This led us to the proper actions. The bitch
lived to a ripe old age with a tacked stomach. Usually your vet will want an X-ray. They can see the gas buildup in the X-ray and also confirm that there isn’t a physical obstruction. A possible deception is that the stomach may be flipped and then flip back, releasing pressure. Sadly, in this case the event isn’t over and will likely happen again. We have seen a stomach flip while the victim was open during surgery.

If you’ve caught the symptoms early and gotten to a good vet, the patient should not be too far into shock. Whether early or later, getting a tube down to release the gas pressure and getting the dog sedated and on fluids will be important immediately. If your dog is healthy and not overstressed the surgery can be done right away. If the dog has been blown up for a while, there are heart and spleen issues and possible shock that need to be noted and cared for. The surgery I’ve seen for the past 10 years or so has been to loop a flap of the outside layer of the stomach over some tissue attached to a rib (gastroplexy). Once this heals the stomach can never flip again. We always asked the vet to check on the pyloric valve (the exit valve of the stomach). Some of our line of Komondors had a genetic malformation there, and it could be fixed during the surgery. One dog who never bloated but was not robust and healthy had that fix done without tacking the stomach. He lived a healthy and long life.

If you take a bloating dog to the vet and they relieve all of the symptoms with sedation, tubing, and treatment for shock but without the tacking surgery, please don’t think you are out of the woods. You will want to schedule the surgery shortly, within days. Dogs who have survived bloat are far more likely to have a repeat experience, possibly with deadly consequences.

After the surgery many vets will monitor heart behavior for a while, especially if the dog was very distressed before treatment. Your part in after-care is to feed several smaller meals rather than one large one a day. You’ll also want to settle the dog into a less stressful routine, especially around mealtime.

In that vein, although nothing is certain, one way to avoid bloat is to feed smaller meals twice or three times a day and to keep a standard routine around eating. Competitive eating may be a bad idea. We provide each dog with food in their closed crates, so that they don’t have to hurry or compete for their food. On the road we try to duplicate home eating in both the food and the timing. You’ll also want to know if your regular vet can do this surgery ahead of time. Most can now. That wasn’t the case 25 years ago!

There is an excellent article about bloat on the AKC website, I recommend it: https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/bloat-in-dogs/

Dealing with bloat can be an unfortunate aspect of Komondor ownership. I hope these hints will help you have good results if it happens.

—Eric Liebes, ericliebes@earthlink.net
Komondor Club of America

Leonbergers
THERE’S LARGE, AND THEN THERE’S LARGE

If you ask a hundred people to name a large breed of dog, the responses will vary quite a lot. What is “large,” after all? When I was a child, I thought our Irish Setter was large. And I suppose she was, compared to our miniature Poodle, our Border Collie mix, our Sheltie, and all of our Cavaliers. And now as an adult, after decades of living with Leonbergers, my own interpretation of what is large has changed quite a bit from when I was a child. In fact, I referred to my German Shepherd Dog as my “little dog” because compared to my Leos, she was little. I could pick her up! And I have friends with dog
breeds even larger than mine who are probably chuckling at this as they read it.

Ultimately, “large” is a factor in almost every aspect of living with Leonbergers, from the types of vehicles needed, size of grooming tables and tools, their crate sizes, collars, and so on. When you add a Leonberger to your home, you have no doubt already considered most of those issues, and you have hopefully discussed them with the breeder so that you know what to expect as the dog grows and matures.

There is another issue with large breeds, however, that requires some thought. What happens if they get injured or ill, and you have to physically carry them to your vehicle and hoist them up into it? It is an uncomfortable thing to consider, but it can happen.

When my fifth Leonberger was 7 months old, he got his back foot caught in the looping design of my wrought-iron table on the back deck, and he flailed briefly before I could free him. Fortunately, I was sitting at that table having my coffee when it happened, but he gave himself a greenstick fracture of a metatarsal in that flailing. I found myself in the predicament of having to get him down the front steps of my house and into my car, and then into the vet’s office for the X-ray. Well, my 7-month-old puppy was already 30 inches tall and 110 pounds.

I ended up using a bedsheets tied as a sling that went under his belly and then diagonally across my chest and over my shoulder. I was able to essentially carry him down the steps off my front porch, and help him three-leg hop to the car, where I physically picked him up and put him in the car. I used the sheet-sling to get him back home and up the front steps. (By the way, the vet had to use a colt splint because of the puppy’s size.) It worked out, but it was an experience that stuck with me years later as that same dog became an old man, and I had to start thinking about what I would do if he fell out on a walk one day. He never did that, fortunately, but I could not have carried him by myself because he outweighed me.

Having a large-breed dog can mean having slings or stretchers stashed in your home and/or your car. It may mean bringing an emergency sling with you if you hike with your dog or take them to the beach. Fortunately there are quite a few such slings, stretchers, and ramps on the market, but not many that can be easily carried with you just for daily walks. No matter how “large” your dog breed may seem to other people, ultimately it comes down to whether or not you would be able to physically transport the dog by yourself if needed. Consider what you would need before it becomes necessary, and hopefully you never need to use it. Because there’s large, and then there’s large.

—Shannon White, Salisbury, Maryland, oceanleonbergers@gmail.com
Leonberger Club of America

Mastiffs

THE MASTIFF: COMPANION AND GUARDIAN

In this column I want to discuss an aspect of Mastiff temperament that may surprise newer owners.

The Mastiff Club of America (MCOA) states in our standard: “Temperament: A combination of grandeur and good nature, courage and docility. Dignity, rather than gaiety, is the Mastiff’s correct demeanor.”

Mastiffs are renowned for their gentle, genial, and faithful natures as family companions. They are generally excellent with children. Our Mastiff, Boris, assisted my grandson in learning to walk by patiently accompanying him and catching him on his muzzle when he was about to “face plant.” They can be extremely sensitive and responsive to family members’ moods and emotions.

However, there is another side to Mastiff temperament: The Mastiff as guardian and...
protector. While the origins of the Mastiff are shrouded in myth and supposition, it is generally agreed by at least two of the foremost early-19th-century writers on the breed (W.K. Taunton and H.D. Kingdon) that the Mastiff—or a dog of this type—was here when the Romans first arrived and was used as a war dog, then a housedog and guardian. Moving back into our era, the Mastiff’s role of “guardian” is not emphasized in our standard. In fact, it is exceedingly unlikely that a modern Mastiff would aggressively attack a perceived “enemy” as might a war dog in pre-18th-century times. As Elizabeth Baxter said in her book, *The History and Management of the Mastiff*, “They are not fighters, indeed an adult Mastiff is so self-assured that it has no need to fight and no desire to do so. If provoked beyond endurance … the Mastiff’s reaction is to knock down—and probably sit on the provocer.”

However, for most owners, it becomes apparent that Mastiffs view their jobs as guardians quite seriously. They are constantly surveying the environment and assessing threats to their owners. It can be rather disconcerting if—while you are out on a walk—your Mastiff suddenly stiffens, body-blocks you, steps in front of you, and won’t let you go any further, despite commands, until he or she determines it is safe. However, one important point for owners to be mindful of is the intuitive sensitivity of a Mastiff for his or her owner’s emotions. Regardless of the Mastiff’s own risk assessment, if you, the owner, are tense and anxious on walks—anticipating issues and tightening the lead upon the appearance of another dog or person—you’re Mastiff (believing you are in full command of your faculties) will assume there must be a threat and will respond as if it were the case. Never lose sight of the fact that, as a breeder and author of a book on the Mastiff said to me during interviews for articles, “They will think over any situation, action, deed, word, command, before they do what you want … it is hardwired into the breed. They are guardians, and that trumps anything else.”

In closing, the Mastiff is a noble breed whose ideal temperament is well characterized in our standard. The traits of “grandeur and good nature, courage and docility” as well as their reputation as a wonderful family companion have been widely disseminated. However, owners should also expect the side of their temperament that is the guardian and protector.

—Karen L. Cornelius, klc@klcassociates.com
Mastiff Club of America (MCOA)
The AKC sends the parent club metrics about the breed. These include total litter and registration numbers, as well as some calculations showing what these metrics might tell us about the health of the breed and the breed community.

I was the keeper of the stats for our club pre-AKC recognition, so I went back to compare some of these with the old rare-breed days. While a rare breed, the USNMC processed around 100 litters a year. The AKC metrics for 2008 show 97 litters, and 2018 showed 130 litters processed by the AKC. Reasonably close numbers, with promising increases.

Our assessment of litters in 1998 showed an average of about six pups a litter. The AKC metrics for 2008 and 2018 show 5.87 and 5.83 as average litter sizes. So that has pretty much stayed the same.

Total USNMC registrations as a rare breed in 1998 were 544, with 55—about 10 percent—being imported dogs transferring registration. In 2008, AKC processed 357 registrations, with 37—again, nearly 10 percent—being foreign registrations. And in 2018 there were 458 total dogs registered, a nice climb of 30 percent over 2008. This included 41 foreign registrations; again, just about 10 percent. So that too is about the same.

In the old rare-breed days, we did not track how many unique dogs participated in conformation. But AKC metrics show that in 2008 there were 180 individual dogs shown, and in 2018 there were 119 shown. This drop parallels a general decrease in participation in AKC conformation, but it might be worthwhile to note that the Neapolitan Mastiff numbers stopped declining and have been holding steady, with a very slight increase, since 2015.

Now here is the interesting metric: As a rare breed, the USNMC 1997 national specialty had an entry of 48. After AKC recognition, the 2008 national had an entry of 42, meaning that the 2008 national entries included about 25 percent of all dogs of the breed who appeared anywhere in the country in conformation that year. The 2018 national had an entry of 40, which astonishingly means the 2018 national entries included over 30 percent of all conformation dogs who appeared anywhere in the country.

That is rather good marks, I think!

In fact, the size of the Neapolitan Mastiff national specialty has been around 40, plus or minus, consistently over the years since the first one was held by the USNMC in 1992. Clearly, however, the impact of the national specialty is growing—I think rather spectacularly.

A few more statistical tidbits I encountered in doing this research:

Only four national-specialty winners were foreign-born (one from Belgium, one from Ecuador, and two from Italy). Three of those winners were selected post-AKC recognition.

From 1992 to 2018, four bitches have won the national, and all four were exhibited by their breeder. Four Best of Breed dogs were also owned and exhibited by their breeder. This means about 27 of the national-specialty BB winners were bred-by.

Five dogs have won the national twice, each time these were back-to-back wins. We have had foreign judges 17 times (from Italy nine of those times), and from the US 10 times.

In the old days the national was on the East Coast six out of 12 times, since that was the source of most volunteer workers. However, since AKC recognition, the national has traveled more widely around the country, being in the Midwest five times, the Mid-Atlantic five times, in the South and in the East twice each, and in the West once.
One gratifying result of AKC recognition is the growth in interest, and in workers, all around the country.

—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe, Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com
United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club

Newfoundlands

INTRODUCING TAYLOR VINGE, 2020–2021 AKC VETERINARY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE PART ONE

My mom and I welcomed our first Newfoundland puppy, Darcy, into our family when I was 12 years old. She came from Gerri Willis, owner of Rockbottom Newfoundlands. Darcy had an endless amount of love and patience, which proved perfect for first-time Newfie owners like us. Gerri became family and a mentor. I soaked up all her knowledge and advice like a sponge.

Gerri was passionate about draft work, a competition that showcases the breed’s instinctive drive to pull loaded carts through complicated courses while listening to the guidance of their handlers. So, naturally, draft is what I wanted to do as well. My mom earned Darcy’s first draft title, but at age 15 I delved into the sport and gleefully earned two draft requalifications with her. While the feeling of passing was amazing, I became more hooked on the emotions from sharing a bond with Darcy that arose over months of training and learning about one another. To say I was hooked on the “working dog world” after that test weekend is an understatement.

As the years passed, we welcomed two more Newfies into our family (Willow and Rosie), both also from Gerri. To my utter devastation, Gerri developed colon cancer prior to Rosie’s litter being born. She passed away not long before the puppies turned 12 weeks and were given to their forever homes. Although we hadn’t planned on keeping a puppy, my mom and I ended up with Rosie, since she was our last connection to a woman we had grown to love as family. While Rosie was by far our most challenging puppy, she had the attitude and the makings of an amazing working dog.

I made it my goal, in memory of Gerri, to compete with my Newfies in various activities that she had enjoyed during her life. While those activities included rally, obedience, trick dog testing, and trying out some water rescue work, my main passion continued to be draft.

When the NCA established a new level of draft work known as Draft Dog Excellent (DDX), I dove into the challenge headfirst as Gerri would have. This level requires a lot of training to be able to maneuver through very tight turns and challenging obstacles, including a driven figure 8, where the handler must direct their dog(s) from behind the cart. In 2015, after months of training with trial and error, Willow and I became the third team in the U.S. to earn the DDX title. In 2016, Rosie and I attempted the DDX level as well and passed the first day, then re-qualified the next, which allowed me to become the first handler

Vet student Taylor Vinge was inspired by her dogs’ late breeder to pursue carting with her Newfoundland.
to title two separate dogs at the DDX level. In 2017, I attempted a two-dog-team with Rosie and her half-brother, Bender. I went into the test just planning to have fun, but both dogs were 100-percent focused and driven that day. We became the first two-dog TDDX (Team Draft Dog Excellent) team in the U.S. In early 2018, Rosie, Bender, and I re-qualified in TDDX, becoming the first TDDX re-qualifiers.

Willow, the mother of Rosie and Bender, came out of retirement at age 10 years to join her children as a three-dog-team. In November 2018, I entered a test with all three dogs, and they worked together flawlessly, even through rainy, muddy conditions. I was able to go home that weekend with the first three-dog-team to qualify at the TDDX level.

Since the dogs were still eager to work and I wanted to do draft one more time before possibly committing most of my time to vet school, I entered the team in one last test in February 2019. We passed both days, and those amazing working dogs became the first two-dog TDDX (Team Draft Dog Excellent) deployed to Hurricane Katrina. Willow, the mother of Rosie and Bender, came out of retirement at age 10 years to join her children as a three-dog-team. In November 2018, I entered a test with all three dogs, and they worked together flawlessly, even through rainy, muddy conditions. I was able to go home that weekend with the first three-dog-team to qualify at the TDDX level.

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While this breed introduced me to the world of working dogs, Darcy also very unintentionally spurred my desire to become a veterinarian when she fell extremely ill at age 5. After becoming lethargic one morning, my mom rushed Darcy to the vet, where they determined she was in kidney failure. It was such a shock, seeing as she had been relatively normal the night before and the days prior. For the next few days, while I had to attend middle school my mom spent her time sitting next to Darcy in the back of the vet’s office while IV’s fed fluid into her body and kept her alive. Test after test was run, but nothing conclusive came up to explain why Darcy’s body was shutting down.

An outside vet came in to help and spent days flipping through books and researching possible illnesses. Finally, when we were close to giving up hope that Darcy would recover, the vet came across information on Addison’s disease. All the symptoms matched up to what Darcy was experiencing, and after administering the medicine her body needed, Darcy went from being on death’s doorstep to making a full recovery. Thanks to that vet who spied her owner, and Rosie is my company at vet school. This breed has given me the opportunity to meet some truly amazing people and learn so much about the dog world. I am truly blessed to have them in my life.

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To be continued in the April 2021 issue.

—Mary Lou Cuddy
bearscamp@gmail.com
Newfoundland Club of America

Portuguese Water Dogs

This month we continue our interview begun in the October 2020 issue with Marian Beland, who works in search-and-rescue (SAR) training with her young Portuguese Water Dog, Micah, and Connie Millard, owner of the first PWD SAR dog, Dutch, who worked at the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster. My sincere thanks to both owners for their educational responses.

Portuguese Water Dogs in Search-and-Rescue Part Two

Can SAR dogs do water search as well as land search? C: Generally speaking, water search is human remains detection (HRD). I train my HRD dogs to search buried as well as submerged victims. My past dogs that were cross-trained (Live and HRD) and my HRD-only K9s all have, at one time or another, been deployed to a water search. Spider (my cross-trained FEMA dog) deployed to Hurricane Katrina and searched partially submerged buildings as well as boat work, searching for live people in distress.

M: Water search is a different discipline than land and requires a different set of abilities and skills. Many dogs can do both, although I have seen some dogs who are not comfortable on a boat but do great work on land, and vice versa.

Are there specific conditions when you cannot work a SAR dog? If so, what are they? C: Yes. You do not work if there are hazmat conditions (chemical or bacterial) that are dangerous to their life and health. Also, where there are alligators!

M: Every discipline has its hazards for our K-9 partners, and Connie has mentioned three very good ones. It’s up to the handler to be aware and we do our best to keep our partners safe.

What SAR agencies do you work with? C: FEMA, SEMA, FBI, police and fire departments, and the National Guard.

M: My teams work with state and local law enforcement, the FBI, the Natural Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and state Emergency Management Offices (for example, we deployed to Mississippi for Hurricane Katrina).
At what age does a SAR dog retire from “work”?
C: Disaster dogs work in challenging environments. When I retire a dog depends on that dog’s agility as he or she ages. Generally, I retire my dogs around 10, but some can work a little longer. One of my certified dogs is deployable, and she will be 11 years in November. In my USAR discipline there are many handlers who will work their dogs (of many other breeds) longer than I do.
M: A dog’s nose is still good, even in old age. How long they can work depends on the dog and the discipline. The key is that they must be physically able to do the job. One of my dogs was in great shape and was 12 years old when he recertified for Wilderness Search. Many of the aging cadaver dogs continue to serve on the team as a “confirmation dog.” When an area of interest is found by another dog, they can be brought in to pinpoint or confirm the find.

Can a SAR dog do other venues? — that is, can they participate in water trials, obedience, agility, conformation, and so on?
C: Yes, absolutely, and I have. Dutch went from 9/11 WTC to the 2001 national specialty, and he participated successfully at the CWDX level 10 days after returning home from that deployment. A working dog is a working dog.
M: I wholeheartedly agree with Connie! My sister has trained two of my PWD SAR dogs for water trials, and they both received their Apprentice Water Dog and Working Water Dog titles. And after last weekend’s PWD practice session, I’m proud to say that Micah is eagerly following in their paw-prints!

Have there been other PWD SAR dogs? Who was the first PWD SAR dog?
C: I don’t network much, so I don’t know who else has done what. I’m pretty sure Dutch was the first to certify in wide-area Wilderness Live and HR, 1999. He was the first to
achieve both USAR/FEMA certifications (Type II and Type I) in 2001. To date I think I’m the only PWD handler who is a canine search specialist with FEMA, so only my five PWDs have been FEMA certified: Dutch, Spider, Rock, Ninja, and Westfield.

M: Connie and Dutch are legendary and have been great ambassadors for the breed! Others include K-9 ALLI, with Maine SAR, and K-9 CORZO with a Rhode Island team. I believe there was also a SAR dog in the Midwest, and one in Pennsylvania, but I don’t have their information.

What type of cases do you deploy for?

C: MOTFI is a FEMA Task Force. There are 28 task forces in the U.S. We participate in disasters (federal and state), and we also get called out for the odd missing person search for a live victim. More often the local state calls are for missing/presumed HRD and come from police departments.

M: My team responds to agency requests, and we deploy our dogs to find lost and missing people. Sometimes that is for “at risk adults,” and we deploy our dogs to find lost and missing children, lost hikers, and so on. Sometimes the request is for human-remains detection dogs to help law enforcement locate “cold case” victims.

How many dogs go out on a search at one time?

C: It depends on the type of search and who is available—that is, single missing person vs. disaster. If it’s a Federal disaster deployment, there will be four live find K-9 teams and four HRD dog teams deployed with the rest of the 70-member task force.

M: As Connie mentioned, it truly does depend on the type of search, the search urgency, and the size of the area. For an Alzheimer subject who has been missing for hours in the woods, we would probably deploy a trailing dog to determine the direction of travel, and simultaneously deploy our seven air-scent dogs in the high probability areas, each searching a separate wooded area.

Do you use a grid pattern search?

C: Yes and no. If we are searching for potential buried deceased victim, a tight grid search is appropriate. We also work a still water search on a tight grid pattern. On a federal disaster search we are definitely held to a GPS address-driven grid pattern. One dog will do a hasty search, followed later by second and third dogs to run each collapsed structure. Redundant coverage in a disaster setting is necessary anywhere there is a high probability of victims, as victims are buried deep as well as wide. When we perform wilderness wide-area searches, our dogs are set loose and we more or less split up and each work a segment of terrain.

M: Air-scent woodland search areas are usually divided up into 40-acre sectors, with a dog and handler assigned to each area. In deciding on the best approach for how to search their sector, the handler must consider many factors such as wind/weather, time of day, terrain, and lost person behavior (child vs. adult, dementia, autism, and age) and then use the best search strategy for those conditions.

Thank you once again, Marian and Connie!

To be continued in the April 2021 column.

—Carole Prangley-McIvor, mcivor_carole@yahoo.com

Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

PART ONE

Samoyeds

Our guest columnist for this issue is Lisa Hubenig. Lisa has been showing dogs for over 45 years and has been involved with Samoyeds for over 30 years, currently enjoying breeding, showing, and working with her dogs under the Sershan Samoyeds prefix. Aside from the shows, she enjoys volunteering with four generations of Sershan Samoyeds with the local child-reading therapy program, and has two obedience titles, three rally titles, three Herding Instinct Certificates, and participated in weight pull and two official sled dog races. She even tried her Sams at one of the first Chase Ability tests in Canada.

WINNING AND LOSING

I started this three months ago—the week after my new puppy arrived from afar, and a month after one of my older boys was found to have an inoperable stomach tumor (we agreed to take him home and love him as long as we could).

At that time, I was having a week of extreme joy, and extreme heartache, and as I watched all my dogs together and thought about how my life had changed so much in the preceding four weeks, these thoughts kept coming into my head. So I am now writing these meanderings down, before I forget them. (I am getting old …)

I am a purebred dog breeder, with registered, pedigreed dogs whom I show, work with, and enjoy in my home as everyday companions and part of our family. These are some of the lessons I have learned over the last 30 years “in dogs,” and I call it “Winning and Losing.”

Winning is having that first “good” dog whom you train and work with, and then attending your first show and having that dog work so well for you—some mistakes, some misbehavior, but overall a ‘win’ in performance. Bonus winning is actually winning a ribbon!
Losing is having someone be rude or negative to you, or someone scaring your dog at that first show—making you question yourself and your dog, having to start over with some training, and learning to watch out for those non-friends. Now the lines begin to be drawn.

Winning is finding that perfect first girl, and the perfect boy, to produce that first perfect litter. The joy and awe of the process and the sheer gift of sharing in the first several weeks of life for those puppies is part of the win. It is making life-long friends with members of the chosen homes for these precious beings, and snuggling with Mama dog when they are all gone (except the one you kept, of course!); together making more dreams of the training, the wins, and the titles to come.

Losing is a puppy dying during those first few weeks. Losing could also be choosing a bad home. You might lose track of a puppy you entrusted to the family, or encounter contract disputes, thus forfeiting the bond with that family. It may be having a puppy come back worse for wear and needing special love and attention to begin the transformation back into the puppy you always knew it could be.

Winning is having a successful breeding program, producing dogs that win and perform as you had expected and bred for. It is starting to have good quality dogs that win those ribbons, those titles—helping you become more established in your breed and with your peers, and gaining the respect of a larger group of dog folks with whom you can laugh, cry, plan, and just have as real friends.—Lisa Hubenig, May 2019

(Note: Shortly after the original writing of this article, we did suffer the devastating loss of our beloved Bowen, Can./Am. Ch. Sershan’s I Got Rhythm. He enjoyed three good quality months, but the last week it was obvious it was time for him to go to the Bridge. It was one of the hardest days, as we said our goodbyes to sweet Bowen, as he lay in the morning sun, taking his last breaths at home where he took his first breaths 10 days shy of 11 years ago.—L.H.)

To be continued in the April 2021 issue.

Thank you, Lisa.
—Heather LoProto, SCA Public Education Chair,
 hloproto@comcast.net
Siberian Huskies

AULD LANG SYNE

The traditional song “Auld Lang Syne” had a very different meaning this New Year’s Eve. For many, it signaled the long-awaited and welcomed end of a very trying year, one filled with challenges no one ever dreamed they would have to confront. I thought I knew Siberians pretty well, but last year taught me a lot about the resilience and adaptability of the breed and how they

Siberian Club of America
can help humans adjust to inconvenient and uncomfortable situations.

My Siberians range in age from 2 years to just shy of 15, and I assumed I pretty much knew every aspect of each individual dog’s personality. After only a few days of the state’s stay-at-home quarantine, I began to see traits I never noticed or suspected. The dogs immediately sensed life had suddenly changed and the standard daily routines were no longer the norm. Gone were the shows, play sessions, training classes, and rides in the Jeep. Strangest of all, they had human company day and night, every day. Life had changed almost immediately, and it was the dogs that proved to be the biggest influence in helping my husband and I survive the weeks of quarantine, social distancing, and cancellation of just about all activities and events.

I’m not sure who most enjoyed the additional time spent together—the humans or the dogs. The weeks of constant companionship provided a deeper and often surprising insight into the Siberians’ daily lives and interaction with their kennelmates. Almost immediately, the dogs sensed that life and the daily routines had changed. Most surprising, all 10 of them seemed to know their cooperation was essential in every way possible. They seemed to put aside their differences and co-existed in relative peace. A single growl or snap quickly settled any disagreements, even among those who were not generally best of friends. A large exercise yard, increased one-on-one attention, and extra treats went a long way in keeping the peace.

The Siberians also taught me an unexpected lesson about life: Some things just aren’t as important to happiness and well being as I’d thought. Sitting back and surveying the big picture can be a very life-changing exercise and cause one to re-evaluate many “necessities.” I discovered my dogs were much more vital to my happiness than I had realized. They also were the one constant.

Many people will not fondly remember 2020, and “Auld Lang Syne” signaled the year’s end with heartfelt feelings. I’m sure most dog people agree the love of and for their dogs played a vital part in helping them through the troubling times of 2020. It wasn’t a surprise to learn that animal adoptions soared during the Covid-19 pandemic. Dogs provide the unconditional love everyone needs at times like these.

This is also a time when dog owners can come to the aid of those who have been less fortunate. With illness, reduction in income, and job loss caused by the pandemic, many find it difficult to care for their family and pets. Offering a bag of food or helping with the costs of necessary veterinary care can be an act very much appreciated.

At the beginning of each new year, I am reminded of a quote I read years ago on the door of a church on Cape Cod. I’ve never learned the source, but year after year, it comes to mind:

“Believe in the new year which is given you—new and full of hope and things which never have been.”

Those are encouraging words for 2021. May 2021 be a kinder and gentler year. Best wishes to all.

—Jane Steffen, Brownfield, Maine, klonaguay@gmail.com

Siberian Husky Club of America
BREED COLUMNS

WORKING GROUP

Standard Schnauzers

BABY, IT’S COLD OUTSIDE!

Winter—Br-r-r-r! Today’s morning temperature was 17 degrees F; howling wind made it feel like 0 degrees. Our Standard Schnauzers each put a nose outside the door, a tentative paw into the snow, and quickly backed up, glaring at us. We could almost hear them think the classic children’s whine: “Do we have to?” Our fur kids made it clear that their Christmas stockings had better include winter wear.

Standard Schnauzers’ double coats insulate them from cold and heat. However, a recently stripped (or, heaven forbid, clippered) SS coat loses its insulating ability, so a sweater or an insulated jacket may be necessary. In dark red, the Zack & Zoey Elements Shearling Dog Coat with hood and leg warmers looks sharp on SS. Measure your SS around his neck, around his chest, and from his neck to tail; follow manufacturer’s guidelines before ordering. Even with a jacket, exposed parts—legs, neck, ears, paws, scrotum, and tail—are subject to frostbite and hypothermia. For ears, try a doggy hat that ties under the chin. For docked tails, look for tie-on nose-warmers in ski shops.

Winter foot care is vital in cold climates. Keep toenails short and pad hair trimmed close. Several brands of dog booties are available on the internet. To select, the AKC suggests looking for some helpful features:

- textured soles, with a good grip for traction;
- waterproof or water-resistant material;
- flexible soles, so your SS can walk naturally;
- adjustable Velcro straps.

Have your SS wear his new boots in the house for short periods, and praise him as he wears them. Check manufacturer’s guidelines for size, and measure before you order. Musher’s Secret is a non-staining, gluten-free, all-natural, beeswax-based paw wax made in Canada for sled dogs. A thin coat protects paws against snow, pad snowballs, ice, salt, road chemicals/de-icers, sand, heat, hot pavement, and rocky terrain. Musher’s Secret contains Vitamin E to help soothe and heal cracked paws. All ingredients are human-
Tibetan Mastiffs
GROOMING AND DESHEDDING A TIBETAN MASTIFF

One of the greatest allure of the Tibetan Mastiff (TM) is the breed’s magnificent coat. In their native land, their coat is essential for survival, but many people are initially drawn to the breed for the aesthetics of the coat. Often they quickly realize, however, that they have taken on more dog, and more coat, than they know how to handle. For the better part of the year, the TM coat requires very little maintenance, but when spring comes and they start to lose their undercoat, a process referred to as “blowing coat,” it’s a whole new ballgame. Fortunately proper grooming, with the right set of tools, can both decrease your workload and lessen the stress for your TM.

Additional resources:
https://www.greatplainsspca.org/top-10-winter-weather-tips-pets/
https://www.acma.org/resources-tools/pet-owners/petcare/cold-weather-animal-safety
https://pets.webmd.com/features/pet-winter-safety-prepping-your-pet-for-winter-weather
https://chimneyandwildlife.com/blog/cold-dog-left-outside/
https://www.greatpetplan.com/blog/posts/cold-weather-and-dogs
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aK27edLs7ow&feature=youtu.be (In this video, veterinarian Dr. Ernie Ward sets out to spend an 11-degree night in an uninsulated, igloo-style doghouse to demonstrate what a dog would suffer.)
https://www.interrmountainpet.com/blog/when-is-it-too-cold-for-your-dog-to-be-outside

—Suzanne T. Smith, Standard Schnauzers since 1967 (185 Laguna, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544), WastefuchsSS8@aol.com
Standard Schnauzer Club of America

Jan Reisen provides a winter dog care cheat sheet:
- Protect your SS’s paws from outdoor surfaces; wipe them off, even between toes, upon returning inside.
- Consider whether your SS may need a sweater or jacket.
- Brush your SS’s coat frequently to get rid of dead skin; condition as necessary.
- Use Musher’s Secret or Vaseline on your SS’s dry, chapped nose.
- Provide mental and physical stimulation and play while indoors.
- Make sure your SS has a warm place to sleep indoors, especially if you keep your house cool. More tips: https://www.hardypet.com/Winter-Dog-Care-Gear-Tips-and-Tricks_b_31.html

Your SS will also appreciate a non-electric self-warming crate pad (one example: https://khpet.com/products/self-warming-crate-pad). (Not recommended for outdoor use.). Features include:
- self-warming material returns body heat to your SS;
- slit corners allow a custom fit for any crate;
- soft micro-fleece surface provides comfort;
- bottom made of non-slip material;
- machine washable so care is simple.

Don’t leave your SS in a parked car for more than five minutes during cold winter months. A vehicle without the heater running is equivalent to a rolling refrigerator, says Jean Bauhaus, leading to hypothermia (when core body temperature drops below 99 degrees F, possibly leading to death) and frostbite (when freezing temperatures cause tissue death). Never leave SS outside at night in temperatures under 50 degrees F, even with a doghouse. (See more information here: https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/leaving-a-dog-in-the-car-in-winter/). For a better understanding of symptoms and treatment of hypothermia and frostbite, please see http://www.usarcovertegin.org/docs/HypothermiaAndFrostbiteInTheCanine.pdf.

Automotive antifreeze is thick, sweet, irresistible to some dogs, and a lethal poison requiring immediate veterinary treatment if ingested. Be sure to thoroughly clean up spills from your vehicle, and avoid using products containing ethylene glycol. One of our Sherwood Forest litter youngsters died in agony in my arms because her owner left her during his workday in the garage, where she licked up antifreeze. Hours later he brought her to me instead of to an emergency veterinarian. It was not a peaceful death.

Poinsettia’s colorful leaves contain sap that irritates skin and mouth; the plant is poisonous in large quantities. Holly and mistletoe plants, along with their berries, also are toxic to dogs. Symptoms of illness from ingesting these include intestinal upset, such as vomiting and diarrhea, excessive drooling, and abdominal pain. Keep these plants out of your dog’s reach.

Keep your Standard Schnauzers and yourself safe and healthy. Have a happy (and more “normal”) New Year!

Additional resources:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uK27edLs7ow&feature=youtu.be
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zsQ2oLs7ow&feature=youtu.be

grade: paw-licking dogs shouldn’t get sick. It also protects your SS’s ears, elbows, noses, and any other irritated spots.

Breed columns

WORKING GROUP
Getting started: Start with a thorough pre-bath blow-out to get rid of any dust, dirt, loose hair, or debris in the coat. Power blow is the key: An 8-amp, double motor, high-velocity dryer works well. It will blow the dirt right off the coat—but take care to lower the speed when using near the ears and eyes. Blow the coat until you no longer see particles coming out. This may take 15 to 20 minutes for the dogs with longer coat.

The Tibetan Mastiff will “blow coat” in springtime, calling for diligent coat care—made easier with the proper tools.
WORKING GROUP

The next step of the pre-bath blow-out is to use your undercoat rake to rake out as much loose fur as possible. Wetting loose fur will cause the fur to clump together and create an impenetrable mat, so it is essential that you eliminate as much loose coat as you can now, before putting the dog in the bath. Follow this with a “mat-zapper” slicker brush. It will break up clumps gently. Check the soft hair behind the ears and in the britches that are most prone to hidden tangles and mats, and you may also find that you have large clumps that didn’t break up with the dryer or rake. These call for a detangler spray (either oil or silicone-based) or conditioner as a lubricant. (Note: It is not advisable to use an oil-based detangler on the entire coat, ever, and especially not between baths. This leaves a greasy feel, weighs down the coat, and will trap dirt, making more frequent grooming necessary, though it can work wonders on mats.)

Work your detangler into the clumps, soaking thoroughly; rub in, and let sit. Try blowing the clumps using the concentrator nozzle on your dryer: This works 90 percent of the time. You don’t want to jerk and pull on tangled, impacted, or matted hair. This causes tearing of the living hair and can result in a rough and overworked coat when you’re done, not to mention it feels like torture to the dog.

Comb through any remaining tangles and mats with a wide-toothed metal comb. If mats are small, use a finer-toothed comb. If all else fails, and you feel compelled to pull out the scissors, cut straight lines into the mat, separate the clump, and pull apart. Do not cut across the mat to cut it out of the fur. This will create a new starting point for matting as the hair starts to regrow, and you will find yourself in a vicious cycle. Use blunt-tip scissors, like nursing bandage scissors, and cut straight in, a little at a time, stopping to work the hair loose from the mat as you go.

Bath time: Use the “warm water with shampoo, and cool water with conditioning” method. Shampoo and warm water work to clean the hair, but they also open up the follicles. When the hair shaft expands and opens up, the coat gets cleaner, but if not followed by cool water and a conditioner; the hair shaft stays open and can make the brush out difficult.

The TM coat naturally sheds water, so it will take some time to work your way through the coat to the skin. Wet, add shampoo, and massage in; repeat until you get lather all the way to the skin. Wash with a good-quality “volume” shampoo. If you want to go the extra mile, wash again with shampoo mixed with raw sugar to exfoliate and gently break up debris pockets.

Rinse thoroughly until your water runs clear, which with a TM, will take as much or more time than washing. Follow with conditioner, and rinse again with cool water. If time is an issue, try using a shampoo/conditioner combo product: One step to clean and condition. Even with this timesaving step, expect to spend at least an hour on the bath. These coats need to be gently and thoroughly tended.

High and dry: Time to dry. This is going to take at least two hours. Using your high-velocity dryer, start at the dog’s spine. Think gravity: Water flows down. Learn and use a line-drying technique. Divide the coat and blow-dry one layer at a time, working your way down and out. Once the coat feels about 90-percent dry, mist with a light, leave-in conditioner or hydrating spray. This will help with shine and making the physical brushout easier.

This is a good time to trim nails and clean the ears, while the coat has time to cool down and relax. Once the nails and ears are done, feel for areas that may still be damp and complete the drying process. Allowing the coat to rest and cool allows water from the skin to wick back up into the coat, and you will find moisture pockets that were not previously there. Be sure to dry completely, all the way to the skin. If you leave the coat damp, that lovely, thick coat traps the moisture in, and this can lead to skin breakdown and hot spots. Brush: At this point, air and water should have done most of your work. The real thing to stress is not to tug, pull, cut, or yank. This action will break the guard hair and hurt the dog. They don’t need to associate grooming with pain, as it’s something that will always be a part of their lives. Use a long pin brush (with 27-35 mm pin length) for the bulk of the body brushing, and use a wide-toothed comb (a “Poodle comb”) on the mane and tail. Finish and smooth with a slicker brush.

All the while this is going on, watch your dog. If he is wincing, slow down. It shouldn’t hurt, and if it does, you’re harming healthy hair and skin, and your results will reflect it.

Once you brush the dog out and feel no clumps or mats, run your wide-toothed comb through the entire coat. However, do not yank. If you hit obstructions, get your slicker out and slowly work on the spot.

Your Tibetan Mastiff is now de-shedded, groomed, and ready for some finishing touches. As you comb out, trim in lightly, using straight scissors, just to smooth out any wayward hairs that have a mind of their own. Brush the feet up, and trim the long hair on the feet with curved scissors to give a tight, cat-foot-like appearance.

Love and enjoy!
—Deborah Mayer and Brett Bunch,
debmayer@thetatek.com
American Tibetan Mastiff Association
ATTENTION DELEGATES

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held via video Zoom Webinar on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, beginning at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time. There will not be a Delegates Forum.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Carroll Kennel Club
Morris Hills Dog Training Club

DELEGATES CREDENTIALS

Mayno Blanding, Ridgefield, WA, Bichon Frise Club of America
Brian Brubaker, Carlisle, PA, Puli Club of America
Rebecca (Becky) Campbell, Dublin, OH, Central Ohio Kennel Club
Kathi Elliot, Scottsdale, AZ, Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club
Thea F. Lahtii, New London, NH, Irish Terrier Club of America
Anita O’Berg, Goleta, CA, Channel City Kennel Club
Leisure Puppo Rogers, Salisbury, NC, Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club
Bruce Schwartz, Los Angeles, CA, Welsh Terrier Club of America
Timothy Ufkes, Seattle, WA, Olympic Kennel Club

NOTICE

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have either been nominated by the Nominating Committee appointed by the Board of Directors on July 14, 2020, or have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as additional candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 9, 2021.

Class of 2025:
Rita J. Biddle, Esq., Ingham County Kennel Club
Dominic Palleschi Carota, Pharaoh Hound Club of America
Patricia M. Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club
Dr. Thomas M. Davies, Springfield Kennel Club
Dr. Gregory J. Paveza, Elm City Kennel Club
Thomas Powers, Kennel Club of Beverly Hills

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:

Mr. Eddie Macaya (Palm Bay, FL)

NOTICE

Ms. Marcia Catlett (Eagle, ID) Action was taken by the Coeur d’Alene Dog Fanciers for conduct at its November 1, 2020 event. Ms. Catlett was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty at a reprimand and a $200 fine. (Great Danes)

NOTICE

Ms. Beverly Conroy (Newtown, PA) Action was taken by the Bald Eagle Kennel Club for conduct at its July 26, 2020 event. Ms. Conroy was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event and violation of AKC rules/regulations or club regulations. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the combined penalty as a reprimand and $100 fine. (Berger Picards)

NOTICE

Ms. Deana Lemiere (New Hudson, MI) Action was taken by the Lima Kennel Club for conduct at its November 14, 2020 event. Ms. Lemiere was charged with inap-
propriate, abusive, or foul language and physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the combined penalty at a three-month event suspension and a $500 fine. (Alaskan Malamutes)

NOTICE
Ms. Kimberly Lourier (Aurora, CO) Action was taken by the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association for conduct at its November 20 & 21, 2020 events. Ms. Lourier was charged with impairing a club’s ability to retain site. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty at a three-month event suspension and a $100 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE
Mr. Jay Lucas (Melfa, VA) Action was taken by the Women’s Field Trial Club for conduct at its October 24, 2020 event. Mr. Lucas was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty at a reprimand and a $100 fine. (Labrador Retrievers)

NOTICE
Ms. Kimberly Stefanik (Milford, MI) Action was taken by the Lima Kennel Club for conduct at its November 14, 2020 event. Ms. Stefanik was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language and physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the combined penalty at a three-month event suspension and a $500 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Herty Andrus (Palmetto, LA) from event privileges for five years and imposed a $5,000 fine, effective December 22, 2020, for physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature and inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. (Beagles)

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Martha Guimond (Green Lane, PA) from all AKC privileges for five years and imposed a $1,000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC’s Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for life and imposed a $10,000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or 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 December 22, 2020:
  - Ms. Linda Brown (Pocomoke City, MD) German Shepherd Dogs
  - Ms. Deborah Schultz (Mancelona, MI) German Shepherd Dogs
  - Ms. Larisa Solomon (Troy, OH) Poodles, Shih Tzus

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS CHAPTER 6, SECTION 2 – Premium Lists and Closing of Entries
The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to CHAPTER 6, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. This will be voted on at the March 9, 2021 Delegates Meeting.

CHAPTER 6
SECTION 2. The premium list shall contain the following:
- a list of the officers of the show-giv-
ing club and the club address
• a list of the members of the Event Committee (there must be at least five) together with the designation of “Chair” and the Chair’s address (and “Obedience Trial Chair” if an obedience trial is being held by a club in connection with its dog show)
• the name(s) of the veterinarian(s) or name of local Veterinary Clinic and whether the veterinarian(s) will be in attendance throughout the show hours or “on call,”
• the names, city and state of the judges, together with their assignments
• the name and address of the superintendent or show secretary who has been approved by The American Kennel Club
• Entry fee(s)
• whether the show is benched or unbenched
• the exact location of the show
• the date or dates on which it is to be held
• the times of opening and closing of the show

Notification must be printed in the Premium List only if the club is not offering the three-point major to the Reserve Winners at the National Specialty.

CONFORMATION JUDGES

Letters concerning judges and provisional 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 regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship 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 by email at judgingops@akc.org.

APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS
Ms. Wendy Marquardt Anderson (108817) WI
(262) 581-1027
ibizan@gmail.com
Ibizan Hounds, JS-Limited
Mrs. Erika Bigot Busby (108801) NC
(704) 880-8682
erikabigott@me.com
Golden Retrievers, JS
Ms. Catherine Burlie (108837) TN
(615) 384-5367
memories@hughes.net
Bernese Mountain Dogs
Ms. Wendy Cox (108800) PA
(724) 971-1203
wecodanes@gmail.com
Great Danes
Ms. D’Arcy M. Downs-Vollbracht Esq. (101253) AZ
(928) 542-9020
darcy@dvmlawfirm.com
Border Terriers
Mrs. Nancy Foley (90746) IN
(217) 345-7571
nancylfoley@comcast.net
Cocker Spaniels, JS-Limited
Mrs. Kathleen Brock (47792) WA
(253) 884-2920
toccatacockers@aol.com
Basset Hounds, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels
Ms. JoAnne M. Buehler (22770) DC
(301) 590-9056
joanneb@his.com
Balance of Working Group (Chinooks), Bearded Collies, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs

Ms. Sandy Bingham-Porter (94107) IL
(217) 345-7571
sbinghamporter@eiu.edu
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels)

Mr. Rick Blanchard (90228) RI
(401) 623-1475
nixbmf@aol.com
Balance of Working Group (Boerboels, Dogo Argentinos, Giant Schnauzers, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Carole Beyerle (64912) CA
(661) 269-2131
excelsiorsalukis@hughes.net
American English Coonhounds, Azawaks, English Foxhounds, Otterhounds, Plott Hounds, Sloughis

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS
Ms. Annette Nobles (108827) GA
(478) 396-9772
anobles@aol.com
Bulldogs
Mr. Jeffrey Pyle (108835) OH
(812) 589-8751
jeffreypyle614@gmail.com
German Shepherd Dogs, JS

Ms. Carol Ephriam (94107) IL
(217) 345-7571
sbinghamporter@eiu.edu
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels)

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(401) 623-1475
nixbmf@aol.com
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Ms. JoAnne M. Buehler (22770) DC
(301) 590-9056
joanneb@his.com
Balance of Working Group (Chinooks), Bearded Collies, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs

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toccatacockers@aol.com
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joanneb@his.com
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(661) 269-2131
excelsiorsalukis@hughes.net
American English Coonhounds, Azawaks, English Foxhounds, Otterhounds, Plott Hounds, Sloughis

Mr. Rick Blanchard (90228) RI
(401) 623-1475
nixbmf@aol.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels)
Mrs. Kathleen V. Carter (6164) CO
(303) 425-6756
dancehalldolly@live.com
Anatolian Shepherds, American Eskimo Dogs, Chow Chows, Lhasa Apsos, Low-chen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Belgian Laekenois, Swedish Vallhunds

Mrs. Marissa L. Clark (26653) WA
(253) 358-3385
marissaacs@aol.com
A natolian Shepherds, A merican E skim o Dogs, C how C hows, Lhasa A psos, Low-chen, N orwegian Lundehunds, B elgian Laekenois, Swedish V allhunds

Ms. Marie Ann Falconer (51642) TN
(413) 433-6474
mylaone10@aol.com
American Staffordshire Terriers, Border Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Poodles, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS
(913) 706-5365
fritzgm77@gmail.com
Brittanys, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat-Coated Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, Azawaks, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Greyhounds, Rhode-sian Ridgebacks, Sloughis

Mr. Jason Hoke (92952) WI
(646) 241-5800
jasonhoke@aol.com
Grand Basset Griffin Vendeens, Bull Terriers, Bichon Frises, Bulldogs, Chi-neese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Coton de Tulear, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Mr. Glen Lajeski (75929) CA
(707) 318-1038
glen@srsranch.com
Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, Japanese Chins, Mal-tese, Manchester Terriers, Toy Fox Terri-ers)

Ms. Pamela S. Lambie (96227) AZ
(760) 272-0625
pam@pamlambie.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Wirehaired Vizslas), Boxers, Dogues de Bordeaux, Samoyeds

Mr. Dale Meyer (6655) WI
(715) 654-5330
meyerd@tds.net
Balance Working Group ( Akitas, Bull-mastiffs, Dogo Argentinos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Mastiffs, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards)

Mr. Malcolm E. Moore (23275) AL
(334) 312-3900
arpsnit1@gmail.com
Beagles, Dachshunds, Whippets

Ms. Madeline Patterson (16760) CA
(805) 529-7405
bradandmad@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (Japanese Chins, Manchester Terriers, Pekingese)

Mrs. Carlin Rasmussen-Johnson (103975) WI
(715) 424-5561
carlinrasmussen@yahoo.com
Norwegian Elkhounds, Portuguese Water Dogs, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, Pugs, Bel-gian Malinois

Mr. Jay Roden (104891) OH
(513) 918-5832
jyroden@yahoo.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pins-chers, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bor-deaux, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees

Mrs. Elizabeth Rosbach (99743) WA
(206) 316-0276
liz.rosbach@gmail.com
Dachshunds, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Petits Basset Griffons Vendeens, Whippets

Ms. Sheree Sanchez (97389) CO
719-313-1755
outlawaussies@hotmail.com
Harriers, Petits Basset Griffons Vendeens, Samoyeds, American Hairless Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Belgian Tervuren, Bouviers des Flan-
dres, Canaan Dogs, German Shepard Dogs, Old English Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mrs. Jean Shepherd (95654) MN
(507) 482-6611
jfshephe213@gmail.com
Barbets, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Gordon Setters

Mr. Jon Titus Steele (55162) MI
(989) 860-9677
jonauroral@gmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chins, Miniature Pinschers, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers), Bull Terriers

Ms. Frances C. Stephens (15410) WA
(253) 267-1919
mistihil@comcast.net
Belgian Sheepdogs

Mr. Ken Tippie (5329) CA
(415) 699-5109
kentippie@hotmail.com
American Foxhounds, Beagles, Blood-hounds, English Foxhounds, Airedale Terriers, American Hairless Terriers, Bull Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terri-ers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers
SECRETARY’S PAGES

Mrs. Joyce Van Kirk (29966) AZ  
(623) 937-0577  
mjoy65@cox.net  
Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Mr. Adrian Woodfork (6877) CA  
(916) 716-2369  
addoxdobs@sbcglobal.net  
German Shorthaired Pointers, Labrador Retrievers, Vizslas, Norwegian Elkhounds

Ms. Linda C. Wozniak (101087) NC  
(919) 942-5818  
ossicks@att.net  
Barbets, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Vizslas, Wirehaired Vizslas, Ibizan Hounds

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Diego Garcia (108799) NC  
(215) 499-5215  
diegoeogarcia@gmail.com

Ms. Jamie Iffland (108819) SC  
jamieiff10@gmail.com

Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT  
(203) 631-7110  
dulcedanes@yahoo.com

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 PERMIT JUDGES

Ms. Sandra Moore (40375) TN  
(931) 657-8102  
avalonborzoi@blomand.net  
Borzoi

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Mr. Gary L. Andersen (6176) AZ  
(480) 991-7485  
glandersen@cox.net  
American Hairless Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Rat Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

Mrs. Sandra S. Coffman (96285) KS  
(785) 582-5186  
coffmantribe@gmail.com  
Cesky Terriers, Silky Terriers, Finnish Spitz, Tibetan Terriers, Belgian Malinois

Mrs. Janet Cohen (90134) NJ  
(516) 459-0211  
newfie219@aol.com  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Keeshondens, Poodles, Tibetan Spaniels)

Ms. Kathryn Cowser (17121) CA  
(925) 202-9000  
kcowsert@hotmail.com  
Australian Cattle Dogs, Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Terriers, Bergamasc Sheepdogs, Canaan Dogs, Collies, Pulik, Pumik

Mrs. Lisa Dube Forman (63962) NY  
(518) 523-0031  
liisa@lisadubeforman.com  
Basset Hounds, Beagles, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, English Foxhounds, Otterhounds

Mr. Edmund Dziuk (26469) MO  
(573) 424-2809  
eddiedziuk@aol.com  
Brittanys, German Shorthaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Irish Setters

Mrs. Donna Ernst (91808) TN  
(423) 884-2404  
anthemkennel@msn.com  
American Hairless Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Norwich Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Russell Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Ms. Jennie Hynes (105029) CT  
(203) 858-3394  
jhynes@dbsasis.com  
Beagles

Mr. Dean A. Laney (98653) ID  
(208) 369-6923  
nalaney@q.com  
Afghan Hounds, Bloodhounds, Pharaoh Hounds

Dr. Camille McArdle (66682) MN  
(612) 743-7329  
camillemc@gmail.com  
Barbets, German Shorthaired Pointers, English Setters, Clumber Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Doberman Pinschers, Kuvasz, JS-Limited

Ms. Lew Olson (24173) AR  
(713) 303-5639  
lewolson@earthlink.net  
American English Coonhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Plott Hounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Mrs. Angela Pickett (100269) FL  
(407) 252-3111  
pickettpap@aol.com  
Azawakhs, Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirneco dell’Etna, Dachshunds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Whippets

Mrs. Knowlton A. Reynolds (152803) NH  
(603) 938-5885  

norwiches@aol.com
Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Plott Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Silky Terriers
*Permit status approval for Dachshunds pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.
Mrs. Vicki Seiler-Cushman (100265) OH
(513) 638-1585
seilerv@yahoo.com
Labrador Retrievers, Chihuahuas, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Lowchen, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli
Ms. Jan C. Sigler (7526) KS
(913) 649-5282
kaleasibes@mac.com
American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Greyhounds, Petit Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

BEST IN SHOW
The following person, having successfully completed the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were approved, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Mr. Neil T McDevitt (91600) OH
(937) 371-8249
nmcdevitt1@woh.rr.com

Ms. Linda F Morris (101667) MD
(410) 430-7275
Lmorris25@comcast.net
Obedience – Utility

Ms. Cheryl Tisdale (94543) TN
(615) 653-5523
eqwynd@peoplepc.com
Obedience – Novice

Ms. C heryl T isdale (94543) TN
(615) 653-5523
eqwynd@peoplepc.com
Obedience – Novice

PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES
The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.

Ms. C heryl T isdale (94543) TN
(615) 653-5523
eqwynd@peoplepc.com
Obedience – Novice

PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES
The following persons have been approved as a judge on a Provisional basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. They may now accept assignments.

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE
Col. Harold R. Brizee
Mrs. Janet Narushka

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES
Mr. Alberto Berrios
Mrs. Susan Griffiths
Ms. Sandra E. King
Mr. Henry N. Nave
Mr. John R. Wood

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 Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary.
ALIBI-Sealyham Terriers- Kate M. Flack
ALPENHEART-Bernese Mountain Dogs-Noreen Galaba
AMICA-Golden Retrievers-Mia T. Nieman and Lindsay T. Nieman
DASHA-Chinese Cresteds-Brandi N. Ritchie
EDGEND-Alaskan Malamutes-JoAnn Evans
FAIRHAVEN-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels-Angela M. Schuller
FULL TILT-Borzoi-Ashley N. Sydow and Sherri A. Nichols
GABILAN HILLS-Labrador Retrievers-Yolanda Busby
GEAUX DOG- Golden Retrievers-Jessica E. Hagstette

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED
The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:
ALCHEMY-Doberman Pinschers-Leah A. Ramsey
ARKADA SIIRENE-Bedlington Terriers-Irina S. Getman
AVALON- Borzois- Sandra R. Moore
BONAYR- Collies- Mary T Jones and Courtney Barrizal
BRIGHTON-Vizslas- Katherine M. Bergoon and Brent J. Bergoon
CAMARADA- Poodles-Brittany L. Valle
CANYON’S- Collies- Ed Degner and Shelly Degner

JNJ- Bulldogs- Jim F. Privitor and John M. Kolloran
MPOSSIBLE-Australian Shepherds-Mary Ann Magness
NORDIC SKY-Standard Schnauzers-Darla J. Larson-Spurgeon
RISINGSTAR-Miniature Pinschers-Carol D. Dry
RUA RI-Dogue de Bordeaux- Colleen M. Ewald
SEVEN LAKES-Rhodesian Ridgebacks-Ian D. Commissiong
TEULU’S- Great Danes- Tom Lewellan and Jessica Lewellen
TROUVAILLE-Australian Shepherds-Monica A. Lenners and Mikayla J. Lenners
VESPER-Australian Shepherds-Jennifer G. Williams
QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
ZOOM WEBINAR
DECEMBER 2, 2020

Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 376

Abilene Kennel Club—Melanie Steele
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Constance Butherus
Airedale Terrier Club of America—Aletta L. Moore
Akita Club of America—Steven Lisker
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—Patricia A. Peel
Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—KC Gottschalk
American Belgian Malinois Club—Carol J. Shields
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—Ms. Janina K. Laurin
American Bloodhound Club—Mary Lou Olszewski
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—Pat Klean
American Boxer Club, Inc.—Sharon Steckler
American Brussels Griffon Association—Mr. Mark F. Jaeger
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—Alan Kalter
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—Patricia Kanan
American Chesapeake Club—Heidi Henningson
American Fox Terrier Club—Connie Clark
American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—Don Hanson
American Maltese Association, Inc.—Ms. Sandra Bingham-Porter
American Manchester Terrier Club—Roberta Berman
American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—Barbara Donahue
American Pointer Club, Inc.—Mr. Danny D. Seymour
American Rottweiler Club—Mr. Peter G. Piusz
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—Marjorie Tuff
American Sloughi Association—Erika N. Wyatt
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—Bruce Van Deman
American Tibetan Mastiff Association—Martha Feltenstein
American Whippet Club, Inc.—Karen B. Lee
American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association—Kate DeSanto
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Ms. Patricia A. Sample

Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc.—Anne R. Palmer
Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—Pamela J. Arrowood
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Wallin
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—Gail A. LaBerge
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—Bette D. Williams
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—Joyce Rowland
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—William L. Christensen
Badger Kennel Club—Jennifer L. Amundsen
Baltimore County Kennel Club—Lucy C. Campbell
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—Katie Campbell
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—Dr. Norine E. Noonan
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Kathleen Ronald
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—Linda C. Wozniak
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—Susan Soviero
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—Phyllis Belcastro
Bedlington Terrier Club of America—Laurie Zembrozski
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—Mary G. Buckwalter
Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—Carole A. Wilson
Berger Picard Club of America—Jacqueline Carwold
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—Sara Karl
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—Martha Griffin
Black Russian Terrier Club of America—Susan Sholar
Blennerhassett Kennel Club, Inc.—John McCullagh
Border Collie Society of America—Lisa M. Pruksa
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Ruth A. Naun
Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—Prudence G. Hlatky
Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Kathleen M. Kelly
Briard Club of America, Inc.—Diane Reid
Bronx County Kennel Club—Alexa Samarotto
Brookhaven Kennel Club, Inc.—Marie A. Fiore
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—Victoria Glickstein
Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—Priscilla Gabosch
Bull Terrier Club of America—Ms. Jan Dykema
Bulldog Club of America—Link Newcomb
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.
Butler County Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara Ioa
Cairn Terrier Club of America—Pam Davis
California Airedale Terrier Club—Nancy Bouguer
California Collie Clan, Inc.—Mr. Roy E. Degner
Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—Mr. Wayne F. Harmon
Canaan Dog Club of America—Pamela S. Rosman
Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki
Cape Cod Kennel Club, Inc.—David Harsch
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Jacque Glenn
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—Jaimie Ashby
Carolina Working Group Association—Cathleen Rubens
Catoctin Kennel Club—Whitney Coombs
Catonsville Kennel Club—Beverly A. Drake
Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc.—Robert E. Tainsh, M.D.
Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally Allen
Central Iowa Kennel Club, Inc.—Kristina M. DeLisi
Central New York Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Diane D. Almy
Champlain Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—John E. Cornell
Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—Mr. Joao Machado
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—Marge B. Calliharp
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—Margaret DiCorleto
Clarksville Kennel Club—Robert A. Schroll
Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—Dr. Stephen Lawrence
Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—Margorie Underwood
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—Mrs. Maureen R. Setter
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Dr. Bryant Freeman
Collie Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John G. Buddie
Colorado Colorad Kennel Club—Mrs. Louise Leon
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—Douglas Johnson
Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—Leslie A. Joseph
Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Inc.—Mrs. Anne M. Hier
Conroe Kennel Club—Jane Bates
Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—James F. Barron
Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—Michael Hougaard
Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc.—Pamela J. Rhyn-Hirko, Cmrd. (Ret.)
Cudahy Kennel Club—Mr. Don H. Adams
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—Larry Sorensen
Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—Dr. Charles Garvin
Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Karen Dorn
Dayton Dog Training Club—Sherri Swabb
Del Monte Kennel Club—Carey Fayram
Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—Andrew G. Mills
Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore—Sandra Olsen
Del-Ose-Nango Kennel Club—Stephanie A. Crawford
Delaware County Kennel Club, Inc.—Brenda A. Algar
Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—Dr. A. D. Buthers
Doberman Pinscher Club of America—Glen Lajeski
Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—Mrs. Patti L. Strand
Duluth Kennel Club—Leah R. James
Durango Kennel Club—Donald E. Schwartz, V.M.D.
Eastern Dog Club—Mr. Theodore C. Hollander, Jr.
Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—Robert Rynkiewicz
Eln City Kennel Club—Dr. Gregory J. Paveza
English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Cheree M. Nawrocki
English Setter Association of America, Inc.—Dr. Brenda J. Parsons, D.V.M.
English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, Inc.—Susanne Burgess
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English Toy Spaniel Club of America—Heather Reid
Erie Kennel Club, Inc.—Julie W. Parkar
Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Terrie Breen
Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—Teresa Vila
Field Spaniel Society of America—Katherine Sullivan
Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Margaret B. Pough
Finnish Spitz Club of America—Mrs. Cindy Stansell
First Dog Training Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—Mary D. Curtis
Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc.—Neal Goodwin
Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—Eduardo T. Fugiwara
Fort Worth Kennel Club—Harold Tatro III
Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—Gale Golden
Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Cynthia (Cindy) Collins
Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Virginia Denninger
German Pinscher Club of America—Barbara L. Visinski
German Shepherd Dog Club of America—Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—Mrs. Barbara N. Schwartz
German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Patricia W. Laurans
Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—Chris Reed
Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America—Jo Lynn
Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Carole L. Richards
Golden Retriever Club of America—Ellen Hardin
Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—Nance O. Skoglund
Grand Rapids Kennel Club—Mrs. Carol L. Johnson
Grand River Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Lettis
Great Barrington Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Ellen C. Shanahan
Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc.—Rhonda Dalton
Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc.—Ms. Karen J. Burgess
Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara Shaw
Greater Miami Dog Club—Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez
Greater Sierra Vista Kennel Club—Ms. Charlotte J. Borghardt
Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—Catherine Cooper
Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.—Kathie S. Moulton
Greenville Kennel Club—Gloria Askins
Greenwich Kennel Club—Donna Gilbert
Greyhound Club of America—Kathleen B. Whitaker
Harrier Club of America—Donna Smiley
Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandie Rolenaitis
Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—Sally L. Fineburg
Havanese Club of America—Shirley A. Petko
Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—Patricia M. Cruz
Hendersonville Kennel Club—Betty Ann Brown
Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—Nancy Fisk
Hoyoke Kennel Club, Inc.—Jane Wilkinson
Hoosier Kennel Club, Inc.—Carl H. Kreck
Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—Thomas D. Pincus
Hungarian Pumi Club of America—Marilyn Piusz
Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Dick Blair
Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Marie A. Waterstraat
Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara A. Penny
Ibizan Hound Club of the United States—Michelle Barlak
Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Rita J. Biddle
Intermountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Michael L. Van Tassell
Irish Red and White Setter Association of America—Christopher M. Orcutt
Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Karolyynne M. McAteer
Irish Water Spaniel Club of America—R. J. Rubin
Irish Wolfhound Club of America—Eugenia Hunter
Jacksonville Dog Fanciers’ Association—Victoria A. Marks
James River Kennel Club, Inc.—Sherry Harmon
K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—Dave Morgan
Kachina Kennel Club—Lee Ann Stusnick
Kanadasaga Kennel Club—Christine Cone
Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—Richard Su
Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, Inc.—Doreen Weintraub
Kennebec Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—Thomas Powers
Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—Margaret Doster
Kenna Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—Daniel Petko
Kennel Club of Riverside—Sylvia A. Thomas
Kennesaw Kennel Club—Bud Hidlay
Kern County Kennel Club—Claudia L. Burk
Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—Jacquelyn Fogel
Komondor Club of America, Inc.—Michael Harman
Kuvasz Club of America—Richard Roenthal
Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.—Tony Emilio
Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Kimberly Van Hemert
Ladies’ Dog Club, Inc.—Mrs. Arna B. Margolies
Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America, Inc.—James Talbert
Lake Champlain Retriever Club—Wendy Jones
Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Diana L. Skibinski
Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—Deborah L. Kreider
Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—Carolyn M. Vack
Land O’ Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Jan Croft
Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.—Debra Duncan
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert N. LaBerge
Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Cindy Meyer
Leinerberger Club of America—Don James
Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—Sue Goldberg
Lexington-Auburn Kennel Club Inc.—Jan Wolf
Long Island Kennel Club—Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.
Longshore-Southport Kennel Club, Inc.—Michaelann Mako
Louisiana Kennel Club, Inc.—Luis F. Sosa
Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—Debra H. Owen
Lowchen Club of America—Lisa Brown
Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Ruth Crumb
Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club, Inc.—James P. Henshaw
Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—Lynn Garvin
Maryland Kennel Club—Gary Sarvinas
Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—Rebecca Campbell
McKinley Kennel Club—Herman H. Tietjen
Mensana Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.
Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Jeanette Nieder
Middleburg Kennel Club—Mrs. Susan Werner
Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—Joanne Wilds
Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—Ralph Hoganancp
Mississippi State Kennel Club—Roxanne Hilsman
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—Gretchen Bernardi
Montgomery County Kennel Club—Ms. Ida E. Weinstein
Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—Barry A. Hoovis
Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary Yoders
Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—Jane F. Rutherford
Myrtle Beach Kennel Club—Sylvia Arrowood
Nashville Kennel Club—Anne Gallant
National Beagle Club—Eddie Dziak
National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—Norma Ryan
National Shiba Club of America—Maggi Strouse
Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—Viola Burgos
Nebraska Dog and Hunt Club—Gary Kavan
Nebraska Kennel Club—Medora Harper
New England Beagle Club, Inc.—Blaine Grove
New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—Julie King
New England Old English Sheepdog Club—Mrs. Jane C. Ogg
Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—David Helming
Newnan Kennel Club—Luanne K. Dunham
Newton Kennel Club—Catherine H. Murch
Niskally Kennel Club—R. H. Hachtel
North Shore Kennel Club—Richard F. Coletti
Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club—Joyce Engle
Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc.—Lori Webster
Norwich Terrier Club of America—Jean Kessler
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—Allyson Caster
Oakland County Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Barry R. Wyerman
Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—Beverly H. Conroy
Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—Sheila Kenyon
Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—Felice Jarrold
Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—Betty M. Winthers
Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—Judy F. Murray
Orlando Dog Training Club—Mary L. Jensen, Ph.D.
Otterhound Club of America—Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.
Pacific Coast Pekingese Club—Frank Meister
Park Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Susan Olsen
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—Gary Koeppel
Pasco Florida Kennel Club—Patricia Lombardi
Pekingese Club of America—Steve Hamblin
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Anne H. Bowers
Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—Dennis J. Gallant
Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—Bettina M. Sterling
Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America—Helen Ingham
Pharaoh Hound Club of America—Dominic P. Carota
Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—Larry Wilson
Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—Dean Burwell
Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Margaret Vohr
Plainfield Kennel Club—Linda A. Deutsch
Stone Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—William E. Ellis
Pocono Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Krieger
Poodle Club of America, Inc.—Dr. Donald Sturs, Jr.
Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Kathy Gregory
Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—Robin Burmeister
Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—Richard E. Grant
Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—Florence R. Laicher
Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—Frances Stephens
Ramapo Kennel Club—Jeffrey D. Ball
Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Sally J. Nist
Redwood Empire Kennel Club—Johnny Shoemaker
Reno Kennel Club—Mrs. Vicky Cook
Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—Grace Wilkinson
Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.—Judith Lichtman
Rio Grande Kennel Club—Julie Kirkpatrick
Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—Barbara L. Burns
Rubber City Kennel Club—Cathy Gaidos
Sahuaro State Kennel Club—Rita L. Mather
Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—Karen Cottingham
Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club—Bob Busby
Saluki Club of America—Monica H. Stoner
Sammanish Kennel Club—Dr. Robert C. Gostler, M.D.
Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John L. Ronald
San Antonio Kennel Club, Inc.—Nancy J. Shaw
Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—Abbe R. Shaw
Santa Clara Dog Training Club, Inc.—Becky A. Richardson
Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—Mr. David J. Peat
Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc.—Mimi Winkler
Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—Betty Jo Patrick
Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.—Hon. James G. Phinizy
Scottish Terrier Club of America—Helen A. Prince
Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—Dr. Dawn Schroeder
Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Sharyn Y. Hutchens
Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—Susan L. Hamil
Shoreline Retriever Club—Michael L. Moscovitz
Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—Ann M. Cook
Silver State Kennel Club—Tammy Russell-Rice
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—William J. Fooney
Skye Terrier Club of America—Mr. Stephen P. Hersey
Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—Gloria Shaver
Somerset Hills Kennel Club—Harvey Goldberg
South County Kennel Club, Inc.—Bob Callitharp
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Linda C. Flynn
South Windsor Kennel Club—Mrs. Laurie Maulucci
Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club—Ricky Adams
Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club—Marilyn R. Vinson
Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—John V. Ioia
Southern Oregon Kennel Club—Warren Cook
Spinone Club of America—Karen Luckey
Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Thomas M. Davies
St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—Susan Weigel
St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Deborah J. Wilkins
St. Louis Collie Club, Inc.—Isabel Ooski
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—Amy J. Schwoebel
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—Jeannette O’Hanlon
Standard Schnauzer Club of America—Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser
St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—Jan Ritchie Gladstone
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. Zinger
Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—Laura Trainer
Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Florence Duggan
Sussex Spaniel Club of America—John R. Lewis, Jr.
Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—Marylyn DeGregorio
Talbot Kennel Club—Joann B. Beavers
Tampa Bay Kennel Club—Mary Stolz
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—Mrs. Richella M. Veatch
Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Sonja J. Ostrom
Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Michael Knight
Tibetan Spaniel Club of America—Mrs. Linda C. Foiles
Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Stacey La Forge
Toledo Kennel Club, Inc.—Joyce Wilson
QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
ZOOM WEBINAR
DECEMBER 2, 2020

The Delegate Forum topic was “Q&A for Board of Director Candidates,” moderated by Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary.

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) at the conclusion of the Delegate Forum.

Gina M. DiNardo explained the Zoom Webinar functionality for the meeting as follows: I wanted to give you a little bit more information about the features of this meeting. We will be using select interactive tools. Raise Your Hand function. Raise Your Hand indicates that you wish to speak. You will be acknowledged in the order that your hands are raised. You will be asked to unmute when it’s time for you to speak. Keep your hand raised until called upon or lower your hand, if you decide not to speak. Polls are launched live to conduct votes for new member clubs and amendments. The Poll will appear on your screen when it’s time for you to vote. Q & A is only to be used for issues regarding Parliamentary procedure, such as to second a motion. If any Delegate has technical issues during the meeting, please call the Zoom Tech Support line at 919-816-3320. I will repeat that, 919-816-3320.

Mr. Sprung introduced Chairman, Dr. Thomas M. Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Executive Secretary, Gina DiNardo; Professional Registered Parliamentarian, Joan Corsiiero and Estamarie Castelli-Velez, the Court Reporter.

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

Ms. DiNardo: Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the nominating committee: Ms. Nancy Fisk, Chair, Hockamock Kennel Club; Ms. Viola Burgos, Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club; Mr. Eduardo Toshio Fugiwara, Fort Lauderdale Dog Club; Mr. Doug Johnson, Colorado Springs Kennel Club; Mr. Harold Miller, American Foxhound Club. Alternates: Ms. Marge B. Calltharp, Chi-
nese Shar-Pei Club of America; Ms. Melanie Steele, Abilene Kennel Club, appointed by the Board of Directors at its July 2020 meeting, has nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 9, 2021.

There are four vacancies for the Class of 2025:
- Rita J. Biddle, Esq., Ingham County Kennel Club; Dominic Palleschi Carota, Pharaoh Hound Club of America; Dr. Thomas M. Davies, Springfield Kennel Club; Thomas Powers, Kennel Club of Beverly Hills.

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 a candidate for the vacancies on the Board of Directors for the Class of 2025, to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 9, 2021:
- Patricia M. Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club.
- Dr. Gregory J. Paveza, Elm City Kennel Club.
- Thomas M. Davies, Springfield Kennel Club.

Mr. Sprung: The Bylaws state that no nominations may be made from the floor. Therefore, nominations closed on November 15, 2020. In accordance with the Delegate Standing Rules, each candidate is allowed 3 minutes to address the Delegate body. The class of 2025 candidates, their speeches have been prerecorded and will be played consecutively in alphabetical order. No questions from the floor will be entertained. The first candidate for the Class of 2025 is Rita J. Biddle, Esq., Ingham County Kennel Club. The second candidate is Dominic Palleschi Carota, Pharaoh Hound Club of America. The third candidate is Patricia M. Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club. The fourth candidate is Dr. Thomas M. Davies, Springfield Kennel Club. The fifth candidate is Dr. Gregory J. Paveza, Elm City Kennel Club. The sixth and final candidate for the Class of 2025 is Thomas Powers, Kennel Club of Beverly Hills.

The Executive Secretary read the names of the Delegates seated since the last meeting, in September:

Ms. DiNardo: These are the delegates seated since our last meeting
- Claudia L. Burk, Bakersfield, CA, to represent Kern County Kennel Club
- Rhonda Dalton, Montmouth Junction, NJ, to represent Great Pyrenees Club of America
- Carey Fayram, Gilroy, CA, to represent Del Monte Kennel Club
- Jan Ritchie Gladstone, Stokesdale, NC, to represent St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association
- Heidi Henningson, Springfield, NE, to represent American Chesapeake Club
- Michael L. Moscowitz, New Haven, CT, to represent Shoreline Retriever Club
- Link Newcomb, Santa Ana, CA, to represent Bulldog Club of America
- Jack E. Sappenfield II, Durham, NC, to represent Durham Kennel Club
- Bettina Sterling, Glen Mills, PA, to represent Penn Treaty Kennel Club
- Sherri Swabb, Sugarcreek Township, OH, to represent Dayton Dog Training Club
- Linda Wozniak, Chapel Hill, NC, to represent Bayou Kennel Club
- Laurie Zembruski, Leesburg, VA, to represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America

The following new Delegate introductions were given by the Executive Secretary, in lieu of those from the floor:

Claudia Burk, Bakersfield, California, representing Kern County Kennel Club

Claudia and her husband have Harriers and German Wirehaired Pointers. As a retired Special Education teacher, she spends her time with her grandchildren and her dogs. As an AKC instructor for the CGC program, she uses it to augment the 4-H dog project that she has been involved with for more than 40 years. Currently she serves as the County Chairman for it. Her training classes are held with no fees and include 4-H, FFA and other junior handlers. The students compete in AKC performance classes as well as Conformation and Juniors. She is proud of their many achievements that include qualifying for and competing in Breed and Juniors at Westminster.

Heidi Henningson, Springfield, Nebraska, representing American Chesapeake Club

Heidi Henningson began in the Sport of Dogs at thirteen in the venues of Obedience and Junior Showmanship. As an Elementary School Principal, Heidi recognized the positive affect of having a “Reading” dog in her building. One of her own Chesapeake’s served as a classroom reading tutor, the first of many dogs to follow in the district. Her passion for her breed has continued throughout her life. Currently she runs and judges AKC Hunt Tests and Field Trials and competes in Conformation, Dock Diving, and the Obedience ring. Heidi presently is the Director of Rescue for the American Chesapeake Club as well as a Regional Director, and past Board Member. Heidi is Secretary for
the Nebraska Dog and Hunt Club, a member of the Missouri Valley Hunt Club, and the Metro Alliance Retriever Club.

Michael L. Moscovitz, New Haven, Connecticut, representing Shoreline Retriever Club
Michael is an Attorney by profession. He is a member, President and now Delegate of Shoreline Retriever Club in Connecticut. For 20 years, he has primarily run Retriever Field Trials and also Retriever Hunt Tests. His breed to run has always been Chesapeake Bay Retriever of which he presently runs two. Michael is a Field Trial Judge for Open Stake, Amateur Stake, Derby and qualifying events. He is very interested in the Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee.

Link Newcomb, Santa Ana, California, representing Bulldog Club of America
Link may not seem new because he has been the Delegate for the Pacific Coast Bulldog Club since 2001. To ensure you have your “Newcombs” straight, Link assumes the role of Delegate from his father Bob Newcomb who served as BCA’s delegate from 2006 to 2020. Link was raised with Bulldog puppies and now is a BCA Hall of Fame breeder in his own right and is approved to Judge Bulldogs and French Bulldogs. He is the immediate past President of BCA. He is also an officer of the Sand to Sea Non-Sporting Association and is the Show Chair for the club’s Non-Sporting Dog Spectacular in Desert Hot Springs, California in January 2021 (2 group shows with 14 breed specialties). Link wanted to make sure to let the many friends of his father’s know that “my Dad is in great health and is just as capable and as ornery as ever and by his own proclamation still gets a little wiser every year.” At 85, he decided it was time to retire all that wisdom and let his son make his own mistakes.

Jack E. Sappenfield II, Durham, North Carolina, representing Durham Kennel Club
Jack has been a member of the Durham Kennel Club since 1996 and has served as a Board Member and President of the club. He has had Weimaraners since 1980 and also Vizslas since 1998. He participates in Conformation, Obedience, Hunting Tests, Tracking and other Companion Events. He is a Tracking Judge, Judges 4 – 6 month puppies, the FSS, teaches puppy kindergarten at Durham Kennel Club, and is the President of the Tarheel Weimaraner Club.

Bettina (Tina) Sterling, Glen Mills, Pennsylvania, representing Penn Treaty Kennel Club
Tina has been involved in purebred dogs since 1975 – first in performance events with her American Cocker Spaniels, then in Conformation for 33 years with Cavalier King Charles Spaniels and 30 years with English Toy Spaniels as a breeder, owner, handler. She is the current President of the American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club and on the Board of the ACKCSC Charitable Trust and Health Chairman. Tina is a founding member and Secretary of the Cavalier King Charles Club of Delaware Valley. She is also Secretary of the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, on the Board of Penn Treaty Kennel Club and now serves as their Delegate. In her professional life, Tina was a Medical Administrator and an OB-GYN nurse. Currently, she is Vice President of her family’s construction company.

Sherrri Wilmoth Swabb, Sugarcreek Township, Ohio, representing Dayton Dog Training Club
Sherrri Wilmoth Swabb is the new Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club (DDTC) in Moraine, Ohio. Mrs. Swabb has been involved with purebred dogs since 1985 when she became a member of DDTC. She breeds Belgian Sheepadogs under the Sarron kennel name and has produced many champions and performance titled dogs. Professionally, she is the Marketing Director for Yaskawa Motoman Robotics. She is currently a member in good standing of the Belgian Sheepdog Club of America and is an active AKC Breeder of Merit. She participates in Conformation and the National Owner Handler Series as well as Obedience, Rally and FastCat with her dogs. She is looking forward to learning from, and contributing to the AKC Delegate body.

The Minutes of the September 15, 2020 Delegate Meeting were published in the online October 2020 AKC Gazette and a full transcript was posted on the Delegate’s Portal on AKC’s website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

Arrowhead Kennel Club was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Davies presented the Chairman’s Report as follows:
Good afternoon. The holiday season is now upon us and yet very little about our lives today is as it once was. This is indeed a time of reflection about the things that we are thankful for; peace, goodwill toward one another, and hopes for what the future may bring. Yet the challenges of the pandemic are still bearing down upon us. In these times, we in the sport of dogs can...
say with certainty, to paraphrase Roger Caras, dogs are our whole lives and they make our lives whole. Nothing has stopped us from living our "dog lives" to the fullest under the circumstances, even when so many AKC events had to be canceled.

In just a few days, we will achieve something truly incredible, the twentieth anniversary of the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin. I am indebted to our amazing Staff and everyone who will be joining us in Orlando. Mounting an event of that scale and importance is never easy and the challenges of doing so under the current conditions are significant. Thank you, Dennis, for explaining shortly how we will execute this monumental event safely and successfully.

Certainly, for many of us, the annual trip to Orlando or even the option to set foot inside a local show ring or handling class does not figure into our reality. The American Kennel Club knows this well. We know how much our dog sports mean to us. We, like you, know that dogs are adaptable and so are dog people. After all, as has been said – "Nothing in life is constant except change." In response to the crisis the pandemic has wrought, multiple departments in both offices have worked collaboratively to help our constituents continue to engage in our sports in new ways. After all, an old proverb tells us, “A wise person adapts himself to circumstances as water shapes itself to the vessel that contains it.” And in a more modern sense, "when life gives you lemons, make lemonade."

I want to tell you about all the different flavors of lemonade we have brewed, some we’ve built as a taste test and others are so good we’re making them a permanent part of the menu.

We launched the AKC Trick Dog program and thousands of dogs are earning titles at three levels by training at home and submitting videos to AKC Canine Good Citizen evaluators. This year, we hosted the second annual AKC Trick Dog competition, a fully virtual event that showcases incredible skills that dogs and people master together. In October, we launched the Virtual Home Manners titling program to help people begin their dog training journey by building a foundation for AKC STAR Puppy, Canine Good Citizen, and AKC Companion events. In less than one month, more than 400 titles have been issued and a full marketing plan set to roll out to teach more people at home how to achieve great things with their dogs.

We have held three virtual competitions in conformation over the summer which have been a fun and unique experiment in hands-off breed presentation and judging. Certainly, no replacement for the real thing, these programs have helped us donate more than $17,000 to not-for-profit organizations including Take The Lead, AKC Reunite, Adopt-A-K9-Cop (to which AKC Reunite has also made a matching gift) and to the California Fire Foundation.

Companion events went deeper to bring virtual opportunities to our constituents. Virtual Rally Novice, Rally Intermediate, Agility ACT 1, and Agility ACT 2 classes replicate the traditional exercises and courses but allow participants to enact them in their home environments through video. These classes have achieved more than 14,000 entries since launching in late spring and early summer. Importantly, more than half of the entries represent dogs who have never earned an AKC title of any kind. Therefore, the introduction of virtual titles has proven to be an effective customer acquisition tool and hopefully a launching pad for further participation in more AKC sports. Feedback from exhibitors has been so encouraging we are adding these virtual opportunities as permanent options. One constituent wrote to thank AKC for their innovations and said that she sees virtual classes as gateways to more AKC activities. Another wrote that virtual titles have given her a reason to continue to train and keep a positive attitude during these "extremely challenging times." Introducing AKC training programs to online exhibitors brought about a powerful example of how our sports can change lives. A story about a vulnerable foster child earning Intermediate Trick titles and working towards her Agility ACT 1, became the focus of a powerful and emotion story in AKC Family Dog Magazine. During this difficult time, virtual programs have earned a place in AKC’s toolkit as a bridge to things we know will come.

We have certainly used this time to harness the power of technology for another valuable purpose: educating our fancy and the public. It has been said that “education is our passport to the future” and that “tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.” Surely 2020 has been that time of preparation, digging deeper and honing our skills. It’s been truly inspiring to see how so many departments within AKC – including Sports and Events, Government Relations, Club Develop-
ment, Breeder Development, Public Education — and many others have partnered to deliver high quality programming for our constituents who are eager to enhance and expand their knowledge. In the earliest days of the pandemic, staff began presenting breed webinars virtually. More than 82 breeds have been studied in this fashion to a cumulative audience of more than 24,000 live attendees. Expanding the scope to include Judges Institutes, canine legislation, stewarding tips, and training during COVID (to name a few topics), we can count on more than 31,000 of our family who have joined us in broadening our horizons through virtual education. These programs will continue into 2021. I urge everyone to take advantage of these opportunities by visiting AKC.org’s educational web page — located at AKC.org/public-educa-

How gratifying it is to know that we, as an organization, are enacting and achieving our mission to advance the sport and serve the interest of purebred dog owners even in the most difficult of circumstances. Whether it’s to sharpen or diversify one’s skills, try a new sport, or simply connect with fanciers one might never otherwise meet. Thousands of people are finding joy and value in AKC’s new virtual programs. I urge you to you join them, spread the word, share your ideas and feedback.

May the new year bring us changes for a better tomorrow, a return to our show sites, the club events we so desperately miss, and days of chasing dreams with our dogs at our sides. Happy holidays and thank you.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President’s Report as follows:

My congratulations to each Delegate for your dedication and perseverance to dogs, clubs, and the American Kennel Club during this COVID-19 crisis. Not since World War II 75 years ago has the dog world been so negatively affected, yet our community moves forward. We have a shared responsibility to one another which we are living up to. With thoughtful planning by clubs, boots on the ground of expert field staff, constructive guidance by our Events Department, and leadership from Delegates, numerous clubs have held safe events. During the same time, well over 14,000 have been cancelled or postponed, many due to Federal, State, or local mandates, certainly not of their choosing. Again, each of you is to be praised for the successes. Collectively we are learning how to hold show-and-go style events with proper social distancing, masks, and good common sense by dedicated dog people. I have the same responsibility as a number of you, being a Show Chair. Out of loyalty to our community, Orlando is well planned with layers of safety and social distancing measures in place. Similar to most initiatives at the Great American Kennel Club, this is a multi-departmental joint venture. It will be different than the prior 19 years. Masks are required – zero tolerance; show-and-go; no seating during the day or evening; no standing dryers. This year will be without Meet the Breeds®, spectators, or even a Judges dinner.

To serve our constituency and the worldwide fancy in watching their breeds, we will be streaming in real time every entry both days. Profits from this will be donated equally to Take The Lead, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Humane Fund, AKC Reunite and the Museum of the Dog. The National Championship Groups and Best in Show, Best Bred-by Exhibitor and Groups, NOHS, Puppy and Junior Stakes, Junior Showmanship Finals, Obedience, Rally and Agility will continue to be live streamed on AKC.tv complimentary and remain available on demand. Additionally, ESPN 3 will also stream the evening Groups and Best in Show. Entries at America’s National Championship include Agility with 608, Rally 411, Obedience 124, Fast Cat 116, and Diving Dogs 494. In the Conformation area, we have 4,006 entries, Best Bred-by 764. There are 931 in Stakes, NOHS has 609 entries, and in our combined sports there are 190 Junior entries. Special appreciation for this to Michael, Gina, Mari-Beth, Carrie, Pam, as well as Jason Taylor of Royal Canin. In total, 8,257 entries will grace our rings.

I am thrilled to share this information for the first time. We have expanded our brand relationship with ESPN, the leader in sports television. A key element of this venture is the National Championship which will air on ABC Sunday, January 17, 2021 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. eastern time. Also, AKC Fastest Dog USA competition will air on ESPN 2 Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. It will also be available on the ESPN app. Building on the success from the collaborations on ESPN Dog Day and ESPN Championship Pup, we will produce championships and competitions for the network through 2023. Each will give audiences insight into the passion, fun, and intensely competitive world of dog sports. These include AKC Fastest Dog USA; America’s National Championship; the Agility Premiere Cup; National Agility Championship; the Diving Dog Premiere Cup; and the North American Flyball Association CanAm Classic.

On behalf of the Board, thank you to the talented Staff who once again managed

SECRETARY’S PAGES

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the Delegate Committees and today’s meeting – Paula, Tim, Amy, Keith, Bob, Wlad, and the many other dedicated members of our Staff.

Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips, gave the Financial Report as follows:

To our Delegates, thank you for attending today’s meeting. We always appreciate your time and your support. Today, I’m presenting key performance indicators and financial results for the 10 months ended October 31, 2020 with comparison to the same period in 2019. When relevant, we will include references to the 2020 budget. So, let’s begin with some non-financial KPIs because they’re important to tell the story of the October 31, 2020 results. This slide shows a monthly view of litter registrations for the 10 months ending October 31, 2020 with a comparison for the same period in 2019. As you can see, litter registrations are almost 235,000 or 9.4 percent higher than the same period in 2019. Turning to our dog registrations, please note that the year-to-date registrations total almost 587,500, which is approximately 18 percent higher than the same period in 2019. Our registration staff reports that litter registrations were 18 percent better than budget and 20 percent better than October of 2019. This was our best October for dogs since 2008. Additionally, certificate transfers beat budget by 11 percent and surpassed the prior by 21 percent. DNA samples received during the month of October were 24 percent higher than last year. This is an outstanding achievement and we thank our breeders, the entire Delegate body, our Board of Directors, management, and Staff for this achievement.

On the next slide we show events and entries which continue to record lower activities in 2020 year-to-date as of October 31, 2020 versus 2019, by 48 percent and 54 percent respectively. We heard some good news as events come back and we’re always pleased when we hear clubs hold these events and we obviously look forward to better times in 2021.

Next we’ll review the financial operating results for the ten months ended October 31, 2020 comparing these results to budget in the same period in 2019. As a result of management cost containment efforts, net operating income year-to-date as of October 31, 2020 is $11.5 million. These results continue to be generated by a combination of increased registration revenues led by online registrations, pedigrees, and other litter fees, title recognition, and other enrollment fees, as well as product and service sales combined with lower expenses across the organization. We’ve included the 2020 budget data for comparison to highlight the cost containment efforts introduced in April by the management team. Here are some key points before we look at individual revenue and expense lines. Year-to-date revenues are comparable to the 2020 budget due to the offset of increased registration and related registration fees and related revenues as compared to decline in recording and service fees. While changes to revenue are important and have pointed that the AKC registration services were well positioned for a year like 2020, the overall driver of positive results is expense control. Please note the total expenses are 15.5 percent lower than budget and 6.8 percent lower than the prior year. We will all experience unique changes in the US economy as the results of this pandemic continue to sort out, but I have to say AKC’s expense review, and cost containment measures, and good registration results position us well for 2021.

In the next few slides, we’ll look at the individual revenue expense line that supports these results. This slide presents AKC’s significant revenue lines with a stacked comparison of year-to-date actual budget and prior year in each column. Total year-to-date revenues from registrations are 18.3 percent or $4.9 million higher than the prior year. This is led by dog registrations of 4.3 million. The next column presents summarized pedigree and other program fees. The combination of revenue lines here is 16 percent higher than the same period in 2019. Next, we report revenue events, recording service, and other fees which is lower by almost 42 percent for $4.9 million when compared to the same period in 2019. Product and service sales lines are 24 percent or $1.9 million higher than 2019 which is led principally by merchandise sales and admission fees. As I said in previous presentations, I just want to remind, commission fees are from the Meet the Breeds® event at the Javits Center in January of 2020 and also product sales come from both e-commerce and traditional order fulfillment.

This slide shows controllable expenses. These are the ones management has the most ability to interact with in its budget plan and during the year. Overall, total expenses are reduced or down 16 percent versus budget in 2020 and lower by 10 percent versus 2019. Self-containment measures lower each of these expense lines except for fulfillment costs and grants to other organizations. Fulfillment costs are expenses that support product and service
sales. Since that revenue increased, as we noted earlier, this expense line has also increased. The two activities are correlated. Grants follow the 2020 budget as we continue to support the AKC Canine Health Foundation and the Museum of the Dog. One other item of note, that in this year, this election year, our Government Relations Staff has continued their work in support of legislation promoting the mission of AKC. Now, individual lines where we can look at for cost containment measures focus on the following: Travel, which has been reduced by 65 percent or $1.5 promotion and public relations 42 percent or $542,000, service and professional fees 12 percent or $953,000, and staff costs reduced by 12 percent or $3.3 million. Investment performance is purported on this slide and we show the bar graph as a way to look at the year-to-date one in three-year trailing performance numbers. I show the pie chart which demonstrates how AKC’s investments are broadly diversified to manage market risk fluctuation. Good news: Investment performance as of October 31st is positive, up 2.1 percent. This may sound like a very low number but the balance index was negative by 1.3 percent. So, overall, the portfolio beat its benchmarks by 3.4 percent. This outstanding performance is a result of our asset allocation strategy focused on a broad-based U.S. and international equity investment which totals 62 percent of our portfolio. Fixed income investments, which have had a difficult year, make up 25 percent of our portfolio as well as a smaller portion of about 15 percent of private equity assets. Overall, this is excellent performance in a very volatile and uncertain financial market.

Our next slide presents our balance sheet or what I and others refer to as the fortress of AKC. This presents the financial position as of October 31, 2020 with comparison to the same period 2019. Total assets are at $137 million which is lower than the prior year. And while it’s lower, it actually speaks to a very good financial position. Notable changes shall reduce investments, and debt, and capital obligations both decreased due to management’s decision to relieve outstanding debt from the build out of the New York office space and the Museum of the Dog. This was done at a time when investment values were at their highs in 2019. So, this particular report, a balance sheet, shows that the overall condition of AKC is healthy due to a combination of the cost containment measures, positive performance at registration, and other revenue generating activities. I’d like to thank you for your time today, appreciate your dedication to the American Kennel Club. I certainly enjoy working here. In my first six months, it’s been a wonderful experience and we look forward to serving you. I am available to answer any questions. I’ve got my email address on there. Feel free to contact me and thank you for your time. And thank you, Dennis.

The first vote was on the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club Article IV, Section 1, which would prohibit a local Specialty Club from applying to AKC for Member Club status in accordance with Article IV of the Bylaws. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Parent Club Committee and brought forward by Staff with the approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Alan Kalter, Delegate for the American Bullmastiff Association spoke as follows: I think it would be beneficial for the Delegates to have a review of some background on this Bylaws amendment. There are currently 1,852 licensed local breed specialty clubs which hold shows under the auspices of their Parent Club. The only exception to that rule is when a local breed specialty club is member club. As such, they hold shows under their own authority, independent of the Parent Club. There are currently about 20 local breed specialty clubs that are member clubs with the last one being approved in 1945. The amendment coming before the Delegate body would not impact the status of those member clubs. In 2000, the Board appointed a Bylaws Overhaul Committee whose members included Ron Menaker and David Merriam that recommended a number of changes to the Bylaws to clean up inconsistencies and to bring them into alignment with best current practices. One of the proposed amendments approved by the AKC Board involved Article IV, Section 4, allowing a local specialty club to become a member club. From the Minutes of December 2000, there’s Jim Crowley’s explanation of the proposed amendment, and I’ll quote Jim, “Under the current Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4 provides that a local specialty club may become a member club of the American Kennel Club.” For at least the last 50 years, by policy, the Board has not approved that. The deletion of this section would eliminate the possibility of a local specialty club from becoming a member. That was the intent. It’s just a straight deletion of the current Section 4, giving a specialty club, other than the Parent Club, the ability to become a member. So, it’s really bringing the Bylaws in line with the current policy by deleting this section. Subsequent to Jim’s comment, the motion
carried and it was believed that this vote by the Delegate body removed the ability of a local breed specialty club from becoming a member club. That belief has resulted in another 20 years making a total of 75 years since the local breed club became a member club. However, as we have seen in many other instances, removing something from one section of the Bylaws doesn’t always completely fulfill the will of the Delegate body. It was thus in this instance also which brings us to this amendment today. Its passage will fully clean up the Bylaws on this issue as was meant to be done in 2000. Thank you.

Anne Gallant, Delegate for the Nashville Kennel Club spoke as follows:
I’m concerned that the multi-breed club is ambiguous verbiage, and I would like to move that multi-breed be deleted and the words Group Club, be inserted in place of multi-breed.

Ms. Gallant’s motion was acknowledged and seconded.

There was further discussion via Zoom:

Mr. Sprung: Should it not read All-Breed Clubs, Group Clubs or Associations allowing All-Breed Clubs to become members.

Mr. Sprung: I am not speaking for the Delegate body, but I am sure the body does not want to exclude All-Breed Clubs.

Ms. Gallant: Correct. Absolutely. So, we can include All-Breed Clubs.

The motion was changed to include All-Breed Clubs, Group Clubs or Associations which was seconded.

Luis Sosa, Delegate for the Louisiana Kennel Club made a motion to call the question which was seconded.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative to call the question.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the amendment to the amendment; it passed by majority.

There was further discussion via Zoom:

Don James, Delegate for the Leonberger Club of America spoke as follows:
I want to speak to the board’s recent vote to approve a Bylaws amendment to formalize preventing a local specialty club from obtaining membership status. I speak on this because the club that initiated this process is, in fact, the Leonberger Specialty Club. As the Leonberger Delegate and member of the Delegate Parent Club Committee, which also, by the way, voted unanimously to support this amendment. My issue was allowing a local specialty club full member status boils down to one word, and that’s divisiveness. The traditional role of the parent club by its representing a breed’s best interest in all matters involving AKC allowing a local specialty club to directly become part of that discussion promotes the possibility that the parent club and one or more specialty clubs may not see eye to eye on issues being presented to the Delegate body. While the results of such a situation may never be seen by the AKC, the downstream effects of these disagreements can form a divisiveness between the national club and its local affiliates. The unintended consequence of which would drive a dangerous wedge these factions that run the risk of disrupting what is, in my opinion, and outstanding AKC Parent Club. Unintended consequences are often the most easily overlooked. In this case, they should not be. For these reasons, the Delegate body needs to affirm the vote of both the Board of Directors and parent club committee to vote yes for this proposed Bylaws amendment. On a personal note, I hope you all have a great and safe holiday. I miss seeing every one of you. Thank you.

Wendy Jones, Delegate for the Lake Champlain Retriever Club spoke as follows:
There is an unfortunate consequence to the amendment to the amendment which means that a club like the Lake Champlain Retriever Club, which is neither an All-Breed club nor a Group Club would not be able to be accepted to the AKC under these changes. Thank you.

Johnny Shoemaker, Delegate for the Redwood Empire Kennel Club made a motion to call the question which was seconded.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative to call the question.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the original amendment as amended; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club Article
VIII, Section 7, which would eliminate costly balloting for unopposed Board candidates during the annual election. It would also save the time that it normally takes during the Annual meeting to conduct such elections. This amendment was proposed by the Beaumont Kennel Club and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The third vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 1 – Championships, which incorporates a new paragraph 8 to permit a 2020 National Specialty to be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Ann Lettis, Delegate for Grand River Kennel Club spoke as follows:
My concern for this is that this amendment will make such an exception. We’re all very well aware of unforeseen disaster that can occur. Rather than indicating specific years to which the above amendment applies because no one knows when a similar situation may arise, I’m proposing an amendment to this amendment. We don’t know what’s going to happen five years from now, ten years from now. Will there always have to be another vote, another amendment made? So, I’m proposing this amendment. Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Championships which incorporates a new paragraph 8. In the event of a disaster which would prevent a National Specialty from being held, after review, the AKC may grant permission for that specific year’s National Specialty to be held at the following year’s National Specialty that will take place. End of that amendment. I wanted to say the reason why I worded it like that was we don’t know how long it might be before another National Specialty could be held. For example, we don’t even know next year if all the National Specialties can be held. So, this is why I worded it – to be held at the following year’s National Specialty that will take place. In other words, if it takes place in two years, yes, they could be combined, but it eliminates specific dates. It covers anything that can happen even ten years from now. Anyhow, that’s it.

Mr. Sprung: That is appreciated, it’s related, however it is not germane to this amendment as it is not within the scope of the notice given to the Delegates. Is there any further discussion?

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Frances Stephens, Delegate for Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers spoke as follows:
I’m a member of the Saint Bernard Club of America and we appreciate very much that the Board put forth this amendment. We were unable to hold our National but the hotel was willing to adjust the date without losing our deposit which is very important to us. We are just very supportive of this and I wanted to make sure everyone knows that. Thank you.

Sylvia Arrowood, Delegate for the Myrtle Beach, South Carolina Kennel Club spoke as follows:
I have a parliamentary inquiry. While in favor of this amendment, the dates also concern me because in 2022, are we going to have to delete this paragraph because it will become null and void because it’s talking about 2020 and 2021 specifically?

Mr. Sprung: The Parliamentarian is advising me that after 2021, this will be deleted because it has expired.

Ms. Arrowood: So, it would be automatically be deleted?

Mr. Sprung: Correct, it will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.

Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan spoke as follows: I’m in favor of this as written. I think it has to be done as case by case. I have to declare my bias because I was supposed to judge at the 2020 National this year and this is a big boom for us. I’d like to know specifically how many National Specialties or a percentage that were already canceled this year.

Mr. Slay: Alan Slay, AKC Director, Event Programs reported that the number was 97 National Specialties canceled in 2020.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The fourth vote is on Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds Chapter 14, new Section 36 – Rules for Pointing Breeds Trials, which provides those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due to COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This amendment was
proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote is on Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels Chapter 15, new Section 27 – Rules for Spaniel Trials, which provides those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due to COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The last vote is on Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds Chapter 3, Section 1 – Making Application to Hold a Field Trial, which increases the maximum number of trials a club can hold from 2 to 4. This amendment was proposed by the Basset Hound Club of America and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The sixth vote is on Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures Chapter 9, Section 1 – Description of Classes and Championship Requirements, which provides clubs with the option when applying to hold a traditional brace trial, the ability to offer two classes and avoid having to combine classes later during the trial due to lower entries. This amendment was proposed by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 6, Section 2 – Championships.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 6, Section 2 – Premium Lists and Closing Entries, which modifies required publication components of premium lists including address information and entry fee(s). The section is also reformatted into a bulleted list for easier understanding, made gender neutral and the veterinary reference updated for consistency. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 6, Section 2 – Premium Lists and Closing Entries, which modifies required publication components of premium lists including address information and entry fee(s). The section is also reformatted into a bulleted list for easier understanding, made gender neutral and the veterinary reference updated for consistency. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Sprung called on Gail LaBerge, Delegate from the Atlanta Obedience Club who spoke about AKC PAC initiatives as follows:

The PAC appreciates all the donations it’s received for this year and we would like to give you little brief that we had almost a 90% success rate with the candidates that we supported in the recent election. That is a phenomenal number for a PAC this size, an AKC PAC. If you have not given your yearly donation, I encourage you to go to AKCPAC@akc.org. The other thing we’d like to do today – and we would’ve loved to have been able to do this in person – is to present a Resolution honoring Dr. Carmen Battaglia and his service to the American Kennel Club and Political Action Committee. I would like to read it. I will state that the plan is to present to Carmen in person at the December meeting of the Atlanta Kennel Club, so I’m looking forward to being able to do that.

Whereas such Carmen Battaglia joined the Board of Directors and the American Kennel Club Political Action Committee, AKC PAC, in January 2017 and served through March 2020 and

whereas such Carmen Battaglia first joined the AKC Delegate body in 1990 as Delegate of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America and appointed to the American Kennel Club Board of Directors in 1994 serving until March 2019; and

whereas such Dr. Carmen Battaglia has been active in the American Kennel Club for many years as a breeder, owner, exhibitor, and judge of German Shepherd dogs; and

whereas Dr. Carmen Battaglia is an internationally recognized expert in a number of canine related areas including working dogs breeding and judging; and

whereas such Carmen Battaglia’s lead-
ership, knowledge, and experience in matters purebred dogs and puppy policy have been on great value to the AKC PAC Board.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, the Directors of the American Kennel Club Political Action Committee honor Dr. Carmen Battaglia’s service, leadership, and dedication to the American Kennel Club and its Political Action Committee and extend to him their grateful appreciation and most sincere, best wishes for his future endeavors.

I appreciate all that Carmen has done and his support at AKC PAC over the years and I hope that in the future we will be able to all be together. Happy Holidays and Happy Hanukkah. Thank you.

The Chair called on Emily Brostek, AKC Museum of the Dog Manager of Educational Programs, to share Museum of the Dog fundraising efforts as follows:

I’m here today to speak on behalf of the Museum and our upcoming virtual night at the Museum honoring Ron Menaker on February 12, 2021. The Museum is celebrating the tradition of the benefit with this virtual event to honor Ron’s dedication to the Museum demonstrating the progress Museum of the Dog has made through this move to New York City and support future programming and exhibitions in years to come. Our event will feature live and prerecorded segments highlighting programming and exhibitions at the Museum, testimonials on the Museum of the Dog impacts on our neighbors, and interviews depicting the value of Ron’s leadership that has brought us to where we are now. Through this visual, you can see our live stream will allow you to view our video feed while browsing silent auction items, viewing sponsors, and donating to the event all at once. How can you get involved? I come today to speak to you about the champions for our cause campaign designed with you, our club, in mind. Champions for our cause is a competition open to clubs encouraging giving together as a team. What can you do? Register your club as a team by contacting me directly. My information will be provided after this presentation. Encourage members of your club, friends, family, and fellow dog lovers alike to donate through your team and watch your fundraising totals grow. With a personal fundraising link for your club, it is quick and easy to share and encourage others participate. Support your team leading up to the live event on February 12, 2021 where a winner will be announced for all of our participants and be featured on AKC.tv.

The highest total amongst club teams will earn a recognition on our AKC Club Wall of Fame. This is dedicated space at the Museum will feature a plaque with your club’s name on it to honor your legacy and support of the Museum. A prominent place in our first-floor gallery, your club will have visibility from visitors from all over the world. Does your club already have a plaque? We thank you for your support. If you’re a fundraising team with the highest total raised, we will increase the size of your existing plaque to a larger level in honor of your continued efforts supporting the work of the Museum. This sample represents what your page could look like if your club chooses to register as champions for our cause. With your registration, you will have a dedicated donation page for members, friends, and family to donate in honor of your club. It has never been easier to secure your club’s legacy at the Museum than with this public campaign, easy to navigate, and shareable throughout your network. Your campaign page can be personalized to show your club name, logo, and even link to your website. Your club will be prominently featured for its support throughout the live event and on our giving center website where the event will take place. When you choose to register, all of these personalized assets will be managed by myself to make things even easier for your members. To register, please reach out by the contact information provided. The sooner you register as a champion, the longer you have to fundraise on the Museum’s behalf and make your way to the top. We are grateful to all of the clubs who choose to participate and look forward to honoring our top dog donor on our AKC Club Wall of Fame. I thank you all for your time.

The Annual Meeting will be held on March 9, 2021 with the election for the Class of 2025 Board of Directors. More detailed information will be emailed to the Delegate Body at a later date.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Connie Butherus, Delegate for the Afghan Hound Club of America presented Dennis Sprung with a lifetime membership to the AHCA. Since 1992, the Board of Directors of the AHCA awarded lifetime memberships in the club to members who have made significant contributions and support in the preservation and protection of the breed as well as supporting and upholding the mission of the Parent Club. Dennis is among 16 other current members of the club who have received this award.
Mr. Sprung expressed his passion for the Afghan Hound breed that has been in his life from 1968 and thanked the AHCA for the honor.

Pat Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America shared the AKC Reunite program’s success. According to President & CEO Tom Sharp, the 91st trailer was delivered to Mission Viejo, California. The Idaho trailer is to follow. AKC disaster relief trailers have been used in recent months in eight emergency situations. AKC Reunite has also made 31 emergency grants for a total of over $75,000 in 2020. In 2020, emergency trailer deployments were as follows: Arizona Humane Society, Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office Animal Control in Colorado, Riverside County Department of Animal Services in California, County of San Diego Department of Animal Services in California, Josephine County Animal Protection and Regulation in Oregon, Jackson County Animal Services in Oregon, Clark County Animal Protection and Control in Washington, Yuba County Office of Emergency Services in California. We are so proud that AKC Reunite has been able to help with the trailer program in areas that had extreme problems. 434 clubs have participated. $1,659,517.72 has been received in donations. $650,000 has been funded by AKC Reunite. The total funds raised $2,309,517.72.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club, Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee and the Coordinating Committee recommended that the Delegate Google Group e-list could be used for Delegates to discuss amendment changes online ahead of the meeting to avoid confusion. She suggested that when a motion to call the question is made, it would be beneficial to know how many Delegates had the intention of speaking, in an effort to hear all opinions within a reasonable timeframe.

Claudia Grunstra-Pierro, Delegate for the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America was contacted by her Parent Club for assistance with the AKC Marketplace website. Advertisers have been checking off that they are members of the Parent Club. And, in fact, some of them stating so is false. This requires constant monitoring by our people to get in touch with the AKC and to have those names of advertisers removed. Since the AKC gets a list of club members each year, we were wondering if there was something that the technical department can do when they take advertisements from people to verify if in fact that they are a member of the Parent Club and make it easier for us to have truthful advertising shown on the AKC Marketplace.

Mr. Sprung advised that Staff would look into the suggestion, noting that club member lists would need to be updated by each Parent Club several times per year to ensure the website was current.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club explained that not all Delegates have the time or ability to access the Delegate Google Group e-list. She asked for consideration of different lifestyles and circumstances for Delegate contributions.

Johnny Shoemaker, Delegate for the Redwood Empire Kennel Club wished everyone a sparkle hat Merry Christmas.

Pat Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America commended AKC Staff for the organized efforts to support the Delegates, dogs and breeders during this difficult year.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

(Time noted: 2:38 p.m.)

Delegates inadvertently omitted from speaking during New Business were as follows:

Betty Winthers, Delegate for the Olympic Kennel Club
In spite of COVID-19, the Olympic Kennel Club in conjunction with the Walla Walla Kennel Club held a 5-day All-Breed dog show on September 23 - 27, 2020. OKC awarded Chris Llyden, Show Chair the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship award for his leadership working hard to put on the cluster. They are now planning the 2021 event.

The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.
PARENT CLUB LINKS

SPORTING GROUP

American Water Spaniel  Barbet  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 and White Setter  Irish Setter  Irish Water Spaniel

Labrador Retriever  Lagotto Romagnolo  Nederlandse Kooikerhondje  Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever  Pointer

Spinone Italiano  Sussex Spaniel  Vizsla  Weimaraner  Welsh Springer Spaniel

Wirehaired Pointing Griffon  Wirehaired Vizsla

HOUND GROUP

Afghan Hound  American English Coonhound  American Foxhound  Azawakh  Basenji

Basset Hound  Beagle  Black and Tan Coonhound  Bloodhound  Bluetick Coonhound

Borzoi  Cirneco dell’Etna  Dachshund  English Foxhound  Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen

Greyhound  Harrier  Ibizan Hound  Irish Wolfhound  Norwegian Elkhound

Otterhound  Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen  Pharaoh Hound  Plott  Portuguese Podengo Pequeno

Redbone Coonhound  Rhodesian Ridgeback  Saluki  Scottish Deerhound  Sloughi

Treeing Walker Coonhound  Whippet
PARENT CLUB LINKS

TOY GROUP

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

NON-SPORTING GROUP

American Eskimo Dog  Bichon Frise  Boston Terrier  Bulldog  Chinese Shar-Pei

Chow Chow  Coton de Tulear  Dalmatian  Finnish Spitz  French Bulldog

Keeshond  Lhasa Apso  Lowchen  Norwegian Lundehund  Poodle (Miniature)

Schipperke  Poodle (Standard)  Shiba Inu  Tibetan Spaniel  Tibetan Terrier

Xoloitzcuintli
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/events/handlers/

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics
http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/
http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/