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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VIDEOS

BREED COLUMNS

Sporting Group

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Brittanys | Golden Retrievers |
| Lagotti Romagnoli | Labrador Retrievers |
| Nederlandse | English Setters |
| Kooikerhondjes | Gordon Setters |
| Pointers | Irish Setters |
| German Shorthaired | Irish Red and White |
| Pointers | Setters |
| Chesapeake Bay | Clumber Spaniels |
| Retrievers | Cocker Spaniels |
| Curly-Coated Retrievers | English Cocker Spaniels |

- | |
|------------------------------|
| English Springer
Spaniels |
| Field Spaniels |
| Irish Water Spaniels |
| Sussex Spaniels |
| Welsh Springer
Spaniels |
| Spinoni Italiani |
| Vizslas |
| Weimaraners |

Working Group

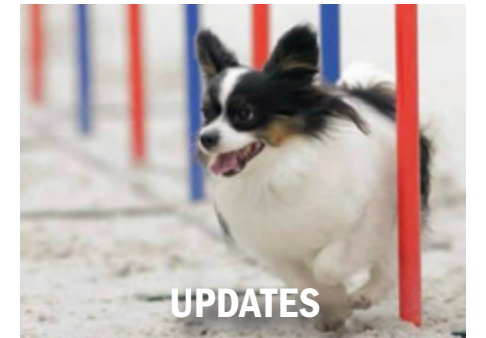
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|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Akitas | Dogues de Bordeaux | Neapolitan Mastiffs |
| Alaskan Malamutes | German Pinschers | Newfoundlands |
| Anatolian Shepherd Dogs | Giant Schnauzers | Portuguese Water Dogs |
| Bernese Mountain Dogs | Great Pyrenees | Rottweilers |
| Black Russian Terriers | Greater Swiss
Mountain Dog | Samoyeds |
| Boerboels | Komondorok | Siberian Huskies |
| Boxers | Kuvaszok | Standard Schnauzers |
| Bullmastiffs | Leonbergers | Tibetan Mastiffs |
| Chinooks | Mastiffs | |
| Doberman Pinschers | | |

BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Sporting and
Working Groups
January, April, July, and
October issues | Hound and
Terrier Groups
February, May,
August, and November
issues | Toy, Non-Sporting, and
Herding Groups
March, June, September, and
December issues |
|---|---|--|



CENTENNIAL CLUBS



UPDATES

SECRETARY'S PAGES

*
Links to AKC Parent Clubs
appear following
Secretary's Pages

*



RINGSIDE



SLIDESHOW

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Late Summer *Wrap-Up*

fall is here and we are excited for a new season! We start off this month congratulating the winners of the inaugural season of the [AKC Agility League](#). The new pilot program allowed teams from around the country to run locally and compete nationally. The program included 19 groups, sponsoring 40 teams with 245 dogs, and representing nine regions of the country. They competed at their local training facility by running courses designed by AKC Agility field representatives. It was an impressive feat.

The top-winning national team is the Smart Dogs, sponsored by One Smart Dog Training Center in Selville, Ohio. The Reserve Champion team is Half Moon Bay Mavericks, sponsored by Half Moon Bay Dog Sports, of Half Moon Bay, California. Congratulations to these teams and the several other regional winners, as well as the AKC Agility League Regular and Preferred winners. We cannot wait for the next season to start! (More on page 6)

September 17 marked the 138th anniversary of the American Kennel Club. In celebration of our anniversary, we launched our [AKC Digital Library](#). The expansive collection includes the entire run of the AKC GAZETTE. The GAZETTE is the longest continuously published dog magazine in America and one of the oldest sporting publications in the country. Users can also search a collection of historic show catalogs from 1887 to 1983,

including the very first Westminster show catalog. There is no fee to access the Digital Library, and the content is shareable. We trust you will enjoy using this tool and exploring the history of our sports. (More on page 5)

And as fall is the season for back to school, we offer a hearty congratulations to the 2022 AKC Humane Fund John D. Spurling scholarship recipients. They are Victoria Priester (Cornell University), Ana Lia Sullivan (Cornell University), Aryel Dorcy Phillips (Tuskegee University), Caitlin Passaro (North Carolina State University), Desire Walker (Rutgers University).

Each year, the [AKC Humane Fund](#) awards \$2,500 to each to five scholarship recipients, payable as tuition assistance to accredited institutions in which each student is enrolled in courses of study focusing on the care of pets. These students demonstrated a dedication to their education and commitment to the future health and well-being of animals, and we are pleased to assist them on their journey.

Lastly, AKC Meet the Breeds, at Columbus, Ohio, is just two weeks away. On October 15, the largest educational canine extravaganza in the United States will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

This one-day, family-friendly event educates the public about our breeds, their athleticism and responsible dog ownership.



Your breed deserves to be represented. If your club has not signed up, please contact meetthebreeds@akc.org and we will be happy to assist you.

Until next time,
Dennis

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senior designer KATE MCCROARY
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“The Queen’s a very good handler,” the kennel master told Field & Stream.

In the days following the death of Elizabeth II, much was made of her affection for Corgis, a breed she had loved since childhood. And though it is true that Corgis occupied a special place in her heart,

Elizabeth, much like her great-great grandmother Victoria, fancied several breeds during her long reign. Among her special favorites were Labrador Retrievers. The Queen maintained a keen interest in field-bred Labs, and

she worked them avidly and expertly.

In the January 1976 issue of Field & Stream, Bill Tarrant interviewed the royal kennel master, Bill Meldrum. Here’s an excerpt:

“The Queen’s a very good handler.

Why she’s as good as I am.” Meldrum smiles on that. Then he turns stern and offers, “She contributes a great deal to perfecting a dog. I’ve seen Her Majesty launch a dog on a blind across a river and up a far hill that would be 800 yards distant. A magnificent retriever. Yes, the Queen is a very good handler. Also, Princess Anne and His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales are excellent retriever handlers. And so is the Duke.

“Why you know, it’s the strangest thing ... The Queen and the Duke appear and the dogs just leave me. Just like that—they go to them. Then when the Queen’s finished with them, the dogs all come back to me. They’ve never been trained to do that. They just know.” Meldrum slowly shakes his head and stares at the ground. He says in open wonder, “I don’t know how they know to do it ...”

On Our Cover:
Dachshund,
courtesy
Lynda Beam



“THE QUEEN AT FROGMORE” COURTESY KENNEL CLUB (ENGLAND)

AKC Launches Digital Library

Years in the making, this free resource is a complete searchable history of our sport.

NEW YORK—On September 17, the 138th anniversary of the American Kennel Club’s founding, AKC Library and Archives launched the long-awaited [AKC Digital Library](#).

The Digital Library houses the entire run of the AKC GAZETTE from 1889 to the present. The GAZETTE is America’s longest continuously published dog magazine, and few sporting journals of any kind are older.

The Library also offers a collection of marked show catalogs from more than a hundred years of dog shows throughout America.

A gem of the collection is the first Westminster KC show catalog, from 1877.

The Digital Library will always be a work in progress.

More collections are scheduled to go online in 2023.

“The AKC houses an expansive library with a tremendous amount of history,” AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo says. “It’s exciting to offer people access to it in a new, innovative way.” The Library is available fully text-searchable thanks to Optical Character Recognition in PDF files, making the process intuitive and user-friendly.

Visitors can also download full volumes and share direct links to issues or catalogs.

“Never before has such a comprehensive history of the sport been available to the fancy, not in print or online,” GAZETTE Managing Editor Bud Boccone says.

“For the first time, club



historians, newsletter editors, journalists, and history-minded fanciers of all breeds have access to AKC history without visiting, calling, or writing to AKC.”

Dog folks who helped test the Library were delighted with the results.

But, Boccone warns, “Beware the rabbit hole. Some testers reported visiting the Digital Library to do a quick look-up, only to emerge hours later bleary-eyed from grazing through reams of vintage breed columns, show results, Secretary’s Pages, ads, and catalogs.”

AKC LIBRARY ARCHIVES

AKC Agility League Crowns Champions

*Season one a success;
fall season planned*



AKC Agility League Regional Champions

Alaska: 40 Below—Let’s Go!, sponsor Tanana Valley Kennel Club

Hawaii: ‘Ili’o HA’A, sponsor Hawaiian Agility Handlers Association

New England: AK9C All Stars, sponsor American K9 Country (New Hampshire)

Mid-Atlantic: Pinelands Get Up & Groove, sponsor inelands Dog Training Center (New Jersey)

Southeast: WestRover’s Q Crew, sponsor WestRover Agility School (Alabama)

South Central: Twisted Sisters, sponsor Kate’s Place (Oklahoma)

North Central: The Smart Dogs, sponsor One Smart Dog (Ohio)

Rocky Mountain: Lookout for Colorado!, sponsor Lookout Agility (Colorado)

Western: Half Moon Bay Mavericks, sponsor Half Moon Bay Dog Sports (California)

The Smart Dogs, of Selville, Ohio, finished as the top-winning national team in the [AKC Agility League’s](#) first season, running from May 30 to August 21. The AKC announced winners in national and regional teams, and in individual dog classes.

“The Agility League’s first season was a success,” the

league’s program manager Penny Leigh says of the pilot program. “The pilot groups reported having a great time working together as a team and trying out the new courses. We want to thank the groups that participated in the pilot with such enthusiasm and gave us such valuable feedback.”

Congratulations to the Smart Dogs, sponsored by the One

Smart Dog Training Center: Team captain Mark Solinger and Border Collies Jumpstart’s Scarlet and Gray, CD, BN, RN, FDC, OA, AXJ, MFB, BCAT, CGCA, CGCU, TKN, ATT, VHMA, VHMP, and AGCH/MACH6; Rav’Nleigh’s Knee Deep in the Hoopla, CD, BN, RI, FDC, MXS2, PDS, MJC2, PJD, PJDP, MFB2, TQX, T2B6,

DCAT, CGCA, CGCU, TKA; Leslie Myers and Papillon AGCH/MACH4 Domino’s Insurgent of Wolfcreek, RN, MXB2, PDS, MJG2, PJS, MFG, TQX, T2B5, CGC, TKN, and Vizsla Panacea Something Just Like This of Wolfcreek, RN, MX, AXJ, MFB, CGC, TKN; and Leslie Garofalo and Golden

Retriever Trifecta’s Grateful It’s Not a Race But a Journey, MX, MXJ, MJB, CGC, TKI. The Half Moon Bay Mavericks, sponsored by Half Moon Bay Dog Sports of Half Moon Bay, California, took the Reserve Champion spot. [Individual Winners](#)

“We look forward to our fall season and working with more teams on this fun program,” Leigh says. For more information on the, or to enroll for the AKC Agility League fall season, visit the league’s [homepage](#) or write to AgilityLeague@akc.org.

AKC Museum: Celebrating 40 Years

NEW YORK—On September 14, the [AKC Museum of the Dog](#) opened the exhibition *The AKC Museum of the Dog at 40: And the Collectors Who Made It*.

The new show honors collectors whose donations had a profound effect on shaping the museum's permanent collection.

"Inspired by the passions of some of our most generous donors, we are excited to share this celebration of our history with our members and visitors," Executive Director Deborah Kasindorf says.

Founded in September 1982 as the Dog Museum of America, the museum was originally located in AKC headquarters at 51 Madison Avenue. The premiere exhibition was titled *Best Friends: The Dog in Art*.

With the collection rapidly outgrowing its space, the museum was moved to St. Louis, where it resided for over 30 years. In 2019, the Museum of the Dog returned to its roots, reuniting with the new AKC headquarters at 101 Park Avenue.

The museum comprises America's largest dog-art collection, with over 1,700 paintings, prints, and sculptures, plus



assorted ephemera and interactive exhibits. The new exhibition, which opened September 16, acknowledges some of the major donors who helped establish and shape the collection. "But," Adjunct Curator

Alan Fausel says, "it's important to realize that every donation, however large or small, is equally treasured. It is, after all, the collection that makes the museum." For information on AKC Museum

of the Dog events, visit www.museumofthedog.org.

The names of the paintings and artists appear on the slideshow's YouTube page.

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RINGSIDE

WAUKESHA KENNEL CLUB, JULY 29 TO 31



Photos by [Lynda Beam](#)

WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN—
The County Exposition Center welcomed a big entry for the “Waukesha Summer Splash”—three days of shows, obedience and rally, and other attractions.

Saturday’s Best in Show, judged by Kurt Anderson, was Bearded Collie GCh.G Now and Then Watermark Cruisin at Kelkary; Gary Andersen chose Sunday’s BIS, Scottish Terrier GCh.G Chyscott’s the Greatest Showman.

Results

[Saturday](#)

[Sunday](#)



RINGSIDE

WAUKESHA KENNEL CLUB, JULY 29 TO 31



Photos by [Lynda Beam](#)



PHOTOS COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



The Queen

CBS Sunday Morning recalls Elizabeth II's lifelong passion for dogs and horses. 4:27



Labradorable in Durham

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA—Eddie Dziuk judges Labs at [Durham KC](#), part of the Tarheel Labor Day Cluster. 10:16



Cats and Dogs

At the Columbus Zoo, Jack Hanna explains how dogs might save the cheetah from extinction. 3:32



Taking Stock

From *Encore Berger Picards* comes this well-made primer on AKC Herding tests and trials. 11:55



Westminster KC, founded in 1877, thrives because “the club has a very clear identity and a very clear vision of what it is trying to achieve.”

It takes commitment and imagination for a dog club to survive 100 years.

By Margaret Peggy Wolfe and Steven Hamblin



Centennial Clubs: The Test of Time

This spring, AKC began recognizing clubs that have been in existence for 100 years or more by sending them a personalized Centennial Banner that they can proudly display at shows and club events.

This wonderful recognition came out of some brainstorming between Glenn Lycan (Director, Event Operations Support) and Doug Ljungren (Executive Vice President, Sports & Events). With the assistance of the [Club Relations](#) team, 107 clubs were identified for recognition in this initial round. As more clubs attain their 100-year milestone as member clubs, they will join this elite group with their own personalized banners.

Though local specialty clubs have not been granted member status in decades, and the Delegates removed the option for local specialty clubs to become member clubs in December 2020. One hundred years ago,

there were many local specialty clubs that enjoyed member status. Sadly, not many have survived. We will have many more clubs to celebrate before the end of this decade.

THE SURVIVORS

These 100-year clubs have made it through two world wars plus major conflicts like Korea and Vietnam. Some even saw the Spanish-American War. They survived memorable world events like the Spanish Flu, the Great Depression, the birth of the Atomic Age, the Cold War of the '50s, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the gas crisis in the '70s (similar to the strict gas-rationing during World War II), Desert Storm, and now the Covid-19 pandemic, plus much, much more. They have also witnessed many unique societal changes—from the Roaring '20s, to the men-went-to-war-and-women-went-to-work-in-the-factories in the '40s, to the



*Rhode Island KC, 1946:
Standard Poodle Ch.
Puttencove Reveille
(William Brown photo)*

Hippy-dippy-crazy '60s and the bountiful-but-staid '80s. And now they are—like all of us—maneuvering through the onslaught of social media and smart phones that have taken

us from in-person to virtual “connections.”

Somehow these clubs survived all that and prospered. How did they do it? What advice can they give to help us

all get through the weird times of today and come out the other side successfully? Several clubs were gracious enough to share their histories and experiences of how they have

survived and thrived.

It's no surprise that all the Centennial Clubs talked about the importance of paying excruciating attention to income-and-expenses; and



*Santa Barbara KC, 1958:
Lakeland Terrier Ch. Tithearn
Replica (Joan Ludwig photo)*

that finding judges that draw entries is crucial; or that most all mentioned the impact of the “graying” of the dog fancy. Some clubs do have an advantage due to national exposure or a legacy of prestige. But advantage or not, all clubs face the same challenges.

Delegate Dr. Don Sturz shared his thoughts about [Westminster Kennel Club](#). The annual, grand show of this iconic club reverberates internationally with both the dog fancy and the general public. “Westminster has lasted 146 years and has held a dog show every year, amidst wars, famine and depression, social upheavals, etcetera,” Sturz says. He continues, “At the end of the day, what makes Westminster survive is not the fame or the glitzy TV folderol. Westminster survives because the club has a very clear identity and a very clear vision of what it is trying to achieve, which is more than ‘put on a show.’” Over the last two years, all clubs—

including Westminster—had to pivot to mount events under the weight of the Covid-19 pandemic. Sturz says, “Westminster was able to do that because it hasn’t lost its vision, its identity, its brand.”

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Brain Lowney, vice president of the [Rhode Island Kennel Club](#), also acknowledged the challenges that clubs face today. RIKC is the second all-breed club, and the sixth overall club, to be enrolled as an AKC member club. Focusing on the business of putting on a show is only half the story. All clubs are seeking to hold the best events they can to attract exhibitors year after year. But what about the general public that loves dogs and has Westminster broadcast into their homes every year? That audience is often hard to reach on a local level.

Lowney happens to host a podcast about animals cov-

ering a wide range of topics, including dogs. Preceding one of RIKC’s shows, Brian focused on that show as his topic. He interviewed a few people, and he shared what people could see and learn if they attended the show. At the show, people were thanking him for making his all-breed show a feature of his podcast—many people had been unaware that they could simply come to the show!

One man shared with Mr. Lowney that the show allowed him to see dog breeds that he didn’t know existed. And this man had been thinking of adopting a dog from a shelter, but because of his experience at the show was now leaning toward acquiring a purpose-bred dog. A couple of breeds caught his eye, and he was excited to be able to learn more about them in person.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

Abbe Shaw, Delegate from the [Santa Barbara Kennel Club](#), shared how her club

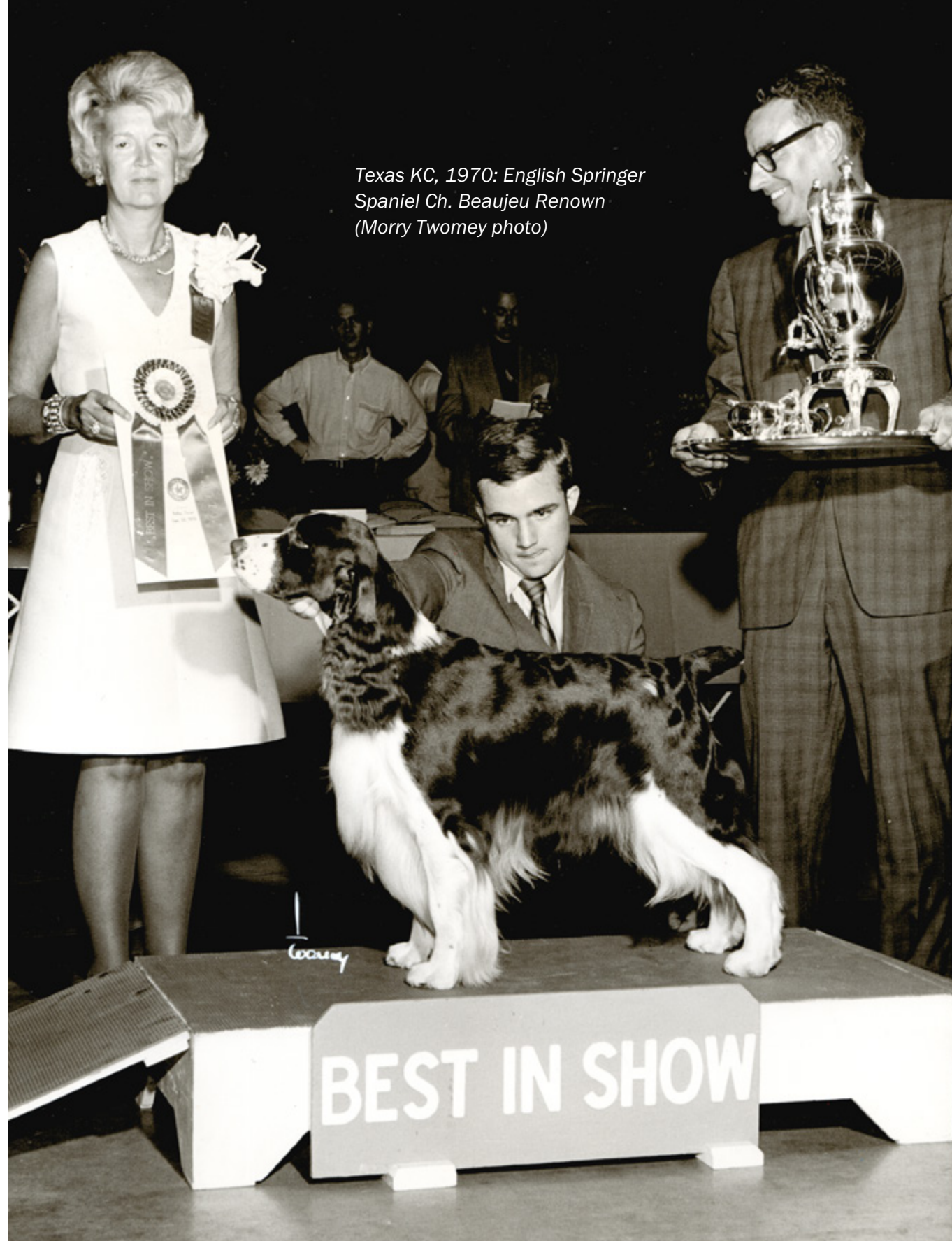
FEATURE

continues its legacy. SBKC held its first show in 1919 in the Palm Ring of the Belvedere Hotel (arguably one of the grandest hotels in California), originally known as the Potter, which became known as the Belvedere in 1919 and, subsequently, the Ambassador Hotel a year later when it was acquired by the Ambassador Hotel chain.

This prestigious and beautiful show was reviewed by *Field & Stream* magazine in their November 6, 1920, issue:

“The annual show of the Santa Barbara Kennel Club, held in the famous Palm Arena on the beautiful grounds of the Belvedere Hotel Ambassador Hotel ... may well go down in history as the most picturesque dog show ever assembled.”

For more than 100 years, SBKC has been driven to uphold that legacy. Always a very social affair, SBKC continues to attract exhibitors



Texas KC, 1970: English Springer Spaniel Ch. Beaujeu Renown (Morry Twomey photo)

from around the world who gather with longtime friends to celebrate the beauty of dogs. Moreover, Santa Barbara KC has always been known for its special events—famously hosting Whippet races near the beach almost 90 years ago!

Today, SBKC combines these longstanding traditions in a way to, as Abbe says, “Keep people on the show grounds a little longer, so it’s not just a show and go.”

She continues, “We have several special events: The first is a ‘Breeder Showcase’ to highlight breeding programs, and we think we are perhaps the only club that has a breeder showcase where we feed all the exhibitors, too.”

Santa Barbara KC also hosts a “Bullyganza” and a “Sighthound Spectacular” with cash awards and trophies from sponsors.

“All these things keep people around as they enjoy different types of competition and talk oh-so-merrily about the show and the weekend,” Abbe says.

BRING A FRIEND!

Texas Kennel Club also seeks ways to keep people around longer. Texas Kennel Club held its first show in 1898 in connection with the Grand Opening of the People’s Great Carnival, the Thirteenth Annual Entertainment of the Texas State Fair and Dallas Exposition. Donna Hacholski, club historian, joined TKC in the 1980s. She shares one thing they do for exhibitors (and spectators): “We bring in sheet-cakes for exhibitors during groups. Something like that the exhibitors remember.

Little things like that can make a big difference and a couple of sheet-cakes don’t cost that much. It helps keep people around for groups but more importantly, it makes exhibitors happy, and we end the shows on a happy, fun note.”

According to Hacholski, “We too have had a challenge with increasing our membership. So, we have started

FEATURE

asking current members to bring a friend, bring someone you show with, or train with, to our monthly meeting and see if they're interested." But Hacholski also addressed the need for meetings to be engaging for members. "It is important to remember that our clubs are supposed to be social groups. So, a couple of months ago we catered dinner for everyone at one of our monthly member meetings.

"We had some normal club business at the meeting but most of the time it was people eating and talking and it was such a happy meeting! It gave people an opportunity to sit next to someone they don't usually sit next to, and it was fun too. I think this sort of thing is especially important to help mend and maintain the internal dynamics of the club."

GOOD PARENTING

Parent clubs, having responsibility on a national scale, face the same challenges, but must address them dif-



Boston Terrier Club of America, 1967:
Ch. Saints Miracle of Nez Pousse

ferently. **The Boston Terrier Club of America** (BTCA) is one of the first breed clubs, created in 1891. Delegate Kathleen (Marby) Kelly has been involved with BTCA for nearly 50 years. Kelly says, "In the 1920s and 1930s, Bostons were extremely popular. As far as showing, it was mostly in the East and not too far south: mostly in Massachusetts, and it did come down to Pennsylvania and even Maryland. Still, there were plenty of people scattered around the country, even as far west as California."

In the 1970s, however, the BTCA itself had become myopic on the Boston area to the exclusion of new members from outside the area. "As a matter of fact, the only place they would have their national was Boston," Kelly says.

But a national club should be *national*, and that meant including people from other areas. So, Kelly began writing to people across the country—remember this was before the

internet and e-mail, so it was an old-fashioned letter campaign using paper, envelopes, stamps, and the U.S. Post Office. Ultimately, there were 100 people working to this goal of national inclusion. The Boston Terrier Club of America is now truly national in scale for lovers of Boston Terriers.

The **Great Dane Club of America** was established in 1889 and, aside from one brief break in the World War II timeframe, has been operating consistently throughout its history. Delegate Jean Highlands says, "As far as I know (having been involved since 1997 or so) the GDCA has always been a viable club." Currently there are over 900 members with 51 affiliate clubs. She acknowledges some challenges in affiliate clubs, mostly due to the graying of the sport. "Lots of people are getting older and cannot do what they used to do, even though they might like to do it."

FEATURE

Centennial Clubs by the Numbers

In 2022, AKC staff identified 107 clubs as Centennial Clubs.

53 are all-breed clubs
(**1** licensed club)

31 are parent clubs
(all member clubs)

9 are Beagle hunt clubs
(**1** licensed club)

14 are local specialty clubs—**4** Bulldogs, **4** Boston Terriers, **2** Collies, **2** Airedales, **1** Pekingese, **1** Wire Fox Terriers
(**5** licensed clubs)

But, Highlands says, “The GDCA itself never really had a downturn and the breed has maintained popularity.”

Highlands does acknowledge the benefits of maintaining social activities for members. For example,



Great Dane Club of America, 2001: Ch. DSS Kings Ransom JP Berlinetta (Ashbey Photo)

at their seven-day National Specialty, they have three main dinners: an auction dinner, an awards dinner, and a top-20 dinner. Celebrating the successes and accomplishments of

their members is a key component to their annual show.

FIRE IN THE BELLY

Each of the Centennial Clubs has not only survived the last

100-plus years, but they have thrived despite challenges and downturns. As Hacholski says, “I think that the key to survival is first and foremost, learning how to change.

Learning how to embrace new and exciting things.” Sturz acknowledges, “The last two years all of us have had to pivot and come up with a new version of events. Westminster



had to ask itself, how do we re-create that magic even though we’re not downtown at the Garden? How do we bring to the public that iconic event they’ve come to expect under these different circumstances?”

For the Boston Terrier Club of America, they had to change to survive, but that change was driven by members with true passion. Kelly says of herself these days, “I was young, I had a lot of energy. And I’m still around. Maybe the fire burns lower these days, but it is still there.”

Passion. Persistence. Adaptability. These are but a few of the qualities that keep clubs alive for a century.—**M.P.W. & S.H.**

Margaret Peggy Wolfe is the AKC Delegate from the [United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club](#); Steven Hamblin is the AKC Delegate from the [Pekingese Club of America](#). Their story first appeared in Perspectives, the Delegate newsletter.

Evelyn *Afield*



No photographer presented both sides of the breeder's dictum "Form follows function" as vividly as Evelyn Shafer. As the official photographer of Westminster and other of the mid-20th century's prestige dog shows of the East, she immortalized the form of great ring champions in her distinctive win shots and portraits. And in her lesser known but equally distinguished field photography, Shafer brilliantly captured dogs performing the function for which they were bred.

Shafer took the photos here at AKC field trials of the mid-1950s. Most have not been published in over 60 years. They certify Shafer as something of a Dual Champion among dog photographers, an artist who performed at the highest level in both ring and field.

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

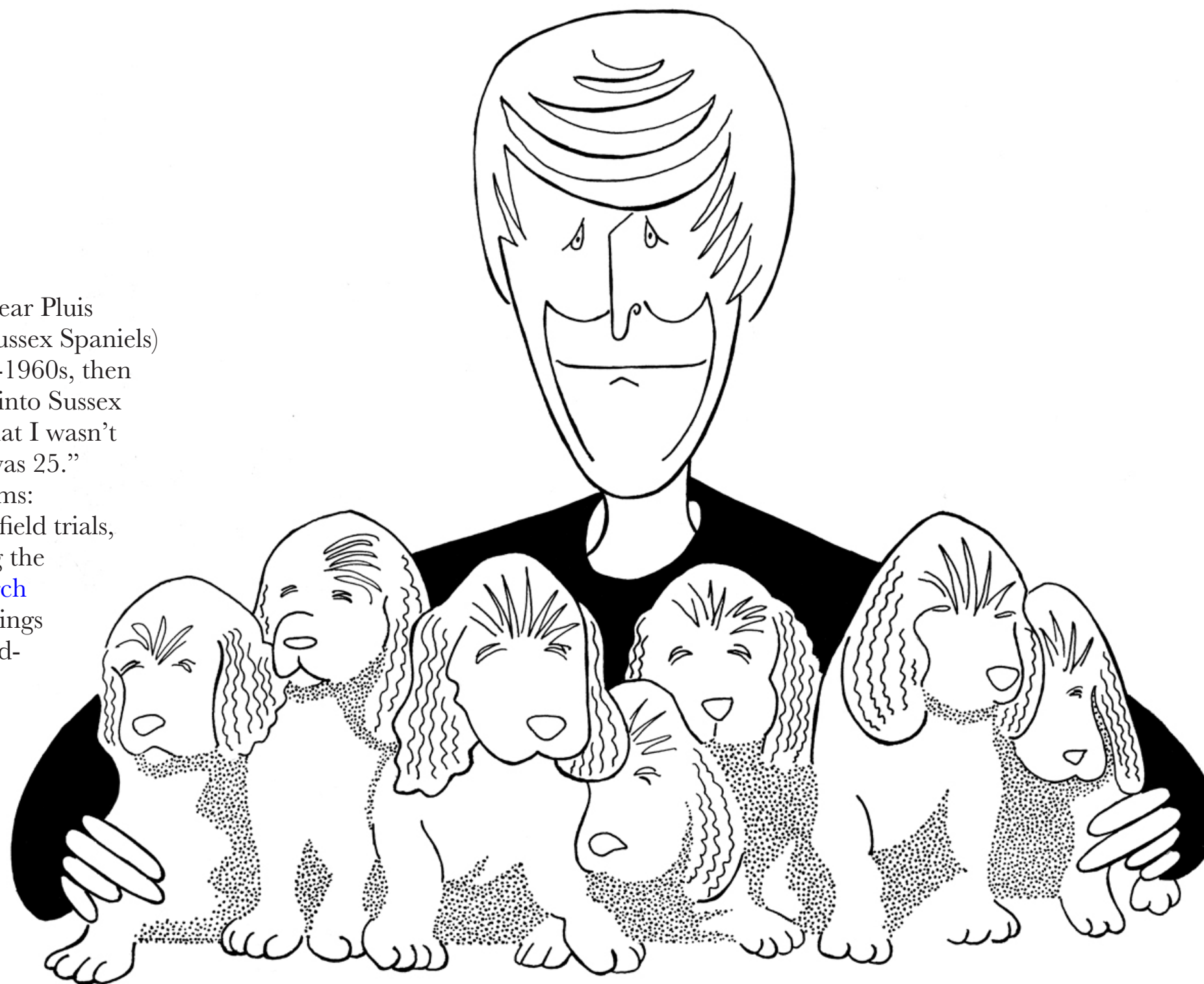


Pluis Davern

2011 AKC Breeder of the Year Pluis Davern (Sundowner Sussex Spaniels)

began breeding Golden Retrievers in the mid-1960s, then bred Labradors and, she says, “segued finally into Sussex Spaniels when I saw the writing on the wall that I wasn’t always going to be as strong as I was when I was 25.”

Davern has run the gamut of AKC event realms: conformation exhibitor and judge, hunt tests, field trials, and obedience. But she is most proud of being the founding trainer of the [National Disaster Search Dog Foundation](#). She says, “One of the big things in my life has been training disaster search-and-rescue dogs, dogs deployed in New York after 9/11—rescuing them and then turning them into rescuers. It’s been a very satisfying life.”



boccone



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

- 21 Brittanys
- 22 Lagotti Romagnoli
- 23 Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes
- 24 Pointers
- 25 German Shorthaired Pointers
- 26 Chesapeake Bay Retrievers
- 27 Curly-Coated Retrievers
- 28 Golden Retrievers
- 29 Labrador Retrievers
- 30 English Setters
- 31 Gordon Setters
- 32 Irish Setters
- 34 Irish Red and White Setters
- 35 Clumber Spaniels
- 36 Cocker Spaniels
- 38 English Cocker Spaniels
- 39 English Springer Spaniels
- 41 Field Spaniels
- 42 Irish Water Spaniels
- 43 Sussex Spaniels
- 44 Welsh Springer Spaniels
- 45 Spinoni Italiani
- 46 Vizslas
- 47 Weimaraners

WORKING GROUP

- 49 Akitas
- 49 Alaskan Malamutes
- 51 Anatolian Shepherd Dogs
- 53 Bernese Mountain Dogs
- 54 Black Russian Terriers
- 56 Boerboels
- 57 Boxers
- 58 Bullmastiffs
- 59 Chinooks
- 61 Doberman Pinschers
- 62 Dogues de Bordeaux
- 63 German Pinschers
- 65 Giant Schnauzers
- 65 Great Pyrenees
- 67 Greater Swiss Mountain Dog
- 68 Komondorok
- 69 Kuvaszok
- 69 Leonbergers
- 71 Mastiffs
- 72 Neapolitan Mastiffs
- 73 Newfoundlands
- 74 Portuguese Water Dogs
- 75 Rottweilers
- 76 Samoyeds
- 77 Siberian Huskies
- 78 Standard Schnauzers
- 80 Tibetan Mastiffs

Welcome to Erick Conard, who this month begins as columnist from the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America. We thank outgoing ASDCA columnist Jo Lynne York for years of wonderful words and pictures. (See Jo Lynne's 2020 feature story, "[The Promise Keepers](#).")

COURTESY JO LYNNE YORK

BREED COLUMNS

SPORTING GROUP

Brittanys

SOME THOUGHTS ON BREEDING

Volumes have been written on this subject of breeding. Then again, when it comes to small-animal breeding and reproduction, specifically dogs, it is somewhat known in veterinary medicine that there continues to be a great deal to be learned in this area.

Will the breeding be natural or artificial? There are times that natural breeding can be difficult to accomplish—perhaps the plan is to breed to a male that is deceased (with collection of course having been made earlier), or the stud was not available because he was on the circuit competing in show or field events.

In addition this author has become aware of recent developments and recommendations by a leading veterinary clinic in Ohio, which advises that the first time a female is bred, it should be done naturally and not artificial. Specific reasons are not clear, other than experience over the years has supported this approach.

Many years ago, when this author was becoming interested in competition with the Brittany in conformation and field trials, Esther and Dick Keenan were mentors. Even today, if you walk into the Flying Feather Club building, the walls are lined with ribbons from show and field events. Esther handled their Brittanys in the show ring, and Dick did the



*Brittany puppies;
below, Dewey on
point*



field trial competition.

Often during the summer months, I would be up early on weekend mornings and travel to their place to work and train our Brittanys, who were for the most part being of Flying Feather origin. Following those field sessions, most of the time there was coffee and donuts around the kitchen table to “talk” bird dogs and of course Brittanys.

When it came to breeding their dogs, Dick had an opinion, which he would say was a theory based on experience.

This author will now attempt to briefly paraphrase some of his comments about breeding.

“Breed good dogs to good dogs—but that needs to be clarified. You know Esther would have orders for puppies, which meant usually two litters each year. Let’s talk about the best dam and sire to use; you know most of the time the sire and dam were dogs we had been able to get show or field titles [on]. We just knew the pups would be good ones. Of course the dogs had proven themselves as great hunters performing on our grounds—great noses, steady, with style on point and retrieving the birds. After hunting [they would] be washed and be in the house for the evening.

“But then there was that one white/liver male that our vet told us about. Someone just dropped the dog off at his office with papers and told the vet to find him a home. We took

COURTESY DAVID A. WEBB

SPORTING GROUP

the dog. Oh, what natural ability that Brittany had. That Sampson dog was something else. We used him often as a stud; he produced some great pups.”

Our family can testify to the fact that Sampson produced great pups, as our youngest son had one of them—FC Uncle Sam’s Sumter, named after one of the U.S. Navy vessels our son was deployed to. Sam was a field trial competitor and upland bird dog who hunted until 15 years of age. He was and is a major part of our program, with a great temperament. He was very athletic and biddable, had a competitive edge, and was a great family dog. He loved being spoiled by our grandkids.

Enough emphasis cannot be placed on evaluating both female and male of the breeding pair, in this case Brittany, who will be parents to a litter of pups. Performances in all types of competition—agility, conformation, and the different types of field events—are indicators of excellent dogs to be bred. In addition the dogs need to be great hunters. Also as previously indicated, specific characteristics must be evident in both the dam and sire, such as but not limited to having a great temperament, being biddable, having style when competing, and being always willing to please.

It is a challenge when breeding to constantly work toward improving the Brittany breed.

—David Webb,

davidawebb@aol.com

American Brittany Club

Lagotti Romagnoli

“A HAPPY LAGOTTO IS A TIRED LAGOTTO”

“A happy Lagotto is a tired Lagotto”—when we met at the airport, that was our breeder’s advice. My husband and I had flown into Atlanta to pick up our new puppy, and when he was presented to us in his airline-approved carry-on travel case, we thought he was the most adorable little dog on the planet. We named him Watson, and four years later he is a great and constant companion—smart, sweet, fiercely loyal, gentle, and kind.

However, our breeder was absolutely right. Lagotti are extremely energetic and demanding puppies, and if playtime doesn’t tire them out, something else will, and you probably won’t be pleased about it. As adult dogs, they still need at least 30 minutes a day of vigorous activity.

In spite of a painfully cute appearance reminiscent of a child’s favorite plush toy, the Lagotto is classified as a member of the Sporting Group, and the breed was originally used as a retriever. When the lakes in the Romagna subregion of Italy dried up, the breed was re-invented as truffle dogs because of their strong sense of smell—and I imagine



A Lagotto Romagnolo is happiest having ample physical and mental activity every day.

also because of their great desire to please their people and get the job done. This is a very clever and active dog who loves a task and needs a challenge every single day. This is not to suggest that Lagotti don’t love long walks, because they do. But make no mistake about it: This dog is an athlete, and long walks will probably not be enough to engage his mind and sense of purpose. Without at least 30 minutes of daily activity, your dog will not be living his or her optimal life.

He or she may enjoy long swims, classes in truffle hunting or agility, or just romping and playing with a pack of their friends. You can also create challenges that are based around favorite activities. Every dog is different, and you may have to play various games to find the one that most appeals to yours. I recently met a Lagotto whose human played disc in the park with him for an hour every afternoon. This dog was a natural athlete—jumping up to catch the toy no matter how high in the air it flew. I only saw him miss one toss.

Another Lagotto I know loves to swim more than anything. You can throw a ball or stick in the water, and she will swim out to bring it back until she is exhausted. (She wears a life vest.) She’ll play other games, of course, but those involving water are her favorites.

Not Watson. Frisbees don’t interest him very much, and this water dog doesn’t care about water at all. If we’re on the beach, he happily runs along the shore but doesn’t go in. He seems to most enjoy searching and retrieving, so we devised a game for him that works anywhere he can safely run off leash. The game involves two or three balls of different colors, and a chucker. My husband sends off the first ball, and Watson is off too, easily retrieving it. As he runs to us with tail wagging, a ball of a different color is thrown in another direction—and hopefully he doesn’t see where.

COURTESY SUSAN YAGER

SPORTING GROUP

We tell him to “find red,” and he makes serpentine loops until he does, proudly bringing it back. Of course, he then has to find a ball of a different color. At the end of about 30 minutes he will stop, lie down, and look at us in his expressive way to tell us we can go home now. At that point, he is a tired, happy dog.

—Susan Yager,

Susanyager1@gmail.com

Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America

Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA, the breed’s parent club, would like to share news of two exciting events coming up for fanciers.

NKCUSA Fast CAT—Oct. 22–23, Brookville, OH

NKCUSA will be sponsoring its second all-breed Fast CAT weekend at the K9 Splash Zone in Brookville, Ohio, on October 22 and 23. The gathering was a huge success last year, and we are looking forward to another successful Fast CAT event this year! If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Chris Carroll at CC.director@kooikerhondjeusa.org.

The AKC website provides the following information about Fast CAT:

“Fast CAT, a timed 100-yard dash where a dog chases a lure, is one of the newest AKC



The sport of Fast CAT provides a great showcase for the Nederlandse Kooikerhondje’s speed, athleticism, and willing, exuberant nature. Pictured are Kooikers and their people at the parent club’s first all-breed Fast CAT weekend, held last year. Fun and speed are sure to be keywords once again at this year’s event, October 23 and 24 in Brookville, Ohio.

COURTESY STACIE PARKS

SPORTING GROUP

events. The event is a fun activity for dogs and their owners, and is open to dogs that are at least 12 months of age and are individually registered or listed with the AKC. In competition, the dogs run one at a time over a straight 100-yard course. Their times are then converted into miles per hour and used as part of a handicap system to assign points earned, which will be used to determine titles and standings. The national rankings by breed will show how your dog compares.”

The venue for this event, K9 Splash Zone, offers the following information about the site:

“Our facility offers 14 fully fenced acres, which provides a measure of safety and peace of mind for owners. In addition to the perimeter fencing, the entire Fast CAT lane is fenced, including both the run-up (starting line) and the catch pen/run-out area.

“The Fast CAT fence is a permanent structure so there will be no loose, flapping, or blowing down of fencing. With safety of the dogs being our primary focus, our longer run-out allows the dogs to produce their fastest times, as the lure and dog do not slow down until they are well past the timers.

“Farmtek digital timers with an LED scoreboard will be used so times are shown instantly. We also use a PA system so times, mph, and running order are announced.

“Try-its/practice runs will be offered as time

allows at all of our Fast CAT events.”

NKCUSA 2023 National Specialty—May 26–29

The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA’s 2023 national specialty will take place at the Heart of Illinois Cluster in Bloomington, Illinois, at the McLean County Fairgrounds during Memorial Day weekend, May 26–29 (pending AKC approval). There will be four days of conformation shows in air-conditioned buildings, and Fast CAT is currently offered on Saturday and Sunday.

For more information, please e-mail Specialty2023@KooikerhondjeUSA.org.

For more information about Kooikerhondjes and news of upcoming club events, visit the NKCUA website.

[Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA](#)

Pointers

THE BREEDER-OWNER-HANDLER: A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH

A breeder’s duty is to be the steward for the breed. To maintain its integrity. To keep only the best, and to further the breed. The breeder must research pedigrees inside and out. Through blood, sweat, and tears we whelp a litter, hoping (and praying) that our cards will fall in a positive direction.



Pointer

Breeders hold a special position. We do this “for the love of the breed.” There are no longer the large breeding kennels like there used to be. In this day and time, due to multiple circumstances, many breeders are able to grow out only a few puppies, rather than an entire litter. While doing this, we strive for the next (younger) generation of fanciers to pick up our baton and run with it. There will come a day for us to step down and allow the youth of tomorrow to continue our breeding program. This is a difficult task indeed, as it isn’t always

easy to hand over a project that has been years in the making.

Several breeder-owner-handlers don’t feel they get the credit or recognition they deserve when they exhibit their Pointers. Many times, judges “look up the lead,” and all of us know the feeling when a professional handler wins over us. This is a very competitive sport, and everyone needs to take the time to train, condition, and learn to present their Pointer true to the standard. We have more invested than the professional handler. To them, it’s a job,

SPORTING GROUP

while for us, it's personal.

Choose the best puppy in your litter. Socialize and train them so the two of you become a team. There are many ways to condition a dog; find a method that works for you to attain the results you're looking for. And, yes, breeder-owner-handlers can beat the professionals at their own game. Look at Patricia Craige Trotter, in Norwegian Elkhounds, and David Fitzpatrick, in Pekingese. These individuals have devoted many years to their respective breeds, and their rewards are astounding: multiple Bests in Show, group wins at Westminster, and the list goes on. They were breeder-owner-handlers before the term was ever coined.

To be taken seriously as a breeder-owner-handler, you must first make the commitment. Never give up, and exhibit your Pointer when he or she is ready to win. Take your dog to judges who will appreciate what they have to offer the breed. Go ringside and watch the breed. Know the standard, and be patient. Be a mentor to your puppy owners. Pointers are a breed that is dominated by "old-time" breeders, which can be intimidating for newbies. The Pointer is only becoming increasingly competitive in the show ring. The more we show dogs of different styles and colors, the more we can promote the breed.

Finally, always believe in your dog. They will

never let you down. Then you too are a force to be reckoned with.—*Tina McDonnell, 2018*

Please visit the APC website at americanpointerclub.org for information on our wonderful breed.

American Pointer Club

German Shorthaired Pointers

BREED STANDARD CHANGE RESULTS

This article is a follow-up to the July column. The ballots due by July 25th have been certified that the voting membership approved the removal of "black" as a DQ for the German Shorthaired Pointer in the U.S. There were 894 total votes counted, with 671 for the change (75.06%), and 223 against (24.94%). The results now go to the AKC Board's October meeting for review and will then be published in two consecutive months of the GAZETTE to be effective January 2023.

There have been only four AKC-approved standards for the German Shorthaired Pointer: 1935, 1946, 1975, and the current one, approved in 1992. When the parent club reorganized per AKC directive in the 1960s, the Board of Directors (BOD) commissioned a committee in October 1968 to revise the then-current (1946) standard. The concern at the time was based on information provided by the Breed Integrity Committee, whose job

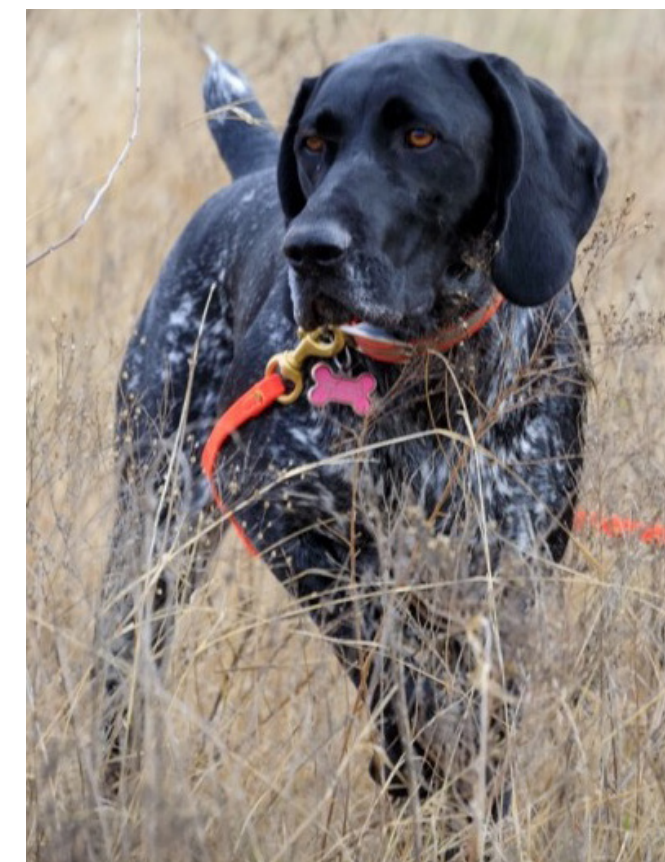


German Shorthaired Pointers: liver puppy Adele and her black dam, Cinder (below)

it was to document with pictures and evidence of field Pointers being bred to Shorthairs beginning in the late 1950s.

The 1946 standard referenced the acceptable Shorthair color as liver, and Pointer attributes as faults—i.e., dish-faced, flesh colored nose, black coat or tri-colored, any colors except liver or some combination of liver and white.

In December 1970, the Standard Committee's work was completed and submitted to AKC for unofficial approval.



COURTESY PATTE TITUS

SPORTING GROUP

In November 1971 it was updated per AKC directive and sent to the BOD then to the parent-club members for comments and suggestions. In August 1972, the BOD instructed the committee to add some member-suggested changes, with the BOD adding theirs.

In April 1973 it was submitted to AKC with more changes. The committee's last involvement was in May, after making the suggested AKC changes. From June through August, the standard was then revised by the BOD and submitted to AKC for approval. The AKC replied with more questions and by October 1973 suggested the final version be submitted to the membership for a vote. In December 1973, the revised standard was sent to the membership for a vote, with ballots to be returned by January 31, 1974.

On January 10, 1974, a parent club director sent letters to AKC and other parent club board members regarding an inaccuracy in the revised version that had been approved by other board members at a meeting in Riverside, California. When this revised version was published in the June issue of *Pure Bred Dogs*, AKC received a number of complaints that it was not the same as the one voted upon. AKC Executive Secretary William Stifel requested verification of the vote and receipt of the ballots. As of July 29, 1974, nothing could be located.

In August 1974 the voted upon revised standard results were validated, with 306 for, 86

against, four abstained, and one invalidated. On September 30, 1974, Mr. Stifel stated the club needed to send it to the membership for another vote due to the validity of the vote being challenged, the material AKC had on file, and the GSPCA Director's protest.

In March 1975 it was sent to the membership; 525 ballots were mailed, and 258 returned, with 174 for, and 84 against, with the required two-thirds majority threshold to pass having been met.

For the first time the Shorthair standard contained color disqualifications: "A dog with any area of black, red, orange, lemon, or tan, or a dog solid white will be disqualified." Also, to a new section, *Disqualification*, in addition to the statement on color also was stated: "China or wall eyes. Flesh colored nose. Extreme over-shot or undershot."

In October 1975 the GPCA BOD issued a policy statement, "Image of Our Breed," which said, among other things, "Another major factor contributing to the deterioration of our breed image is the improper infusion of Pointer blood with that of our GSPs." The color disqualifications have always been about cross-breeding to field Pointers in the late 1950s.

—Patte Titus,
chexsix@me.com

[German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America](#)

Chesapeake Bay Retrievers

NATIONAL OWNER-HANDLED GROUP

COMPETITION: NOHS

So you want to compete in owner-handler competitions at AKC dog shows? The AKC website queries, "Did you know that more than 80 percent of show dogs are handled by their owners?" Perhaps the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) program has encouraged more exhibitors to handle their own dogs.

If we look at the rankings published through May 31, 2022, only one of the Chesapeake Bay Retrievers in the Top Ten Owner-Handled rankings is also ranked in the Top Ten rankings for breed points and group points. I interviewed the owner, and that dog has placed in regular groups with professional handlers. He has many group placements in Owner-Handled groups, including an OH Best in Show. He has never placed in a regular group when being exhibited by the owner-handler.

Another dog appears in the Top Ten regular group point rankings, and he is owner-handled. Nine dogs in the Top Ten are all professionally handled.

In order to be competitive while showing your own dog, you must be prepared

for unusual events that may occur in the ring. These events may not be the "norm," but you train for them. Suppose you are showing your champion bitch and she is in season. Even though you let other exhibitors know, the handler with the Winners Dog may let their dog run up behind her. It may not be intentional, but it could happen. As a result, she may become spooked and uncertain. Keep an eye on other dogs at all times!

The individual exam is critical, so you need



Chesapeake Bay Retriever Drummer winning Owner-Handler Group 4 in 2014.

COURTESY BETSY HORN HUMER

SPORTING GROUP

to train for every type of encounter. The judge might approach your dog with hands outstretched—this approach may be unusual for your breed. Practice various approaches in handling class. Sometimes Chesapeakes are not as outgoing as the other retriever breeds. They may tend to be reserved and serious with their owners. After the judge has finished going over the head, hold onto your dog's muzzle. This will give you more control over your dog. If your dog is extremely friendly and at ease, this may not be necessary. Talk to your dog in the ring, and use a little bait.

Sometimes judges are arbitrarily assigned to an Owner-Handled group by the show chair. A Toy Group judge would be used to judging all the dogs on a table and may be a little unsure about larger dogs being judged on the floor or a ramp. It does not matter where the dog is examined (table, ramp, or floor), the judge should always return to the front of the dog before examining again. Once the judge's hands have left the dog after examining the rear, if he wishes to re-examine any part of the dog again, he should walk to the front where the dog can see him. A judge who suddenly puts his hands on the dog's rear after he has completed an initial exam could cause the dog to overreact and flip away. In handling class your instructor should approach the dog not only from the front but also from the side,

so he gets used to various approaches. Judges should only approach from the front, but sometimes mistakes are made.

The rules for judges of the National Owner-Handled Series have become very specific since the program originated in 2012. Effective in 2017, a judge who is approved for one full group may judge any of the seven groups and Best in Show (OH). A judge with a breed or several breeds in one group may only judge that OH group; no judge may judge *all seven groups* and Best Owner-Handled in Show.

And now a controversial question: Do you think that the Owner-Handled Series has helped to increase the number of group placements by owner handlers in the so-called “regular” groups?

Comments welcome ...

—Betsy Horn Humer,

tiderunr2@verizon.net

[American Chesapeake Club](http://AmericanChesapeakeClub.com)

Curly-Coated Retrievers

Thanks again to Jenny Dickinson, who shares with us insights about readiness in training.

READINESS IS ALL

“The readiness is all.”—*Hamlet*

Having served as obedience chair at numerous



trials, I have acquired a ridiculous number of anecdotes that reflect the human tendency to hope for the best rather than plan for the worst.

An old friend had a bumper sticker that read, “Don’t complain: Train!” That’s what I want to talk about in this column.

I love obedience because you don’t have to win your class to achieve your goal. You might be happy with a 185, or a 175, or just a pass.

You might just want to get a title and be done with it. It is entirely up to you. But you have to *qualify* to earn anything. There are several card-punches you really must accomplish before you send in that entry.

At a recent trial, an AKC obedience judge competed with her young dog and NQ’d. She complained to me that a spectator had gone past the ring with a wheelchair, and this had

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

SPORTING GROUP

caused her dog to fail. *Are you kidding?*

Nobody wants to see a dog NQ. What can we do to lessen the increasing number of heartbreaks we in obedience experience? We prepare our dogs for every ringside distraction we can think of, that's what!

Here's what I'd like to suggest: Call and talk to owners of training centers in your area. Find out who has a wheelchair, baby stroller, walker, crutches, and so on. Many training centers offer therapy dog testing, and they have these mechanical devices to use in their tests. Make an appointment for floor time. Bring a friend and work this piece! Have your friend roll the apparatus back and forth along sides of the ring as you heel your dog.

Then have your friend sit against the side of the ring, against the baby gates. At my last trial, I saw this happen before the steward could shoo her away. Then have the friend hold food right at the side of the ring. I've seen that too.

I had the great privilege of working with Teri Arnold for several years, and she had great understanding of "unpredictable distractions." You are not looking to catch the dog and correct him; you are looking to show the dog he can indeed work WITH the presence of a distraction. You DO NOT want your dog to be AFRAID of the distraction. In your practice with the wheelchair or stroller going past, you

support the dog's confidence with voice and food if needed. You condition the dog to mayhem outside the ring, because no matter how ideal the show site, there WILL be something that surprises you. BE READY for the weird phenomenon, to the extent you can be.

When I was competing before COVID, I used to say as I arrived at a trial, "I wonder what wierd thing will happen today." After it did happen—and there was always something—I would say, "Oh, good, that's out if the way now." Expect the unexpected and untoward. It will happen. Your readiness is all.—J.D.

Thank you once again, Jenny!

—Ann Shinkle,

annshinkle@aol.com

[Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America](#)

Golden Retrievers

SURF'S UP!

Ricochet ...where do I begin? Born to surf. Born to comfort. Born to heal.

Ricochet, the famous surfing Golden Retriever from San Diego, is a furry testament to the healing power of what is known as canine-assisted surfing therapy. A registered and certified therapy dog, Ricochet surfs with children and adults with special needs and disabilities, wounded and/or active military members, and veterans with PTSD. Her



Golden Retriever

Lynda Bean

COURTESY LYNDA BEAN

SPORTING GROUP

owner, service-dog trainer Judy Fridono, of San Diego, says Ricochet is on a mission to make a difference in the lives of people in need, while inspiring countless others in the process.

Ricochet had shown great promise as a pup, and Fridono had hoped to train her as a service dog. Born in 2008, she had a bright mind and was eager to learn, quickly excelling at every lesson and behavior. But at 16 weeks of age, Ricochet had a change of heart and decided this was not the career path she was destined for.

“She just lost interest and shut down completely,” Fridono said. She said for the next year, she tried everything she knew. She introduced new sporting activities, dock diving, even lure coursing, hoping to rekindle her spirit, but to no avail. She was failing the service dog program.”

Fortunately, fate intervened. Or perhaps more accurately, it was Nestlé Purina Pet. They were hosting the Purina Pro Plan Incredible Dog Challenge, that, for the first time, included a surf dog competition. Taking a giant leap of faith, Fridono entered Ricochet. She had only surfed a few times, and then only briefly.

Once again, serendipity played a role. Ricochet rode the waves like a veteran surf dog. Balancing gracefully on the board, she

held her head high and leaned forward. Then, on the last wave, she repositioned herself, turned around on the board, and rode in to shore backwards. She was having the time of her life.

Fridono was ecstatic. Her brilliant little red dog had regained her focus and her joy. She placed third in the competition, but more importantly, she had found her destiny ... and her purpose.

With that new dynamic, Fridono soon launched “Surfin’ for Paws-abilities,” a program where Ricochet’s surfing skills could make a difference in the world and raise funds for people and animals in need.

Ricochet’s first fundraiser was surfing with Patrick Ivison, a 14-year-old quadriplegic who needed a service dog. After riding a couple of waves on their own boards next to each other, Ricochet jumped off her board and hopped on Patrick’s board. She stood balancing between his outstretched legs, her head positioned over his, watching over him as they surfed together. Both were smiling!

Thus began her personal service dog career. She surfed with many other special needs children, gently recognizing the specific challenges of each child. Disabled adults, wounded military and veterans suffering from PTSD; she understood each one, and they all became her friends and partners. Ricochet

also works in therapy settings at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. She has held 146 fundraisers and raised over \$1 million dollars for human and animal causes. Videos of Ricochet’s surfing exploits have entertained and enthralled people all over the world. Her mission to serve continues through her fans who believe in her legacy and paw it forward to support the causes she believes in.

In her book, *Ricochet: Riding a Wave of Hope with the Dog who Inspires Millions*, Fridono shares the stories of the profound impact Ricochet has had in the hundreds of lives she has touched. Her life journey with Ricochet is a story of hope and compassion, love, and trust, and the “amazing-ness” of the human-animal partnership.

Author’s P.S.: With Ricochet’s help, Patrick received enough funds to cover the expense of a service dog!

—Nona Kilgore Bauer,

nona@nonabauer.com

[Golden Retriever Club of America](#)

Labrador Retrievers

GROWING THE “HUMAN CAPITAL” IN THE BREED

The Labrador Retriever is a breed rich in resources. He is a relatively sound dog, with a broad genetic base to draw on. As a popular choice for hunters, the breed has the opportunity to stay true to its original purpose.



Labrador Retriever: April 1993 (Soren Wesseltsoft photo)

Beyond its genetic assets, the breed is supported by a large base of “human capital”—people who through years of dedicated study have accumulated knowledge and insight valuable to the breed. Some individuals have worked to develop their “eye” for the Labrador Retriever and have a strong understanding of structure and type. Others have worked to develop the training and handling skills necessary to compete with Labrador

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Retrievers at the highest levels in performance events. Individuals who nourish their aptitudes in both areas are the breed's most precious resource and are key to maintaining its usefulness and soundness into the future.

What do we, as a community, do to support and grow the “human capital” in our breed? Is your local club doing what it can to support people striving for excellence in both conformation and performance? Or is the culture of the club generally devoted to giving the narrowly focused conformation exhibitor a showcase for their animals with little or nothing for the “everyman” who just wanting to enjoy their Labrador more? All local clubs are formed with the central focus of hosting a specialty, but if the club is truly to promote the breed it needs to celebrate the Labrador Retriever in as many facets as it can. Of the 41 active local Labrador clubs, only 10 offer hunt tests. Three of the most inclusive of these clubs also offer agility trials. At least one even holds annual tracking tests! Of the remaining 31 clubs, two hold agility trials or matches, but sadly many of the rest aren't even offering obedience anymore at their specialties.

How is a novice with a Labrador Retriever supposed to become engaged and educated, without a club to act as a guide? Is an ardent specialist likely to broaden themselves without the support and encouragement of trusted fel-

low club members? Breeders especially should embrace the inclusion of club-sponsored performance and companion events. It is difficult to sell a puppy in good conscience to a prospective working home if one doesn't invest some time in the sport and internalize what character and conformation traits a Labrador Retriever needs most to be successful. Even if you will never participate personally, there is a lot to be learned just by helping and observing.

The first response of most conformation-oriented club members is “*We are so small. We can't take on anything else.*” The answer then may be to explore hosting an agility trial. Yes, one needs a core group of members to show up and help run the event, but surprisingly few of them need to understand agility. The agility community is well indoctrinated in the concept of working for a lunch. Even after paying for all those worker lunches, as well as for a few key skilled positions such as course builders, most trials end up showing a profit. A sanctioning match can be hitched onto the front side of an established agility trial. This will minimize the expense and headache of securing grounds and equipment. Piggybacking on another trial also provides a ready supply of entrants and workers to draw from. A great trial secretary can coach most anyone through a successful event. Profits from the agility trial could then be funneled into supporting obedience and rally at the

club's next specialty show.

Additionally, the conformation exhibitor who spends a morning setting bars and watching dogs jump will get an invaluable firsthand lesson on the importance of athletic structure and the hazards of excessive substance—the price of less-than-ideal construction isn't necessarily brought home until one asks a poorly structured dog to do agility at the master level. Are there any dogs with flat feet still jumping in late middle age?—*Lee Foote, 2014*

[The Labrador Retriever Club](#)

English Setters

LET'S TALK ABOUT TAILS

“The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue.” —*Anonymous*

You don't have to spend much time around dog people to start to learn some of their conformation pet peeves. With English Setters, I would bet that one of the biggest pet peeves among show breeders is a gay tail—or as I like to think of it, a “too happy” tail.

It's not just English Setter breeders who dislike gay tails, either. I was showing a good dog to an all-around judge once at a show. The dog was sturdy with good bone, a decent mover, good type, with the most beautiful head you could imagine. He also had a per-

fectly level topline—not a dip or roll of any kind. However, the judge took her time before giving him Winners Dog. When she handed me the ribbon she told me how much she liked him but pointed to his tail and said, “I wanted to take a fly swatter to his tail the whole time he was in the ring!”

Now, I knew that the root of the dog's tail came level off his back when he was standing still. His tail set was level, but he was a very happy dog. He carried his tail like a plumed flag, waving it in the air when he trotted. I never considered it to be a structural fault. I was glad to have a dog who enjoyed being in the ring and felt so happy. He was a nice dog and finished quickly, in spite of his “happy” tail.

On the other hand, I know plenty of owners and breeders who despise this kind of tail. They wouldn't even think of breeding a dog with a tail that waves around in the air.

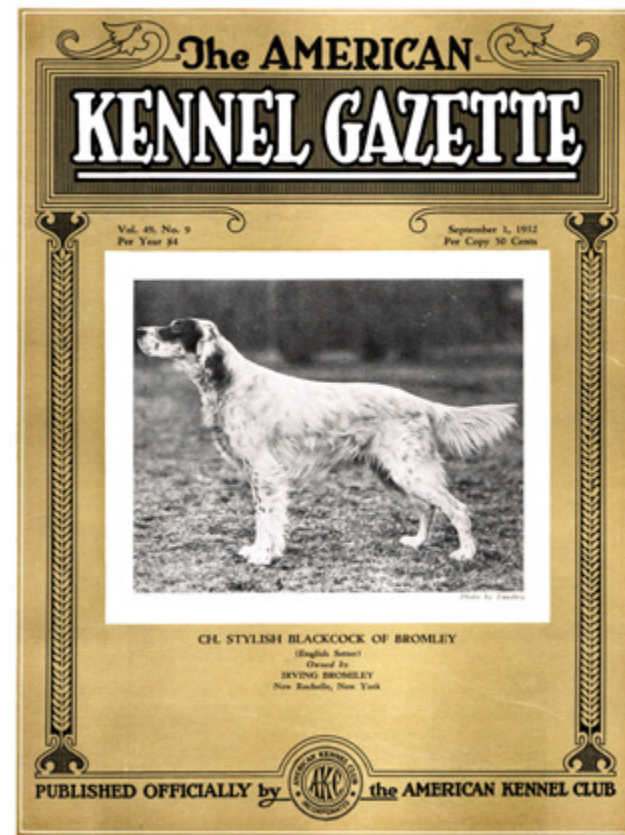
Some field trial people who like a 12 o'clock tail have a completely different take on the issue. I used to think they liked the 12 o'clock tails on setters so they could see their dogs in tall grass, but there may be another reason. According to professional bird dog trainer and Field Trial Hall of Fame member Delmar Smith, “When you breed dogs, you make sure you get a high tail. That way you get an inch to an inch and a half more muscle ... that muscle from the hipbone back down there to

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the thigh. That gives the dog more reaching power and pushing power. He's not choppy." Not all field people agree with Smith.

I don't want to minimize the importance of the English Setter's tail-set. The slope of the dog's pelvis has everything to do with the dog's rear angulation. If the root of the tail is too high because of a short pelvis and short pelvic slope, it can affect the dog's gait, along with his appearance. He won't have the power to propel himself as he should. If the tail set is too low, you can get other problems. According to Edward M. Gilbert Jr. and Thelma R. Brown in *K-9 Structure and Terminology*, a low tail-set usually indicates a steep pelvis and restricted back reach ("goose rump"). The book has a good chapter on the hindquarters, with descriptions of the pelvis and its slope, along with discussion of a flat croup.

Here is what Laverack said about the tail in 1872: "The tail should be set on high, in a line with the back; medium length, not curled or ropy, to be slightly curved or scimitar-shaped, but with no tendency to turn upwards; the flag or feather hanging in long pendant flakes." (*The Setter*, Edward Laverack, 1872) The breed standard in the U.K., with The Kennel Club, retains much of this description of the tail today. Personally, I don't know how you have a tail that is supposed to be slightly curved or



English Setter: September 1932, Ch. Stylish Blackcock of Bromley (Tauskey photo)

scimitar-shaped without a tendency to curve upward. This is why breed standards and trying to describe dogs can be so frustrating.

Our AKC standard has this to say about the tail today: "Tail—a smooth continuation of the topline. Tapering to a fine point with only sufficient length to reach the hock joint or slightly less. Carried straight and level with the back. Feathering straight and silky, hanging loosely in a fringe." In the "Movement and

Carriage" section of the standard, a "lively tail" is desired. So, our current AKC standard certainly does describe a straight, level tail, as opposed to Laverack's description and the description for dogs in the U.K., though it can be "lively." The judge who wanted to bat my dog's tail with a fly swatter was likely within her rights.

Our old breed standard used to allot five points for the dog's tail (length and carriage)—which seems about right.

I would suggest that most dogs being shown today don't carry their tails level with their back when they are moving around the ring. Not because they have a high tail-set or a gay tail, but because they do have a lively tail, and it's perfectly natural for the breed. Yes, some dogs do carry their tails straight and level, even when they are moving, but I'm not sure they really look better or more natural. In fact, I suspect that for some dogs the tail may be carried a little high and waving for balance while they are moving. While a gay tail that comes from a high tail-set is undesirable, I have no problem with a level tail-set and a happy dog who carries his tail a little high. I know lots of English Setter people will disagree with me, but I think we need to realize that tail carriage and tail-set are not the same thing. Tail-set is structural, while tail carriage can be, at least partially, a reflection of the

dog's personality and attitude.

Do you disagree? Send your complaints, or your puns about dog tails, to me. If you have your own pet peeves about English Setter conformation, I would love to hear them, too.

—Carlotta Cooper,

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English Setter Association of America

Gordon Setters

DUAL CHAMPIONS PART ONE

Among the hardest things to accomplish with a Gordon Setter is to earn the coveted title of Dual Champion—that is, the dog is a champion not only in the show ring, but also a champion in AKC field trials. It takes many things to accomplish this.

The first thing it takes is not just a good dog, but an exceptional dog. It takes a dog bred to the physical standard of the Gordon who can walk into a show ring and earn the points needed to earn the show title. In today's show ring that means winning against top-flight competition handled by outstanding breeder-owner-handlers or professional handlers. It's more difficult to do this today thanks to the decreasing number of Gordons being shown.

It takes a dog with a strong, innate desire to not only smell out a bird, but to do it under a variety of conditions from hot and dry to cold

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Dual Champion Gordon Setter on point

and wet and every combination and degree of weather in that spectrum. The dog must locate and point the bird, and it must be steady when the bird is flushed. It must remain steady when the bird is either shot or a blank pistol is fired.

As opposed to the show ring where the Gordon competing for the show title need only compete against other Gordons who are not yet champions of record, a Gordon

seeking the field championship is competing against dogs who are already field champions of record. Add in the fact that many trials are open to all the pointing breeds, and the degree of difficulty is on a much higher scale.

In both the show ring and the field, a dual Gordon is also competing against dogs bred specifically for those purposes.

The next thing it takes is a dog in

excellent physical condition and a Gordon free of genetic problems. The Gordon needs to come from a breeder who has done all the necessary health clearances to assure that it can complete. While a lot of coat may cover up a flaw in the show ring, there is hardly anything to cover a flaw in the field. It takes a remarkable Gordon to earn the title of dual champion.

One final thing to mention that should by now be apparent is that an ample budget is like a gift from the heavens. Show entries are not cheap, and field entries are even more expensive. Show training either at local classes or with a professional handler are not cheap. Field training with a professional is also expensive, and one must also factor in that most trials are still conducted off of horseback. Did I mention travel expenses?

Considering all of this, it is still possible to earn that dual title with a Gordon. There have been 62 Gordons who have accomplished the feat as of this writing. That number is still far behind that of German Shorthaired Pointers, Vizslas, and Brittanys, but it is more than the other three setter breeds. The vast majority of these dual champions have come in the last 40 years. They have come from the east coast, the Midwest, the Great Lakes region, Texas, and the West Coast. They have been owner handled and professionally handled or a combination of the two.

There are three currently active Gordon Setter kennels whose record of producing dual champions is remarkable and a compliment to the breed. Those kennels have done the research and the work and deserve immense credit for their contributions to the breed. They have used each others dogs and each has added a dog or two to the mix thus refreshing the gene pool.

In the next installment of this column, we will take a closer look at them and look at some of their individual Gordons. I am not into cliffhangers, so I will mention them here as a tease and preview for the next column. The first is Susan Desilver's Gordon Hill kennel, in Connecticut. The second is Holly Wachuta's Tartana kennel, in Wisconsin. The third is Carolyn Gold's Spellbound kennel, in California.

Until then ...

—James Thacker,

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[Gordon Setter Club of America](#)

Irish Setters

BREED TO THE STANDARD

Breed to the standard. It seems perfectly clear that breeding to the standard would be the thing to do in the conformation ring, although there are some who struggle with the

COURTESY JAMES THACKER

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Irish Setter (Kathleen Riley photo)

concept still. The Irish Setter standard is written and illustrated through several iterations, with a new one set to be released in the near future. If the words are subject to interpretation, the illustrations can help to make things clear.

I do hear other voices. “Well, breeding good pets whose parents are health tested is good enough.” Health testing with our modern tools not available at breed origin is absolutely an obligation of anyone who wishes to be on the side of the page marked ethical, responsible breeders. But you know what, so is breeding to the standard every single time. Every dog deviates from the standard to a greater or lesser degree because we have not yet perfected dialing up the genetic database and putting in an order. The degree to which your dog deviates and how he does must weigh heavily on the direction of your breeding or the choice whether to breed at all. If it doesn’t seem possible to breed a litter full of dogs clearly based on the Irish Setter standard, then perhaps we need to rethink the breeding.

The first goal of a preservation breeder should be to maintain the hallmarks and characteristics of the breed as delineated by the breed standard. Elsewise, it is not preservation breeding. And even with the most carefully calculated breeding, there will be individuals who are best suited to a lovely pet home rather than a conformation career, based on their

physical attributes. The pet market will not suffer from a focused goal of breeding to the standard.

My dogs excel in performance events, so I don’t need to worry about the standard. Okay. “*Afield, the Irish Setter is a swift-moving hunter, at home, a sweet natured, trainable companion.*” To me, that single statement says the attributes of the standard are meant to cover every aspect of competition. Obedience, rally, dock diving, agility; the aspects of the standard which describe the physical and mental qualities of the ideal Irish also describe the aspects of athleticism and temperament that allow him to excel in nearly any venue that is asked of him. The standard does not address the training or the exposure necessary to make a great field dog or an obedience champion or a junior hunter or an agility whiz, but it does address the qualities that make all those things happen.

Breed to the standard. The standard for the forequarters calls for *shoulder blades long, wide, sloping well back and elbows moving freely*. A correctly constructed front makes the performance training both easier and more successful because the dog can quarter in the field, jump consistently, flip between the weave poles and continue training without soreness and its accompanying reluctance to continue.

Breed to the standard. *Hindquarters should be wide and powerful with broad, well developed thighs ...*

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY

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Angulation of the forequarters and hindquarters should be balanced. Think of your preferred competitive venue with your dog and how the correct construction aids his performance. The standard guides the construction that makes the well tempered, biddable athlete.

Irish Setters are versatile dogs who can compete in any venue. The adherence of the individual dog to the standard in any venue other than conformation may not reflect directly on his performance, but, in a very real sense, the standard requirements can enhance or impede his performance. You can compete in any venue with an individual without any regard to the standard as you adjust your training to meet the individual limitations and strengths of the dog you are working with, but the moment you decide you want to move that dog's qualities on to the next generation, you must breed to the standard. Whatever your personal goals are, the overarching goal is preservation of the breed. Breed to the standard.

—Mary Lamphier,

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[Irish Setter Club of America](#)

Irish Red and White Setters

A BREED BORN TO HUNT

As I write this, it's December and has been snowing for two days. Here in New



Irish Red and White Setters

Hampshire, the hunting season for game birds ends on December 31. With a few days left, I strap on my snowshoes and with my Irish Red and White Setters Luke and Eve head across the frozen brook marking a trail through a true winter wonderland. The dogs race ahead, leaping and bounding in and out of the deep cover. As we make our way, brought to mind

are the guidelines regarding the breed's working style, as approved by the Irish Red and White Setter Association.

The Irish Red and White Setter should work at a moderate pace and range. They should cover the ground thoroughly and have an ingrained curiosity, investigating every area in which game may be present. In their quest there must be an intensity that gives purpose in the hunt

for game. The concentration on the job at hand should be evident in the dogs every stride and movement. Cooperation with the handler/hunter is part of that concentration and should not interfere with the quest for game.

The dogs are a sight to behold as they sniff the air in search of grouse. Climbing up a steep embankment, their bells send forth a gentle tinkling sound. Up and into the thick cover they work hard, with cracking tails and heads high, catching any scent the wind carries to their nostrils.

While searching for game the head should be carried at or above the line of the back, with muzzle parallel to the ground. The gait should be a lope, with the back mostly parallel to the ground. Upon scenting game the Irish Red and White Setter should slow down his gait, even to a creep, and upon locating game take a definite set or draw forward to the set as close to the game as practical without causing the game to flush.

Then, silence; I make my way through thick cover to a clearing of small juniper and thorned raspberry bushes to find the dogs holding tight on point. Several grouse break cover and in a mad flutter disappear into tall spruces.

The normal stance for an Irish Red and White Setter after locating game is a standing or crouched set. The set is intense and rigid full of energy and concentration. The head should be oriented in the direction of the game

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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and the feet should be positioned in such a manner as to produce a balanced stance. Some Irish Red and White Setters may crouch very low or lie flat on the ground intense and rigid with head up and forward. This set is acceptable and considered normal.

When the Irish Red and White Setter has located game and assumed the above stance, the set of the tail is normally carried at or below the level of the back, not above the back line. The tail may be in motion when the dog is seeking game but should be stationary or rigid when the dog has made game.

The desire to hunt lives deep within every Irish Red and White Setter. This breed was born to hunt and must be kept a dual-purpose companion, not just a show dog.

If you have not experienced this thrill, you are really missing out, and so are your dogs. Give it a try. You will love it, and so will your Irish Red and White Setter.—*Lee Robinson, 2010*

[Irish Red and White Setter Association of America](#)

Clumber Spaniels

UPDATE: FIRST CLUMBER SPANIELS IN NORTH AMERICA

Until now we had learned nothing new since 1890–1891 concerning the first arrival of Clumber Spaniels in North America. Armed with the internet, we now

know much more due somewhat incredibly to an 1848 official dispatch from Malta concerning venereal disease and troop movements, thanks to official British military history.

Our only previous information was according to a German-born Canadian, Francis Hubert Frederick Mercer (1867–1900). He states in his 1890 book *The Spaniel and its Training*:

“To the best of my knowledge, the first Clumber Spaniels imported to America were those brought to Halifax, Nova Scotia, by Lieutenant Venables, of Her Majesty’s Ninety-seventh Regiment when stationed there in 1844. His dogs were purchased from Marwood Yeatman, Esq., the Stock House, Dorset, England, a very old and well-established strain.”

The following year Mercer contributed the 16-page chapter on Clumbers (recently marketed as a book) in the 734-page *American Book of the Dog*, edited by George Oliver Shields, in which he states:

“After much research and inquiry, the writer has arrived at the conclusion that the first specimens brought to America were imported by Lieutenant (afterward Major) Venables ...” He goes on to correct himself by claiming the date of arrival as 1842, not 1844, and adds that Yeatman’s Clumbers were of “excellent” quality and were “especially mentioned by Idstone



Sahuaro State KC, October 1977: Clumber Spaniel Ch. Cypress Woods Dealers Choice

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in his book.” (Idstone was the pseudonym of Rev. Thomas Pearce [1820–1885], a judge at England’s first field trial, widely termed “the ultimate sporting dog expert” of his time, and “his book” was *The Dog*, published in 1872.)

Mercer adds that he himself owns “three direct descendants of these dogs,” and says, “This initial importation into Nova Scotia was supplemented by many others, the breed having at once risen to the pinnacle of high favor. Halifax undoubtedly now numbers more Clumbers than any other city on the continent.”

In 1890–91, Mercer was removed by some half-century from the 1840s event described, and his home near Ottawa, Ontario, was about 600 miles from Halifax. In an era when canine registrations and libraries yet existed barely if at all, with both communication and travel difficult, just what could have been his possible source(s)? He presents absolutely none but except for dates, the other basic details presented are now verified.

Now we know that Thomas Venables was born on October 18, 1824, in the small village of Buckland Newton, county of Dorset, on the southern coast of England, son of the Reverend James Venables. At age 20, in 1844, he enlisted as an Ensign in Her Majesty’s 97th Regiment, also called the Earl of Ulster’s Regiment, which consisted mainly of Irish

as enlisted men, with English as officers. The Regiment had been stationed since 1841 on the Greek island of Corfu, then under British rule. After two years, Venables was promoted Lieutenant on December 8, 1846. In 1847 the Regiment was transferred to Malta.

In 1848 a military dispatch from Malta read: “Lieutenant Venables was invalidated to England due to impairment of his health from syphilis.” At the time there were 66 cases of venereal disease among the Regiment’s 482 enlisted men and three of its 16 officers, but only Venables was evacuated to England, either because of the severity of his condition or that he alone had the means to do so.

With Nova Scotia alone in the British Empire having declared self-government, beginning in January 1848, together with much local criticism accusing the Regiment of bringing syphilis to Malta, the Regiment was transferred to Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The 97th Regiment was in garrison in Halifax from July 1848 to May 1853, and thus Mercer is mistaken in claiming first 1844 and then 1842 as the date of the Clumbers’ arrival. We have as yet no way of knowing when Venables would have again been fit for active duty and able to return from England to rejoin his Regiment—perhaps 1849 or 1850. It was presumably then that he brought with him an unknown number of Clumber

Spaniels in order to hunt Nova Scotia’s still sparsely inhabited fields and streams.

It is not surprising that these first Clumbers brought to America were known to this 25-year-old Lieutenant. Their breeder, Marwood Yeatman (1826–1891), was born and raised in the same county of Dorset as was Venables and was of almost the same age, also son of a clergyman. Yeatman’s mother, Sarah Woolcott, was an extremely wealthy heiress, which may somewhat explain why there was a Clumber kennel so far removed from Clumber Park and the “Dukeries” in the English Midlands, well before the first organized dog show in 1859 when Clumbers were first made known outside of a closed, highly aristocratic set.

Mercer gives us the misleading impression that Yeatman’s Clumber kennel was “very old and well-established.” Yeatman, two years younger than Mercer, was only about 23 when he sold Clumbers to Venables.

In May 1853 the Regiment was sent back to England for a year. There was obviously no question of returning the Clumbers to England, especially on a crowded troop ship. And since Mercer much later claimed ownership of “direct descendants” of Venables’ Clumbers, they were obviously acquired and bred by locals.

With Venables promoted to Captain on August

18, 1854, the Regiment fought from November 1854 to July 1856 in the bloody Crimean War, under notoriously horrific conditions.

In 1857 the Regiment was deployed to India. Venables was severely wounded in heavy fighting overcoming an armed revolt against British rule, and a second time in his life evacuated back to England. Promoted to Major, he was formally retired on July 20, 1861. At only 36, his military career was ended.

He married on July 10, 1862, living near London, where his only daughter was born in 1864. His wife died the following year. Never remarried, he died in July 1891 at age 66. We have no way of knowing if he was ever physically able to again hunt with Clumbers during these remaining 30 years.

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.

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[Clumber Spaniel Club of America](#)

Cocker Spaniels

THE IMPORTANCE OF HISTORY

You are an owner, perhaps also a breeder and exhibitor, of Cocker Spaniels. You enjoy the breed and currently participate in events and observe Cockers. Why should you be educated in breed history? What benefit is

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Cocker Spaniel

there in it for you? What relation does it have to your current activities?

History provides a filter through which you can view and evaluate your current activities and actions toward Cockers. As an owner, historical review reveals the purpose for which the breed was developed. They were companions and had function in the field: flushing and retrieving game birds. Perhaps this explains characteristics present in your dog: a docile, sweet companion wanting to be with you, yet also the “hunter” who, on a walk, might veer and pull you off the path at a pheasant scent. Instincts are strong, even many years removed from the foundation dogs of the breed.

If you travel to shows as a Cocker exhibitor, observe regional differences in the look of breed specimens. You might see exaggerations in features of the breed. These dovetail to what is currently winning. Studying history keeps you grounded in true tenets of the breed. You ascertain proper construction in accordance with the standard and historical function of Cockers rather than being misled by a blinders-on view of current fads.

History bears its greatest mantle of importance when utilized by breeders. Breeders can read books to learn the breed’s development. Why did the Cocker’s intended purpose cause the breed to be developed to be constructed in a certain way and to behave with certain

characteristics? How have Cockers changed throughout years? Serious breeders should review pictures throughout. Obtain early magazines with Cocker pictures and information. Old show catalogs also supply information. Find copies of out-of-print books. As a breeder you should not be content planning a breeding program (which will have an impact on the future of purebred dogs) based only on current observations. For example, if it happens that current specimens lack fore-chest as a consequence of style, to make a dog look tall at the shoulder, it is a huge mistake to breed for that. History informs that Cockers for function needed a deep fore-chest, with good lung capacity for stamina in the field.

If you observe winning specimens with attractive but incorrect texture of coat, you might breed for that pretty, “cottony” coat. History, however, directs you otherwise. Learn how coat evolved and how clipping techniques originated. It is possible to breed Cockers with coat that is plentiful *but* of correct texture, which makes all the difference in maintenance requirements. History filters current circumstances and fads so that the breeder comes to an understanding of the standard.

Cockers were intended to have deep jaws and big, strong teeth. An observer of the current scene knows that judges complain that Cockers can lack depth of jaw and be

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equipped with teeth too small or poorly aligned to perform the intended function of carrying a bird. History assists breeders in creating a plan for Cockers that are true to the standard and developed by history, rather than based on a current snapshot of specimens fad-besieged.

To be a breeder with only a current and limited view is unwise. Your view should encompass the historical as well. Your goal should be writing history with a carefully planned program in which you do best for Cockers.

—Kristi L. Tukua
[American Spaniel Club](#)

English Cocker Spaniels

In celebration of its 138th anniversary this month, the AKC has announced launch of its Digital Library, including the vast archive of past issues of this magazine, going back to the very first edition, in 1889. (Browse the [AKC Digital Library](#) free of charge.) Thanks to this amazing new milestone, going forward we hope to now and then revisit English Cocker Spaniel columns from years and decades past. This month we share the following English Cocker Spaniel column that appeared in the GAZETTE's May 1984 issue, written by Mrs. Jessie Dike.

LET US REMEMBER

Inevitably, as the years roll on, one hears of the passing of familiar names—ex-Presidents, actors, or sports greats—that one has been vitally interested in at one time or another. However, when the person concerned has touched your life and has been involved in the same absorbing interest, the loss is much more personal. It was, therefore, a shock to hear about the death of Mrs. Hallock DuPont (known as Ginny to her personal dog friends), on January 4.

There was never any sign of the forbidding aloofness about her such as surrounded those other financial barons, Morgan, Carnegie, *et al*, but instead there was a warmth and graciousness to all, whether old friends or newcomers to the English Cocker group.

Ginny and her husband, Hallock, who died some years ago, were people who lived their lives to the fullest, in the way they saw it. It is said that Hallock was not interested in the family business, but instead busied himself with a variety of interests, from the raising of gorgeous exotic pigeons to the breeding of pure-bred dogs. English Cockers topped the list, but I believe they had other breeds: Clumber Spaniels and Labradors, which they kept for hunting.

They lived on many acres in a lovely old brick house on an estate they called Squirrel



International KC of Chicago, 1962: Judge Edward D. McQuown awards Best Sporting Brace to Ch. Diablo of Squirrel Run, handled by Anne Rogers, and Ch. Page's Confederate Son, handled by Richard Bauer. Both dogs were whelped 1958 and owned by S. Hallock du Pont's Squirrel Run Kennels of Wilmington, Delaware.

GAZETTE ARCHIVES

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Run, after the creek which meandered thru their property. It was inevitable that their kennel prefix would also be Squirrel Run.

It is sad that not many of today's members of our National Club ever met Ginny DuPont, as she has not been active for a number of years. She was extremely active, from the 1930s to the late 1950s, when the young Club was developing and having its early specialties. She was most supportive with both her time and money, but was not one for personal recognition, and her contributions were known only to those most immediately concerned at the time. Not many people know, I would guess that when Maurie Prager was developing the first handbook, now a collector's item, the Club ran out of funds before the book was finished according to the original plan. Ginny DuPont encouraged Maurie to continue with the plan and picked up the tab for the overage. The result—a representative handbook that forms an important part of the Club's development. Not many know that the dog on the cover is Ch. Wide Awake of Ware, imported and owned by the DuPonts.

There were many other instances of Ginny's generosity and interest in the breed, but they will probably never come to light. Suffice it to say that with her interest and help, Ginny DuPont played a vital role in the development of the Club and the breed. Well known to all,

however, is the service Ginny gave as Club Secretary-Treasurer for a number of years, as well as following Mrs. Geraldine Dodge as the English Cocker Club of America representative of the Board of the American Spaniel Club.

In the heyday of their activity, the DuPonts ran a big kennel—probably as many as 100 dogs at one time. Primarily English Cockers, they also had Clumber Spaniels, which they bred at a time when there were few other breeders. They supported the breed with numerous entries at the National Specialties and the American Spaniel Club Show in January, at a time when entries in our breed were small in number.

While they never sold their dogs, by their own choice, and did not put their dogs up for public stud, the Squirrel Run line has emerged in a few places. Breeder Vera Page bred at least once to a Squirrel Run dog, and of course Jim and Anne Clark's Ch. Ascot's Donny of Squirrel Run was used as a stud by them. His most famous son is Ch. Surrey Blue Stone, who is one of the top sires today.

In the beginning the Squirrel Run dogs were handled by Many Cameron, who will be remembered particularly for his handling of Ch. Squirrel Run Confederate. This dog had an interesting career which included a Breed win at the Specialty of 1954, where he went

on to Best in Show; a trip to England under the aegis of Mr. Lloyd of Of Ware fame, where he did some nice winning; and then back home, where he continued to win in the American rings.

This dog was followed by Ch. Squirrel Run Confederate Son. Ch. Squirrel Run Burgomaster, and Ch. Diablo of Squirrel Run. These three dogs were handled by Anne Rogers (Clark). All were Best in Show winners, and Burgomaster and Diablo each won the National Specialty twice and the Breed at the American Spaniel Club twice. The last Squirrel Run dog to take the Breed at the National was Ch. Ascot's Donny of Squirrel Run, who was presented by Anne Clark after her marriage to Jim Clark and retirement as a professional handler. He went on to a Group I.

The DuPonts produced top quality dogs, anyone in the rings with them at the time can attest to that. Handled by Anne, four of the kindergarten set held a monopoly on the Sweepstakes from 1961 through 1964—and that is something!

My last memory of Ginny is on one of those dark, gloomy, and rainy days that the National Specialty seemed to draw at the Wilmington show. It was before the days of the gigantic entries we pull today. In a more leisurely time, we were able to stop the judging an hour and have luncheon all together. We had sit-down

served luncheons, box lunches, steak roast lunches, but on this day Ginny had kindly provided the whole luncheon for all. I do not remember what we ate, except that it was good, but I remember Ginny presiding over that meal in that dark and gloomy tent with her warm smile and lovely, gracious manner that made it all a special occasion. Yes, the English Cocker Spaniel Club of America and the Breed owe much to Virginia DuPont. —Jessie M. Dike, 352 Lanning Road, Honeoye Falls, New, York [May 1984]

[English Cocker Spaniel Club of America](#)

English Springer Spaniels

TAKE THE EDGE OFF ANXIETY

We often wish our dogs could speak in our own language. If they could voice their worries, we would have an easier time soothing, calming, reassuring, and desensitizing them when anxieties assail them.

While discussing a wide range of anxiety situations in dogs, Springer mother Reta Goldman told me, "I believe strongly in the 'other end of the leash' theory." A Google Books review of the book that teaches this theory explains:

"The Other End of the Leash: Why We Do What We Do Around Dogs, by Patricia B. McConnell, shares a revolutionary new perspective on

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English Springer Spaniel, by Mildred Megargee, circa 1960

our relationship with dogs, focusing on our behavior in comparison with that of dogs. An applied animal behaviorist and dog trainer, Dr. McConnell looks at humans as just another interesting species, and muses about why we behave the way we do around our dogs, how dogs might interpret our behav-

ior ... how even the slightest changes in your voice and the way you stand can help your dog understand what you want.”

Goldman finds, “Staying grounded and calm ourselves has a positive and very helpful impact on our dogs. I use a short rally-based training routine—‘come front,’ ‘go left,’

and ‘go right’—to help my dog focus on me instead of on external stressors and to support him staying calm during our walks. For instance, when we approach a new dog who doesn’t appear to be friendly, or a neighborhood dog I know is not friendly, we stop with a good treat and work to focus on my face and perform our attention training. Our attention-holding routine, along with a tasty treat that takes him longer to eat is very helpful in lowering his stress. I always keep Polka Dog cod skins (PolkaDog.com) in my treat pouch.”

While holding the leash of your worried dog, don’t forget to breathe. Pausing for a few deep, calming breaths will make you better able to show your dog that all is well. The wise saying “as trots the mare, so trots the foal” will serve a dog owner well in modeling that no one has reason to worry.

Goldman has used Earth Animal Calming formula ([Earth Animal.com](http://EarthAnimal.com)) as well as Bachs Rescue Remedy Animal calming solution. As explained by their website, the latter contains “rock rose for fearlessness, courage and presence of mind; impatiens for patience; clematis for focus and a lively interest in the world; star of Bethlehem for comfort and cherry plum for composure and serenity to think and act rationally” (bachremedies.com/en-us/about/bach-and-rescue-remedy).

Composure Chews, made by Vetri Science,

has active ingredients for calming stressed, anxious canines. The Vetri Science company states that their chews are formulated to help dogs during stress as caused by “holidays, houseguests or other changes to environment; car trips, moving or traveling; veterinary or grooming visits; boarding or kenneling; separation anxiety; crowded areas and with fireworks and thunderstorm” noises.

(vetriscience.com/cat/behavioral-health.html).

Goldman’s holistic veterinarian suggested the HomeoPet brand Anxiety Relief Drops. HomeoPet’s website offers many behavior modification support articles that address anxiety in dogs. One excellent blog post offers advice, particularly to ease the worry of dogs with noise anxiety, saying “always be observant as to your dog’s behavior so you can recognize when a justifiable fear is becoming a potential long-term problem that requires action. Provide your dog with a dark, quiet place to escape, or provide soothing music/background noise that will help to block out loud noises. Do not punish your dog for destructiveness, barking, or soiling that is done out of panic as this will only increase anxiety and make the problem worse. Provide your dog with natural relief with a product such as HomeoPet Fireworks.” You can visit the HomeoPet website for more helpful articles (<https://www.homeopet.com/noise-phobia-dogs>).

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Goldman also uses CBD oil chews with success. A very helpful and well-researched article in AKC FAMILY DOG magazine can be found at <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/does-cbd-work-for-dogs/>. “I believe my dog’s anxiety has been lessened using a Thundershirt,” says Goldman. Explore how the snug feeling of the Thundershirt or other similar pressure coats work in this article from dailypaws.com/gear-apparel/dog-supplies/dog-clothing-accessories/thunder-shirt-for-dogs.

Some dogs who suffer from reactivity to strange dogs and unknown situations may benefit from supplements like Soloquin or Zylkene (see kristenlevine.com/pets-anxiety-zylkene/).

Goldman has found that her dog’s occasional worry and anxiousness has been alleviated by various calming supplements. She feels holistic products and techniques “help take the edge off canine anxiety. If they do that even a bit, I feel they are worth giving to an anxious dog. All energetic, healing wisdom and behavioral/emotional supports offered with loving intention, to me, do no harm and likely support lessening anxiety in the dog and the human at the end of the leash.”

Check with your allopathic and your holistic veterinarian (<https://www.ahvma.org/fnd-a-holistic-veterinarian/>) for new research on ways to make the world feel like a safer place to

your dog.

—Sarah A. Ferrell, Locust Grove, Virginia
facebook.com/Valentine-Vishnu-Ferrell-1053487794678146/

English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association

Field Spaniels

GROOMING THE FIELD SPANIEL

Our standard paints a picture of proper coat texture: a silky, glossy, single coat befitting a dog who works in the field. It is not to be overabundant, cottony, or crazy-curly, and most of us have seen everything from short and slick to long and wavy, as well as our share of fuzzies and lack of haircoat!

In studying the canine hair follicle, we see that there can be guard hair surrounded with multiple other hairs—hence a constant growth and shed pattern affected by light, nutrition, hormones, and environmental factors. That being said, it is no wonder we have constant shedding cycles and change in coat over time.

Show grooming varies greatly from dog to dog, but in keeping with our standard, texture and purpose should be considered—that of a dog who hunts in dense cover—hence not high-maintenance or overly coiffed.

The quality of the coat should be more important than abundance, enhancing the



Field Spaniel

natural lines of the individual. Many a judge and exhibitor have noted the use of grooming for the ring to accentuate the positive, but a “curtain of hair” should not hide proper angulation and lines. Techniques that blend and trim to minimize faults are one thing, but the trend of carrying too much coat on various purebred dogs is a shame.

What I call “maintenance grooming” is still proper, adhering to breed standard, and appropriate for pets and working dogs. There

may of course at times be need for specialty grooming to help an older or recuperating animal.

I personally don’t feel Field Spaniels are suited nor acclimated to kennel-run life away from their people. This is not to say that outdoor natural light and exercise won’t benefit the coat and overall dog—it is just typical to see our breed in more of a home environment. It should go without saying that regular fresh air and exercise is a must for mentally

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and physically balanced dogs.

Nutritionally, use of a healthy, balanced diet along with proper supplementation will produce a healthy bloom to the coat. Quality shampoos will not only enhance but also maintain a healthy haircoat.

Medications, health issues, and hormonal state also play a role in the Field's coat. Spaying and neutering affect quantity and texture of hair as does whelping a litter. My old boy had not reached a thyroid stage in which we typically see thin hair about the hips and torso, but unusually thin or thick coats can often be a telltale sign that it is time to monitor hormone levels (which can often be easily treated and maintained).

Grooming toolkits may vary from fancier to fancier, but for the very basics, the Field requires good brushing and combing as well as routine ear and nail care. Thinning may be done by using clippers or thinning shears, and any close work is limited to the head, tops of ears, and blending down the neck.

Neatening of toes and pasterns gives a round Sporting foot, and a flat, clean footpad gives proper traction and cleanliness. Proper nail care is always a must, and the trimming and grinding can be easy to maintain when kept up. Sanitary trim should maintain the sheath or vulvar area, as well as the anal region below the tail.

Performance animals also need close attention to grooming to avoid injury and damage, be it from slipping in the ring or getting hung up in brush and brambles.

Grooming can also be a bonding experience and enjoyable “examination” time for us with our dogs, observing any issues that need to be addressed. This is recommended as a regular home process for each Field, as it helps us to stay on top of health issues as well as “quality time” together.

Packing the coat is a useful process that maintains the natural oils of the Field's skin and hair coat. Distilled water is worked in, and the dog is “brushed dry,” alternating strokes using a boar-bristle brush and dry, light, rolled hand-towels. Worked from head to tail, this process removes dirt and conditions.

Several of our breeders and fanciers have assembled tutorials and helpful hints that will guide both the pet owner and show exhibitor.

Happy grooming!

—Shannon Rodgers,

shannontrogers@gmail.com

[Field Spaniel Society of America](#)

Irish Water Spaniels

TRAINING THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL

At a recent obedience trial I was warming up my dog for her ring entrance when

a well-known local obedience instructor walked past me and said, “Oh, an Irish Water Spaniel! They are hard to train, aren't they?” I was preoccupied enough at the moment to not respond to her beyond a shrug, but I thought a lot about it later. Hard to train? Irish Water Spaniels? While my experience in training the IWS is limited, I've trained a number of other spaniels and setters. How does the IWS compare?

Yes, they really are as smart as many IWS owners and breeders claim—and maybe smarter, like Border Collie smart. Numerous times my dog Journey demonstrated the “fast mapping” learning ability documented in studies of Border Collies. Fast mapping means the dog can learn a rudimentary version of a behavior in one lesson and replicate it the next day. I've experienced more than one Water Spaniel who does one better, by not just replicating the behavior, but improving on it. Retention of learning is another attribute. For reasons I won't go into here, Journey and I took a two-year break from her Utility work. When we went back to it, she remembered everything about the most complex exercises. And I mean everything, right down to the itty-bitty precision details. I wouldn't have remembered those behaviors as well if you'd given me a two-year break!

Their pack drive is as high as their prey drive. You'll hear lots of field, agility, and obedience trainers talk about drive. Usually they're talking about prey drive, the powerful instinct to find prey that can be utilized to retrieve a duck or pick up a dumbbell. But the social or “pack” drive is essential in obedience, to enjoy being with the trainer and fully invest in the crazy obedience games we play. And I don't think Journey is an exception; I see this same “team player” attitude in a young male Water Spaniel I'm currently training, and I see it at every IWS specialty trial, where the vast majority of the dogs are attempting to fulfill their owners' wishes, sometimes despite miscommunication and handler nerves.

They really are “alert and inquisitive” as the standard says. Always. Alert. Sometimes that alertness can be trying, like this morning when I was trying to cuddle with Journey on the bed with morning coffee, and she just couldn't stop squiggling. And this is a 9-year-old IWS, not a puppy. But that “on” switch means that when I say, “Let's go train!” her answer is always a “Yes!”

These are just some of the many significant attributes that make the IWS a joy to train and certainly not difficult. They might be a well-kept secret in the obedience world, but the secret might be getting out, with multiple

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*KC of Philadelphia, 1978: Irish Water Spaniel
Ch. Oak Trees Irishtocrat*

competitive IWS showing in the advanced obedience classes in recent years.—*Laura Burns, 2017*

[Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)

Sussex Spaniels

PRESERVATION BREEDERS

There are now seven of us in this breed that can be called preservation breeders. We try to have litters on a regular basis. Yes, Sussex are hard to breed; yes, Sussex are expensive to breed. It is an emotional roller-coaster with thrills and delights when a litter is successfully whelped and thrives, and it is depressing and heartbreaking when the breeding fails.

So far, 2022 is a failing year. So far, in the first seven months, there have been nine Sussex born in the U.S. that have lived. One litter of six was what most breeds would term a “normal litter.” There was one survivor of a three-puppy litter, and two litters with a singleton puppy each. Other litters were re-absorbed or died in the first days. Other litters just didn’t happen, no matter the tests and timing and experts.

One of the problems is that when you do get a litter, people want pets. Many state that they want a show-quality puppy but they only want it as a pet. They are not interested in

showing or breeding. If you sell your puppies as pets, then it does not help the breed. Certainly it shows a small number of people what an enchanting dog the Sussex can be, but it doesn’t help the breed as a whole. Which means that the breeder needs to keep something themselves from the litter to carry on the breed or sell to someone who will do so. Promises don’t count. Pet people will do almost anything to get their hands on a puppy and then tell you later that their vet told them the best thing to do was to neuter the dog, and they did.

We need more Sussex litters, and to get them we need more Sussex breeders. Some of us are getting—can I say the word “old”?

The rise in prices of everything has hurt us also: Vet prices are higher, dog food—mine has gone up \$10 a bag in the last year—hamburger is up 25 percent, it goes on and on. But we must carry on.

I encourage anyone in another breed or just wanting to have and help this very special breed to think it over carefully and then contact our breeder-referral person, Jenni Toebben, at jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com, and ask her to put you in touch with one of our preservation breeders. Not just someone who once had a litter, but someone who actually breeds and is willing to help you to do the same. We will gladly mentor you and help you to help

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our wonderful breed.

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

Welsh Springer Spaniels

Several years ago, storied Welsh Springer breeder and all-breed handler Betty Cummings (Wynfomeer) was interviewed by Anne Legare (Holly House), Margaret Hilliard (Farhill), and Judy Hogentogler (Cornerstone) about her life in dogs, which began in the 1930s. This lightly edited excerpt from that interview is the second portion presented in the AKC GAZETTE.

INTERVIEW WITH BETTY CUMMINGS PART TWO:

Betty's Eye for a Dog

Betty Cummings (BC): Now, years and years ago, when I was only about 5 years old, my dad worked as a chauffeur for people that had gotten a pair of Boxers. They brought them on their yacht back from Germany.

Margaret Hilliard (MH): It had to be a hell of a yacht!

BC: It was a hell of a yacht. And they bred the two, and they had a litter of puppies, and he said to my dad, “Can Betty have a puppy?” And my father said, “Yes, she can have a puppy.” And the man said, “You may pick



Betty Cummings with Best of Breed Welsh Springer Spaniel at Talbot KC (date unknown)

out any puppy you want in that litter.” I said, “Don’t you want one?” He said, “No, I’m not keeping anybody.”

MH: You were five?

BC: I was five. And I went over to the kennel building, and I looked at the puppies. “That one, please.” I picked it up, and the kennel man says, “You can’t give her that one. That’s the best one in the litter.” My father’s boss said, “That is her puppy.” So, that was my puppy.

Judy Hogentogler (JH): You were 5 years old. You couldn’t show.

BC: I couldn’t, but he paid for his kennel man to show her, and we finished. And that was way, way back. That was in the ‘30s.

Betty's First Dog Show

MH: How did you get into dog handling in the first place?

BC: I used to ride horses professionally, and—

Wendy Jordan (WJ): Professionally?

BC: Yes.

WJ: How does one ride a horse professionally?

BC: You get paid for it. And I also knew that eventually I wouldn’t be around horses. My father was in the Army, and you have to leave them. I mean, you don’t take a horse like you take a dog with you. So, I said to my

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father, “I want a dog,” and so for my birthday I got a dog.

WJ: What birthday? How old were you?

BC: Fourteen, and I got my Keeshond, my first Keeshond. And she wasn’t a very good Keeshond, I came to realize, but I bred her. I mean, there weren’t too many good ones around anyway. And then a friend of mine, I met this man, and he said, “You know, you’ll finish her. You can finish anything if you go long enough.” I said, “You’re right.” And he said, “I’ve got a litter of puppies, and if you’ll show them, I’ll give you one.” And I said, “I don’t want just any old puppy!”

MH: So, you’re now 15 and you’re telling this guy, “I don’t want just any old puppy,” at age 15?

BC: He said, “That’s fine. I take first choice, and you take second.” I said, “Fair enough, you own the bitch.” So, I picked my puppy, finished him before he was 7 months old. Started him at 6 months and he was finished at 7. Then I had to put him away because he was too much of a puppy. I couldn’t special him. And, besides, there was a much better special out. However, this man that gave me the puppy was the one that handled the dog that was out, and he would always tell me where he wasn’t going and I would enter my dog there, so that worked out well.

This is the first in a series of excerpts we will be

reprinting in coming editions.

—Wendy J. Jordan,

wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com

Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

Spinoni Italiani

THE SPINONE’S COAT AND SKIN

The Spinone’s coat is harsh and wiry, and the skin is thick, and these traits are a main part of what the breed is all about. Some say the name Spinone comes from the Italian word *spino*, which translates to “thorn,” and others say its name history comes from *Bracco Spinoso*, which means “prickly pointer.”

Either way, the Spinone coat allows it to get through heavy, thick brush, particularly brush that has sharp, slicing knife-like needles or the ever-so-sticky little seeds as its coat simply pulls out (nature’s way of stripping), staying with the brush rather than the brush coming with the Spinone. But when some of those sticky seeds or burs do stay attached then it is a breeze to hand-strip those out thanks to correct coat texture and length. This is also why there is no undercoat on a Spinone; nothing soft and downy to catch and hold them in the brush.

The Spinone’s thick skin protects him in extreme cold and in icy-cold water, plus the harsh-textured coat is waterproof. The skin



Spinone Italiano
(Mary Bloom photo)

should also be loose as well as thick, as it is essential in enabling the Spinone to get through that heavy, thick brush. The throat is moderate in skin and has a double dewlap.

The breed standard says:

“The ideal coat length is 1½ to 2½ inches on the body, with a tolerance of a half inch

over or under the ideal length. Head, ears, muzzle, and front sides of legs and feet are covered by shorter hair. The hair on the back-sides of the legs forms a rough brush, but there are never any fringes. The eyes and lips are framed by stiff hair forming eyebrows, mustache and tufted beard, which combine

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

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to save fore face from laceration by briar and bush. The coat is dense, stiff and flat or slightly crimped, but not curly, with an absence of undercoat. The Spinone is exhibited in a natural state. The appearance of the Spinone may not be altered. The dog must present the natural appearance of a functional field dog.”

“Natural state.” What does that mean?

That means the Spinone should not be soft and fluffy and long-coated, or even with coat so short it is practically to the skin. Trimming hair with scissors preserves hair length, which then becomes soft. Cutting hair down with scissors or clippers merely cuts off the top layer of a dog’s coat, which also creates a soft coat and eventually results in creating a dull color (for example, brown becomes gray). Hand-stripping or using a stripping knife, on the other hand, removes the dead hair, creating room for new harsh and wiry coat growth with good natural vibrant color—just the way nature hand-strips a Spinone when he is out in the heavy brush. Nature may not strip as constant or as uniformly as hand-stripping, but it is the same concept.

But what about “the appearance of the Spinone may not be altered”?

Well, let’s be real about this. Properly grooming a Spinone—that is, giving the occasional bath, combing, or brushing and hand-stripping—is not altering its

appearance. All of those things help to maintain the Spinone’s natural appearance by keeping the coat harsh and wiry and to its ideal length of one-and-a-half to two-and-a-half inches long. What is not natural is, as taken from the breed standard, “Dogs (Spinoni) with a long, soft or silky coat, the presence of undercoat, or any deviation of the coat as defined in this as well as excessive grooming, i.e., scissoring, clipping, or setting of pattern shall be severely penalized as to eliminate them from further competition.”

So go ahead, measure out one-and-a-half to two-and-a-half inches. For real. That length is not as long as it seems; or even the reverse, it is not as short as one might think. A good rule of thumb, measure out, say, two inches, which is right smack-dab in the middle of that one-and-a-half to two-and-a-half inches. (By the way, my thumb is two inches long. How convenient for checking length while grooming!)

Maintaining that ideal length of coat by hand-stripping or using a stripping knife on a longer coat keeps the coat to the correct length as well as nurturing a good harsh wiry texture and doing the same on a shorter coat helps to encourage the new growth of a harsh wiry coat to get it to that ideal length.

How about those Spinone legs? As was stated above from the breed standard, “The

hair on the backsides of the legs forms a rough brush, but there are never any fringes.” That means a nice brushy column of good, coarse, wiry hair, hand-plucked to stay that way if need be. Never, never fluffy, puffy, soft, and wispy, floppy-haired legs. It is very easy to see the difference between a truly maintained coarse, brushy column over soft, fluffy, wispy legs. And, as should go without saying, never, ever any product in those legs—they should stand up nice and brushy and coarse all by themselves with just a little back-brushing.

One of the most important features of a Spinone is the eyes, that beautiful, human-like eye that gives the breed its sweet, soft expression. We need to see those eyes! Hand-plucked eyebrows do the trick, as does hand- or knife-stripping the cheeks and head in order to see the lovely diverging (not converging) head planes and prominent occipital protuberance, as well as proper ear-set.

Again, as has been said numerous times, regular stripping, even of the head and face, will help to keep that already good coat even more harsh and wiry and, therefore, easier to maintain and keep burr-free when out in the field or even in the tall grasses of the backyard.

Finally, the end—well, the tail. Whether docked or undocked, the tail should not have fringes. Ever. —Daina B. Hodges, 2018

[Spinone Club of America](#)

Vizslas

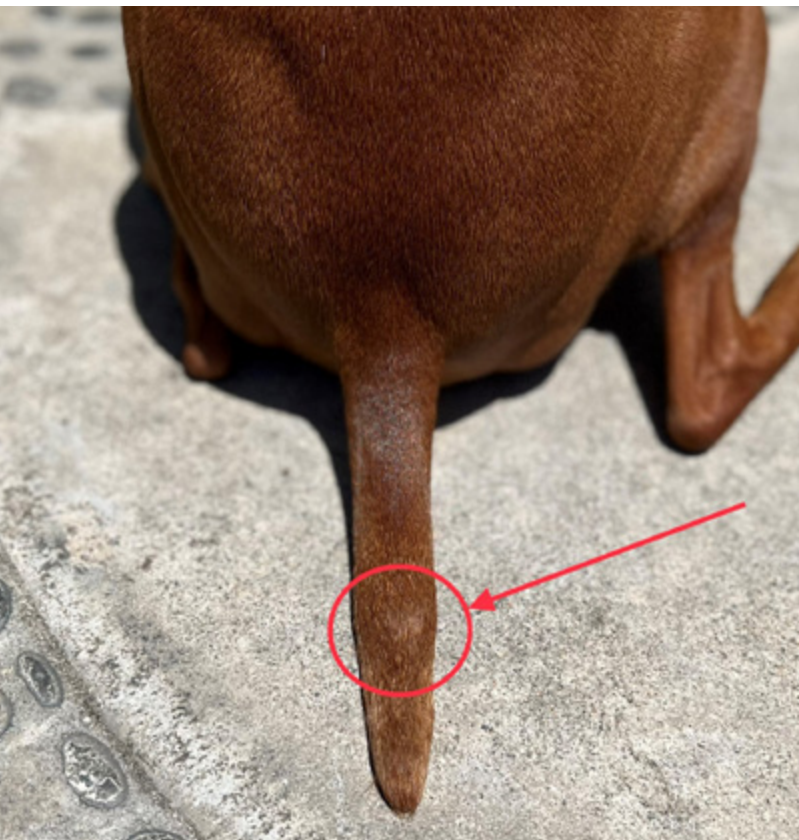
THE VIOLET GLAND

Does your Vizsla have a dimple or patch on the top side of the tail, almost like a matted spot where the hair is thinning? Because of the Vizsla’s short coat, skin changes are more visible than in many other breeds. If you’ve noticed such a spot, it could be related to your dog’s violet gland. This type of change is sometimes referred to as “stud tail” but affects both male and female dogs. In females, it seems to be correlated with their heat cycles. Sometimes it will appear and then magically disappear.

The violet gland, or supracaudal gland, is located right above the dog’s ninth caudal vertebra, roughly in the middle of a Vizsla’s tail. This gland is not unique to dogs; it’s also found in foxes, wolves, badgers, and some domesticated cats. It consists of modified sweat glands and sebaceous glands that evolved for intra-species signaling or scent marking. The name comes from its similarities to the volatile compounds produced by violets. In mammals, these compounds are produced in much larger quantities than in flowers, which may result in a strong, unpleasant odor.

In dogs, the exact function of the violet gland is unknown. It’s not as highly developed as it is in foxes and wolves. Foxes use the odor from violet gland secretions to communicate.

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Two photos showing location of the “violet gland,” or supracaudal gland, identifiable as a dimple or patch on the top side of the tail. The gland is thought to play a role in scent-marking and intra-species signaling.

According to Richard Estes, author of *The Behavior Guide to African Mammals: Including Hoofed Mammals, Carnivores, Primates*, “The violet gland secretes most actively during the denning season and is more developed in females than in males (in some foxes, at least); presumably, the secretions are brushed against den entrances as the animals come and go.”

For the most part, a pronounced violet gland is not a serious problem; but if you see red-

ness or swelling, it could be infected, and you should seek veterinary help. Stud tail is often found in intact males, so there’s a belief that it’s induced by elevated sex hormones called androgens. In females, the hormone imbalance is called alopecia X.

My experience with the violet gland came about when I saw that one of my females had this patch on her tail. It even changed the hair color slightly. Each time I dug deeper

into what it was, it seemed to disappear. As I started writing this article, I noticed my youngest female had developed a patch on her tail. I guess if you write it, it will come.

Lucy Maud Montgomery said, “If a kiss could be seen, it would look like a violet.” Has your Vizsla been kissed?

—Jamie Walton,
jamie@professionaldesign.org
Vizsla Club of America

Weimaraners

FINDING OUR ROOTS

We’ve all picked up books about the Weimaraner and breezed through the obligatory history of our breed. Frequently, it’s just a few short paragraphs stating that Weimaraners first showed up in the early 1800s in Weimar, Germany, at the court of Grand Duke Karl August. He is credited with having them as his most favored hunting companions, and further that their breeding and ownership was limited to only a few socially high-ranking individuals. It was clear that the Duke was not inclined to share his *wünderhund* with just anybody. In fact, it seems that the court made no effort to popularize the breed and was happy to limit accessibility. The existence of the Weimaraner was held “close to the vest,” and you really had to know the right

people to get your hands on one.

We’ve all heard some version of this short history. Did you ever wonder where the first individuals came from? They certainly didn’t spontaneously spring into existence. What was the ancestry behind these relatively new, silver gray, super hunters?

The “plot” is about to thicken.

Digging into the origin question I found multiple theories, great disagreements, and a generally murky collection of facts.

To try to go back in time, we’re limited to written records and dogs depicted in artwork. Art takes us farther back than anything written about the Weimaraner. Looking through artwork for gray hunting dogs, there’s France’s Chien Gris de St. Louis (the Gray Dog of St. Louis). From the mid-1200s through the 1400s, they show up in multiple tapestries and illuminated manuscripts and are depicted as gray, “houndish” critters hunting everything from boar to unicorns. (Unicorns? I warned you things were about to get murky.) Was the Gray Dog of St. Louis the progenitor of the modern Weimaraner?

Looking for Weimaraner-like dogs in paintings results in several examples that if you squint a little and apply a big dollop of imagination, you can say they look like our breed. For example, there’s a striking gray dog in a portrait of a young nobleman painted

COURTESY, JAMIE WALTON

SPORTING GROUP



in 1631 by Van Dyke. In this painting the coloration resembles a Weimaraner, and the features are similar to that of a fine boned bitch. Moving toward more modern examples,

France in the first half of the 1700s produced a famous, prolific painter of animals by the name of Jean Baptiste Oudrey. He produced many paintings of hunting dogs and depicted

several dogs with the same color and general lines of a Weimaraner.

After looking at pages and pages of old artwork and not being confident that I was looking at an ancestor of the Weimaraner, I decided to turn to the written word in hopes of finding more definitive evidence. Most histories of our breed name Karl August, Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach (1757–1828) as the developer of the Weimaraner. Biographers talk about his passion for hunting. In a book published during the Duke's lifetime, there is mention of his use of black and white hunting dogs and importing Pointers from England. There was no mention of the Weimaraner. Interestingly, books about hunting dogs published in the 1800's do not mention the Weimaraner. Was the court of Weimar keeping their newly developed hunting companion a secret?

At the time of Grand Duke Karl August, the gift of superior sporting dogs between the hunting nobility was as common as when we bring a bottle of wine to a dinner party. The Duke was a bestie of Prince Esterhazy of Bohemia and made many hunting trips there. In one biography of the Duke, it is noted that he was so impressed by the Bohemian hunting dogs that he brought some back to Weimar. You can only imagine that these were used as breed-

ing stock to improve the Duke's dogs and were in the mix in the development of the Weimaraner.

While Weimaraners are not written about during the Duke's lifetime they do get mentioned in later writings. An 1850 obituary for Weimar's Forest Master said that he bred Weimaraners up until the time of his death. A 1928 article in "The German Hunters' Newspaper" noted that Weimaraners were kept by the court of Weimar for 100 years.

Theories abound about the breeds that were used in the development of the Weimaraner. The short list includes: the German Shorthaired Pointer, blue Great Dane, Bloodhound, Red Schweisshund, St. Hubert's Hound, Deutch Kurzhund, Spanish Pointer, English Pointer, Leithund and the Gray Dog of St. Louis. Three breeds keep recurring: the Gray Dog of St. Louis; Red Schweisshung and St. Hubert's Hound.

If it is true that Grand Duke Karl August tried to keep his Weimaraners as his private breed it is not surprising that written documentation of their development is impossible to find. While we'll never know for certain what went into the mix, we're certainly glad that it happened.

—Carole Lee Richards,
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[Weimaraner Club of America](#)

WORKING GROUP

Akitas

WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?

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

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

Some people coming into the sport seem to be in a hurry to get as many dogs as they can, breed litters as soon as they can, and think they will make breed history. What they fail to



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

Please understand that *novice* is not a bad word! We all started somewhere, and it's OK to ask questions and then *listen* to the answers! Please do not be an “I know, but ...” person. It is extremely disheartening to spend time

mentoring someone, answering questions and making suggestions, only to hear, “I know, but”—followed by a list of excuses as to why you cannot or will not do what is being suggested. Understand that your mentor, if you've chosen her well, most likely has at least a decade (if not several decades) of experience under her belt, and she is not making unfounded suggestions! It is also crucial that you read and understand the Akita standard and *breed to it!* If, after careful consideration, you choose to breed, be aware of where the “problems” are, whether they are genetic issues, flaws in type, structure, temperament,

or just plain mediocrity.

All things considered, and considering what is at stake—your dog's well-being, your potential puppy buyer's future companion, and your reputation in the breed you profess to love—take your time, and do your homework. After all, what's your hurry? —Julie Strawsburg-Mayes, 2011

Note: The Akita Club of America held the breed's 2022 national specialty September 19–23 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Watch for coverage and photos in the next Working Group issue of the GAZETTE, coming up in January.

[Akita Club of America](#)

Alaskan Malamutes

My close friend, AMCA member Lisa Silvestri, is my guest writer for this issue. In her own words, Lisa describes her journey with her newest rescue Malamute. She recounts the acute and unexpected health challenges enveloping both of their lives, and how they are joined in determination and inner strength to conquer the challenges they both face. Lisa has devoted uncountable time, energy, and resources to rescuing and rehabbing Malamutes, and I have been blessed to help her and to call her my closest friend.

TIQUANA: THE DOG WHO WALKED AGAIN

“I have rescued or adopted nine different Alaskan Malamutes in my life; each one

WORKING GROUP

unique in personality and rehabilitation challenges. Last year I learned of a 10-year-old male from an Amish breeding situation who had been surrendered to a Lancaster County rescue. He had never lived outside of a small enclosure and lacked muscle tone and general condition—yet from the start, he showed his noble personality, loving temperament, and excitement at learning new things and at having a huge fenced yard to run in with his new girl buddy, retired champion Kona. I named him Tiquana, which is Inuit for ‘adopted son.’

“It was so delightful to see him enjoy a second puppyhood and learn to enjoy a premium diet plus fun foods like carrots and watermelon, grow a healthy new coat, and gradually develop good muscle tone and coordination over the months that followed.”

Suddenly, a Crisis

“In mid-May this year, I had finished the morning feeding, and Tiquana was happily trotting toward the house when he suddenly crumpled to the ground. I watched in horror as first his back legs, then his front legs collapsed, leaving him unable to move. In a panic, I lifted his limp body and carried him into the kitchen. Fortunately, I work part-time for a veterinarian and was able to get his immediate help. X-rays revealed the presence of fibrocartilage embolus, a blood vessel



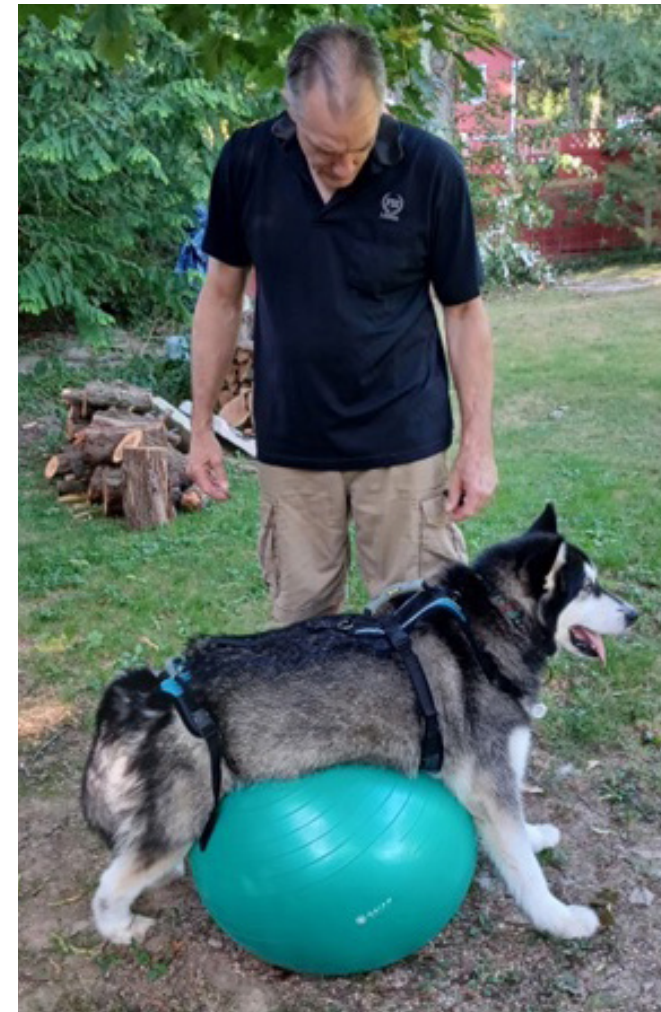
Bathtime: The “Help-Em-Up” harness was essential for Tiquana’s daily bathing and therapy.

Tiquana stands on his own thanks to the yoga ball, which proved vital as he regained muscle tone and the ability to balance on his own.

Running at last: After months of intense therapy, Tiquana has regained mobility, with the hope that his hindquarters will continue to strengthen. Best of all, he is happy and full of determination and dignity.

obstruction involving the spinal cord. My dog was completely paralyzed, and the prognosis in these cases is extremely poor.”

At this point in the story, it helps to know that Lisa is one of the most determined and innovative people I have ever known when a Malamute suffers a crisis. Lisa took Tiquana home and converted part of her kitchen to a



hospital/MASH unit, complete with a catheter surgically attached, IV fluids, and a host of supplies. She was determined to chart a treatment and recovery plan for Tiquana that would defy the odds.

At that moment, Lisa says, “I looked into his eyes and saw his fighting spirit—his will to live—and I promised I wouldn’t give up on him. Since he was totally paralyzed at first, I



used a large plastic horse syringe filled with chicken broth to feed him. Slowly, he regained movement in his neck and was able to eat and drink without assistance.”

Lisa continues:

“I set up a second recovery area under my gazebo, with a large ex-pen enclosure so that he could see and visit with the other Malamutes as they ran in the yard. He was thrilled to be in the outdoors he loved, enjoying the fresh air and a chance to feel like a dog again. Caring for a 90-pound disabled dog is not easy, but a Help-Em-Up harness, towels, and rehab products designed for humans, plus doggy training pads, helped us to get through the early stages of Tiquana’s recovery. Fortunately, he was soon able to relieve himself and would bark to let us know, and then

COURTESY LISA SILVESTRI

WORKING GROUP

he slowly learned to flip himself over to avoid getting pressure points and bedsores. During bathtime, he flips over on each side when asked, to allow us to bathe and towel him dry. He has never shown aggression or resentment, even during the hands-on manipulation necessary throughout his daily care and intensive therapy. Instead, he offers kisses to us and his entire team, and his eyes are full of wisdom and understanding.

“My veterinarian has kept up with Tiquana’s progress, adjusting his steroid levels and pain medication. We located a chiropractor who specialized in animal care, and laser therapy plus weekly adjustments were added to Tiquana’s treatment program; we also discovered a veterinary rehab center for aquatic and exercise therapy. At home, we created a daily program of massages and leg exercises, plus added a large, rubber yoga exercise ball, which proved to be the perfect way to hold him up to strengthen his legs.

“After two months of this intense therapy, Tiquana was able to regain strength in his front legs, so that only his rear legs needed support as he moved forward. Two months after his injury, he began to push with his rear legs as he moved forward.

“My partner, Jim Sabath, designed a cable system with carabiners and fitness equipment attached to a pull-up bar for Tiquana’s sta-

bility exercises. My neighbor, a Chow fancier, also lent us a wheeled mobility rig which we plan to use as Tiquana continues his recovery.

“In August, I had to undergo emergency cancer surgery plus hospitalization for a week, followed by a long recovery. Jim rose to the challenge of managing both Tiquana’s therapy and the daily care of our other Malamutes. Jim drove Tiquana to his chiropractic appointments and performed his home-based therapy, which enabled me to recover as quickly as possible.

“The afternoon I was discharged from the hospital, I saw something spectacular. Tiquana lifted up his entire body, and although his hind legs were very unsteady, he walked several steps toward me! He realized he could use his legs and walk again—it brought me to tears!

“The following two weeks saw Tiquana gather more strength and stamina. At feeding time, when I offer him his meal, he lifts himself up in front, and like a sprinter in starting position, launches himself forward with a burst of speed for several steps, and then repeats this sequence. Our newest priority in his therapy is to strengthen his hind legs so that they can avoid crossing over and maintain a more normal range of motion.”

Lisa shares Tiquana’s sense of determination. “Tiquana’s determination inspires me as I fight my own battle with cancer. His

instinct to survive and to thrive is so characteristic of the Malamute—and my message to all Malamute owners is *Don’t give up on your dog*—their spirit and unqualified love for you will propel them to heal and surmount often-daunting odds.

“Today he was relaxing on the patio right off the house as I walked out toward our second kennel, some 100 feet away from our home. I heard a sound, and as I turned, he was walking toward me, wobbling a bit, but determined—all the way to greet another of our boys, Timber, in the fenced kennel yard. As they wagged their tails in greeting, my heart was full of joy: My Tiquana is once again regaining the life he deserves—not as a patient, but as a majestic Malamute, full of character and dignity!”

Thank you for sharing your inspiring story, Lisa.

—Phyllis I. Hamilton,
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Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

With this issue the GAZETTE welcomes Erick Conard, new columnist for the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America. Our thanks for the many excellent contributions of outgoing ASDCA columnist Jo Lynne York.

RAISING ANATOLIAN PUPS, PART ONE:

BIRTH TO TWO WEEKS

My goal when raising Anatolian puppies is to create the best environment possible in order to optimize the genetics of each puppy in the litter. It is important to remember that each puppy is an individual, and what works with one puppy might not work with another.

I have had numerous litters over the last 37 years. With each litter I tend to modify and adjust my techniques based on what I’ve learned from previous litters, as well as based on the animals I have at the time that will help me raise and train working Anatolian pups.

About a week before an expectant female gives birth, I begin bringing her inside for short visits. Since all my dogs live with their goats and other charges 24/7, it is important that a new mother becomes relaxed inside before giving birth. I want her to be comfortable with the place I plan for her and her litter to live for the first two weeks or so after the pups are born. The weather in Texas is too unpredictable for me to trust that all will be well if the pups are outside, since pups can’t regulate their own body temperature for a week or two after birth.

Anatolians chosen for breeding must have superior nurturing ability for correct behavior with the flock. As an extra benefit, having a dam with superior nurturing ability

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Anatolian Shepherd Dog dam Lucky Hit DivaKiz Sonra, with her first litter. For her entire life, Sonra worked full time guarding sheep and/or goats and poultry 24/7. Three of these pups went on to become AKC champions. If all is well, the litter's first two weeks look pretty much like this scene, with lots of sleep because the pups are clean and quiet, well fed, and comfortable.

makes raising Anatolian pups much easier. Exemplary Anatolian mothers express their outstanding nurturing ability by remaining close to their pups and taking excellent care of them. During the pups' first week, the environment must be perfect so they can devote all their energy to feeding and sleeping. It's

important for the pups to gain weight and become strong.

A highly nurturing mother makes the temperature of the room less important, because she is right there to help the newborns maintain the correct body temperature. If I owned an Anatolian that wanted to get away from

her newborns, I'd never breed that Anatolian again. Luckily, I've never experienced that type of Anatolian.

My best mothers have puppies who rarely make noise because their mom keeps them comfortable. The moms keep their puppies quiet by providing abundant milk on demand, peeing and pooping their pups the moment they quietly whine, and maintaining a constant presence with her litter. When the dam is always present, the pups can either snuggle up against the mom for warmth or move away to stretch out and cool off. I usually have to drag my dams outside to pee and poop for the first few times after giving birth, because they are so devoted to their pups that they don't want to leave them for even a moment.

Since the pups are inside rather than on absorbent soil, I help by changing out the fabric the pups and their mom are on. This must be kept dry and clean. I change this material about three or four times a day. A correct fabric helps in a variety of ways. When the pup begins to stand and move, they need a fabric that helps them keep their feet under them. I select rather stiff material, like a heavy upholstery fabric. I don't allow the fabric to bunch up. I don't want an exhausted mom to confuse a new pup for a bunched-up roll of fabric. She could continue to lay on the pup and smother it. I also monitor the room temperature, which

I maintain at about 72 degrees Fahrenheit. That's something I can easily control. And I don't allow drafts to move across the puppy area, as a draft can chill a young pup.

When the mother is nurturing and the environment is correct, the first two weeks tend to be quiet and uneventful. An uneventful beginning is exactly what I want!

However, quiet or noisy, you need to check the dam's teats daily, especially the first week. If they are swollen, hot, hard, or red, it is most likely mastitis, an infection of the milk gland. When the pups are feeding from all the teats, this isn't something one expects. However, the moment you see signs of mastitis, call your vet. It might be so far along that the pups can't fix the problem by nursing off that teat. If that's the case, you'll need to give an antibiotic, and you need to massage and drain the teat yourself.

An infection can create problems when everything else is perfect. Puppy poop should be relatively firm and have a mild smell. If you notice a pup's poop becomes airy and very smelly, don't delay. Take a sample to your vet for analysis immediately! It might be coccidiosis. The only FDA-approved treatment for coccidia is sulfadimethoxine, which must be prescribed by a veterinarian. My vet prescribes Albon (containing sulfadimethoxine), a sweet-smelling and tasty

WORKING GROUP

medicine that cures this problem quickly. If one pup has coccidiosis, they'll eventually all get it, so I don't wait; I give the entire litter the medicine (and my vet concurs). I've only experienced pups getting coccidiosis during the first week after birth, although they can get it at any time.

Another dangerous infection in puppies can be caused by giardia, a single-celled parasite. It can cause severe diarrhea (watery, soft, foul smelling, and greasy with excessive mucus) and frequent urges to poop. It may be fatal if left untreated. Fenbendazole is an effective medication and is the active ingredient in Safe-guard. If left untreated, giardia can lead to bloody diarrhea, weight loss, dehydration, and even death.

Don't be alarmed if a small amount of blood is being discharged by the dam after the birthing. This discharge lasts between two and eight weeks. However, if the dam seems to be weakening and the discharge is excessive, immediately take her to the vet! Also, the dam might develop diarrhea from cleaning up the afterbirth, cleaning up her discharge, and cleaning up after the pups. If the diarrhea doesn't clear up quickly, call your vet!

This series on "Raising Anatolian Pups" will continue in the January 2023 issue.

—Erick Conard, Lucky Hit Ranch,
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[Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America](#)

Bernese Mountain Dogs

THE ONLY SURE THINGS ARE DEATH AND TAXES

Grief is a part of life. One of the most difficult aspects of having dogs, and specifically Bernese Mountain Dogs, is their short life span. The loss of a beloved companion creates heartache and sadness. At such times, perhaps you have noticed the other dogs of the household exhibiting changes.

Italian researchers constructed an online questionnaire asking owners if they had observed changes in their dogs who had a companion dog who died—asking if the dogs changed “both in terms of activities (playing, sleeping, and eating) and emotions (fearfulness), which occurred as a function of the quality of the relationship between the two animals.” (Uccheddu, S., Ronconi, L., Albertini, M. *et al*, *Sci Rep* 12, 1920 [2022.]) Owners reported changes in the remaining dogs such as eating and playing less, more sleeping, fearfulness, attention seeking, and vocalization.

Trying to help your dog who has lost their canine housemate while you are also grieving yourself may have you drowning in changes. Following are a few coping methods that may help you stay afloat and navigate the loss.

Acceptance. Accept in your heart that you could not prevent the death or illness. Consider “talking it over” with your dog,



Bernese Mountain Dog: March 2021 (Lynda Beam photo)

Explain the facts and how you feel. I've seen my dogs calm after a conversation. There isn't knowledge of the words, but dogs understand our emotions. I sat with my Elle, saying, “Mojo is gone. I'm sad, and we miss him.” Saying things aloud helps you believe your thoughts too.

Give time. Grieving is exhausting emotionally and mentally; give yourself time. A strategy I use is spending the first days of grieving cocooned with my family and animals. We clean

and put away the missing dog's personal items. Dogs are sensitive to your suffering and want to console you. We cuddle and eat and cry. Crying has been described as nature's way of cleansing emotions from the body. Emotional tears do carry stress hormones from the body. One way to think of tears is the body's way of honoring the memory and love.

Whiplash. This wave of grief comes out of nowhere to sting your heart and assail your mind. Doing the work of putting one foot in front of the other and attempting to function can be interrupted by sight, sound, smell, or thought that snaps you into active grieving. Ride the wave of pain. Breathe. Acknowledge the loss again. Cry and hug some more.

Affirm your choices. One kindness we can give ourselves is to realize that we did the best we could with what we knew. Affirm to yourself that you wanted and did the best for your beloved companion. One shining example dogs offer is that they live in the present and accept what happens, shake off the stress and move forward.

Touch. The phrase “to touch can be to give life” has been attributed to Michelangelo. Touch has been shown to reduce anxiety and ease sadness. The lack of touch was one of the big losses during the COVID-19 restrictions. Touch

WORKING GROUP

doesn't have to be intimate. The reward centers in our brain are stimulated by a back-pat, a rub on the shoulder, or a handshake. Through the simple act of human touch we have the ability to nourish our health, our relationships, and our spirit.

Music reawakens memories through the confluence of rhythm, vibration, instrumental tones, and vocals. Close your eyes and float away in the sound. It stimulates the brain on a primal level that blends past and present to open the heart and lift spirits. Music is an experience in *flow*. Let the sound with its infinite variety and dynamic changes buoy you up.

Choice. Studies show that a deliberate choice is renewing to the spirit. That is fortunate when dealing with loss. After a loss it is inevitable that our routines change. Something must fill the void. For me I spend time organizing. The chaos of in my heart is mitigated by bringing order in some other area of my life—it might be cleaning closets or weeding a flower bed, or organizing the computer files. It may be a renewed interest in a hobby. Refreshing the connection to your schedule can be soothing.

Reaching out. The uncharted waters of grieving is unique each time, because the relationship was

unique. You may have experienced the loss of a walking partner, the loss of a work companion, or the loss of a sporting companion. Each aspect has its own impact and each loss needs to be mourned.

Mourning can be lonely. Sometimes talking to others can be ease the pain at least momentarily. The old adage “a sorrow shared is sorrow halved” can be very true. The AKC Pet Loss Support Group on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AKCPetLossSupport/>) is a way to connect with others working through grief. In addition there are grief support groups in most cities.

Many of us have had grief issues to work through recently. Grace and peace to you as you find your way.

—Marjorie Geiger,
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Black Russian Terriers

This month we continue the article on breed health by Christine Robinson, Ph.D., begun in the July issue.

THE BLACK RUSSIAN TERRIER: A PICTURE OF HEALTH PART TWO

Eyes

According to the OFA database, only 2.6

percent of the breed had abnormal eye results. This is a problematic area of testing. Exams are performed by board-certified veterinary ophthalmologists. This is not a “vision” test but rather a screening for genetic disease related to the eye. There are several eye conditions noted upon examination. Some of these conditions (entropion and distichiasis, for example) may be discovered during an exam but are not considered inherited or breed-specific conditions. Those dogs may receive a

“passing” grade on their eye exam, with the “breeder option” noted. The decision to note the “breeder option” is not left to the breeder or OFA. The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists has a Genetics Committee that is responsible for determining the eligibility of the condition noted with consideration to the breed of the dog. Eye exams are good for one year only. It is helpful for breeders to continue to test their breeding dogs when they are young and again when they are older.



Black Russian Terrier

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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Pregressive retinal atrophy (PRA) is a condition in dogs that can cause vision impairment in low lighting or at night. Only recently have DNA tests identified this marker in Black Russian Terriers. Presently, there is no study on PRA in the breed. All that we know about PRA comes from general studies on dogs and a few specific breeds.

Juvenile laryngeal paralysis and polyneuropathy

Juvenile laryngeal paralysis and polyneuropathy (JLPP) is also referred to as polyneuropathy with ocular abnormalities and neuronal vacuolation (POANV). They are one and the same. This syndrome is tested through a DNA sample of the dog. Both the sire and the dam should have this testing completed BEFORE the mating occurs. The JLPP gene is a simple recessive gene. Without a lesson in genetics, the important information is the result for the puppy. It is OK if the puppy is a carrier (meaning the puppy has one copy of the gene). A puppy with two copies of the gene for JLPP will die. To date, 100 percent of all puppies having two copies of the JLPP gene have died. It is fatal. Always ask for copies of the JLPP test result for the sire and dam, as well as the puppy if possible. Never purchase a puppy without this information, not from any breeder in any country in the world. The test is globally accessible. If you want more infor-

mation about the disease, I provided a link in an above paragraph. The BRTCA was instrumental in raising money for researchers at the University of Missouri School of Veterinary Medicine to map the gene and develop a test for the disease. Through 2020, 735 dogs were tested for JLPP; findings indicate that nearly 25 percent are carriers for the disease.

Hyperuricosuria

Hyperuricosuria (HUU) is inherited as a simple autosomal recessive gene. Dogs with two copies of this gene are predisposed to form stones in their bladder or sometimes kidney. While this condition is not considered “fatal”, there are several dogs who have died when medical intervention was not initiated quickly enough. Statistics on this condition are poor. “Carrier” or “Clear” dogs are not affected by the condition. “Affected” dogs may not develop stones, but they may have elevated levels of uric acid in the urine and require a special diet. Many breeders choose not to produce “affected” puppies. Always ask for the genetic testing results on both parents and the puppy. This test has been globally available for many years.

Other testing

Some breeders will also have a patella exam. There is no known correlation in this breed

between patella exams and stifle ligament tears, which do occur in dogs. Thyroid is another test sometimes completed. A passing thyroid test is no guarantee that the dog will not have thyroid problems as an older adult. Dentition is a confusing “test.” It is not a test at all, but rather it is an exam. A veterinarian counts the dog’s teeth and notes any missing teeth. Full dentition, 42 teeth, is required for Black Russian Terriers. Per the AKC breed standard, one missing tooth is considered a serious fault; however, two missing teeth is considered a disqualification. The dentition exam does not refer to a scissors bite. Any bite other than a scissors bite is a disqualification in Black Russians. There are numerous other DNA tests and other screenings that may be done. These tests may have no significant role in the breed at all.

Color genetics

In recent years, genetic color testing for the K locus (dominant black gene) and the A locus (agouti) gene have been a requirement by the BRTCA for completing CHIC testing. While these two genes may not have a direct tie to a health condition, they may still be important to preserving the integrity of the breed. After consulting with geneticists, researchers, and world-renowned experts in the Black Russian Terrier, it was determined that the

only acceptable color for this breed shall be black. There are “throwback” colors that are sometimes born. Because of the number of dog breeds involved with the creation of Black Russians, genetic color combinations can be complicated. Breeding may produce a puppy that is sable, black and tan, saddle patterned, cloudy/silver, red, or even wheat colored. Some puppies are born black and then change color as they mature. These things do happen, and even the best breeders can produce a non-black puppy. Color testing will help breeders produce puppies that most closely resemble the standard, which is a black dog. Non-black dogs may be registered (they are still pure-bred), and they may compete in companion sports. Non-black dogs may not compete in the AKC conformation show ring. Non-black coloring is a disqualification.

Other problems in the breed

Ear infections, hot spots, environmental allergies, and food allergies are all problems in Black Russian Terriers, just as they are with other breeds. Not all of these conditions are related to the breeding pair or the breeder. Allergies and sensitivities can develop as a result of numerous environmental conditions. Ear infections and hot spots may be environmental or may be related to grooming and/or housekeeping. Ask about these problems in the

WORKING GROUP

breeding pair so you have an idea of what you may expect in a puppy.

Commitment to Black Russian Terrier health

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the beloved Black Russian Terrier. Remember, I am not a veterinarian. Always consult a licensed veterinarian for all medical information. There is a lot to learn, but being informed is essential. You'll hear the phrase "Do your homework" said many times during your search for your next puppy. It's good advice. Learn to look up and verify information, so you're not relying on anyone else to make an informed decision. —Christine Robinson, Ph.D

Thank you, Christine, for this valuable information.

—Emily Foster,

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[Black Russian Terrier Club of America](#)

Boerboels

AKC SCENT WORK, PART II: WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG FOR NEW BOERBOEL COMPETITORS?

In my July Boerboel breed column, I introduced Scent Work as an excellent sport for intelligent, "drivey" breeds such as our Boerboel. It utilizes their prey instinct, as well as developing their mental acuity and

problem-solving abilities. Scent Work also has a "feel-good" factor and reduces anxiety. For owners wishing to find a fun and challenging competition with their Boerboels during autumn and winter, Scent Work is held year-round! For a refresher and detailed information about the sport, please see <https://www.akc.org/sports/akc-scent-work/>.

This month's column focuses on some of the major pitfalls (or unpleasant surprises) for new entrants and provides advice on how to avoid or prepare for them. For this column, I again interviewed Anita Ambani, a provisional AKC Scent Work judge and long-term competitor in the sport, as well as speaking with some other experienced Scent Work competitors.

Leaping into way too much too soon: Anita Ambani commented that this was *the* major issue she saw with enthusiastic novices! Another Boerboel owner who now loves competing in Scent Work trials agreed, citing her first experience:

"I had taken a Scent Work class with my dog, and set up practice searches in my home, yard, and a nearby park. These all went fantastically well, and my Boerboel *loved* it. So I couldn't wait to get started, and I selected our first Novice trial.

"My initial issue was I didn't know where to check in (something I hadn't even thought about!). After muddling about, I finally found the right place and was actually able to pick up



Boerboels doing scent work

my number with no further embarrassment.

"It was late in the year, and the temperature had fallen to below freezing. However, I had expected a heated indoor area in which com-

petitors could wait, like for a dog show. I was shocked to discover that everyone had formed a long queue to wait their turn. So, as I hadn't dressed for the weather, my dog and I almost

COURTESY OWNERS

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froze. (I have since discovered there is a *lot* of waiting, with your dogs in crates, at trials.)

“Finally, it was our turn to go in! This is a timed event, Novice Exterior Search, and at this level there was *only one* ‘hide’... and I froze! My mind went totally blank, and I just stood there, ‘planted.’ My dog tried pulling on the lead to get started but finally just sat down in front of me, staring at me like I was an idiot. Needless to say, that was an epic fail. After that, we went to some trials to talk to people and observe, and I volunteered to be a timekeeper a few times, so I could actually watch.”

A friend of mine who has excelled at Scent Work commented about early experiences with her overly enthusiastic dog, Mo:

“With Mo, it’s a constant laugh as she drives so hard into any search area. I have a hard time keeping up with her sometimes. As yet, I’ve not gone down but have come close. In a Novice Exterior search, one hide, Mo charged into the search as usual and hit the odor before I had even entered due to the long lead I was using. Because I was slow, Mo not only alerted to the hide but threw the bucket it was in across the area. Fortunately, the judge was laughing hard enough not to give us a fault. It was the fastest Novice search of the three-day trial! One important thing I’ve learned is every trial gives us a lesson to learn and a laugh.”

Anita Ambani summarized some key advice

to assist new competitors:

- Treat your early forays into Scent Work as an adventure!
- Study and make *sure* you understand rules—and the process of checking in and getting your number.
- Be prepared for extreme weather conditions; create a checklist of items to keep your dog comfortable with cooling, water, crates and warmth.
- Don’t try to do too much early on at Novice level. Two days of competition is too much!
- Make sure you research the venue in advance: Is it near a gun range, geese, or people? Next to a national specialty? Prepare by exposing your dog to some of these conditions with differing challenges.
- Prepare for failure and how you will rebound.

Perhaps, most importantly, Anita suggests talking to experienced people. Better yet, volunteer for one of the roles in managing a competition (timer, steward) so you can watch—as one of the contributors to this article did.

This is an almost addictive sport that is perfect for Boerboels—but take time, learn, and build a good foundation!

—Karen Cornelius,
klc@klcassociates.com
[American Boerboel Club](#)

Boxers

METAMORPHOSIS

Metamorphosis: A change of the form or nature of a thing or person into a completely different one, by natural or supernatural means.

It is official: I have been active in “the dog world” for over 50 years. My first dog show was in April, 1971. I was a senior in college, and my parents asked me to come home for the weekend. They had entered Greta, our Vizsla puppy, in a dog show. I had *never* been to a dog show. With no knowledge whatsoever, I proceeded to show Greta—at Old Dominion Kennel Club (with an entry of over 3,000 dogs). Greta was an excellent specimen, and a very gracious and kind judge ended up giving her a Reserve. I was hooked!

But this is not a personal blog ... it is more about the changes in dog shows and dog sports.

It is hard to comprehend how the *sport* has developed through these 50 years. There have been many drastic changes—some excellent, and some, really ... not so much. However, we participants (called “addicts” by some people) survive in the ever-changing world.

Following are some of the innovations in dog sports that have taken place in the past 50 years, from AKC history:

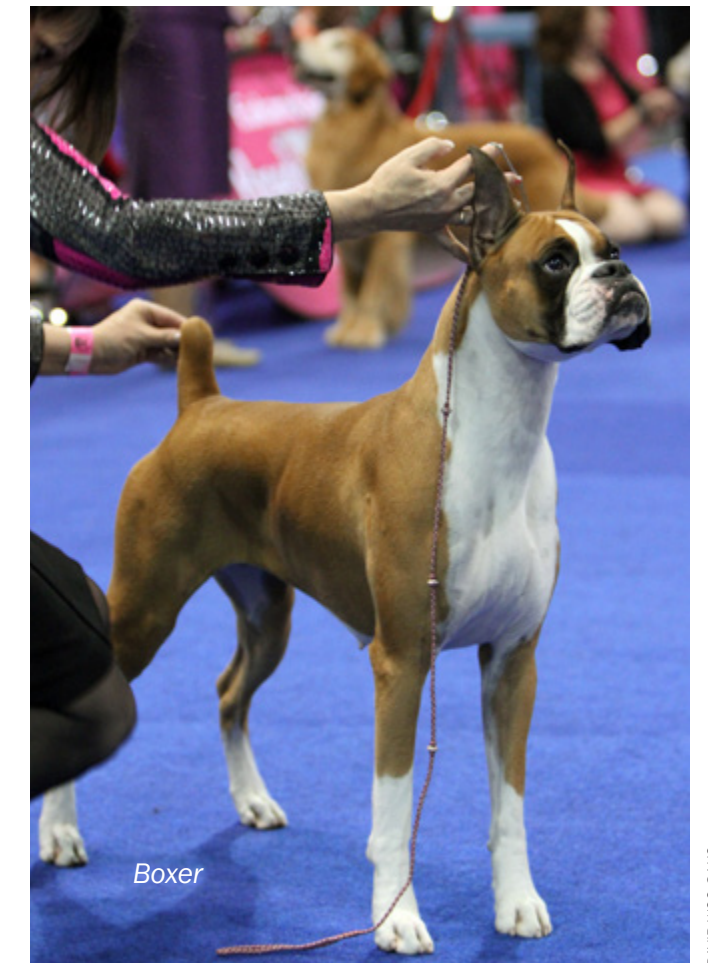
1971—Junior Showmanship officially recognized

1974—First female Delegate admitted to the AKC

1973—Cluster shows start (clubs banding together to hold events in one location on consecutive days—permitted due to the gas shortage)

1977—The AKC no longer licenses handlers

1981—The 25-millionth dog was registered with the AKC



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WORKING GROUP

- 1982—The Dog Museum of America opened in NYC
- 1983—Herding breeds were separated from the Working Group, to create the Herding Group
- 1984—The AKC celebrated its 100th Anniversary Show in Philadelphia (I was there!)
- 1989—The first Canine Good Citizen Tests were conducted, and herding tests and trials started
- 1991—The launch of lure-coursing tests and trials
- 1992—The AKC National Invitational Championship show
- 1994—The sport of agility was established, and Earthdog tests developed
- 1995—AKC Reunite, the AKC Canine Health Foundation, and the Foundation Stock Service began
- 1996—The AKC initiated breeder-owner medallions
- 1998—The Canine Good Citizen Program
- 1999—Launch of the AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards
- 2000—ACE Awards initiated
- 2004—Registered Handler Program initiated
- 2005—AKC Rally initiated
- 2009—AKC Canine Partners launched (allowing mixed-breeds to participate in agility,

rally, and obedience)
2010—AKC Breeder of Merit
2011—AKC Therapy Dog
2014—AKC Pet Disaster Relief
2016—AKC Canine College

The sport has drastically evolved in these 50 years. The original emphasis on conformation, while still paramount, has now evolved to a more comprehensive enjoyment and recognition of the total canine—with additional emphasis on the *function* aspect of the “form and function” adage. According to a recent survey, there were estimated to be over 63 million dog-owning households in the U.S., making dogs the most popular kind of pets in American homes. Fun facts: The state with the highest rate of dog ownership is Idaho, with an average of 58 percent; the largest city for dog ownership is Houston, Texas, with an average of 52.1 dogs per 100 humans.

—Virginia Shames,
Arribatali@aol.com
[American Boxer Club](#)

Bullmastiffs

With gratitude for responsible breeders of purebred dogs, who are the stewards of their breeds, the scions of the sport, those who share their joy with everyone who has ever brought home one of their puppies.

BREEDERS, BE AWARE!

The phrase “reputable breeders” is one most of us can explain but must continually work to accomplish. We are responsible for the dogs we own and for those we bring into this world. We sell puppies selectively, carefully choosing those we will keep in our homes, in our breeding programs, but also deciding which ones will go to approved homes and do best as companions or with others in the sport. As reputable breeders, we view our roles as breeders, (and as owners, or handlers) as avocations, passions we share with other fanciers, ways in which we work to celebrate and to better our breeds.

Social media has bandied about the phrase “buyer beware” as it applies to those searching for their family companions and has also added the confusingly emotional phrase “adopt don’t shop” to the litany of guidelines for people searching for puppies or dogs. We can all agree that buyers who choose to purchase purebreds from breeders must do their research and make informed decisions, beginning with which breed characteristics best match their lifestyles and then focusing on breeders’ practices as they pertain to health clearances, animal husbandry, breeding decisions, and puppy rearing and sales, in order to ensure that mentally and physically sound puppies or dogs come into homes and remain for what we all strive to make long

and happy lives.

We know that adopting is shopping, just differently, and that the puppies and dogs in shelters looking for homes are seldom the carefully planned and bred, thoughtfully and responsibly evaluated and placed, health-tested, and microchipped animals those of us striving to improve our lines and contribute to our breeds one litter, one generation at a time have brought into the world. Still, those who choose to acquire animals in shelters are no less investing in their next family members than are those who select breeders. Adopting animals from shelters is nothing responsible breeders—dog lovers by definition and by lifestyle—would ever denigrate. Those dogs deserve homes. We know, however, that shopping for puppies or dogs in shelters and with rescue groups (many of which are staffed and supported by those of us who proudly call ourselves breeders) is a different experience than is discussed herein.

What we don’t hear often enough, even as veterans, but especially as novice breeders or even before that, as new fanciers with so many dreams and decisions ahead, is what I would say to all who plan to take their health-tested and accomplished bitches to the best available stud dogs with health clearances and titles, who might complement them. I would say: *Breeders, be aware!*

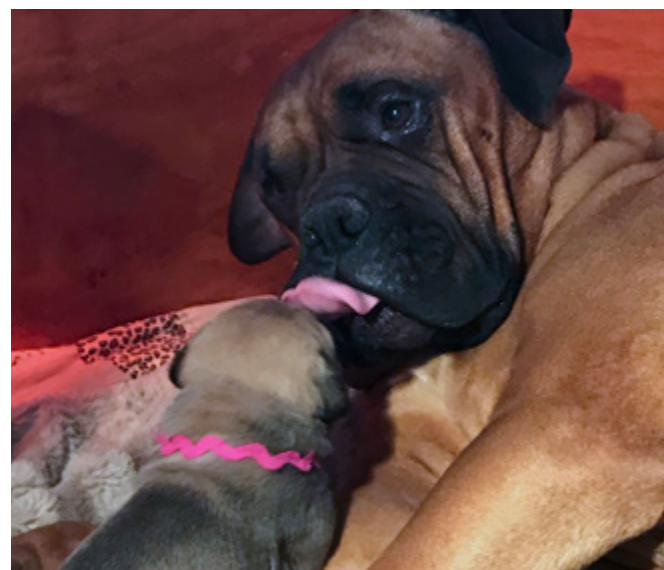
BREED COLUMNS

WORKING GROUP

Breeders, be aware and stay current on health issues, doing our best by our dogs and learning and teaching within our breed communities. As well, we must also and always be aware that excellent and appropriate homes for our puppies are a priority not just when puppies leave their mothers, but for their lifetimes. After years of love, yes, but also of competition, planning, and testing, and the accompanying expenses and heartaches, we responsible breeders produce our litters of well-bred puppies and have now taken responsibility for five, or eight, or even 11 animals, now ready to find loving homes and roles as family companions, therapy dogs, agility, obedience or tracking competitors, or all of that and more. Yes, one or even two might be staying with us, as our potential next generations—but what of the puppies who count on us to safeguard them for their lives?

Breeders, be aware of their circumstances, not only as their owners and co-owners fulfill sales agreements or contracts, but as the dogs grow and take on their varied roles. Life changes can impact all of us and may result in much-loved puppies in what were deemed the perfect homes needing new situations when people encounter problems, families' dynamics change, economic issues occur, or other unexpected problems arise.

Breeders, be aware that our dogs rely on us



as puppies, adults, and seniors for as long as they live, to give owners advice on behavioral, medical, and nutritional decisions, and no matter what or when, to be there for owners



Bullmastiff dam and pups

and dogs in need.

Breeders, be aware that being responsible breeders means that we are responsible for these dogs, whether they need something as



basic as the benefit of our advice, or as complicated a new home. Technology aids us in myriad ways to stay in touch and involved so that if and when our dogs need us, we can be the breeders our dogs deserve.

Breeders, be aware!

—Lindy Whyte,

Trumphe@comcast.net

[American Bullmastiff Association](#)

Chinooks

CHINOOK HISTORY PART THREE

When Arthur Walden returned home to Wonalancet, New Hampshire, after six years in Alaska, in December 1902, he and Kate Sleeper married. He brought a variety of dogs to Wonalancet Farm. He began breeding dogs with what he envisioned as the ideal combination of strength, endurance, speed, and good nature.

Walden started with a team of four half-bred Saint Bernards in 1910. This team was reportedly the first sled dog team to work in New England since the Deerfield Massacre of 1703, during the French and Indian Wars.

Walden loved adventure and exploring. As he developed his sled-dog breeding program, it was only natural that Chinook's parentage would be tied to exploration too. His dam, Ningo, was a Greenland Husky (now known

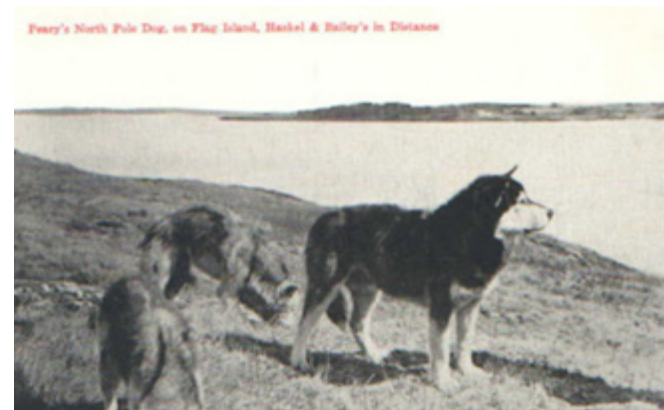
COURTESY LINDY WHYTE

WORKING GROUP



as the Inuit Dog) and the granddaughter of Polaris, Admiral Robert Peary's lead sled dog on his 1909 trip to the North Pole. His sire, Kim, was a large mastiff mix Walden had picked up as a stray.

Kim and Ningo produced three pups born on January 17, 1917. Walden called them Rikki, Tikki, and Tavi after Rudyard Kipling's famous *Jungle Book* characters. Walden recognized the intelligence of these pups and found the names Rikki and Tikki unworkable when



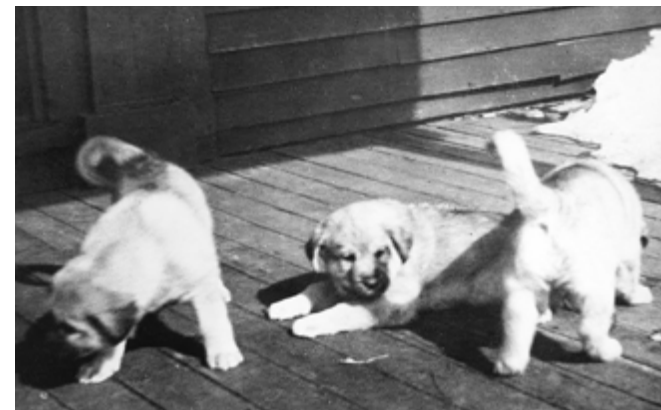
Arthur Walden and Chinook at the 1922 Winter Carnival in Portland, Maine; antique card of "Peary's North Pole Dog"; puppies Rikki, Tikki, and Tavi (Rikki would be re-named Chinook); early photo of the Wonalancet team

calling them. He renamed them Chinook and Hootchinoo, after two outstanding lead dogs he owned in Alaska.

Walden first used Hootchinoo as his lead dog. Still, it was a full year before Walden tried Chinook in the lead position, and the unassuming Chinook astounded everyone with his intelligence, understanding, and trail sense. Walden was so taken with this dog that Chinook became Walden's most trusted leader, foundation sire of his continued kennel lines, and his constant companion.

With Chinook's offspring, Walden finally got the quality of dogs he sought. In 1920 his new line of "Husky half-breds" (as he called them) made their debut at the Gorham, New Hampshire, winter carnival. He started seriously promoting dog sledding for draft, recreation, sport, and freighting supplies to logging camps.

Sled dog racing in New England began at



the 1921 Gorham carnival. There were few entries (two teams of three dogs each, over a six-mile course), and Walden lost. But interest was building. He convinced the Brown Paper Company of Berlin, New Hampshire, to sponsor the first Eastern International Dog Derby in 1922. Four teams competed in this 123-mile race, and Walden won hands down, with Chinook in the lead.

The racing competition was keen. Walden realized that Chinook, weighing just over 100 pounds in fit working condition, was too massive an animal to continue leading winning race teams. He started breeding Chinook with an eye for lighter-boned, faster offspring who still carried Chinook's intelligence and trademark coloration.

Disaster struck in 1923, and a distemper outbreak in the Chinook Kennel killed Walden's entire racing team, except for Chinook.



Walden took two years off from serious competition to concentrate on breeding another competitive team but never stopped supporting the sport.

In 1924, the New England Sled Dog Club (NESDC) held its organizational meeting in the Waldens' home and elected Arthur Walden its first president. The NESDC is still actively promoting sled dog racing today, and Walden is credited for bringing the sport of sled dog racing to New England.

In 1925, Walden returned to racing with a young but promising team of Chinook's sons, proclaiming his Chinook/shepherd crosses as his ideal for strength and stamina. The popularity of Walden's "Chinook dogs" grew, boosted by his January 1926 win at the Poland Spring, Maine race. Walden was beginning to sell a few matched teams of his dogs to other racers.

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In March 1926, Walden and his team set out on an adventure he had been considering for years. Still, most people thought it impossible: the first ascent of Mount Washington, the highest peak in the eastern United States, by a dog team. While turned back by a blizzard on the first attempt, Walden and his team, with an aging Chinook in the lead, successfully made the eight miles to the summit in eight hours!

The Chinook dogs' popularity among the racing community was short-lived, however. Siberian Huskies took center stage after their part in the 1925 Nome Serum Run, delivering the diphtheria vaccine during an outbreak. At the Poland Spring race of January 1927, Siberians proved themselves much faster than anything the New Englanders had to offer and gained instant popularity. A breeding kennel in Maine was established to supply Siberian Huskies to the racers in New England, and interest in Walden's dogs waned.

Walden didn't dwell on the loss but instead sought the next adventure. Hearing that Commander Richard E. Byrd was planning his first expedition to Antarctica (BAE I), with a duration of two years, Walden volunteered. Even though at 58, he was well over the maximum age limit, he was chosen as lead dog driver and trainer for the expedition.

During the winter of 1927-'28, dogs and

drivers assembled at Walden's Wonalancet Farm, and training began. The expedition team also evaluated winter survival gear in the harsh conditions of New Hampshire's White Mountains. When not training, Walden and Chinook joined Admiral Byrd on the lecture circuit to raise funds.

Walden's success promoting sled dog racing had brought him fame. Still, Chinook's gentle temperament and beautiful looks made him the crowd favorite.

The Stieff Company, manufacturers of high-end stuffed animals, made a replica of Chinook—one of the few stuffed animals made by them of a living animal from America. It is the equivalent today of an action figure and just as popular!

When Byrd's expedition departed in the summer of 1928, they took almost 100 dogs to provide surface transportation on the Antarctic ice. Those dogs included Chinook, now 11 years old, and 15 of his sons.

Conditions were severe when they arrived in Antarctica, and there was little time to unload the 500 tons of supplies and build their new "city," Little America, before the four-month-long "night" set in.

Walden's team of 13 dogs was the largest team that first summer and amazed everyone. Of Walden, Byrd wrote:

"Seeing him rush his heavy loads along the

trail, outstripping the younger men, it was difficult to believe he was an old man. He was 58 years old, but he had the determination and strength of youth." Of Chinook, Byrd wrote:

"... there was no doubting the fact that he was a great dog. ... Walden used him as kind of a 'shock troop,' throwing him into the harness when the going turned very hard. Then the gallant heart of the old dog would rise above the years and pull with the glorious strength of a three-year-old."

And of their team, Byrd wrote:

"On January 17 (1929), Walden's single team of thirteen dogs moved 3,500 pounds of supplies from ship to base, a distance of 16 miles each trip, in two journeys. Walden's team was the backbone of our transport."

The night after this record, Chinook woke Walden several times by putting his paw on Walden's shoulder. Each time, Walden gave Chinook a pat on the head and told him to lay back down. The next day, as Walden and his team left Little America, Chinook wandered away and was never found. Walden was devastated by the loss of his companion of so many years. The disappointment deepened by the fact that Walden could not honor his desire to bury Chinook in harness. BAE team members said that Walden aged ten years that day, and after that, he no longer ran alongside the sleds.

Reports of Chinook's death made interna-

tional news. Dog lovers, sledding enthusiasts, and all those following the Byrd expedition mourned the loss of one of the most extraordinary lead sled dogs in history.

At Walden's request, Route 113A from Tamworth to Wonalancet, New Hampshire, now bears the name "Chinook Trail" to honor his famous lead dog.

In 1931, Arthur Walden received the Congressional Medal for his part in Admiral Richard Byrd's Antarctic Expedition. Admiral Byrd and the rest of the team compiled a book of photos of the journey with Chinook and presented it to Walden.

—Kathleen Riley,

kathleenrileyphotography@gmail.com

[Chinook Club of America](#)

Doberman Pinschers

BREEDERS: THE BASIS OF OUR SPORT

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

Now when I bring my dogs to events such

WORKING GROUP



Doberman Pinscher

as the state fair, people remark that they never see our breed any more. They can't find breeders, and they would like to purchase a Doberman.

This brings up the question: Where have all the Doberman breeders gone? It seems like they are an aging population. Today my

champion owners don't want to breed their dogs—the only way they will be bred is at my house.

Having a litter is a huge commitment. It starts with the health of the mom and moves to the health and mental welfare of the babies. Having a cropped breed is another challenge;

it is very hard finding a vet who will do the ears. Then you have to evaluate the litter and choose the right home for each pup. And of course there's the follow-up to make sure each pup is thriving in its new home.

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

It's notable that the American Kennel Club recognizes that the breeders of pure-bred dogs are the backbone of our sport and honors them each year at the AKC National Championship. You can't have a breed if no one will breed. We need to encourage our new owners to breed their good dogs. We need to help each other to ensure that each litter is a success and share our knowledge. We can't quit breeding because there are rescue dogs, or dogs dying of health problems; with that reasoning, we will lose this wonderful breed. Maybe we need to consider the glass as half full and embrace the opportunities for improvement, instead of eliminating with the glass-half-empty approach. Let's support our breeders. —*Faye Strauss, 2013*

[Doberman Pinscher Club of America](#)

Dogues de Bordeaux

THE DOGUE DE BORDEAUX AND THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPRESSION

Several years ago, we covered an essential feature of the Dogue that forms one of the six components of the "HEARTS" acronym. HEARTS defines the significant points of the Dogue de Bordeaux as *Head, Expression, Athletic, wRinkle, Trots like a lion, and Substance*.

There continues to be much interest and inquiry about *Expression* in the Dogue de Bordeaux, which prompted me to write this article as a "refresher."

Expression gives the Dogue de Bordeaux his distinctive "look," described as a "dissuasive" or "sourmug" appearance. Expression in the Dogue de Bordeaux is the totality of all the facial attributes, in conformance with the breed standard, that come together to create the proper and correct appearance. When one or more of the facial attributes are incorrect, they will detract from and "throw off" the expression that, if excessive enough, significantly detracts from compliance with the AKC breed standard.

A brief review of the attributes that contribute to expression is in order. The ears are small in proportion to the skull, and the front edge of the ear is close to the cheek; when the dog is attentive, the tip is slightly rounded and should not reach beyond the eye. Ears are set

COURTESY LYDA BEAM

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Examples of correct expression and head type in the Dogue de Bordeaux

rather high, at the level of the skull's upper line, emphasizing the skull's width even more. The eyes should be oval-shaped, and the space between the eyes should be roughly equal to twice the length of the eye-opening. Eye color should be hazel to dark brown in dogs with black masks, and lighter-colored eyes in dogs with brown or no masks are tolerated but not sought after. Haws should not be visible, and protruding eyes are a breed standard fault.

The following examples show how incorrectly shaped ears (left photo) and eyes (right photo) throw off "proper" expression

Muzzle length measured from the occipital bone to the tip of the nose should be between

one-third and one-quarter of the total length of the head. Too short of a muzzle is called "hypertypical," while a muzzle that is too long would substantially detract from the Dogue de Bordeaux's distinctive appearance. The muzzle is powerful, broad, and thick when viewed from above; it should generally be square-shaped. When viewed from the side, the top lines of the skull and muzzle form an angle that converges at, or near the end of the muzzle. The lower jaw curves upward and is sufficiently undershot so that there is no contact between the lower and upper incisors. The chin, also called the "chin mark," is very pronounced, giving the Dogue de Bordeaux

the breed's distinctive "sourmug" appearance.

The attributes we covered in the accompanying photos of correct type are readily apparent. The eyes are correctly shaped, colored, and have the proper distance between them. The ears are relatively small compared to the size of the head, the tip is slightly rounded, and they are set rather high at the level of the skull's upper line, which emphasizes the skull's width even more. The upper lip forms a wide "V" shape and is in contact with the lower lip so that the canines and incisors are not visible, and is thick and moderately pendulous but retractile at the same time. The lower jaw curves upward, and the chin is very prominent. The two photos typify the description of the Dogue de Bordeaux's "dissuasive" and "sourmug" appearance. The expression of the Dogue de Bordeaux is explicitly defined by the saying "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts."

Our "hands-on" exercise following the classroom presentation at our judges' education seminars covers the proper evaluation of conformation characteristics in the AKC breed standard of the Dogue de Bordeaux. Seminar attendees learn that when evaluating a dog in the ring, it is essential to look at the dog's expression as we know that if attributes contained in the AKC breed standard are in conformance, it will lead to correct expression.

Conversely, if one or more attributes do not conform to the breed standard, the expression will not look correct and will appear "off." Therefore, we advise judges when evaluating a dog in the ring to look at the dog's expression from the front in a straightforward manner. If the person handling the dog in the ring is baiting it or otherwise handling it in a way that obstructs the judge's frontal view of the dog's head, do not hesitate to ask the dog handler to remove their hand to allow the judge an unobstructed view of the head and front profile.

—Victor C. Smith, AKC Delegate, Chair, Judges' Education Committee, v102071@inreach.com

[Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America](#)

German Pinschers

HOW TO BE A GOOD DOG

There's a cartoon that pops up every so often on my Facebook feed. It's a picture of a dog reading a book, and the caption says:

How to Be a Good Dog.

Step one: Find yourself a good person. A good person will know you're a good dog. You won't need to prove it.

We all want a good dog. At least, everyone who wants a dog, wants a good dog, the best dog, a dog you remember long after they're gone. Sometimes it just happens. You walk into a place, you see a dog, and you know.

COURTESY DBECA

WORKING GROUP



German Pinscher

Lynda Beam

When they can, dogs adjust to us, to our lives, to the way that we live and what we expect.

Still, most dogs don't come pre-trained, and in the end, we all have slightly different ideas of what makes a good dog for us, specifically, and what makes us a good dog owner for the dogs in our lives.

Each different breed has characteristics that, when taken together, make that breed the specific type of dog they are. While there's individual variation--a particular dog may be more aloof or more outgoing—dogs are bred to a standard that tells you there are characteristics you can rely on that dog having.

For me, specifically, I choose German Pinschers in part because of their size and short coat. In addition, I enjoy doing things, particularly doing organized activities with my dogs. I like to watch them learn, and I like the things I learn about them and about myself when we participate in sports like tracking, agility, Barn Hunt, and rally. These days, I know German Pinschers who compete in dock diving, agility, obedience, rally, Barn Hunt, nose work, weight pull, trick dog, tracking, and several other sports, as well as conformation. As a breed, I appreciate their willingness, their independent nature, their problem-solving skills, and their drive.

Still, there's no requirement to participate in sporting activities. Maybe that's not how a dog

fits into your life. Maybe you want a dog who can be a great companion, active when you're active and chill when you're not. Maybe your idea of the right dog is one who can go on daily walks, occasional weekend hikes and learn a few simple tricks. Maybe you just want a dog who can keep up with your active children.

A German Pinscher is, according to the standard, "a medium size, short coated dog, elegant in appearance with a strong square build and moderate body structure, muscular and powerful for endurance and agility. Energetic, watchful, alert, agile, fearless, determined, intelligent and loyal, the German Pinscher has the prerequisites to be an excellent watchdog and companion ..."

They can truly be a great all-around dog.

How do you find a good dog? Finding a good dog is easy. The world is full of them. Finding the best dog for you takes a little time and commitment--think about your life, about the things you do and the things you want to do with your dog, think about how you want the dog to grow with you and your family. If the German Pinscher seems like a fit, check out the website listed below and be sure to do your research, talk to owners and breeders and consider what will make a good dog for you.

—Deb Coates,

charmingbillie@gmail.com

[German Pinscher Club of America](#)

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

WORKING GROUP

Giant Schnauzers

TRACKING WITH A WORKING DOG

Have you tried tracking with your Giant Schnauzer? AKC Tracking events demonstrate the canine ability to recognize and follow a scent. It's the perfect way for you and your dog to enjoy many hours together, outside in the fresh air, honing those natural abilities.

Working breeds have recognition in AKC National and FCI International venues for tracking, such as the sport of IGP, K9 police work, and search-and-rescue.

The first AKC-licensed tracking test took place on June 13, 1936.

A dog that has successfully completed all three tracking titles (TD, TDX, and VST) earns the prestigious title of Champion Tracker (CT).

The first VST test was in 1995, and Darlene Ceretto's German Shepherd Dog Sealair's Raggedy Ann, UD, TDX, became the first to earn the CT.

Champion trackers can compete in the AKC National Tracking Invitational.

Giant Schnauzers excel in tracking. Many GSCA members have successfully engaged in both AKC and FCI venues. The following Giant Schnauzers have attained the CT title:

CT Riesenrad's Heike in Motion, VCD1, UDX, RE (B), owned by Herman and Ingrid Hamburger

CT Riesenrad's Special Wheel, VCD1, RAE,



Arkansas KC 1962: Giant Schnauzer Ch. Terry v Krayenrain

MXP, MJ,P (D), owned by Herman and Ingrid Hamburger and Tarja Ahlgren

Ch./CT Skansen's Empress Anne (B), owned by Tom Rohrbacher

CT MACH2 PACH2 Histyle's Nosy Rosie,

VCD2, RN, MXB2, MJB2, MXP7, MXPG, MJ,P8, MPG, PAX3, OF (B), owned by Judy and Michael Shonborn

CT Riesenrad's Midnight Rendezvous, VCD1, CDX, RN, OJP, SWN, SIA, SEA, (B),

owned by Laura Feldt and Tarja Ahlgren

CT Riesenrad's I'll Have Another, CD, BN, RA, owned by Laura Feldt and Tarja Ahlgren

Our club is proud to have Laura Feldt as AKC tracking competitor and judge.

Laura shares the following words of wisdom that can be of value for those participating in tracking events:

1. *Breathe.*
2. *Don't use new equipment on the day of the test.*
3. *Turn your brain off! You're not the one with the nose.*
4. *Trust your dog. Let your dog fail. Failing makes you better, and 99.99999 percent of the time, your dog is not lying. Until they outright lie, then trust them, or they will start lying.*

Interested in tracking? Two GSCA members you may wish to contact who have experience in tracking and AKC tracking venues are Theresa Higgins (Teehiggs@AOL.com) and Laura Feldt (Dog_trainer411@hotmail.com).

—Mary E. Falls,

Classicgiantschnauzers@gmail.com

[Giant Schnauzer Club of America](http://www.giantschnauzerclub.com)

Great Pyrenees

PRUNING THE PYRENEES

The Great Pyrenees is a natural breed—that is, a breed who is not “foo-fooed,” pruned, scissored, ratted, bladed, or sprayed

WORKING GROUP



CH. BASQUAERIE GUI DE NOEL

Great Pyrenees by Helen Wilson, 1941

into a groomer's competition piece. The breed's harsh outer coat sheds dirt when dry. (Well, OK, they shed dirt with a bit of encouragement from a brush.) This outer coat, as most breeders will tell you, is difficult to even get wet when preparing for show. One of my winter-coated dogs can take two people and several hours to bathe.

The Pyrenees' seasonal, soft undercoat sheds, as in a snowstorm, when the weather changes. Not only does the undercoat shed, it does so in a way guaranteed to drive you nuts. Usually the leg hair goes first, making that heavy-boned show dog look more like a Collie. Then often the back and side hair go, leaving the ruff and rear coat intact. Now you have an Old English. The timing of the shed is based on the show schedule you are eyeballing. It goes like this: *enter show, shed.*

A few (fortunately a blessed few) breeders seem to have a yearning for a Great Poodle—er, make that a pruned Pyr. I can only venture a guess that because the Newfie folks show a more scissored dog, some feel we need to Poodle-ize our breed to be competitive. Not so. We don't want to turn our breed into a dog that inspires people to ask, "Wow, how long does it take you to groom him?" If someone is concentrating on the grooming aspect of our breed, they are not looking at the Pyr's outstanding temperament and

natural beauty.

So how much trimming should we see on a Pyr? A working dog might have some of their pantaloons trimmed down and trimming around the feet and behind the ears (which tend to mat.) A housedog might have some shaved areas. (A note on shaving: I had to have one of my girls shaved for a surgery. The surgery was in the winter. She stayed bald on parts of her body for months! I was set on taking her in and getting the vet to tell me why she was hairless. A fellow Pyr person assured me some dogs do that. The coat would return in its own cycle. She was right. As I'd never shave my dogs down, I didn't know about the cycle. Learn something new every day ...)

Now let's talk about the show dogs. Whiskers may be trimmed off or left natural. Feet need to be trimmed or they look like giant pancakes. Hocks? I trim them, as I hate the shaggy, untrimmed pom-poms, and I hate even more the Clydesdale brush-it-all-down-and-trim-the-excess. But that's me. Taking scissors to other parts of the dog is the eighth deadly sin. It's politically incorrect. It's a cultural faux pas in the same league as eating with the wrong fork. At a state dinner. At the White House. In front of Martha Stewart. *Just. Don't. Do. It.*—Carrie Stuart Parks, 2016

[Great Pyrenees Club of America](#)

WORKING GROUP

Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

Dr. Jennie Chen, who breeds and shows her Swissies and holds a Ph.D. in social psychology, wrote the following for this column in 2018. During her graduate career, she studied human temperament and behavior in relation to hormones. She now studies human behavior in the digital world.

TEMPERAMENTS: WHAT BREEDERS SHOULD KNOW

Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs (AKA “Swissies”) are rare, giant, tri-colored gems. People who discover them love them for their creative antics, sassy opinions, and steadfast loyalty. Our duty as breeders is to emphasize not only health and soundness, but also temperament.

That’s because while Swissies make excellent pets, introducing a large, smart, and strong-willed dog into a home makes temperament a top priority. Behavioral genetics allow breeders to preserve behaviors they want, and to try to weed out those that are inappropriate. It’s also important to understand the Swissy brain. These dogs were originally bred to be farm dogs—to pull carts, herd livestock, and keep an eye on their people and their place. Therefore, Swissies should be:

- *Alert.* Swissies are meant to be a sentinel breed, a dog whose job is to keep watch and



sound an alarm (a trademark *baroo* bark) when necessary. While originally bred to be suspicious of strangers, Swissies should be accepting of new people once properly introduced.

- *But not aggressive (nor shy).* The AKC standard for Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs says that aggression and shyness shall be severely penalized. Aggression in a dog that evolved to work multiple jobs on a farm, in which people and animals come and go, would be a detriment. Unprovoked aggression towards humans and other animals is not part of the breed’s correct temperament. Swissies should be reluctant to bite, preferring to alarm bark at a safe distance while maintaining their ground. And a shy dog, requiring constant coaxing, would not fare well in an unpredictable and busy farm environment. And won’t fare well in a family home (or in a show environment.)

- *A devoted family dog.* A Swissy is highly devoted to his family, rarely straying far from his owners.

- *A herding dog.* As a drover breed, Swissies love the thrill of the chase, often herding each other around in play. At home, they may try to herd humans and other animals. (Note: Unwanted herding should be stopped and redirected into more desirable behaviors.)

- *A dog with a work ethic.* The Swissy is a versatile breed: From herding, packing, drafting, water rescue, and coursing, they love to pick

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

WORKING GROUP

up skills outside of their traditional jobs. As a jovial breed with a signature smile, some work well as therapy dogs. However, the genetic suspicion of strangers can make it difficult for some Swissies to excel at therapy work.

- *A dog with strong nerves.* Swissies should not be nervous dogs. Adult dogs should not skitter away in fright. As with all other genetic traits, there will be variation in each individual dog's ability to handle stress. Confidence training and proper socialization can help individuals develop strong nerves.

Speaking of strong: Swissies can also have strong opinions. This can manifest itself as stubbornness. For instance, when you ask a Swissy to sit, he may ask you why. In a home with consistent leadership and rules, the stubbornness is easily managed.

There will always be variation in temperament within the breed, and breeders must carefully consider what pieces of temperament will contribute to developing a confident and friendly Greater Swiss Mountain Dog. Owners have responsibilities, too. A Swissy's size makes it absolutely critical that his owners spend time training him to behave at home and in public. As breeders, we owe it to puppy buyers to ensure they understand what to expect from their Swissy, as well as guidelines

to help them bring out the best in their rare gem of a dog. —*J.C.*

[Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America](#)

Komondorok

SHOWING A CLEAN KOMONDOR ALL WEEKEND

LONG

When we show our Komondors we want their coats to look (and smell) their best. We wash the dog at home a couple of days before the show. The time in the tub might be an hour or more. We use diluted dog shampoo and then work hard to get all the soap out of the dog's coat before he leaves the tub. Then drying the dog is essential before they are exposed to any dirt, as wet coats pick it right up. Also, drying is key for a fresh smell. During travel and at the show we work hard to keep the dog clean and do emergency cleanup as needed. The Monday judge wants to see the same clean coat that the Friday judge saw.

On the weekend of the show we have some techniques for keeping the dog's coat at its best. From the front to the back, here are some of them:

Our show dogs are used to having their coats tied up in hair bands. We tie up the cords on his (or her) face, out to the sides where food might get in them. Along the lips we trim the

loose hairs that curl into the mouth and get wet with saliva. No one wants to see or touch those. On the top of the head those cords are tied up in a band so that the dog can see, and they don't get dirty.

We trim around and under the dog's feet. Cords dragging on the ground don't look good and get dirty. For good traction we get rid of the hair (and sometimes the cords) between the pads on the feet. For the boys, we tie up the cords on the back legs that might be in the line of fire for a dog lifting his leg. Any cords underneath that get sprayed on can be trimmed away. They don't affect the dog's underline, and no cord is better than a yellow one. The girls get their rump and back of leg cords tied up and out. All the dogs get trimmed under their tail to allow a path for solid waste to escape easily. Usually, a tie at the base of tail can gather a lot of the problem cords.

An extreme tie-up technique can be done to a 5-year-old or older. The cords are gathered over the back in an imitation of a stegosaurus. Those cords are out of the way for all purposes. The ties we use are fabric coated and have no metal clasps to rust on the coat. (Raw rubber-bands are too tough on the cords.)

It is inevitable that the dogs will pick up road dirt or dust on their feet and lower legs during walking on the trip, at the motel, and at the show. We use the available dry-rinse shampoos

on the feet and maybe the face, but we dilute it by half before putting it on the dog; the full-strength shampoo is too purple and might leave some color behind. Squeeze and rub the shampoo in and then towel off as much as you can. Your towel should be getting dirty if this is working. You can sprinkle some baby powder to help draw out the remaining liquid.

This all must happen an hour or more before ring time so that additional natural drying can happen. Then brush out the remaining powder when you put the dog back on the grooming table before ring time. The judge wants to see a white coat, not white powder on the coat!

At the show and the motel we look for good, clean grass to walk the dog on. Walking in dirt makes more work for later. At the show our dogs have a portable fan blowing on them. This keeps them cool and also helps dry them out after the cleanup.

A well washed and rinsed dog has no reason to smell bad. If you leave shampoo in the coat in the tub, it may sour in the coat. If you don't get the dog dry in a day or less, it may smell old or musty. For drying at home, we use big fans and a crate with a raised floor grate or clean towels on the floor, which we change out. Having a clean deck or fenced area also helps.

Our breed and its amazing coat can be so

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Above: “Komasaurus”: An older show dog with cords tied up to keep them clean;
Bottom: “Woolie”: a Komondor in great, clean coat



magnificent. Let’s all present it the best way we can, and then hope that the judges will look under the coat and see the quality dogs we bring to the ring.

—Eric Liebes,
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[Komondor Club of America](#)

Kuvaszok

A WELL-BALANCED KUVASZ

My youngest dog recently finished her championship. She already had performance titles in agility, rally, and obedience and had passed a temperament test with flying colors. She is now what many would call a well-balanced dog because she has titles at both ends of her name. She has proven that she meets the requirements to be a Champion of Record, while also excelling in performance venues. She is far from the only Kuvasz to do this, but well-balanced Kuvasz are still the exception rather than the rule. Why is that?

In general, someone wanting to excel in performance events doesn’t look to the Kuvasz as their first choice. Kuvasz were bred for centuries to be independent, thinking dogs and to act with decisiveness. That means that their trainers need to be patient, imaginative, and truly dedicated to the long-term success of their partnership. This leaves the creation of well-balanced dogs to the

true lovers of the breed—the people who love the breed first and enjoy building the incredible relationship that only comes with the level of teamwork and communication necessary to succeed in performance venues. It is a big undertaking, and many people don’t do it, for a variety of reasons.

However, this is a very exciting time for performance events. There are new events that Kuvasz owners can participate in including carting, barn hunt, coursing, and nose work. In some cases, these events don’t require months or years of training or special equipment but allow the handler and dog to have a new, broadening experience and by all accounts an incredibly fun time. Coursing and Barn Hunt appeal to the prey drive and scenting ability of the dogs. These are things that should be instinctual to this breed. Nose work should also come naturally to our dogs, but this does require training. Carting requires training and equipment, but the dogs seem to really enjoy having a job and take to it quite well.

There are many other performance opportunities for Kuvasz and their handlers to engage in. AKC agility is designed to appeal to a broad swath of breeds and has regular classes as well as Preferred classes, in which the dogs jump lower heights and have more time to complete the course.

In obedience, there are now many more inter-

mediate classes offered. This results in a much more gradual transition from Novice to Open to Utility. You can practice the skills necessary for the next level with a reduced level of difficulty and build confidence in the ring. Tracking, while requiring some space and the time to invest in training, doesn’t require a lot of specialized equipment. Additional tracking tests have been added to cater to those living in cities and suburbia. Rally continues to be a great option for Kuvasz and their owners.

So, the moral is that having a Kuvasz who both meets the standard and can achieve performance titles is a wonderful thing. It’s up to those of us whose first love is of the breed but who want to participate in activities that highlight these incredible dogs while enhancing our relationship with them. —LeAnn Miller, 2015

[Kuvasz Club of America](#)

Leonbergers

Our guest columnist for this issue is the Leonberger Club of America’s AKC Delegate, Don James. Don shares his experience working his Leonberger in drafting and participating in the Newfie draft test.

DRAFTING WITH A LEO

A lot of what we talk about in the GAZETTE breed columns involves the “Big Three”—

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Mick harnessed and hitched, ready to pull; Mick and Don negotiating the 360-degree left-turn obstacle at the Newfoundland draft test; Mick receiving his Open draft title certificate, with trial judges Sue Mendleson and Deborah Rothwell; Mick's breed-personalized Newf test hardware

conformation, obedience, and rally. Today, we're going to take a right turn (or a 90-degree turn, in the sport's parlance), and talk about another venue in which dogs can participate: drafting.

There is a misconception in the dog world that drafting is a sport for the big guys (Newfs, Berners, Leos, Saints, and so on). While most drafting certainly does involve large or giant breeds, there is absolutely nothing preventing smaller breeds from mounting their own draft tests. I once attended a Newfoundland club-sponsored draft clinic and was surprised to see a Toy Poodle hooked up to a draft cart whose payload box was a small milk-carton holder. So, right off the bat, let's eliminate that misconception.

A little background. Anyone who knows me understands that I've been involved mostly in

conformation during my 20-plus years as a member of the Leonberger Club of America. But two years ago, a group of local Leo owners started a weekly drafting practice at a local park. They asked me to join them, and I, somewhat reluctantly, said I would. You make some good decisions with you and your dogs, and you make some bad ones. This was one of the really good ones.

Breed draft trials have only a certain number of spots allocated for entry. However, at a point prior to close, empty spots are given to dogs from other breeds. The Leonberger test has entertained Saint Bernards, Cane Corsos, and Bernese Mountain Dogs. And, as you'll see later in this article, other breeds do the same thing.

After practicing for a couple of months, my

dog Mick and I entered a Leonberger draft competition in Washington. We were in the Novice (on leash) class, and we failed trying to back up six feet with the cart attached. All of you in dogs realize that failure often makes you work harder. We did, and at the next trial we cleaned the course, gaining our Novice title. We were hooked.

In the months that followed, Mick and I got Novice titles at both Rottweiler and Bernese tests. It was time to move to the Open class, where all exercises not only become more complex but must also be done off leash. Yes, it was time to take the Newfoundland Open-level draft test.

If you've done draft trials put on by different breeds, you learn pretty quickly that every club stages their events according to variable

breed-specific rules. The best example of that would be the freight haul, an event required in every draft test. The Newfoundland Open test requires a one-mile course, with 40 pounds of weight in the cart, while the Bernese Mountain Dog open test requires only a half-mile haul, but with at least 130 pounds of weight in the cart. And the Rotties don't require a freight haul at all but do require the entire test to be completed with 40 pounds of weight in the cart.

The required elements of each test also vary greatly, so it's always advisable that you review the rules each club specifies when you decide to enter one of their trials.

Following is what was required of Mick to pass his Newfoundland DD draft test, presented by the Pacific Northwest Newfoundland Club:

30-yard recall (cart not attached)

Basic control without cart—Stop, Normal, Fast, Slow, and About Turn

Harness and hitch—You must retrieve the cart

COURTESY DON JAMES

WORKING GROUP

and bring it to the dog while he remains in a stand-stay and put on the harness, followed by a judge's review for correct harnessing and attaching the cart to the dog, with correct placement of the traces and shafts. Failure to harness and hitch properly is an immediate DQ.

(Once the movements begin, you are not allowed to touch your dog.)

All test from this point on are done hitched, in no particular order.

Four-foot backup with cart, within 30 seconds

360-degree circle left around an obstacle

360-degree circle right around an obstacle

90-degree right-hand turn, within a 28-inch boundary

90-degree left-hand turn, within a 28-inch boundary

(The inside wheel cannot touch either boundary as the turn is made.)

Narrows—Navigate between two barriers that are placed 12 inches wider than the width of the cart. Barriers are six feet in length.

Obstacle—Stop; leave dog in stand-stay; open gate; bring dog through gate; close gate with dog in stand-stay

Three-minute handler out-of-sight down-stay (cart attached)

One-mile freight haul, with 40-pound weights secured in cart. There can be obstacles here. (During this freight haul, we had to deal with goats behind a fence and wild turkeys in the

road on the course—remember, this is all off-leash.)

In the Newfoundland test, the dog is allowed two bumps (making contact with an obstacle). The third bump is an automatic DQ. Most breeds allow one bump; Leonbergers allow none.

You want to have some fun? I'd invite all of you to give this sport a try. I guarantee you won't be disappointed.

If you have questions, you may contact me at 20destry03@gmail.com. —D.J.

Thank you, Don.

—Shannon White,
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Leonberger Club of America

Mastiffs

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY SOCIALIZATION

Grandeur and Good Nature, Courage and Docility.—description of Mastiff temperament, from the breed's AKC standard.

For the seasoned breeder as well as the novice owner, early socialization of the Mastiff is one of the most important starting points for a puppy's health and future. Some Mastiffs, when not properly socialized, can exhibit a trend towards shyness so setting a course of consistent, positive socialization of the puppy is imperative.



Mastiff puppies at 4 weeks old

While most puppy socialization outside the home should wait until after at least two sets of vaccinations have been given, a creative breeder will begin the process of introducing novelty at around four weeks. Exposing the litter at playtime to sights and sounds within the confines of the home is not only fun for puppies, but also allows the breeder to start to understand personalities and temperaments. Having a well-designed “puppy playground”

can be useful to instill early confidence and lay the building blocks for future endeavors such as agility, therapy dog, nose work, and Barn Hunt. Once the puppy has had appropriate vaccinations, trips out in public to sit quietly and watch a baseball game, or hang out outside a rambunctious schoolyard, or even a trip through a wholesale warehouse supply store are all wonderful experiences for a young pup. Let people approach so long as they do so gen-

COURTESY HANNA CLAYTON

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tly and kindly. Always be prepared to answer those all too familiar questions: “What breed is he?” “What does he eat?” and “How big will he get?” It is our responsibility as pure-bred dog owners to educate the public where and when we can.

It’s a big, noisy world out there that needs to be introduced early on in a puppy’s training. Socialization visits with a 12-week-old puppy can seem boring (which is good, we certainly want to avoid scary) and can be time consuming. However, when the alternative can be a 200-plus-pound, unsure adult Mastiff, it is worth the effort.

Remember when working with Mastiff pups that as a breed, the Mastiff is very willing to please, but they can also be a bit slow at times—one might say they are thoughtful. Though their growth rate is extraordinarily rapid, they can be slower than the average breed to mature, both physically and emotionally.

The Mastiff is at his best as a housedog, watching over his domain, loving and living with his humans. To fulfill his potential he needs to have been socialized to be able to discern the ordinary versus the extraordinary.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention rescue and how lack of socialization plays a big part in the problem. Naïve, first-time owners may romanticize the breed, wanting or expecting a “gentle giant” or “couch potato” while not

exercising due diligence and failing to invest in early training and social skills. Early efforts to introduce the Mastiff to the world results in a dog that can function in that world.

To this end I must conclude with one of my favorite clichés about the breed I’ve loved and have admired since the 1980s: “It’s not a dog, it’s a Mastiff.”

—Gina Anelli,
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Mastiff Club of America

Neapolitan Mastiffs

ASSESSING MOVEMENT OF THE NEAPOLITAN MASTIFF

Assessing the movement of the Neapolitan Mastiff causes grief for judges used to seeing “normal” dogs. This is big, heavy, massive animal. If we compare the movement of most dogs to the splendid grace of an Arabian horse, we would have to compare the movement of a Mastino to the wonderful power of a Clydesdale, another animal that moves with awe-inspiring intensity.

The *Mastino* moves like a lion. He slouches and lumbers. The head is naturally held lowered and forward. There should be strong extension of the front leg and power from the rear. When you recognize the slinking lion or think of a clumsy bear, you have absolutely



typical Mastino movement.

Because of the looseness of the skin you may see the body sway and the skin roll from side to side. All this is normal and typical. Remember, in most other breeds this is considered excess and wasteful movement as it interferes with endurance. For the Mastino, this does not interfere with the function of the breed, as while the dog certainly can and does work, he is not meant to run for hours at a time like sporting, hounds, terriers, or herding dogs.

When you are judging the Neapolitan

Mastiff and you ask for the dog to move, if he paces, by all means feel free to ask the handler if he or she can get the dog to trot, since the pacing may simply be due to an inexperienced handler and the wrong speed. However, some dogs prefer the pace, and if the Mastino does not trot, you must not penalize the dog for it. Do not assume pacing in this breed is because of a construction flaw or laziness.

Remember that a judge doesn’t say “Trot the dog around the ring”—a judge says “move the dog around the ring.” You don’t want to see if the dog can trot; you want to see if the dog

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

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has typical movement for the breed. The trot and the pace are both typical for the Mastino.

The dog should be shown on a loose lead. While handlers may indeed tighten up the collar for control, it is not important that the dog carry his head high in a flashy manner, and it isn't important to "snug up" the lead behind the head in a way that will tighten the wonderful folds of the all-important dewlap. Unlike many other breeds, we do not show off a nice, smooth neckline.

While well-ring-trained dogs perform as requested, in warmer weather, the owner-handled Neapolitan Mastiff may not (actually, probably will not) gait ahead in the typical impressively flashy manner of a show dog. In fact, if the dog has run around the ring once already, he may move more slowly the second time. Again, do not assume that this is due to unsoundness. It is very typical for the Mastino to realize that he has been around the ring once already and there are no bad guys here, and nothing really interesting to see or do. So the dog cooperates but simply isn't interested. Ask him to go around a third time? Well, in really hot weather you may see some dogs refuse.

Always remember that the standard describes the Neapolitan Mastiff as not "showy."

—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe,

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[United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club](#)

Newfoundlands

LEARN ABOUT THE BREED

What makes a Newfoundland so cute and appealing to so many? If you look on social media, there are so many puppies with their adorable faces, fluffy bodies, and amusing antics. You would think that everyone

should fall in love with a Newf and live happily ever after. But that is not always the reality of life with a giant-breed dog.

My inbox gets clogged with inquiries about finding the dream puppy. The expectation is for an instant, perfect dog who will fill the needs of the family for a loyal, dedicated, and

well-behaved companion. They assume a life filled with long walks, cuddles on the sofa, and general ease. Photos of dogs frolicking in the woods off-lead and walking perfectly with small kids, and dogs swimming freely in the sea and running along the beach set the expectations. The reality is often so different.



Newfoundlands (Kara Miller photo)

KARA MILLER AKC PUBLICATIONS PHOTO CONTEST, 2018

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All dogs require time to grow up and fulfill their breed-specific qualities. Some mature fairly quickly, with a short time for housetraining and socialization. Not so giant breeds.

A large dog matures over several years, with starts and stops and regressions and changes that include some less-than-wonderful moments. Newfoundlands are intelligent and strong. They possess independence and an intense sense of place and people. This makes them challenging to train, but oh so great when the training is consistent.

When working with families in search of a Newf, I often explain that they will have a puppy for the blink of an eye, and a dog for their lifetime. It is not an easy thing to understand. But those of us who live with these wonderful dogs understand so well that the years in between puppy and senior dog are filled with so many experiences that define the breed.

The pressure to find a puppy is great right now, with the demand for puppies far exceeding the number of litters being produced by quality breeders. There are poorly bred puppies from mills and backyard breeders being promoted on the web, but these often have horrible health issues and rarely are good examples of the breed. Nonstandard colors are common, and while any breeder, even those who do all of the proper checks for genetic color, can produce a mismark, the

intentional breeding of nonstandard colors is a huge red flag.

At the same time as there are fewer puppies, there are more dogs coming into breed rescue due to economic hardship and other issues that are not the fault of the dog. These middle years dogs are a terrific option for those looking to become involved with life as a Newfoundland owner. They can provide years of companionship, an introduction to training for water rescue or draft, and the fun of competing in rally and obedience trials.

Choosing to rehome an older dog is a way to experience the joys of Newfiness without some of the challenges of early housetraining and socialization. Yes, there will be training, as all dogs deserve ongoing training and intellectual and physical challenges, but you will have those incredible moments of joy seeing a dog down on their luck begin to live their very best life.

If you are longing for a Newfoundland in your life, begin by researching the breed. The Newfoundland Club of America is the national breed club and provides an incredible amount of information and resources on all things regarding the breed. Regional and national resources are listed. Puppy and breeder information abounds, and the rescue organizations are provided as well—visit WWW.NCAnews.org. The AKC website (www.akc.org) is another great resource for

breed information and general education on raising a healthy, happy dog.

In short, if you are falling in love with this breed, do not be afraid to dive in and see if it is right for you. Get out to dog events and see them in action, meet dogs of all ages, and discover the Newf family!

— Brooke Elkan-Moore,
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Newfoundland Club of America

Portuguese Water Dogs

Our column this month is contributed by Angela Kalmanash.

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

What is the temperament of a Portuguese Water Dog (PWD)? The breed standard says: *an animal of spirited disposition, self-willed, brave and very resistant to fatigue.* The standard continues on to say that the PWD is obedient, exceptionally intelligent, and loyal, especially to those for whom it works. Let's explore this in real life as it compares to the above.

After 35 years in the breed, *spirited* and *self-willed* are what I love most about PWDs, and at the same time, what is the most frustrating. I have given up being shocked at the antics that miraculously appear when you least expect them. In 2005, our national specialty

was at the Rocky Gap Resort in Cumberland, Maryland, an owner was beautifully handling her perfectly groomed dog in the conformation ring. It was a beautiful late summer, sunny, breezy day. The ring, located adjacent to the shore of a 243-acre lake was being judged by Mrs. Billings. All of a sudden, the dog pulled the leash out of the hands of the owner, jumped the ring gate, and ran into the lake for a swim. Not more than two minutes later, the dog comes running back, jumps over the ring gate, and goes back to the owner, soaking wet, as if nothing ever happened. God bless Mrs. Billings, her only comment was, "Well, she's a water dog."

I entered an agility trial with a novice male dog (who is a character). My goal for the day was to maintain steering control in the ring and to try and prevent him from campaigning for mayor with the ring stewards. His time to compete was around noon. I was hoping for a good run, as that would mean a title. Well, that Saturday was stuffed baked-potato lunch day. We were at the last jump, and I was starting to celebrate when the dog flew perfectly over that last jump and, without even landing, jumped the ring gate, ran into the lunchroom, and jumped on the table of a fellow competitor eating her stuffed potato. Words can't explain the look on her face; mine was beet red. The agility judge was rolling on the

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Portuguese Water Dog

floor laughing. Needless to say, my dog did not achieve his goal, but neither did I.

Training PWDs is a challenge not for the faint of heart. They are exceptionally quick to comprehend the behavior you desire and at the same time will offer you a myriad

of interpretations for your consideration. Because PWDs are extremely intelligent, they seem to train best with operant conditioning. Receiving a reward motivates them. Whether it is food or a big hug, they quickly associate the trainer's desired behavior with the reward. In training a puppy or an adult dog, you can almost see the gears start churning when they realize that a certain behavior delivers a treat.

A puppy and her owner were training for an AKC Trick title, and the owner wanted a retrieve behavior. The puppy ran and retrieved the ball and received a reward, but it didn't stop there. The puppy continued to run around the room, picking up all of the toys and delivering them to the owner in hope of receiving another treat. This reward-style behavior also works well for many of our members who train for water retrievers and ball-drops over the winter.

Motivation for PWDs is: positive conditioning, reinforcement, consistency, food, and lots of hugs. They will work tirelessly in those conditions. As the "Critter Fixers," a vet hospital in Georgia, always say, "Teamwork makes the dream work."

My team member will always be a Portuguese Water Dog. Remember to enjoy the journey.—Angela Kalmanash

[Portuguese Water Dog Club of America](#)

Rottweilers

DESCRIPTION OF THE TAIL

The American Rottweiler Club is delighted to announce the addition of a tail description to our standard. Effective August 8, 2022, we have a description of a docked tail, and a description if the dog exhibited is natural tailed.

If docked, there are usually one or two vertebrae from the end of the croup. The new tail description says if undocked, "the tail is carried straight or upward curved and may hang at rest." The standard further says: "The set of the tail is more important than length. Properly set, it gives an impression of elongation of topline; carried slightly above horizontal when the dog is excited or moving."

Tail shape and carriage are genetically determined. Breeders who are choosing to keep tails are working toward perfecting them in their breeding program. The tail on the Rottweiler can be, *ahem*, "interesting." Unlike in Europe, where docking has been banned since 1998 and tail shape and carriage have been stabilized, the full tail is now showing up in all its untamed and natural glory here in the United States!

The preferred tail is, for want of a better visual, like a Labrador Retriever's: straight in shape, with good width and strength and a

nice plume, and when hanging naturally it will reach to the point of the hock. It can also be saber-like in shape. When the dog is excited or moving, it will come up level to the dog's topline or may even be carried slightly above.

For now, you may see some ugly tails. Some will appear long, hitting below the point of the hock; this is normal. Some will seem too thin, lacking hair and substance. Some will curl, and some may be gay. I once saw a tail that was both thin and went straight up like flagpole! But remember, natural tails are still new here, and like any other part of a dog, it will take a few generations to get the tail where it needs to be. Remember, with leaving natural tails being new to many breeders, they literally don't know what they have, because they have never seen their dogs' tails!

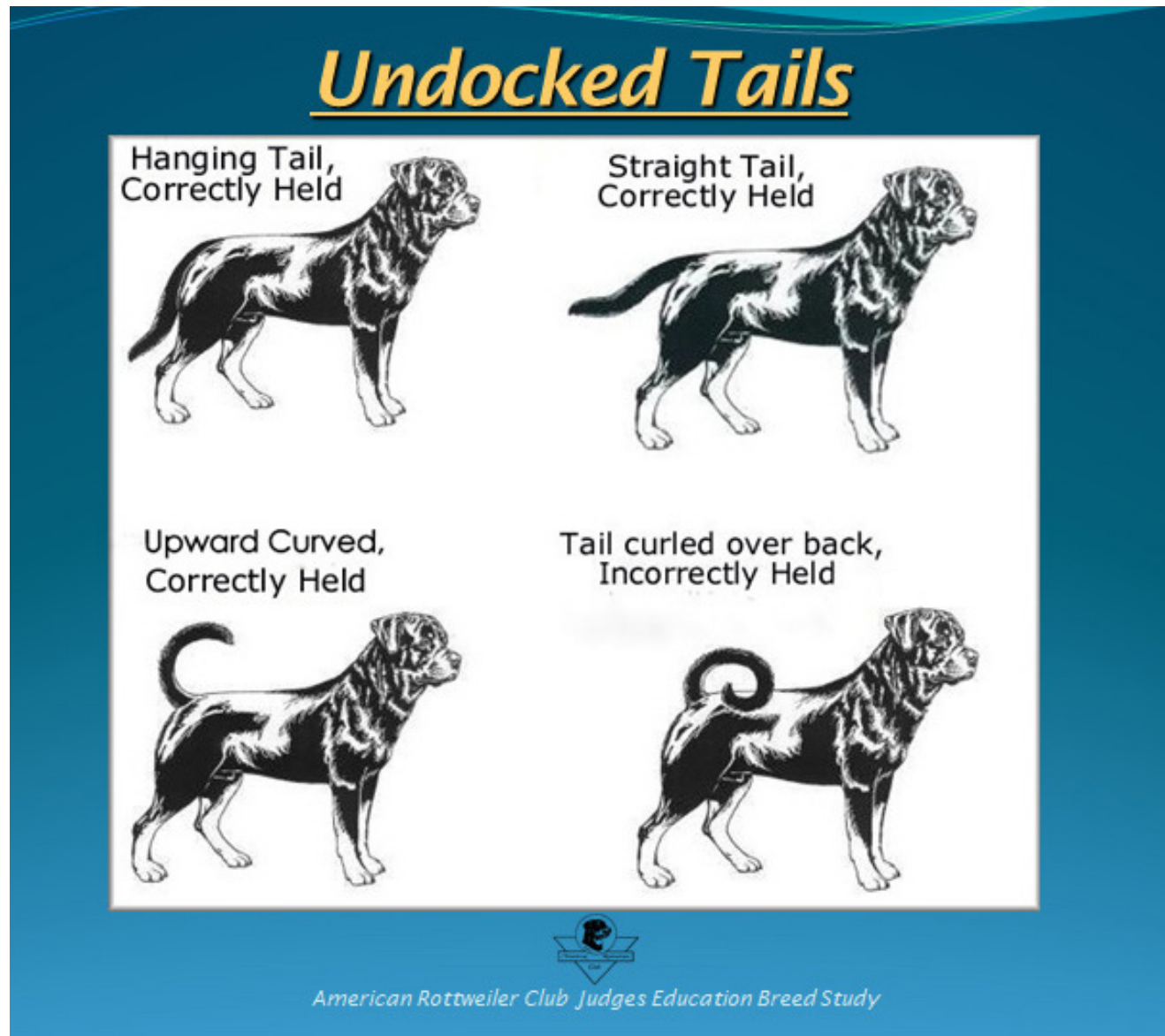
At this time, there are no disqualifying faults for the tail. However, faults include:

- Ring tail
- Kinked tail
- Strong lateral deviation (where the tail rests on one side or the other when curled over the back)

As a fancier or a judge, welcome those who bring tailed exhibits to shows and events. As breeders, if you want to leave tails, try to choose good tails in breeding stock, along with

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the other exemplary traits for which you strive. When judging, look at the whole dog and put up the best dog. Breed good, solid dogs; show enviable dogs; work strong dogs; own wonderful, loving dogs; put up outstanding dogs.

The tail is only one part of a large dog with many parts. Attend to all of them with devotion.
—Jill Kessler Miller,
jillymillygsr@gmail.com
[American Rottweiler Club](http://AmericanRottweilerClub.com)

Samoyeds

Our guest columnist is Debby Jahnke, who has been showing and breeding Samoyeds for over 50 years under the Stardan prefix. She has exhibited dogs in obedience, Junior Showmanship, breed, Fast CAT, weight pull, and herding. She is currently approved as a judge in conformation for numerous breeds and weight pull. She worked for an all-breed handler in the 1970s and handled professionally for 30 years before judging. She has three sons, a daughter, and four grandchildren. She lives with her husband, David, on eight acres and enjoys showing Paint horses, camping, boating and other creative hobbies in addition to rooting for the Green Bay Packers.

MORE THAN A WHITE DOG

I am writing this column at the request of numerous breeders who cringed at some comments made during the broadcast of last year's Westminster Kennel Club show. It was wonderful seeing a great example of the breed being exhibited, but the commentator's lack of understanding of the color associated with the breed was a disservice to our breed.

The Samoyed most definitely is not always a pure white dog. The breed's coat color is described in the standard as follows: *pure white, white and biscuit, cream or all biscuit. Any other colors disqualify.*

There is no indication that any of these colors are preferable, or what shades of color are biscuit or cream.

The coat should glisten with a silver sheen. Historically, the Samoyed in its native Russia was not all white; many were bicolored, spotted, or black and white dogs. Many of the Samoyeds used in Antarctic expeditions were multicolored dogs. The original English standard did not even mention coat color.

The first Samoyed imported to England in 1889 was Sabarka, a solid-colored dog with just a splash of white on his chest. His color was described as "deep biscuit." Also imported around the same time was a female, Whitey Petchora, described as "cream colored with lemon ears." Whitey Petchora is credited with founding a solid-white line of Samoyeds and is behind most of the first American imports.

The white dogs used in the expeditions were described to have flesh-colored noses and eye-rim pigment. It was the colored dogs who helped to infuse the dark eye-rims, noses, and lips, which added much to the expression of the dogs and helped to avoid sunburning and blistering of these areas.

The American imports were mostly white dogs, and some pure-white dogs tended toward soft coats. So genetically, it is important to continue periodically to add colored

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According to the breed's AKC standard, the Samoyed's color can be "pure white, white and biscuit, cream or all biscuit."

dogs to the pedigree.

It is awe inspiring to see a beautiful all-white dog with silver tips gleaming in the sun. The beauty of this dog is undeniable. But a biscuit dog with white undercoat, apricot ears, and perhaps a few freckles sprinkled across the muzzle and guard hairs tipped with color is just as beautiful and exciting to behold. In the past many of these dogs were bleached to show in the ring. Today, most dogs are exhibited naturally.

As our dogs age, the color can increase in their coat. A mostly white 3-month-old puppy can mature into a mostly biscuit dog at 10 years of age. Age spots are not just a human symptom of aging, it appears.

I am hoping everyone will admire the Samoyed at Westminster this year, but hopefully the commentator will be more knowledgeable about the breed to include white, cream, and/or biscuit colors in its description.

Have a great summer at the shows. —D.J.

Thank you, Debby.

—Heather LoProto, SCA Public Education Chair,

hloproto@comcast.net

[Samoyed Club of America](#)

Siberian Huskies

TAILS: IN DEFENSE OF THE SICKLE CURVE

At a recent dog show, I had an entry in the Open Bitch class. As we came to a stop

after our first go around the judge spread her arms and proclaimed, "Finally! All trailing tails!" This was not the first time I'd heard an all-breed judge declare their love for the trailing tail. Many years ago, as a novice, I approached a judge after her Siberian assignment to ask the perennial novice questions: What could I have done better, what was she looking for, and so on. She glanced at my dog and said, "Your standard calls for a trailing tail. I was looking for your standard."

In fact, the Siberian Husky standard says this about tails:

The well-furred tail of fox-brush shape is set on just below the level of the topline, and is usually carried over the back in a graceful sickle curve when the dog is at attention. When carried up, the tail does not curl to either side of the body, nor does it snap flat against the back. A trailing tail is normal for the dog when in repose.

Although the standard does not specifically describe what the tail should be doing when the dog is moving, the phrasing implies a trailing tail is typical only when the dog is at rest. Nevertheless, some all-breed judges seem to consider the trailing tail ideal and any appearance of the tail above the topline to be a fault. So where does this idea come from?

It is true that tight tails (curling to either side of or snapping flat to the back) are a common fault in the Siberian. They are most often the

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Siberian Husky

result of a flat croup, which puts the dog at a functional disadvantage. They are also one of the most obvious faults, standing out like the proverbial sore thumb. Because a tight tail is so obvious, it is the first thing a judge notices about a dog—and many will heavily penalize that dog for its tail, regardless of any virtues the dog may have.

Perhaps in reaction to the tight tail (and the judges' response to it), a trend has emerged among show breeders over the years to select for and present dogs that move with trailing tails—thereby avoiding any possible appearance of the fault. As trailing tails have become commonplace in the ring and the sickle curve has become the outlier, I believe judges have come to view the common as correct, and the outlier as somehow incorrect.

Common arguments I've heard for the trailing tail are quasi-functional: "A sled dog's tail trails when it is working"; or—most recently—"Tails carried over the back get tangled in the tug line when the dog is pulling." The latter is simply not true, due mostly to the former. And the former is true: When pulling a sled, the tail does trail. However, trotting around a ring is not pulling a sled, and no Siberian at a dog show should ever appear to be working that hard.

Other arguments I've heard were less about function and more about style. A judge once

said to me, "I know what your standard says, but I just like the look of a trailing tail." While his honesty was refreshing, I couldn't help cringing a bit, as I always do when a "look" is put ahead of structure and soundness.

So I would ask those judging our breed, or aspiring to judge our breed, to re-read and consider what our standard says about tails. A trailing tail may be aesthetically pleasing, but it does not guarantee correct tail set or croup angle. Learn to recognize these underlying faults, and do not overlook a well-built dog with a "graceful sickle curve."

—Jessica Breinholt,

jbshca@gmail.com

[Siberian Husky Club of America](#)

Standard Schnauzers

DRYING AUTUMN'S BOUNTY FOR YOU AND YOUR DOG

Autumn's shortened days bring three yearly events: fall harvest, hunting season and, in many parts of America, the end of comfortable fishing weather. Neither my husband, Ron, nor I hunt, and we haven't gone fishing in at least 10 years—who wastes time fishing when there are dog shows to attend? But we do enjoy gardening—fresh fruit and veggies, *yum!* Too soon crisp fall days give way to snow and blustery days of winter.

Thankfully, you can extend summer and fall by dehydrating autumn's bounty.

About dehydrating foods

Dehydrating foods preserves flavor and color; it significantly reduces weight, rendering food easier to store or transport. Food dehydration can be done in:

- a commercial electric dehydrator (available from Walmart or Amazon), almost a requirement when dehydrating large batches;
- your gas or electric oven for smaller batches—slower than a commercial dehydrator, but with the advantage of a precisely controllable thermometer;
- a DIY rig consisting of an enclosure with one or more stackable trays, a heating element, and a fan to draw moisture out through the enclosure's top (components available at most hardware stores); or
- food trays set out in the sun if your climate permits, covered with a few layers of cheesecloth to keep out bugs, bird poop, and assorted critters.

Two caveats about this last method: It isn't suitable for meat and fish, and it takes more than cheesecloth to protect the food against marauding Standard Schnauzers (or bears).

Essential and almost-essential equipment

You'll need a few other items to go along with

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whatever drying apparatus you've chosen:

- a can't-do-without item: *The Dehydrator Bible*, by MacKenzie, J., J. Nutt, and Mercer, D., Ph.D. (Toronto: Robert Rose, Inc. ISBN-13: 978-0-7788-0213-6)
- glass or metal airtight containers with tight-sealing lids;
- sturdy stainless steel, enameled steel, or silicone colander;
- fine-mesh tray liners (Clean-A-Screen);
- a heatproof metal strainer;
- parchment paper;
- a ruler (washable—plastic or metal);
- sharp knives (chef's knife, parers, serrated tomato slicer);
- 24-hour timer;
- a vegetable peeler.

Optional helpful equipment: Immersion blender, mini-chopper, food processor or blender; jerky gun; kitchen scissors; leather or "fruit roll" sheets; mandoline; salad spinner.

Dehydrating fruits and vegetables

Most fruits, herbs, and vegetables should be cut into similar-sized pieces. Don't try dehydrating high-fat avocados—oxidation occurs before dehydration, leading to spoilage, rancidity, and off-flavors. *The Dehydrator's Bible* gives instruction and times for most candidates.

To prevent discoloration of sliced bananas,

apples, or peaches, first submerge them for 10 minutes in one-quarter-cup fresh lemon juice mixed with four cups filtered water.

Some vegetables benefit from blanching—scalding them in boiling water to destroy the enzyme responsible for flavor loss and changes in texture and color during storage. If you normally wouldn't eat a vegetable raw (e.g., potatoes), you should blanch it.

Coax waxy-skinned berries such as blueberries to give up their water with *checking*, or placing a small amount of berries in a strainer and dunking in boiling water long enough to disrupt the coating but not long enough to split the skin.

Blanched vegetables and checked berries then require quenching—immediately plunging them into a sink or basin of ice water to halt the heat's cooking action quickly before items begin to cook or their edges soften.

Foods unsuitable for home dehydration

Except for low-fat cottage cheese and plain low-fat yogurt, don't try dehydrating dairy products and cheeses. Eggs aren't suitable, either.

Low-fat fish fillets such as cod or ocean perch are suitable to dehydrate for fish jerky. Salmon, traditionally the jerky choice, is too fatty and can't be stored safely at room temperature or for longer than a month refrigerated.



Plum Creek KC show, June 2022. L-R: Judge Jane Treiber, Ron Smith, Asgard Bliss' Big Bang Wustefuchs (Flash), Centara Nautical North Star Wustefuchs (Larissa), and columnist Suzanne Smith. Photographer: Dan Pearson, Albuquerque.

COURTESY SUZANNE SMITH

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Poultry skin is too fatty. Remove skin and all other fat before attempting to dry chicken, turkey, farmed duck, wild goose, and lean parts of ostrich and emu; thin slices of these birds, defatted and dehydrated, make good jerky treats for your Standard Schnauzer. (I admit, though, I balk at thoughts of the Limu Emu as jerky strips for dog food.)

Food-safety gurus say all fish and meats must be cooked at safe temperatures before dehydrating. They also frown on sushi.

High-fat sauces and spreads aren't good dehydration candidates because they take too long to dry and residual fat turns rancid in storage.

Lean cuts of beef, bison, venison, elk, and moose dehydrate well, but not well-marbled steaks or roasts, or any cut with visible fat on the outside. Thinly sliced, defatted organ meats from these animals are beloved by dogs, SS included.

(Warning: before giving your Standard Schnauzer a dried treat, make sure it's safe for doggy tummies!)

A few recipes

Sue Baines, who bred Standard Schnauzers with the kennel name La Marka, owned Hall of Fame Producer Ch. Erik von Hahlweg. Renowned as a professional handler and dog-show photographer, Sue used beef liver for

ring bait. Here's how to make:

Slice liver uniformly 1/4"-1/2" thick; dry surfaces with paper towels; dehydrate in a 200° F oven, door slightly ajar, overnight or until completely dry. Nutrient-dense liver is full of natural essential Vitamins A, D, E, K, B12 and folic acid, plus minerals copper and iron, so it's good for your dog, but be careful of overfeeding liver and risking Vitamin A overdose.

For speedy "people breakfast" on dog-show mornings, we've made Suzanne's variation on Food Network star Alton Brown's Overnight Oatmeal. (Recipe: 1 cup steel cut oats, 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar, 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 2 cups mixed dried fruit, 4 1/2 cups filtered water, 1/2 cup half-and-half. Mix together in slow cooker, and cook on low for 9-10 hours at 5,000 feet/8-9 hours at sea level. Makes four servings.) Alton suggests figs and cranberries for his dried-fruit mix; we like any dried-fruit combo, such as berries of any kind, cherries, peaches, bananas, and so on. Although you can double or even triple the recipe for long show weekends, we've found it tastes better to premix the dry ingredients in small batches at home and add the wet ingredients just before cooking.

Our SS love crunchy dried vegetables and fruits. *The Dehydrator Bible* instructs how to dehydrate and store them all. Our dogs' favorites are banana and apple slices, pumpkin and sweet

potato slices, and sliced strawberries.

Try dehydration for yourself. Start small until you get the hang of it. Don't spend a bundle on equipment until you know you'll use it.

(Note—My apologies for an inadvertent error Liz Hansen pointed out in my April 2022 column: Black is the dominant coat color in Standard Schnauzers, not salt-and-pepper. Thanks, Liz!)

—Suzanne T. Smith (Los Alamos, New Mexico), WustefuchsSS@aol.com

[Standard Schnauzer Club of America](#)

Tibetan Mastiffs

WAIT FOR THE WEIGHT

The dog world seems to be obsessed with size. Toy breeds are under pressure to produce ever tinier pups: If "teacup" is not small enough, what is next, "thimble"? On the other end of the spectrum are the large breeds and the never-ending push for bigger dogs. Although not originally intended to be super-sized, in recent times the Tibetan Mastiff (TM) has become known as the behemoth of the dog world.

Tibetan Mastiffs are big, no question about that—but how big is big?

The very first line of the AKC Tibetan Mastiff breed standard (<https://www.tibetanmastiff.org/breed-standard.html>) says, "Noble and impressive: a large, but not a giant breed."

If you take nothing else away from this article, let that opening line stick with you.

The standard further defines a preferred height range of 24-27 inches for females, and 26-29 inches for males. Think about that for a minute: A 24-inch dog is not a giant! The average weight for a female is 85-95 pounds; for males, 125-135 pounds. Although it can happen, it is an exceedingly rare TM that tops out at more than 175 pounds. So, where did the popular perception of a gargantuan Tibetan Mastiff come from?

Unfortunately, size sells, and exaggerated size and weight is almost inherent in the breed.

There are many ways that a breeder, owner, or seller can misrepresent the size of their dogs: Staged camera perspective and fluffed-up coat are the most common. By camera perspective, I mean controlling the angle and depth perception of photos. An object on the horizon may look tiny, but the closer you are to the object, the larger it seems. A dog strategically placed slightly in front of a person or object creates the illusion that the dog is larger simply because it is closer to the camera. If you watched the *Hobbit* movies, director Peter Jackson used distance perspective along with other well-known camera tricks to make the Hobbits appear smaller than their actual size. (If you're interested, check out "How

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to Make a Hobbit With Forced Perspective,” <https://www.wired.com/2012/12/how-to-make-a-hobbit-with-forced-perspective/>.)

A good photographer (or breeder experienced with dog photography) can employ this trick to make their dogs look larger than life, literally.

Photoshopping is another trick that many use to exaggerate the size of their dogs. Whether strategically placing a smaller photo of a person or object in the picture as a staged size comparison, or actually digitally enhancing the size of the dog using programs such as Corel Painter or Adobe Photoshop, some are so adept at the process that even a trained eye has trouble distinguishing between fantasy and reality. Even without digital image manipulation, using a small person or child for size comparison can also play tricks on the eye and make a dog appear larger. Perspective is everything when working from a photo!

Full winter coat or a spay coat can also create the illusion of a larger dog. Our smallest TMs are a brother-sister pair who are also our heaviest coated, and both are spayed/neutered, which changes the texture of the coat to make them look fluffier. Their weight ranges from about 90 pounds for the female to 110 for the male. Yet, a good bath with a volumizing shampoo and a high-speed blow-out of their winter coats can easily make them appear to be twice their size! I have had vis-



itors look at this male, and in all seriousness, ask, “What does he weigh? About 200?”

Last but not least is the confusion created by the introduction of Chinese mastiff-type dogs being sold as Tibetan Mastiffs. Mixed with Newfoundlands, Saint Bernards, Spanish Mastiffs, and other large- or giant-breed dogs, their excessive size, head, bone, and coat are not characteristic of the Tibetan Mastiff. These traits impact speed, agility, and weather tolerance and would impair the dogs’ ability to do the job Tibetan Mastiffs have been

bred to do for centuries. Unfortunately, with just a cursory search of the internet, this is the image that many people acquire of the Tibetan Mastiff, so they start out with unrealistic expectations regarding the breed’s size.

With an understanding that things aren’t always what they seem, especially from pictures, let’s look at how this focus on exaggerated size has impacted the breed and influenced the perception of how fast a puppy should grow and what it should weigh.

New puppy owners are always proud to



Forced camera perspective can make photo subjects (such as dogs) look much bigger than they are in real life. In the left photo, the Tibetan Mastiff in the foreground is 26½ inches and weighs 115 pounds, while the dog in the background is 30 inches and weighs 138 pounds. Above, the dog’s proximity to the camera makes it appear larger than it is; bottom, an adolescent pup of ideal weight.

COURTESY DEBORAH MAYER

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boast about their puppy's size and weight. The same is true with parents of human babies as well. We have been conditioned to believe that babies, human or otherwise, should be round and chubby. This leads to the inevitable obsession with how much to feed a puppy and how much the puppy weighs. With visions of monstrous TMs in their heads, and not understanding that size is so often exaggerated, owners expect their pup to be 200 pounds by the time it is a year old. To achieve this, they often overfeed and are always looking for ways to pack on more weight. Some owners develop anxiety over whether their slender adolescent pup is healthy or they are doing something wrong with feeding. At least once a week I get a question of "What/how much should I feed my TM puppy?"

One factor that comes into play with TMs is their slow path to maturity. Some breeds are almost born looking like a miniature version of the adult. Not so with the Tibetan Mastiff. They grow and change constantly over the first two-three years at a minimum, and the males don't reach full maturity until at least age 4. They are not expected to carry their adult weight at a year old, or even 2 years old—and for health reasons, they should not. It is a breed that demands patience!

TMs go through an adolescent phase from about 5 months to a year old that I compare

to a 14- to 15-year-old adolescent boy: tall, thin, and gangly. They are perfectly healthy and full of energy. Trying to add pounds at this age will only result in health problems in the future. No one would expect a middle-school child to weigh 200 pounds, but they do exactly that for their TM puppy.

According to recent statistics provided by the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention (<https://petobesityprevention.org/>), 56 percent of dogs in the U.S. are overweight or obese, putting them at risk for a host of health problems, including degenerative joint and disk disease, arthritis, kidney disease, liver disease, hypothyroidism, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart failure, and cancer. Of particular concern for Tibetan Mastiffs, added weight puts stress on developing joints and can result in orthopedic issues that may plague them for the rest of their lives—including hip dysplasia, which is the most common health issue found in large-breed dogs.

Controlled research studies from as much as 50 years ago show a clearly defined link between excess caloric intake and the development and severity of hip dysplasia. Kasstrom noted:

"It was found that hip dysplasia was more frequent, occurred earlier, and became more severe in the dogs with a rapid weight gain caused by increased caloric intake than in the dogs which a low weight gain because of

restricted (weight controlled) feeding. The final diagnosis was closer correlated with feeding and weight gain than with tightness or laxity of the hip joints before 12 weeks of age."⁽¹⁾

Kealy and associates followed 8-week-old Labrador puppies for 2 years and concluded:

"Independent of age at which the radiography was done, there was less subluxation of the femoral heads in the limit-fed dogs."⁽²⁾

Smith *et al*, 2006, concurred:

"Restricted-fed dogs had lower prevalence and later onset of hip joint osteoarthritis."⁽³⁾

A review of the literature by King in 2017 revealed:

"Caloric intake when growing has a significant effect on phenotypic expression. Initial joint laxity progresses to osteoarthritis due to subluxation and abnormal wearing."⁽⁴⁾

Summing it up, Beuchat says, "obesity could well be the single most significant environmental factor affecting the development of hip dysplasia and osteoarthritis."⁽⁵⁾

With science practically screaming at us that excessive weight gain is the leading contributor to the most significant health issue affecting our large breed puppies, why aren't we listening? Rather than worry about having the biggest puppy in the breed, aim for the healthiest! Keep your TM puppy slim, trim, and fit, and avoid the pitfalls associated with rapid weight gain.

Be patient, and wait for the weight!

—Deborah Mayer

[American Tibetan Mastiff Association](#)

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ATTENTION DELEGATES

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL on **Friday, December 16, 2022**, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m. It will follow the Delegate Forum which will begin at 9:00 a.m.

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

- Connie Brown**, Camarillo, CA, Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association
- Diane M. Conyers**, Narragansett, RI, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America
- Penny DiSiena**, Ocala, FL, Greater Ocala Dog Club
- Jean W. Durdin**, Houston, TX, Baytown Kennel Club
- Theresa Goiffon**, Siren, WI, Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club
- Sally Green**, Terre Haute, IN, Terre Haute Kennel Club
- Gary Griffin**, Randolph, MN, Samoyed Club of America
- Jennifer Martin**, North East, MD, Weimaraner Club of America
- Richard E. Nance**, Ovalo, TX, Abilene Kennel Club
- Barbara Reisinger**, Scottsdale, AZ, Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association
- Cindy Stansell**, Clayton, NC, Grand River Kennel Club
- Theresa Wilson**, Columbia, MO, Columbia Missouri Kennel Club

NOTICE

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

- Ms. Jessica Plourde (Malta, CA)
- Ms. Dorinne Waterman (Perry, CA)

NOTICE

Mr. Philip Boyce (Waxhaw, NC). Action was taken by the Lackawanna Kennel Club for conduct at its July 29, 2022 event. Mr. Boyce was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective July 29, 2022. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Ms. Stephanie Curtis (Carbondale, IL) Action was taken by the St. Joseph Kennel Club for conduct at its June 24, 2022 event. Ms. Curtis was charged with neglect of a dog at or in connection an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a six-month suspension of all AKC privileges and imposed a \$1,000 fine, effective August 2, 2022. (Cocker Spaniels)

NOTICE

Mr. Dale Hunsburger (Turney, MO) Action was taken by the Heart of America Kennel Club for conduct at its March 13, 2022 event. Mr. Hunsburger was charged with personal property damage. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension, imposed a \$500 fine and payment of restitution to the complainants, effective July 21, 2022. (Havanese, Poodles)

NOTICE

Ms. Courtney Kiser (Wytheville, VA). Action was taken by the Greenville Kennel Club for conduct at its July 31, 2022 event. Ms. Kiser was charged with neglect at or in connection with an event by an individual. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a six-month suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$1,000 fine, effective July 31, 2022. (Border Terriers, Dalmatians)

NOTICE

Ms. Pat Weber (Juliet, IL). Action was taken by the Stone City Kennel Club for conduct at its May 14, 2022 event. Ms. Weber was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective August 8, 2022. (Parson Russell Terriers)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Dr. Alexandra Pruett (College Station, TX) and imposed a \$100 fine, for signing an AKC document on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney form. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Henry Humphrey (Buffalo, NY) from all AKC privileges for one year and imposed a \$1,000 fine, for non-compliance with AKC's Care and Conditions policy (unacceptable conditions, dogs and/or facility) and AKC's record keeping and dog identification requirements, effective August 26, 2022. (Multiple Breeds)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 1

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Article VIII, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee. This will be voted on at the December 16, 2022 Delegate Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors before August fifteenth of each year shall designate five Delegates to serve as principal members and two Delegates to serve as alternates to be

a Nominating Committee. No Delegate designated to serve on the Nominating Committee may be an officer of the AKC or a member of its Board of Directors. The duty of the Nominating Committee is to nominate candidates for vacancies on the Board of Directors which are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the AKC. The names of the Delegates on the Nominating Committee and their roles as either principal members or alternates are to be published on the Secretary's Page of the September *AKC Gazette*.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE X, SECTION 1

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Article X, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee. This will be voted on at the December 16, 2022 Delegate Meeting.

ARTICLE X

SECTION 1. The Board shall have supervision of the funds, assets and property of the AKC and shall determine how much thereof shall be left in the hands or under direct control of the Chief Financial Officer for current needs, and how the balance thereof shall be deposited or invested and shall have power to withdraw or transfer said deposits or dispose of or change said investments for the benefit of the AKC.

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

Mr. Gregory Scott Anderson (111377) NH
(603) 400-5062

simpletruthfarm@gmail.com
Bulldogs Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Skye Terriers, JS- Limited

Dr. Bree Ardizzone (98661) WI
(315) 481-1107

bardizzone315@gmail.com
Collies

Ms. Maria Arechaederra (110565) CA
(949) 981-7646

ederrakuv@aol.com
Kuvaszok, Pumik, JS-Limited

Ms. Linda Crabill Byrne (111433) CA
(831) 884-3437

shangrilhasas@gmail.com
Lhasa Apsos, JS

Mrs. Junko Guichon (111435) VA
junko@guichonchi.com

Chihuahuas

Jeannine Volpe Jeffrey (108814) FL
(352) 212-7414

jeanninevolpe2019@yahoo.com
Cane Corsos

Ms. Julie LaFreniere (111381) MA
(413) 427-3643

julie@admin.umass.edu
Border Terriers

Mr. Dale R. Martenson (111413) OK
(817) 517-3304

castleman3@hotmail.com
Pointers, Cocker Spaniels, Beagles, Af-

fenpinschers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chins, Maltese, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Shih Tzu, Yorkshire Terriers, Chow Chows, French Bulldogs, JS-Limited

Mr. Adam Protos (111376) MS

(601) 982-3480
anprotos@gmail.com
Great Danes

FOREIGN JUDGE APPLICATION UNDER AKC SYSTEM

The following applicant requesting approval to judge under the AKC system have been accepted under AKC's Foreign Judge Policy for the breed(s) specified.

The individual listed is NOT eligible to accept assignments.

Mr. Johan Becerra-Hernandez (111406) FL

(787) 447-8540
johanbeclove@hotmail.com
Working Group (Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Newfoundland, Portugese Water Dogs, Rottweil-

ers, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs)

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Gary L. Andersen (6176) AZ

(480) 991-7485
glandersen@cox.net
Balance of Terrier Group (Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Irish Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers)

Mrs. Denise A. Borton (91682) MI

(269) 375-0059
twinpinefarm@gmail.com
Balance of Working Group (Cane Corsos, Dogo Argentinos, Great Pyrenees), Otterhounds

Mr. Stuart Cairn (101695) OH

(717) 659-9308
stgeorgebt@gmail.com
American Staffordshire Terriers

Mrs. Cathy Daugherty (6219) AR

(203) 656-5496
bisgringo1@yahoo.com
Brittanys, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Pointers

Mrs. Penny DiSiena (76729) FL

(330) 421-3618
pennyd1954@gmail.com
American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Cirneci dell'Etna, Irish Wolfhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Whippets

Dr. Bev Sigl Felten (65674) WI

(414) 828-2449
beverlyfelten5@gmail.com
Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, American Water Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Field Spaniels

Mrs. Sioux Forsyth-Green (100789) NC

(910) 603-7655
siouxf93@gmail.com
Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters

Ms. Dawn Hitchcock (100299) SC

(864) 238-2742
bubblezsc@hotmail.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Pat M. Jenkins (99451) UT

(435) 770-0334
pmj16@msn.com
Bulldogs, Dalmatians, Lowchen, Tibetan Terriers

Mrs. Shari Kirschner (97107) IN

(219) 331-9493
smkirschner@comcast.net
Gordon Setters, Field Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas

Mr. Steven Kirschner (97109) IN

(219) 746-8499
sakirschner@earthlink.net

Flat Coated Retrievers, Field Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Mr. Ronald Lukins (56312) WA

(805) 914-9269
ron.lukins@att.net
Balance of Hound Group (American Foxhounds, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Plott Hounds)

Ms. Sylvie McGee (95341) WA

(360) 705-1233
sylvie@sylviemcgee.net
Balance of Hound Group (American Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Cirneci dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Greyhounds, Sloughi), Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes

Ms. Shelley A. Miller (102995) NC

(919) 525-5001
sunmagicclumbers@gmail.com
Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, Weimaraners

Ms. Louise Palarik (6054) IL

(847) 487-5677
colliejudge@juno.com
Beagles, Dachshunds, Irish Wolfhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Mr. Jay Roden (104891) OH

(513) 834-7602
jyrodend@yahoo.com
Kuvaszok, Mastiffs, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Bull Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers

Dr. Judi M. Roller (102261) WI

(608) 370-2679

judi002@centurytel.net

Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Norwegian Elkhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds

Dr. Vicki Sandage, DVM (98425) KY

(606) 922-9552

sandfoxdvm@gmail.com

Bracci Italiani, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas

Mr. Thomas Schonberger (107485) AK

(907) 529-6693

yogi@mtaonline.net

Chinooks, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees, Komondorok, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. Harry H. (Butch) Schulman (59014) KY

(502) 267-6374

haryy.schulman@louisville.edu

Balance of Terrier Group (American Staffordshire Terriers, Australian Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Skye Terriers), Bichons Frises, Cotons du Tulear, Lowchen, Poodles, Schipperkes

Ms. Frances C. Stephens (15410) WA

(206) 963-1148

mistihil@comcast.net

Alaskan Malamutes, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Tibetan Mastiffs

Ms. Sandy Weaver (94535) GA

(770) 310-6932

golfindogs@att.net

Balance of Working Group (Dogo Argentinos, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Saint Bernards), Poodles, Xoloitzcuintli

Claire Wisch Abraham (100709) VA

(571) 318-2768

outlawgwp@aol.com

Barbets, Bracci Italiani, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Lucretia Coonrod (111397) OK

(785) 217-5192

kanpoint@yashoo.com

Jessica Craun (111425) VA

(434) 229-8880

groomingbyjs@gmail.com

Ms. Erica Cross (111383) DE

(817) 914-4452

ilvolarespinoni@yahoo.com

Ms. Mara Flood (111427) NY

mbflooded@gmail.com

Vicki Jo Graves (99893) WA

(253) 229-7051

vicdory@msn.com

Mrs. Melissa Hampton (108526) MD

(908) 887-5058

meljoymckenzie@gmail.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

Mrs. Crissy Brown-Stone (110779) TN

(615) 483-8188

jakesmom47@yahoo.com

Bull Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers

Ms. Tara Darling-Lyon (111003) SC

(914) 629-7149

taraiwsdogs@gmail.com

Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, JS

Ms. Karrie Dollar (111131) WI

(715) 213-0017

karriedollar@gmail.com

Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Afghan Hounds, JS

Ms. Dana B. Mackonis (110781) NC

(919) 225-3546

cachetnoir@yahoo.com

Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens

Dr. Jason A. Maret (111145) IA

jamaret01@gmail.com

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Kimberly Norton (110967) FL

(352) 606-3328

phasionwpt@aol.com

Whippets, JS

Ms. Anna M. Vaughn (102565) OK

(918) 906-3776

anna@cme-usa.com

Irish Setters, JS-Limited

Lisa Waldo (110998) AL

kensingtonkennels@msn.com

Border Collies

Mrs. Berna Hart Welch (110818) MA

(508) 364-7343

jepgr@aol.com

Golden Retrievers

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez (97321) FL

(954) 434-0318

minsmere954@yahoo.com

Basenjis, Norwegian Elkhounds, Scottish Deerhounds, American Eskimo Dogs, Cotons du Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen

Ms. Shira Lee Barkon (108315) PA

snocrest1@gmail.com

Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Keeshonden

Mrs. Ronda Bermke (94073) WI
 (920) 864-3369
 bermke@centurytel.net
 Portuguese Water Dogs, Belgian Ter-
 vurens, Old English Sheepdogs

Ms. Alisa Brotherhood (103359) TX
 (281) 989-3130
 touchstone0525@att.net
 Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinsch-
 ers, Siberian Huskies

Mrs. Kathleen V. Carter (6164) CO
 (303) 425-6756
 dancehalldolly@live.com
 Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bi-
 chons Frises, Bulldogs, Cotons du
 Tulear, Poodles, Xoloitzcuintli)

Mr. Justin Dannenbring (46593) MT
 (951) 733-1618
 orionkennelsofca@aol.com
 Pharaoh Hounds

Mrs. Terry Dennison (47424) AK
 (907) 373-7376
 katagnik@yahoo.com
 Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois,
 Belgian Sheepdogs, Bouviers des Flan-
 dres

Mr. James Donahue (101625) IL
 (847) 436-0275
 chicagoflutist@gmail.com
 American Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Basset

Hounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds,
 Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirneco del-
 l'Etna, Irish Wolfhounds, Plott Hounds,
 Redbone Coonhounds, Rhodesian
 Ridgebacks, Scottish Deerhounds, Tree-
 ing Walker Coonhounds

Mrs. Beth Downey (102539) MS
 (410) 829-2455
 bethdowney539@gmail.com
 Boston Terriers, Bergamasco Sheepdogs,
 Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres,
 Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain
 Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Miniature
 American Shepherds, Norwegian
 Buhunds, Pumik, Spanish Water Dogs,
 Swedish Vallhunds

Mr. Edmund Dziuk (26469) MO
 (573) 424-2809
 eddiedziuk@aol.com
 Balance of Sporting Group (Bracci Ital-
 iani, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Flat
 Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck
 Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters)

Mr. Ted Eubank (53715) TX
 (214) 649-1104
 teubank143@aol.com
 Balance of Sporting Group (Bracci Ital-
 iani, Flat Coated Retrievers, Gordon Set-
 ters, American Water Spaniels, Boykin
 Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons,
 Wirehaired Vizslas)

Mrs. Mary Faeth (101477) CA
 (530) 210-7791

spinfandel@yahoo.com
 American Hairless Terriers, American
 Staffordshire Terriers, Bedlington Terri-
 ers, Cairn Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry
 Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Minia-
 ture Schnauzers, Soft Coated Wheaten
 Terriers

Mrs. Julie Felten (17972) IL
 (847) 452-6902
 jacfelten@aol.com
 American Eskimo Dogs, Chinese Shar-
 Pei, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos, Poodles,
 Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers,
 Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Linda Fiordiliso (98373) NY
 (516) 528-2138
 bulldoglady@verizon.net
 Boston Terriers, French Bulldogs, Ti-
 betan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS
 (913) 706-5365
 fritzgm77@gmail.com
 Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers,
 Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wire-
 haired Vizslas, Azawakhs, Chihuahuas,
 English Toy Spaniels, Pomeranians

Mrs. Lisa Graser (37267) TN
 (608) 655-1993
 bluhvns@msn.com
 Balance of Terrier Group (Bull Terriers,
 Cesky Terriers, Irish Terriers, Skye Terri-
 ers, West Highland White Terriers),
 Doberman Pinschers

Mrs. Rosalind Kramer (37191) NC
 (703) 975-6260
 rlkramer1@gmail.com
 Brittanys, Pointers, German Shorthaired
 Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers,
 Curly-Coated Retrievers, Labrador Re-
 trievers, Clumber Spaniels, Cocker
 Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Eng-
 lish Springer Spaniels, Field Spaniels,
 Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels,
 Welsh Springer Spaniels, Weimaraners,
 Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Nancy Lovelady (97313) NV
 jwnsl@sbcglobal.net
 Balance of Terrier Group (Bedlington
 Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Din-
 mont Terriers, Skye Terriers)

Mrs. Janice L. McClary (4812) CA
 (562) 697-6212
 rjmcclary@gmail.com
 Scottish Terriers, Welsh Terriers, Chi-
 huahuas

Ms. Mary C. Murphy-East (36967) MN
 (763) 291-2263
 marmcmurph@aol.com
 Barbets, Golden Retrievers, English Set-
 ters, English Springer Spaniels, Field
 Spaniels, Weimaraners, Wirehaired
 Pointing Griffons

Susan M. Napady (95639) IN
 (219) 762-5203
 susan.napady@frontier.com
 Border Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie

Dinmont Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers,
Kerry Blue Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

Mrs. Patti Widdick Neale (6097) FL

(352) 359-0912
zoisrus@windstream.net

Chinese Cresteds, Silky Terriers, York-
shire Terriers

Ms. Helene Nietsch (7259) CT

(203) 426-8194
helene@banstock.net

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Pugs

Mr. Andrew Ritter (92968) NJ

(908) 996-7355
cerri.bmd@att.net

Bearded Collies, Belgian Laekenois, Bel-
gian Tervurens, Border Collies, Norwe-
gian Buhunds, Old English Sheepdogs

Mr. Channing Sheets (99781) CA

(415) 254-2582
cashe90@hotmail.com

Alaskan Malamutes, Dalmatians, Aus-
tralian Shepherds, Bearded Collies, Bou-
viers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh

Corgis, Collies, Norwegian Buhunds, Old
English Sheepdogs, Shetland Sheepdogs

Ms. Michelle Shultz (99665) CA

(925) 351-8352
michelle.t.shultz@gmail.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bi-
chons Frises, Tibetan Spaniels), Dachs-
hunds

Dr. Donald Sturz, Jr. (5449) NY

(631) 327-6937

dgs32561@aol.com

Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Boxers, Bull-
mastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Giant
Schnauzers, Great Danes, Great Pyre-
nees, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, New-
foundlands, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards,
Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard
Schnauzers

Ms. Jan A. Sutherland (97231) CA

(213) 819-6218
moonrysn@hotmail.com

Lagotti Romagnoli, Irish Water Spaniels

Mrs. Nancy Tuthill (6729) MD

(240) 675-1560
cumbrian@myactv.net

Whippets

Mrs. Marilyn Vinson (55614) AZ

(623) 580-4944
chinafleet@aol.com
Bracci Italiani

Mrs. Cindy Vogels (6275) CO

(303) 589-8395
cgvogels@gmail.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Ameri-
can Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Chi-
nese Shar-Pei, Cotons du Tulear, Finnish
Spitz, Keeshonden, Lowchen, Norwe-
gian Lundehunds, Schipperkes, Tibetan
Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers,
Xoloitzcuintli)

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES

Mrs. Sandra K. Nadalin (104545) OH

(614) 284-2168
sknadalin@earthlink.net
JS-Limited

Mrs. Debra A. Tousey (22868) WI

(920) 539-2002
dreamwood@earthlink.net
JS

BEST IN SHOW

The following persons, having success-
fully **completed** the required Group As-
signments in the first Variety Group for
which they were **approved**, have been
added to the list of judges eligible for ap-
proval to judge Best In
Show.

Mr. James S. Albrecht (100017) MA

(603) 770-6933
nhbriard@aol.com

Mrs. April Clyde (52836) DE

(302) 542-3033
laprilclyde@gmail.com

Ms. Emily Fish (92354) WA

(360) 904-5765
emilypawcific@yahoo.com

Mrs. Leta B. Graham (6739) WA

(360) 908-2765
kaerdon@aol.com

Ms. Robin A. Hug (67358) CO

(303) 717-1702
robinahug@gmail.com

Mrs. Jean Pero (30743) CO

(303) 475-7302
jmpero3@gmail.com

Mr. Gus Sinibaldi (103241) NC

(954) 614-9308
gus.sinibaldi@yahoo.com

Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO

(573) 760-3616
n2rotts@yahoo.com

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Ms. Jennifer D. Bridges
Ms. Lisa R. DeRoulet
Ms. Karen Kleinhans DeSilva
Mr. Chuck Nelson
Mrs. Susan M. Riese
Ms. Jo Virden

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Walter L. Bloom
Ms. Peggy F. Esposito
Dr. Ruby Hertz
Mr. James L. Hobart
Mrs. Carolyn McKenna
Mrs. Carol L. O'Bryant

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Robert E. Bostrom
Mrs. Lynne M. Myall

NEW 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.*

Jeannette Rogers (110715)

(239) 770-0517
jrusic@icloud.com
Rally – All Classes

REGULAR STATUS APPROVED 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 for the class indicated.

Sarah L Kahn (108042) WA

(206) 227-4977
pwttdx3@gmail.com
Tracking – TD/TDU

Jan Wesen (17565) WA

(360) 333-7131
jan@janwesen.com
Tracking – VST

EMERITUS OBEDIENCE AND RALLY JUDGES

Mrs. Chris Primmer – WA

Obedience & Rally

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:

BLUE SPRINGS' - Poodles- Patricia Hobbs
BRINY BAY- Newfoundlands- Theodore R. Hanson

IRONHEAD-Miniature Bull Terriers-
Bethany H. Parry & Jeffrey F. Parry

JORDAN- Standard Schnauzers- Sondra J. Lambert

KRAFTBREWD-Australian Shepherds- Jodi L. Noble

MEADOWPARK-Belgian Tervurens- Debbie K. Vincent

OLIVE TREE- Bullmastiffs- Jessica Hamman

PRIMA- Doberman Pinschers- Shayna Sitton

RED PEPPER'S -Vizslas-Kevin McCrae

SHAMBRAY-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels-James R. Jurgensen & Dianne K. Jurgensen

STONEGATE- Doberman Pinschers- Leslie M. Stone

SUNSET AST-American Staffordshire Terriers-Nancy E, Hjelmstad

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

ARCTIC-Coton De Tulear-Gudni Gunnarsson

APPLE BRANCH-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Jennifer C. Bennett

BELLPLAIN-Lakeland Terriers – Bart E. De Silva

BODHRAN-Glen of Imaal Terriers-
Kimberly J. Harrenstein and Wendy L. Harrenstein

LES BETULACEES-Belgian Malinois- Jill C. Missal

OPALONYX-Dalmatians-Issel Rodriguez

PHOGHAVEN-Cane Corso-Jennifer Doughty and Terisa Rick

REBEL LAND'S- Labrador Retrievers-
Susan L. Yates

RIVER ROCK-Great Danes- Mark R. Davenport

STONEHAUS-Poodles-Ellen M. Davis

SUMMER PINES-Golden Retrievers-
Deborah A. Hancock

SUNBUILT-Golden Retrievers-Samantha N. Darling

SWEET HARMONY-Australian Shepherds-
Kay D. Bruce

THE REALM'S-Rhodesian Ridgebacks-
Elaine Demopoulos

TRIPLE PLAY-Pembroke Welsh Corgi-
Patty Hosmer

UPSOUTH-Golden Retrievers-Gannon T. Neurohr and Nichole C. Neurohr



**QUARTERLY MEETING OF
THE DELEGATES OF THE
AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

Dennis B. Sprung, President

PRESENT 292

Affenspischer Club of America—*Letisha Wubbel*
Airedale Terrier Club of America—*Aletta L. Moore*
Akita Club of America—*Steven Lisker*
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—*Ruth Levesque*
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.—*Patte Klecan*
American Boxer Club, Inc.—*Sharon Steckler*
American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Terry Hilliard*
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*

American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Mr. Brian P. Meindl*
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—*Neil Butterklee*
American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold Miller*
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 Pomeranian Club, Inc.—*Dr. Geno Sisneros*
American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*
American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Barbara Shapiro*
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—*Marjorie Tuff*
Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Edward Collins*
Anderson Kennel Club—*Laura A. Rockwell*
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Arrowhead Kennel Club—*Deb Phillips*
Ashtabula Kennel Club—*Lynne Wickens*
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*

Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A. LaBerge*
Augusta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Catherine Iacopelli*
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Joyce Rowland*
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*William I. Christensen*
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—*Katie Campbell*
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Norine E. Noonan*
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Wozniak*
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—*Susan Soviero*
Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Kathy Coxwell*
Beaumont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carl Holder*
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Phyllis Belcastro*
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Mary G. Buckwalter*
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Sara Karl*
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*Mayno Blanding*
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Griffin*
Black Russian Terrier Club of America—*Susan Sholar*
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Ruth A. Naun*

Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—*Prudence G. Hlatky*
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*
Bulldog Club of America—*Link Newcomb*
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*
Butler County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Ioia*
Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Pam Davis*
Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—*Mr. Wayne F. Harmon*
Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*
Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Jacque Glenn*
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*
Catocin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*
Catonsville Kennel Club—*Beverly A. Drake*
Central New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane D. Almy*
Central Ohio Kennel Club—*Rebecca Campbell*

Charlottesville-Albemarle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. John J. Lyons*
 Chattanooga Kennel Club—*Mr. David Gilstrap*
 Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Joao Machado*
 Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
 Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Margaret DiCorleto*
 Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—*Dr. Stephen Lawrence*
 Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margorie Underwood*
 Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Kelly E. Lease*
 Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John G. Buddie*
 Colorado Kennel Club—*Mrs. Louise Leone*
 Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Douglas Johnson*
 Columbia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nili Young*
 Conroe Kennel Club—*Jane Bates*
 Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*
 Cudahy Kennel Club—*Mr. Don H. Adams*
 Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—*Larry Sorenson*
 Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Charles Garvin*
 Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Dorn*
 Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Sherri Swabb*

Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club—*Stephanie A. Crawford*
 Doberman Pinscher Club of America—*Glen Lajeski*
 Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*
 Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America—*Victor Smith*
 Durango Kennel Club—*Donald E. Schwartz, V.M.D*
 Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Mr. Jack E. Sappenfield, II*
 Eastern Dog Club—*Mr. Theodore C. Hollander, Jr.*
 Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—*Robert Rynkiewicz*
 Elm City Kennel Club—*Dr. Gregory J. Paveza*
 English Setter Association of America, Inc.—*Dr. Brenda J. Parsons, D.V.M.*
 English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, Inc.—*Susanne Burgess*
 Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*
 Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Teresa Vila*
 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*

Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*June Guido*
 Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Harold Tatro III*
 Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gale Golden*
 Garden State All Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Richard L. Reynolds*
 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*
 Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—*Chris Reed*
 Gig Harbor Kennel Club—*James R. Dok*
 Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America—*Jo Lynn*
 Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Bonnie Lapham*
 Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Breidenback*
 Golden Retriever Club of America—*Ellen Hardin*
 Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*
 Grand Rapids Kennel Club—*Mrs. Carol L. Johnson*
 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*

Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.—*Elizabeth Trail*
 Greenville Kennel Club—*Gloria Askins*
 Greenwich Kennel Club—*Donna Gilbert*
 Greyhound Club of America—*Kathleen B. Whitaker*
 Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Sally L. Fineburg*
 Havanese Club of America—*Shirley A. Petko*
 Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—*Patricia M. Cruz*
 Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*
 Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Pincus*
 Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dick Blair*
 Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Marile A. Waterstraat*
 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. Karolynne M. McAteer*
 Irish Water Spaniel Club of America—*Dan Sayers*
 Irish Wolfhound Club of America—*Eugenia Hunter*
 Italian Greyhound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Kim Brinker*
 Jackson Tennessee Dog Fanciers Association—*Cathy Burleson*

Japanese Chin Club of America—*Cecilia Resnick*
 Kanadasaga Kennel Club—*Christine Cone*
 Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—*Richard Su*
 Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, Inc.—*Doreen Weintraub*
 Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—*Thomas Powers*
 Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—*Margaret Doster*
 Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—*Daniel Petko*
 Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton*
 Kennel Club of Riverside—*Sylvia A. Thomas*
 Kennesaw Kennel Club—*Bud Hidlay*
 Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jacquelyn Fogel*
 Key City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Melissa Lembke*
 Komondor Club of America, Inc.—*Michael Harman*
 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 Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diana L. Skibinski*
 Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club—*Mary McDaniel, D.V.M.*

Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carolyn M. Vack*
 Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan Croft*
 Langley Kennel Club—*Ms. Dianne E. Franck*
 Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert N. LaBerge*
 Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Meyer*
 Leonberger Club of America—*Don James*
 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*
 Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ruth Crumb*
 Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club, Inc.—*James P. Henshaw*
 Manatee Kennel Club—*Judy Seltrecht*
 Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynn Garvin*
 Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Mary L. Speer*
 Memphis Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pam E. Ireland*
 Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jeanette Nieder*
 Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa, Inc.—*Mr. Marc Crews*
 Middle Tennessee Amateur Retriever Club—*John Russell*

Middleburg Kennel Club—*Beth Wilder*
 Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA—*Suzanne T. Ritter*
 Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—*Joanne Wilds*
 Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ralph Hogancamp*
 Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—*Gretchen Bernardi*
 Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry A. Hoovis*
 Morris Hills Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Eleanor Campbell*
 Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane F. Ruthford*
 Myrtle Beach Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowood*
 Nashville Kennel Club—*Anne Gallant*
 National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—*Norma Ryan*
 National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi Strouse*
 Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Viola Burgos*
 New England Beagle Club, Inc.—*Blaine Grove*
 New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Lucy Grant-Ruane*
 Newton Kennel Club—*Catherine H. Murch*
 Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—*Susan Marucci*
 Norfolk Terrier Club—*Susan Schneider*
 Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club—*Ann M. Schultz*

Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc.—*Lori Webster*
 Norwich Terrier Club of America—*Jean Kessler*
 Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—*Alyson Casper*
 Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Tim Ufkes*
 Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—*Glenn E. Glass*
 Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.*
 Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—*Gary Koepfel*
 Pasanita Obedience Club Inc.—*Mrs. Betty M. Winthers*
 Pekingese Club of America—*Steven Hamblin*
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Kevin E. Lord*
 Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dennis J. Gallant*
 Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bettina M. Sterling*
 Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Dominic P. Carota*
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Larry Wilson*
 Plainfield Kennel Club—*Linda A. Deutsch*
 Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Dennis McCoy*
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Kathy Gregory*
 Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Pamela Deleppo*

Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America—*Mrs. Nancy-Lee H. Coombs*
 Ramapo Kennel Club—*Jeffrey D. Ball*
 Redwood Empire Kennel Club—*Johnny Shoemaker*
 Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Grace Wilkinson*
 Rio Grande Kennel Club—*Mary E. Ferguson*
 Riverhead Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michael Capozzi*
 Roanoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*William L. Totten III*
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Barbara L. Burns*
 Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*
 Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club—*Leslie Puppo Rogers*
 Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
 Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—*Abbe R. Shaw*
 Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*Mr. David J. Peat*
 Santa Cruz Kennel Club, Inc.—*Melissa Robison*
 Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mimi Winkler*
 Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia—*Karen W. Byrd*
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*Helen A. Prince*
 Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jeff Ryman*

Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*
 Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ann M. Cook*
 Skye Terrier Club of America—*Mr. Stephen P. Hersey*
 Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Harvey Goldberg*
 South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*
 South Windsor Kennel Club—*Mrs. Laurie Maulucci*
 Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club—*Marilyn R. Vinson*
 Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*John V. Ioia*
 Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay—*Glenda Stephenson*
 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. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—*Jan Ritchie Gladstone*
 Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser*
 Staten Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marianne Megna*
 Steel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Miss Susan M. Napady*

Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert Eisele*
 Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Marcy L. Zingler*
 Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laura Trainor*
 Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Florence Duggan*
 Sussex Spaniel Club of America—*John R. Lewis, Jr.*
 Swamp Dog Club—*Dr. Timothy Carrion*
 Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marylyn DeGregorio*
 Talbot Kennel Club—*Ann S. Wallace*
 Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Richella M. Veatch*
 Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kevin O'Connell*
 Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Michael Knight*
 Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Stacey La Forge*
 Tidewater Kennel Club of Virginia, Inc.—*Kathie Vogel*
 Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—*Marla Capozzi*
 Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*
 Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Gunzel*
 Tucson Kennel Club—*Dr. Kenneth H. Levi-son*
 Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—*Patricia C. Sarles*

Two Cities Kennel Club—*Eduardo T. Fugiwara*
 Union County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jennifer V. Modica*
 United States Australian Shepherd Association—*Jeff Margeson*
 United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*
 United States Lakeland Terrier Club—*Maria Sacco*
 United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club—*Ms. Margaret R. Wolfe*
 Utah Valley Kennel Club—*Kelly D. Reimschiessel*
 Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
 Vancouver Kennel Club—*Jolyne Lea*
 Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathy A. Rust*
 Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*
 Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Miller*
 Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary A. Eschweiler*
 Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Richard Rohrbacher*
 West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Tracy J. Pancost*
 West Volusia Kennel Club—*Cathy Driggers*
 Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*
 Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy M. Descutner*

Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.—*Laura Myles*

Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bonnie Bieber*

Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Fredrick R. Vogel*

Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*

Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Karen Dewey*

Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Claudia M. Grunstra-Pierro*



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB DELEGATES MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

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

The first order of business was the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees. (Voting.)

The Meeting recessed for the Delegate Forum. The topic was AKC Education Department, What's New? presented by Ashley Jacot, Director of Education.

The Chair called the meeting back in session at 10:00 a.m. ET.

The Chair introduced the persons on the dais: Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Joan Corbisiero, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary; Shari Cathey, the Court Reporter. The Executive Secretary read the names of

Delegates seated since the last meeting.

Christopher R. Abraham, Pasco, WA to represent Richland Kennel Club

Pamela Bagley, Santa Maria, CA to represent Santa Maria Kennel Club

Barbara Breidenback, Franklinville, NJ to represent Gloucester County Kennel Club

Karen Byrd, Cumming, GA to represent Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia

Mallory Cosby Driskill, Goode, VA to represent Tibetan Spaniel Club of America

Mary Lynne Elliott, Golden, CO to represent Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the U.S.

Sarah Ford, Frontier, ND to represent Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club

Glenn Glass, Cicero, NY to represent Onondaga Kennel Association

Pamela E. Ireland, Germantown, TN to represent Memphis Kennel Club

Nancy A. Nelson, Norwalk, CT to represent Hungarian Pumi Club

Sue Ritter, Sugarloaf, PA to represent Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA

Dan Sayers, Merchantville, NJ to represent Irish Water Spaniel Club of America

Dr. Donald Sturz, Brooklyn, NY to represent Westminster Kennel Club

Ann S. Wallace, Dover, DE to represent Talbot Kennel Club

Nili Young, Summerville, SC to represent

Columbia Kennel Club.

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

Barbara Breidenback to represent Gloucester County Kennel Club

Kim Brinker to represent Italian Greyhound Club of America

Marc Crews to represent Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa

Karen Byrd to represent Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia

Pamela Deleppo to represent Providence County Kennel Club

Glenn Glass to represent Onondaga Kennel Association

Pamela E. Ireland to represent Memphis Kennel Club

Kevin E. Lord to represent Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

Sue Ritter to represent Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA

Melissa Robison to represent Santa Cruz Kennel Club

Dan Sayers to represent Irish Water Spaniel Club of America

Ann S. Wallace to represent Talbot Kennel Club

Nili Young to represent Columbia Kennel Club

The minutes of the June 14, 2022 Delegate

Meeting were published in the online July 2022 *AKC Gazette*, and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

Baytown Kennel Club was duly elected as members of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies delivered the Chairman's Report as follows:

Welcome back to Newark as we bid farewell to summer and begin the trek to the end of the year.

It has been two and a half years since the pandemic ground us nearly to a halt. We are still ever mindful of keeping our sports safe for all exhibitors. Staff is continuously innovating and adapting to ensure that we can still enjoy our dog sports actively and responsibly.

I would like to spend some time today on the actions that we have taken to make certain so-called "COVID modifications" to rules permanent procedures in order to assist clubs, judges and exhibitors moving forward.

Most notably - the "one plus one" initiative.

In January of 2019, a rule change went into effect that awards a maximum of *one championship point to Best of Winners* when no points are awarded to Winners in either sex if the combined number of regular class exhibitors for both sexes meets the minimum required for one point for the sex or division. Prior to this change, exhibitors who found themselves in a situation in which no points could be earned in the classes faced the challenge of having to defeat Specials or win the Group to earn points. Therefore, some of those competitors felt discouraged and ended up not attending at all.

Wayne Gretzky is credited with the famous words "*you miss one hundred percent of the shots you don't take.*" While I am not one to refute the Great One, we all know, in today's busy world, we sacrifice quite a bit to show dogs, and sometimes that commitment can mean life's chores and responsibilities going by the wayside. It often seems time is too precious to bet against. So, the one-plus-one rule has added a little bit of hope and return on the investment we put into our shows.

Comparing the entries in regular classes at All-Breed shows in 2018 with 2021 revealed an increase in the number of one-plus-one scenarios, which amounted to an

average of nearly five additional entries in the regular classes per All-Breed show after the rule change went into effect. Exhibitors who were confronted with a one-plus-one situation were indeed less likely to scratch; the absentee rate for this population was reduced from 48% to 31%. The increase in entries and reduced absentee rate together amounted to an average of more than 7 additional dogs being shown in the regular classes per All-Breed show.

For low entry breeds, meaning those breeds with fewer than 3500 entries in the previous year, the one-plus-one initiative generated an average of 2.7 additional low entry breed entries in the regular classes at All-Breed shows, and the absentee rate was reduced from 38% to 27% in this category. More than three entries of low entry breeds were shown in the classes on average as a result.

This initiative has had a cumulative, positive impact on our clubs, to the tune of an additional \$153 in additional entry fees at each All-Breed show. Across all All-Breed shows, this has amounted to nearly \$200,000 in gross contributions to club revenue. Improved absentee rates can also generate more spending on vendors, parking and other services. Most importantly, the one-plus-one initiative has infused a

sense of potential and hope for exhibitors who may otherwise have been deterred from participating. When we add opportunities to "stay in the game" we all win. The biggest winners, of course, are our dogs.

We have also taken steps to advance breed competition. Now, Specialty Clubs can travel up to 300 miles out of their territory to join another Specialty Club in the same breed. Formerly, the limit was 200 miles. Specialty Clubs may now hold up to four designated Specialties in addition to independent or concurrent Specialties. Recall that a designated Specialty is one in which a Specialty Club considers the regular breed judging at an All-Breed or Group show as its Specialty show. These changes will particularly help breeds with fewer Specialty Clubs around the country to increase their opportunities for competition and encourage camaraderie across greater distances.

A new provision also allows clubs and clusters to add a third conformation event on a single day, as long as one of the three events is a Specialty show. Modification of the earlier policy now means that there can be three opportunities for Championship points in a single day. Given the effort and expense that we put into getting to shows, it is only sensible to maximize

opportunities to achieve success once we are there.

Judging dogs is both a privilege and a service, and it can be challenging to balance the call to serve with personal goals for one's dogs. A permanent policy now allows individuals who are judging NOHS groups or NOHS Best in Show only, to exhibit in regular competition on the day they judge.

AKC is committed to enhancing our Judges Education as an ongoing effort. During the pandemic, we launched a Breed webinar series that was so successful, it has been made a permanent service. The AKC Education Webinar Series has hosted 52 webinars for over 11,000 participants so far this year. Learners have included judges, Show Chairpersons, groomers, trainers, breeders and the general public. Many of our webinars have been recorded and remain available for all to experience at any time. Our AKC Canine College offers more than 800 courses and exams. We also have a new digital archive that holds breed, club and sport history for all to explore from their desktop or mobile phones. Some would say this is the golden age of education at AKC. I urge you all to take advantage of what we have to offer at the Public Education section of AKC.org. As Ben Franklin wisely

said, *"an investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."*

The pandemic made it exceedingly difficult to participate in our sports, as we all know. To keep skills fresh and reward continued participation in our events, we created several virtual activities that continue to engage dog owners even today. We have decided to keep them going. They include AKC Trick Dog; Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Excellent classes in Rally; Agility ACT Standard and Jumpers classes; Beginner Novice and Novice Obedience classes; the Pointing Breed Water Test; Virtual Scent work and Virtual Home Manners. These programs also find an additional purpose in introducing newcomers to our sports. If we can encourage new constituents to get started with AKC events through these virtual platforms, they will soon seek more in real time.

In Companion and Performance Events, certain COVID-times modifications have been permanently adapted to ease the need for volunteers. These include using cones in Obedience, permitting exhibitors to carry leashes in Agility, a friendly greeting instead of a handshake for Canine Good Citizen, and a designated container for Retriever Hunting Tests. Each of these measures reduces a club's dependence on

stewards. We can't forget that ours is a sport built on volunteers. But when we can be more efficient, we will always try to adapt. After all, the Darwinian theory prevails: *"It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change."*

A number of date and mileage restrictions in our Companion Events sports that were lifted during the pandemic will continue indefinitely. These changes will make it easier to show and title when judges are in short supply. Clubs offering Companion Events will now have the option to keep entries open up to seven days prior to their trials in order to gain more entries. For a full list of the permanent changes affecting all events, consult the minutes that are always published on AKC.org under "About the American Kennel Club, Minutes and Reports."

Make sure to mark your calendars for AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day on September 17, 2022. This year, we return to in-person RDO Day events for the first time since 2019. Special thanks are due to the 40 clubs that have already signed up to host events in their communities. We urge you all to join them. To sign up, visit AKC.org and navigate to "Sports and Events, Responsible Dog Ownership Day"

or call the Communications Department directly.

The AKC Museum of the Dog will host a tribute to K9 Officers and Handlers on the evening of Thursday, September 29. Marking 21 years since working dogs were called to duty in Lower Manhattan, Shanksville Pennsylvania and the Pentagon, the Museum's reception will salute our canine heroes. Tickets are available on museumofthedog.org. Please consider supporting the event and spread the word to your clubs and members as well.

As we move into the fourth quarter of the calendar year, we keep a close eye on progress and note that litter registrations are in a positive position as compared to the same period last year. Individual registrations have outpaced our expectations, indicating that while the pandemic is waning, the public's desire for dogs has not. We are grateful to our breeders who work hard to fulfill the demand by sharing their puppies with new owners and who continue to keep AKC the Registry of choice.

It is with this trend in mind, and our commitment to enhancing the experiences of our event participants, that we have adopted permanently our supportive COVID-era rule modifications. Change is

important. It was Margaret Mead who said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world.” We are those committed citizens. Our dogs are our world.

Before I sit, please join me in a moment of reflection to honor the memory of our fellow fancier, Queen Elizabeth II, and as well, the first responders, the dogs and those we lost on that terrible day 21 years ago. Thank you.

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

Of course, the AKC remembers 9/11 which occurred 21 years ago just as our Delegates Meeting was beginning in this very room.

Please stand for a moment of silence.
[Moment of silence.]

Today, there are almost 70 people who were at that meeting and continue as Delegates. A tribute of their stories is being compiled by Ruth Crumb. I am inviting you to provide her with your remembrance of the day the world changed. My gratitude to Ruth for this important and emotional undertaking.

A number of years ago I asked Daphna Straus to research the economic impact of dog events in communities with the objective of providing compelling evidence of the financial positives an event brings to towns and cities.

Recently with Government Relations now handling this initiative, I requested that Sheila do the same and her work is enlightening and will soon be enhanced.

The Chair called on Sheila Goffe, VP Government Relations, who spoke as follows:

Good morning. The GR team is pleased to have an opportunity to speak to you this morning. Many of you know we work continuously to demonstrate AKC community leadership and provide positive information about AKC and purebred dog enthusiasts. Today I’m pleased to introduce our newly updated economic benefits of dog shows and new AKC impact by state resources. They consist of both a report with data of all 50 states, and easy to use, one pagers that even the busiest lawmaker will actually look at. Information on economic and community benefits at our events and activities is one of our most important tools in fighting negative laws and false narratives about dog enthusiasts. For lawmakers, dollars spent in their community

mean real economic benefits to the people they represent, and that’s something that lawmakers are judged on at election time. The positive impact of our events gives AKC and local enthusiasts more credibility when it comes to canine policy. This makes it possible for us to prevent or successfully fight harmful dog laws, and as many of you know this data is also extremely useful in helping folks to find and keep their event venues. The economic impact of our events goes back more than a decade, but the last time a survey of show expenditures took place was 2015. At that time expenditure for a dog show exhibitor per weekend was \$685. A lot has changed since 2015, not least of which is the expansion of AKC events, and significant inflation. Last year at Mr. Sprung’s request we began the process of creating a new survey to better understand and report on our impact in communities. To ensure the integrity of our methodology, comparing apples to apples, we replicated the 2015 study as closely as possible, and we added additional questions to identify future areas of study. We targeted three Conformation dog shows, Woofstock, Morris and Essex, and Virginia Hunt Country Cluster, and sent spending surveys to all of the exhibitors. What did we learn? We learned that the average exhibitor expenditure has increased by almost \$200 to

\$863 per weekend. This data is now available in a new one-page flyer and online as the Legislative Action Center, and it is also going to be available on the Delegate Portal, and there’s information outside at the GR table as well. This is compelling information for publicly elected officials, and it provides real information about the benefits that a dog show can create in the community. Specifically, it highlights that \$863 a weekend spent per exhibitor, the number of events each year which is approximately 22,000. Now that’s not just Conformation events, of course. That’s other events as well. Some of those bring in more, others less, and it also shows that a three-day 2,500 entry dog show can bring as much as 2.15 million to a local community. These are raw numbers, no multipliers added. We also noted on the flyer that there’s spending distribution breakdown in some of the things that it doesn’t include, things like expenditures by clubs. So, this is likely a conservative figure. We know this information is valuable, but of course, AKC does so much more than Conformation dog shows. Talking only about dog shows is telling only part of our story, and we’re cheating ourselves.

For example, last January, HSUS was trying to push a bad dog law in Illinois. A narrative sent to lawmakers and published in

local media alleged that AKC does nothing to improve the health of dogs, and is essentially a money-making enterprise capitalizing on the puppy mills. We responded firmly with specific data about the economic impact of our events. We also provided specific example of AKC supplying HSUS grants in that local area as well as the general information about the good things that AKC does around the country. We closed down the conversation. Based on our success we decided to bring together in one place a compendium of all of the good things that AKC does including an updated Above and Beyond flyer which you see here. The value here is real data and physical examples demonstrate how AKC truly is the expert on dogs. We're the expert in the room when it comes to policy. We use whatever information possible to educate and prevent future attacks like that one in Illinois, and in this new Above and Beyond is also targeted to lawmakers, so it offers them the resources about the professional policy staff. We can help them address canine policy. We can't expect them all to be experts on dog policy so that's our job. We provide resources, expertise, and the GR team can even write legislation for them. That may sound a little bit unusual, but the reality is a lot of most legislation is not written by lawmakers. It's written by advo-

cates. All of this is part of a downloadable 50-page report, and another part of that report provides individual tear sheets for each state. You can see Texas here on the screen, and each state provides highlights on the number of clubs, AKC events in the state, potential impact of a weekend of AKC dog shows, impact statewide in the form of AKC disaster trailer and Adopt a K-9 Cop donations, information on AKC CHF research grants and recipient by state. We think this is a great start, but we know there is more we can do. So, we've already begun phase two.

We want to amplify our impact, include new surveys to capture events that we couldn't get in that initial baseline survey last year. Our new surveys will include expenditures for performance or companion events or mix of events, local impact of the multiple day specialties such as independent national specialties, expenditures by clubs to put on their events, facilities, hospitalities, workers, and so on, the categories not previously captured, people are now making reservations through Airbnb instead of hotels and the impact of every dollar that goes to the club and then from the club goes back into the community. Certainly, we're studying the impact of the top 10–20 dog event venues around the country, so this includes venues such as

Springfield, Massachusetts, The Roberts Center, Purina Farms, Georgia National Fair Grounds, Orange County, etc. Because each of these are single locations, we can actually use local economic multipliers to consider the velocity of how money moves through that community and calculate aggregate impact there. We expect that those numbers will provide more impressive figures. Our completion date is within the next six months. The bottom line: we have great news. We're providing solid data that's easy to understand and share, and it shows the AKC stands apart and helps us to protect the future of our dogs and our sport. We're encouraging everyone to share this information widely. We have a lot to be proud of. I encourage everyone to share this with their clubs and everyone you know. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung continued the President's Report as follows:

On another topic, I've noted the need for Stewards in Obedience, Rally and Conformation. As a result, I enrolled Ashley Jacot, Director of Education, in a journey to produce three courses which will include video modules and interactive elements to teach stewarding. This is being coordinated with Tim Thomas and Diane Schultz to help clubs and will be on our website.

Each course will be complimentary and with a program encouraging participation.

The next date on the tour of AKC Meet the Breeds will be October 15, 2022 in Columbus, Ohio. Please help us by signing up as your breed deserves to be represented.

One final remark – I'd like to remind you that The Kennel Club welcomes anyone visiting London to stop into their office building for a tour and enjoy lunch surrounded by artwork of Her Majesty the Queen and her dogs. We join our friends over the Pond in remembering their dog-loving Patron of the past 70 years.

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

Thank you, Dennis. Thanks also to Sheila for mentioning the velocity of money. It's been a while since I've heard that term, and I promise I wouldn't go into econometrics, but if you would like to, I'm available.

This morning I want to welcome all of you again and thank you for your time and your support. It has been invigorating over the past two and a half years for the group to come together and meet some of you.

Today I'm going to present the key performance indicators, non-financial results and other year-to-date results of operations for the six months ending June 30, 2022. This chart represents litter registration for the first six months of 2022. Litter registration total 167,281 and are two percent higher than second quarter of the same period in 2021. Dog registrations total 389,514, which is nine percent lower than the first quarter of 2021. Online litter registration continues to exceed 83 percent of all registrations. Q2, registrations drove positive results for the second quarter of this year. We thank our breeders, the entire delegate body, the board of directors, management and AKC Staff for the strength in this registration program.

Next up, we'll look at the second quarter results for Sports & Events. These activities as you can see in the column labeled June 2022, present that we've recovered to the pre-pandemic levels. The comparable period is for the six months ended June 30, 2021. Please remember that in the beginning of 2021, the first few months we were still impacted by the second wave of COVID. 2022 Year to date results totaled 12,442 or 27 percent higher than prior year. Entries exceeded 1.7 million, which is 24 percent higher than the same period in 2021.

Next, we'll look at the high-level overview of the financial operating results year-to-date for the end of June 30, 2022. These results reflect board-approved spending. Each month, I provide the Board with a detailed report and analysis of financial results year-to-date.

As of June 30, 2022, AKC had solid results of net operating income totaling \$13.7 million. These results allowed us to reinvest in the company and the future of AKC. This was driven by operating revenues of \$54.3 million; 70 percent of that total is derived from registration and events fees which total \$38.1 million. A continuing and growing area of revenue is our advertisement and sponsorship and royalty revenues, which total \$9.4 million or 17 percent of total revenue. Product and service sales total \$6.4 million or 12 percent, and this is led by our e-commerce operations, DNA services and Good Dog Help Line. Each of those support the great start for AKC in 2022.

Let's take a look at operating expenses. We report these expenses that management is authorized to spend from its annual operating budget, approved by the Board of Directors. Total expenses for the first half of 2022, are \$40.5 million. Staff expense total \$18.4 million and comprises 45 percent of

total operating expenses. Other substantial lines in this area are listed on the slide and include the items within the budget which AKC management has authorized to spend. We have professional fees, fulfillment, which is the operation to get materials and programs to our customers, and insurance, rent and depreciation. One area that is very beneficial for AKC is the donation line which you see on the bottom. That total equals 4.9 percent of operating revenue and reflects the policies recently adopted by the Board. We endeavor to manage these costs very closely and stay within budget. Non-operating expenses include the annual cost of pension expenses and a change in the value of investments.

The final slide is the statement of financial position or the balance sheet as of June 30, 2022. Total assets of \$236 million. The largest piece of the asset section are investments which total \$141 million. Unfortunately, the investment and finance markets are taking a beating this year, and I would suggest to you not look at the news today because it's not much better given the inflation rate. The good news is that our allocation policies mitigate some of the otherwise negative market impact we have experienced through the end of June. Total performance is negative at 13.4 per-

cent, but if we were in the straight equities, it would be greater, so asset allocation is important. The liability section is primarily for retirement and lease obligation of \$52 million and \$55 million respectively.

All financial information presented follows generally accepted accounting principles. Once again, I thank you for your time. I appreciate your dedication. We look forward to serving you. I'm available to answer any questions at your convenience. Thank you.

There were 14 amendment votes on the meeting agenda for the Delegate Body.

The first vote was an amendment to **Article IV, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which adds "Multi-Breed Clubs" back to the list of club types eligible for membership. A prior amendment from the floor to the original amendment removed multi-breed clubs and substituted All-Breed and Group Clubs. This change may have unintentionally excluded a category of clubs permitted to become members for many years, the multi-breed Retriever Field Trial Clubs.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought for-

ward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was an amendment to **Article VI, New Section 2**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, to which the addition of this Section to Article VI makes clear that proxy voting is prohibited. The remaining sections of Article VI will be renumbered to 3-12.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The third vote was an amendment to **Article VII, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, removes term limits for AKC Board members.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Carl Holder, Beau-

mont Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Carl Holder, Beaumont Kennel Club. The Beaumont Kennel Club is in favor of rescinding term limits. Term limits is nothing but a restriction on this organization, and it also takes the rights away from the Delegate Body for being able to vote for a person for that one year when they're absent off the Board. It really doesn't have any use here.

The Chair recognized Dr. John Ioia, Southern Adirondack Dog Club, who spoke as follows:

Good morning. I'm Dr. John Ioia, Southern Adirondack Dog Club and also a member of the Bylaws Committee. I rise not to give you my comments which may be necessary in the future, but I was presented a letter from Harvey Wooding, Delegate from San Mateo Kennel Club, and I thought based on his being a former Board Member that this should be read. He had unexpected surgery.

At the last meeting, I stood and spoke off-the-cuff in support of doing away with term limits. I wish to follow up on those remarks now. I spoke of the difficulty of AKC Director's job, of the learning curve involved, of the com-

plicated nature of the organization, of the commitment of time and personal effort. I know of the imminent consequences that are about to take place – specifically, the terming out of approximately half of our Board over the next two years. All of these points bring valid reason for eliminating term limits. The AKC Bylaws charge the Board with the responsibility of running the business of the organization. The Delegates are responsible for the Sport. But most important, they elect the Board. This is evident every time an issue of unusual proportion comes up, that the Delegate Body has plenty to say. We do our due diligence. We discuss the issues both online and in person. We ask for and receive direction from our clubs. In essence, in this case, we evaluate the performance of the current Board members and project the value of those running for the first time. Unfortunately, as it stands now, we make those decisions with artificial restriction of term limits looming as the elephant in the room. We're not allowed to vote for whomever we want to be on the Board. The naysayers say that we need term limits in order to inject new thoughts and diversity. I am all for change, and in fact I made it a

point to suggest that change can be used as strategic weapon when I ran for and was elected to the Board as non-incumbent. However, change for the sake of change in my mind is rarely productive and should be avoided. Change for the sake of change is embodiment of term limits. The AKC is a unique and admittedly quirky organization. It depends on volunteers who are qualified and dedicated to our mission, to run a significant-sized business. Let's let the people, our Delegate Body, charged with the responsibility of choosing our Board of Directors to do so without the artificial incumbrance. Our Delegates are perfectly capable of selecting the right people and limiting the terms of those who have not performed up to our needs and expectation by voting them out. Please vote to do away with term limits.

- Harvey Wooding, Delegate, San Mateo, Kennel Club.

The Chair called for a standing vote. Paula Spector, AKC VP of Conference and Travel, conducted the count.

Voting in favor would remove term limits: 171 Delegates.

Voting opposed would retain term limits:

98 Delegates.

There were not two-thirds in favor, so the amendment was not adopted.

The next vote was an amendment to **Article XVIII, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, removes the requirement that the December or January meeting be noticed two years in advance.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The fifth vote was an amendment to **Article XX, Section 6**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, clarifies that the referenced article is Article XX and not Article XVIII.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirma-

tive and the amendment was adopted.

The sixth vote is an amendment to **Chapter 9, Section 3**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries*, deletes Chapter 9, Section 3 and inserts into the associated proposed amendment to Chapter 8. It has the effect of relocating content pertaining to the arranging of the Show Veterinarian from Chapter 9 which is specific to Superintendents and Show Secretaries into the more appropriate Chapter 8. Sections 4-12 of Chapter 9 will be renumbered.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was an amendment is to **Chapter 10, Section 2**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – (Duties and Responsibilities of) Show Veterinarians*, deletes verbiage related to duty of the club which is proposed to be inserted into Chapter 8 in a corresponding recommendation. It replaces “On call” veterinarian with Show Veterinarian clarifying that whether in-at-

tendance or on-call, the Show Veterinarian must be available to treat dogs during show hours.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Link Newcomb, Bulldog Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Link Newcomb, Bulldog Club of America. I would like to make sure the Delegates kind of understand these next two votes, which I think should be considered together. Right now, the requirement for show veterinarians is in Chapter 10, Section 2, and it's being deleted here, and the requirement is for clubs to provide the name of a veterinarian that's going to be in attendance or one that's on-call. If you look closely at what's being proposed to replace it, at least in my experience – and I have quite a bit of experience as a Show Chair – this isn't really what happens. The proposal which is pertinent to this one because it's related to the same thing, if you look on the next page, the Chapter 8 vote, what's being proposed is that every club must contract with a vet or local vet clinic

to serve as show veterinarian. I chair a show that is part of the Palm Springs Cluster, which probably has about 30 clubs involved, and I'm imagining a scenario where all 30 clubs have to contract with a vet. I don't think this is what we want to do. I don't think it's what's intended. I also believe it's odd that they say the show veterinarian thing was taken out of Chapter 9, which is about superintendents and put into Chapter 8. Chapter 8 is not about show veterinarians. Chapter 10 is about show veterinarians. This paragraph in Chapter 8, is the only thing in Chapter 8, the purpose of it is just to say that before you can get permission to hold a dog show, you have to name the superintendent or the show secretary and vet. That's all that Chapter 8 does. It's not the right place to put the requirements for a show vet. I think we're all going to have a lot of explaining to do to our clubs if these next two proposals are adopted, and I suggest instead that they go back to the Dog Show Rules Committee.

The Chair recognized Cindy Stansell, Finnish Spitz Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Cindy Stansell, Finnish Spitz Club of America. The Dog Show Rules Committee

has an ongoing committee to look in total-ity at the veterinarian sections that are often inconsistent and piecemeal. We will hopefully presenting more comprehensive changes coming up. These are strictly housekeeping, and we've deleted Duties and Responsibilities as the title because it talks about show location for the veterinar-ian office, etc. So, things that did not have to do with duties and responsibilities. As for the contract that's currently in the lan-guage, we did not change that at all. We have been living with that for some time. That's one of the things that we will be looking closely at to see about changing in the future, but I just wanted to point out that that language did not change.

The Chair recognized Link Newcomb, Bulldog Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Link Newcomb, Bulldog Club of America. Cindy is correct in that there is a reference in Chapter 8. This is the only reference to the contract is in Chapter 8, and frankly, I think it is really referring to the show su-perintendent or the show secretary. If you read on the next proposal if you look at what it says now, that's the only place it says contract, it says the club has to pro-vide contact information of the superin-tendent or show secretary and the

veterinarian contracted by the club to serv-ice the event. But that's not going to be the same thing for our clubs as what the proposal is, which is very specifically to re-quire all of us, instead of just listing the name of an onsite clinic, but to go out and get a contract when we know the services is to be rendered would be paid for by the exhibitors. We're still going to be required to go get a contract. It doesn't make any sense. I'm not objecting to any of the changes in this area except for these next two, this one and the one following.

There were not two-thirds in favor, so the amendment was not adopted.

The next vote was an amendment to **Chap-ter 8**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Selection of Superintendent, Show Secre-tary and Veterinarians*, inserts content from the to be deleted Chapter 9, Section 3, addressing the event committee's re-sponsibility to complete arrangements with a veterinarian to service its show ei-ther in attendance or on-call. It replaces "obedience trial or tracking test" with generic "companion event" per recom-mendation of the Companion Events Committee.

This amendment was proposed by the Del-egate Dog Show Rules Committee and

brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There were not two-thirds in favor, so the amendment was not adopted.

The next vote was on an amendment to **Chapter 9, Section 5**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries*, rennumbers the section based on corresponding proposal to delete Chapter 9, Section 3. It also amends the section requiring a form to be provided whether the Show Veterinarian is in-atten-dance or on-call. It modifies language from obligating the superintendent or show secretary to ensure the dog is taken to the veterinarian to informing the owner or agent of the requirement for the dog to be examined. It replaces Veterinarian Headquarters with Show Veterinarian for consistency.

This amendment was proposed by the Del-egate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirma-tive and the amendment was adopted.

The tenth vote was on an amendment to **Chapter 10**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Duties and Responsibilities of*

Show Veterinarians, renames Chapter to more accurately represent its scope.

This amendment was proposed by the Del-egate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirma-tive and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was an amendment to **Chapter 10, Section 4**, of the *Rules Apply-ing to Dog Shows – (Duties and Responsibili-ties of) Show Veterinarians*, inserts "or veterinary clinics" for clarity and consis-tency.

This amendment was proposed by the Del-egate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Cindy Miller, Water-loo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Cindy Miller, Waterloo Kennel Club, and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee. First, I want to thank the Delegates for your discussion at the June meeting and on the Google list with some wordsmithing. It gave us a chance yesterday to review what you suggested. One of the Delegates sug-

gested that we remove the "on-call veterinarian" and insert "show veterinarian," however, this section deals only with the on-call veterinarian, so we will not recommend the change that the Delegate made.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The twelfth vote was an amendment to **Chapter 16, Section 2**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Championships*, removes "or height" from two places in the current rule, brings into line with the current execution of shows. It amends the rule to provide the opportunity for class dogs placing 2nd, 3rd or 4th in the group to be awarded Championship points. It adds language to define how any Championship points to be awarded would be calculated whereas a class dog placing 2nd, 3rd, or 4th in the group competition would receive the greatest number of Championship points earned in the breeds from the same group excluding any breed which received a higher placement in the group at the same event.

The Delegate Dog Show Rules and All-Breed Committees endorsed this amendment. It was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Cindy Miller, Waterloo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Once again, one of the Delegates suggested that the word "class" be changed to "competition," however, that is not what we use in other chapters like Chapter 3, Section 15. We continuously use the word "class." We don't want to have a competition between class and competition in our rulebook. We're trying to keep everything consistent. Some of the other discussion that was on the Google list is outside the scope of this question, and which had to do with, points, grand championships, breeds and so forth. If you want to discuss that, please send me an email we can add it to our Dog Show Rules Committee list.

The Chair recognized Karen Dorn, Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, who spoke as follows:

I would like to speak in favor of this amendment for all of the low entry breeds. I am Karen Dorn from the Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club, and we are the epitome of low entry breeds. We basically cannot find another one within 300 miles of where we live, so this would be a great boon to low entry breeds of which there are many. However, I can see that it also would be a benefit to the higher entry

breeds. I think it would benefit the All-Breed Clubs, particularly the smaller All-Breed Clubs and draw more entries with dogs that have not had competition in their own breed, that they may at least have some hope alive of getting a point or two by going second, third or fourth. I would like to encourage all my fellow Delegates, that are here representing the Conformation and Performance to please help us by voting for this because every time they put up some rule about Conformation or Performance, that we have no idea what it means, we vote for it anyway. So, I would really appreciate anybody that can imagine what this would mean. When this came up, I thought "be still my heart". Maybe somebody will actually try to do something for the low entry breeds, and I appreciate the support of AKC's Staff and AKC Board. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Abbe Shaw, Santa Barbara Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Abbe Shaw, Santa Barbara Kennel Club, and I am going to voice my disapproval of this. I think that the problem does not lie with AKC to help lower entry breeds, or any entry breeds get more points. I think the problem lies with the breed clubs. Breed clubs should be able to figure out a

way to get – besides at National Specialties – to get clusters of dogs to be shown at All-Breed shows. I know it's not always easy, but for years I traveled great distances to get points on my dogs, and I think it can still be done. Gas is a little more expensive now, but where there is a will, there is a way. I think this is just – I'm sorry, another way to make "cheap champions".

The Chair recognized Roberta Berman, American Manchester Terrier Club, who spoke as follows:

I'm Roberta Berman, American Manchester Terrier Club, and by that name you should know that we are definitely not a big breed. To put it as simply as I can, many years ago I sent a dog to Bermuda. He was the only Manchester there. He came home with two group ones and two group twos. A year later, I got a certificate from Bermuda saying "Congratulations, your dog is a champion". He never saw another Manchester, and yet they saw the beauty of my gorgeous boy. At this point, I absolutely feel that this is a gift to us, and I can tell you because I haven't seen another Manchester Terrier in my neighborhood since Westminster, and before that, I didn't see one until before the last Westminster. They ain't here. So for those of us who would love to finish our dogs, please

be good, be thoughtful in the fact that we need this. It helps. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Ann Cook, Siberian Husky Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Ann Cook, Siberian Husky Club of America. I realize I come from a very large breed, and I do feel for those in low entry breeds. However, I think the point of the Sport, starts in the breed classes, and my club feels this way as well. I had suggested possibly making a compromise where a major could be obtained this way but not both majors. It seems to me that the fundamental thing is to be the best representative of your own breed. There is an awful lot of emphasis on groups and winning and so forth but fundamentally, we're trying to meet a standard in each breed, so our club is opposed.

The Chair recognized Pat Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Pat Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club. There are 190-plus breeds that are unknown to the general public. If they get to a show and get exposure this might help them get some recognition. It would help the AKC, the low entry breeds. The top ten always get the recognition; the 190-

plus need a push. This might help them. I'm in favor of it.

The Chair recognized Carl Ashby, United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, who spoke as follows:

Carl Ashby, United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club. It would be appropriate perhaps, Doug Ljungren could give us a little bit of just data to go with this because we never really talked about the numbers, and I think it's important to consider that in this.

Mr. Sprung: What kind of data are you looking for?

Mr. Ashby: Well, as I understand it, there's less than a one percent chance that points will be earned in this manner. So, it's a very small percentage. Arguably it's a bit of a sleeves out of your vest sort of situation. It could be upheld to some breeds, but I don't think the championships are going to be cheapened very much when your odds are so much against you for an actual placement, and that really never was shared with any of us in terms of a more emotional thing, which by the way, I don't disagree, it's free judging. It's what matters, but I also believe we can give a leg up. I don't think we're really turning the

whole thing on its head.

The Chair recognized Doug Ljungren, AKC EVP Sports & Events, who spoke as follows:

The Staff has looked at the issue of how often this occurs, based on 2019 data. That's the last year we had full All-Breed shows. There were 820 class dogs that would have won points for second, third and fourth in their group. That's less than one percent of the dogs competing in dog shows. We went further and took that pool of 820 dogs and marched them forward to today; 80 percent of those dogs have finished, and all 80 percent have defeated other dogs in their breed to get to their show championship.

The Chair recognized Azalea Alvarez, Greater Miami Dog Club, who spoke as follows:

Azalea Alvarez, Greater Miami Dog Club, and our club is in favor of this amendment. What was discussed at the club was, going back to the Delegate who talked about the Manchester Terrier, is that ultimately all judges judge to a standard of excellence for each breed. Whether the dog won from the classes, the variety or Best of Breed, goes onto the group. At the group

level, the group judge also judges to the standard, and they must look at this Manchester, this Affenpinscher, this Lunde-hund and see if it is correct according to its breed. If they believe it is a good example of the breed and worthy of a placement, then we can talk about when it happens at FCI shows in Canada, or other places where it happens. By the way it also happens at Field Trials where the dog that wins gets all the points and the dog that comes in second, third and fourth gets a portion of the points, so it's not only in Conformation. This does help dogs, and like Pat said, yes, we have 190 breeds that are low entry, but ultimately the standard is what all judges look for and at our club we feel that that's enough to guarantee that it's not a "cheap championship". Thank you.

The Chair recognized Marcy Zingler, Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, who spoke as follows:

I would ask if it's all right if I both present what my club's view and what my personal view is? They're obviously not the same.

Mr. Sprung: My advice as a former Delegate is that one must vote their club's wishes.

Ms. Zingler: I'm going to vote my club's wishes, but I would like to voice my wishes.

Mr. Sprung: Go ahead.

Ms. Zingler: Marcy Zingler, Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno. As I said, my club is opposed to this, and that is the way I will vote. However, I have two thoughts to the contrary. Number one, the process has been in place for decades because group one gets points that they may not have gotten otherwise. Second, Canada, as the Delegate just mentioned, has had this for decades, and it has worked for them and in other countries, although I can't off the top of my head name them. So please think that this is not something unique that somebody thought of here, just to get more entries or to get their own dogs more points. But as I said, my club is opposed to this, and that is how I'll vote.

The Chair recognized Carmen Battaglia, German Shepherd Dog Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Carmen Battaglia, German Shepherd Dog Club of America. Our club is not going to benefit one way or the other from this. However, an awful lot of clubs will benefit from this. The low entry breeds. Those who wouldn't normally come to a show

will come, so it will help entries across all of our breeds and that helps all of our clubs. We are a club of clubs, and this is our opportunity to help those who need help, so we should vote in favor of this proposal.

Delegate, Luis Sosa, Louisiana Kennel Club called for the question, and it was seconded.

There was a vote in the majority to call the question.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was an amendment to **Chapter 9, Section 2**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* – Superintendents and Show Secretaries, which inserts the allowance for the AKC to approve individuals to serve as an on-site show secretary for more than the show or shows of only one Group or All-Breed Club and any Group or All-Breed show held on the same day and site in a calendar year. Approval would be limited to events where the individual is serving only as the “on-site” show secretary. The AKC would establish the criteria under which one may be considered.

The Delegate Dog Show Rules and All-

Breed Committees endorsed this amendment. It was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Cindy Miller, Waterloo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: Cindy Miller, Waterloo Kennel Club, and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee. This is one time when the Dog Show Rules agreed with the Delegate at the last meeting. We have the word individuals approved, and then we also have it again at the end under criteria established by the AKC. The Delegate suggested that we end the sentence after year, with a period and delete "under criteria established by the AKC."

There was a motion and a second to revise the wording of the amendment.

There was a vote in the majority to amend the amendment.

The Chair recognized Cindy Miller, Waterloo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

To continue, understand that the AKC has set up criteria for this position. They worked with my subcommittee that was doing this trial secretary and we're thankful that they took all our suggestions on setting up the requirements. I also want

you to know that as we were going through this, we had to update numerous sections in the rules to include the word "show secretary," and this is just to bring up the rules to what is actually practiced today. I won't give you all of the chapters and sections, but it does involve – ten sections. We worked on those ten sections yesterday. They will be sent to the Board, and we will read them in December. Once again, just like you did in June, if you have any change to those, we appreciated receiving it when we read it so we can discuss at our next committee and not have things happened like we did with the multi-breed issue that we had earlier. I also appreciate the All-Breed Clubs Committee for their support on this show secretary amendment.

Mr. Sprung: In terms of housekeeping, we should look at bundling the vote to one vote instead of ten.

The Chair recognized Link Newcomb, Bulldog Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Link Newcomb, Bulldog Club of America. Can you show on the screen the amended language? As amended it ends now at the word “year”, correct? It's a little strange because I thought that I heard that the AKC

had established such criteria after we amended it to delete that – but this particular sentence had me thoroughly confused. If you look at the section superintendents and show secretaries, those are defined terms that are used throughout the entire section, superintendent and show secretary, capitalized every single time. This is confusing to me because it introduces the concept of an on-site show secretary. What is that? Is that a show secretary? Is that something less than a show secretary? It's not defined. If you look in the commentary, it says that the duties – serving as an on-site show secretary are different. They don't do certain things, but that's not in the rules anywhere. I mean the concept of an on-site show secretary, which I suppose is sort of a type of show secretary, it's not defined anywhere. The only place in this section where show secretary is not capitalized.

The Chair recognized Nancy Fisk, Hockamock Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Nancy, Fisk, Hockamock Kennel Club. I just wanted to say as Chair of the All-Breed Committee, we did look at this again at our meeting yesterday, understand what is going on, and we did reaffirm our vote to approve this, so yes, we do stand behind it.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted as amended.

The last vote was an amendment to **Chapter 14, Section 2 and New Section 2A**, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds – Regular Stakes That May Be Offered*, refines how Derby Stake placements qualify a dog to enter a Limited stake by allowing additional placements depending on the size of the Open Derby Stake. It provides for qualifying placements depending on the size of the Open Derby Stake.

This amendment was proposed by the Performance Events Department and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-third vote in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to **Article VIII, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to **Article VIII, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which brings the bylaws into alignment with the current

practice for designating the Nominating Committee by the Board of Directors.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2022 Meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There were no questions or discussion.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to **Article X, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to **Article X, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which reflects the current state of business where the Chief Financial Officer manages the day-to-day financial operations of the AKC. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

It will be published in two issues of the

AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2022 Meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair recognized Gregory Paveza, Elm City Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Gregory Paveza, Elm City Kennel Club. I believe it's standard practice to put forward amendments on the date of the vote, correct?

Mr. Sprung: Yes, that is correct. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Marge Calltharp, Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Marge Calltharp, Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America. I have a question on one of the amendments that were to be voted on. The Bylaws Article VII, Section 1 – was that voted on or was that withdrawn?

Mr. Sprung: Yes, it was voted on. We did not withdraw any votes.

Ms. Calltharp: And did it pass?

Mr. Sprung: It did not pass.

The Chair called on Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota to recognize AKC Delegates who have served for 25 years.

Mr. Carota: We will now honor Delegates who have served for 25 years. This medallion is in recognition of meritorious and long-term contributions to the Sport. This program enables us to recognize our core constituency and allows a grateful American Kennel Club the opportunity to honor our own. This is the 24th time that AKC has had the privilege to present Delegate medallions. These individuals join 133 previously recognized Delegates.

The following Delegates were called forward:
Christopher Keenan, Empire Beagle Club (absent, mailed medallion)
Karen Mays, Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association (in attendance)
Peter Piusz, American Rottweiler Club (in attendance)
Patricia Sample, Anderson Obedience Training Club (in attendance)
Rod Strand, Walla Walla Kennel Club (wife, Delegate Patti Strand, accepted in his absence.)

The Chair called on Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies, to recognize the clubs celebrating 100 years of AKC Membership.

Dr. Davies: On this auspicious occasion of adding two more centennial clubs, I would like to recognize the **Cincinnati Kennel Club**, Delegate, Dr. Patricia Haines (*absent*), and the **Huntington Valley Kennel Club**, Delegate, Dick Blair (*in attendance*). Please come forward and we've got a nice plaque for you.

The Huntington Valley Kennel Club plaque was given to Delegate, Dick Blair.

The Cincinnati Kennel Club plaque was given to club President Marjorie Underwood, Delegate for the Clermont County Kennel Club.

The Chair called on Gail LaBerge, Delegate from the Atlanta Obedience Club and Karolynne McAteer, Delegate from the Irish Setter Club of America, to provide an update on the AKC PAC.

Ms. LaBerge: Good morning. This is our moment for the AKC PAC. You know, I was thinking on the plane coming up here, we're not glamorous but we are necessary, and we're a tool in the toolbox to help us proceed to be able to have clubs that have 100-year anniversaries with AKC and to have Delegates who have been here for 25 years and some of them more. We are a necessary tool in that box to help GR open some doors. I am going to turn this over to

Karolynne (McAteer), who is going to give you the latest information on our fundraiser. This information is not just for you, please share with your clubs, and we will post on the Delegate e-list some information on how your individual members can contact us to get their tickets this year.

Ms. McAteer: I'm the public service announcement. So outside as you're leaving, there is a wonderful raffle going on. We found it very successful last year, and it comes with a gift which is always great. This raffle is for a beautiful set of luggage and a very nice gift certificate for your travel. It all amounts to about \$1,000, and we're calling it "Everybody Needs to Go Somewhere," which we believe is true, but there's never a more important year than right now. This is an election year and the PAC needs funds to give to the legislators who we know support dog legislation.

You know our friends in PETA and elsewhere, they have lots of opportunities to raise money, we do not. The PAC has multiple restrictions, so please buy tickets, support it and take the information home and get your clubs to buy too. Thank you.

The Chair called on Jay Spiegel of KPMG to read the Teller's report results of the

vote for the Delegate Standing Committees.

Mr. Spiegel: Thank you, Dennis. Good morning, everyone.

The results of the voting of the Delegate Standing Committees are as follows:

For the All-Breed Clubs Committee, the following four candidates were selected for three-year terms:

- Sally Fineburg
- Eduardo Fugiwara
- Debbie Owen
- Susan Sholar

For the Bylaws Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms:

- Kathy Coxwell
- Dr. John V. Ioia, MD, PhD
- Glenda Stephenson
- Frederick Vogel

For the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms:

- Dr. Timothy Carrion
- Blaine Grove
- Terry Hilliard
- Robert Rynkiewicz.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the names of the Delegates who will serve on the Committees that did not require a vote.

Ms. DiNardo: Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Canine Health Committee are:

- Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki
- Dr. Mary McDaniel
- Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser
- Donald E. Schwartz, VMD
- Sharon Steckler

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Companion Events Committee are:

- Eleanor Campbell
- Dr. Joyce Dandridge
- Dr. Norine Noonan
- Jack Sappenfield, III
- Betty Winthers

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee are:

- Carl Ashby
- Ellen Hardin
- Jane Ruthford
- Judy Seltrecht

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Dog Show Rules Committee are:

- Linda Flynn
- Kenneth Levison
- Cindy Stansell

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Herding, Earthdog, Coursing and Scent Work Events Committee are:

- Bonnie Lapham
- Karen Bowers Lee
- Joyce Rowland

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Parent Clubs Committee are:

- Connie Butherus
- Richard Rohrbacher
- Larry Sorenson
- Maggi Strouse

Delegates who self-nominated, and will serve on the Perspectives Editorial Committee are:

- Virginia Denninger
- Geno Sisneros
- Monica Henderson Stoner
- Sylvia Thomas
- Margaret "Peggy" Wolfe

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

Ms. DiNardo: At the July 2022 meeting, the Board of Directors appointed the following Delegates to the Nominating Com-

mittee to select three candidates for the Class of 2027:

- Sylvia A. Thomas, Chair – Kennel Club of Riverside
- Karen J. Burgess – Greater Clark County Kennel Club
- Marge B. Calltharp – Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America
- Linda C. Flynn – South Shore Kennel Club
- Laurie Maulucci – South Windsor Kennel Club

Alternates:

- Connie Clark – American Fox Terrier Club
- Don Hanson – American Lhasa Apso Club

The recommendations of the Nominating Committee must be submitted by October 15, 2022.

The Chair called on Sylvia Thomas, Chair of the Nominating Committee who spoke as follows:

Good morning, everyone. I'm Sylvia Thomas, Delegate for the Kennel Club of Riverside, and with you this morning as Chair of the Nominating Committee. You can rest at ease. I am not going to ask you to stand and vote for anything right now.

However, I would like to begin by thanking the Board for appointing a wonderful group of dedicated, hardworking and experienced individuals - and somehow, I was included in that group – to serve as part the Nominating Committee and to find those three individuals – who can fill the vacancies for the Class of 2027. I also want to express our thanks to Gina and Paula for their support throughout this process. They never failed to respond to my many questions and my requests.

I would also be remiss if I didn't mention Dennis, who, when Dennis gives you his cell phone number and I'm sure he's given it out to many of us, when he says, "Use it anytime," he means it. I recently sent him a text on a holiday expecting that I would hear from him the following workday, but instead I immediately received a response. Dennis said, "I'm in the office now." It was Labor Day, and he was working, and said I'm available if you want to talk. So, thank you, Dennis, for your unwavering support and guidance through this process.

Most importantly I would like to thank the Delegate Body for their support and in particular, the seven individuals who responded to the committee's questionnaire and submitted their interest for being considered for the three vacancies. We were impressed

by the depth of quality and the range and quality of experience both professionally and within our Sport. The committee held in-person interviews all day Sunday. Unfortunately, one of the seven individuals who had submitted interest had to withdraw prior to his interview due to a change in his personal circumstances that would have precluded him from accepting should he be selected. The interview process provided sufficient time for each candidate to express their points of view, to respond to our questions and give us a sense of their vision for our Sport and The Great American Kennel Club. The committee will now take time to review everything that we've read and heard from these individuals, and our goal is to forward the name of the three individuals we think are the best qualified to be nominated to fill those vacancies. Our intent is to provide that information to Gina on or before October 15, 2022.

Now I want to ask the members of the committee to please stand. Come on, you all know who you are. Karen Burgess, Marge Calltharp, Linda Flynn, Connie Clark, Don Hanson and Laurie Maulucci. Please join me in thanking these Delegates for their hard work. It's been an honor to serve with you and my pleasure. Thank you again.

The Chair informed the Delegates that the December 16, 2022 Delegate Meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Rosen Centre Hotel. More detailed information will be emailed to the Delegates as soon as it becomes available.

Lunch will be served following this meeting on the Terrace, which is on this floor and downstairs in the Essex Ballroom on the lobby level. Delegates are reminded to leave their badges at the registration desk following lunch.

The organizational meetings of the newly elected Standing Committees will take place at 1:30 p.m. today. Committees will be meeting in the Salem/Warren room. Staff will be outside the Meeting room to assist.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Gretchen Bernardi, Delegate for Mississippi Valley Kennel Club bid a fond farewell to John Ronald who was attending his last meeting as an AKC Delegate. She praised his long-term dedication and service to the Delegate Body.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

(One sharp rap of the gavel.)

(Time noted: 12:05 p.m. ET.)

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

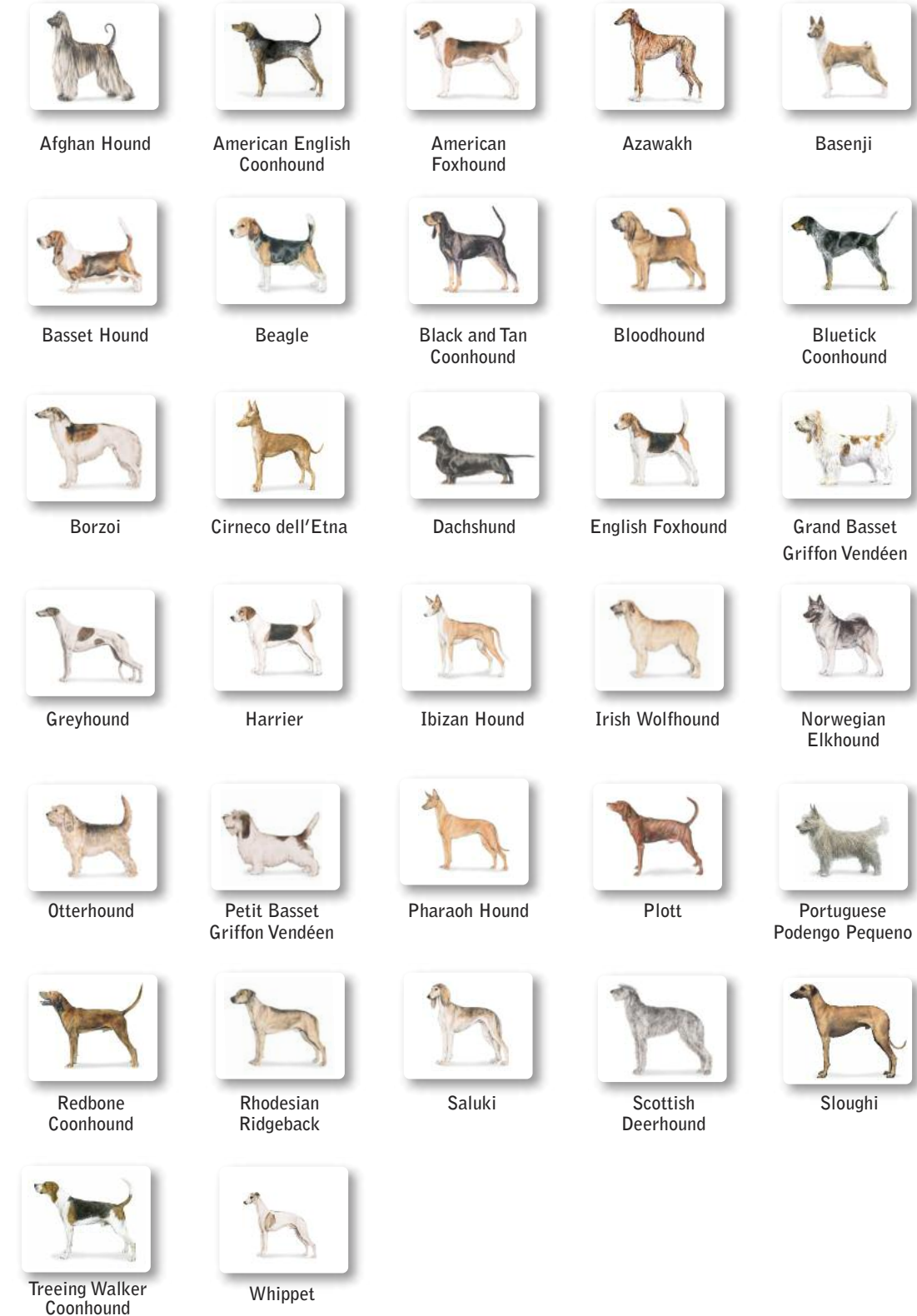
PARENT CLUB LINKS



SPORTING GROUP



HOUND GROUP



PARENT CLUB LINKS



WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

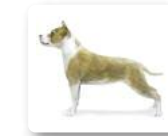
TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



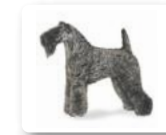
Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



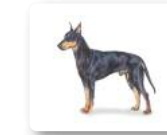
Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



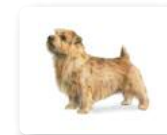
Manchester Terrier



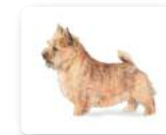
Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



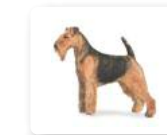
Skye Terrier



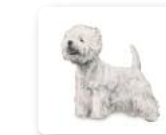
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TOY GROUP



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



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

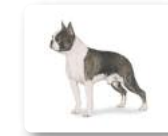
NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



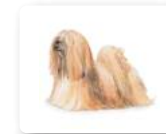
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



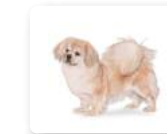
Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

PARENT CLUB LINKS

HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Laekenois



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher Mountain Dog



Finnish Lapphund



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Miniature American Shepherd



Mudi



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish Vallhund



AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/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/>