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Golden Retrievers	Cocker Spaniels	Weimaraners
	English Cocker Spaniels	

#### Working Group

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Doberman Pinschers	Mastiffs	Standard Schnauzers
Dogues de Bordeaux	Neapolitan Mastiffs	Tibetan Mastiffs

#### 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
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### SLIDESHOW



### TIMES PAST

### SECRETARY'S PAGES

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



### UPDATES

### FEATURE DNA: A BREEDER'S PERSPECTIVE



## LET'S TALK BREEDING

**How to download or print the AKC GAZETTE:** At the upper left of this screen, press either the download or print icon, and print the pages you need once the PDF of the issue downloads and is opened.



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## PERFORMANCE 30/20 FORMULAS FOR CANINE ATHLETES

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- CANINE ATHLETES
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**T**hough we are finding new ways to work and hold our shows, we are keeping busy at AKC pushing our mission forward in new ways.

First, we are happy to share with you that [AKC FAMILY DOG](#) magazine was awarded Folio's 2020 Eddie award for Best Animals/Pets Consumer Magazine, Full Issue, for its "Youth Issue" (May/June 2020). The 2020 Folio: Eddie and Ozzie Awards announced 300 winners out of thousands of entries. This year's 2020 Folio: Eddie and Ozzie Awards also praised the article "Momma Mia and Her Bald Ballerina" written by Managing Editor Mara Bovsun for the March/April "Comfort Issue." This is an amazing achievement, and we commend the FAMILY DOG editorial team for their exceptional work. (See more on page 6.)

As we focus on new ways to reach dog owners and lovers, we have expanded our virtual events. In September we held our first ever Virtual RDO day, and it was very well received, with over 800,000 impressions

generated and excellent participation from dog owners around the country. Celebrated across [akc.org](#), [AKC.tv](#), and our social-media platforms, the day covered various topics presented by AKC experts, including responsible dog ownership, therapy-dog training, and canine health, as well as AKC sports, [Canine Partners](#), [GoodDog Helpline](#), and [AKC Pet Insurance](#). We look forward to keeping this as part of our RDO days in the future.

Lastly but never least, this issue focuses on breeders, an integral part of the preservation of our beloved dogs. Breeders are the lifeblood of the AKC. So much of what we do at the AKC relies on the dedication that breeders have to their breeds, and producing healthy dogs to standard. It is no easy feat and the life-long dedication is a testament to the love for our dogs.

This issue includes practical information and advice that are excellent learning tools for veteran and newer breeders who are seeking to expand their knowledge and enhance their programs.



We truly hope that you enjoy the issue and that you receive information that can add to your already stellar breeding programs.

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President and CEO



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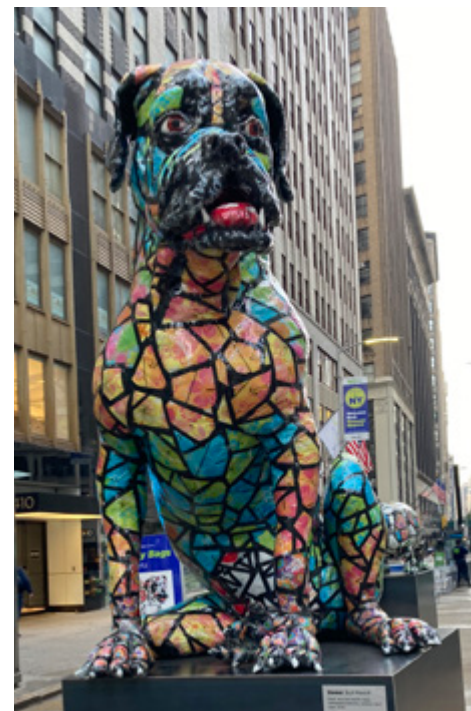
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AKC GAZETTE (ISSN 1086-0940), October 2020, Volume 137, No.10, published monthly at 101 Park Ave., New York, NY 10178, USA, by The American Kennel Club, Inc. Copyright The American Kennel Club, Inc., 2020. No portion of this magazine may be reprinted without permission of the publisher. AKC is a registered trademark of The American Kennel Club, Inc.

## Creating the New Old Normal: *Yet Another Use for Duct Tape*

NEW YORK—Ever so slowly, the city takes baby steps toward something resembling normal. On his way to work recently, AKC Publications Director Russell Bianca spotted a new public-art installation on Broadway and snapped these photos. Public art has always been part of New York's cultural mix, and it is encouraging to see it return.

Doggy Bags, created by artist Will Kurtz, features oversized sculptures of different dog breeds made from recycled materials. The highly detailed forms are blown up to a scale several times their actual size and are constructed with steel armature, recycled single-use plastic bags, and duct tape. "Each depicts the unique characteristics and personality of a different breed of dog," the artist says, "while the choice of materials provides commentary about the absurdity of waste and the need to recycle."



Chihuahua, Vizsla, Bulldog, and Bullmastiff from Doggy Bags



**On Our Cover**  
Brittany, photo by Billy Hustace

SCULPTURES/RUSSELL BIANCA ©AKC; BRITTANY/BILLY HUSTACE ©AKC



## Living and Competing in a Virtual World

As we wait out the coronavirus, the AKC is developing new programs designed to keep veteran fanciers and novice pet owners alike engaged and involved in the wonderful world of dogs. Here, we report on two such items.

### AKC VIRTUAL TOP DOG CHALLENGE

Michael Canalizo will judge Best in Show and Best Puppy for the third AKC Virtual Top Dog Challenge. The virtual dog show is open to all AKC-recognized breeds and the Miscellaneous class. Dogs will be judged remotely in two classes: 6-to-12-Month Puppy and Open.

The exhibitors of adult and puppy group winners, including Miscellaneous, will receive \$100. Best in Show and Best Puppy will receive \$200 each. This virtual event does not award points toward show championships.

Doug Johnson (Sporting), Eugene Blake (Hound), Vicki Seiler-Cushman (Working), Connie Clark (Terrier), David J. Kirkland (Toy), Steven Hayden (Non-Sporting), James Mitchell (Herding), and Anne Catterson (Miscellaneous) comprise the panel of distinguished group judges.



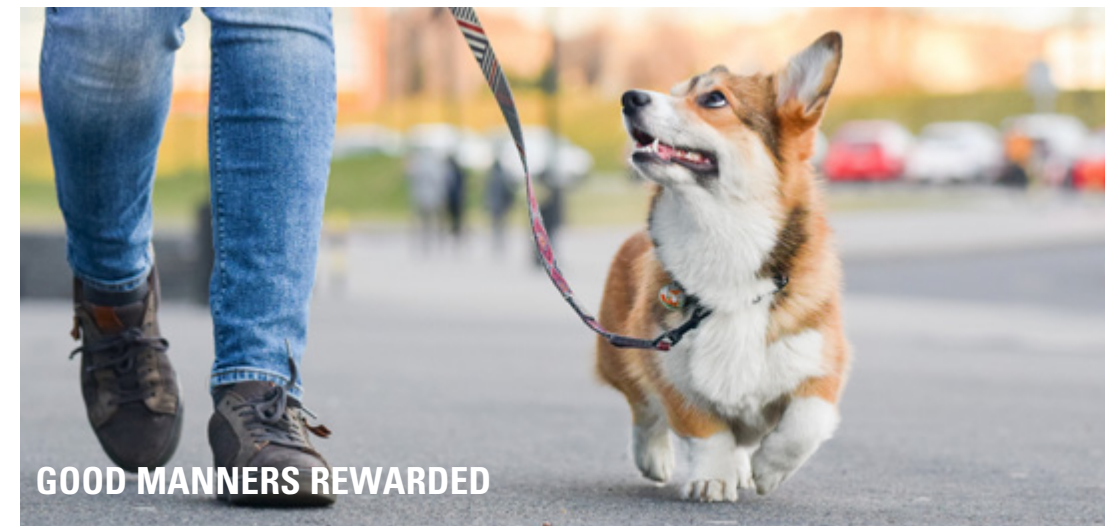
*Once Upon a Time: Record-setting pro handler Mike Canalizo gaits the legendary Afghan Hound Ch. Tryst of Grandeur.*

Breeds will be judged October 16 to 19, groups October 21 to 23, and Best in Show October 26 and 27. The AKC will announce Canalizo's BIS winner on October 28.

Participating exhibitors will submit videos of their dog stacked from the front and side, a breed-appropriate display of the bite and mouth,

a view gaitting down and back, a free stack, and a view of the dog circling in profile.

The AKC will donate a portion of every \$25 entry fee to the [California Fire Foundation SAVE](#) program. For full event information, and to see the breed-judges panel, click [here](#).



GOOD MANNERS REWARDED

The new AKC Virtual Home Manners (VHM) program helps teach dogs proper manners at home. Good canine behavior at home is important for owners and mentally stimulating for dogs. VHM consists of Puppy and Adult levels, allowing dogs of all ages to participate home-based training at the owner's convenience.

"Many companion dogs have been added to families during the pandemic. Basic training for practical home manners should start as soon as we bring a puppy home," AKC Vice President of Sports and Events Doug Ljungren says.

Dogs will earn VHM titles by passing tests on manners related to food, walking on a leash, petting, and following such commands as *sit*, *stay*, and *down*. [AKC Canine Good Citizen](#) evaluators will review videos of dogs performing the VHM skills and award titles, which will be listed on the dog's AKC record and on pedigrees. "The Virtual Home Manners program is a perfect lead-in to AKC STAR Puppy and Canine Good Citizen, which require in-person testing," CGC Director Dr. Mary Burch says. "The ability to earn titles virtually is especially important during these times."

The AKC will accept title applications beginning October 19 and will begin processing titles on November 2.

**Link**  
[More information](#)



# UPDATES

## Family Dog “Youth” Is Served

AKC FAMILY DOG magazine won Folio’s 2020 Eddie Award for Best Animals/ Pets Consumer Magazine, Full Issue, for its “Youth Issue” (May/June 2020). The 2020 Folio: Eddie and Ozzie Awards announced 300 winners out of thousands of entries.

The Folio awards have been around for over 25 years and recognize “engaging content and gorgeous design” across all sectors of the publishing industry.

This is the first Folio honor for FAMILY DOG, founded in 2003. The bi-monthly magazine’s “Youth Issue” garnered praise for its focus on junior handlers of all ages getting started in the world of dog sports.

“We carefully select our issues based on our love of the dog and human bond,” Managing Editor Mara Bovsun says, “and we couldn’t think of a better way than to show that through the lens of junior handlers and

their dogs.”

Additionally, Folio recognized Bovsun’s feature “Momma Mia and Her Bald Ballerina” about dancer Maggie Kudirka, who at 23 was diagnosed with breast cancer. Kudirka tells how her Pomeranian show dog was essential to emotional healing.

“I’m thrilled that FAMILY DOG has gained recognition as the leading pets consumer magazine and hope that we continue to stand out from the rest of the



crowd with our storytelling and appeal to a new generation of dog lovers,” Bovsun says.



Maggie Kudirka  
with Momma Mia

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## Remembering Maxine V. Beam



The fancy mourns the passing of the eminent sportswoman and beloved legend of the show ring Maxine V. Beam. She died on October 1, a month short of her 99th birthday.

A lifelong resident of Fort Worth, Texas, Ms. Beam was a professional all-breed handler for nearly 30 years before retiring in 1972. She handled three Poodles to Quaker Oats Ken-L Awards, first in 1956 with the Toy Ch. Blakeen Ding Ding, who was also top all-breeds Best in Show that year; in 1957 with Miniature Am./Eng./Can. Ch. Adastra Magic Fame, who retired with 53 Bests in Show; and again in 1963 with Miniature Am./Eng./Can./Mex. Ch. Montmartre Maria Nina.



Maxine Beam at the 2008 AKC National Championship, where she judged Sealyham Terrier Ch. Efbe's Hidalgo at Goodspice as Best in Show.

Left: Harbor Cities KC, circa 1950s: pro handler Maxine Beam awards Best Junior to Corky Vroom. (Ludwig photo)

Other notable champions handled by Ms. Beam included Boxer Ch. Rockmont's Glamour, the BIS German Shepherd Dog Ch. Royal Rogue of Long Worth, Cairn Terriers Ch. Milbryan McGillicuddy and Ch. Caithness Colonel, and the great Lhasa Apso Ch. Kicos Kula La.

Ms. Beam became a judge in 1973. She filled assignments in nearly every state in the Union, from Alaska and Hawaii to Westminster's green carpet in New York. She judged at six AKC National Championship shows, including Best in Show in 2008. Internationally, Ms. Beam judged on five continents. Among her club affiliations were the [Poodle Club of America](#), [Fort Worth KC](#), and Take the Lead. In 2003, she was inducted into the Nature's Recipe *Dogs in Review* Hall of Fame.

Ms. Beam is survived by friends Edd and Mary Lynn Bivin, Dr. David Fuchshuber, and Darlene Wallace. Memorial contributions may be made to [Take the Lead](#), 215 Washington Street, Suite 110 Watertown, NY 13601.

## AKC Podcast Season 1 Now Complete

The full first season of *Down and Back: Stories from the American Kennel Club Archives* podcast, season one, is now online. Here's a peek at two recent episodes.

### War Dogs: In Hostile Territory

A parade of canine warriors through the ages, from the mastiffs who helped Roman legions rule an empire to the bomb-sniffing heroes of today. Featured are the famed Marine Corps "Devil Dog" Doberman Pinschers.



A World War II Marine Corps Dobie trains for an amphibious landing.

### Working-Class Heroes & Upper-Class Companions

In this episode, we meet the versatile dogs bred by long-ago shepherds and farmers to protect grain stores, move flocks, guard the barn, and dig out rodents.

Meanwhile, back at the manor house, aristocrats kept specialized packs of sporting hounds, terriers, and bird dogs for such single-minded pursuits as foxhunts and fowling.

The personality and relative intelligence of many of today's popular breeds is a product of this ancient divide between rich and poor.

### Link

[Down and Back podcast: Season 1](#)



The AKC's *Complete Dog Book for Kids*, published in 1996, was for several years one of the most popular items in the AKC catalog. And it wasn't just kids who drove the book's sales. Adults, too, were charmed by it. For a long time it was common for AKC staffers to use the CDBK as a quick reference. A few old-timers around here still keep it handy. Perhaps you do, too.

Key to the CDBK's success was the vivid color photography. As one commenter on a bookseller's website put it, "I think that this book is great for all ages because just looking at the pictures is fun."

Shooting the book's photos was a daunting assignment. It required images of each AKC breed and variety, photos that would be eye candy for children while also passing muster with discerning parent clubs.

It surprised absolutely no one, then, that the call went out to Mary



Bloom.

"In simple terms," David Frei once said, "she's the greatest dog photographer there is."

In a 2012 *New Yorker* interview, Bloom said, "People will say, 'Oh, you're a dog whisperer.' No, no, that's not it at all. I just understand who they are. I mean, not, like, past-life experience, but I'm familiar with how they feel."

Bloom took a boatload of shots during the CDBK sessions, only a fraction of which went into the book. Binders of outtakes now reside in the GAZETTE photo archive, most never published. It seems a shame that so many lovely photos of our fabulous purebreds should go unseen.

We're in the process of digitizing and restoring them, and from time to time in future issues you will see them in feature stories and breed columns. These pictures are a source of smiles for the dog-loving kid inside us all.

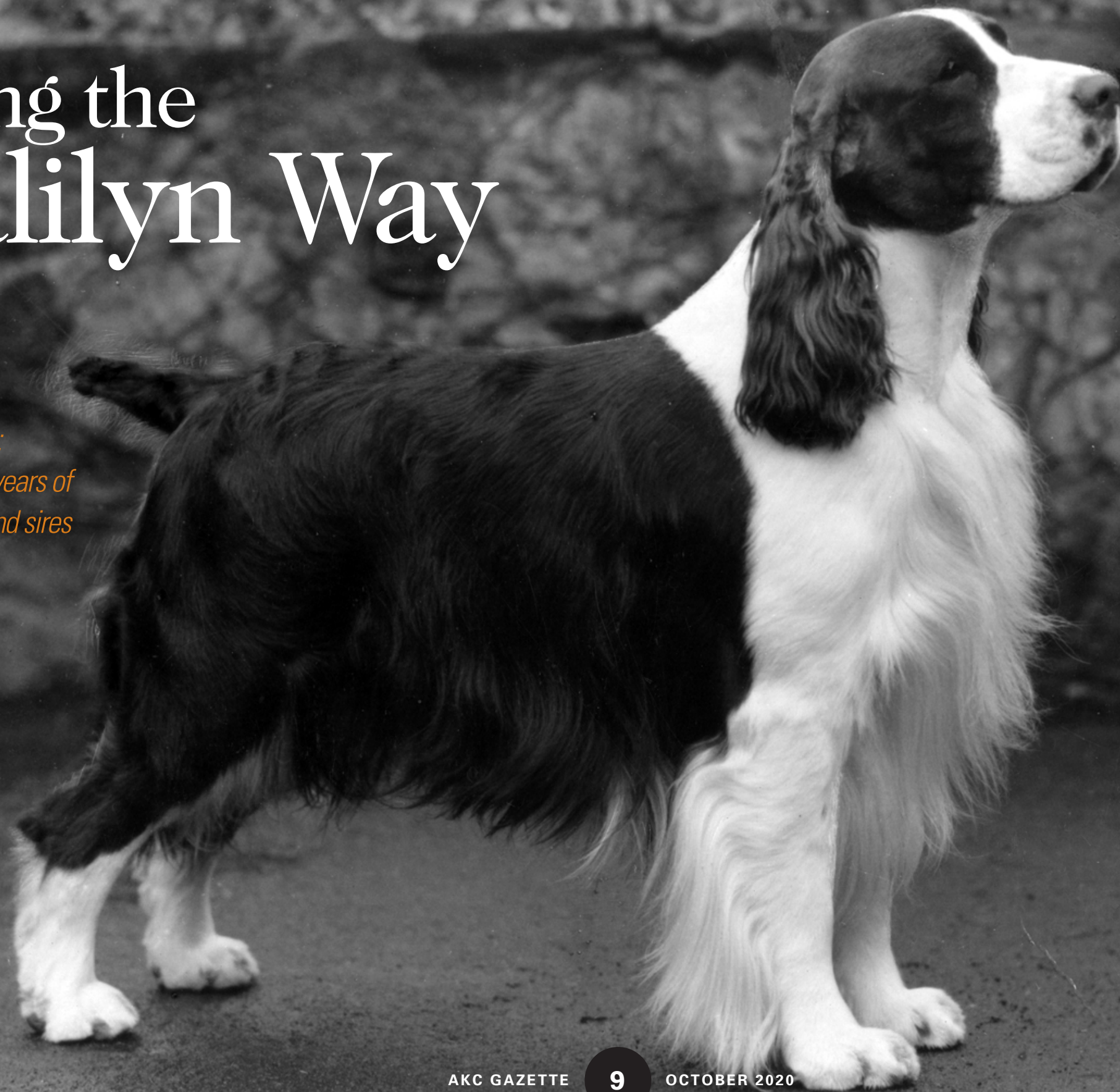


# FEATURE

## Breeding the Salilyn Way

*Never-before published:  
Julia Gasow on her 60 years of  
legendary champions and sires*

*A classic Tauskey portrait of English  
Springer Spaniel Ch. Salilyn's Aristocrat,  
sire of 188 champions, whose blood ran  
in the veins of three Westminster BIS.*





# FEATURE

*Beginning in 1936, and ending only with her death in 1999, Julia “Julie” Gasow, of Troy, Michigan, presided over what can be called the most successful show kennel in U.S. history. “She was a brilliant breeder,” Elliott Weiss said in a Canine Chronicle interview, “one of the best of the century.” Gasow’s Salilyn kennel (named for her daughters Sally and Linda) set the standard for the modern English Springer Spaniel, and breed fanciers still beam with pride when they say their dog descends from Salilyn stock.*

*Residing in the AKC Archives are taped interviews with Mrs. Gasow and other show-ring greats, conducted by Ric Routledge, the late fancier and publisher. These conversations were recorded in the early 1990s for Routledge’s “audio magazine,” Dog Talk. The idea of an audio magazine was intriguing, but the pre-internet, pre-digital tech (cassette tapes sent through the mail) was cumbersome. In a way, Routledge was a trailblazer: What he then called an audio magazine we today call podcasting. It was just a matter of technology catching up with the idea.*



*McComb County KC, 1953: Mrs. Gasow’s beloved Ch. King Peter of Salilyn, handled by Dick Cooper. The judge is Jim Trullinger. (Norton of Kent photo)*



Keystone English Springer Spaniel Club, 1958: This rare Evelyn Shafer photo shows Mrs. Gasow (far right) during her brief judging career. Her BOB is Ch. Ascot's Ajax, handled by Anne Rogers.



*But if the Dog Talk business model proved unsustainable, the content Routledge created was pure gold. Here, we present the first part of a two-part transcript, edited for space and clarity, of Routledge's 1993 conversation with Mrs. Gasow.*

*The session found the 89-year-old Mrs. Gasow in fine form. Her tone was authoritative but brimming with the humility and good humor that endeared her to generations of fanciers. Sitting beside Mrs. Gasow during the interview was Salilyn kennel manager and handler Kellie Fitzgerald.*

**RR** I've seen breeders who bred a few good dogs early on and then spent many years trying to get what they had. They couldn't keep it going, like their breeding program peaked and they couldn't maintain quality.

You, on the other hand, your dogs keep getting better and better all the time. What are you doing that the rest of us aren't?

**JG** For one thing, I believe entirely in linebreeding. I have linebred dogs for years and

years, and I've had a great deal of luck with it—but always trying to breed out faults and bring in new characteristics that are better and breed out the characteristics that are not so good. I've worked very, very diligently at the same thing and with the same method.

**RR** You must have a very open mind to be able to look at your dogs and see not only the good but the bad and what needs to be improved.

**JG** It's very, very, *very* important that you judge your own dogs negatively.

**RR** Negatively?

**JG** I look for all of the faults in my dogs. If I were a judge again, I would look for the good characteristics in a dog—if I were judging in the show ring. I wouldn't hunt for the faults if I were judging someone else's dog. But if I'm judging my *own* dogs, I want to see the faults first. I look for the faults because I want to get rid of them.

**RR** Fascinating, because



people who are thought of a “fault judges” in the ring are looked down upon.

**JG** Absolutely. *I* look down on a judge who hunts for faults in the ring. I think it’s wrong to judge negatively in the ring. You’re looking for the *good* things. You want to see the good things in every dog in the ring. But if you’re judging the dogs in your own kennel, you’re *lost* if you do that.

Everybody has their own fetishes. My fetish—because it’s the thing I’ve had the hardest time getting—I like good feet. And I’ll fault a dog immediately on his feet. Kellie can get mad at me about this. Kellie will say, “For heaven’s sakes, can’t you just overlook that.” Well, yes, you *can*, but you just don’t want to.

I think the reason why the [Salilyn] dogs have grown better is that I throw out everything that I don’t like. If there’s a characteristic that I don’t like, I don’t want it in



*Westminster, 1972: BIS Ch. Chinoe's Adamant James, an Aristocrat son*

the kennel. I want to get rid of it.

## THE BAD WITH THE GOOD

**RR** What happens with a dog that you think has some serious faults but also has some excellent qualities?

**JG** Well, that’s where you have to use your linebreeding.

If you want to bring in a characteristic that your dog is lacking, you breed to a dog that has the characteristic you want and who has been linebred for that characteristic, so

that when you bring it in, it has been established. You aren’t saying I want to breed to Mr. Jones’s dog because the dog has an awfully good rear end, and I want that. That wouldn’t get you anywhere because in Mr. Jones’s dog that trait might not have been established, and in a second generation you might not get that. It might not be the same in every generation in that dog’s line.

And there are two to consider: The dog had a father and a mother. So, you have to have him linebred for the characteristic that you want to bring in.

**RR** So, boy, you have to know that other dog very, very well, don’t you?

**JG** Well, you can’t get everything at once.

**RR** It seems like I can either get one end or the other, but I can’t get both ends at the same time!

**JG** But that’s the fun of it. You have to be so careful because when you breed for one characteristic you’re liable

to pick up some that you don’t like, as well. If you wanted to breed to a bitch and you’re going to start from scratch, the best thing you can do is to take a bitch not because she was the glamorous bitch, but because she was a bitch who had very few faults. Maybe she wasn’t glamorous to look at, but fundamentally she had very few faults—so you don’t have to worry about overcoming certain things. You have those [taken care of] already. So, then you have to start working on things to bring in, and it’s much easier to just bring things in than it is to get things out while bringing things in. You don’t have to worry about the “getting out” part; you can just worry about the “getting in” part.

If you linebreed long enough, you get to know pretty well what you’re working with. And you have a fairly good idea—not a complete idea, by any manner or means, because you don’t have control of the situation at any time—but you

have a fairly good idea of what you’re going to get because you’ve linebred for so long. I can’t say that I’ve linebred for as long as I’ve been in dogs, but I have linebred for, I would say, 30 years.

## INBREEDING, OUTCROSSING

**RR** Have you ever done any inbreeding?

**JG** No, not inbreeding as such.

**RR** Because you don’t think it would work, or because the occasion just hasn’t come up...?

**JG** I haven’t the courage. There’s nothing wrong about it. It’s a perfectly proper procedure. But in order to do it properly, you have to keep very, very careful records. We have—I say *we*, I mean you or me or whoever is breeding this litter of dogs—we have a litter of dogs to choose from. We have maybe seven or eight dogs in a litter. If we were going to attempt anything in inbreeding, we would have to know what happened to



# FEATURE

every single dog, the puppies that didn't look like anything and we sold are very important. We would have to know what every single one of those turned out to be. Because, they're part of the litter. And the good one might have been the fluke.

**RR** Having bred the same breed for over 60 years, you had to outcross once in a while. How do you know when to do that and how to do that?

**RR** I haven't done a strict outcross for years and years. But every once in a while I'll see a relative of my dogs, a distant relative but there's been some connection, and I'll like the looks of that dog.

As a matter of fact, I'm toying with that right now, except I know it's foolish at my age to start into this. But that dog I saw at a dog show looks exactly like his father, and I no longer can breed his father. So, I'm very tempted to breed to him, but I've given up the idea. I've gone around the circle and I'm

ready to come to the end. So, I'll just tie off the loose ends and not try to go any farther.

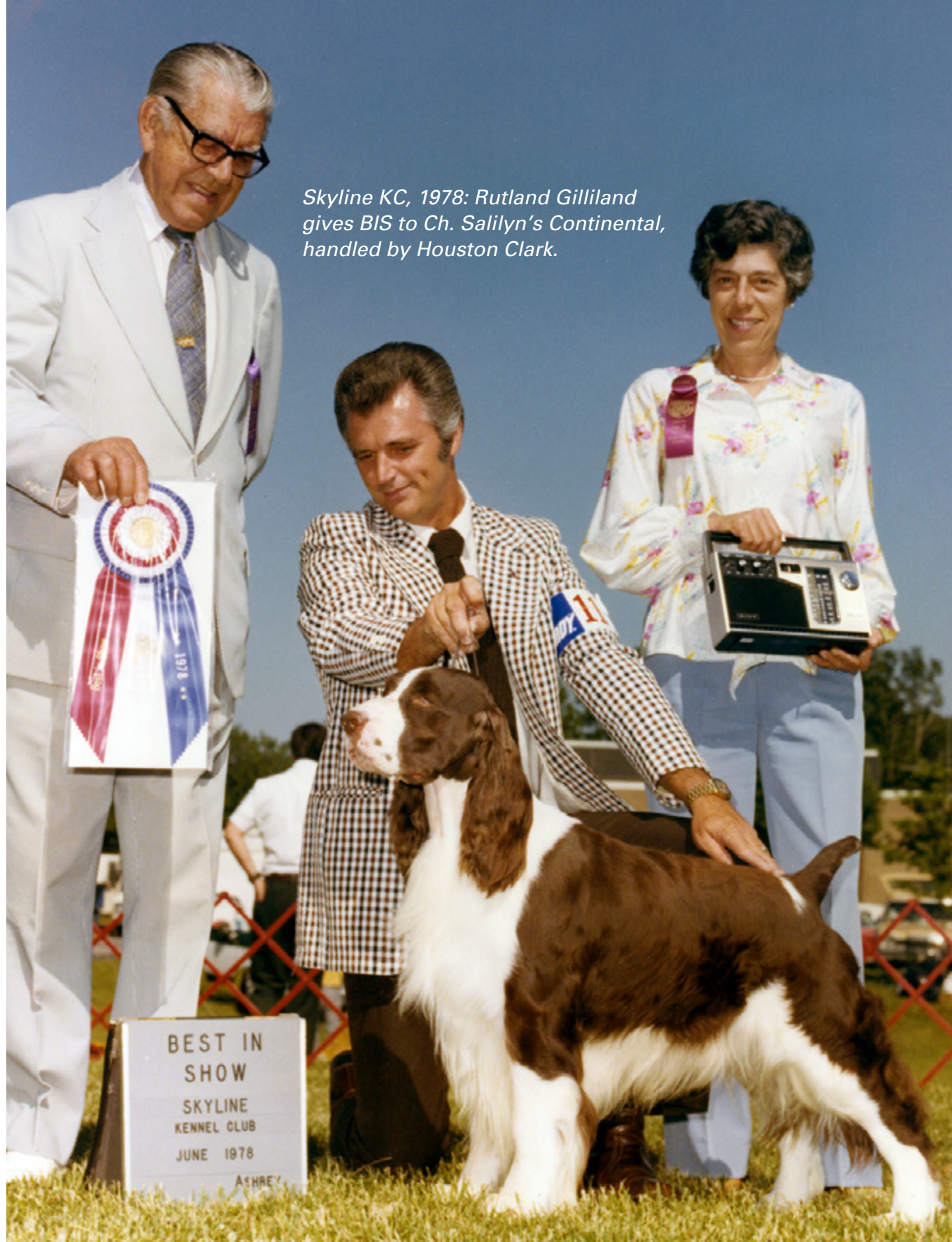
## FRESH AND FROZEN

**RR** Have you ever collected and frozen semen from your great stud dogs?

**JG** You know, I've made a great mistake in this. I am now interested. I had a feeling in past years that I did not want to do this because my conception of frozen semen was the idea that you wanted to reproduce that same dog at a later date. You wanted to keep the possibility of breeding to the dog. I thought it would be breeding backwards, that it would be holding onto something when I want to go ahead. I want to improve. I want to breed something better the next time, and I don't want to breed backwards.

But I missed a big, big point: If something happens to that dog, tomorrow, you still can breed to him.

**RR** So, if this top dog has been dead 10 or 15 years, do



*Skyline KC, 1978: Rutland Gilliland gives BIS to Ch. Salilyn's Continental, handled by Houston Clark.*

Gz

you question going back that far?

**JG** I do. I question it. I question it. What appealed to you and what you thought was great 20 years ago, you go back to it tomorrow, it doesn't look the same as it did 20 years ago because everything has changed, and we have to change along with it. We can't suddenly go back 20 years and pick it up where we thought it was good before. There's going to be a difference.

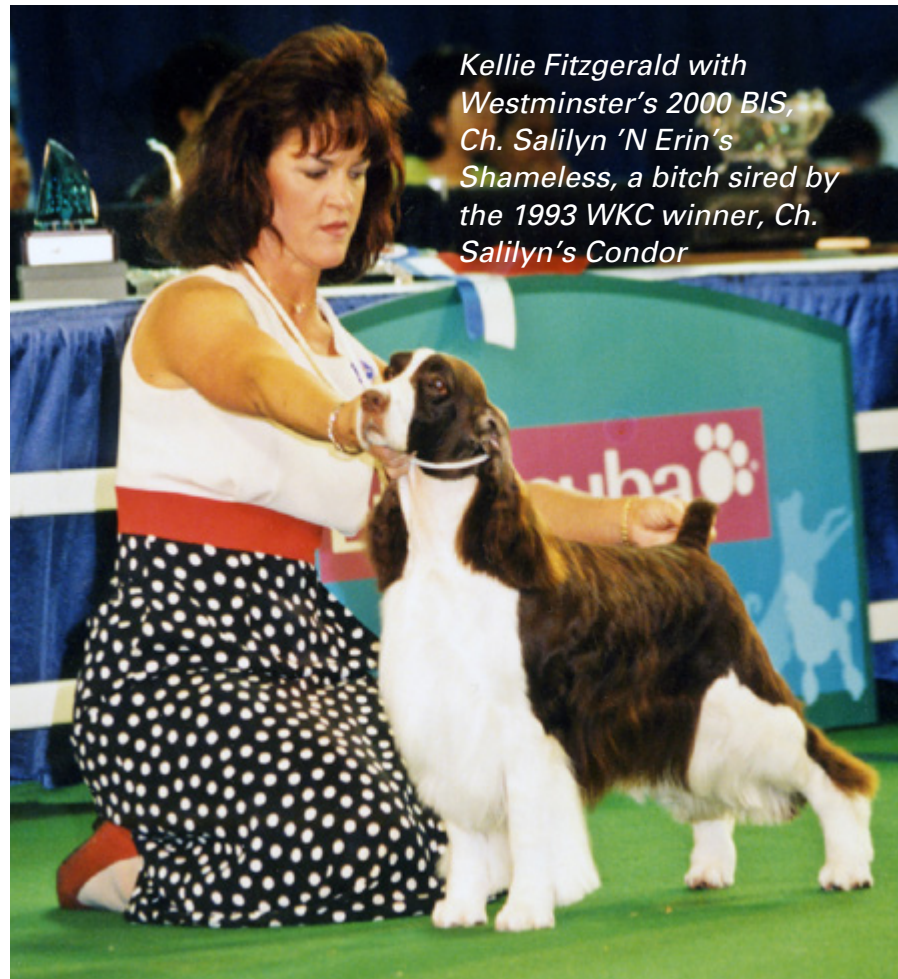
**RR** Type, balance, movement, temperament: How do you rate those?

**JG** I think that type is the most important.

**RR** I've heard judges say that they look for the best movers first, then put up the typiest dog of the good movers. I've always felt this is backwards.

**JG** You can go outside and if you sit on the corner long enough you'll see mutts come along that move perfectly beautifully. It won't mean a single thing. You can pick up a beautiful mover from some-





*Kellie Fitzgerald with Westminster's 2000 BIS, Ch. Salilyn 'N Erin's Shameless, a bitch sired by the 1993 WKC winner, Ch. Salilyn's Condor*

thing that hasn't been bred as a show dog at all. You'd like to have the beautiful mover; you want to put that into the breeding line. But I think if you're breeding Springer Spaniels, they should look like Springer Spaniels.

**RR** You don't plan on slowing down anytime soon, do you?

**JG** Well, I don't want to face that problem until it hits me head on. Kellie's been a great help. Kellie does all the things I can't do. So, she keeps me from having to face that point.

## A BREEDER'S PEP TALK

**RR** Any words for young breeders starting out?

**JG** Oh, I could give them a

lot of words!

**RR** I'm not sure I know how to take that.

**JG** First, make sure that you are interested, that you want to go on with it. And if you decide that you want to go on with it, you will have something that will keep you occupied and happy and contented for years to come.

Start out by making up your own mind, deciding what *you* like about a dog you're going to breed. If it's a Springer Spaniel, make up your own mind about the type of Springer Spaniel that you want. Don't let someone else make up your mind for them. Do it on your own and breed according to your own instincts, and carry through with it and have enough confidence in it to not let the other fellow influence you. Do it your way, and let your successes and failures be your own.

*Look for part two of this interview in the November GAZETTE*

## Rising from the Ashes



*Five Salilyn Springers at the Gasow kennel in the Detroit suburb of Troy, Michigan*

With the unwavering support of her husband, veterinarian Fred Gasow, Mrs. Gasow produced several hundred champions and top producers who changed the course of our sport's history.

Mrs. Gasow was originally a breeder of mink. She switched to dog breeding in 1936. In the late 1940s a faulty furnace started a fire that burned her first kennel to the ground. None of the kenneled dogs survived. But in a merciful quirk of fate, a few of the Salilyn Springers were boarded at Fred's clinic, awaiting routine check-ups, on the night of the fire. One of those lucky dogs was King Peter of Salilyn.

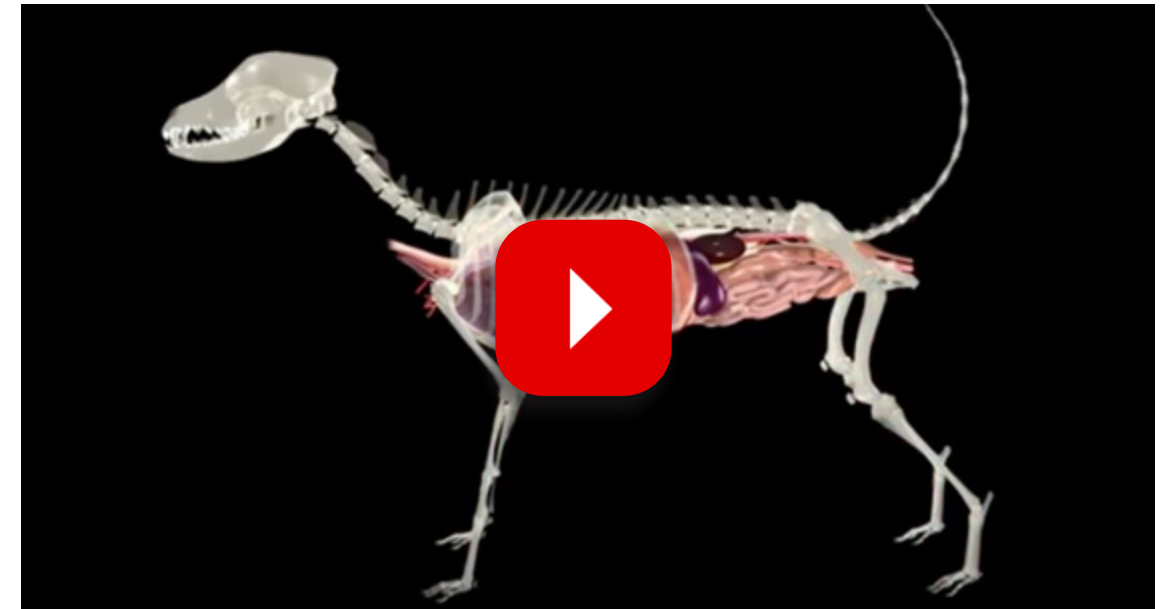
Devastated and heartbroken, Mrs. Gasow wanted to quit the sport. But her husband urged her to continue and had the facility quickly rebuilt. King Peter would go on to sire 36 champions and revive the kennel's fortunes. Salilyn's greatest days were yet to come.

"I don't think I knew where this would all go," Mrs. Gasow told the GAZETTE in 1997. "But I sincerely loved every minute of it."





**“The Haunt of the Woodcock: Sensation and Bang Bang”**  
 AKC Museum of the Dog director Alan Fausel presents a new acquisition he calls “one of the finest American dog paintings in existence.” 4:31



**Do You Know Where Sparky’s Pancreas Is?**  
 This quick animated primer on the canine thorax and abdomen is used by first-year vet students. 2:02



**What the Well-Dressed Handler Is Wearing—With Pockets!**  
 Handler Amy Booth takes you on a virtual shopping spree for stylish ring clothes on a budget. 13:24



**Tricksters**  
 Another gem from the British Pathé film library: Corgis, Border Collies, and a Saluki in trick training, 1956 style. 1:48



Serious dog breeders are always searching for new information, strategies, and tools they can use to produce healthier dogs. It is an endless and constantly evolving quest. Breeders want to produce dogs that are sound in mind and body. They want to breed dogs that are true to type and able to do the job they were bred to do. They want their dogs to bring joy to the families who take them into their homes.

Breeding dogs involves millions of genetic possibilities. No matter how dedicated or knowledgeable a breeder is or how ethically they conduct their breeding program, unwanted genetic traits and diseases will inevitably appear from time to time. It is always devastating when they do.

## BREEDING BEFORE DNA

Thankfully, today's dog breeders live at a time when substantial resources are available to help them. There are



# The Evolving Role of DNA:

*"Since 1995, the AKC/CHF has provided almost \$50 million for more than 950 canine-health grants and projects."*

*From the AKC Canine Health Foundation, a brief history of a scientific revolution* | By Patti Strand and Susan LaCroix Hamil, RVT

# A Breeder's Perspective

GOLDEN RETRIEVER/AKC CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION



# FEATURE

phenotypic, diagnostic, and genotypic tests, canine health databases to record test results, and foundations dedicated to improving canine health. Working in partnership with breeders and other stakeholders, these groups stand ready to share their extensive resources, launch and oversee scientific studies, and offer genetic counseling and expert referrals when appropriate. All of these tools can be utilized to help breeders select away from genetic diseases and toward healthier dogs.

The primary tool used early on by breeders to assess the positive and negative contributions of individual dogs in their breeding programs was progeny testing. The success of this DIY method depended on the quality of breeder observation and record keeping, the inheritance mode of the traits being observed, and the size of the population and gene pool at the breeder's disposal.

Progeny testing of this basic kind can be highly effective if

**CHIC**  
CANINE HEALTH  
INFORMATION CENTER

**Canine Health Information Center**

**Dalmatian core health tests\***  
BAER (hearing), Hips (OFA or PennHIP)  
plus **either** Eye or Thyroid  
Submit to OFA = CHIC Certificate

**Thyroid\***  
Degenerative Myelopathy

**BAER (hearing)\***

**OFA Hip or PennHIP\***

**Eye Exam\***

**Full Dentition**

**Cardio Auscultation & Echocardiography**

**Elbows**

**Patellas**

*"Breeders use the CHIC open database to make informed breeding decisions."*

the trait being observed is a single-gene (Mendelian) trait and the breeder is a good observer with lots of dogs to work with. It is not effective when the inheritance mode is more complicated, such as when the disease being observed is poly-genetic, incompletely penetrant, linked, pleiotropic or has any of the many other complex inheritance modes that we now recognize. It also falls short when the harmful single-gene trait is so widespread within a small gene pool that a large percentage of dogs carry the deleterious gene or genes. As the size of kennel breeding populations and gene pools shrink, more sophisticated and scientific tests are needed.

## COLLABORATION BENEFITS AMERICAN BREEDERS

It wasn't until 1966, when the [Orthopedic Foundation for Animals](#) (OFA) was founded, that options began to improve for dog breeders. The founding of OFA was



a watershed moment in the advancement of canine health, offering a partnership with dog breeders that has lasted for more than 50 years.

The immediate outcome was the development of a standardized method for evaluating and recording the results of hip radiographs and later, elbow X-rays. The long-term consequence of OFA's creation was the development of extensive canine-health databases, including phenotypic and genetic results from over one million individual dogs.

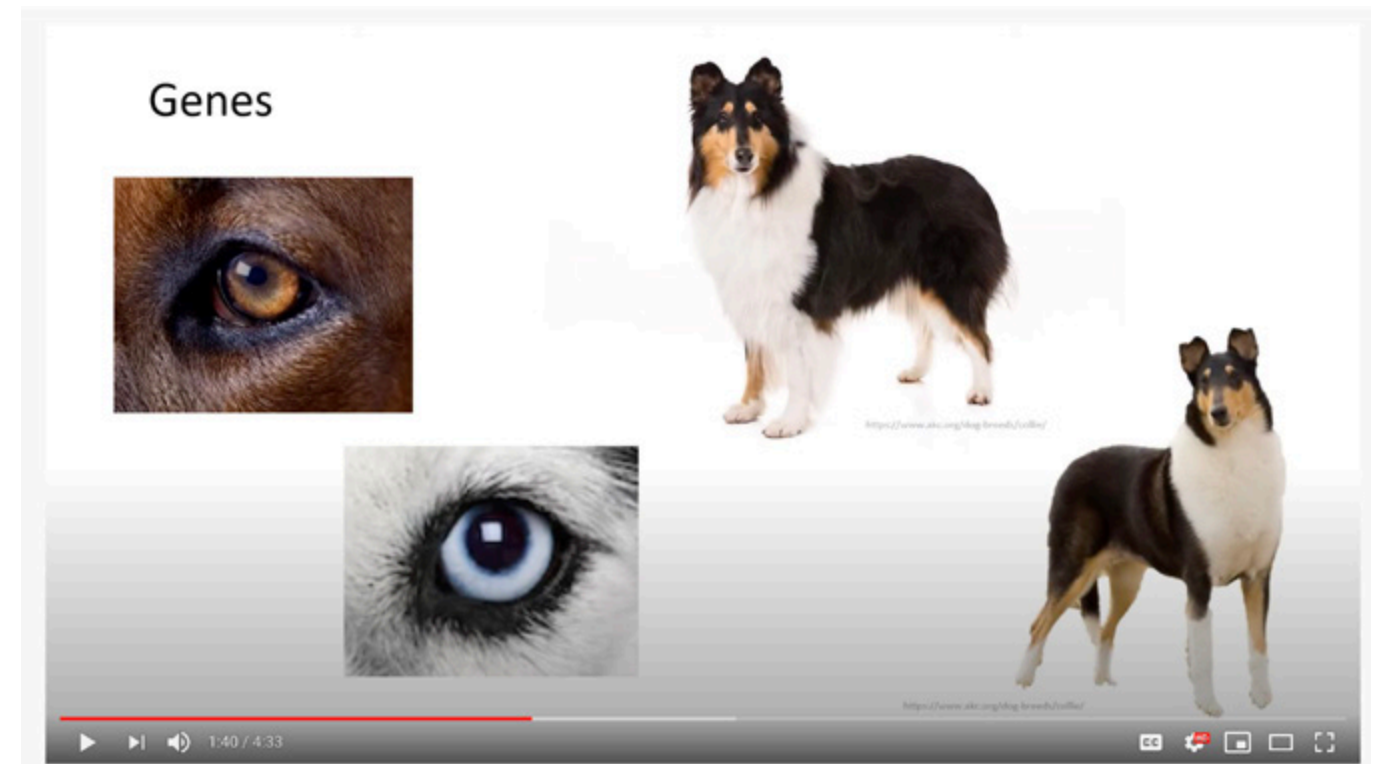
The AKC recognized the need for canine-specific health research and in 1995 launched the [Canine Health Foundation](#) with a one-million-dollar donation. Since that time, AKC/CHF has provided almost \$50 million for more than 950 canine-health grants and projects.

By working with the AKC/CHF and OFA, the AKC's parent breed clubs have been able to offer guidance to their members about the genetic



*"Serious dog breeders want to produce dogs sound in mind and body. They want their dogs to bring joy to families who take them into their homes."*

## BONUS VIDEO: THE BASICS OF DOG GENETICS



screenings that are appropriate for dogs of their breed. In collaboration, the AKC/CHF and OFA established the [Canine Health Information Center](#) (CHIC), an open database that publishes the testing results of dogs that meet all parent club-required protocols. The CHIC open database is available for breeders to see and use to make informed breeding decisions.

CHIC has also established

a DNA bank for all breeds to make DNA samples available to researchers with qualifying grants and studies as well as to breeders and owners when new genetic tests become available.

The close relationship and collaboration between the AKC and the individual AKC parent breed clubs, OFA, and the AKC/CHF has conveyed a priceless benefit to American dog breeders, producing and

maintaining resources that earlier breeders could only dream of. When canine health challenges emerge today, breeders have many professional resources they can consult for answers and further investigation.

## TODAY'S CHALLENGES

What breeders need now is an understanding of the benefits and limitations of available testing; when, where, and how



## Upcoming CHF/Vetvine Webinars

### Norwich Terrier Upper Airway Syndrome (NTUAS)

It is likely in Norwich Terriers that upper-airway syndrome is a different condition from brachycephalic airway syndrome—with distinctive primary changes arising in the larynx.

Date: Monday, November 9  
(8:00 PM)

Speaker: Bryden J. Stanley, BVMS, MSc, MANZCVS, MRCVS, DACVS

[Register](#)



### Golden Retriever Pigmentary Uveitis

The Golden Retriever eye condition called pigmentary uveitis (GRPU) has an insidious onset; early detection is key to avoiding glaucoma and vision loss.

Date: Thursday, December 17  
(8:00 PM)

Speaker: Wendy Townsend, DVM, MS, DACVO

[Register](#)



to test; and, most importantly, how to determine which providers can be trusted to produce the information to develop strategies that will maintain and improve health and diversity in breeding programs.

Breeders must understand how to utilize test information to incorporate new dogs and preserve existing dogs in their breeding population. Breeders must fully appreciate the differences and relationships among the various types of test results (clear, carrier, at-risk, and affected) when breeding to promote the maintenance of small gene pools and the long-term survival of individual breeds.

### WHAT IS A RELIABLE SOURCE FOR DNA INFORMATION?

Genetic testing has exploded in popularity in recent years,

and with that surge in popularity, many new companies now manufacture DNA tests. Some of them meet high standards of quality. Some of them do not. There is heavy competition for market share. Even among the companies that offer high-quality tests, DNA technology has advanced so quickly that the industry lacks standardization. It is therefore important for breeders to research any company they are considering before contributing any DNA-based sample.

Breeders who are unsure of a particular test, program, or strategy can utilize the information in this [White Paper](#) or refer to AKC/CHF or OFA, whose mission is to promote the health, maintenance, and progress of purebred dogs.—**P.S. and S.L.H.**

## CHF Board Pledges \$155,000 Matching Fund

In honor of the foundation's 25th anniversary, the AKC/CHF Board of Directors will match donations from new or lapsed donors in support of the CHF Endowment Fund, up to a cumulative total of \$155,000.

In 25 years, CHF-funded research has increased understanding of exercise-induced collapse, hepatic copper toxicosis, cancer, epilepsy, and other canine diseases. The CHF Endowment Fund supports innovations and breakthroughs in canine health while building financial security for the future.

"The CHF Endowment Fund provides financial stability and sustainability, and results in consistent support for the foundation's research mission and organizational needs," says Dr. J. Charles Garvin, CHF board chairman.

"My fellow board members and I believe strongly in the foundation's proven ability to positively impact canine health for years to come. We encourage others to join us in supporting CHF's unique mission to fund health research specifically to benefit the dogs we love."

### Links

[Contribute to Endowment Fund](#)  
[Full CHF research portfolio](#)



There's a big hole in October where [Montgomery County KC](#) ought to be. The cancellation of America's top all-terrier affair is yet another disappointment in a year of disappointments. Oh well, wait till next year! In the meantime we observe this terrier time of year with a gallery of favorites from our photo archive.

## That Terrier Time of Year

*Montgomery County KC, 1990: A spry 11-year-old Scottish Terrier Ch. Braeburn's Close Encounter (Shannon) wins the Veterans class six years after taking Montgomery County's BIS. The judge is Elaine Rigden, the handler George Ward, and presenting is Terry Stacy. Shannon retired with 214 all-breed BIS.*



*Clockwise from top left: Evelyn Silvernail (1908–1979) with an armful of her famous Crack-Dale Wire Fox Terrier pups. Asked to name the best Wire she ever bred, Mrs. Silvernail responded, "Top Row of Wildoaks. ... He was the only Wire to ever beat Ch. Nornay Saddler, the great Smooth."*

*Selkirk, Scotland: Actor John Nichol as author Sir Walter Scott, with a pack of Dandie Dinmont Terriers in tow. Scott coined the name Dandie Dinmont in his novel Guy Mannering.*

*The imported West Highland White Terrier Ch. Whitebriar Jalisker (b. 1964) is remembered for his 13 BIS and 47 group firsts, and for siring breed legend Ch. De-Go Hubert.*

*[Sahuaro State KC](#), 1963: Lakeland Terrier Ch. Brazen Blonde of Oz wins the Terrier Group and BIS under Heywood Hartley. Harry Sangster handled for Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wiel, of Kerryall.*





## Bill Shelton

“Judging at the breed level is what judging is all about because breed judges can impact the trend of a breed for years into the future,” Dorothy Macdonald once wrote in these pages. Bill Shelton will be heading to Orlando in December as one of the distinguished judges working the all-important breed rings at the AKC National Championship Presented by Royal Canin. The longtime Pembroke Welsh Corgi breeder-exhibitor will judge various sporting, working, and herding breeds. Shelton joins such notables as Edd Bivin, Pamela Bruce, Doug Johnson, Desmond Murphy, Helene Nietsch, Beth Sweigart, and Elliott Weiss in helping to determine the future of our breeds.







*This month: The cancelation of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America’s national specialty inspired columnist Marjorie Geiger to revisit the 44-year history of Berner nationals. (Photo courtesy [Lynda Beam](#))*

Lynda Beam

## 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](mailto:Arliss.Paddock@akc.org).

### THIS MONTH

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## SPORTING GROUP

### Brittanys

#### WHEN IT ALL STARTED

As I contemplate several ideas to possibly use for the next Brittany column in the GAZETTE, it comes to mind that it's been a few years. I looked it up: The writing started in February 2014, as Martha Greenlee, who had for several years been writing the column, asked for a "guest columnist" to do the AKC GAZETTE column. I believe that first column appeared in the July issue of that year. And the writing has continued for these past six years.

Because of my interest in the breed, focus on the written content of the Brittany columns has been hunting, field events, the show arena, and training for all those events. An attempt has been made for the column, each quarter, to be somewhat balanced. It has been rather surprising that over these six years, there has been very limited comment generated by these Brittany columns from the readership. One could speculate that the subject matter just is not of interest; as a writer, it is hoped that this is not the case. Or in this "digital world" we live in, people just do not take or have the time to read the breed columns of the GAZETTE.

Let's go back to the subject of "when it all started." This is a subject that could focus in two ways: In a personal way, it could address

how our family came to have a Brittany as a family member. Some of that subject has been covered in previous columns. However, the focus of this column has to do with the Brittany as a breed.

Often, in this author's opinion there has not been enough emphasis placed on the fact that humans developed the different breeds of dogs. For example, it was significant when man began to domesticate the wolf into dogs and use them to help find, trail, and kill game as a food source. Eventually, four separate types of dogs evolved: the guard/protection dog, the herding dog, the sight-hunting dog, and the scent-hunting dog. Humans started to control the breeding of dogs for these four main specific purposes. Scent-hunting dogs were bred to be of different sizes, to hunt different types of cover, to have keen noses, and to have the ability to retrieve game. Some of these dogs were bred to point upland game birds, while others were bred to flush.

In the region of Brittany, which is now part of France, a dog was developed by the local farmers and peasants through interbreeding English and Irish setters with a small local French spaniel, resulting in the breed known today in the U.S. as the Brittany. (The breed is recognized in other parts of the world as the Brittany Spaniel.)

These early breedings resulted in the



*Brittanys: "It all starts with a pup!"*

Brittany being a small, leggy pointing dog standing about 20 inches at the shoulder and weighing 30 to 40 pounds. The Brittany is known for its keen nose and ability to find birds; they are known to be a tough dog with excellent retrieving abilities. It also should be considered that the French farmer/peasant was breeding with a purpose. That purpose was to improve the breed, which needed to be a small hunting dog that could not be found when the noble's soldiers, during the early Renaissance years (14th to 17th centuries),

came to search his home.

Also, consider that this breeding was for the benefit of today's sportsmen. The selective breeding of different pointing and flushing dogs produced a dog with outstanding scenting and pointing abilities. It was "man" who, throughout the years, used selective breeding to make those changes to produce the Brittany. This breed has now been standardized and recognized by the American Kennel Club.

When our family started decided to get a

COURTESY DAVID A. WEBB



## SPORTING GROUP

dog, there was a search for a relatively small pointing breed of dog with a short tail—tails just do not get along with objects located on top of a coffee table. It was the Brittany. Our family has had the breed for around 45 years and will probably continue to have one as a part of our family. It all starts with a pup!

—David A. Webb,  
[davidawebb@aol.com](mailto:davidawebb@aol.com)  
 American Brittany Club

## Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes

### ELSJE MCDONALD: FROM JUNIOR AMBASSADOR TO VET TECH IN TRAINING

NKCUSA member Elsje McDonald and her Kooiker Ruby represented U.S. Kooikerhondjes internationally in the European Open Junior Agility competitions in the summers of 2017 and 2018. Since their return home, Elsje has continued doing agility with Ruby and her other Kooiker, Yorick, and she served as the Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA's Junior Ambassador. Now that Gianna Burzi has taken on the club's Junior Ambassador role, NKCUA's *The Kooiker Chronicle* checked in this summer with Elsje, who is training for her next role as a Licensed Veterinary Technician. Elsje described her three-year program, which has

weathered some adjustments in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic:

"I am currently finishing up my summer externship/clinical before going back to school for my final year. I have taken classes on topics ranging from general nursing, surgical nursing, dentistry, and laboratory to anesthesia, just to name a few, and am finishing the second year of a three-year program. Assuming Covid does not cause any more interruptions, I am on track to graduate in spring."

"Covid has caused some interruptions to my schooling—halfway through last semester, all of our classes got moved to an online format, which was an adjustment for everyone. My clinicals were moved to June, to continue until right before school starts up again. As for the fall, all my classes will be in an online Zoom format, except for labs, which will still be in person."

"A lot of the clinical training takes place within the school, and a decent bit occurs outside the school in local animal hospitals. Most of our labs involve live animals that are housed on campus. The program has a barn and large animals, as well as a kennel area with dogs and cats from the shelter. We are responsible for their day-to-day care as well as their health care. We also do a lot of work with the shelter to get these pets adopted."

Elsje's Kooikers, Yorick and Ruby, have



*Elsje McDonald with her Kooikers Ruby and Yorick; Elsje and Ruby as part of the AKC team at the 2018 European Open Junior Agility competition; Elsje and Ruby at the European Open in 2019.*



COURTESY ELSJE MCDONALD



## SPORTING GROUP

enjoyed going for a lot more and longer walks since she has been home, and they have spent more time doing tricks and practicing agility in the back yard. Since they haven't gone to agility trials lately, Elsje has been able to spend the extra time working on specific agility skills. Both dogs have happily assisted Elsje with her studies and have attended many of her Zoom classes. —Karen Dean, *The Kooiker Chronicle* (Fall 2020)

*2021 National Specialty* The NKCUSA's 2020 national specialty weekend that was originally to take place in the Pacific Northwest last April had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. But the good news is that the event has been rescheduled for April 8–11, 2021, at the same location—in Albany, Oregon, in conjunction with the Chintimini Kennel Club's all-breed shows. So, we hope you'll join us for "Waggin' Tails on Oregon Trails" next spring! Events will include the national specialty, performance events, seminars, judges' education, the annual membership meeting and awards banquet, three days of supported entries, individual dog evaluations by our Dutch judge, and other highlights of what will be a very enjoyable get-together of Kooikers and their owners. For more details on the 2021 national specialty, and information about Kooikerhondjes in general, visit the

parent club website here:

[Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA](#)

## Pointers

### BE A MENTOR

Being a mentor to the newcomer to dog showing can be rewarding, but at times it can be frustrating as well. It is easy to mentor the person who isn't afraid to ask questions and who is willing to say "Show me." It's much harder to mentor someone who is timid about asking questions and asking for help.

There are so many positive directions we can send the newcomer. Besides the normal route of handling classes and other in-person training opportunities, webinars by handlers and the AKC are now available. Recently there have been many live-streamed demonstrations on how to groom different breeds, sometimes done by professional handlers—who better to learn from? And longtime breeders have streamed puppy evaluations and conformation and movement "seminars"—free, and online. In addition, mentors can offer encouragement regarding the benefits of handling classes and socializing experiences.

"We are always learning," says my own handling team. Send your student to watch



Pointer  
(photo Helyne Medieros)

other breeds and other handlers at the shows, instead of just showing his own breed and going home. Tell him to watch the people who are successful, and see if any of their techniques can be applicable to his own dog. Tell him to be a student of conformation. In this way newcomers can become better handlers, better exhibitors, and better sports as they make an effort to absorb the conformational differences between dogs and understand why judges choose as they do. Tell the newcomer that each breed standard is different, but that there are certain "constants" across all breeds.

Tell him to learn to train his eye to see the sometimes obvious and sometimes exquisite differences in movement.

Tell your student who asks questions and seeks advice to approach a serious and long-time exhibitor. When that person recognizes the sincerity and eagerness to learn, 99 times out of 100 they get the help they ask for. We who are experienced and well-seasoned (euphemism for "older people") are thrilled to help encourage love and appreciation for our breed and for the sport.

When I first started showing dogs, I felt like

COURTESY HELYNE MEDIEROS



## SPORTING GROUP

I needed three hands. I remember being in the ring and showing to the well-respected, now-deceased Cynthia Gusevich Sommers. It was a very large class of Open Bitches. Toward the end of judging the class she came up to me, put her hand on my hand, and said, “Darling, you are making a very beautiful bitch look absolutely awful.” And then she awarded the class to my bitch. But I went away from that experience and *asked* for help. I said, “Don’t tell me what I did wrong—please *show* me how to do it right.”

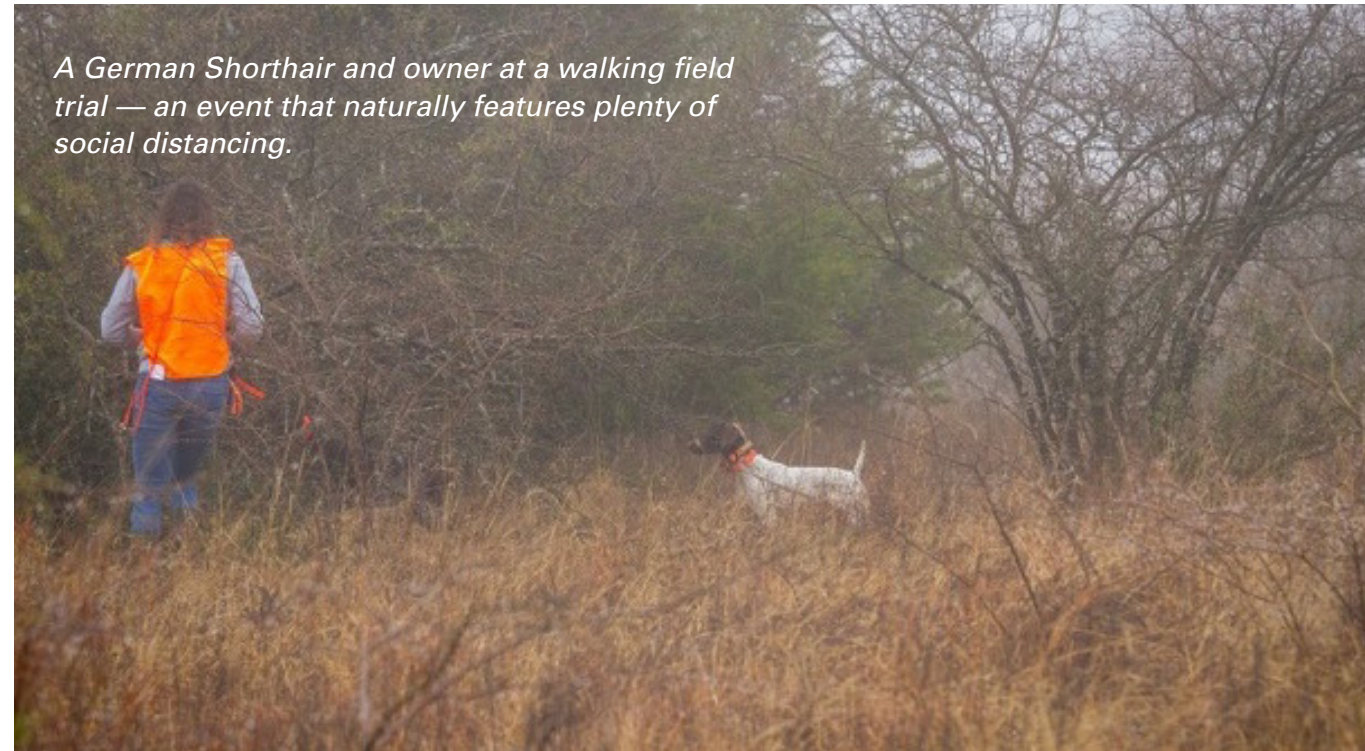
Be the mentor you would like to have had for yourself, and hopefully you will find the “student” who will still be around 40 years later.

—Helyne E. Medeiros,  
[seasydehm@aol.com](mailto:seasydehm@aol.com)  
American Pointer Club

## German Shorthaired Pointers AND LIFE GOES ON ...

Dog people are resourceful, and they will find a way to continue to enjoy their dogs, whether it’s taking long walks or finding ingenious methods to continue in the activity sports of the dogs they love.

Some clubs local and national were fortunate to have their 2020 events in the books when the coronavirus hit. Others not so, and



*A German Shorthair and owner at a walking field trial — an event that naturally features plenty of social distancing.*

they were faced with the difficult decision of finding new sites and potentially new dates, or cancelling the event altogether.

Before the pandemic arrived in the U.S., the German Shorthaired Pointer parent club had already dealt with the loss of a site/facility and relocation for their 2020 national specialty. Then the national specialty Executive Committee was dealt another blow that holding the May national at the second site was unlikely, due to the virus restrictions of the state. Once again, decisions had to be made: Cancel altogether, and take a large financial loss; stay with the dates, and hope for the best; or reschedule at a future date that would work for all, including

superintendent, judges, and photographer.

The committee weighed all the options and pros and cons, and their recommendation to the Board of Directors was to reschedule for November 1–6, 2020, thus keeping the same site/hotel and schedules.

At that time in March the closing date had not passed, and for individuals who wanted to let their entries ride, the show superintendent would transfer them to the new date. Individuals who wanted to cancel needed to do so before that closing date to receive a full refund. Futurity dogs and bitches would still be shown in the same class nominated as of the second forfeiture. Sweepstakes would add an 18–24 Months class

to accommodate dogs who would have aged out by the November dates.

Once the new paperwork was completed, the premium list would be posted at a later date. The original plans to hold a regional specialty, three days of rally, three days of obedience, the potential for an agility trial, and all regular and non-regular classes, in addition to the Top 25 competition and awards dinner, stayed the same. The annual meeting, traditionally held during this timeframe, was moved to the National Field Trial in October.

The Learning Cluster held in Guthrie, Oklahoma, in June was a benchmark for all clubs and exhibitors to rethink how to go forward for the future. Dog people are ingenious that way, always thinking. Not that we can’t do this anymore, but finding ways to continue to enjoy our sport.

For clubs that hold hunt tests and field trials, social distancing usually isn’t a problem, unless the state has restrictions on the use of state land where some of these events may be held. Outdoor events held on private property may be subject to different state restrictions, as it pertains to how many people can be gathered in one location.

—Patte Titus,  
[chexsix@mac.com](mailto:chexsix@mac.com)  
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America

COURTESY PATTE TITUS



## SPORTING GROUP

### Curly-Coated Retrievers

Sheila Callahan-Young is in charge of our Curly Rescue and Referral Committee and shares with us the following.

#### CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER RESCUE AND REFERRAL

The Curly-Coated Retriever Rescue and Referral Program has been active for many years. The following “Priorities” section included here is taken directly from the CCRCA rescue documents.

*Priorities:* Available Rescue CCRs will always take priority over Referral CCRs. Dogs that an owner or breeder has made available for adoption on a “free to a good home” basis are eligible for Referral status.

*1st priority: Rescue CCRs*—Dogs in immediate danger, dogs in shelters, displaced, abandoned or stray dogs, dogs in temporary foster homes, personal emergency situations, any dogs that cannot stay in their present homes, or any dogs that are victims of inhumane treatment.

*2nd priority: Referral CCRs*—unwanted dogs living with their owners in non-emergency settings, dogs returned to their breeders, and all other free-of-charge referrals.

How do we find these Rescue CCRs in order to help them? Some dogs are advertised through shelters or agencies. We are often contacted directly when owners are ill and no



longer able to care for their dog. The owner may die, or may be moving or divorcing. Or perhaps the owner is in the military and being deployed overseas, or a family is taking a job in another country. CCRCA Rescue has experienced all of these situations over the years.

Once we learn all we can about the Rescue CCR and its immediate needs, we refer to our list of homes applying for adoption to find the most suitable match for the dog. If a foster home is required, we contact club members who live closest to where the dog is located. Our devoted members are most generous and always willing and able to help our breed in any way.

A CCRCA Rescue and Referral application can be found at the parent-club website, [ccrca.org](http://ccrca.org). —Sheila Callahan-Young

Thank you very much, Sheila, for a fine explanation of our CCRCA Rescue and Referral Program. Now Jenny Dickinson will describe her experiences with two re-homed Curlies.

“I have had two re-homed senior Curlies, both of whom were marvelous dogs. My first was Dese’s Sweet Georgia Brown. Don and Sonia Evans, longtime Curly breeders, discovered that a pair of owners had dumped their 13-year-old Curly at a shelter because she had become inconvenient. Don and Sonia drove

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY PHOTOGRAPHY



## SPORTING GROUP

down to the shelter and got the dog, and another friend brought her up to me in Rhode Island.

“Georgia was covered with tumors and had a number of other problems, but she clearly had plenty of life left. My veterinarian removed the tumors and gave her an ‘overhaul.’ Sonia insisted that the previous owners pay the vet bill, which I greatly appreciated. Georgia lived another three years, making me laugh every day. She was Phyllis Diller reincarnate. I will never understand how anyone could give up this bitch.

“My second re-homed Curly came from Stephanie Ayers in Texas. Fortunately, a dog handler was delivering a dog to New England for some dog shows, and she was able to bring Sidney to Boston, where I picked him up. This lovely dog, 10 years old, was given up because the family had too many children. He was a perfect gentleman. I took him with me to my obedience club and to dog shows to socialize and ‘hang out together.’ I was devastated when he bloated and subsequently died after only three months with me. Again, I cannot understand why anyone would give up such a lovely, easygoing dog.

“Never hesitate to take an older Curly who has been underappreciated by his first owners. These two brought me immeasurable joy, and that is not an exaggeration.” —Jenny Dickinson

Thanks so much, Sheila and Jenny, for

sharing such interesting information. I have known many other club members over the years who have shared their homes with a variety of rescued or referred Curlies, all who ended up in wonderful homes.

—Ann Shinkle,

[annshinkle@aol.com](mailto:annshinkle@aol.com)

Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America

## Golden Retrievers

### THE GREAT SPAY/NEUTER DEBATE

In the United States, spay/neuter surgery of male and female dogs has, for decades, become routine during their first year after birth. That includes most male and female Golden Retrievers, with the exception of those Goldens who compete in various canine competitions. And until very recently, most veterinarians recommended the procedures be completed prior to sexual maturity. Today, thanks to new health data, many are rethinking the timing of that surgery.

In 2013, the Golden Retriever Foundation published a study from the University of California–Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, revealing that neutered (referring to both male and female) Golden Retrievers had a higher risk of joint disorders and certain cancers when compared to intact or late-neutered Goldens.



Golden Retrievers

COURTESY MELISSA HAMPTON



## SPORTING GROUP

Fast-forward to 2019. A research team led by Benjamin Hart, DVM, PhD., lead investigator and professor emeritus at UC Davis, published the results of an extensive follow-up study, this time looking at the long-term health effects of neutering and the correlation between those effects and the age of the procedure. The team reviewed 13 years of health records from 1,015 male and female Goldens 1 to 8 years of age, noting their age at the time of surgery: before 6 months; between 6 and 11 months; between 12 and 24 months; or between 2 and 9 years of age. The results of this study should be a wakeup call for the Golden Retriever community.

Focusing on joint disease, male Goldens fared the worst. The study found that in males neutered before 12 months of age, the risk of developing hip dysplasia *doubled*, with the disease occurring at a younger age in early-neutered dogs compared to those still intact or neutered later. The team also studied the incidence of cranial cruciate ligament tears (CCL) and found that both males and females neutered prior to sexual maturity had an increased risk of CCL disease. Notably, there was no occurrence of CCL disease in intact males or intact females, or in late-neutered females, with the obvious conclusion that early neutering creates significant risk of

developing this disease.

With respect to certain cancers, unfortunately, we can't spay/neuter it away. In fact, spay/neuter actually increases the risk of many canine cancers.

Female Goldens appeared to be more at risk of one or more cancers by neutering than males. In fact, neutering at *any* age after 6 months increased their cancer risk three to four times compared to non-neutered females. Male Goldens neutered before 12 months of age experienced three times the risk of lymphosarcoma than dogs neutered after 1 year of age. In both sexes, early neutering raised the risk of mast cell tumors.

And there's more. Considering just these numbers and percentages alone, however, the main takeaway is that our beloved breed can, and will, suffer serious (and expensive) health problems if we ignore the results of these important studies. Rescues, shelters, and animal-welfare organizations that focus on reducing pet overpopulation may balance this information with their stated mission. As Golden owners and breeders, however, we should adjust our own "Golden mission" and consider the health consequences before we agree to or recommend "the knife."

—Nona Kilgore Bauer,  
[nona@nonabauer.com](mailto:nona@nonabauer.com)  
[Golden Retriever Club of America](#)

## English Setters

### OUR HIGH-ACHIEVING ENGLISH SETTERS PART ONE

Once upon a time there was a widespread belief that Setters in general were dumb. Maybe some people still think that you can't train a setter—that they don't listen, don't pay attention, aren't motivated, or whatever drivel has been passed along. If you have an English Setter looking at you at the moment, you know this is false. Dogs developed for different tasks have different temperaments, and our English Setters have been bred for centuries to be "biddable." That means that they are quite trainable.

To prove this point, in this and the next column we'll hear from several people who have reached the highest levels of training achievements with their English Setters.

*Chris Cornell and OTCH Cornell's Queen Princess (1976-1993)*

*Today we can look at Chris Cornell and OTCH Cornell's Queen Princess as trailblazers, but back in 1976, Chris was simply dealing with an English Setter puppy for his son that needed some training. He tells the story.*

We will always remember our son's first vacation. At age 6, he looked so vulnerable as he boarded the plane alone, bound for Seattle and his grandparents' home. It was to be an exciting trip with the 1976 Bicentennial Year

festivities, camping, fishing, crabbing and a new litter of puppies. After a week had passed the inevitable call came, "Can Shahn have a puppy, a cute little tricolor English Setter"? We had already discussed that it would be yes, but had a lot to do in our new house and making a yard for her. So, with the help of his grandparents, Shahn selected the perfect puppy, to be named Queen.

Queen arrived in Phoenix in mid-July, at 10 weeks old. Since she was not accustomed to the Arizona heat, she spent her days in the kitchen, patiently waiting for her new family to come home. She was such a sweet puppy. We never imagined what an important member of the family she would become.

Every evening when the sun had nearly set, we would take Queen to the park for some exercising. She loved that so, and was so enthusiastic about being with us. However, by the time she was 4 months old, it was becoming an adventure, because she was now dragging us to the park. For a puppy, she sure was strong! It was time to start some training.

About this time we attended our first dog match and came in contact with the English Setter Club of Phoenix. Through them, we were introduced to the beautiful Laverack setters and learned the difference between them and the Llewellyn setters. They were also offering obedience and show-handling classes,

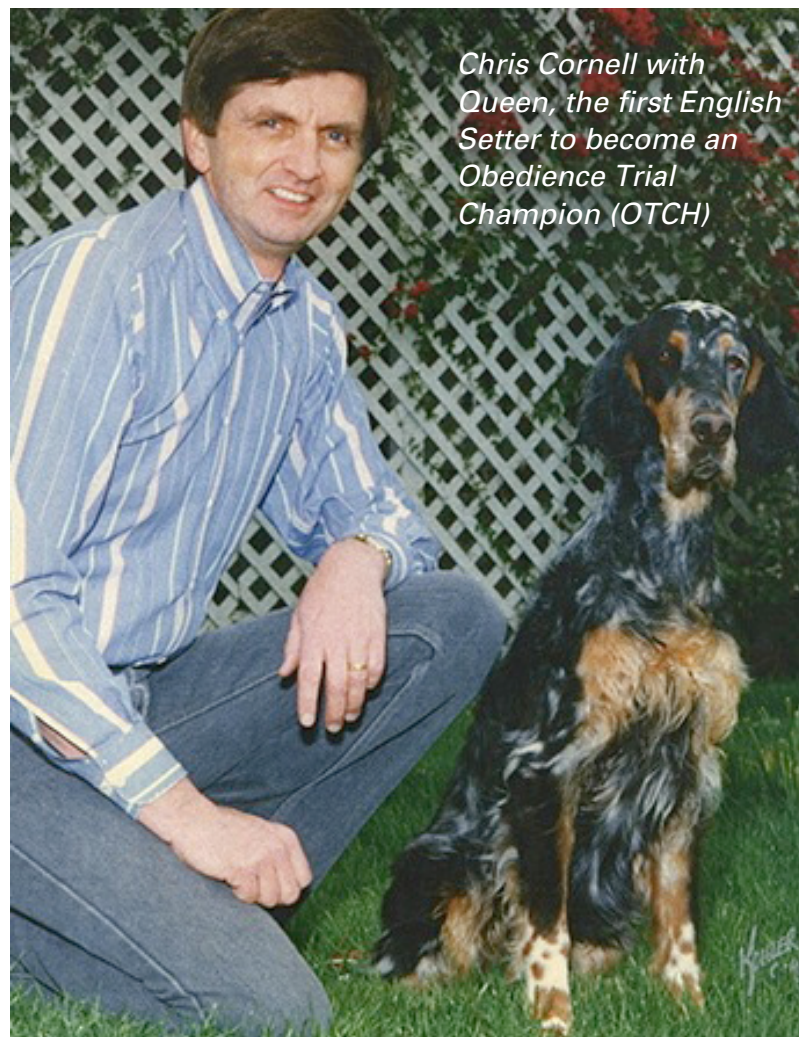


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so Queen was enrolled to learn some basic manners.

More formal obedience training started later in the year. We were fortunate to have taken an unruly Labrador Retriever through some classes previously, and so we knew of qualified teachers. As this was my first obedience dog, it was very beneficial to be in an atmosphere where I received guidance and good advice on how to progress. I kept the at-home training sessions very short, 15 minutes, but attempted to work with her twice a day. Being very outgoing, Queen loved the attention. I also varied the training sites from the backyard to the driveway, sidewalk, street, and nearby park. When she was about 9 months I entered her in some matches so that we both could get some formal ring experience. It was then on to the real shows, and she earned the CD title at 11 months.

We had already started Open training while in Novice, working on the dumb-bell, retrieving, and jumping. She was a very good retriever and loved to jump. Back in 1976, dogs had to jump one-and-a-half times their height at the withers. She would have to jump 32 inches, but I practiced at 34 inches, which she easily cleared. Static exercises were never her strong suit, with her having failed a couple of times on the Novice sit. So, I knew



*Chris Cornell with Queen, the first English Setter to become an Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH)*

the three-minute sit and five-minute down in Open were going to be a challenge. We spent a lot of time on various techniques and gimmicks to keep her up or down but had problems with the Open sit throughout her career. It was very frustrating when high scores were negated by missing the three minutes by mere seconds. It basically came down to if she wanted to do it, she would do it. Her heel

work started to really shape up, however, and she received some very nice scores and earned the CDX title in April 1977.

Utility training was started early again. Dowels helped tremendously in the directed jumping; and tying down articles was also good. Queen was very partial to cheese, but that gets messy in warm Phoenix. She absolutely loved the jumping, and that posed a problem. In 1977, jumping was always the last Utility exercise, with the directed retrieve right before it. Queen knew what was coming and would get almost out of control on the glove exercise, knowing jumping was next. Back then, the Stand for Examination was a group exercise that lasted a minimum of three minutes—again, a static exercise, which was not her thing. She did a tap dance or two along the way and kept my heart pumping. Utility is hard, so NQs happened, but she also passed occasionally—and in the fall of 1978, she earned the UD title.

After taking a little time off, we started showing again in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and Southern California. There was no UDX title back then, but the Obedience Trial Champion title was about three years old. We entered a number of shows over the next two years, and in November 1980, she became the

first English Setter to earn the OTCH, at 4 years of age. It was an exciting and fun journey!

Although she often was in the ribbons with high scores, I doubt that she will be remembered for them, but rather for the unbridled and contagious enthusiasm she typically demonstrated. She often most impressed spectators when she was flying around the ring with tail flagging, although parts of some exercises might have been temporarily performed incorrectly.

She was a loved member of our family for almost 17 years. —Chris and Claire Cornell  
Thank you, Chris and Claire!

We will continue in the January 2021 issue with more high-achieving English Setters.

—Carlotta Cooper,  
[eshever@embargmail.com](mailto:eshever@embargmail.com)

[English Setter Association of America](#)

## Gordon Setters AN INTRODUCTION

Two things need to be covered in this initial column. The first is to offer a sincere thank-you to Carolyn Gold for her many years of doing a great job writing this column for the GAZETTE. As with anything, there comes a time to move on or take a break. In Carolyn's case, let us hope that this is a case of

COURTESY CHRIS CORNELL



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taking that break. As this column is being finished she is busying herself with a new litter of puppies. Thank you, Carolyn.

The second is to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. I purchased my first Gordon in 1978, and with only one exception I have only had Gordon Setters since that time. The one exception was an Irish Red and White Setter purchased in 1985, long before that breed was recognized by the American Kennel Club.

I have been active with AKC events and the Gordon Setter Club of America since shortly after that first Gordon arrived. I've been proud to have bench champions, field champions, one dual champion, and Gordons with hunting titles. Mostly I have been happy to share the house, the sofa, and occasionally the bed with the dogs.

I was the chairman of the first Gordon Setter national specialty, in 1983, and I have been chair of the Midwest specialty for more years than I care to admit, starting in 1980. I was also on the committee for the first Gordon Setter National Field Trial, in 1993. I have also been enlisted (drafted) several times to serve as the scribe for the national trials. For a number of years I judged pointing-breed field trials, working certificates, pointing-breed hunting tests, and the occasional spaniel hunting test—including the first-ever Clumber



Gordon Setter

Spaniel test. Eventually age takes a toll, so I have retired from those happy duties. My chief activities now are long walks in the fields and meadows here in Ohio with a well-behaved senior Gordon.

This is a “temporary” position, but I'm sure most of you are aware how broadly that term can be applied.

Finally, I will close this with a phrase that ended the GAZETTE columns for a number of years when the late Jane Matteson was the

columnist. “Reach down now and hug your Gordon. Mean it.”

—Jim Thacker,  
[dunbargs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dunbargs@sbcglobal.net)  
[Gordon Setter Club of America](#)

## Irish Setters

Connie Vanacore wrote the following column in 2013—and the topic, like classic style, is surely timeless.

## A SENSE OF STYLE

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

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

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

Dogs who excel in all sorts of venues also may have style. A hunting dog locked up on

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## SPORTING GROUP



Irish Setters

a staunch point has style. A hound covering ground as though he was flying has style, just as a model carrying herself like a queen has style.

Style is an inborn quality. It cannot be taught. Nor can it be denied. Dogs cannot fake it, though some of their human counterparts try. Style and elegance go together. They might even be synonymous, though not always.

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

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

Sometimes dogs will surprise you by the style they reveal during times of joy or stress. We once had an Irish Setter who displayed

both qualities at different times. He loved boat rides, and he would trot over to the neighbor’s on our lake just in order to jump into a waiting boat that would ferry him across the bay, as he proudly stood in the prow, feathers flying, king of all he surveyed. On another occasion a bicyclist came racing down the road, greeted by Casey, who, teeth bared, knocked the unwelcome guest off his seat.

The term “style” can be as broad or as nar-

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

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

[Irish Setter Club of America](#)

### Irish Red and White Setters

With autumn bringing with the colorful leaves an increase in tick activity in many parts of the country, it is a good time to revisit the following piece that was written in 2010 by columnist Lee Robinson.

#### LYME DISEASE: HIDDEN DANGER AMONG US

After a long winter of running the dogs in snow-covered woods, it was a relief when in early March much of the snow had disappeared, leaving lots of bare ground for them

to easily navigate through—that is, until I got home and found several tiny ticks on the dogs, thinking, “Oh, no, here we go again!” While in the woods the dogs dug holes in rotten logs and checked out piles of brush, the perfect environment for potentially deadly deer ticks, which are so tiny that they are virtually unseen by the human eye.

As an avid outdoors person, while hunting with and training my dogs along with judging AKC hunt tests I have been exposed and bitten by many ticks over the years. Not until the late summer and early fall of 2002, however, when I was bitten by an infected deer tick, did the reality sink in of how that tiny little insect bite could affect my life. I now have chronic Lyme disease. My love of the outdoors and my dogs keep me going and keep me reasonably active in doing the things I love.

Here in the Northeast, the deer tick is the main species that transmits the disease. The high-risk months for tick bites in the Northeast can vary with the weather, and ticks can be active all year.

The most common sign of the disease in our dogs is a sudden onset of lameness, with one or more joints becoming swollen and painful when touched. Other signs can include fever, weakness, lethargy, and loss of appetite and weight. If your dog exhibits any of these signs, consult your veterinarian immediately. Four



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of my six dogs who contracted Lyme disease experienced different symptoms, ranging from all of the above to relatively mild symptoms. All responded very well when treated with antibiotics.

After a day's hunt or a run in the woods or fields, thoroughly inspect yourself and your dog and remove any ticks before heading for

home. Be sure to conduct regular tick-checks on your dogs.

When removing a tick, wear gloves, and use a tick-puller or fine-point tweezers. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible, pulling it straight out. Be sure not to crush or puncture it. To dispose of the tick after it has been removed, drop it into a medicine-bottle con-

taining some alcohol. This will kill the nasty little creature. Last, wash the area and your tools with an antiseptic.

The deer tick is a hidden danger that we all have to live with. Because we own and love Irish Red and White Setters, outdoor activities are a must, so before heading out, here are a few tips on how to protect yourself: Wear light-colored socks, pulled over the bottom hem of long pants; closed shoes; a long-sleeved shirt tucked into your pants; and a hat. Also be sure to arm yourself with a natural or approved insect-repellent for you and your dog. Finally, your best defense against Lyme disease is knowledge. To learn more, lots of information is available on the internet. —L.R., 2010

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

## Clumber Spaniels

### QUOTABLE QUOTES PART II

Continued here are quotations begun in the July column, taken from our two-volume *Clumber Talk! Half Century of Clumber Spaniel Columns: 1969–2019*, consisting of 221 Clumber columns by 10 columnists and 41 guest columnists.

• Nothing as important to a breed as its standard—though a perpetual topic of conversation.

• Nothing in the UK/FCI standard prepares judges, especially in distant lands, for the unique “Clumber roll.”

• The national specialty: Where else can you see so many excellent Clumbers?

• “More than a hundred Clumbers, including forty-two champions—I thought I had died and gone to heaven!”

• Ten years ago a Clumber in a show was a remarkable event.

• If not a winner with the judge, always a winner with the spectators.

• At Crufts, one has the overall impression of a cluster of national specialties.

• My English host exclaimed, “You don’t have bars [for drinking]! Why do you go to dog shows?”

• Benching seems largely redundant when there is also “Meet the Breeds” or “Discover Dogs.”

• There are two species of ringside commentators: (1) “How’s come he has ‘em run round like that?” and (2) “Didn’t that dog’s littermate take Reserve at Podunk KC three years ago?”

• First and foremost is temperament, followed by soundness of body.

• Judges should look for a low-legged sporting spaniel with good length of body, massively built throughout, with strong bone and feet, and a massive headpiece of soft, pleasing expression.

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- A square Clumber lacks breed type.
- Tall and square is the “drag” of the breed.
- A Clumber with long legs is apt to head off too quickly, flushing his game out of shot.
- Don’t get caught up in “bigger is better”—balance is best.
- Heavy doesn’t mean fat.
- A perennial Clumber problem: lack of proper angulation, especially with rears too straight.
- Not good: too short a ribcage, too long a loin.
- A correct Clumber head is a thing of beauty.
- The Clumber Spaniel should never be shaved.
- The feathers should clear the ground by half an inch.
- From a highly respected, longtime dog show judge: “Only two professions where you can be wrong half the time and still get paid: weather forecaster, and dog show judge.”
- One can teach a dog obedience, but the dog must be born with the desire to hunt—a true Clumber trait.
- Recognition that different breeds of Spaniels have different styles of hunting is very important.
- AKC Hunting Tests are the ideal place for Clumbers to demonstrate their hunting abilities.



- Enthusiasm and speed are not synonymous.
- “Intense” best expresses a good Clumber’s attitude toward birds.
- Obedience is important because the training demands handler and dog work together, building a bond.
- People who see obedience competition as “making” the dog do something have missed the point entirely.
- Clumbers are driven by their noses, and obviously made for tracking.
- “Completely without training, the Clumbers put their noses down and began tracking.”
- Teaching a Clumber to track is only slightly harder than teaching it to eat or take a nap on the couch!
- Scent Work: a sport tailor-made for the Clumber.
- The canine nose is 10,000 to 100,000 times more sensitive than that of humans.
- Certainly not every Clumber should do agility.
- For so massive a dog, it’s a lot to ask: a strong rear to propel him/her over the jump, and an even stronger front to absorb the impact of landing.
- It’s the shoulders especially that take the most pounding.
- With most of the weight on the front end, it’s important to get the front legs under the center of gravity.



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- It's very difficult to “make” a Clumber do anything.
- Weak rears, combined with straight fronts, can break down over just the time necessary for training.
- Built according to the standard, admittedly Clumbers can never truly excel in agility.
- The partnership with your Clumber(s) is what really matters.
- The AKC GAZETTE had been published for 87 years before its first Clumber Spaniel column—but since then the CSCA has never failed to present one, and on time!
- Until its last printed issue in September 2011, for many, many dog people the AKC GAZETTE was the AKC.
- Promoting, protecting, and preserving our breed is the basic function of the CSCA.

*Reminder: Try to learn from your dog: no matter what life brings, kick some dirt over it, and move on.*

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.,  
[bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com](mailto:bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com)

Breed Historian and Delegate  
[Clumber Spaniel Club of America](#)

## Cocker Spaniels

### COCKER OWNER COMMON SENSE

Although you cannot generalize about breed characteristics, common sense should be applied in caring for your Cocker,

as the breed's characteristics dictate.

**Ears.** The Cocker generally has long ear leathers covered in heavy feathering. You can see, therefore, that little air is able to circulate in the covered ear canals to allow any moisture to dry. Common sense should tell you that greater attention must be paid to checking Cocker ears to make sure no infection is starting, as compared to a dog with open ears. After each bath, make sure the undersides of the ears are dry and moisture is dried from the canals. There are good ear-cleaning products on the market, but gentle use of rubbing alcohol on a soft paper towel is useful after a bath to dry moisture in the ears. Your veterinarian should be consulted promptly at any sign of ear inflammation before any infection has a chance to progress.

**Eyes.** Common sense informs you to look for any sign of unusual discharge or redness, or the dog pawing at his or her eye in discomfort. Owners should inform themselves about the possibility of inherited eye diseases. The American Spaniel Club and the ASC Foundation are involved with guidelines and research regarding eye diseases, and there is good reading material available about this subject. Especially concerning is acute glaucoma, with its signs of redness of the eyeball, cloudiness of the cornea giving the eye a bluish appearance, excessive tearing, and so

forth. This is a veterinary emergency, as intraocular pressure can be building up in the eye. The dog rubbing his or her face in obvious discomfort can be a symptom.

**Coat and skin.** The Cocker's coat is its great beauty, which requires maximum vigilance and effort to maintain. Not only should you prepare to learn grooming techniques, routinely applied (or hire a groomer skilled in grooming Cockers), but also you should know how your environment affects your Cocker's coat. Leaves, burrs, thistles, and other debris must be brushed out immediately after a walk. Coats should not be left wet, as this can be an enemy of the skin, promoting infections and irritations on the skin. After each bath, the coat should be thoroughly dried, with care taken not to use too hot a dryer setting on the skin.

Common sense dictates routine examination of the skin and coat. Every owner and groomer likely has shampoos, conditioners, and other grooming products that are their favorites, based on trial and error and results,

so it is a good idea to check around for product recommendations based on your Cocker's coat type. No matter what the shampoo used, complete and thorough rinsing is essential to prevent residue and resulting skin irritation.

**Feet.** The breed standard for the Cocker Spaniel calls for “feet large, round and firm with horny pads,” since common sense would tell you this assembly is best for the Cocker



Cocker Spaniel

DAVID WOO AKC



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in covering rough terrain while in the field, fulfilling the bird-flushing function for which the Cocker was developed. Since the Cocker is well coated and has large feet, it makes sense that its owner must keep the feet trimmed around the pads and toes and be vigilant about the Cocker not picking up debris in the hair around the toes and pads.

*Emotional well-being.* The Cocker's emotional well-being must be important to the owner. Needless to say, Cockers are individuals, and their temperaments vary; however, there are certain commonsense approaches to helping your Cocker be his or her happiest self.

A sense of purpose is important to each Cocker. One key to a happy dog is trying different activities to determine each dog's interests! Some dogs enjoy obedience activities; some will enjoy fieldwork if their owner is equipped to participate. If the dog loves being around children, he may find his purpose in certified therapy dog programs, such as children reading to and enjoying the company of a dog while reading to bolster self-confidence. Cockers generally have a loving nature, a desire to please, and "know" they are helping people in programs such as this. If, on the other hand, the Cocker is more reserved and has more of a one-owner personality, do not push the dog to accept the attention of crowds without additional, incremental socialization.

Common sense would tell you to give the Cocker the opportunity to experience different activities and experiences until you discover what suits the Cocker's individual personality. A dog with a sense of purpose, a job to do, even if that is providing expert companionship to his owner, is a dog with security and emotional well-being.

There are rewards from applying common sense to your unique Cocker Spaniel.

—Kristi L. Tukua

[American Spaniel Club](#)

## English Cocker Spaniels

This month's column begins a series of brief highlights from the English Cocker Spaniel Club of America's *The English Cocker Spaniel* (1986), volumes 1–4, known as the "Jubilee Books," compiled by Beth C. McKinney and Kate R. Romanski. The breed fancy and the

(top) Ch. Beauty of Heidesta, BB at the 1953 American Spaniel Club show, later to go BOS to Best in Show, with handler Ed Sayres and judge Mrs. Arthur Vogel (E. Shafer photo); (left) Beauty as photographed by William Brown; (right) Beauty's litter sister Ch. Nature Girl of Heidesta, dam of six champions, in a portrait by Rudolf Tauskey.



COURTESY ECSCA/ST. HUBERT'S GIRALDA



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club are deeply indebted to these two women for their great contribution in the preservation of breed history and knowledge through these beautiful and authoritative volumes.

### THE HEIDESTA SISTERS

Beauty of Heidesta (Ch. His Highness of Ware x Ch. Pride of Heidesta) was named “Beauty” because even as a puppy, she was a real beauty, with a very white, white coat and cleanly and evenly marked. She was good sized, with good bone, but did not carry a lot of coat. Shown for only the third time at the 1950 ECSCA Specialty, she was Winners Bitch for five points. The following week she took four points at Plainfield and the next day went on to Best of Breed over the three specials for three more points and placed second in the group. She had completed her title within 15 days handled by Jane Kamp (Forsyth).

Knowing how much Mrs. Dodge had admired Beauty, Mr. Dodge bought her from her breeders and presented her to Mrs. Dodge as a Christmas gift in 1950. In Mrs. Dodge’s ownership and handled by Ed Sayres, Beauty had an excellent career, particularly for a bitch. She won the group at Old Dominion and Berks County in 1951. She was the first bitch to win Best of Breed at an ECSCA National Specialty (1952), where she also went

on to win the group. Beauty’s final big win in the show ring was at the American Spaniel Club in 1953. The judge was Mrs. Arthur Vogel (Mrs. Mildred T. Imrie), who not only judged English Cockers but also did Best in Show. Beauty took Best of Breed and then went on to Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Show, the last time that award was offered.

Beauty had a litter sister, Nature Girl of Heidesta, a black, white, and tan. She was not as glamorous as Beauty, with less angulation and less coat, but she was sturdier and very pretty. It was Nature Girl who became the producer, with six champions to her credit, five of whom were sired by Ch. Comanche of Ranch-Aero. —*The English Cocker Spaniel: Jubilee Book of the English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc., Vol. 1* (English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, 1986); pp. 147–8.

[English Cocker Spaniel Club of America](#)

## English Springer Spaniels

### SMELL THE WIDE WORLD

Looking for a miracle? Consider the Lastounding abilities of your dog’s nose. Taking a walk to allow our canine companion to sniff rocks, trees, mailbox posts—whatever the dog finds tantalizing—is a great gift of pleasure to a dog. Humans can hardly fathom the myriad messages that dogs’ noses under-



English Springer Spaniel

DAVID WOO ©AKC



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stand.

The book *The Canine Kingdom of Scent: Fun activities using your dog's natural instincts*, by Anne Kvam, is a pleasure to read and an excellent trove of canine learning and step-by-step training information.

Kvam suggests many benefits derived from cultivating our dog's natural scenting abilities, saying, "while many dogs get sufficient walks, exercise and maybe even some training, they do not get enough stimulation of their innate senses and abilities." She stresses that very few dog sport activities "require calmness and concentration." Kvam's students report, "in general, their dog's cooperation has improved and the relationship between dog and owner has been strengthened."

Kvam reminds us, "First and foremost, it is the demands on yourself that need your attention. You must have lots of patience, be highly systematic and be very determined to reach your goals." The trainer's toolbox should include "patience; ability to be systematic; sufficient motivation and stubbornness to stick to your plan and knowledge of how your dog learns."

The author explains further:

"Dogs learn by association. Association means to connect one event with another. Many dogs easily learn the difference between [their owner's] office coat and a leisure coat.

Many dogs have learned the meaning of certain words without us even trying to teach them."

A dog who enjoys training and is not bored by rigorous repetitions will be the best learner, says Kvam.

"It is important that the dog only receives positive associations. I want my dog to work with me because she wants to. Force or punishment is something I never apply. When you say 'no,' jerk on the leash, or do anything else to punish the dog, this will upset your dog. Because of the way the brain and nervous system work, negative feelings are learned stronger and faster than positive [feelings], so it does not help much to praise the dog for doing the right thing immediately after the correction. The negative impact has already been experienced. Mistakes only occur when your preparation has not been good enough."

When should you "pay" the dog for her work? Kvam says:

"Follow the simple rule of rewarding performance of expected quality with verbal praise, above expected performance with a moderate value reward, and a great performance with the highest value reward, tailored to the dog's preferences. Think of yourself as a slot machine which sometimes gives money back and sometimes not, instead of a vending machine [that] always gives a reward."

Kvam stresses, "Do a maximum of five repetitions, and then take a short break before attempting another one to five repetitions. Stop when the dog has done something well. For some adult dogs, particularly adult females who are fast learners, you don't need to do even four or five repetitions to get a learned behavior that is reliable. I have seen dogs that 'get it' after the first or second attempt."

When you give your dog a break to rest his concentration between training tasks, make sure you really let the dog relax for a minute or two. Kvam recommends against using the breaks "to train something else, like obedience, tricks, agility obstacles or whatever. This is normally a bad idea. When you train something else during a break, you take away the memory of what you and the dog just did and replace it with what you are doing now. Just stroll around on leash, letting her sniff where she wants."

Strive for quality of finds, not speed of work. Kvam reminds us, "You want your dog to work fast but thoroughly with high concentration. If she gets stressed, she may move fast but will not concentrate well and may have problems remembering what she actually is supposed to search for while running. Far too many mistakes happen when high stress is misinterpreted to be high motivation."

*The Canine Kingdom of Scent* has many chapters detailing how to teach varied specific skills that require your dog's nose. You will enjoy step-by-step training plans to search for treats for fun; find lost objects like keys, gloves, wallets, and so on; and search for treats indoors and outside in many configurations. You will learn to teach your dog the names of toys and to give up objects found. You will learn how to lay a track, and to teach your dog about scent oils and other nose work games. Add this fantastic book to your library.

—Sarah A. Ferrell, Locust Grove, Virginia,  
[saf@abrohamneal.com](mailto:saf@abrohamneal.com)

[English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association](#)

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## Field Spaniels

### AFTER THE FACT: CONSIDERING NECROPSY

First off, the "study of the dead" is the meaning behind roots of the word *necropsy*, and is used to describe postmortem examination of animals, while *autopsy* refers specifically to postmortem examination of humans, because of the root *auto* giving the meaning "self-study."

Why would veterinarians, breeders, researchers, and pet owners be interested in doing necropsy or having it done on their



## SPORTING GROUP

beloved animals? It's all in the interest of knowledge.

Before you dismiss the idea, thinking it too morbid or depressing to consider, think about the science and learning that has come before us or our dogs. Discovery has led to health advances over time. Determining a cause of death can often give us closure and peace of mind, and can aid in the development of treatments for such conditions in the future of veterinary medicine or even help breeders to learn more about issues in their dogs.

Whether an animal dies suddenly or is humanely euthanized, veterinarians can often learn from necropsy and in turn help other animals in the future by advancing science and medicine.

Veterinarian Jacquelyn Arns, DVM, of New Jersey, explains to pet owners, "This isn't 'doing experiments' or desecration. This is learning stuff right at its very basic level. If you don't look for stuff, you'll never find it, especially if you don't know that it's there to be found.

"It's hard for us vets to ask for a necropsy. I've done it a few times, and when I've gotten a yes, I've always learned something, even if it was just how to explain to a grieving owner why things happened the way they did. There are many more times I wanted to ask but didn't, because I felt bad about putting such a



choice on someone at such a horrible time for them. If you're ever asked, please consider it, the question comes from an honest place with a good and curious intent. And it's OK for you to ask for one, too."

It is excellent food for thought that if there is something to be gained from such study, we can consider it ahead of time and aid our decision under non-emergent circumstances.

What types of situations could necropsy be a valid option? With stillborns or puppies lost after whelping, sometimes a hidden cause can help breeders to learn. Grieving such losses is difficult, but sometimes that closure can help with future breeding decisions. Owners are often given answers to their beloved dog's ailments or untimely death, which can also bring peace after decision to euthanize. Even necropsy of older dogs can hold answers that benefit the breed. All in all, it is a personal choice, and one to think about as objectively as possible.

What about the final needs? Well, cremation or burial are still options, even after a postmortem. Talk with your vet about the services they offer and the professionals that work with them to ensure honor and dignity are still bestowed upon your dog's remains. Knowing your wishes ahead of time will help you to make choices that bring you peace and comfort.

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Our dogs give us so much. It's topics like these that make us wonder how we could ever deserve their amazing companionship, and how best to remember them and perhaps even learn from them in ways that we haven't considered after they're gone. We may never pay back the beauty and love that were bestowed upon us, but we can think about a bigger picture that they are a part of.

Hug your dogs. Think about these things before you need to. Talk with your vet, and never be afraid to ask questions or consider what you normally would not.

—Shannon Rodgers,  
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Field Spaniel Society of America

## Sussex Spaniels

### DOGS IN THE TIME OF COVID

I am sure there will be many articles on the topic of COVID-19 by now, but suffice it to say while this is being written, there are no dog shows. AKC has been wonderful trying to compensate for this with various virtual activities, but it just isn't the same. Hopefully by the time you read this, things will be much better and shows will be going on again.

On the topic of Sussex hair: Living in Florida, my Sussex shed all the time. This summer, especially, there seemed to be more



*In challenging times, Sussex Spaniel owners can be creative in providing positive new experiences for their dogs and puppies.*

hair being shed than usual. It was really hot this year. I had to resort to actually throwing away the hair, as my usual method of just throwing it out in the yard for the birds to make fuzzy nests isn't working. I see on social media all the photos of Sussex that have been shaved down, and I have to say that a well-combed-out Sussex is just as or more comfortable in hot weather. I only use clippers on one

old, spayed female, as she has that nasty "spay coat." Hair provides insulation from the heat and sun. Just bathe and groom (and put out a wading pool!), and a Sussex will be more comfortable.

I am a bit worried about not having had the chance to show my young puppies. Through the years I have found that what works best for me is to get each puppy out to a show

at 6 months, if possible. Exposure to many people, other dogs, crowded conditions, noise, mats, different ramp, and so on is so important at this young age. My puppies are entered for practice and fun. A show dog can be greatly affected by his (or her) first ring experience, and I always tell the judge if it is a puppy's first or second show. I don't care how the youngsters place, I just want them to have a good experience and to see that dog shows are fun!

If a puppy is out for two or three shows and then kept home to grow for a bit, if they have had a good experience then they love going back to shows when they are a bit older. They remember! A note here: Some judges are better with puppies than others. Do your research.

So sad that Meet The Breeds events have had to be put on hold—for good reason, as there are few times you are closer to a bunch of strangers than at a MTB—but sad nonetheless.

No national for Sussex this year, but the 2021 national will be in September of next year in Salisbury, Maryland. And 2022 will be in Tucson, Arizona.

Can't wait!

—Marcia Deugan,  
[ZYADAHreg@aol.com](mailto:ZYADAHreg@aol.com)  
Sussex Spaniel Club of America

COURTESY MARCIA DEUGAN



# BREED COLUMNS

## SPORTING GROUP

### Welsh Springer Spaniels

#### HOW CAN REPUTABLE BREEDERS FIND THE RIGHT BALANCE?

Recently a young man asked me for help finding a puppy. He knows I'm a "dog person," but I'm not sure he knows that I breed them. He was being encouraged to look at the Shiba Inu, a breed I know very little about. I responded by saying I would find some reputable breeders for him to speak with and learn if the breed is right for him.

He lives in an apartment and, like so many of us now, is home all the time and able to be with the dog full time. He said he might just rescue a dog from a local shelter, perhaps a pit bull mix. I give him points for being flexible, but my heart sank as I realized how he would sound to a potential breeder. He is honestly trying to find the right dog for his situation. He has the financial means to support a dog and a job that will allow the dog in the office when things are back to normal. But how many breeders will simply stop listening when they hear he lives in an apartment? Or that he is flexible about getting either a purebred or a rescued mixed-breed?

It so happens I have a pregnant bitch and am dealing with people who hope to be on the list for a puppy. It's a perfect storm of supply not coming close to meeting the demand for Welsh Springer Spaniels. Like many breeders, I have a rough hierarchy for what makes a potential



*Welsh Springer Spaniel*

puppy buyer appeal to me:

- Have they had a puppy from me, or a breeder I know well and can speak with?
- Have they ever owned a Welsh Springer before, even if I don't know the breeder?
- Do they have someone who is home all day? After this pandemic is over, will the dog still have someone at home?
- Will they commit to basic puppy and obedience training?
- Do they have a fenced yard?
- Have they raised a dog from puppyhood and, therefore, really understand the needs of a puppy?
- If they have children, have those children been raised with dogs?

These are obviously just the basics, and many of my breeder friends have far more stringent requirements. Multi-page questionnaires have become *de rigueur*, but I trust my instincts based on multiple conversations with people and meeting the families with children prior to puppy pick-up day.

Finding my first Welsh Springer was an ... odyssey, with many people refusing to speak further to me once they heard I worked all day and didn't have a fenced yard. The woman who sold me my first Welsh talked to me long enough to learn the dog would go to the office with me. She also learned I couldn't fence because I lived on a golf course, but I was committed to long





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walks: morning and evening at home, and a lunchtime walk near the office. (Ike was the best socialized Welsh Springer ever, by the way!)

I'm not the first person to wonder whether our need to ensure our puppies are going to perfect homes is driving "normal" people to rescue a dog. Others may buy a poor representation of our breed from someone not as committed to Welsh Springers, but who doesn't ask what may seem like "intrusive" questions.

It's a balancing act. I think the best thing we can do for our wonderful breed is to sell them to people who will love them forever. That may even be a person who lives in an apartment.

—Wendy J. Jordan,

[wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com](mailto:wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com)

Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

## Vizslas

### GOING TO THE VET: IT'S ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

As veterinary clinics adapt to the realities of keeping people safe in a pandemic, staff and clients are dealing with extraordinary challenges. A solid relationship between dog owners and clinic staff is always important, but it's even more essential in times of change and stress.

If you've experienced curbside service at your vet clinic, you know that it involves an extra

level of trust for both owners and staff. When I hand my dog's leash to a technician, it's very reassuring to know from past experience that my dog is in competent, caring hands; it's also helpful for staff to know that I'm doing my best to be responsible and considerate as a dog owner.

We expect a lot of veterinarians, technicians and other support staff: we want to be confident that they are knowledgeable, dedicated, competent and kind to our animals. As clients, we also have an important role in building mutual respect and trust. Good relationships take effort.

Here are some things veterinarians and technicians suggest owners can do to help make sure visits go well and pets receive the best care:

- *Be prepared for the appointment.* An accurate history is crucial, including details about food (brand and formula—"the stuff in the green bag" isn't enough information); treats, including human leftovers; medications and dosages, including any over-the-counter medicines you have given; and supplements, which are easy to forget.
- *Bring a list of questions or concerns,* especially when you can't be in the exam room with the dog. It's no fun to remember four hours later that you intended to ask about that small lump or occasional cough.
- *Be honest.* Don't leave out information that might feel awkward. (The classic example, according to staff at our dogs' clinic, is



Vizsla

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



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“special brownies”; owners are often hesitant to say the dog has consumed marijuana, but this information could be critical to diagnosing and treating the dog. The vet is not there to judge.)

- *Listen carefully to care instructions.* You can request the information in an email or print-out. Make sure the instructions reach everyone who cares for the dog; if the instructions say no off-leash exercise after a procedure, the whole family needs to know.

- *Ask questions.* Good vets expect owners to ask questions, and they want to be sure you understand care instructions and other information. Respectful, relevant questions are always appropriate (but arguments are not).

Another thing to keep in mind is that a well-socialized dog with good training will generally do better at the vet clinic, making it easier and less stressful to examine and collect lab samples. This is one reason good breeders often provide new puppy owners with lots of information about socialization and training.

It's OK to ask respectfully about costs. This should be done up front, not after the work has been done. The vet or other staff will be happy to explain what goes into the costs for specific procedures. If the cost is beyond what you can afford, it's reasonable to ask about possible options such as payment plans or nonprofit resources that may be available.

It's also fine to discuss information you've received from knowledgeable Vizsla owners or other reputable sources—but be respectful of staff's time and expertise. If Dr. Internet says coconut oil and CBD chews will cure your dog's ear infection, don't expect your vet to be impressed. But if you find information that may be helpful, go ahead and ask about it. My vets have been happy to research a supplement or first aid product when I've asked.

During a time of changing procedures due to COVID-19 precautions, vets and support staff have been under significant pressure, and they really appreciate some extra patience and grace on the part of clients. Scheduling is harder due to extra cleaning procedures and distancing needs. Personal protective equipment has sometimes been in short supply. Phone systems have been overwhelmed as vets and techs are talking to owners in the parking lot instead of in the exam room. Meanwhile, clinics are adding new clients as demand for pets has been high during the pandemic.

Messages of thanks after a visit can really brighten the day for vets and support staff. A card with a photo of your Vizsla is especially appreciated and will probably be passed around or displayed for all staff; a thank-you e-mail is also a good option. Consider posting a positive review if you have the opportunity.

Speaking of thanks: Staff at Elm Creek Animal

Hospital generously provided input on this topic.

—Beth Nash,  
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Vizsla Club of America

## Weimaraners

### WHEN SHOULD I GET ANOTHER?

Most of us are serial dog owners. We live our lives with a series of dogs, adding another and another as the years go by. Sometimes we have one dog at a time, but frequently we have multiple dogs in our households. Invariably the question arises, “When should I get another?”

If you are thinking about adding another Weimaraner to your household, one of the things to consider is, what is the ideal age spacing between dogs? How much of an age gap works the best?

One interval that I know *doesn't* work well is if you bring in a rambunctious puppy when you have a geriatric dog. Their needs, interests and stamina are so different that it isn't fair to either of them. Yes, the puppy will initially perk up the older dog, but it wears thin, and your older dog will be stressed trying to get some peace and quiet. The puppy is a running, playing maniac and will be frustrated by the indifference or outright refusal from your old dog.

While extreme difference in age is ill advised,

having closely spaced dogs has both pluses and minuses. One plus is that you can count on the dogs to entertain each other. They will exercise, play, and have a great time together. You don't have to provide all the entertainment. While they tire each other out, you get to spend your dog-centric energy doing things that they can't do for each other like training them. One downside to closely spaced dogs is that they will age together, and you may eventually have two geriatric dogs in need of increasing care. The emotional toll and cost of having multiple old dogs can be a tremendous, heartbreaking burden for any owner.

I know of one person who does not get another dog till its predecessor has at least one obedience degree. The logic is good: Get one dog trained before you bring on the next. Using this method, you have an objective measure in the obedience degree to know when you are successful. This method gives a built-in spacing for the dogs. Even if this methodical way of spacing the ages of your dogs does not appeal to you, the idea of not getting another dog till you have the older one trained is a good general rule.

Bringing a puppy into a household with a trained dog has advantages. Consider the situation of housebreaking a new puppy when you already have an older dog with impeccable house manners. With lightning speed, your puppy is trained. It's like magic. Why is it so



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*Weimaraner (Evelyn Shafer photo)*

easy to housebreak a puppy when there's an older trained dog? It's one of the benefits of pack behavior. The puppy who is new to the household will be guided by the behaviors of the other dog. You may marvel and brag to your friends about how easy it is to housebreak your new puppy, but you shouldn't get the credit. Your puppy is guided by the pack behavior.

When is the ideal time to get another dog? It's highly situational and there isn't one answer. A lot depends on your own circumstances. What is the total number of dogs do you want? How

much time can you devote? Do you love to train or do you just want basic civilizing of your dogs? If you compete with your dog, will a new puppy come along at a good time in the other's competitive activities? One size does not fit all when it comes to deciding on when to get your next dog. Consider the pluses and minuses, and then take that leap and enjoy the thrill of having a new puppy.

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

## WORKING GROUP

### Anatolian Shepherds

#### "HOW MUCH IS THAT DOGGY ONLINE?": SOCIAL MEDIA AND DOG PEOPLE

**S**ocial media is so cool!  
Except when it's not.

How often have you seen this happen: Someone posts to a Facebook breed group asking for information about a breed. They talk about their dog, maybe post a picture, and it's clear that the dog isn't purebred. Or someone posts that they've just gotten a pup, and they want to breed and show dogs. Everyone piles on. The person is told their dog is a mutt. And that may well be true, but it's still *their* dog. The new pup owner is frostily told of the testing required for CHIC status and is presumed to be the next backyard breeder in the making—and maybe they are, but there is still time to try and educate them.

The newbie reacts to the negative posts in a defensive manner. People already in the group attack them for being defensive. Things spiral ever downward, and the person leaves the group in disgust. The group makes comments about how thin-skinned newbies with their ugly mixed-breeds are, and their plans to breed dogs that the world doesn't need, and group members (figuratively) lift their legs on a lamp post to mark their cyberspace as they go back to their corners to wait for the next

unsuspecting outsider to stumble along.

Then there's this one: A woman who is active in my local handling class, who has been showing her dog in conformation and performance events for the past seven years, attempted to get her first show dog from a reputable breeder. She contacted many. She did all the right things, but no one would talk to her, because they didn't know her and she didn't know anyone they knew. In the end, she got a dog from what most of us would consider a backyard breeder, in a Midwestern state, who texted her as she was boarding a plane and said something along the lines of "buyer backed out, send money and the dog is yours." No one in the breed reached out to her, they just ignored her. And she did go away—right to the very sort of breeder we all disparage. Whose fault is that?

Or this one: A performance person with a new show puppy approaches a long-established show breeder of Medium Flooferfluffers at a very large summer show cluster and excitedly introduces herself to the breeder. The breeder looks down her nose at the newcomer and asks, "What breed do you have?" The newcomer says, "Well, I have Floofs, just like you!" And the breeder haughtily announces, "Medium Flooferfluffers—we don't call them 'Floofs,' that's common." The breeder walks



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Anatolian Shepherd

away, and the newbie stares after her with tears in her eyes. Sounds a bit melodramatic? True story. Names have been changed to protect the innocent and the well-established, both.

There are plenty of scenarios, but they all play out the same, and in almost every one the new person leaves in disgust, with hurt feelings. They want nothing to do with the pure-bred dog fancy because it did not welcome them—it snapped in their faces, rolled them in the dirt, and sent them packing.

We in the fancy say that we are doing this to protect our breeds. We want what is best for our dogs, because we have poured our lives, and our livelihoods' returns, into our dogs, and they and their offspring are our collective passion. The dogs are what bind us together, but the dogs are what the newbies we're running off have in common with us as well.

Sometimes, after we've been in a breed for a while, we seem to forget that we all started somewhere. We forget that our first dog in our favored breed may not have been the best example of that breed. My first Anatolian was dysplastic. He was a beautiful dog, and he was an amazing LGD, but his hips were awful. Fortunately his breeder stood behind his breeding program and replaced him with another dog. Not everyone is as lucky.

I bring this up because I recently posted

to an online group asking for information about a new-to-me breed that I wanted to learn more about. I listed my experience in dogs, and I clearly stated (at least I thought I did) what my expectations were, and that I was attempting to decide if I were the right person for this breed. I got the same sort of welcome as the average newcomer posting to a group. One or two people said it sounded like *maybe* I was the right person for the breed. Two people (one pet person and one breeder) contacted me privately to tell me about the breed. Most of the responses? Negative. Dismissive. Then a general post to the group from an admin (that received many likes and hearts) along the lines of how they were tired of people posting and asking for information and then disappearing without thanking the group. Well, hell, given that sort of welcome, I was tempted to disappear without a word too and was sticking around simply out of sheer, bloody-minded meanness.

We need to ask ourselves where these people go after they disappear from these groups. Where do they go to get information and dogs if we are not willing to virtually extend a hand in welcome to them and try to provide them with breed-specific information, and a place to look for breeders? Here's a hint: probably not to people associated with the show world. And most likely not to the caliber of breeders that

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we like to think of ourselves as being.

We, as a fancy, need to do a better job of policing ourselves online. I get that we have lives, and we're tired, and we've answered the same questions a hundred times before, and we don't like people, which is why we prefer dogs. But we are cutting off our noses to spite our faces when we meet the newbies to our social-media groups with the virtual equivalent of a pack beating. We need to try harder to be inclusive or we will simply drive potentially good homes directly into the arms of those who only ask that the payment hits their account before the dog walks out the door. If this treatment rankles someone who has been in dogs for nearly 50 years, what must it feel like to the starry-eyed newbie who is attempting to do the right thing and look for a reputable breeder? We must be better than that because our breeds are depending upon us.

—Jo Lynne York,

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[Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America](#)

## Bernese Mountain Dogs

### THE BMDCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY AND HISTORY

The cancellation of dog shows due to the pandemic has been depressing. It caused me to start wondering, what is it that is so



appealing about dog shows, and especially the BMDCA national specialty? I have indulged my pleasure of research by immersing myself in the history and progression of the breed's national specialty. I delved into AKC and Berner history for details and descriptions. Using the extensive information on the BMDCA website, along with interviews, formal and informal surveys, and the archives of Berner-L, I have sought to understand the emotion and mystique of this annual event.

The research has helped to mitigate the sadness and frustration over cancellations of the 2020 BMDCA national and so many other shows due to COVID-19.

The national specialty was started in 1976 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The next year it was held in Fresno, California. Each year the site and state changes. Events and number of days have been added as dog sports have blossomed. The largest show was in Frankenmuth, Michigan, in 2016. The Bernese Mountain Dog national is consistently one of the largest specialties in the country.

This is a condensed and universal response to the first question I asked in my survey:

1. *Why do you attend the national specialty?*

“Even if you do not show or compete, it is the best way to find out about the BMD breed.”

“The depth of experience and history present is unequalled.”

One response had an interesting merit: “While the abundance of regional specialties has led to numerous dogs whose owners can say they have specialty wins, there is only one national specialty winner each year.” Another noted, “Berner people recognize that Berners are attracted to Berners very strongly. So in performance events, having all Bernese around is the most distracting environment possible. Qualifying is a coup.”

I asked what they would change if they could. Universally they said, “Have more time.” “Spending time talking to people as we no longer have enough down time between events.” A jam-packed schedule is the downside to the amazing week of Berner festivities. With athletic, versatile dogs, it is easy to strain the schedule.

A couple of people described the mystique of the event, with one saying, “You could stand in one spot outside and turn in a circle, and there were hundreds of happy, gorgeous Berners everywhere. Berner Heaven!” It just might be a piece of heaven, whether it is in Virginia, Minnesota, or Colorado.

As I researched, I learned about the BMDCA Historian. That job is described in this way: “The purpose of the Historian Committee is to keep accurate and up to date information regarding the history and activities for the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America (BMDCA) in support of the club's vision, purpose, strategies, and goals.”

As I researched the history of the national specialty, I became very aware of a good news/bad news issue. The good news is the BMDCA has years of statistics and data preserved. The bad news is that it is far across the country from me. Good news is the information has been carefully kept and organized. The bad news is the limited access. Until the

DAVID WOO ©AKC



## WORKING GROUP

information is digitized, there is no easy way to use the wonderful information. I hope that the information can become searchable. This is a time consuming and costly change in procedure and process, yet this is such a worthy project and so very special for our breed. The BMDCA leads the way with Berner-Garde, the online searchable database. On Berner-Garde you can research pedigrees, people, and dogs and submit data. Hopefully our successes in conformation and performance can be as accessible one day.

—Marjorie Geiger,

[marggeiger@yahoo.com](mailto:marggeiger@yahoo.com)

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America

## Black Russian Terriers

### VISUALIZING THE STANDARD PART

#### ONE: GENERAL APPEARANCE AND TEMPERAMENT

Over the next few columns, we will be discussing an overview of the Black Russian Terrier Illustrated Standard. My hope is that our readers will begin to view this wonderful breed in ways not realized before. For in-depth information about the BRT, please visit the Black Russian Terrier Club of America website, where you may also purchase the Black Russian Terrier Illustrated Standard, at <http://www.brtca.org/shopping.html>.



*The overall appearance of the Black Russian Terrier calls for a “dignified, large, balanced, agile, and powerful dog.”*

(The BRT Illustrated Standard is how we will refer to this publication throughout this column.)

The overall appearance of the Black Russian Terrier, as stated in this publication, calls for a dignified, large, balanced, agile, and powerful dog. When picturing such a dog, what comes to your mind? A fun analogy that I can think of is the 1980s martial artist Jean-Claude Van Damme. Smile if you will, but take a moment

to think about this comparison, and you’ll understand why it fits so well.

Jean-Claude, in his prime, was a powerfully built athlete able to control his body with vitality and grace. This should be the Black Russian Terrier—an ultimate athlete. With qualities of good bone and robust muscling, he should produce the impression of effortless power, control of body and majesty. The silhouette should be clean, with a topline,

well-developed deep chest, well-sprung ribs, balanced front and rear angulation, and a strong, massive head.

The BRT Illustrated Standard calls for males to be 27–30 inches, with the desired height of 27–29 inches; females should be 26–29 inches, with the ideal height 26–28 inches. The height to length ratio should be 9.5 to 10, making the Black Russian longer than square; females are allowed to be slightly longer. Often, we see dogs taller than the stated standard. Proportion is key here. There should always be a balance between the height and the substance of the dog. Lack of substance is a serious fault and should never be rewarded in the show ring. As stated in the BRT Illustrated Standard, “There are reasons (that) desired height ranges are included in the standards; and for the Black Russian Terrier, too small a dog loses the elements of strength and power, while a dog too tall loses agility and quickness, among other attributes.” Stately and self-assured, with a sound temperament, is of great importance for the overall impression of the dog.

The Black Russian is at its core a working dog. His steady temperament allows for the easy “on-off” switch he must have for his guardian duties. This gives rise to the strong constitution of his protection instinct, which should come to immediately and be quickly



# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP

abandoned when the threat has disappeared.

Intelligent and pliant, the ability to adapt to any situation, and faithful companionship are qualities that endear human companions to this extraordinary dog.

The January column will continue discussion of the breed standard with a look at structure and movement. It promises further engaging information.

—Emily Foster,

[leighfost@gmail.com](mailto:leighfost@gmail.com)

Black Russian Terrier Club of America

## Bullmastiffs

*Involved with Bullmastiffs since 1993, V. Valerie Vessey serves as the ABA's Futurity Chair. She breeds Bullmastiffs under the registered kennel name Gallant Oaks and has finished more than 30 champions from the Bred-by-Exhibitor classes. Thank you, Valerie, for writing as a guest columnist and for demystifying and defining the ABA Futurity for Bullmastiff breeders.*

## ATTENTION ALL BREEDERS: THE FUTURITY IS FOR YOU!

Futurity competition has been in existence for decades in both the canine and equine competitive domains. While the rules and/or processes may differ, there is no denying it is all for the benefit of the breeder.



*ABA Futurity Chair V. Valerie Vessey, shown with Bullmastiff pups, notes that the purpose of a futurity is to encourage and reward breeders.*



As many in the fancy know, and for those new to Futurity, Futurity competition for purebred dogs is held only during the breed parent club's national-specialty competition. From breed to breed, the rules vary, but in the end, it is the most prestigious of any win *as a breeder*. An excerpt from the American Bullmastiff Association (ABA) Futurity Standing Rules sums it up nicely:

*"The purpose of the Futurity event is to encourage and reward Bullmastiff breeders. By carefully planning one's breeding program, a breeder is given the opportunity to show, in competition, the quality of animal he or she produces and to be financially rewarded for his or her efforts."*

Some differentiating and compelling Futurity specifics from all other ABA national competitions are:

- All winnings go to only the breeder/co-breeder of record.
- You, the breeder, make the decisions along the way as to which puppies you want to compete, down to the actual entry of the applicable ABA national.
- While the entry classes are similar to Puppy Sweepstakes classes, there is also an 18+ Months class.
- Even though the process of showing is the same as that of regular classes in that there is a winner from each respective age class, the winner from each Futurity class goes

COURTESY V. VALERIE VESSEY



## WORKING GROUP

on to compete for two ultimate winners in Futurity: Best Dog in Futurity and Best Bitch in Futurity.

Futurity competition brings us back to the essence of dog showing in that you are unequivocally nominating and showing *your* breeding stock. The bonus is you are financially rewarded immediately upon winning first in your respective class, and ultimately on up to Best Dog and/or Best Bitch.

To nominate and compete in the ABA's Futurity, there is a four-step process that must be followed properly:

1. Nominate the litter *prior to the litter being whelped*.
2. Nominate either the whole litter (all puppies), or specific puppies at less than 3 months of age.
3. Nominate all puppies included in the Less Than 3 Months nomination, or only specific puppies from the Less Than 3 Months nomination at Less Than 6 Months of age.
4. Complete the entry for the applicable ABA national (no entry fee required).

*Note: Nominators (breeders/dam owners) and puppy owners must be ABA members in good standing.*

I am currently the ABA's Futurity Chair, a position I fulfill with enthusiasm and pride. We have successfully invigorated our Futurity nominations, and in 2019 we had 84 puppies nominated! It was a competition not to be

missed and was judged by lifelong esteemed breeder judge Ms. Pat O'Brien.

Personally, I believe that if as a breeder you are not proud enough of what you are producing to participate in Futurity, you may need to take a look at your breeding program and overall objectives.

Regardless of your breed, I would encourage you as a breeder, to pursue nominating and entering Futurity (if offered) for all of your breedings. If you are a Bullmastiff breeder and would like more information on how to participate, please visit our website at [bullmastiff.us](http://bullmastiff.us). We would love to have you join us in this awe-inspiring competition! —V.V.

Thank you, Valerie!

—Lindy Whyte,

[tryumphe@comcast.net](mailto:tryumphe@comcast.net)

[American Bullmastiff Association](http://AmericanBullmastiffAssociation.com)

## Doberman Pinschers

### WE ARE THE STEWARDS OF OUR BREED

An excerpt from the AKC Mission Statement says “it is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry.” Everything related to breeding and exhibiting dogs comes down to principles, integrity.

This became a reality for me in my second AKC point show. My Doberman puppy bitch was disqualified for missing teeth. I had to pay



Doberman Pinscher

a fee and take her to a panel of judges for an evaluation in order to get her reinstated. A daunting event for me, a novice in my early 20s: I had to walk into a room with my first “show” dog to face three judges. There was enough time between the show, the application,

and the reinstatement panel, for me to think of lots of questions regarding the process.

The biggest question was why wasn't the reinstatement hearing done immediately, at the show? There was no way to make sure the dog I brought to the hearing *was* the dog

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM



## WORKING GROUP

disqualified. No nose-print identification. No chip to read. Just trust that the dog in front of them was the dog in question. I could have brought another dog with a missing tooth or two. I asked those judges that question. They did not answer.

The hearing was based on faith. Trust. Ethics. Faith in the process, trust that I would bring them the dog in question, and belief that ethics were governing my behavior. Following their examination, my puppy was reinstated—she had three missing teeth, not a disqualifying fault, but she was spayed. Doing right by my breed must come before ego.

It is not unusual for eyeliner to be used to darken an eye-rim on a red dog. The careful use of clippers can clean up a neck and fool the eye into seeing a more elegant curve. These “tricks” embellish what nature provided; they do not alter the physical. The following does: Surgically removing white on a dog’s chest that is larger than the allowed one-half square inch. Tendons in weak pasterns tightened. Rubber bands placed on lower incisors to correct a bite.

Problem is, someone may breed to one of these altered-phenotype animals and be shocked when a puppy (or puppies) in the resulting litters has white on the chest, weak pasterns, or a level bite.

What if: A beautiful young Doberman has

entropion—a condition where the eyelids roll inward. It can lead to painful complications and cause loss of vision. The dog has surgery to repair the condition and make the animal more comfortable. As the dog matures, it becomes obvious a championship is very possible. Prior to being shown, those involved are reminded that entropion repair is specifically mentioned in *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, and the dog is ineligible to compete. The dog is shown anyway. When they are told it could be reported their response is “Prove it! It would need to be self-reported.”

I understand such alterations are rare. It is heartbreaking when a gorgeous show prospect winds up with a major fault or disqualification. If it is something that can be fixed yet makes the dog ineligible to compete, visible or not, the dog should not compete. Principles first. The breed first.

We believe what we are told. When breeders, owners, or handlers view a championship as more important than ethics, following the rules and being stewards of the breed they profess to love, where is their integrity? Thankfully, this sport is heavily populated with those who do follow the rules, and those who step outside the lines are few and far between.

—Leslie Hall,  
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Doberman Pinscher Club of America

## Dogues de Bordeaux “HEAD BREED” MEANS MORE THAN “HEAD SIZE”

People in the dog fancy often refer to the Dogue de Bordeaux as a “head breed.” The head features and attributes, when properly proportioned and in conformance with the AKC breed standard, certainly leave a lasting impression of the prominence of the Dogue de Bordeaux head as part of the breed’s phenotype.

However, when the words “head breed” are used to refer to the Dogue de Bordeaux, it must be emphasized that it is not just the *size* of the skull that is important, but also many other features—some readily apparent, and others quite intricate—that constitute a properly proportioned head. For example, the Dogue de Bordeaux head is trapezoid-shaped. (In geometrical terms, a trapezoid is a quadrilateral form that has four sides, with two of those sides being in parallel planes.)

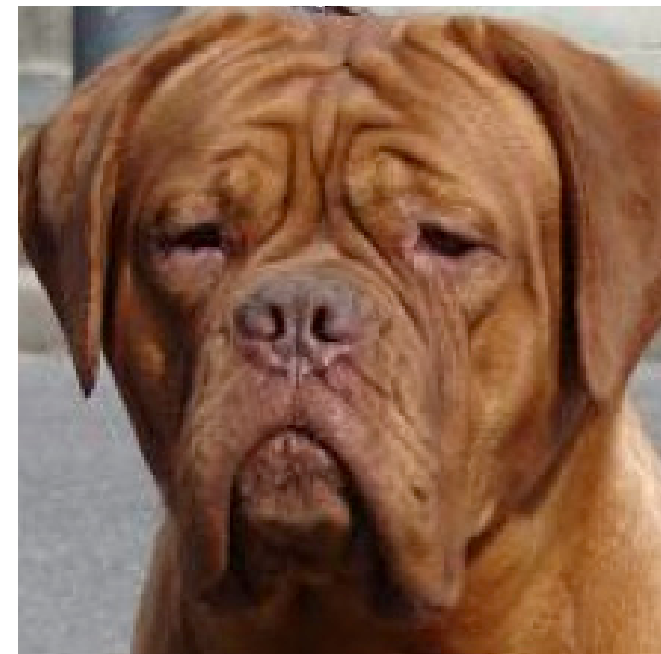
In the case of the Dogue de Bordeaux, the parallel planes represent the rear of the skull and the front of the muzzle. Looking down from the top, and from the front, these parallel planes should be readily apparent. As evidence of the uniqueness of the shape of the Dogue de Bordeaux head, there is no other molosser breed whose standard calls for a trapezoid-shaped head.

In addition to size and head shape, there are many more head features that come into play. These include the shape of the eyes, the distance between the eyes, ear-set, ear length, muzzle length, muzzle shape (square), wrinkle, expression, prominence of the chin, undershot bite (mandated), shape of upper lip (a thick, pendulous, inverted wide “V”), stop almost at a right angle, well-developed brow, prominent cheeks, deep frontal groove, and so on. All these features are vitally important and contribute to the conformance of the Dogue de Bordeaux head to the AKC breed standard. When all the attributes of the head are correct, including size, shape, features, and attributes, there is no doubt that it is a Dogue de Bordeaux one happens to be looking at—even to a novice first setting eyes on the breed. The appearance of a correct Dogue de Bordeaux is unmistakable and leaves no doubt as to breed identification.

In our judges’ education seminars, among the questions that are fielded by our staff relate to head size and how to properly judge whether a given Dogue’s head size is in conformance with the AKC breed standard, given the fact that measuring a Dogue’s head size with a measuring instrument, such as a tape measure, is not allowed in AKC conformation events for judging the Dogue de Bordeaux. The answer is that the AKC



## WORKING GROUP



*The breed standard for the Dogue de Bordeaux notes that the head is trapezoid shaped when viewed from above and in front.*

breed standard tells us explicitly what the size of the skull should be. Specifically, the standard states, in part, *the perimeter of the skull measured at the point of its greatest width corresponds roughly to the height at the withers. In bitches, it may be slightly less.* To elaborate on the AKC breed standard's guidance on the subject of proper head and skull size, I always make the point that a Dogue standing 24 inches at the withers with a skull that measures 27 inches at its widest perimeter may appear to be out of proportion, and the opposite would be true of a Dogue standing 27 inches at the withers with a skull that measures 24 inches at its widest perimeter.

The AKC breed standard for the Dogue de Bordeaux stresses proportions, harmony, moderation, and symmetry—all being included in the standard. These words apply to all of the features of the Dogue de Bordeaux, including head size, head shape, and head phenotype.

In the next breed column article, we will look at the French scholars and cynologists who studied the breed and established the breed standard in several successions, the breed's origins from three separate types, and why the features called for in the present AKC breed standard read the way they do.

—Victor C. Smith, AKC liaison and chair,  
Judges' Education Committee,  
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[Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America](#)

### German Pinschers

#### COMPETITION: WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME AND MY DOG?

People who know me might not think so, but I'm a competitive person. I don't like to lose. And I really don't like to be wrong—whatever that means in a particular context. I also try to be a kind person, to be encouraging

to others, to help new people in the sports I participate in. I used to *pretend* to be a good sport, but eventually I realized that it's more fun and less stressful to actually *be* a good sport rather than just pretend to be one. And to accomplish that (which wasn't easy for me!), I had to learn how to expand my concept of "winning."

Instead of only focusing on ribbons, I asked myself whether I learned anything, whether my dog had fun, whether I had fun, and whether we came away from the day a better and, ideally, smarter team.

What does this have to do with dogs? And particularly with the German Pinscher breed? Dogs don't understand winning the way we do, but they do understand success. They want to have fun, and they want to do things that are rewarding to them. They want to satisfy their innate instincts and drives. German Pinschers were originally bred as general-purpose farm dogs. They are alert, independent, intelligent dogs with a well-developed prey drive, sharp eyes, and a great sense of smell. German Pinschers compete in the conformation ring, in obedience and rally, in agility, scent work trials, Barn Hunt, tracking, and many other sports. Some sports seem particularly designed for the German Pinscher. Nosework, Barn Hunt, and tracking encourage them to both work independently and

COURTESY DBBSA



## WORKING GROUP



German Pinscher

to follow their nose. For other sports, it may depend on the dog, on how much they value teamwork and new environments, but it's also something we can help them with. Just as I eventually learned how to actually be a good sport, my dogs can learn to really enjoy conformation or obedience or agility. Extrinsic rewards like treats and toys can help make the

event itself something that they genuinely get excited about and enjoy.

Not all dogs love every sport, and some sports are more intrinsically rewarding for German Pinschers due to their specific breed characteristics, but just as I can learn to love participating in, say, obedience, even though I'm not innately good at breaking down the exercises into individual components and teaching them to my dogs, my dogs can learn to sacrifice a bit of their independence to work as part of a tightly coordinated team.

I don't know if my dogs, or any German Pinschers, care if they learn something from competition. I'm almost certain they don't care about being a good sport. What they instinctively enjoy or learn to enjoy is the teamwork, the thrill of exploring a new environment, the intrinsic reward of the work itself, and the opportunity to spend the day with their human. While conformation in particular, and at some level performance and companion sports too, help breeders to evaluate their dogs and plan their breedings, there's so much more to participating in them for both dogs and people, and so many ways beyond the ribbon or trophy for each particular sport or competition to be rewarding.

—Deb Coates,

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[German Pinscher Club of America](#)

## Great Pyrenees

### THE TELL

Shortly after Shelly, my first Great Pyrenees, entered my life in 1994, I became interested in animal-assisted therapy. She had all of the qualities that embodied a good therapy dog. She was patient, sweet, and kind and loved people. My only concern was passing the obedience part of the therapy testing. Since Pyrs are bred to think independently, you must have a sense of humor and a lot of patience when doing obedience with the breed. You may not perceive a threat, but they might. So, a down-stay might be more like a “Yeah, sure, I'll get back to you on that.” After a few months of training, Shelly received her CDI certificate, and we were on our way.

We began our therapy journey at the local nursing home, visiting residents who were diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. Every Thursday evening, we went to our local nursing home. On the day of our visits, the residents were reminded that we would be coming that evening, and some would save bits of their food for Shelly. We had to be careful about what they had stashed in their pockets. Once, someone tried to give her a pork chop, which she would have heartily eaten!

When we walked in into the lounge, Shelly worked the room like magic. She always went

to visit Joe first. He was her favorite, and I am certain that the feeling was mutual. At times she had to be coaxed to visit everyone else, because Joe would pet her forehead forever if given the opportunity. He was the only man in the group, which is why I think they had that special bond. One thing of interest was that nearly all of the residents remembered Shelly's name and that she was a “Great” something or other. Mary, who was Shelly's second favorite, always shouted “Hiya, Shelly! How are you?” and then she would immediately turn to me and say, “Who the heck are you?” I always smiled and said that I was with Shelly.

About eight months passed, and on this particular evening, someone else was sitting in Joe's chair. After I removed Shelly's leash, she immediately went to that chair, sat in front of it, and turned to me as if to say, “Where's Joe?” I encouraged her to go around and visit everyone. After all, Joe might have had a visitor or wasn't feeling well. So, she went on and happily visited everyone, getting pets and kisses and the occasional hidden treat. After about 45 minutes, she went back to Joe's chair, lay down in front of it, and looked up as if she were wondering where he was.

The following week, we went back for our usual visit, and Joe still wasn't there. This time, something was different. Shelly lay down

DAVID WOO AKC



## WORKING GROUP



*Great Pyrenees Shelly, with owner Karen Reiter and with housemate Trooper*

in front of Joe's chair and would not move. No amount of coaxing was going to remove her from that spot, which was very disappointing.

I asked one of the nurses what happened to Joe and found that he had been moved to a different unit because his Alzheimer's was advancing. I knew he had changed in the months we had been visiting but didn't realize how much. Sensing that Shelly needed to



know that he was OK, I explained the situation to the nurse and asked if we could just see him. She happily agreed.

When we entered the lounge in the other nursing unit, Shelly sniffed the air, scanned the room, and spotted Joe sitting in his wheelchair in the corner. She ran to him so quickly that she pulled the leash right out of my hand. Gently, she placed her head onto his lap. He looked down at her, smiled ever so brightly, and said "Hi, Shelly! I've missed you!" She wagged her tail and kissed him, and the two of them bonded once again. For a few moments, Joe was back with us. Yet as quickly as it happened, he was gone.

I'm not one to anthropomorphize, but in this instance, Shelly needed to know that her friend was OK. The following week, we went back for our visit, and everything was fine.

—Karen Reiter,  
[karenreiter@comcast.net](mailto:karenreiter@comcast.net)  
Great Pyrenees Club of America

## Komondorok

### KOMONDORS BY THE NUMBERS

Most breed standards leave the specifics of exact proportion measurements to the judges and the breeders. This is not a problem, it provides for some variation in body type within the breed, and the taste of

both breeders and judges can be expressed by which dogs they select. Overall the AKC Komondor standard falls into this pattern, with the description of proportion stated as "body is slightly longer than the height," mass described as "with plenty of bone and substance" and body "muscular and proportionately wide." On the other hand, our standard is specific about a few things: large size, with "Dogs 27½ inches and up" and "Bitches 25½ inches and up"; and weight, with 100 pounds and up for males, and 80 pounds and up for bitches. Also, the (large) head length is specifically described as "two-fifths the height of the dog." That is indeed a large head, with a 29-inch tall dog sporting an 11.6-inch-long head. Further dividing the head, our standard measures the muzzle at two-fifths of the total head length.

We have two international versions of the Komondor standard that are far more specific. A translation of a Hungarian standard from the 1970s and a more recent Hungarian standard dated 2005 (and still on the Hungarian Komondor Club website) each include a list of specific ratios.

In agreement with the our standard, head length is measured at 41 percent the height at the withers, as compared with our 40 percent (two-fifths), and the 2005 version says the muzzle length is 42 percent of the head

COURTESY KAREN REITER



## WORKING GROUP



*Komondor: "The breast is broad."*

length—very close to our 40 percent (two-fifths). The minimum height numbers in the two Hungarian standards agree with our AKC standard, but the 2005 version desires weights that are 10 to 30 percent higher than ours. That would seem to indicate that they want more dog under the coat, but the chest depth and width numbers discussed below don't support that.

Length, depth, and width are numerically specified in the two Hungarian standards we are looking at. Body slightly longer than height is stated at 104 percent: practically square! This is softened with the range of 100 percent to 108 percent in both standards. Many AKC standards ask for "slightly longer," and this is generally interpreted as about 110 percent, so ideal Komondors are closer to square than that number. The depth of chest in these two standards is desired at 45 percent of height, giving the dog 55-percent leg. Both standards mention that 50- to 56-percent depth is often seen; we interpret the phrase "deep chest" in the AKC standard to mean 50-50 leg length to depth.

Our AKC standard says the "breast is broad." The recent and older Komondor standards from Hungary both request a chest width of 28 percent of the height. That means a 30-inch tall Komondor will be not quite 8½ inches wide. This describes a dog whose body

will be surprisingly sleek, closer to a slightly rectangular Doberman than any of the more stout breeds.

I should note that this is no mistake. Some years ago we measured a couple of our bitches at home. They came right in at the specific proportions requested in those Hungarian standards and seemed to be well proportioned. I don't have an explanation of how this can be justified against the heavy body weights mentioned above. The bulky, corded coat of the Komondor entirely obscures the dog in the ring, so all of them seem visually broader than these desired proportions.

For some excellent pictures of shaved-down Komondors who show these desired proportions, check out our [Illustrated Standard](#).

All of the standards, AKC and Hungarian, ask for "light, leisurely and balanced" or "light and measured" gait. The dog under the coat has to be built to make that happen. The 2005 Hungarian standard cautions against "an unreasonable increase in height ... as this usually leads to a disintegration of homogeneity." In the same vein, our AKC standard says, "While large size is important, type, character, symmetry, movement and ruggedness are of the greatest importance and are on no account to be sacrificed for size alone." Judges and breeders should keep these key words in mind. The guarding task of a Komondor



## WORKING GROUP

requires agility and strength.

—Eric Liebes,

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Komondor Club of America

## Leonbergers

### LIVE, LAUGH, AND LOVE LEONBERGERS

I had been working on obedience distractions with one of my Leonbergers when it happened. Our neighborhood had a sand volleyball pit on one of the recreation fields, and the pit was one of Argo's favorite things to zoom and roll around in. I sat her where she could see the sand pit, and I left her in a sit and walked over to stand right in front of the pit. I turned to face her, using all my normal competition body language. She watched attentively and calmly. When I called out the recall command, she came flying in a beautiful straight line to land in a clean front sit. I was very happy with it, and she knew it. Her eyes gleamed, and she leapt straight up and punched me in the mouth. I sported a bruise on the side of my mouth, complete with four toenail marks, for a few days.

I really should have expected the burst of silliness out of her, as it can be typical of training and competing with Leonbergers. Many Leos seem to view competition obedience as an interpretive event, inventing their own



*A non-silly Leonberger moment: Argo completes a retrieve in obedience competition at the 2002 LCA national specialty.*

spin on things in the ring, despite all evidence that they thoroughly knew what was expected of them prior to the event. Although they are absolutely capable of attaining advanced obedience titles, they do seem to delight in causing laughter, whether out of their human, the judge, or any spectators. Ideally, all of the above. Argo would get a gleam in her eye in the ring at times, and I knew she was about to put her own spin on things. If she could get even a single spectator to giggle, she was thrilled. Like when she zoomed between me and the broad jump, spun and returned to front, wagging her tail with glee. Or when she did her wounded-Lassie "Timmy's in the

well!" belly-crawl during a down-stay. Or when she heeled past me on a halt, about-turned, and then sat perfectly cleanly on my *right* leg, wagging her tail and facing the wrong way.

The breed's enthusiastic athleticism, plus a creative sense of humor, plus size can result in some entertaining moments in training and competing with Leonbergers. Beth Mershon was in the Open obedience ring with her Leonberger, Duncan, at an LCA national specialty, when Duncan invented a new spin on the finish after a retrieve over a jump. He

bounded happily to pick up the dumbbell, bounced back over the jump, and landed in a clean front sit. After his creative antics in the ring the day before, Beth was very pleased with this clean retrieve, and Duncan could tell. He jumped up to put his front paws on her shoulders, and tried to put the dumbbell into Beth's mouth!

All that creativity has its advantages, though. Longtime Leonberger owner Sandi Ling describes an incident in the obedience ring with her Leo, Chauncey, where the dumbbell broke at one end upon landing for the retrieve on the flat. Ling says that Chauncey "looked

perplexed and then picked up the larger piece and brought it back, proud as punch. I had the option of going to get my spare one for the retrieve over the high jump and opted to use that larger broken part." He retrieved that just fine, earning a round of applause!

Such experiences are typical of doing competition obedience with a Leonberger. They absolutely *can* do the sport, and get the titles. However, their primary motivation is to keep their humans smiling and laughing. That should be remembered when venturing in competition sports with a Leonberger.

—Shannon White,

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Leonberger Club of America

## Mastiffs

### OUR MASTIFFS, THE CLOWNS PART TWO

Most Mastiff owners and aficionados will be familiar with the broad descriptors of the breed in our standard: "The Mastiff is a large, massive, symmetrical dog with a well-knit frame. The impression is one of grandeur and dignity." However, there is definitely a different side to this breed with which owners and breeders are very familiar. They can be—intentionally or completely inadvertently—some of the greatest clowns in the dog world! I have asked a number of MCOA (Mastiff Club

COURTESY SHANNON WHITE



## WORKING GROUP



*In the middle of his down-and-back at Bucks, 6-month-old Mastiff Hero decides to take a break; Ivan, with his virtues proudly on display; Boris, satisfied with the latest masterpiece of stuffed-toy deconstruction.*

of America) members to share their stories.

*Mastiff show ring decorum.*

Mitzi Walters sent a photo (by Maria Ruoto) of her puppy, Hero, at 6 months in the show ring. Mitzi explains, “It was his second dog show, and he is being shown by poor Heather Reid. He brought the whole Bucks Mastiff ring to a dead stop on the down-and-back (a part of the showing process in which the dog

is trotted diagonally away from the judge and back to assess movement).”

Joanne Brazeau offered this story: “I was in the ring with freshly 6-month-old Rasputin, in Eugene, Oregon. Super good show, because all the people from California would come up for that one. We would have super majors there. So, bright and chipper at 8 A.M. sharp, we were the first in the ring. Rasputin did the



ultimate no-no in the ring. He squatted to pass a stool right there in front of the judge, other dogs, and everyone. I was flabbergasted and said something my father would say: ‘Now is the perfect time to check out that angulation!’ I said it with great zeal. We got the points!”

One Mastiff breeder and owner—who would only allow her story to be used with

the guarantee of anonymity—described a cringeworthy scenario with her young Mastiff. When the judge inspected him and was looking at his bite, her Mastiff shook his head free and plunged his muzzle into the groin area of the male judge—sniffing and snorting loudly, to the vast amusement of spectators.

*Social graces in the home.*

Let’s be honest here. Mastiffs don’t have social graces (unless one counts effusively greeting guests by drooling on them—leaving wet spots and slime all over their clothes).

Mary Jane Giarrusso-Wilkin asks, “How many people can say their dogs can clear their in-laws out of a room in five minutes flat?” She suggests that if we Mastiff owners went into methane manufacturing, we all could be rich.

She also notes, “Mastiff snoring decibels exceed all expectations! I wish you could have heard our Joshua: It was so bad that we slept in the upstairs front bedroom and restricted him to the downstairs back bedroom, and we could *still* hear him snore! It was hysterical! Guests were in awe. The Dean of Vet Med at Cornell thought him the most remarkable snoring machine he ever encountered!”

Mastiffs are hedonists—who don’t have the slightest qualms about fully displaying their “attractions” for guests to feast their eyes on. They generally have an excellent sense of

COURTESY MITZI WALTERS, MARIA RUOTO, AND KAREN CORNELIUS



## WORKING GROUP

timing in doing so. Our Mastiff Ivan proudly entertains guests and family members in this way.

Finally, I was on the phone recently with a Mastiff friend, when she hurriedly excused herself because she heard sounds of “gnawing on wood” and was concerned about the wood-work.

*Helping with housework.*

Julie Hervas sent me a story about one of her past Mastiffs, Louis:

“Louie was a determined, strong-willed, sweet boy. When he made up his mind, nothing stopped him from following through with his plan. One morning I was gathering dirty laundry and tossing it down the basement stairs. The pile had become quite large.

“Louie decided he was going to check out this large pile, and he headed down the basement stairs. I watched him stop at the bottom and try to figure out how to get around this pile. I started to laugh and teased him, ‘You think you’re so smart, don’t you? Ha ha! Stupid dog. Ha ha! Now whatcha gonna do?’

“Louie looked around and realized he couldn’t even turn around, so he was indeed in a pickle. He glanced back up the stairs over his shoulder at me. ‘Ha ha! Stupid dog,’ I snickered.

“Without hesitation, Louie proceeded to climb up the entire stairs backwards. He gets

to the top and looks at me like ‘Who you callin’ stupid now?’

“He was brilliant.”

Our Mastiff Boris would patiently wait until we had thoroughly vacuumed the living room. Then he would dismember any intact toy he could find ... ensuring that the innards were distributed far and wide. He would lie in the midst of the carnage looking quite self-satisfied.

Unfortunately, there wasn’t sufficient room to include other wonderful stories of our Mastiffs’ foibles—such as Lizzy Monster and the Turtle. However, during a stressful time when we need a bit of humor, hopefully the funnier side of our Mastiffs will prove a welcome diversion.

—Karen Cornelius,

[klc@klcassociates.com](mailto:klc@klcassociates.com)

[Mastiff Club of America](#)

## Neapolitan Mastiffs

*Our column for this issue was written by Rita Biddle. Rita’s first breed was the Great Dane, followed by the Akita (a breed she still owns). Rita judges Best in Show, several groups, and Junior Showmanship, and she is the Delegate from Ingham County KC in Michigan. She is currently on the AKC Board of Directors.*

*Rita first became involved with the Neapolitan*

*Mastiff in the mid-1990s, while it was still a rare breed. She helped to get the Neapolitan Mastiff admitted to the AKC and advised the club on revisions of the standard and on judges’ education. She was one of eight AKC judges who went through the arduous education and testing process to become a “USNMC-Sanctioned Judge” (meant to verify a level of breed-knowledge equivalent to the European FCI judges) and became a club member as well. She was on the USNMC board twice: from 1999–2009, and again 2018–2020, and she has continued acting in various capacities within the club, doing breed education, mentoring other judges, and in general being an admirably outspoken breed advocate within the AKC. I asked Rita to write an article about judging the Neapolitan Mastiff.*

## JUDGING THE NEAPOLITAN MASTIFF

In judging the Mastino, I always look for balance—harmony—first. Then I turn to specifics, looking at the dog from the side, front, and rear. The head is important, and I feel the standard is pretty explicit on what it wants.

I do not like extreme exaggeration, and I feel the breed must not become a caricature of itself, but I do want the desired head type, with the shape of eyes, ears, and head ratio and depth being important, along with the required wrinkling, dewlap, and so on as described in the standard.

The standard calls for a level topline, and I particularly want the front assembly to match



Rita Biddle with 2006 Neapolitan Mastiff national-specialty winner Ch. Ironstone Lillian

the rear. A strong second thigh is very important to give balance to such a massive dog. Too many are stronger in the front than in the rear.

I also expect correct movement. Please note that the breed moves like a lion and must move decently, but not with the tremendous reach and drive that you see commonly when people move around the ring too fast.

What do I think judges new to the breed find challenging? Judges new to the breed sometimes will gravitate to the extremes, rewarding either an overdone Mastino or one that lacks wrinkling and looks more like a Cane Corso. Non-breed-specialists also seem

COURTESY RITA BIDDLE



## WORKING GROUP

to reward Mastini that move with the reach and drive desired in the working and sporting breeds. This movement is not correct for the Neapolitan Mastiff.

There is a lot of generic judging. A big problem is that there aren't enough dogs being shown out there for people to watch and learn. This is a hard breed to understand, and judging it properly takes lots of study.

I remember judging the 2006 national specialty at Bucks County in Pennsylvania. It was an excellent entry, and I was most pleased to find a really lovely, typey bitch whose absolutely correct breed movement caused a sensation by those who saw her. I still remember being disappointed that, although understandable as it was a very hot day and an outdoor show, the owner of the bitch decided to take the dog home rather than stay for group. Many of the other judges were specifically waiting to see this dog. Indeed the group judge asked me where my Neapolitan Mastiff Best of Breed was—he was hoping to be able to give her a group placement.

One final comment: You hope you find one that meets your expectations as you sort through what you have in front of you. What a thrill when you get a good-looking dog come in and you can't wait to get your hands on it! Often you pray, "Dear God, let it be able to move." Got to find dogs that have it all, if at

all possible. —R.B.

Thank you, Rita.

—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe,

[Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com](mailto:Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com)

United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club

## Newfoundlands

### WHAT ABOUT THOSE MARKINGS?

White and black Newfoundlands are affectionately referred to as Landseer Newfoundlands, or just Landseers. The nickname came about when the famed Victorian artist Sir Edwin Landseer used the white and black Newfoundland in his popular painting "A Distinguished Member of the Humane Society."

According to the AKC Newfoundland standard and the Newfoundland Illustrated Guide, approved colors for Newfoundlands are solid black, brown, gray, and the white and black. Solid-colored dogs (black, brown, and gray) may have white on the chin, chest, toes, and the tip of the tail. Any amount of white at none, one, or more of these locations is typical and is not to be faulted. Some may have white extending from the chin into a large white "bib." White on the toes can extend past the toes to the pasterns. Dogs may also have a tinge of bronze in the blacks and grays, and lighter furnishings on the brown and gray coats.



*"A Distinguished Member of the Humane Society" (1838), by Sir Edwin Landseer*

The desired Landseer markings are a white base coat with a solid-black head or a black head with white on the muzzle, with or without a blaze extending up the muzzle onto the top of the skull. A full white collar and a separate black saddle with another black patch on the rump extending onto the white tail complete the picture. Some Landseers may have a blan-

ket or mantle instead of a saddle or have black running down a leg. Some Landseers will have black "ticking" on the white coat. While minor ticking is very acceptable, excessive ticking does detract from the contrast of the white and black coat but is not disqualifying.

Markings on solid-colored dogs and the Landseers can deviate greatly from the ideal.



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Markings may be asymmetrical or extend beyond the areas preferred. Since the predictability of markings is generally genetically unreliable, solid-colored dogs may have more white, and Landseers may have more black than described.

From the Illustrated Guide (emphasis is the writer's):

“Note that there is no mention of markings. *With respect to disqualification, markings are considered only when they are the wrong color.*

White is not listed as an acceptable solid color, so white dogs with no black markings would be disqualified. A black and white or a white and black dog may have markings so deviant from the described patterns that it is difficult to tell whether it is a black or a white and black. *Such a dog may be shown in either the black or AOAC class and would not be disqualified, since either black with white or white with black is an acceptable combination.* However, with other marked solid colors, either brown or gray must be identifiable as the base color to avoid disqualification, since the standard describes white dogs as having black markings only.”

At a show, a year or two ago, a novice handler showed her nice Landseer. I witnessed the judge telling her she was lucky he did not disqualify her because her Landseer had too much black. The *only* disqualification in the Newfoundland standard is for any col-

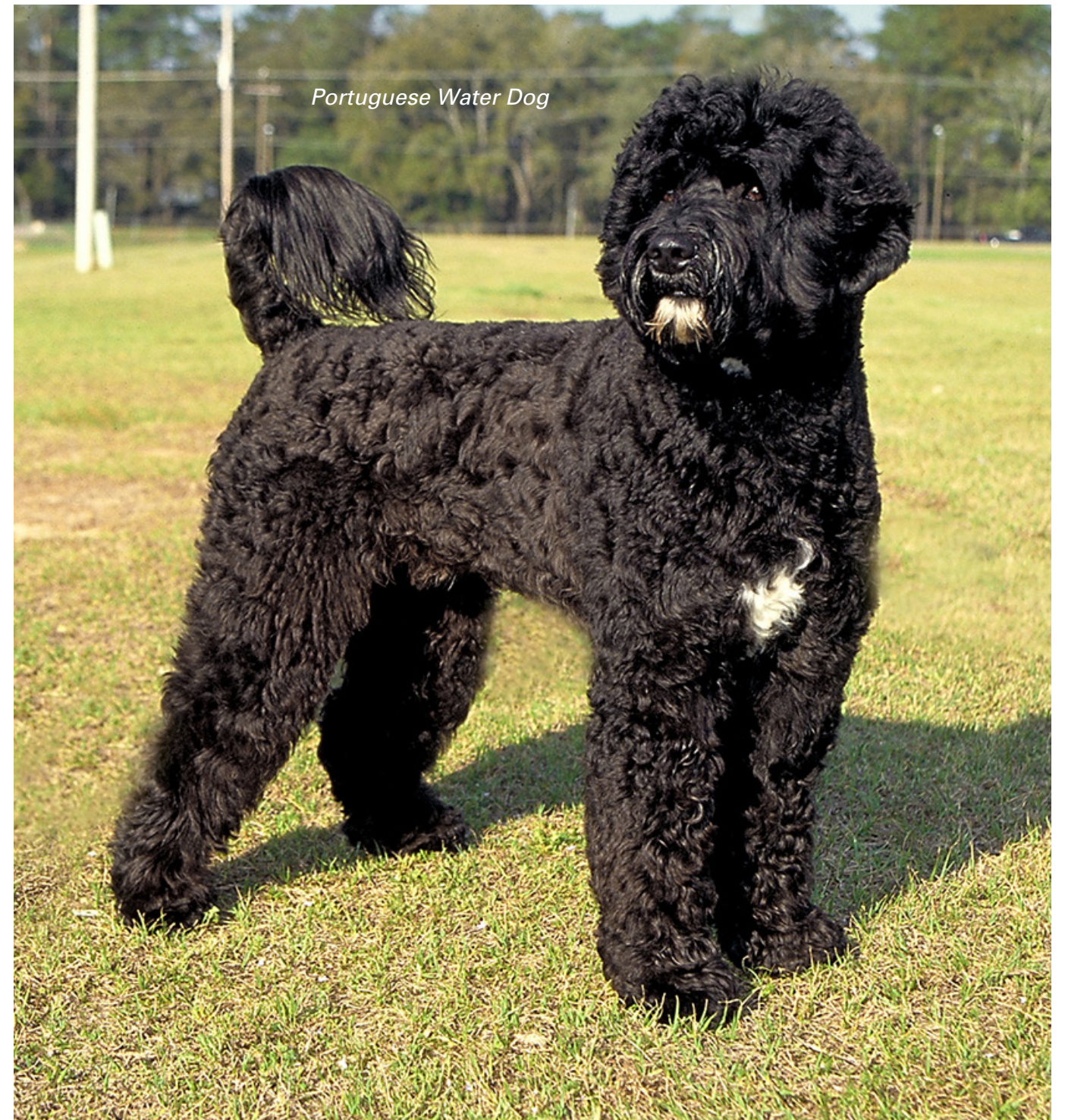
ors or combinations of colors not specifically described in the standard. Colors, not markings. Beauty of markings should be considered only when comparing dogs of equal quality. Soundness, movement, and temperament always take precedence over markings.

The [Newfoundland Illustrated Guide](#) has an excellent section on color and markings with illustrations of the wide variance in markings. I would encourage all judges and Newfoundland fanciers to review it regularly.

—Mary Lou Cuddy,  
[bearscamp@gmail.com](mailto:bearscamp@gmail.com)  
[Newfoundland Club of America](#)

### Portuguese Water Dogs

Recently while doing water training, I had the pleasure of meeting Marian Beland and her 6-month-old Portuguese Water Dog, Micah. I was pleasantly surprised to learn Micah is also in search-and-rescue (SAR) training and that he is her third PWD SAR dog. Not knowing a lot about SAR, I contacted Marian as well as Connie Millard with a series of questions on the subject. Connie had our very first PWD SAR dog, Dutch, who worked at the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster. My sincere thanks to both superb owners for their very educational answers. Below I share the first group of questions and



Portuguese Water Dog

MARY BLOOM ©AKC



## WORKING GROUP

their answers, to continue in the January 2021 column.

### PORTUGUESE WATER DOGS IN SEARCH-AND-RESCUE PART ONE

*How did you get interested in SAR? How long have you been doing it, and with what breeds?*

C: I became interested because I love to train! My first dog, Dutch, excelled at everything: tracking, water work, obedience, agility (he was even Superdog at our nationals one year), and we needed more. Search-and-rescue is never-ending training. I have done SAR since 1999. My first five SAR dogs were PWDs, and my current K9 partners are Labradors—a stray mother and her feral pup I found.

M: It looks like Connie and I started in SAR around the same time. My interest piqued, as this was a way I could merge my love for dogs and help people. My first SAR partner was a Rottweiler, Heidi, and the next three have all been PWDs (Tracer, Ted E Bare, and Micah), chosen because they are such extraordinary working dogs, able to truly “do it all.”

*What characteristics do you look for in a puppy for SAR? Is male or female a better choice, and why? What have been the gender of your dogs, and how many PWD's have you worked with?*

C: I like smart puppies with athleticism and drive. Of the eight SAR dogs I've had,

two have been intact males, three have been neutered males, two unspayed females, and one spayed female. As for temperament, I've found that most dogs can do this work. It's rather a natural thing for a dog to find something of interest. My canine partners have had a wide range of personalities. I adjust my training to them. One thing that cannot be trained is natural athleticism. A dog *must* have a good body to pour the confidence-building and drive-building into.

M: In selecting a puppy, I look for one that is well rounded: curious, confident, persistent, and social, one who forgives and is trainable. Although I don't believe the quality of a SAR dog is determined by gender, I personally have found my three male PWDs have been both consistent and incredibly reliable in their job performance. As for Rottweilers, I prefer the females.

*Why did you choose a PWD? Do you need to keep the coat short for SAR work?*

C: When I decided to get my first dog, I was 30 years old. What I was looking for was a black dog who would be much like my chosen breed of horse, the Morgan. I wanted brains, athleticism, and a dog who could do many different activities. Except for these two stray labs, PWDs are the only breed I've had. And yes, I keep their coats short. Come spring, when we shear the sheep, I also clip the PWDs

all the way down. I usually clip them a second time midsummer. In the winter they grow their hair.

M: I wanted a dependable K-9 partner, one capable of excelling in multiple disciplines. The PWD fit the bill. I keep the coat short but leave enough to provide some protection against the elements. A long coat can be a hindrance in many of the areas we are asked to search.

*At what age do you start training a puppy, and what specific training is involved? How long does training take? How often do you train?*

C: The PWD litter that I bred specifically with SAR in mind started training the day they were born, and the two I kept to work were certified soon after they turned 2 years old. One PWD began training when I got him at 8 weeks old, and by 6 months of age he performed all the certifying elements to standard. Then we had to wait until he was 18 months old, per FEMA regulations, to officially test. Another PWD didn't begin training until he was 5 years old and certified within 12 short weeks—a total of 18 actual training sessions. He learned that fast, the quickest-certified in USAR history. Prior to this work he just knew a few “pet commands” and had a TD title. Specific training is a vast subject, with many volumes of books written that cover this topic. My training is focused on disaster search,

rescue and recovery. I train informally about once per week, and our team trains once each month.

M: I start with “live find” training when the puppy is about 9 weeks old, making “hide and go seek” so much fun that it becomes “the best game in the world” for him. From there, the trainings increase in complexity, and other disciplines, such as water search and human-remains detection, are introduced. The national average for training and bringing a dog to proficiency necessary for certification is around 18 months. PWDs are very quick learners, and my first two were so consistent in performance that they certified early, around a year old. My SAR team trains as a unit twice a month and we try to get together for informal trainings with those who live in the area once a week. I spend four to six weekends a year bringing my dog to advanced training seminars that focus on specific disciplines.

*Is there a test you and your dog must pass and be certified? How often do you recertify?*

C: For FEMA there are federal guidelines for USAR dogs. There is a fundamental skill assessment prerequisite your dog must pass before attempting the certification test. One must recertify every three years, with an annual in-house informal put-through. All of my dogs have passed and certified (except the



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bitch I chose to pull from training to breed).

M: My SAR team requires that a dog and handler be certified in a particular discipline before they are allowed to deploy on that type of search. My team has separate standards and certification tests for each of the different disciplines (Wilderness, Water, Human Remains Detection, Trailing, and so on). For my Connecticut team (CCSAR), we recertify every two years. For my Maryland specialty team (BARC), we recertify annually. Our certifying organizations are the national police K-9 organizations that certify police dogs.

*Is there specific care of the dog and certain rules to follow when the dog is working?*

C: No rules *per se*. The dogs have to be civilized, because we deploy as a group of 70 men and women and eight dogs. The dogs have to get along with each other and not be disruptive to the group.

M: I agree with Connie, I'm not aware of any hard and fast rules. As for specific care when the dog is working, handlers need to know their dog well enough to recognize fatigue and stress and adjust the workload, keeping the dog's health and well being foremost. Each dog is an individual, and each search situation is different; temperature, humidity, dust, and other environmental variables can affect the working time of a dog.

*Thank you, Marian and Connie!*

*To be continued in the January 2021 column.*

—Carole Prangley-McIvor,

[mcivor\\_carole@yahoo.com](mailto:mcivor_carole@yahoo.com)

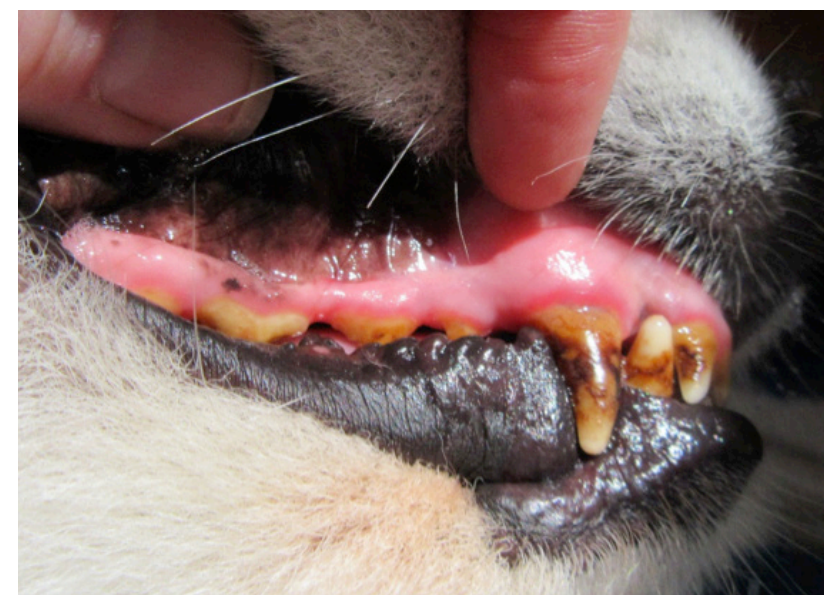
Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

## Samoyeds

Our guest columnist for this issue is Pat Cummins. Pat has been owned by Samoyeds since 1978. She is a Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) Master Breeder. Pat is a life member of the SCA, SAC, and CKC, and she is now licensed as a CKC judge of Working, Herding, and Sporting breeds. Pat and her husband Paul have bred more than 75 Canadian champions, including dogs who have won Best in Show and many group placements, as well as many other Working titles, all under the Sancha Samoyeds prefix. Pat's focus as a breeder has always been on health and temperament, as well as soundness in conformation.

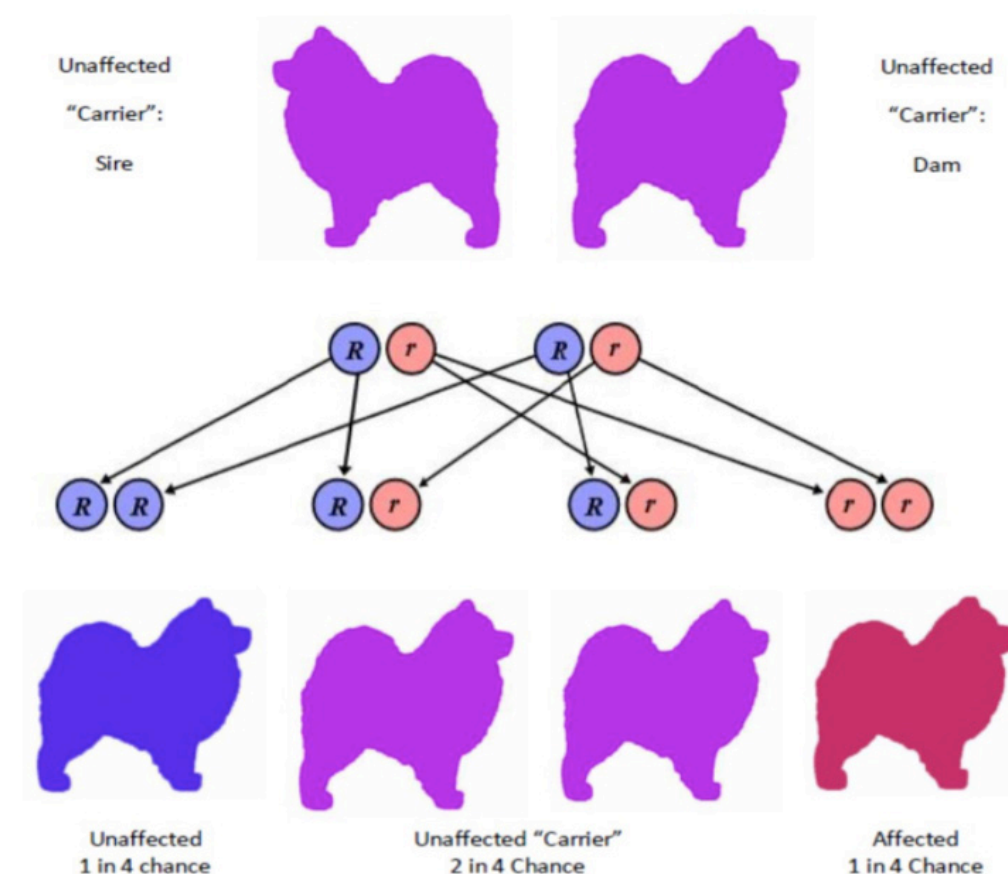
## ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA: A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

A couple of years back I saw a post on social media about a new DNA test for Samoyeds: familial enamel hypoplasia, or FEH. At the time I rather thought: "What the heck is that? Never heard of it! I wonder who has that in their lines, that there is now a test for it?"



Left; Familial enamel hypoplasia (FEH) causes pitting and staining on a dog's teeth.

Below: An illustration of the statistical outcome that's expected when breeding two carriers of a condition that has a simple recessive mode of inheritance—of course, in real life the numbers may differ. (Graphic by Pat Cummins)



COURTESY PAT CUMMINS



## WORKING GROUP

Little did I know there was a surprise cooking for me in a litter that we had just bred at that time. It was not till much later, when the pups were 6 months old, that we discovered the problem. I had checked the bite on my girl but really had not checked her side teeth—she was a puppy, and I assumed they would be clean and ok. I was quite taken aback when the judge (who actually happened to be someone I know well) commented on the teeth as she examined the bite. I was shocked when I checked them myself, outside the ring.

I chatted with the judge later, and she said that she was startled to see this condition in a Samoyed, as she had not seen it in our breed before. She said it was not at all uncommon in her breed (Dobermans), and she had also seen it in Akitas and Poodles. She said it was called “distemper teeth.” The only thing I could think of was that the litter had been sick when very young—not with distemper, but we had treated them with Chlorpalm at my vet’s suggestion for a bacterial infection. All had recovered just fine by 8 weeks, and I had not thought anything further of it.

I chatted with my vet, and he said that although he had not heard of this particular drug causing such problems, he had heard that some drugs could cause problems in damaging adult teeth while they were still forming, so both he and I then assumed this was what

happened. I checked with my puppy owners and found that there were actually three in the litter that were affected.

Shortly afterward, I was chatting with another well-known breeder, and she asked me if I had tested for FEH. I suddenly remembered the post about this new DNA test, which I had totally forgotten about. She told me that she had run into it, as had others. After a little more research, we began testing. To my shock, we discovered that most of the dogs we owned are carriers! How had we not run into this before? I do keep in close contact with most of my puppy owners, and I had not had any reports of it in the past that I could recall.

After thinking about it, however, I did recall one male born back in 2001 whose owners had told me that their dog’s teeth were very stained and brown. The owner was a dental technician and so cleaned them very regularly, but she commented on how small his teeth were as well. *Boom!* But how could this be? How could I have gone so long without having run into it again, with so many carriers in our breeding program?

A very long time ago, at a seminar on genetics I picked up a little program on a floppy disk called the “Breeders Game.” You started with four dogs: Three were clear, and the fourth dog was a carrier for an unknown

condition. You did not know which dog was a carrier, and you had no way to test for carriers. You then started a breeding program. The program produced random-sized litters, and you still had no way to test for carriers in the litters. Of course, with a carrier, no symptoms are expressed—it is just in the genes. The challenge of the program was to see how many generations you could go without producing an affected dog. My personal record was 21 generations in that game. I had forgotten that principle!

Basic genetics, with a simple recessive: Carrier bred to carrier will equal two carriers: one clear, and one affected. But that’s *very* basic. In real life, it does not actually necessarily play out that way. It’s just a one in four *chance* you will get that affected dog. Further complicating the picture is that you likely don’t breed every dog in a litter; some are eliminated as not being of suitable quality, and some because of other genetic problems that may show up.

You may have eliminated the carriers that way—or maybe not!

In our case, our lines are not tightly inbred, but rather line-bred. Although we have used various lines over the years, we have not added radically different lines. Only very recently did we acquire a new male from another top kennel with completely different

lines, to add to our program.

Unfortunately, and unbeknownst to us and to his breeder, he too was/is a carrier. He was born before this test existed, so neither of us had any way of knowing. He was bred here to three different bitches, one bitch twice. The breeding that was repeated produced no problems the first time, but the second time it gave us one affected puppy. So much for basic genetics and chance. That male was also not related in any way to our first litter that produced the problem.

The biggest problem, as I see it, is that this condition does not show up in 8-week-old puppies. They have quite normal baby teeth. It is not until their adult teeth come in that the problem becomes apparent.

By this time, pups have usually been placed in their homes, and unless breeders check back with them, they might never know. Even then, it can apparently vary in degree, some worse than others. Although it is not in itself life-threatening, it does mean considerable hardship for the owners to take care of the teeth. Treatment involves regular dentals, or possible having the teeth coated with a resin to protect them, as they lack the enamel coating that normally does so. Ultimately bad teeth can threaten the health of one’s dog too.

What does FEH look like? The teeth are badly pitted, and brown stained, as they lack



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the enamel that normally covers them and protects them. Lacking this additional coating of hard white enamel, the teeth are also smaller in size, lack strength, and more easily broken or damaged. They also build up plaque much more quickly than normal, as the teeth are rougher.

Where did it come from? I have no idea if this was a recent genetic mutation or something that has been around for a while and just went undiagnosed. I suspect my first one back in 2001 had the same problem, and it was just incorrectly diagnosed. Even now both my vets have been surprised to learn that it is genetic—they both said they have seen it in other breeds and always assumed it to be the result of outside influences, that the puppy was sick during the months while the adult teeth-buds were still in the gums. Neither vet suspected it could be genetic. I do know my lines are otherwise completely unrelated to the other lines that I have heard have run into the same issue, so it must be deeper in the Samoyed breed than we know.

Here is the link for testing through UC Davis: <https://vgl.ucdavis.edu/test/feh-samoyed>. The test is simple to do and can be done at home. You can order their brushes when ordering the test, or you can use Sunstar Gum interdental brushes, which can be purchased at any pharmacy (instructions are available on the website). Then you mail in the sample for testing. It takes

only a few days for results once the samples are received. At just \$50 per dog, the cost is minimal, especially compared to the cost of other testing!

To get to the point of this whole article: *I strongly urge you to do this test!* It is for the health of our breed. —P.C.

Thank you, Pat.

—Heather LoProto, SCA Public Education Chair,

[hloproto@comcast.net](mailto:hloproto@comcast.net)

Samoyed Club of America

## Siberian Huskies

### MAN'S BEST FRIEND

The past several months have taught everyone a hard lesson: Life can be very unpredictable and totally beyond anyone's control. Many of us fortunate enough to share our lives with dogs have developed a renewed appreciation for their unconditional love just when we need it the most. It provides a constant in life when nothing else does.

Our dogs never lack for human interaction, but as the weeks of a statewide stay-at-home quarantine and social-distancing dragged on and even more time was spent at home, I began to observe unexpected changes in the overall social structure of the kennel hierarchy and in the personalities of the individual dogs.



While my husband and I tried to navigate the stress of day-to-day living and caring for 10 Siberians, the dogs thrived on the additional attention, totally oblivious to the outside world.

Siberians are not regarded as one of the most affectionate and obedient of purebred dog breeds, showing independence and aloofness early in their development. As the days and weeks passed, I became aware of subtle changes occurring in the kennel.

The most fascinating observations focused

on the evolving interactions and relationships between the individual dogs, from a 2-year-old to two 14-year-olds. During the day, the dogs spent extended supervised time in the exercise yard rather than in their outdoor kennel runs. Slowly, they began to interact much more with those who were not their usual kennelmates. Any dog who wanted to join in the games was welcome. They would play endless games of tag, jumping over each other and running at full speed across the yard until they collapsed in a pile to rest and regroup. Dogs whom I never

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM



## WORKING GROUP

expected to see playing together were doing just that. Even the older dogs showed interest and enthusiasm in participating and were welcomed into the group.

One of the biggest surprises involved the pairing of dogs in the kennel runs. Fortunately, both girls had just recently come out of season. Instead of assigning pairs to specific runs, they were free to choose both the run and their mates. The arrangement changed day to day, and months later, dogs we never thought would get along are still buddies.

Spending so much one-on-one time with the Siberians provided a much clearer insight into the special relationships between mushers and their dogs. The more time musher and dogs spent together, the stronger the bond and trust. That only makes sense, but we did not realize how quickly or how strong the bonds would become. During a time when kennel life could have been extremely stressful, the dogs grew into a community.

Dogs are wonderful creatures. They help humans see the world in a calmer, kinder light and are indifferent to the world around them. Feed them, care for them, love them, and they are happy. To us, they are our confidants, therapists, and best friends.

—Jane Steffen, Brownfield, Maine,  
[klonaquay@gmail.com](mailto:klonaquay@gmail.com)  
Siberian Husky Club of America

## Standard Schnauzers

### A TAIL'S TALE

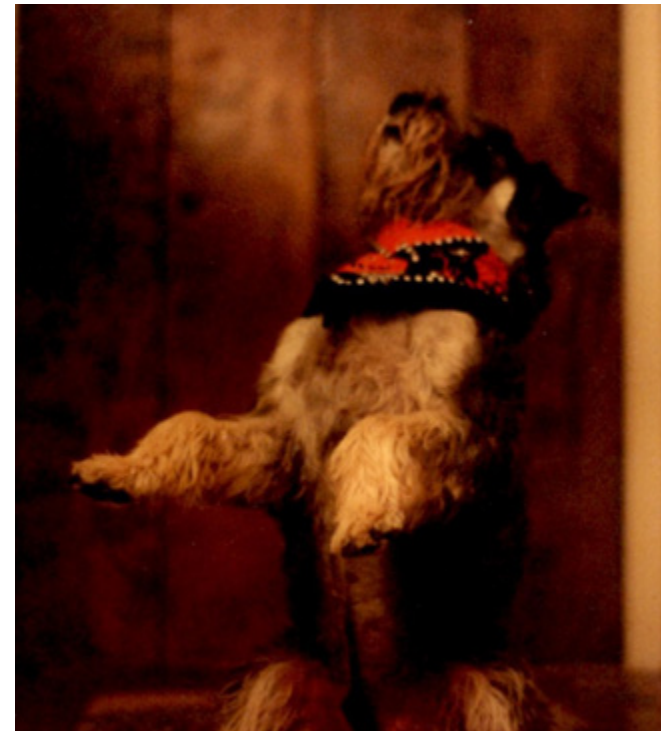
Having participated in numerous conformation and performance events over the past 50 years, I've observed many a telltale tail. How a Standard Schnauzer carries his tail gives insight into the personality, temperament, and character of the dog.

Our breed standard says, "the Standard Schnauzer has highly developed senses, intelligence, aptitude for training, fearlessness, endurance and resistance against weather and illness. His nature combines high-spirited temperament with extreme reliability." It describes the SS tail as "set moderately high and carried erect . . . docked to not less than one inch nor more than two inches," and faults a squirrel tail.

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

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

Standard Schnauzers are an ebullient, energetic lot who take great pleasure in doing their



*Standard Schnauzer Murphy does a trick for Halloween*

job well, whether it's guarding, conformation competition, performance sports, tricks, or taking care of the kids in the backyard. The SS greeting the judge with a wagging tail and moving confidently around the ring with his tail up endears himself to his audience—judges, competitors, and prospective owners alike. A joyful, tail-wagging SS in the conformation, obedience, or agility ring is a delight to watch.

Breeders should breed only SS with solid temperaments, and they should raise puppies

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

—Suzanne T. Smith, Los Alamos, New Mexico,  
[WustefuchsSS@aol.com](mailto:WustefuchsSS@aol.com)  
Standard Schnauzer Club of America

## Tibetan Mastiffs

### THE TIBETAN MASTIFF AS A LIVESTOCK GUARDIAN DOG

Whether guarding the tents and herds of the nomads, homes in the villages, or temples and monasteries in Tibet, the Tibetan Mastiff (TM) has always been a working dog. The breed still retains both the physical and mental traits required of a guardian breed: intelligent, independent, loyal, alert, fearless, large, strong, and imposing. There is no doubt that a TM can take on the job of protecting flocks and herds, but is the breed a livestock guardian dog (LGD) as that role is defined in the West? This is what we will address here in the second of a two-part series looking at the history and function of the Tibetan Mastiff as a working dog.

COURTESY SUZANNE T. SMITH



## WORKING GROUP

In order to properly address the issue of TMs as livestock guardian dogs, first we need to define the purpose and intent of LGDs and how the concept has changed over the years and differs in perception between countries and cultures. A LGD is a dog who is purposefully bred to protect livestock from predators. Historically, “All the livestock guard dog (LGD) breeds descend from dogs that have been working alongside shepherds and goat herders in Europe or Asia for centuries. Each breed in the group can be traced back to a specific area of origin.”<sup>(1)</sup>

As noted in our last article, Tibetan nomads and farmers have used TMs to protect their herds for centuries, and it would have been impossible to raise their animals without their dogs. LGDs guard and protect in three distinct ways: scent-marking the perimeter of their property to define territorial boundaries—all canids, whether domestic or wild, recognize these boundaries, and tend to stay away from an occupied territory; barking to warn and ward off predators, and posturing when a predator

*Tibetan Mastiffs will protect anything within their borders, including livestock—shown here with yaks in summer and winter—but it is critical to understand that this breed works in daily close partnership with its people and is not suited to be left to live on its own with livestock with only minimal socialization.*



COURTESY DEBORAH MAYER



## WORKING GROUP

is detected to in order to avoid direct confrontation; and fearless confrontation only when necessary, if a predator has ignored boundaries and warnings and breached the perimeter of the dog's territory. Even then, the goal is to ward off the predator, not to kill. "Ultimately, predators avoid protected pastures and keep safely away from flocks to avoid being detected or confronted by the guard dog." (2)

This pattern of behavior perfectly describes the Tibetan Mastiff—so why is there a question as to whether they are LGDs?

The Tibetan Mastiff's traditional role in Tibet has been a protector of his master, his master's tent and animals, and the caravans in which they traveled. They defended what they considered theirs against marauders and predators such as wolves, mustelidae, and snow leopards. Let's recall Primož Peer's observations that "These dogs are living with people" (3), and note above the phrase "working alongside shepherds." In Tibet, people are with the animals, even in high pasture; the animals are not left alone for the dogs to tend. Flocks/herds are taken to the fields to graze during the day and corralled at night to secure them from predators. While a few TMs may accompany the shepherds during the day, their primary purpose is to stay behind and guard the camp. When the flocks or herds return at night, the TMs keep guard around the camps or cor-

als or take up sentry duty on higher ground nearby.

Describing his observations of working LGDs in Romania, Paul White notes, "This system, which has taken many generations to perfect, only works well with the shepherds present." (4) This is not the definition of a LGD as typically used in Western cultures. A critical component to the team is missing: the shepherds.

Somehow, Western farmers and ranchers have lost the concept of working alongside their dogs and have adopted the mindset that LGDs should not bond or interact with their people but rather be left to work alone in the pastures. As White so adeptly put it, "Many farmers in the West do not want the discomfort of living with their sheep in unfenced predator country and often rely too heavily on their dogs working alone and hoping they make the right decisions." (4) This change in the definition of a LGD, from one that works with its people to one that is left completely on its own, is the demarcation between the Tibetan Mastiff and other LGD breeds. While they are perfect for the job as carried out in Tibet, Tibetan Mastiffs are not suitable as LGDs as we currently define them in the U.S.

Tibetan Mastiffs are property and perimeter guardians and will protect anything within their borders, including their home, their people, and their animals. While there are exceptions, as a general rule TMs do not show a particular

affinity or bond with livestock, but rather protect them as part of their territory. They also tend to expand their territory to include anything they can see and watch over.

For this reason, boundaries are critical, and in a situation where there is no defined perimeter, such as on a large, open ranch, the tendency is to wander further and further away from the livestock as they enlarge their territory, leaving the animals unprotected.

In addition, TMs form lifelong bonds with their people and seek out human companionship over that of their charges. Even if socialized well as a puppy, a TM needs daily human interaction, or they very quickly turn feral. A TM that is left with livestock with only minimal socialization can become a very dangerous dog. In addition, some can have a strong prey drive, and it is not always possible to discern this as a puppy. Martha Feltenstein, of the American Tibetan Mastiff Association, noted, "We have gotten many into rescue because they have killed their charges." (5) Keeping TMs in a separate fenced area surrounding the livestock area where they can still patrol the perimeter but not have direct access to the animals is a workable solution.

Critical points are that the livestock area needs to be fully fenced; the dogs need to be part of a working team with their owner, and Tibetan Mastiffs should not be left in the pasture unattended with livestock. On a small

family farm, where there are fenced perimeters and the dogs are part of the family and a working team, they are an excellent choice to protect livestock along with their people and property. Working as a partner with their people makes for the perfect small-farm guardian who can transition from a loving family companion to a working dog in almost the blink of an eye. But keep in mind that *partnership* is the key.

### References:

- (1) *Rural Living Today. What Is a Livestock Guardian Dog? Here's What You Need to Know.* <https://rurallivingtoday.com/livestock/livestock-guardian-dog/>.
- (2) Redden, R. Reid, Tomacek, John M., Walker, John W. *Livestock Guardian Dogs. 2013. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.* <https://sanangelo.tamu.edu/files/2013/08/Livestock-Guardian-Dogs1.pdf>.
- (3) Primož Peer. 2004.
- (4) White, Paul. *Livestock Guardian Dogs and their role in large predator conservation. Inside Ecology.* May 16, 2018. <https://insideecology.com/2018/05/16/livestock-guardian-dogs-and-their-role-in-large-predator-conservation/>
- (5) Martha Feltenstein, American Tibetan Mastiff Association, 9/22/2020. *Private communication.*  
—Deborah Mayer, [debmayer@thetatek.com](mailto:debmayer@thetatek.com)  
[American Tibetan Mastiff Association](http://www.american-tibetan-mastiff-association.com)





**MISSION STATEMENT** The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function.

Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

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## ATTENTION DELEGATES

### NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held via video Zoom Webinar on **Wednesday, December 2, 2020** beginning at 12:30 p.m. Eastern Time. It will follow the Delegates Forum which will begin at 11:00 a.m. ET.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Arrowhead Kennel Club

## DELEGATES CREDENTIALS

**Claudia L. Burk**, Bakersfield, CA, Kern County Kennel Club

**Timothy Carrion**, DDS, Owings Mills, MD, Swamp Dog Retriever Club

**Mary Lou Cuddy**, Granville, NY, Saratoga New York Kennel Club

**Heidi Henningson**, Springfield, NE, American Chesapeake Club

**Daniele Ledoux-Starzyk**, Henderson, NV, Silver State Kennel Club

**Carey L. Moreschini**, Pueblo West, CO, Southern Colorado Kennel Club

**Michael L. Moscovitz**, New Haven, CT, Shoreline Retriever Club

**Cecilia Resnick**, Leander, TX, Japanese Chin Club of America

**Susan Schneider**, Blairstown, NJ, Norfolk Terrier Club

**Sherri Swabb**, Sugarcreek Township, OH, Dayton Dog Training 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:

Mr. Charles Hines (Hinsdale, IL)

Ms. Francis Keays (Kuna, ID)

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. ARTICLE IV, SECTION 1

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **ARTICLE IV, Section 1, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.** proposed by the Delegate Parent Club Committee and brought forward by Staff. This will be voted on at the December 2, 2020 Delegates Meeting.

### ARTICLE IV

**SECTION 1.** All multi-breed Clubs or Associations which have held at least three Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, Field Trials, or Agility Trials in consecutive years under rules of the AKC and all Parent Specialty Clubs which have been or shall be formed for the improvement of any breed of purebred dogs shall be eligible to become members of the AKC.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 7

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **ARTICLE VIII, Section 7, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.** proposed by the Beaumont Kennel Club (BKC) and brought forward by Staff. This will be voted on at the December 2, 2020 Delegates Meeting.

### ARTICLE VIII

**SECTION 7.** All elections shall be by ballot; except, if no valid additional nominations are received by the Executive Secretary by November 15; the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected at the annual meeting and no balloting will be required. If no valid additional nomination(s) are received by the Executive Secretary by November 15; for any partial term up for election, the partial term candidate shall be declared elected at the annual meeting and no balloting will be required.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS CHAPTER 16, SECTION 1 – CHAMPIONSHIPS

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 16, Section 1, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows**, proposed by Staff. This will be voted on at the December 2, 2020 Delegates Meeting.



## CHAPTER 16

### SECTION 1.

(Previous portions of this section are unchanged)

Each AKC Breed Parent Specialty Club shall have one designated Parent Club National Specialty show per year. All others shall be termed a Parent Club Specialty show.

Unless the Parent Club, in its Application to the AKC to hold its National Specialty, chooses to exclude the following award: At the National Specialty the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch will be awarded a three-point major, provided that the number of dogs competing in the regular classes of the Reserve Winner's sex totals at least twice the number required for a five point major, in the region in which the event is held.

No major for Reserve Winners shall be given based upon an award of Best of Winners. In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld, shall not be included.

In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all

awards are withheld, shall not be included.

A 2020 National Specialty may be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty. If a Parent Club chooses to hold either one or two National Specialties in the 2021 calendar year, the Parent Club may exercise an option with its application to exclude the Reserve Winners three-point major from one or both National Specialties. This paragraph is applicable to 2021 only and will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE *FIELD TRIAL RULES AND STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR POINTING BREEDS* CHAPTER 14, NEW SECTION 36 – RULES FOR POINTING BREEDS TRIALS**

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 14, New Section 36**, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds*, proposed by Staff.

#### **CHAPTER 14**

#### **SECTION 36.** (New Section)

A 2020 National Field Trial Championship held by a Parent Club may be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Field Trial Championship held by the same Parent Club. This paragraph is applicable to 2021 only and will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE *FIELD TRIAL RULES AND STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR SPANIELS* CHAPTER 15, NEW SECTION 27 – RULES FOR SPANIEL TRIALS**

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 15, New Section 27**, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels*, proposed by Staff.

#### **CHAPTER 15 Rules for Spaniel Trials SECTION 27.** (New Section)

A 2020 National Field Trial Championship held by a Parent Club may be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Field Trial Championship held by the same Parent Club. This paragraph is applicable to 2021 only and will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE *BEAGLE FIELD TRIAL RULES AND STANDARD PROCEDURES* CHAPTER 9, SECTION 1 – DESCRIPTION OF CLASSES AND CHAMPIONSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 9, Section 1**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures*, proposed by the Beagle Advisory Committee.

#### **CHAPTER 9**

**SECTION 1.** At a licensed or member Beagle field trial, the regular classes shall be: Open Dogs not exceeding 13 inches in height.

Open Bitches not exceeding 13 inches in height.

Open Dogs over 13 inches but not exceeding 15 inches in height.

Open Bitches over 13 inches but not exceeding 15 inches in height.

However, if when the entries are closed, it is found that there are fewer than six hounds of a sex eligible to compete in any class, the Field Trial Committee shall have the option of combining that class either by gender or size into a single class.

However, only in the case of traditional Brace trials, the host club has the option to offer only two classes – Open Dogs and Open Bitches. The advertisement for the trial must clearly identify the classes offered. Once approved by the AKC, a club may not decide to split a class by size.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE *FIELD TRIAL RULES AND STANDARD PROCEDURES FOR BASSET HOUNDS* CHAPTER 3, SECTION 1 – MAKING APPLICATION TO HOLD A FIELD TRIAL**

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 3, Section 1**, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds*, proposed by the Basset Hound Club of America.

#### **CHAPTER 3**

**SECTION 1.** A club which wishes to hold a licensed or member field trial must apply



to The American Kennel Club on a form which will be supplied on request to clubs that meet the requirements of The American Kennel Club. This application will be referred to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club which will consider it and notify the club of its approval or disapproval. A licensed or member club is allowed to hold up to four field trials per calendar year.

## 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 Depart-

ment 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](mailto:judgingops@akc.org).

## ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

### Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez (97321) FL

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Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Manchester Terriers, Papilons, Pekingese, Silky Terriers

## 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

**Mr. Richard (Ric) Brown (108381) MI**  
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Lowchen

*\*Permit status approval for American Eskimo Dogs pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

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*\*Permit status approval for Manchester Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

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wildfirewhippets@juno.com  
Balance of Sporting Group (Barbets,



Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Labrador Retrievers, Boykin Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons)

**Mr. Allan Reznik (103211) AR**

(949) 929-5760

reznikallan@gmail.com

Greyhounds, Chinese Cresteds, American Eskimo Dogs, Lhasa Apsos

**Ms. Robin K. Riel (7006) WA**

(509) 952-9563

mbissborzoi@hotmail.com

Shetland Sheepdogs

**Ms. Linda Robey (6621) MO**

(636) 677-6644

lrobey@swbell.net

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Komondorok

**Mrs. Nancy C. Russell (17390) CO**

(719) 738-5710

nancystormkloud@gmail.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises, Coton de Tulear, French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers)

**Mr. Jeffrey P. Ryman (93219) WA**

(425) 876-2213

rotor8@aol.com

Lagotti Romagnoli, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Coton de Tulear, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli

**Mr. Harry H. "Butch" Schulman (59014) KY**

(502) 267-6374

harry.schulman@louisville.edu  
American Hairless Terriers, Bull Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Rat Terriers, Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

**Mr. Larry Sorenson (91222) NC**

(919) 656-3437

llsoren@earthlink.net

Sloughis

**Ms. Gaye Lynn Todd (100927) IL**

(815) 459-3487

littleflock@comcast.net

Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pumik

**Ms. Marilyn Van Vleit (67040) OR**

(503) 580-0706

mvanvleit@gmail.com

Dachshunds

**Mrs. Pamela Waldron (56812) WA**

(360) 770-2403

endorgriff@comcast.net

Manchester Terriers

**Ms. Sharol Candace Way (6668) PA**

(610) 869-3984

bantryway@aol.com

Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs

**Ms. Sherry Webster (6863) TN**

(901) 289-6239

swakc3@gmail.com

Balance of Herding Group (Belgian Laekenois, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Bri-

ards, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Pyrenean Shepherds), Brittanys, German Shorthaired Pointers, English Cocker Spaniels

**Mr. Adrian Woodfork (6877) CA**

(916) 716-2369

addoxdobes@sbcglobal.net

Brittanys, Golden Retrievers, English Setters, English Springer Spaniels

**Mr. Wood Wornall (95931) MO**

(805) 264-3304

woodwornall@hotmail.com

Lagotti Romagnoli, Irish Red and White Setters, Boykin Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas, Bulldogs, Poodles

**Mrs. Lisa Young (43070) SD**

(605) 390-1135

youngsd@rap.midco.net

Treeing Walker Coonhounds

**BEST IN SHOW**

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

**Ms. Sandy Bingham-Porter (94107) IL**

(217) 345-7571

sbinghamporter@eiu.edu

**Mrs. Sharon Masnick (97181) SC**

(843) 933-5516

skmasnick@aol.com

**Mr. Benson E. Ray (97179) SC**

(843) 933-5367

benson592@aol.com

**REINSTATED JUDGES**

The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.

**Mr. James Mitchell (5140) DE**

mitchelljames496@gmail.com

BIS, Hound Group, Toy Group, Herding Group, English Cocker Spaniels, JS

**Ms. Wendy Sorrell (75680) WA**

(360) 489-5084

wendysorrell@comcast.net

Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, JS

**RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE**

Mrs. Linda H. Simmons

**EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Mrs. Fay Dorval Haupt

Mr. George M. Vukich

**DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Miss Maxine Beam

Mr. Gary L. Doerge

Mrs. Adelene Pardo

Mr. James L. (Heck) Rice, Jr



## 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:

AMOUR-Irish Wolfhounds- Beverly Conroy

AVION's - Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Maricela Boullosa Cedillo

DREAMGAIT- Poodles- Mark Gresh

FLF -Pembroke Welsh Corgis & Cardigan Welsh Corgis- Debbie A Mock

FOXRIDGE Farms- Toy Fox Terriers- Shannon L Fenner

KSP - Labrador Retrievers & German

Shorthaired Pointers- Susan N Devereaux

MOD F'S- Dachshunds & Havanese -Joe E. McCall

MOFFETT:S- French Bulldogs- Rev. Edwin Moffett

MOUNT BETHEL- Poodles- Darcy C Kallus

NO LIMITS -German Shorthaired Pointers-Jeffrey C. Bosch

PALADIN- Cane Corso- Roy A. Haney and Sue-Ann B. Haney

R3- Mastiff- Tim J. Pearson

POTOMAC CREEK-Labrador Retrievers- Paula A Scholz & Timothy M Scholz

ROMANYORK- Yorkshire Terriers- Filomena C. Sarlea

SPOT ON- Labrador Retrievers- Deborah Kelley

STARDUST- American Eskimo Dogs-Laurie S. Boles

TITAN'S-Akitas Cory L. Crayton

VOM NORDENWALD- German Shepherd Dogs-Angela D. Nordquist

WINDYACRES-Pembroke Welsh Corgis-Debrah E. Peterson

WINTERBERRY-Collies-Kathleen Pirro & Kia Pirro

ZOBELA-Siberian Huskies- Paige B. Strickland

ZOOZOOZ-Bull Terriers- Austin Salmon & Sheila Salmon

## REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

ASPEN HILL - Lakeland Terriers - Susan K Munson

BELLESHADE - German Shepherds - Isabel Lopez

BRIARWOOD – Vizslas - Beth McNeish

BRUSHYRUN – Basenjis - Beverly A Bland

CARIBBEAN MIST - Belgian Malinois - Elaine Antonmattei

CHIC CHOIX - Lhasa Apsos - Juha O Kares & Clifton J Kenon, Jr.

COUNTRIDOX – Dachshunds - Tamila L Smith & Joe M Smith

CZECH MATE - German Shepherds - Sarah R Atlas

FLASHYLABS - Labrador Retrievers - Jill Smith

FOREVR FARM - Australian Shepherds - Kathleen Sumner & Evans Sumner

HARLEQUIN-Dachshunds- Karen R.

Scheiner

KAREMY- Labrador Retrievers - Kathy J. Jackson & Jeremy P. Jackson

LAKE KATHYRN - Bernese Mountain Dogs - Andera C. Bracikowski

LONGDOGIA - Dachshunds - Heather Ackby

LOST HERITAGE - Treeing Walker Coonhounds - Cole M. Vanover & Kristin B. Lawless

LOST HERITAGE - Redbone Coonhounds - Cole M. Vanover & Kristin B. Lawless

OUT WEST - Australian Shepherds - Kelly Cooke

PRISTINE – Boxers – Audrey D Kamphenkel & David N Kamphenkel

REMEDY- Australian Shepherds - Katie L Knudtson

RIM COUNTRY- Labrador Retrievers - Darnell M. Ghidotti

SANCTUARY – Bloodhound - Deirdre Rahn & Timothy Rahn

SILVERSHOT'S – Weimaraners - Judy L. Balog & Gerald Gertiser

SIRIUS - English Toy Spaniels - Patricia A. Cox & Beverly H Maurer

SIXX - Australian Shepherds - Angelica L DeMont

STELLAR - Miniature American Shepherds - Lauren Brown

THOROUGHbred - Cane Corso - Jerome Powell Williams

VONBREMEN'S - Rottweilers - Colleen R. Winslow

VON OSTENBERG – Rottweilers - Allison Camper Ostenberg

WILDRIVER – Boxers - Lisa Gottwait





**QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES  
OF  
THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB  
ZOOM WEBINAR  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

Dennis B. Sprung, President

**PRESENT 376**

Abilene Kennel Club—*Melanie Steele*  
Affenpinscher Club of America—*Letisha Wubbel*  
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*  
Airedale Terrier Club of America—*Aletta L. Moore*  
Akita Club of America—*Steven Lisker*  
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia A. Peel*  
Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—*KC Gottschalk*  
American Belgian Malinois Club—*Carol J. Shields*  
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—*Ms. Janina K. Laurin*  
American Bloodhound Club—*Mary Lou Olszewski*  
American Boxer Club, Inc.—*Sharon Steckler*

American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Terri Hilliard*  
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*  
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Patricia Kanan*  
American Chesapeake Club, Inc.—*Timothy Carrion*  
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 Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*  
American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth W. Mader*  
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—*Marjorie Tuff*  
American Sloughi Association—*Erika N. Wyatt*  
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Bruce Van Deman*  
American Tibetan Mastiff Association—*Martha Feltenstein*

American Whippet Club, Inc.—*Karen B. Lee*  
American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association—*Kate DeSanto*  
Anderson Kennel Club—*Laura A. Rockwell*  
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*  
Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc.—*Anne R. Palmer*  
Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pamela J. Arwood*  
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*  
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A. LaBerge*  
Augusta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Catherine Iacopelli*  
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bette D. Williams*  
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Joyce Rowland*  
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*William I. Christensen*  
Badger Kennel Club—*Jennifer L. Amundsen*  
Baltimore County Kennel Club—*Lucy C. Campbell-Gracie*  
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—*Katie Campbell*  
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Norine E. Noonan*  
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathleen Ronald*  
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—*Susan Soviero*

Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Kathy Coxwell*  
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Phyllis Belcastro*  
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Mary G. Buckwalter*  
Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carole A. Wilson*  
Berger Picard Club of America—*Jacqueline Carswell*  
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Sara Karl*  
Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jerry Yarbrough*  
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Toby B. Frisch*  
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Griffin*  
Black Russian Terrier Club of America—*Susan Sholar*  
Blennerhassett Kennel Club, Inc.—*John McCullagh*  
Border Collie Society of America—*Lisa M. Pruksa*  
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Ruth A. Naun*  
Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—*Prudence G. Hlatky*  
Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathleen M. Kelly*  
Briard Club of America, Inc.—*Diane Reid*  
Bronx County Kennel Club—*Alexa Samarotto*



Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—*Victoria Glickstein*  
 Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Priscilla Gabosch*  
 Bull Terrier Club of America—*Ms. Jan Dykema*  
 Bulldog Club of New England, Inc.—*Francesca J. Castaneda*  
 Bulldog Club of Philadelphia—*Elizabeth H. Milam*  
 Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*  
 Butler County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Ioia*  
 Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Pam Davis*  
 California Airedale Terrier Club—*Nancy Bougher*  
 California Collie Clan, Inc.—*Mr. Roy E. Degner*  
 Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—*Mr. Wayne F. Harmon*  
 Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*  
 Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*  
 Cape Cod Kennel Club, Inc.—*David Harsch*  
 Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*  
 Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Jacque Glenn*  
 Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*  
 Carolina Working Group Association—*Cathleen Rubens*

Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*  
 Catonsville Kennel Club—*Beverly A. Drake*  
 Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc.—*Robert E. Tainsh, M.D.*  
 Central Beagle Club—*David Bagaley*  
 Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally Allen*  
 Central Iowa Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kristina M. DeLisi*  
 Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Janet V. Mitchell*  
 Charleston Kennel Club—*Terri Hallman*  
 Chicago Collie Club—*Bryna Comsky*  
 Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Joao Machado*  
 Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*  
 Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Margaret DiCorleto*  
 Clackamas Kennel Club—*Tami D. Worley*  
 Clarksville Kennel Club—*Robert A. Schroll*  
 Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—*Dr. Stephen Lawrence*  
 Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*  
 Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margorie Underwood*  
 Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Maureen R. Setter*  
 Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John G. Buddie*  
 Colorado Kennel Club—*Mrs. Louise Leone*  
 Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Douglas Johnson*

Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—*Leslie A. Jaseph*  
 Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne M. Hier*  
 Conroe Kennel Club—*Jane Bates*  
 Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—*James F. Barron*  
 Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*  
 Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pamela J. Rhyner-Hirko, Cmdr. (Ret.)*  
 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.—*Barbara L. Mann*  
 Dayton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Groeschel*  
 Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*  
 Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore—*Sandra Olsen*  
 Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club—*Stephanie A. Crawford*  
 Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—*Dr. A. D. Butherus*  
 Doberman Pinscher Club of America—*Glen Lajeski*

Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*  
 Duluth Kennel Club—*Leah R. James*  
 Durango Kennel Club—*Donald E. Schwartz, V.M.D*  
 Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Linda C. Wozniak*  
 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 Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Chereen M. Nawrocki*  
 English Setter Association of America, Inc.—*Dr. Brenda J. Parsons, D.V.M.*  
 English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, Inc.—*Susanne Burgess*  
 English Toy Spaniel Club of America—*Heather Reid*  
 Erie Kennel Club, Inc.—*Julie W. Parker*  
 Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*  
 Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Teresa Vila*  
 Field Spaniel Society of America—*Katherine Sullivan*  
 Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margaret B. Pough*  
 Finnish Spitz Club of America—*Mrs. Cindy Stansell*  
 First Dog Training Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Mary D. Curtis*



Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc.—*Neal Goodwin*  
 Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*June Guido*  
 Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—*Eduardo T. Fugiwara*  
 Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Harold Tatro III*  
 Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gale Golden*  
 French Bulldog Club of America—*Mrs. Ann M. Hubbard*  
 Furniture City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merry J. Millner*  
 Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cathy De La Garza*  
 Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cynthia (Cindy) Collins*  
 Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia Denninger*  
 German Pinscher Club of America—*Barbara L. Visinski*  
 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—*Mrs. Barbara N. Schwartz*  
 German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia W. Laurans*  
 Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—*Chris Reed*  
 Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America—*Jo Lynn*  
 Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Carole L. Richards*  
 Golden Retriever Club of America—*Ellen Hardin*

Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*  
 Grand Rapids Kennel Club—*Mrs. Carol L. Johnson*  
 Grand River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Lettis*  
 Great Barrington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Ellen C. Shanahan*  
 Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California—*Mr. Jack G. Smith*  
 Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc—*Ms. Karen J. Burgess*  
 Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Shaw*  
 Greater Miami Dog Club—*Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez*  
 Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—*Linda L. LaFrance*  
 Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—*Mr. Jerry A. Berkowitz*  
 Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Catherine Cooper*  
 Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.—*Kathie S. Moulton*  
 Greenville Kennel Club—*Gloria Askins*  
 Greenwich Kennel Club—*Donna Gilbert*  
 Greyhound Club of America—*Kathleen B. Whitaker*  
 Harrier Club of America—*Donna Smiley*  
 Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandie Role-naitis*  
 Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Sally L. Fineburg*  
 Havanese Club of America—*Shirley A. Petko*

Heart of America Kennel Club, Inc.—*Julie Lux*  
 Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—*Patricia M. Cruz*  
 Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*  
 Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane Wilkinson*  
 Hoosier Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karl H. Kreck*  
 Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Pincus*  
 Hungarian Pumi Club of America —*Marilyn Piusz*  
 Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dick Blair*  
 Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Marile A. Waterstraat*  
 Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara A. Penny*  
 Ibizan Hound Club of the United States—*Michelle Barlak*  
 Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rita J. Biddle*  
 Intermountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michael L. Van Tassell*  
 Irish Red and White Setter Association of America—*Christopher M. Orcutt*  
 Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Karolynne M. McAteer*  
 Irish Terrier Club of America—*Douglas L. Rapport*  
 Irish Water Spaniel Club of America—*R. J. Rubin*  
 Irish Wolfhound Club of America—*Eugenia Hunter*

James River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sherry Harman*  
 Jefferson County Kennel Club of Missouri—*Greg Smith*  
 K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—*Dave Morgan*  
 Kachina Kennel Club—*Lee Ann Stusnick*  
 Kanadasaga Kennel Club—*Christine Cone*  
 Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—*Richard Su*  
 Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, Inc.—*Doreen Weintraub*  
 Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—*Thomas Powers*  
 Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—*Margaret Doster*  
 Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—*Daniel Petko*  
 Kennel Club of Riverside—*Sylvia A. Thomas*  
 Kennesaw Kennel Club—*Bud Hidlay*  
 Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jacquelyn Fogel*  
 Komondor Club of America, Inc.—*Michael Harman*  
 Kuvasz Club of America—*Richard Rosenthal*  
 Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.—*Tony Emilio*  
 Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Kimberly Van Hemert*  
 Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Arna B. Margolies*  
 Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America, Inc.—*James Talbert*



Lake Champlain Retriever Club—*Wendy Jones*  
 Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diana L. Skibinski*  
 Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—*Deborah L. Kreider*  
 Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carolyn M. Vack*  
 Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan Croft*  
 Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.—*Debra Duncan*  
 Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert N. LaBerge*  
 Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Meyer*  
 Leonberger Club of America—*Don James*  
 Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sue Goldberg*  
 Lexington Kennel Club Inc—*Jan Wolf*  
 Long Island Kennel Club—*Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.*  
 Longshore-Southport Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michaelann Mako*  
 Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Debra H. Owen*  
 Lowchen Club of America—*Lisa Brown*  
 Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ruth Crumb*  
 Manatee Kennel Club—*Mr. Daniel R. Dahlberg*  
 Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynn Garvin*  
 Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Rebecca Campbell*

Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jeanette Nieder*  
 Middleburg Kennel Club—*Mrs. Susan Werner*  
 Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—*Joanne Wilds*  
 Mississippi State Kennel Club—*Roxanne Hilsman*  
 Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—*Gretchen Bernardi*  
 Mohawk Valley Kennel Club—*Ms. Amy Romeo*  
 Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry A. Hoovis*  
 Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary Yoders*  
 Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane F. Ruthford*  
 Myrtle Beach Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*  
 Nashville Kennel Club—*Anne Gallant*  
 National Beagle Club—*Eddie Dziuk*  
 National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—*Norma Ryan*  
 National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi Strouse*  
 Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Viola Burgos*  
 Nebraska Kennel Club —*Medora Harper*  
 New England Beagle Club, Inc.—*Blaine Grove*  
 New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Julie King*

New England Old English Sheepdog Club—*Mrs. Jane C. Ogg*  
 Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—*David Helming*  
 Newnan Kennel Club—*Luanne K. Dunham*  
 Newton Kennel Club—*Catherine H. Murch*  
 North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F. Coletti*  
 Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club—*Joyce Engle*  
 Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc.—*Lori Webster*  
 Norwich Terrier Club of America—*Jean Kessler*  
 Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—*Alyson Casper*  
 Oakland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Barry R. Wyerman*  
 Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—*Beverly H. Conroy*  
 Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—*James M. Ashton*  
 Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Sheila Kenyon*  
 Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Felice Jarrold*  
 Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Betty M. Winthers*  
 Orlando Dog Training Club—*Mary L. Jensen, Ph.D.*  
 Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.*  
 Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—*Link Newcomb*

Pacific Coast Pekingese Club—*Frank Meister*  
 Park Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Susan Olsen*  
 Pasco Florida Kennel Club—*Patricia Lombardi*  
 Pekingese Club of America—*Steven Hamblin*  
 Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dennis J. Gallant*  
 Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America—*Helen Ingher*  
 Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Dominic P. Carota*  
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Larry Wilson*  
 Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dean Burwell*  
 Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Margaret Vohr*  
 Plainfield Kennel Club—*Linda A. Deutsch*  
 Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—*William E. Ellis*  
 Pocono Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Krieger*  
 Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Donald Sturz, Jr.*  
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Kathy Gregory*  
 Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Savage*  
 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Robin Burmeister*  
 Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Michelle Anderson*  
 Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—*Florence R. Laicher*



Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—*Frances Stephens*  
 Queen City Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Erica Behnke*  
 Ramapo Kennel Club—*Jeffrey D. Ball*  
 Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*  
 Redwood Empire Kennel Club—*Johnny Shoemaker*  
 Reno Kennel Club—*Mrs. Vicky Cook*  
 Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Grace Wilkinson*  
 Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Debra Ferguson*  
 Rio Grande Kennel Club—*Julie Kirkpatrick*  
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Barbara L. Burns*  
 Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*  
 Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—*Karen Cottingham*  
 Saluki Club of America—*Monica H. Stoner*  
 Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*  
 San Antonio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy J. Shaw*  
 Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—*Abbe R. Shaw*  
 Santa Clara Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Becky A. Richardson*  
 Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*Mr. David J. Peat*  
 Saratoga New York Kennel Club—*Wanda H. Allen*

Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mimi Winkler*  
 Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—*Betty Jo Patrick*  
 Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.—*Hon. James G. Phinizy*  
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*Helen A. Prince*  
 Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Dr. Dawn Schroeder*  
 Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Frei*  
 Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sharyn Y. Hutchens*  
 Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*  
 Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ann M. Cook*  
 Silver State Kennel Club—*Tammy Russell-Rice*  
 Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—*William J. Feeney*  
 Skye Terrier Club of America—*Mr. Stephen P. Hersey*  
 Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gloria Shaver*  
 Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Harvey Goldberg*  
 South County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bob Calltharp*  
 South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*  
 South Windsor Kennel Club—*Mrs. Laurie Maulucci*  
 Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club—*Ricky Adams*

Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club—*Marilyn R. Vinson*  
 Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*John V. Ioia*  
 Southern Oregon Kennel Club—*Warren Cook*  
 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. Louis Collie Club, Inc.—*Isabel Ososki*  
 Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*Jeannette O'Hanlon*  
 Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser*  
 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.*  
 Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marylyn DeGregorio*  
 Talbot Kennel Club—*Joann B. Beavers*

Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Stolz*  
 Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Richella M. Veatch*  
 Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Michael Knight*  
 Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Stacey La Forge*  
 Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert E. Bostrom*  
 Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*  
 Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Gunzel*  
 Trinity Valley Kennel Club—*Debby Fowler*  
 Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Donald S. Gillett*  
 Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*  
 Tucson Kennel Club—*Dr. Kenneth H. Levi-son*  
 Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—*Patricia C. Sarles*  
 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*  
 Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club—*Robert Lachman*  
 Utah Valley Kennel Club—*Kelly D. Reim-schiissel*  
 Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*



Vancouver Kennel Club—*Jolyne Lea*  
 Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—*Lorraine Ebdon*  
 Virginia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sandie Friend*  
 Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Elise Wright*  
 Walla Walla Kennel Club—*Rod Strand*  
 Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*  
 Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Miller*  
 Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary A. Eschweiler*  
 West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Tracy J. Pancost*  
 Westbury Kennel Association, Inc.—*Geraldine Jaitin*  
 Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*  
 Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy McMaster Descutner*  
 Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—*Janeane Cappara*  
 Westminster Kennel Club—*Mr. David W. Haddock*  
 Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Candace Mogavero*  
 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*



## QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB ZOOM WEBINAR SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

Voting for the Delegate Standing Committees was conducted by electronic ballot.

The Delegate Forum topic was “Review of the Current State of Genetic Testing – A Living Resource” presented by Dr. Anita Oberbauer, Professor, Department of Animal Science and Associate Dean, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of California, Davis.

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) at the conclusion of the Delegate Forum.

Mr. Sprung opened the meeting with the following remarks:

Thank you, Susan Hamil, Dr. Oberbauer and Karolynne McAteer for that outstanding Delegate Forum presentation. Today is

a new frontier for us as we share the responsibility of a successful meeting using learning curves of technology for 12 votes. Having attending meetings for 39 years, as a delegate and on staff, this is the most votes that I or anyone else can recall. We will get through this together. Please be patient, as the recognition of delegates desiring to talk, the voting process and the announcement of results, will each be different than what we are accustomed to. By collaborating, we will navigate these uncharted waters, and do well. Thank you to everyone on staff behind the scenes. Particularly, Tim, Wlad, Paula, Bob and Amy. Any Delegate who has not voted for the Delegate Standing Committees, please use the electronic ballot that was sent to you by email. The voting window will close promptly at 12:30 p.m. (ET) Voting will be processed through Survey Monkey and the tabulation of ballots will be overseen by our accounting firm, KPMG.

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary, explained the Zoom Webinar functionality for the meeting as follows: I wanted to give you a little bit more information about the features of this meeting. We will be using select interactive tools. Raise Your Hand function. Raise Your Hand indicates that you wish to speak. You will be acknowl-

edged in the order that your hands are raised. You will be asked to unmute when it's time for you to speak. Keep your hand raised until called upon or lower your hand, if you decide not to speak. Polls are launched live to conduct votes for new member clubs and amendments. The Poll will appear on your screen when it's time for you to vote. Q & A is only to be used for issues regarding Parliamentary procedure, such as to second a motion. If any Delegate has technical issues during the meeting, please call the Zoom Tech Support line at 919-816-3320. I will repeat that, 919-816-3320.

Mr. Sprung introduced Chairman, Dr. Thomas M. Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Executive Secretary, Gina DiNardo; Professional Registered Parliamentarian, Joan Corbisiero and Jessica DiLallo, the Court Reporter.

The Chair announced the recent passing of Nancy Perrell on July 19, 2020 who was the Delegate for the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association from 2000 to 2016 and Superstition Kennel Club since 2017.

The Chair offered condolences for the passing of Bruce Korson, who was the Delegate for the Tri-City Kennel Club



from April 1996 to April 18, 2020, when he passed.

Sympathies were extended by the Chair in the passing of Sally Vilas on December 27, 2019. She was the Delegate for the American Shih Tzu Club from August 2007 until she died.

The Executive Secretary read the names of the Delegate seated since the June meeting:

Roy 'Ed' Degner, Montclair, CA to represent California Collie Clan

Debra Jo Ferguson-Jones, Renton, WA to represent Richmond Dog Fanciers Club

Kathleen C. Gottschalk, East Greenbush, NY to represent Albany Kennel Club

Joao Luiz Lopes Machado, Tumble, TX to represent Chihuahua Club of America

Brenda Jean (BJ) Parsons, DVM, Zirconia, NC to represent English Setter Association of America

Melissa A. Robison, Sacramento, CA to represent Santa Cruz Kennel Club

Susan M. Weigel, Clifton, NJ to represent Saint Bernard Club of America

The following new Delegate introductions were given by the Executive Secretary:

Joann B. Beavers, St. Michaels, Maryland,

representing Talbot Kennel Club  
Joann has been elected as a Delegate of the Talbot Kennel Club located in Richmond Maryland. Replacing Pam Helmer – an impossible job – who served in this capacity for a number of years. Joann has had an Australian Shepherds for over 40 years. She has actively shown in Conformation for 30 years. Before her legs gave out, she finished 15 dogs, five from Bred-By and put CDs on three dogs. She has also lost a contact lens on down and back, lost a few articles of clothing and fallen spectacularly on several occasions. Joann has been instructor at Talbot Kennel Club for many years and serves as assistant all-breed show chairman.

Debra Ferguson-Jones, Renton, Washington, representing Richmond Dog Fanciers Club  
Debra is an AKC Judge in the Toy and Non-Sporting Groups, and many of the Terrier Breeds. Debra's dogs have won well over 150 All-Breed Best in Shows, and the Poodle Club of America National Specialty twice. Debra lives in the greater Seattle area. Outside of the dog world, Debra is a developer of single-family neighborhoods.

Kathleen C. Gottschalk, East Greenbush, New York, representing Albany Kennel Club

KC is originally from Rye, New York moving to Albany area 30 years ago. She served as an Elementary School Principal until retiring, allowing her to devote more time to her dog adventures. KC is an active member of the Albany Kennel Club, where she serves as Secretary and Editor of the club newsletter. She is also a member of the Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, the Albany Obedience Club and the Steward's Club of Upstate New York. KC has owned and loved Soft-Coated Wheaten Terriers for 20 years. The first Wheaten caused her to fall in love with the breed and enter into the world of Conformation. KC has had three Wheatens, all of which have advanced to the Grand Championship level. All were Owner-Handled.

Brenda Jean Parsons, DVM, Zirconia, North Carolina, representing English Setter Association of America.

BJ is a small animal veterinarian with a special interest in reproduction. She has been breeding English Setters for over 40 years. Having bred over 100 champions, BJ has also titled dogs in Obedience, Rally and Tracking in the field. She is a licensed AKC Conformation Judge, and also judges pointing breeds tests. BJ is a long-standing member of the English Setters Association of America. She has also been a member

of various breed and all-breed clubs through the years.

The Minutes of the March 10, 2020 Delegate Meeting were published in the online April 2020 AKC Gazette and a complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

The Minutes of the June 25, 2020 Delegate Zoom Meeting were published in the online July 2020 AKC Gazette. The complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

Sherwood Dog Training Club was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies presented the Chairman's Report as follows:  
Hello, everybody, and thank you for joining us for the second virtual meeting of our Delegate body. The onset of Autumn is usually a time when we celebrate the return of events in cooler climates when the heat of the summer is replaced by the hint of turning leaves, and yet here we are, with this terrible pandemic hampering our



ability to enjoy sports we love. Clubs are challenged by changing rules that are beyond anyone's control. Breeders, exhibitors, handlers and judges are struggling with all the uncertainty, and yet we must carry on.

In a world of challenges to sports and businesses alike, management has done more than keep the status quo and making sure the lights are on. In the words of JFK, "There are risks and costs to action. But they are far less than the long-range risks of comfortable inaction."

In some areas of the country, AKC Clubs have been able to apply equal measures of hard work and favorable conditions to achieve successful conformation clusters during this difficult period. Adapting social distancing practices and enforcing the use of face coverings have enabled clubs in Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Ohio, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Kansas to bring back a taste of what we have all been missing for so many months. As we know, executing an event is a complex effort, even at the best of times, so we're grateful for what they have accomplished, and we congratulate them.

To assist all clubs in their efforts to manage the current situation, the Club Development Department continues to be a guiding light. Staff is leveraging every communication channel, including social

media, show chairs, show committees and all interested fanciers to facilitate each aspect of events, including procedures, confirming dates, checking conflicts and more. Everyone is welcome to join moderated conversations on Facebook and Twitter to share information, compare experiences and learn from one another. As the saying goes, we're all in this together, if we're in it at all. So, let's keep the dialogue going.

For the vast majority of our clubs have not been able to proceed with events, and our exhibitors, handlers and judges are sidelined, know that we're here for you.

Technology, for better or worse, is one constant during this time, and we're determined to apply its best features to rekindle, at least some parts for our dog life. We have held two virtual dog shows, which have been a novel way to combine at-home handling and with charitable donations to worthy causes, including Take the Lead and AKC Reunite "Adopt a K9 Cop" program. Opportunities in Companion dog programs are booming online with virtual tricks, a new Home Manners program, Rally Novice and Intermediate classes, and Agility ACT classes. We're also motivating dog lovers to stay active by participating in AKC Fit Dog. A consumer targeted social campaign, called "Woof from Home", offers a new activity for dog owners to try

at home each day, resulting in terrific engagement with the public and many new impressions for AKC brand on Facebook and Instagram. At AKC, we're always innovating because we dog people believe "Where there is no hope, it is incumbent upon us to invent it".

And because we know there will come a time when dog shows will return, we're ramping up continuing education opportunities more than ever before. When it comes to refreshing knowledge and sharpening skills, downtime is the best time. Last March, AKC's Judging Operations and Education Departments began offering judges free educational breed webinars, hosted by parent clubs. Seventy-eight breeds have been presented to nearly 23,000 live attendees so far. And recordings have been watched more than 5,000 times. Webinars continue weekly on Tuesday evenings. Join us and spread the word about these superb learning experiences. After researching numerous ideas, so many new opportunities now exist, each launched after management's careful review. As stated by Steve Jobs, "I'm as proud of many of the things we haven't done as the things we have done. Innovation is saying no to a thousand things."

I would also like to encourage you to join us for an AKC tradition going online for

the first time. You can celebrate responsible dog ownership and there will be a Facebook event on September 17th from 11:00 A.M. to 3:15 P.M. Share this information with your membership, so that we can get as many people to join us and celebrate our dogs and the care we put into them. Let's embrace this time as best as we can, for our own sake and the sake of our dogs.

Also let's use this time to double down on our messaging, and our mission to advance this sport of purebred dogs. We all know the lockdown has created tremendous demand for puppies everywhere. Searches on Marketplace have increased by 85% compared to this time last year. Fortunately, for AKC, registration of litters and dogs continues to grow.

Unfortunately, so is the demand for designer dogs and the "need it now" mentality that goes along with it. Breeders of AKC registerable purebred dogs must mobilize, make plans and share information among one another, if we're to have any hope for helping prospective puppy owners to choose a purebred dog. Yes, many of us have built solid waiting lists over many years of successful breeding programs, but don't let that stop you from helping families find purebred dogs. Share the good news of litters in your community. Keep your club referral page active.



Check in with parent club breed rescue contacts, encourage new and long-term breeders in your clubs, and certainly, if a litter fits into your plans, AKC's Registration and Breeder Development Departments stand ready to assist you. These are challenging times for us all, there's no doubt. But as Teddy Roosevelt once said, "when you're at the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on." And we must hang on. As we head towards the end of the year, let's do all we can to keep ourselves and our dogs safe and engaged. If you're able, support clubs that can hold events responsibly. Work with your dogs and hone your ring craft. Try a virtual event. Whether they're under the eye of a judge or resting besides us on the couch, our dogs mean the world to us and times at home with them can only deepen the bonds that we share.

I would like to leave you with a few random final thoughts. American Kennel Club is a tricameral organization. Management and Staff, Board of Directors, and Delegate body. During these trying and uncertain times, we have all worked well together to achieve our goals.

As an old proverb once said, "when life hands you lemons, make lemonade." Benjamin Franklin echoed that more eloquently when he said, "out of adversity

comes opportunity." You frequently hear, *Carpe Diem*. The real meaning of Horace's quote is – Do all you can do today to make tomorrow better. Let's continue to innovate. Together we will win this battle. Thank you and be safe.

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

During my career, I have been privileged to establish ways of recognizing people in our sport. The Medallion Program for delegates, judges, show chairs, breeders. The Lifetime Achievement Awards in performance, companion and conformation. The Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. I initiated these programs because of my belief that we have a responsibility to honor our own community. In 2015, the Visionary Awards came to be. These awards celebrate individuals whose vision and contributions have been responsible for change and forward movement in our organization. Their collective efforts have protected our right to own and breed dogs; shared AKC's dedication and love of dogs with the general public and educate today's and tomorrow's owners on responsible ownership. Since I began the Visionary Awards, each was presented to delegates. Today we will pivot to staff who are also leaders of the AKC Universe. In our Mission Statement, the first two items

address registration and sports.

Over many years, registration was escalating; in the early 1990's, based upon internal decisions, it began a decades-long slide. A new hire starting in the Internal Consulting Group and was transferred to the Registration Department 8 years ago. Since that fortuitous move we have experienced increases in litters for the past 7 years coupled with 6 years of individual dog growth. These visionary achievements have been on multi-department effort; however, one individual led the crusade. He immersed himself in every aspect of the field of registration addressing each sector with respect and quality customer care. Reversing the downward spiral was a difficult task. Nevertheless, his insightful steps enabled him to do well for the Great American Kennel Club, and most importantly our dogs are the recipients of his success, I thank Executive Vice President Mark Dunn.

After decades as a participant and student of Performance Events, he joined us in 2007, as Vice President of Sports & Events, with the ability to lead a large dedicated staff, responsible for 26 sports, some that he incorporated into our world. During this time, his knowledge of companion and conformation has blossomed. In fact,

just last year, we set a record with over 3,310,000 entries. If you desire knee-jerk answers to very complicated questions, don't talk with him. If, however, you should seek well thought out and logically approached response, with multiple informed recommendations, he is your go-to person. He is a dedicated hard-working leader of the Executive Committee – Executive Vice President Doug Ljungren is there for you. Congratulations, Doug.

We have a good doctor. She's an all-arounder when it comes to behavior and training encompassing dogs and humans. The years of success in Canine Good Citizen expanded into a vision with a host of offerings as Family Dog and garners positive reviews from fanciers and the public alike. In a July Board memo Doug singled out two recent items. This Director became fascinated with the question of whether temperament is something that can be modified. She wrote a paper that was accepted for publication in the International Journal of Comparative Psychology. For encores, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine has as its charge to contribute to the welfare of the nation by providing evidence-based counsel on complex questions in these fields. They contacted her, and after extensive credential checks



related to humans and canine behavior, invited her to be on the committee to review the Department of Veterans Affairs research study on the “Potential Therapeutic Effects of Service and Emotional Support Dogs on Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. That is Dr Mary Burch. Congratulations Mary.

The next recipient is a basin of knowledge in the world of Government Relations and is a workaholic on behalf of breeders and owners. She also has the decided advantage of being a dog person with a recent litter of Siberian Huskies. Typically, like many of us, she is a Fulbright Scholar. Her devotion to sharing facts with our constituency helps numerous people in our sport – breeders, exhibitors, owners, Delegates and clubs within their respective communities. Over the last few years she is credited for modernizing her department with extensive amounts of easy-to-navigate real time data as well as doubling the size of her staff to serve you better. Congratulations, Sheila Goffe.

Born into the sport and an employee for 29 years, this woman continually does a great deal for the fanciers of tomorrow. She spearheads the ongoing effort to promote Junior Showmanship and thereby the future of our sports; she too excelled

as a Junior. This is but one of many responsibilities as she provides critical answers to the concerns of our core constituency daily. Her broad background brings knowledge to others based on being an exhibitor, breeder, club official, Delegate and judge. She sets the example by providing a multitude of quality services with experience and dedication. Of course, it's Mari-Beth O'Neill.

Another woman born into the sport, is with us for 23 years. She is a leader throughout the corporation and the very first female Executive Secretary in our history. When I created the AKC Humane Fund in 2006 with Board concurrence, my intention was to broaden our brand in several new areas, by promoting AKC and the human-animal bond through outreach, education and grants. However, it was this person's vision, that brought the Humane Fund to a higher calling when she recommended that grants also be made to women shelters – assisting those subjected to domestic abuse and their dogs. A brilliant idea that has resulted in more than 175 grants, making the Humane Fund the leader of the field. My appreciation to Gina DiNardo for that vision, her work on America's National Championship, AKC.tv, Meet the Breeds and the management of several departments.

I am extraordinarily proud of the first six staff Visionary Award recipients, Mark, Doug, Mary, Sheila, Mari-Beth and Gina.

A second item. Due to the effect worldwide on events, I became very concerned about what will happen to our national specialty winners being invited to Crufts. As you know parent club best of breed, best of opposite, awards of merit, selects and best bred-by-exhibitor are eligible. So, I reached out to our friends over the pond beginning with Tony Allcock, Chairman of the Kennel Club, and after a number of discussions, I received confirmation by Crufts Show Chair, Tom Mather, that parent club winners of either one or two Nationals in 2021, will qualify for Crufts 2022. Thank you to our close friends at the Kennel Club, God Save the Queen.

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

To our Delegates, thank you for attending today's meeting. We appreciate your time and your support. In June, I introduced a new report format to you, and hope you found the information easy to read. We continue to refine these slides, while using the same focus points of key performance indicators and financial results. We intend to present a slide deck, which gives you relevant information on financial activities

and conditions.

This report will focus on year-to-date information for the period ending July 31, 2020, and present comparative information for the same period in 2019. When relevant, we will also include references to the 2020 budget. For our registration statistics, we're happy to report data through August 31, 2020.

As we reported in June, we are again pleased to report positive results for Litter and Dog Registrations. This chart provides a monthly view of litter registrations for the eight months ended August 31, 2020, with comparisons to the same period in 2019. Year-to-date litter registrations are almost 186,000 or 7% higher than, then the same period in 2019. In addition, our registration staff reported that the month of August 2020 was 14% better than the prior year's month and our best month since 2009.

Turning to dog registration statistics, please note that year-to-date registrations totaled almost 471,000 dogs which is 16% higher than the same period in 2019. For the month of August, dog registrations were 20% better than August 2019. Finally, our staff also noted that this was best August for dog registrations since 2007. We want to thank our breeders, the entire Delegate body, the Board of Directors, management, and staff for this achieve-



ment.

As we have all experienced, 2020 has been a year on hold. AKC is not immune and has felt the impact of canceled events and fewer entries. Year to date, July 31, 2020, our events and entries were lower than the same period in 2019, by 59% and 55% respectively. We look forward to that when we return to those many – many wonderful sanctioned events, sanction licensed and member events, that are our hallmark. Next, we will review the financial operating results for the seven months ending July 31, 2020 and compare those to budget for the same period and to the same period in 2019. We begin with reporting net income year-to-date, as of July 31, 2020, of \$6.8 million dollars. This reflects increased registration revenues, pedigree and other litter fees, event application fees, title recognition and other enrollment fees, as well as merchandise – product sales and sponsorship revenues that added to the bottom line. We have included the 2020 Budget data for comparison to highlight the impact of cost containment measures introduced in April of this year by management.

Here are some key points before we look at individual lines. Year-to-date revenue is 2.5% lower than the 2020 budget, due to the offset of increased registration revenues against events and entries revenue.

Total expenses are 15% lower than budget for the 7 months ending July 31, 2020, and 4% lower than the prior years for the same period. In the next two slides, we will review the regular expense lines that supports these results.

This slide represents AKC's significant revenue lines with a comparison of the year to date actual, budget and prior year in each column. Total year-to-date revenues from registration fees are 15% higher than the prior year. This is led by dog registration revenue of \$2.9 million dollars. We note that the recording and service fees revenue is lower by 55% or \$3.8 million versus the prior year. The next slide presents and summarizes pedigree, event application, title recognition and other enrollment fees. Please note this is 16% higher than the same period in 2019. Finally, our product and sales line is 29% higher than 2019; this is led by merchandise sales and admission fees. Admission Fees are from the Meet the Breeds event held at the Javits Center in January of 2020; product and service sales come from both e-commerce and traditional fulfillment methods.

Controllable expenses are noted on this slide, comparing the seven months ending July 31, 2020, versus the prior period. Overall, total expenses are down 15% versus budget and down 3.4% versus 2019.

Cost containment measures lower each of these expense lines except for two, which focus on fulfillment cost and grants to other organizations. Fulfillment costs are the expenses that support product and service sales. Since that revenue has increased, as we noted earlier, this line also increased as the two activities are correlated. Grants have increased, as we continue to support the Canine Health Foundation and Museum of the Dog. Cost containment measures taken in 2020 in response to the pandemic are displayed in the following expense lines: Travel has been reduced by 60% or \$1 million dollars, Promotion by 28% or \$542,000, Professional fees by 7.7% or \$419,000, and staff costs by 8.5% or \$1.6 million dollars. And just to clarify, these are comparisons for the same period of 2019.

On this slide, we present investment performance and we are fortunate that we have very good investment consultants that provides us with detailed information and excellent application strategies. Here we are looking at a bar graph that reports performance and a pie chart that shows how AKC's investments are broadly diversified to manage market risk fluctuations. Investment performance results as of July 31st was positive, up by 1.56%; when compared to the weighted balance index, which was negative by 2.33%, the AKC

portfolio beat the benchmarks by 3.8%. This is an outstanding performance as a result of asset allocation strategy, focused on a broad base of U.S. and international equity investments, which comprise 63% of the portfolio. Fixed income makes up 20% and private equity assets make up 15%. Overall, this is excellent performance in what we have seen in this very volatile and uncertain financial markets. Our organization is represented by this balance sheet and AKC is in a good position. Here are the balance sheets or statements of financial position as of July 31, 2020 and 2019. Total assets are \$135 million, which is lower than July 2019, for specific reasons. The notable changes are due to decreases to reduce debt and capital leases. Investment dollars were used at a time were the markets were at a 2019 high. AKC paid down on the leases and outstanding debt which was related to the build out of the New York City office space and Museum of the Dog. The overall financial condition has demonstrated on this balance sheet of the American Kennel Club, is healthy due to cost containment measures, positive performance of registration, investment performance and other revenue generated activities. Thank you for your time today. We appreciate your dedication to the AKC and look forward to serving you. I am available to



answer any questions at your convenience via e-mail or telephone. Thank you.

(There was a 10-minute recess.)

The Chair advised the Delegates that the meeting would resume and asked the Executive Secretary to review the Zoom Webinar tools.

Ms. DiNardo: I want to remind everyone about the select interactive features we will be using for this meeting. Raise Hand function, please use that button to indicate that you wish to speak. You will be acknowledged in the order that your hands are raised. You will be asked to unmute when it is time to speak. Keep your hand raised until called upon or lower your hand if you decide not to speak. Polls are launched live to conduct votes for new member clubs and amendments. The Poll will appear on your screen. Please indicate your vote. The Q & A function is only to be used for issues regarding Parliamentary procedures, such as to second a motion.

The first vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Section 10 – Making Application to Hold a Dog Show, which generalizes the language by removing the references to a form and whether

the futurity or sweepstakes will be open to nonmembers, providing flexibility to remain consistent with any modification to the application procedures without further amendment to the Rule. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

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

The next vote was on the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 8-A – Dog Show Classifications, which proposes a new Section 8-A that would create a new class, Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy, to be offered at conformation dog shows at the discretion of the club. This class will provide the opportunity for breeders to exhibit their puppies in an age appropriate class without risk of sacrificing their opportunity to attain the Bred-by-Exhibitor medallion. The amendment was proposed by a member of the Board of Directors and presented by staff and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Virginia Denninger, Delegate for the Genesee Valley Kennel Club spoke as follows:  
My Kennel Club has instructed me to vote “No”, and to send it back to the Committee. They felt that this would be something that would be really excellent for National specialties and specialty shows, but would be unwieldy dealing with the All-Breed shows, and add up too much time and cost to the All-Breed clubs. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. May I just point out, it is at the option of the clubs. This is not an impasse. This is not a mandate. This is an option.

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Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan spoke as follows:

What is the effective date of this application, if it passes? And can specialty clubs who have already applied for their applications for next year, can we add it on additionally.

Mr. Sprung: The answer to the second part is, yes, you can add it on. Doug, do we have an effective date?

Doug Ljungren, AKC EVP, Sports & Events spoke as follows: The effective date is

January 1, 2021.

Jacquelyn Fogel, Delegate for the Kettle Moraine Kennel Club spoke as follows: My club looked at this issue the last meeting, and their concern was that it would be nearly impossible in All-Breed Clubs to implement without further Guidelines. It complicates everything from – who is considered for Best Puppy, to what kind of ribbons. We do offer awards for puppies. Does everybody in the class get one? We just felt that this was a nice idea. A lot of us liked the idea and concept, but that it would be very, very difficult to implement. So, I have been instructed to vote, “No”.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were not two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was not adopted.

The vote applying to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 3 – Dog Show Classifications, was no longer required, due to the rejection of the proposal to Chapter 3, Section 8-A.

The vote on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 11 – Dog Show Classifications, was no longer required, also due to rejection of the proposal to Chapter 3, Section 8-A.



The next vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 9 – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which replaces current language with generalized language eliminating references to specific communicable diseases, so that the revised section would address any health issues or diseases currently being experienced. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Don Adams, Delegate for the Cudahy Kennel Club spoke as follows: What is the remedy if a dog with a communicable disease is found to be on the grounds in violation of the rules – are the awards withheld? Thank you.

Mr. Ljungren: I would think on a practical basis, if the dog is determined to have a communicable disease, the club should immediately ask the dog and the owner to leave the grounds. If the owner refuses to do that, that would be a basis for a misconduct hearing. If there is any belief that the person brought the dog knowing it had a communicable disease, I would say that is basis for a misconduct hearing. I hope that

answers the question.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Cindy Stansell, Delegate for the Finnish Spitz Club of America spoke as follows: To answer Don's question. Chapter 15, Section 1 has a protest for ill dogs. So, it is covered currently under that rule.

Carolyn Vack, Delegate for the Lancaster Kennel Club spoke as follows: I just wanted to be sure that the intent of this was to eliminate the exposure – the thirty-day exposure window from the rules. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: It is to eliminate any exposure to any dogs on the event grounds.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Jacquelyn Fogel, Delegate for the Kettle Moraine Club spoke as follows: My question is, who is going to determine whether a dog actually has a communicable disease? Is it going to be a veterinarian onsite? Is it just going to be somebody who was complaining that they thought a dog had kennel cough? What about diseases like COVID-19 that – there may be people carrying a disease but they're asymptomatic? I just think this is opening

up a huge can of worms and it's going to cause exhibitor problems where people complain about a perceived communicable disease, just to create trouble. So, I think we need a little more clarity on exactly who will be determining whether an animal actually has a communicable disease or not.

Mr. Sprung: That would be the Event Committee, who has the authority to consult a veterinarian, should they choose.

Susan Hamil, Delegate for the Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County, California spoke as follows: The Canine Health Committee approves this amendment. One of the reasons we wanted to change it, was because we cannot always identify what communicable disease, if it's a communicable disease. There is no way to enforce the rule as it stands now because it would involve diagnostic testing, which we didn't have when the rules were put into Rules Applying to Dog Shows. So, I understand everybody's concern, but as the rule is now standing, it's not – what we have now is not working, and this will be a much better alternative. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Cindy Stansell, Delegate for the Finnish Spitz Club of America spoke as follows: To answer the one question, Chapter 15, Section 1 says that the show veterinarian is responsible for determining whether there is a communicable disease.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows: We worked very closely with the Canine Health Committee, to make sure that this wording was acceptable to everybody, especially veterinarians, because they were the ones that have to deal with this. We think that the Canine Health Committee did a great job in coming up with this wording acceptable to a veterinarian and the dog world. I am encouraging everybody to vote "Yes" for this.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club spoke as follows: Okay. My question is this, I understand the concept of it, however, I have been showing for 38 years. I have never ever been asked to show proof of Rabies Certificate or anything at a show. I feel, let's go back to the root of the problem, and that something should be added. Some amendment or something added to this. Clubs really,



really need to start checking for health certificates before, you know, when people come to a show. Because this causes problems. Rather than trying to solve something after the fact, there should be something before there are issues. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Barbara Burns, Delegate for the Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club spoke as follows: My question is, is this the only way this can be enforced when there is a vet at the event? If there is no vet at the event, there is no way of enforcing it. Is my assumption correct on that?

Mr. Sprung: Correct. This would have nothing to do with dogs in your kennel, in your transport etc. This would be at an event.

Ms. Burns: I am being misunderstood. You're talking about that there is a dog at the event that shows signs of these illnesses, is there a way to prove that if there is no vet on those premises? Am I correct on that?

Mr. Sprung: At some shows, yes. At some shows, no. Veterinarians are not in atten-

dance at every show. They are often times on-call.

Ms. Burns: So, my question is then, if there is no vet there, there is no way of enforcing this particular rule, am I right in that?

Mr. Sprung: It depends whether or not there is a veterinarian in attendance or on-call. Often times veterinarians are on-call and they do come to the venue.

Ms. Burns: Okay. Thank you.

Don Schwartz, Delegate for the Durango Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am a veterinarian and a member of the Canine Health Committee. This is the best way that this rule could be communicated to the fancy. If a club – and this is just my assumption, if a club wanted you to present vaccination certificates or carry them with you, I imagine they can put that in the premium list, but we could go round and round and round with this rule. This is the best way it can be communicated to the fancy. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Dr. Charles Garvin, Delegate for the Dalmatian Club of America spoke as follows: The questions that were brought up

or regarding detection of this and enforcement of this and be reminded that the current rule does not – detection does not mention enforcement. Just like all the dog show rules, there are many, many rules. This is only pertaining to this one particular section, defining what the exhibitor should do and what dogs should not be on the premises. Discussion on this has literally been going on for a year, and several Delegate Committees. And just as an example, when the discussion on this paragraph started, COVID-19 did not exist. The basic concept is listing specific disease is not appropriate. But what is appropriate, is given the general guidelines that the communicable disease – a dog with a communicable disease should not be on the show grounds and the exhibitor should follow the veterinarian's recommendations. This does not solve all the problems and all the questions, but it is the best improvement of this particular section for Dog Show Rules. So, it should be voted in favor.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows: I want to give a huge thanks to Dr. Garvin and Dr. Schwartz, who really explained it all. First

off, enforcement is in a different section of the rules. What we're only doing is dealing with this Chapter 11, Section 9. And second of all, all clubs have a right to ask for vaccination records or Rabies Certificates, if you want that information before coming onto your grounds. So, I say we call the question and take a vote.

There was a motion to vote to call the question which was seconded.

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

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

The next vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 3 – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which modifies text for additional clarity, as to when an entry may or may not be measured, the judge's procedural responsibilities and the impact on any dog measured out and associated limitations when measured out for condition of class. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate



Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

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

The next vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 4 – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which modifies text for additional clarity as to when an entry may or may not be weighed, the judge's procedural responsibilities and the impact on any dog weighed out and associated limitations when weighed out for conditions of the class. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval of the Board of Directors.

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

The next vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 6 – Measuring, Weighing and Color

Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which modifies text for additional clarity, as to obligations concerning disqualifications and conditions of class related to color and markings, the judge's procedural responsibilities and any impact on the dogs concerning future events.

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

The next vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 6-A – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which proposes the insertion of a new Section 6-A, which would have the effect of adding language specific to a judge's authority in classes where the condition of class is other than height, weight, color or markings. Approval of this proposal by the Delegates would then require approval of the corresponding proposal to Chapter 15, Section 2, to allow for protest by competing exhibitors in the same class. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate

Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval of the AKC Board of Directors.

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

The next vote is on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 15, Section 2 – Protests Against Dogs. This proposal was based on the approval of consistent language in Chapter 14, Section 6-A. It adds the proposed new Section 6-A to the list of sections where conditions of class are to allow for protest by competing exhibitors in the same class. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

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

The next vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 6 – Championships, which assigns the same logic to grand championship points as championship points at independent specialties with inter-variety competition, as defined in Chapter 16, Section 3. It also inserts language into the section defining,

that at independent specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties and offering a Best of Breed competition, the dog awarded Best of Breed, would receive the highest number of grand championship points awarded in any variety at the specialty show. The dog awarded Best of Opposite, would receive the highest number of grand championship points awarded in its sex, in any variety at the specialty show. The amendment was proposed by Staff, endorsed by the Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Linda Deutsch, Delegate for the Plainfield Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am wondering if there is a particular reason why this would only be applicable in independent specialties and not designated specialties?

Alan Slay, AKC Director, Event Programs spoke as follows: The judging itself is covered by the All-Breed shows. The designated does not have its own judging.

Barbara Shaw, Delegate for the Greater Collin Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am trying to understand it. You are saying Mr. Slay, that if the specialty club selects a



judge, then that becomes an acceptable position in which to do this? There are many breed clubs that are small and chose the designated specialty opportunity, but it's still too small for a sweepstakes. So, I am not understanding why this would not be supported for a designated specialty. I would rather like the idea of amending the language to include independent and designated. If there is something other than selection of a judge, I would like to know what that process would be or what supports that? Thank you.

Mr. Slay: For the designated specialty, the club may be selecting the judge as part of the All-Breed panel and not part of the designated specialty panel. So, while they do have their judge picked for their sweepstakes, quite often with the designated the judge itself, as part of the All-Breed panel, not the designated specialty.

Ms. Shaw: Thank you.

Tim Thomas, AKC Vice President of Dog Show Judges spoke as follows: Doug Ljungren asked that I answer the preceding question concerning why this is only open to independent specialties. That is because for breeds with varieties, there is no competition beyond Best of Variety at designated specialties. They can only

have their competition beyond Best of Variety i.e. Best of Breed at independently held specialties.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Gloria Askins, Delegate for the Greenville Kennel Club spoke as follows: All this leads me to ask what about concurrent specialties, where the All-Breed Club is – that is not under the judging of the All-Breed Club?

Mr. Ljungren: The answer to that is, yes, concurrent specialties, this would be included.

Ms. Askins: Do we need that language to be added to be clear? Right now, I would not get that the way it's written.

Mr. Thomas: A concurrent specialty is in fact an independent specialty.

Ms. Askins: Okay. Because on the application, it's two separate things. So, we just – I just think that is going to be a question to the clubs the way it's currently written. Fran Stephens, Delegate for the Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers spoke as follows: I believe Doug or Tim expressed it, maybe not quite clearly enough. At All-Breed Shows where there is a designated spe-

cialty, Best of Breed or those breeds with varieties is not offered. Therefore, there would not be a Best of Breed for this to impact. Concurrent shows held within – you know, at the same location, they do have Best of Breed judging. So, therefore this would apply. Do I have it right, Doug?

Mr. Ljungren: That is correct. Thank you.

There was a motion by Delegate Linda Deutsch to add the words “and concurrent specialty shows”, which was seconded. Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the amendment to the amendment; it passed by majority.

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

The last vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 8-A – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which removes the requirement for an injury to have occurred for an Event Committee to disqualify a dog that has attacked a person or a dog at an event, presenting a hazard to persons or other dogs. This vote was postponed from the December 2019 meeting to allow for questions to be addressed by Staff regarding this amendment. The

amendment was proposed by Staff, supported and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Gregory Paveza, Delegate for the Elm City Kennel Club spoke as follows: Mr. President, I move that we refer this amendment to the Dog Show Rules Committee for further discussion and/or modification of the amendment, with the further provision, that the Dog Shows Rules Committee report back having suggested modifications to this amendment no later than the March 2021 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Is that your motion, sir?

Mr. Pavesa: Yes, sir.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second? There is a second. This is a majority vote to send it back to the Committee for additional consideration and for recommendations. Is there discussion on the motion to refer?

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club spoke as follows: I would like to oppose the motion to refer this back to Committee. It has been before the Delegate body before. This could go on forever. I think we need to actually vote



it up or down and not to keep bringing it back for more discussions.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Felice Jarrold, Delegate for the Old Pueblo Dog Training Club spoke as follows: I would just like to say – I know this has been a difficult amendment. I am aware that for many of fellow Delegates, this amendment is scary. However, it's scarier having a dog jump over the ring ropes to attack your dog. Therefore, I would like Delegates to consider the need to keep dogs safe from a rogue attack. That is what this amendment is attempting to do. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Anne Hier, Delegate from the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan spoke as follows: As you noticed, those of us in obedience and training clubs are in favor of this rule as written. As it is now, a dog outside the ring that attacks another dog, cannot be disqualified and as just brought up, I have seen and where a dog either jumps into a ring and attacks a dog or vice versa. There is nothing that can be done if all the dog does is bite another dog or attack another dog. This rule applies to all events. It's very important that we pass it,

and not keep putting it off.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows: I am only talking about the amendment to send it back to our committee. This did not come from our Committee. This came from the Staff and the Board. I would like to vote on the amendment that was proposed. Do not send it back to Dog Show Rules, especially with the March deadline. Our next meeting is not until December. We would have a subcommittee discussion. There is no way that we could have anything done by this time March. I think the Delegates need to take a stand on this, either vote it up or down.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Mr. Sprung: For clarification, if I could go back to the Delegate who made the motion. Since this did not come from the Committee you referenced, do you wish to change your motion to send it back to Staff, where it originated?

Gregory Paveza, Delegate for the Elm City Kennel Club spoke as follows: Mr. Chairman, this is a motion to refer. This is

not a motion to recommit. This is a motion to refer to committee. I believe it needs to be in committee at this point, because in fact, the discussion that I have seen, seems to indicate that many Delegates feel that the staff did not adequately address their question. I believe this is best dealt with by Dog Show Rules.

Mr. Sprung: Okay. Thank you for that clarification.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club spoke as follows: I feel very strongly about this. Last year, in May, I was attacked with an unprovoked attack by a dog, in the handicap section of a parking lot at a dog show. I feel that a lot of things are very lacking. I sent a very lengthy email to Gina shortly after that. A lot of things are so wrong with this. Everybody is talking about the dog or something happening by a ring, and they forget about the person who is attacked. I really want to say, I am sure there are many, many great event committees are very knowledgeable, however, in finding out what a process is, the person who is attacked, for example, if the event the committee comes back and say they really didn't think it was a serious attack, regardless of the fact they didn't want to see pictures. They didn't want to see doctor's reports. They didn't want to

see anything. It was fine. There was nothing wrong with this dog. Okay? Now when you are given that kind of a decision, you are not told what the Event Committee sends to the AKC, because I asked. I wanted to see what was written and I was told I was not allowed to see it. You're not given enough days. God forbid, if I was in a hospital, there is not enough time. Nobody really sees what happens after that show or after that committee makes a decision. The person who is the victim, gets no consideration. I don't care if this goes back to the Staff, the Board, Dog Show Rules, but there are many things that have to be taken into consideration for the person who is attacked. They need to have specifics. They need to be informed. They need to be considered and cared about. I don't see any of this that really addresses that. Just my opinion. First time this has ever, ever happened to me at a show. Ever.

Chairman Dr. Thomas Davies raised a point of order.

Dr. Davies: Should this discussion not be concerned with the amendment to the amendment, rather than the amendment itself –

Mr. Sprung: Yes, it should, sir. Thank you, Ann.



Mr. Sprung: Yes. The discussion is on the motion to refer to the Dog Show Rules Committee.

Betty Winthers, Delegate for the Olympic Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am not in favor of the additional changes, refer it back to the Show Committee, because I have – there are some procedures to conduct a misconduct. There is also a committee meeting to have witnesses and so on. I think what Ann has to say, is not relevant to this particular Dog Show Rule, because there is a misconduct to be conducted. Thank you.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll to decide whether to refer the amendment to the Dog Show Rules Committee; it failed by majority.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the original amendment; the results were not two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was not adopted.

The results of the Delegates Standing Committees Election were announced by Jason Spiegel of KPMG.

Mr. Spiegel: Good afternoon, Mr. President. Good afternoon, Delegates. For the All-Breed Clubs Committee, the

following 3 candidates were elected for three-year terms: Terrie Breen, William Ellis and Nancy Fisk.

Also, for the All-Breed Clubs Committee, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Laurie Maulucci.

For the Companion Events Committee, the following 3 candidates were elected for three-year terms: Ruth Crumb, Larry Wilson and Betty Winthers.

Also, for the Companion Events Committee, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Stephen Hersey.

For the Parent Clubs Committee, the following 3 candidates were elected for three-year terms: Karen Burgess, Alan Kalter and Helen Prince. Also, for the Parent Clubs Committee, the following candidate was elected for a two-year term: Richard Rohrbacher.

That concludes my results, Mr. President.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club Article IV, Section 1.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club Article IV, Section 1, which would prohibit a local Specialty Club from applying to AKC for Member Club status

in accordance with Article IV of the Bylaws. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Parent Club Committee and brought forward by Staff 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 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Alan Kalter, Delegate for the American Bullmastiff Association spoke as follows: Local breed specialty clubs are licensed to hold shows under the auspices of the Parent Club. There are currently 1,852 licensed local breed specialty clubs. The only exception to that rule is when a local breed specialty club is a member club. As such, they hold shows under their own authority, independent of the Parent Club. There are currently about 20 local breeds specialty clubs that are member clubs. The last one being approved in 1945. The amendment coming before the Delegate body would not impact status of those current member clubs. In 2000, the Board appointed Bylaws Overhaul Committee, whose members include Ron Menaker and David Miriam, recommended a number of changes to the bylaws to clean up inconsis-

tencies and to bring them into alignment with best current practices. One of the proposed amendments approved by the AKC Board involved Article IV, Section 4, allowing a local specialty club to become a member club. From the December 2000, minutes, here is Jim Crowley's explanation of the proposed amendment, "Under the current Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4 provides that a local specialty club may become a member club of the American Kennel Club." For at least the last 50 years, by policy, the Board has not approved that. The deletion of this section would eliminate the possibility of a local specialty club from becoming a member. That was the intent. It's just a straight deletion of the current Section 4, giving a specialty club, other than the Parent Club, the ability to become a member. So, it's really bringing the Bylaws in line with the current policy by deleting this section. Now subsequent to Jim's comments, the motion carried and it was believed that the rule of the Delegate body removed the ability of a local breed specialty club from becoming a member club. That belief has resulted in another 20 years – making a total of over 70 years since a local breed club became a member club. However, as we have seen in many other instances, removing something from one section of the Bylaws doesn't always completely fulfill the will of the



Delegate body, and so it was thus in this instance also. Which brings us to this amendment, which will fully clean up the Bylaws on this issue, as it should have been done in 2000.

Mr. President, I have been asked by a fellow Parent Club Committee member Don James, who because of the fires in Oregon does not have a consistent internet connection, if I could read a statement from him.

Mr. Sprung: Please do.

Mr. Kalter: Okay. I am now speaking for fellow Parent Club Committee member and Leonberger Club of America Delegate, Don James. As I mentioned, Don's internet connection is somewhat unstable due to the fires in Oregon, so I will be reading this statement for him. As the Delegate for the Leonberger Club of America, I want to speak to the Board's recent vote to approve a Bylaws amendment, which would formalize preventing a local specialty club from maintaining membership status. I speak on this because the club that initiated this whole process is in fact a Leonberger specialty club. I speak also on behalf of the LCA, who's Board of Directors unanimously supports this Bylaws amendment. As

Leonberger Delegate and member of the Delegate Parent Club Committee, which also voted unanimously to support this amendment, as did all attendees at the Parent Club meeting in March when a straw vote was requested. My issue with allowing local specialty clubs member status boils down to one world, divisiveness. The traditional role of the Parent Clubs lies in representing a breed's best interest in all matters involving AKC. Allowing local specialty clubs to directly become part of that discussion promotes the possibility that the parent club and one or more specialty clubs, may not see eye to eye on issues presented by the Delegate body. While the results of such a situation may never be seen by the AKC, the downstream effects of these disagreements can ferment a divisiveness between the national club and its affiliates the unintended consequences of which would drive a dangerous wedge between these actions, and runs the risk of distributing what is, in my opinion, an outstanding AKC Parent Club. Unintended consequences are often the most easily overlooked. They should not be. For these reasons the Delegate body needs to affirm the vote of both the Board of Directors and the Parent Club Committee and approve this proposed Bylaws amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, sir.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Timothy Carrion, Delegate for the American Chesapeake Club spoke as follows:

I believe in this proposal, while the intentions are bringing things in agreement with reality, there is an assumption made, which is not entirely accurate. The assumption is, that the National Parent Club is a member club of the AKC. That is not always the case. There was recently a Retriever club that resigned from the AKC. Prohibiting other members that have Curly Coated Retrievers from now becoming members and now having their voice be heard in the AKC, would be officially prohibited. I think there needs to be a clause here, addresses that assumption. You know, we will prohibit this if the National Parent Club is a member club of the AKC. Thank you.

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club spoke as follows: I wish to bring up a point of order. In the last vote that we did, there was never any discussion of the main motion. It went straight from the amendment to a vote on the main motion without discussion being allowed. I believe that's not the correct way

to do things.

Ms. Mann: I am making a motion to reconsider.

Patricia Kanan, Delegate for the American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club spoke as follows: We are a member club of the AKC. We have a rather unusual situation and I am sure as I listen, there are a number of unusual situations which affect the viewpoint of the individual Delegates, but I will say, we have three and now four potentially regional clubs that are –

Mr. Sprung: Excuse me. The discussion on the floor is whether to reconsider the previous vote.

Ms. Kanan: I'm sorry. I am waiting for the other issue.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Mary Alice Eschweiler, Delegate for the Waukesha Kennel Club spoke as follows: I second Barbara Mann's motion.

Jane Ruthford, Delegate for Mt. Baker Kennel Club spoke as follows: I would like to speak in favor of opening the discussion. I agree with Barbara that it's quite important for the procedure to be fol-



lowed and for what we will learn from that discussion. So, I am speaking in favor of having a full discussion on the matter. Thank you.

There was a motion to call the question by Dr. John Ioia, Delegate for the Southern Adirondack Dog Club and it was seconded.

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

After consulting with the Parliamentarian, voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the reconsideration of the previous vote; it failed by majority.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club Article VIII, Section 7.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club Article VIII, Section 7, which would eliminate costly balloting for unopposed Board candidates during the annual election. It would also save the time that it normally takes during the Annual meeting to conduct such elections. This amendment was proposed by Beaumont Kennel Club and brought forward by Staff 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 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 1 – Championships.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 1 – Championships, which incorporates a new Paragraph 8 to permit a 2020 National Specialty to be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan spoke as follows: I am not asking to amend the motion, but I like this idea. My particular club, we had both our March Rally and

Obedience trials cancelled due to COVID. I would love it if some of the additional clubs could have trials in 2021.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds Chapter 14, New Section 36 – Rules for Pointing Breeds Trials.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds Chapter 14, New Section 36 – Rules for Pointing Breeds Trials, which provides those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due to COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amend-

ment to Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels Chapter 15, new Section 27 – Rules for Spaniel Trials.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels Chapter 15, new Section 27 – Rules for Spaniel Trials, which provides those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This matter was proposed by Staff 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 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Barbara Shaw, Delegate for the Greater Collin Kennel Club spoke as follows: So, as a point of clarification on these particular ones that you are wanting to put in as rules, why not waivers? Because this is unique, you have identified – designated years 2020 and 2021, and you're going to put this in as a rule, as in bold print, rather than say, either italics with different language, or that the Board can just offer

a waiver that makes this acceptable for those field trials and/or clubs holding their National Specialties.

Mr. Sprung: Because the Board cannot, nor can anyone else waive the rules or a Bylaw.

Ms. Shaw: So we're allowed to have these National Specialties, but due to – I guess the question would then become, should there be language that would be written for any future circumstances, such as this particular COVID thing, but it just seems we're going to have to go back or someone go back remove this as a rule, if it's no longer applicable.

Ms. DiNardo: If you look at the worksheet for the proposed rule change, you will notice that the rule expires at the end of December 2021.

Ms. Shaw: I see that, and that is my point. Are you going to go ahead print an insert, to go in the rule books or trial books? That is my question. Why not a waiver?

Mr. Sprung: The answer is, yes. That will be printed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amend-

ment to Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures Chapter 9, Section 1 – Description of Classes and Championship Requirements.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures Chapter 9, Section 1 – Description of Classes and Championship Requirements, which provides clubs with the option when applying to hold a traditional brace trial, the ability to offer two classes and avoid having to combine classes later during the trial, due to lower entries. This amendment was proposed by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds Chapter 3, Section 1 – Making Application to Hold a Field Trial.

Ms. DiNardo: This is an amendment to the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds Chapter 3, Section 1 –

Making Application to Hold a Field Trial, which increases the maximum number of trials a club can hold from two to four. This amendment was proposed by the Basset Hound Club of America 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 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota, to recognize AKC Delegates who have served for 25 years, as well as, those clubs celebrating 100 years of membership in the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Carota: Good day everyone. We will now honor Delegates who have served for 25 years. The 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 22nd time that the AKC has had the privilege to present Delegate medallions. These individuals join 123 previously recognized Delegates.

Viola Burgos, Naugatuck Valley Kennel

Club

Ann Hubbard, French Bulldog Club of America

Bonnie Lapham, Glens Falls Kennel Club  
Janina Laurin, American Belgian Tervuren Club

Andrew Mills, Del Sur Kennel Club  
Margaret Vohr, Pioneer Valley Kennel Club

Congratulations on this milestone. Your medallions will be mailed to you.

Also, there are 3 clubs celebrating 100 years of AKC membership:

Bronx County Kennel Club, Delegate,  
Alexa Samarotto

Buckeye Beagle Club, no current Delegate  
Elm City Kennel Club, Delegate, Dr.

Gregory J. Paveza

Commemorative plaques will be mailed to the President of each club, and we thank you. Have a good afternoon.

The Chair informed the Delegates that the December 2, 2020 Delegates Meeting will be held via Zoom Webinar. More information will be emailed to the Delegate body at a later date.

The Executive Secretary read into the record the Delegate Standing Committees that there was no election for.



Ms. DiNardo: There is no election required for the following committees: Bylaws Committee, Canine Health Committee, Delegate Advocacy & Advancement Committee, Dog Show Rules Committee, Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee, Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee or the Perspectives Editorial Staff. The Delegates nominated for these committees are seated. I will now read the names of the Delegates who will serve on those Committees.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Bylaws Committee are: Gretchen Bernardi, Julian Prager, Pamela Rosman, and Dr. Dawn Schroeder.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Canine Health Committee are: William Christensen, Eddie Dziuk, Joellen Gregory, DVM, and Margaret Pough.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee are: Marge Calltharp, Marjorie Tuff and Mimi Winkler.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Dog Show Rules Committee are: Duane Butherus, Harold Miller, Barbara Shaw and Diana Skibinski.

Delegates who self-nominated and will

serve on the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee are: Gloria Askins, James Corbett, Neal Goodwin and Nance Skoglund.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee are: Don Adams, Martha Lee Beckington, Pam Davis, Joyce Engle and Bob LaBerge. Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Perspectives Editorial Staff are: Virginia Denninger, Joyce Engle, Dr. Geno Sisneros, Monica Stoner and Sylvia Thomas.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Marge Calltharp, Delegate for the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America and coordinator for the December issue of Perspectives, provided the due date for article submissions of October 15th.

Marge offered that the Perspectives Editorial Staff is willing to assist in writing if a Delegate does not feel comfortable doing so. Delegates were instructed to send their articles, outlines or ideas to [CTMarbo@gmail.com](mailto:CTMarbo@gmail.com) or [Sylvia.Thomas@rcdd.edu](mailto:Sylvia.Thomas@rcdd.edu)

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club announced that it was

her last Delegate meeting. She emphasized her concern for dog aggression at events, particularly at Companion Events. Barbara requested that the Board consider developing regulations for Obedience, and Rally and Agility, that would have similar wording to the amendment that was voted down today (Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 8-A). She recommended that disqualification should be allowed for dogs showing aggressive behavior whether they injure another dog or not.

Pat Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America gave an update on AKC Reunite. Since May 30th, there were 5 deployments in Arizona and California. They were in Cave Creek – the Ocotillo fire, in Jefferson County – the Evergreen fire, the Elephant Butte fire, Riverside County – the Apple fire, San Diego – the Valley fire, Alameda County and Jackson County, Oregon. The AKC Reunite trailers remain in San Diego, California and in Jackson County, Oregon. The resources were made possible because of the Delegate club's donations and the donation by AKC Reunite, totaling almost \$2,304,000. Pat accounted that 90 trailers have been delivered and 13 are in the pipeline for a total of 103 trailers.

Linda Deutsch, Delegate for the Plainfield Kennel Club posed a question referring to an AKC Memo she received "AKC Actions to Assist the Sports". She indicated that number eight on the AKC Actions states that that specialty clubs can hold additional designated specialties because their events had to be cancelled, however there is an effective year-end of 2020. Linda explained her club had to cancel their events and that most of the All-Breed shows in the Northeast have also been cancelled. She requested that the effective date be extended.

There was discussion via Zoom:

The Chair called on Alan Slay, AKC Director, Event Programs.

Mr. Slay: That is something that we can discuss within Event Operations about possibly bringing to the Board.

Ms. Deutsch: Can you give me someone I can send a written suggestion to –

Mr. Sprung: Email Alan Slay at [als@akc.org](mailto:als@akc.org)

Ms. Deutsch: Thank you very much.

Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan sug-

gested creating different rules for independent specialties for the Bred-By Exhibitor puppy class.

Carol Fisher, Delegate for the Valley Forge Kennel Club provided additional detail to the aggressive dog issue in terms of a dog's fur and the injury – bite or bruising – being visible much later than the time of the attack.

Felice Jarrold, Delegate for the Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Tucson, Arizona agreed with Barbara Mann's recommendation for an amendment regulating dog aggression in Obedience, Rally and Agility after experiencing an incident first-hand at a Companion event.

Margaret Pough, Delegate for the Finger Lakes Kennel Club spoke on the Bred-by-Exhibitor puppy class. She supported John Ronald's idea for the addition of a check off box on an event entry form, like for National Owner-Handlers, so it would be specified that the puppy in the puppy class is breeder-owner-handled.

Gail LaBerge, Delegate for the Atlanta Obedience Club, and Chairman of the AKC Political Action Committee rallied the Delegates to donate to the AKC PAC at [AKCPAC@akc.org](mailto:AKCPAC@akc.org). She explained that funds

were still being raised to support candidates who agree with AKC's position on canine issues. She conveyed that those who donate are sent an AKC PAC mask in appreciation. Gail thanked Sheila Goffe and Staff for having their dogs demonstrate how to wear a mask and how not to wear a mask. She also gave a special mention to Barbara Mann for her work on the Companion Events Committee.

Fran Stephens, Delegate for the Puyallup Dog Fanciers spoke on behalf of the St. Bernard Club of America expressing the challenges of having to cancel a 2020 National event and asked for AKC and Delegate support in allowing these events to be moved to 2021.

John Ronald, Delegate for the Samoyed Club of America explained he had suggested the modification to entry forms after getting feedback from his club members, Parent Club and All-Breed Clubs. He recommended that the AKC Board should consider a policy for noting Bred-by-Exhibitor puppy class on an entry form and including them in the qualification for a medallion.

Mary Lou Olszewski, Delegate for the American Bloodhound Club advised the new Delegates and mentors that the

Annual New Delegate Orientation would be held October 28th via Zoom video. She shared the Delegate Advocacy & Advancement Committee's plans of having an interactive format and that there would be Executive Staff and distinguished Delegates participating. Mary Lou mentioned that the delayed receipt of the SurveyMonkey e-ballot for the Delegate Standing Committees caused unease and a high volume of communication amongst the Delegates who did not want to miss their opportunity to vote in the election. She offered to serve as a liaison to Delegates for AKC messaging if needed in the future.

Mr. Sprung reminded the Delegates that the Organizational Committee Zoom Meetings for All-Breed Clubs, Companion Events and Parent Clubs would take place 30 minutes after the conclusion of the Delegate meeting. AKC Staff would be emailing meeting information directly to each committee member.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

[One sharp rap of the gavel]

[Time noted: 3:01 p.m.]

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

Betty Winthers, Delegate Olympic Kennel Club, wanted to share that her club along with the Walla Walla Kennel Club would be holding a five-day All-Breed Dog show on September 23-27, 2020 with a combined total entry of 9,640.

Pamela Rosman, Delegate Canaan Dog Club of America, wanted to thanked Dr. Anita Oberbauer, the AKC Board, former AKC Board Chair William Feeney and Vice Chair Patricia Cruz, AKC Staff, Ad Hoc Committee on Canine Genetic Testing, AKC CHF, OFA and the entire team that worked tirelessly to orchestrate the excellent Forum presentation and the distribution of the written materials emailed to all Delegates. She also wanted to acknowledge Gretchen Bernardi, Delegate Bylaws Committee Chair, who proposed this topic for a Forum presentation during a Coordinating Committee meeting several years ago. Pamela encouraged participation in the Delegate Bylaws DNA Subcommittee meetings.





SPORTING GROUP

American Water Spaniel	Barbet	Boykin Spaniel	Brittany	Chesapeake Bay Retriever
Clumber Spaniel	Cocker Spaniel	Curly-Coated Retriever	English Cocker Spaniel	English Setter
English Springer Spaniel	Field Spaniel	Flat-Coated Retriever	German Shorthaired Pointer	German Wirehaired Pointer
Golden Retriever	Gordon Setter	Irish Red and White Setter	Irish Setter	Irish Water Spaniel
Labrador Retriever	Lagotto Romagnolo	Nederlandse Kooikerhondje	Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever	Pointer
Spinone Italiano	Sussex Spaniel	Vizsla	Weimaraner	Welsh Springer Spaniel
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon	Wirehaired Vizsla			

HOUND GROUP

Afghan Hound	American English Coonhound	American Foxhound	Azawakh	Basenji
Basset Hound	Beagle	Black and Tan Coonhound	Bloodhound	Bluetick Coonhound
Borzoi	Cirneco dell'Etna	Dachshund	English Foxhound	Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen
Greyhound	Harrier	Ibizan Hound	Irish Wolfhound	Norwegian Elkhound
Otterhound	Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen	Pharaoh Hound	Plott	Portuguese Podengo Pequeno
Redbone Coonhound	Rhodesian Ridgeback	Saluki	Scottish Deerhound	Sloughi
Treeing Walker Coonhound	Whippet			

# 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	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 Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie (Rough)



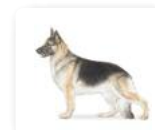
Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher Mountain Dog



Finnish Lapphund



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Miniature American Shepherd



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/>