



akcgazette

JULY 2020

VOLUME 137, NUMBER 7



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WOULD YOUR DOG
SAVE
YOUR LIFE?

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

VIDEOS

BREED COLUMNS

Sporting Group

Brittanys	Gordon Setters	Sussex Spaniels
Nederlandse	Irish Setters	Welsh Springer
Kooikerhondjes	Clumber Spaniels	Spaniels
German Shorthaired	Cocker Spaniels	Spinoni Italiani
Pointers	English Springer	Vizlas
Curly-Coated Retrievers	Spaniels	Weimaraners
Golden Retrievers	Field Spaniels	
English Setters	Irish Water Spaniels	

Working Group

Alaskan Malamutes	German Pinschers	Newfoundlands
Anatolian Shepherds	Great Pyrenees	Portuguese Water
Bernese Mountain	Komondors	Dogs
Dogs	Kuvaszok	Rottweilers
Black Russian Terriers	Leonbergers	Samoyeds
Boxers	Mastiffs	Siberian Huskies
Bullmastiffs	Neapolitan	Standard Schnauzers
Doberman Pinschers	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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FEATURE SLED DOG ORIGINS

FEATURE THE LASSIE WITHIN

SECRETARY'S PAGES

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

UPDATES LAEKENOIS JOINS AKC



TIMES PAST SHOW DOG, INC.



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The Show Must Go On

Though times are challenging, we are confident that we will once again be holding shows and enjoying our competitions. However, we know that the show must go on and we have found ways to do so, virtually.

In June we held our first virtual conformation competition, The AKC Top Dog Challenge, with \$7,000 of the entry fees donated by AKC to Take The Lead. In this well-received first show there were 689 entries across the seven groups and Miscellaneous class. Dogs were judged in one of two classes, Puppy (6 to 12 months) or Open Class (12 months and older) of their breed and sex.

Congratulations to our Best in Show winner GCh.P Carmel Sky High Wish Upon a Star, a Miniature Schnauzer known as Twink, and Best Puppy winner Alletare Royal Neuma, a Doberman Pinscher known as Neuma, both awarded by judge and AKC Board Member Mr. Harold "Red" Tatro. Also, a special thank-you to our group judges: Pat Laurans (Sporting), Tim Catterson (Hound), Bill Shelton (Working), Bruce Schwartz (Terrier), Sandra Bingham-Porter (Toy), Patty Sosa (Non-Sporting), Sam

Houston McDonald (Herding), and Dr. J. Charles Garvin (Miscellaneous) for lending their expertise to the competition. We are delighted to share that we will host our second AKC Top Dog Challenge in August!

Staff has also been hard at work developing and launching numerous virtual opportunities to keep exhibitors active and preparing for a return to live events. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have launched virtual events in Agility ACT 1 & 2, Rally, Trick Dog, and Water Test. For more information or to participate in any of these virtual events, please visit akc.org.

Lastly, If you have not already had the opportunity, please listen to our new podcast titled [Down and Back: Stories from the American Kennel Club Archives](#). The eight-episode inaugural season of the podcast digs deep into the AKC archives to tell the tales of breeds, dogs, and personalities who've shaped America (and Americans) over generations.

Hosted by AKC GAZETTE editor Bud Boccone, the show will bring the stories of purpose-bred dogs to life in an innovative format for a whole new generation of listeners. Drawing from the AKC Club's historical records, archival foot-

age, oral histories, interviews, and more, it connects the history of dog sports with the modern day. The first episode, "The Emergence of Dog Obedience in America," does not just simply recount the history of obedience. It takes you back into time with colorful highlights, moments, and stories that you likely have never heard. We hope you enjoy it.

Our dedicated staff and an engaged Board of Directors are available to assist you. Also feel free to contact me as needed: office 212-696-8327 (office); 516-637-6567 (cell).

In the midst of uncertainty be certain our enjoyable events will once again be held!



Dennis B. Sprung
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AKC GAZETTE (ISSN 1086-0940), July 2020, Volume 137, No.7,
published monthly at 101 Park Ave., New York, NY 10178, USA, by
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Testing Positive

In recent weeks, we have heard wonderful things about the new “virtual” video competitions in the companion-events realm. An AKC staffer wrote us, “We thought the virtual programs would fill in the time until events returned, but clearly the convenience of the virtual approach is attracting a higher level of participation.” Don’t be surprised if these innovations are part of the AKC events package long after the new normal becomes the old normal. Our entry-level companion-event constituents, like people trying to stay engaged in all kinds of pastimes in a shut-down world, have tried technological workarounds and discovered that they really enjoy them.

This is especially true of young people, who grew up living the virtual life. For many years, the AKC and its clubs have agonized over ways to pull the youngest dog lovers into our orbit. Well, we found one! Of course, nothing beats the excitement and camaraderie of live competition at a real event, but anything that attracts kids to our sports can be seen only as an encouraging development worth building upon.

Here’s part of an e-mail sent to the Raleigh office by an agility instructor:

“During these crazy times, I have helped a few students take videos for the ACT1 title. One of my students is Meg. In mid-March, her first foster child was sent to her. Her foster child came into her home during a pandemic and school cancelled. Life has changed. Her foster child has now obtained her Intermediate Trick title on Meg’s dog and, as of today, has the videos for her ACT1 title. ... Thank you for offering this opportunity and helping one child going thru a tough time to learn about dogs, goals, titles, AKC, and training.”

Imagine that. The Agility department tests a pilot program during the lockdown, and it brings positives to a kid who has known

nothing but negatives. It’s the kind of “testing positive” that dog people can feel good about.
—the Editors



On Our Cover:
Spinone Italiano (Photo by [Lynda Beam](#))

Belgian Laekenois Joins Herding Group

This month, the “Fourth Belgian” enters the AKC Stud Book

“For now, much of the public is still unaware that Belgium has a fourth sheepdog,” Susi Szeremy wrote in the June 2019 GAZETTE, “but the appealing Laekenois is not a breed likely to stay in the shadows for long.” On July 1, the Belgian Laekenois made the leap from shadows to spotlight, entering the Herding Group as the 196th AKC-recognized breed.

BREED BACKSTORY

Belgium’s climate and terrain are highly favorable for livestock and dairy production, and the small but industrious country has always been self-sufficient in these commodities. Belgium has long been the world’s leading exporter of milk chocolate, a key component of the national economy.

It should, then, come as no surprise that old-time Belgian farmers were preoccupied with cattle and the breeding of herding dogs.

In fact, there were once eight types of shepherd dogs unique to Belgium.

By the 1890s, when they were officially classified for the first time, there remained the four we know today.

The Belgian herders are so similar that once they were recognized by the AKC as a single breed, anatomically identical but varied in coat textures, colors, and length. They are the Tervuren (longhaired, “blackened” fawn or red), the Belgian Sheepdog (longhaired, black), the Malinois (shorthaired), and, from the village of Laeken, the Laekenois (wirehaired).

With the recognition of the Laekenois, the four Belgians are reunited under the AKC banner.

FROM THE STANDARD

“The first impression of the Belgian Laekenois is that of a square, well-balanced dog, elegant in appearance, with an exceedingly proud carriage of the head and neck. He is a strong, agile, well-muscled animal, alert and full of life. His whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. ...

“The male dog is usually somewhat

more impressive and grand than his female counterpart. The bitch should have a distinctly feminine look. Both male and female should be judged

equally. ... Males should be 24 to 26 inches in height and females 22 to 24 inches, measured at the withers. The length, measured from point of breast-

bone to point of rump, should equal the height. Bitches may be slightly longer.

“Bone structure should be moderately heavy in proportion to his height so that he is well-balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.

“The Belgian Laekenois should stand squarely on all fours. From a side view the topline, front legs, and back legs should closely approximate a square.”



PARENT CLUB

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Links

[Full breed standard](#)

[The four Belgians: side-by-side comparison](#)

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UPDATES

New AKC Podcast Series

Now Online



Walker and Saunders preaching the gospel of obedience training
Right: Bouboule, Toulouse-Lautrec's favorite Frenchie

Down and Back: Stories from the American Kennel Club Archives is the new podcast series that combines the resources of the AKC Library & Archives and the GAZETTE to trace the history of the purebred dog through the ages.

The eight-part series is fully produced, with sound effects, music, and all the bells and whistles that bring the stories to life with humor and imagination.

The pilot episode recalls an odd couple of Poodle lovers—society matron Helen Whitehouse Walker and down-to-earth farm girl Blanche Saunders—who logged 10,000 miles on an epic road trip to promote obedience training as a sport and a way of life.

Episode 2 examines the long, loving relationship between city dwellers and their dogs. The Boston Terrier, Lhasa Apso, Brussels Griffon,



Leonberger, and French Bulldog are among the breeds featured.

Along the way, lis-

teners encounter such notables as Toulouse-Lautrec and the Dalai Lama, who did much to promote the city breeds they loved.

New episodes drop every two weeks.

“We’re very excited to reach a new generation with this podcast,” AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo says. “The AKC has a lot of stories to tell, and we can’t wait to bring this new audience into the wonderful world of dogs.”

Down and Back has a strong GAZETTE connection: The series is hosted by Managing Editor Bud Boccone, and Senior Editor Arliss Paddock serves as a consultant.

Link

[Down and Back podcast](#)



LEFT: AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION; RIGHT: PUBLIC DOMAIN

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AKC Breeder Toolkit *Is Here*

New recordkeeping system replaces ORKS

In June the AKC announced the release of the AKC Breeder Toolkit. The new system incorporates Litter and Dog Management, Breeding Records, Online Reports, Dog and Litter Registration, Coupons, and much more into one convenient platform, replacing the Online Record Keeping System (ORKS). The Toolkit provides a single platform where all breeder interactions can be done from a single point of entry.

MANAGE DOGS

With Breeder Toolkit you can maintain a personalized list of AKC dogs you own or want to follow under the “Manage Dogs” tab. Filter your view to limit results or search for a dog by name. Mark a dog as a favorite or hide a dog you are no longer interested in seeing

regularly. Each dog will have an expandable “drawer” for viewing additional details such as owners, litter of origin, or titles and points earned. Easily save or print your dog’s record. You can also download an entry form for dogs you are showing.

BREEDING RECORDS

Breeding Records will allow you to track matings and births and take you to your official AKC Litter Record. To make searches easy, filters here include all records, your dogs or bitches, date range, and dog name. View the status of your puppies’ registrations under the “Puppies” tab, or take action to register the dog from this same location. If you were a previous user of ORKS, any information you have there will be transitioned into “Breeding



Records” for your convenience.

MANAGE LITTERS

With “Manage Litters” you can view your official AKC Litter Records, register puppies, and maintain your ownership records for each puppy in the litter. You can also view how many pups from the litter have been registered. Filter

your litters by a date range or litter number.

LITTER COUPONS

Another exciting addition to the Breeder Toolkit is online Litter Coupons. View the number of pups registered from a litter as well as the percentage that have been registered. Expand the litter drawer to see which puppies are/are not registered and register them right then! Once 100 percent registration is reached for that litter, access your litter coupon directly from the Toolkit.

Direct links to AKC Marketplace, AKC Reunite, and AKC Pet Insurance, along with additional breeder resources, are also available from this single location with more to come in the future.

Link

[Visit Breeder Toolkit](#)

Photo Contest: In the Moment



Congratulations to Aaron Cappelli, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. His dramatic shot of a Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever is the first-place (color) winner in the 41st annual AKC Publications Photo Contest. Cappelli’s photo was one of a dozen color and black-and-white pictures chosen from an entry of more than 2,600.

Click [here](#) to see all of the prize-winning photos in the pages of the July/August issue of AKC FAMILY DOG.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPY/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A quick refresher course on the four AKC sled-dog breeds:

The powerful **Alaskan Malamute** is among the oldest sledge dog breeds of the Arctic. The breed name is derived from the Mahlemiut, an Inuit tribe that settled in Kotzebue Sound of northwestern Alaska. The dog the Mahlemiuts developed is a sledge dog, created to work in packs to haul heavy loads at low speeds over long distances. The Mahlemiuts were known for taking meticulous care of their dogs and treating them with kindness, even allowing their burly Mals to share their simple dwellings with them when the day's work was done.

The **Chinook** was founded by adventurer Arthur Walden, of Wonalancet, New Hampshire. In 1896, the 24-year-old New Englander's wanderlust led him to Alaska at the height of the Gold Rush. For six years Walden worked his way across the Klondike as a prospector, stevedore, logger, riverboat pilot and, most significantly, a sled-

dog driver. By the time Walden returned to his hometown, he was a musher determined to breed his own line of sled dogs. As his foundation stock, Walden used a mas-

tiff-type dog and descendants of one of Admiral Peary's Greenland huskies. Walden named the breed after Chinook, the lead dog of his sled team.

The name **Samoyed** comes from the Samoyede, a semi-nomadic people from Asia who migrated to Siberia a thousand years ago. They bred dogs for hard work in the

coldest habitable places on earth. In the Siberian town of Oymyakon, for instance, temperatures of minus-60 degrees are common. The Samoyede people lived in tents and huddled for warmth with their dog packs during the Arctic nights. When not sledging heavy loads across vast expanses of Siberia, Samoyed dogs earned their feed as watchdogs and hunters.

A compact body, well-furred coat, erect ears, and thick sickle-shaped tail immediately suggest the **Siberian Husky's** northern heritage. The breed's ancestors were originally bred in northeastern Asia by the Chukchi people and were kept as family companions as well as endurance sled dogs. When a changing climate forced the seminomadic Chukchi to expand their hunting grounds or perish, they developed a sled dog capable of hauling light loads over vast distances in subzero temperatures, with a minimum expenditure of energy. These dogs were the direct forerunners of today's Siberian Husky.



Modern sled dogs—Arctic-adapted breeds like the Greenland Dog, the Alaskan Malamute, and the Siberian Husky—share ancient Siberian roots and represent a largely continuous genetic lineage that likely emerged as the glacial remnants of the last ice age subsided nearly 10,000 years ago.

In a new genetic study of modern and ancient Arctic sled dogs, researchers unveiled the antiquity and origin of this small, yet unique, canine group and its integral bond to the lives of Arctic peoples and their survival since the dawn of the Holocene epoch about 12,000 years ago.

According to findings published in the June 26 issue of *Science* magazine, present-day sled dog breeds and their cold-climate adaptations stem from a common ancient Arctic ancestor that diverged from other dog lineages more than 9,500 years ago in Northeast Asia.

These ancient dogs co-adapted with their human counterparts to the cold, northern regions, where they were used much in the same way as they have been by Arctic peoples over the thousands of years since—as important hunting companions and for pulling sleds great distances across the harsh, frozen and often unforgiving landscape.

The tradition of dog sledding is worldwide and has been practiced by Arctic peoples

Genetic researchers are uncovering the ancient roots of the sled-dog family tree.

By Walter Beckwith

The Long Haul

The tradition of dog sledding is worldwide and has been practiced by Arctic peoples and the same group of dogs for millennia.

COURTESY MICHAEL JENNINGS



Despite being unique and culturally important, very little is known about the sled dog's genetic origin.



Eva "Short" Seeley, of Chinook Kennels, New Hampshire, was among the great sled-dog breeders of the 20th century.

and the same group of dogs for millennia. However, the Arctic is rapidly changing environmentally and culturally, threatening traditional dogsledding cultures with extinction. What's more, increased interbreeding between sled dogs and other non-Arctic dogs is putting the

Arctic breeds at risk of disappearing as well.

Despite being one of the most unique and culturally important groups of dogs, very little is known about the sled dog's genetic origin and evolutionary past.

"Given the great diversity of dogs in the world, sled

dogs represent such a small part, with only a few breeds and individuals, however they have been paramount for the Arctic side of human history and are truly genetically unique," says the study's lead author, Mikkell-Holger Sinding, a researcher at the University of Copenhagen's

LEFT: DAVID WOO ©AKC; RIGHT: AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

They represent only a sliver of the world's great diversity of dogs, but the sled breeds have played a crucial role in human history and are genetically unique.



GLOBE Institute.

Sinding is one of the founders of the QIMMEQ, a Greenlandic-Danish interdisciplinary research project dedicated to conserving Arctic sled dog culture and exploring the genetic history of the sled dog. (See sidebar.)

“Their history, evolution and bond to Arctic cultures is more than 9,500 years old. It would be such a shame to see this going extinct due to a lack of care and knowledge, and I really hope our research makes a difference here,” Sinding says.

While it’s thought that domesticated dogs and dog sledding played an important role in the lives of Arctic peoples for at least 15,000 years, some of the earliest archaeological evidence for sled dog use in the Arctic stems from a 9,500-year old site located on what is now [Zhokhov Island](#) in the East Siberian Sea. When humans and their sled dogs roamed the region, post-ice age sea levels were lower

STEVEN JURVETSON/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Sled Dogs in North America

There are historical references to dogs used by Native American cultures dating back to before the first Europeans made land. There were two main types of sled dogs: one kept by coastal cultures and the other by people living in the interior. In the mid-1800s Russian traders followed the Yukon River inland and acquired sled dogs from the villages along its shores.

The Alaskan Gold Rush saw the use of these breeds, since most camps were accessible only by dogsled in the winter. They were also put to work for the exploration of the poles, and to deliver mail in Alaska, resulting in the late 1800s and early 1900s being nicknamed the “Era of the Sled Dog.”

After that the hearty breeds worked at a variety of jobs, until airplanes, highways, trucks, and snowmobiles effectively put them out of work. (Sled dogs are still used by some rural communities, especially in areas of Alaska and Canada.)

But they didn’t stop mushing once their jobs dried up. Sled-dog breeds and their outdoorsy owners mush for recreational purposes, and fanatically devoted drivers participate in events like the Iditarod and the Yukon Quest. Billed as the “World Series of mushing events,” the Iditarod is 1,100 miles of sheer endurance, spanning about 10 or 11 days, depending on the weather.

Perhaps the most famous sled dog of all was Balto, a jet-black Siberian Husky who was the lead dog of Len Seppala’s team that carried diphtheria serum on the last leg of the relay to Nome during the 1925 diphtheria epidemic. There was serum in Nenana, but the town was 700 miles away, and inaccessible except by dog sled. A relay was set up, and 20 teams pulled together. Six days later the lifesaving serum reached Nome. Today a bronze [statue of Balto](#) stands in New York’s Central Park. The plaque at its base reads ENDURANCE FIDELITY INTELLIGENCE.



Norwegian-born Len Seppala became America’s most celebrated sled-dog driver.

and the Zhokhov site was part of the mainland.

Sinding and the team used ancient DNA extracted from the jawbone of a canine recovered from the site to explore the earliest-yet example of the sled dog genome. The authors also sequenced the genomes of 10 modern Greenland sled dogs—an indigenous breed used for hunting and sledding by Inuit—as well as that of a 33,000-year-old extinct Pleistocene Siberian Wolf.

While genetic analyses of domestic dogs are not new, Sinding said, most have focused on Eurasian or Asian dogs. Genomic data for Arctic sled dogs are sparse.

The results of the study show that the Zhokhov dog is a common ancestor to present-day sled dog breeds, particularly the Greenlandic sled dog. While all modern sled dogs are closely related and share common ancestors, other sled dog breeds have interbred sig-

COURTESY ANCHORAGE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART

nificantly with Eurasian dog breeds. However, due to their isolated populations, the Greenlandic dog has largely avoided contact with other dog breeds, and as a result can trace a more direct genomic ancestry to the ancient sled dog from Siberia.

While Sinding and the researchers found evidence of gene flow from Siberian Pleistocene wolves, unlike many other American dog breeds, they found no evidence of significant genetic mixing between any sled dog and American-Arctic wolves, despite ethnographic accounts indicating that dog-wolf matings were common, at least historically. If true, Sinding says that the surprising finding implies that ancient people actively avoided the propagation of wolf-dog hybrids in Greenland sled dog populations.

The analysis also demonstrated several convergent genetic adaptations related

to the unique harshness of Arctic environments that sled dogs share with other Arctic animals like mammoths and polar bears, including one which allowed dogs to eat the fat-rich and starch-poor diets of their human handlers.

“Pre-industrialization, I think that dogs were one of our most precious tools, in the Arctic especially, where long distance transportation with speed and ability to transport heavy loads is priceless,” Sinding says. Their senses, far keener than our own, are invaluable in Arctic environments and capable of navigating through blizzards and knowing their way home, even when their handler does not.

“And they can fight a polar bear,” Sinding said. “No snowmobile can do that.”—**W.B.**

Walter Beckwith is an archaeologist and science writer who lives in Maine. His story comes to us courtesy the American Association of the Advancement of Science.

The Pride of Greenland

The sled dog known as the the Greenlandic Sled Dog, or Greenland Dog, is a national symbol and a much-loved icon of Greenland’s culture. The Inuit brought these hearty dogs to the island almost 5,000 years ago as hunters and haulers, instrumental in enabling the Inuit to establish a foothold in the stark, brutally cold Arctic environment.

Without Greenlandic Sled Dogs the Thule people, from which modern Greenlanders descend, would have been unable to colonize the New World’s northernmost regions, nor would such polar explorers as Roald Amundsen and Robert Peary have reached the Poles.

There are some 15,000 to 18,000 of these dogs in Greenland today—a seemingly healthy number when one considers that the country’s human population is only 56,000. But, due to climate change and the efficiency of snowmobiles and power boats as means of transportation, Greenland’s sled-dog population has dwindled dramatically over the past 20 years.

Greenlandic Sled Dogs can be found only north of the Arctic Circle and on Greenland’s eastern shores. “It is prohibited to bring another breed of dog into these areas,” a travel guide to Greenland says, “and if a Greenlandic Sled Dog leaves this restricted zone, it is not allowed to return.” It is hoped that these restrictions will keep the breed pure



Mushing in modern-day Thule, Greenland

and disease-free.

Greenland’s equivalent of the Super Bowl is the annual sled race called Avannaata Qimussersua, or simply [The Race](#). It is held in a different town each year and, our handy travel guide tells us, “because the distances between the towns are so large and there are no roads in Greenland, the teams of sled dogs are often flown in with a big Sikorsky helicopter.”

The University of Greenland, the Natural History Museum of Denmark, and the University of Copenhagen have founded a major project to research the Greenlandic Sled Dog. Their aim was to create, encourage, and sustain pride in Greenland’s sled-dog culture and to help preserve its traditions. The project is called [QIMMEQ](#), the Greenlandic word for *dog*.



Amy and Phil Booth: The New Normal

Pro handlers Amy and Phil demonstrate new AKC ring procedures for these uncertain times. 10:13



Will the Real Blanche Saunders Please Stand Up

The AKC Down and Back podcast features a clip from Blanche Saunders's 1962 appearance on To Tell the Truth. Here's the full show! (Saunders arrives at 7:50.) 25:57



Huskies in Harness

More on sled dogs: AKC's David Woo shot this video of Husky breeder-mushers Laura and Romil on race day at Coleman State Park, New Hampshire. 33:55



"How I Miss the Dog Show!"

Singer-songwriter Teri Meredyth (Belgian Tervuren Club of Southern California) performs a song that speaks for us all. 5:39

FEATURE

The Lassie Within

When things look bleak, when you really need a hero, will your dog be there for you?

The situation is dire. Timmy is trapped inside a remote cabin. He's tied to a chair beside a timebomb, and the seconds are ticking down. Out of nowhere, Lassie crashes through a window, chews through Timmy's ropes, and the boy and his dog dash to safety one tick before the cabin blows sky high.

The hero dog is a durable fixture of our popular culture. Lassie, the Sunnybank Collies, Rin Tin Tin, and Disney's Bolt are just a few of the fictional superdogs who have saved their humans from certain doom. But how would your real-life dog act if you found yourself in Timmy's predicament? Would he save the day, or just roll over and play dead? Researchers at Arizona State University hoped to provide answers by giving dogs the chance to rescue their owners.

Until recently, little research had been done on dogs' interest in rescuing humans, but heroic action is what humans have come to expect from their trusty companions. "It's a pervasive legend," Joshua Van Bourg, a psychology graduate student at ASU, says. He adds that simply observing dogs rescuing someone does not tell you much: "The difficult challenge is figuring out why they do it."

MORE THAN MOTIVATION

Van Bourg and his colleague Clive Wynne, an ASU psychology professor and director of the university's Canine Science Collaboratory, set up an experiment assessing 60 pet dogs' propensity to rescue their owners. None of the dogs had training in such work.

In the main test, each owner was confined to a large box equipped with a light-weight door, which the dog could move aside. The owners feigned distress by calling out "Help!" or "Help me!"

Beforehand, the researchers coached the owners so their cries for help sounded authentic. In addition, owners were not allowed to call their dog's name, which would



Canine Hero: Lassie, seen here with Timmy (Jon Provost), the most rescued boy in TV history

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

FEATURE

encourage the dog to act out of obedience, and not out of concern for her owner's welfare.

"About one-third of the dogs rescued their distressed owner, which doesn't sound too impressive on its own, but really is impressive when you take a closer look," Van Bourg says.

That is because two things are at stake here. One is the dogs' desire to help their owners, and the other is how well the dogs understood the nature of the help that was needed. Van Bourg and Wynne explored this factor in control tests, which were lacking in previous studies.

In one control test, when the dog watched a researcher drop food into the box, only 19 of the 60 dogs opened the box to get the food. More dogs rescued their owners than retrieved food.

"The key here is that without controlling for each dog's understanding of how to open the box, the proportion of dogs who rescued their owners

greatly underestimates the proportion of dogs who wanted to rescue their owners," Van Bourg said. ([See video.](#))

"The fact that two-thirds of the dogs didn't even open the box for food is a pretty strong indication that rescuing requires more than just motivation, there's something else involved, and that's the ability component," Van Bourg said. "If you look at only those 19 dogs that showed us they were able to open the door in the food test, 84 percent of them rescued their owners. So, most dogs want to rescue you, but they need to know how."

THE EMPATHY FACTOR

In another control test, Van Bourg and Wynne looked at what happened when the owner sat inside the box and calmly read aloud from a magazine. What they found was that four fewer dogs, 16 out of 60, opened the box in the reading test than in the distress test.

"A lot of the time it isn't necessarily about rescuing," Van



Canine Hero: Here's Beggar, 1962's "National Dog Hero of Heroes," with Bobby Mitchell, of Sacramento, California. The 165-pound Saint Bernard won the award by diving into the American River to rescue his 3-year-old owner from drowning.

Gz

Bourg says. "But that doesn't take anything away from how special dogs really are. Most dogs would run into a burning building just because they can't stand to be apart from their owners. How sweet is that? And if they know you're in distress, well, that just ups the ante."

The fact that dogs did open the box more often in the distress test than in the reading control test indicated that rescuing could not be explained solely by the dogs wanting to be near their owners.

The researchers also observed each dog's behavior during the three scenarios. They noted behaviors that can indicate stress, such as whining, walking, barking, and yawning.

"During the distress test, the dogs were much more stressed," Van Bourg said. "When their owner was distressed, they barked more, and they whined more. In fact, there were eight dogs who whined, and they did so during the distress test. Only one other

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

FEATURE

dog whined, and that was for food.”

What’s more, the second and third attempts to open the box during the distress test did not make the dogs less stressed than they were during the first attempt. That was in contrast to the reading test, where dogs who have already been exposed to the scenario were less stressed across repeated tests.

“They became acclimated,” Van Bourg says. “Something about the owner’s distress counteracts this acclimation. There’s something about the owner calling for help that makes the dogs not get calmer with repeated exposure.”

In essence, these individual behaviors are more evidence of “emotional contagion,” the transmission of stress from the owner to the dog, or what humans would call empathy.

Canine Hero: Rin Tin Tin, 1925. Rinty saved many a co-star from the bad guys, and his box-office popularity rescued a faltering Warner Brothers Pictures from bankruptcy.



THE TAKEAWAY

“What’s fascinating about this study,” Wynne says, “is that it shows that dogs really care about their people. Even without training, many dogs will try and rescue people who appear to be in distress—and when they fail, we can still see how upset they are. The results from the control tests indicate that dogs who fail to rescue their people are unable to understand what to do—it is not that they don’t care about their people.”

“Next, we want to explore whether the dogs that rescue do so to get close to their people, or whether they would still open the box even if that did not give them the opportunity to come together with their humans.”—*adapted from a report by Robin Tricoles, Arizona State University*

Link

[Peer reviewed research article](#)

Canine Hero: Boomer and the Bear

On August 4, 2013, Connie Dilts set out for her morning walk on the backroads near her family dairy farm at North Mahoning Township, Pennsylvania. As usual, she was accompanied by her female Australian Shepherds, Boomer and Reina. In an interview with [AKC FAMILY DOG](#), Dilts told the terrifying story of what happened next:

“I thought I was going to die.

“It was big. Bears are hard to gauge but my guess is 300 pounds, and when it stood up it was taller than me. I heard the bear before I saw it. They make a sound when they run, like *whoo, whoo, whoo*. I looked up and the bear was between my dogs, running out of the woods, about 20 feet in front of me. The dogs were running with the bear, it was very odd. And the bear made a beeline right toward me.

“The bear wanted to kill me. It just took both its paws and it pushed me, on my shoulder. Then it went *whoof*, and I felt the breath on my face. It stood up to slice me, to swat at me. I got slashed on my wrist and I fell back, or I would have been sliced to the bone.

“Then it lunged to bite me in my face, and I fell back again and it got me in the shoulder. It flung me 20 feet, like I was nothing, like I was a sack of potatoes. And I landed so hard I ripped the seat of my pants.

“And it all happened so fast, in seconds. It seemed like it went in slow motion. I tried to scream and could not make a sound. Boomer knew I needed her, she knew I was in trouble, and she gave it everything she had. She leapt on the bear, onto its side, its back, neck, and shoulder, and she started biting it. She was hanging on it like a cat.

“The bear was down on all fours and had its lip curled up and was growling at me. It’s trying to shake Boomer off, shaking her head and swatting to get Boomer off, but it was still approaching me. And this was my moment of panic. I thought, ‘This is it.’ Because if she can’t stop it ...

“She was like a viper, striking, and biting and biting. ... It was vicious, but the fur was so thick, I don’t think the bear could even feel it. Boomer was giving her life for me. She didn’t care anything for herself. It was a sight to behold. She probably did it like 15 times, again and again and again. And she must have landed a bite on an ear or the nose, something that really hurt, because the bear let out a yelp, a bad sound. It tossed Boomer to the ground, and then it turned and ran down through the cornfield.”

“If it weren’t for her ... well, God was definitely there with us. He gave me her that day to save me, because if it wasn’t for her ... I don’t know, I hate to be dramatic and say I’d be dead, but I probably would have been messed up pretty bad.”

In December 2014, Boomer was given the [AKC Award for Canine Excellence \(ACE\)](#) in the Exemplary Companion category.



Dilts with Boomer, her ACE-winning savior

TIMES PAST

Show Dog, Inc.

From the August 1941 GAZETTE: “There was an entry of 261 dogs in the third annual all-breed show of the [Tonawanda Valley Kennel Club](#) benched at Batavia, N.Y., on July 13. The Best in Show and the Best American-bred in Show was judged by Jerome N. Halle, and he picked the same dog for both honors. The animal so honored was the pointer, Captain Bob. Of course, Captain Bob first won the sporting division of the variety classes, a division which was judged by Mrs. A.W. Ocorr.”

In its particulars, this show report is similar to the countless thousands of such items we have published over the decades. What makes it something interesting is a bit of missing information: the name of Captain Bob’s owner.

Captain Bob was a highly regarded winner and sire of his time who went Best of Breed at the [American Pointer Club](#)’s 1941 national specialty. He also played a part in an all but forgotten footnote to our sport’s history.

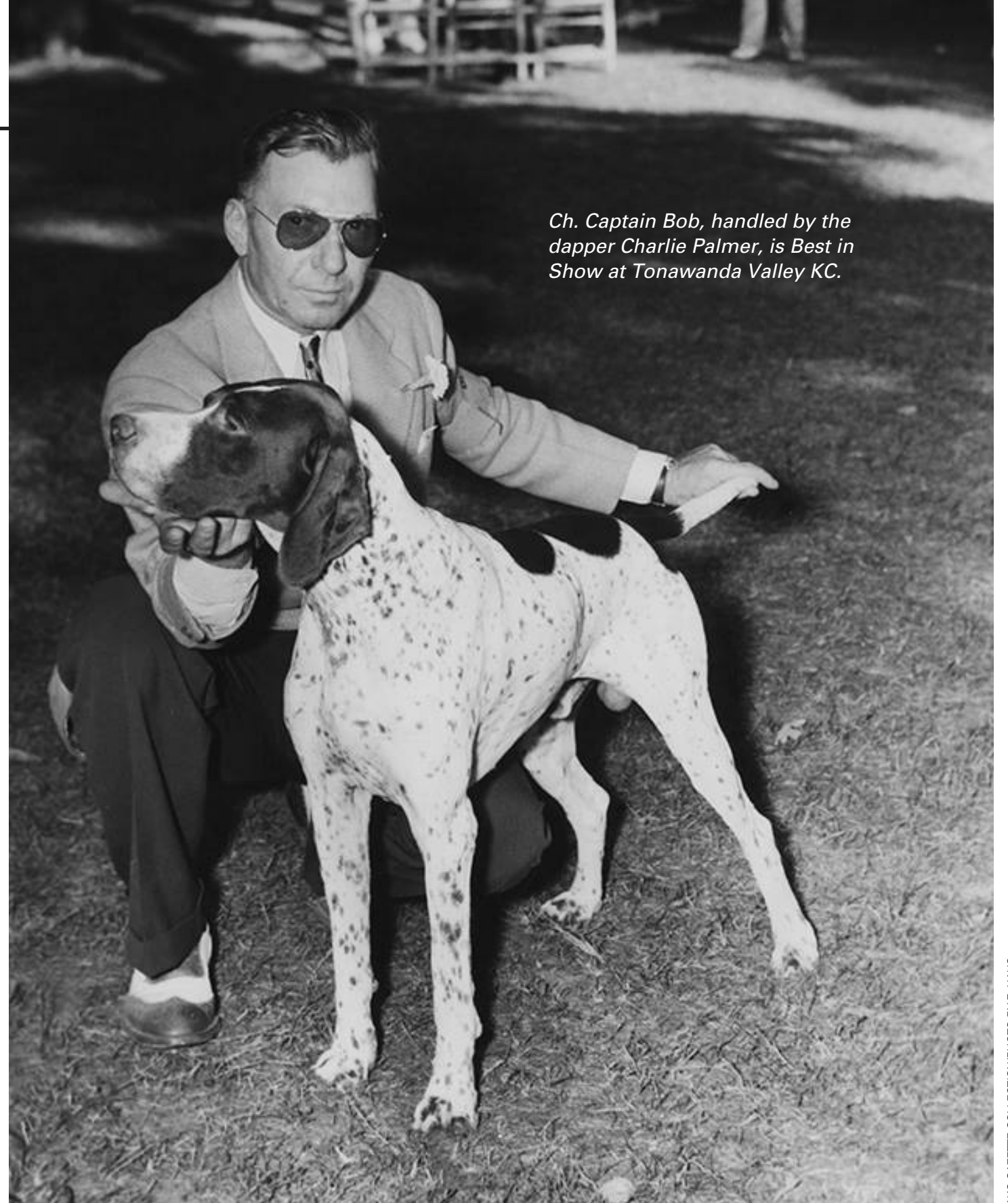
In the 1930s, mass-produced commercial dog food emerged as a big business. The competing brands looked for novel ways to advertise their wares. One popular idea was for dog-food companies to own and campaign show dogs. Some even worked their brand name into the dog’s registered name.

Sturdy Dog Food, based in Syracuse, New

York, enthusiastically embraced this PR strategy. Captain Bob was a Sturdy dog, and the company finished several other champions before the AKC banned corporate ownership of show dogs.

Sturdy’s most famous exhibit was English Setter Ch. Sturdy Max. Although Max was a big winner for Sturdy, in 1937 the company sold by him to D.W. Ellis (Maridor Kennels) for the astronomical Depression-era price of \$2,250. Ellis hired Charlie Palmer, who handled the Sturdy string, including Captain Bob and Max, and continued Max’s show career.

Later that year, Max would go Best in Show at Morris & Essex KC over an entry of 4,104 dogs, delighting his new owner—and depriving Sturdy of a big splash of the publicity the company sought by owning Max in the first place.



Ch. Captain Bob, handled by the dapper Charlie Palmer, is Best in Show at Tonawanda Valley KC.

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION/PHOTO BY E. HAUS

Morris & Essex

It was terribly disappointing to hear that the eagerly awaited Morris & Essex KC show slated for this October was postponed until 2021. I had a honey of a hat picked out that I'll have to leave hanging in the hall closet for another year. We pay tribute to this legendary event with a gallery of ring greats who made M&E the platinum event of our sport's golden age. —**B.B.**

Morris & Essex KC founder Geraldine R. Dodge with M&E luminaries, 1927 to 1957, clockwise from top left: Dr. Samuel Millbank; Anthony Neary with 1946/'47 BIS Ch. Rock Ridge Night Rocket; Anne Hone Rogers; Alva Rosenberg; photographer Evelyn Shafer; 1935 BIS Ch. Milson O'Boy; Anna Katherine Nicholas; Captain Max von Stephanitz; Hayes Blake Hoyt and her 1940 BIS Blakeen Jung Frau; Herman E. Mellenthin and his 1939 BIS Ch. My Own Brucie.





In this month's German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America column, read about why the breed's forefathers mandated a docked tail.

About the Breed Columns

he breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by the breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's traits, history, care, and training. A national parent club is made up of dedicated breeders and fanciers and represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to serious dog fanciers in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate quarterly by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year. Information and opinions expressed in the breed columns represent the views of their authors, not necessarily those of the breed's parent club or the AKC. For questions about the breed columns, e-mail Arliss.Paddock@akc.org.

THIS MONTH

SPORTING GROUP

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|---------------------------|
| 22 | Brittanys | 31 | Cocker Spaniels |
| 22 | Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes | 32 | English Springer Spaniels |
| 24 | German Shorthaired Pointers | 33 | Field Spaniels |
| 25 | Curly-Coated Retrievers | 35 | Irish Water Spaniels |
| 26 | Golden Retrievers | 36 | Sussex Spaniels |
| 27 | English Setters | 38 | Welsh Springer Spaniels |
| 28 | Gordon Setters | 39 | Spinoni Italiani |
| 29 | Irish Setters | 40 | Vizslas |
| 30 | Clumber Spaniels | 41 | Weimaraners |

WORKING GROUP

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 42 | Alaskan Malamutes | 56 | Leonbergers |
| 45 | Anatolian Shepherds | 57 | Mastiffs |
| 46 | Bernese Mountain Dogs | 58 | Neapolitan Mastiffs |
| 47 | Black Russian Terriers | 59 | Newfoundlands |
| 48 | Boxers | 60 | Portuguese Water Dogs |
| 49 | Bullmastiffs | 62 | Rottweilers |
| 50 | Doberman Pinschers | 63 | Samoyeds |
| 51 | German Pinschers | 65 | Siberian Huskies |
| 52 | Great Pyrenees | 66 | Standard Schnauzers |
| 53 | Komondors | 67 | Tibetan Mastiffs |
| 54 | Kuvaszok | | |

SPORTING GROUP

Brittanys

IT'S IMPORTANT

It's an usually mild, sunny day the first week in February, with temperatures in the mid-50s and no snow. It's not really bird-hunting season; however, the shooting preserve is open to its members until the middle of April. The grounds are often used year-round to train our Brittanys. However, there are specific times when we use the facility to hunt birds.

Training and hunting are pursued according to weather conditions. Rain, sleet, snow, muddy and hot weather conditions limit those times to train. The same goes for when we hunt. This particular day in February definitely was important, a chance to get out from having been "cooped-up" in the cold, freezing Western Pennsylvania winter weather. We currently only have one Brittany, a tricolor. She is a 14-year-old, to be 15 later this year. She has a memorable life story. She is FC Glade Run Nutmeg (Meg), Am. Field three-time Champion, Am. Field four-time RunUp Champion, and Winner Gun Dog Classic (2012); plus, over the years, most often during Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons, she has hunted, pointed, and retrieved probably over 150 upland game birds—chukars, quail, and pheasant.

To digress, for a moment because it is important, looking back in time, our grandson, Ben,



Portrait of Meg, FC Glade Run Nutmeg, in a painting by Ray Rush.

who had just turned 12 earlier in the year, was bird hunting with a family group the day after Thanksgiving. Meg at that time was about 1 year old. Even at her young age, she had had significant exposure to quail, and was pointing, but not steady; once the bird moved, she would flush and chase.

The hunt with Ben was to be at the aforementioned game preserve. Meg cast along a tree-line, stopped at one edge, and pointed. She was on a 20-foot lead, but not restrained. She was about 50 yards away as we quickly moved into position. We could see the quail

move, flushed, and she chased; Ben did not shoot. "Papa, afraid I might hit Meg." Moving on, the next bird pointed and flushed; she was restrained. Ben had his first bird—with many more to come.

Meg, as previously mentioned, with a focus on that particular day in February was ready to hunt. It was a Monday, temperatures predicted to be in the low 50s, no snow or rain, thus a good day to bird-hunt. Last time Meg hunted was during Thanksgiving week; she just seemed to know this morning "we're going hunting." There was concern because she had had little conditioning since that festive holiday week, but she always let it be known when she "had enough." Early in the morning we were out the door and loaded into the truck with a couple of other hunting partners.

What's ever more significant was the fact that Meg was scenting, pointing, and retrieving them with just one visual eye. Two years ago she had a "small, pea-sized" lump develop on her eyelid. The local veterinarian removed the growth, which proved with pathology testing to be a malignant melanoma. This tumor type has moderate to high potential for recurrence; the recommendation was close observation for the possibility of it to return.

A year ago in June the tumor was back, larger, on the same eyelid. Recommendation was removal of the eyelid; and because the eye

cannot function without the cover, removal of the eye as well. The surgery took place in August. Recovery was unbelievably positive, and Meg hunted that fall season. However, because the tumor was a malignant melanoma, it has reoccurred two more times, with surgery following. Meg has recovered each time. This last surgery seems to have "taken a toll," however. She has not been eating well, and thus has lost weight. Recently, though, her eating has improved. She has an unbelievable desire to hunt. It's important to Meg; the next few weeks she will be strong enough to start training for the upcoming hunting season.

—David A. Webb,

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American Brittany Club

Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes

NEWS AND UPDATES

As members know, we had to cancel our ANKCUSA 2020 national specialty that was planned for April 2 in Albany, Oregon. At first, it looked as if all our planning, our non-refundable deposits, and time spent had been wasted. However, as a team we immediately started looking at a location for the NKCUSA 2021 national. We spoke with the AKC, host club the Chintimini Kennel Club, and Mr. Wim Wellens, our judge from

COURTESY DAVID WEBB AND RAY RUSH

SPORTING GROUP

the Netherlands who was going to judge our NKCUSA 2020 specialty. The Chintimini KC was already planning their 2021 dates for April 8, 9, 10, and 11, with April 8, 2021 being the specialty day. Mr. Wellens did not have a judging assignment during that week, so he agreed to judge our 2021 specialty if Chintimini KC could fix that date. Chintimini set their date solid, so we then contacted the vendors for our annual meeting location, dinner, and catering service for the welcome breakfast. We sent Mr. Wellens an official invitation for 2021 in Albany, Oregon. We made agreements with all our vendors, who had been paid (nonrefundable) deposits, which will carry over to next year.

We were able to cancel all the conformation and performance-event ribbons ordered for the 2020 national. We had also ordered and paid for beautiful painted trophies and fused-glass trays, all with a Kooikerhondje design, and these can carry over for the specialty next year. Fortunately, the 10 judge's gifts we had purchased are not dated, so they carry over as well. The only special trophy we had paid for that is dated is the Best of Breed trophy, and we are looking for a special use for this item. We had a number of sweatshirts available that are being sold on eBay. Much of this work was done by Karen Parker, who lives in the region. Jac Knoop and Karen both agreed



*Nederlandse
Kooikerhondje*

to again be the specialty show chairs for next year.

Also, we are excited to announce a special event taking place during the 2021 NKCUSA national: Canine reproduction expert Dr. Marty Greer will speak on “Everything You Wanted to Know About Dog Breeding But Were Afraid to Ask.” This seminar, part of NKCUSA’s continuing Kooiker Kollege series of educational events, will give you the basics of breeding and cover such topics as

the importance of testing and timing, various insemination methods, the birthing process, common infertility issues and treatments for stud dogs and bitches, the science behind back-to-back breeding, and spay-neuter updates. Dr. Greer will answer those questions you have always wanted to ask about breeding, stud dogs, bitches, and timing but never had the chance.

We have also started working on a location for the 2022 NKCUSA national. As it stands

today, the 2022 national will be held in conjunction with the Heart of Illinois Cluster, put on by the Cornbelt Kennel Club, May 27–30, 2022. The site is the Interstate Center on the McLean County Fairgrounds in Bloomington, Illinois. This is a fully air-conditioned, two-building location with free parking, acres of outside grass areas around the buildings, and lots of dog-friendly hotels nearby. It is near the Central Illinois Regional Airport, and at the junction of I-39, I-55, and I-74. The cluster offers competition in conformation, Fast CAT, Junior Showmanship, puppy classes, veterans classes and more, over four days. We are discussing the possibility to team up with local dog clubs to put on parallel agility, rally, and obedience events in conjunction with our specialty. As a back-up plan, we are considering an alternate show weekend in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in case we cannot come to an agreement on holding these companion events.

Annual Membership Meeting—on Zoom!

Much of the above information was shared during NKCUSA’s first virtual annual membership meeting, which was held via Zoom on June 30. The meeting was well attended—kudos to all our members who participated in this new format! Also announced during the meeting were the 2019 NKCUSA Annual Awards. Our members work with their dogs

SPORTING GROUP

in so many activities, and throughout the year our Kooikers earn titles in a variety of venues. They are honored with a range of awards presented at the annual meeting and dinner, reflecting achievements of NKCUSA members and their Kooikers during the previous calendar year.

Thanks to our Health and Genetics committee, the meeting's featured event was an excellent presentation by Dr. Peter Leegwater on the importance of genetic diversity and continued health testing in the Kooikerhondje. We thank Dr. Leegwater for sharing this vital information with our members.

[Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the USA](#)

German Shorthaired Pointers THE DOCKED TAIL

While amusing myself with “all things dog” during the past few months, I heard the host of a televised dog show comment on a dog with an undocked tail. The co-host said they thought the dog looked lovely with its natural tail and didn't understand why they weren't all left natural.

I looked up to see a Cocker Spaniel with an undocked tail. I knew that breed's standard asks for a docked tail because the breed was developed to work in very dense cover to flush birds. I was also aware that their parent club in 2009,



*German Shorthaired
Pointer*

as many others, had put out a statement/letter to the director of the American Veterinary Medical Association to urge the AVMA to reconsider its position on tail docking.

Many types of hunting/pointing dogs were used in the development of the Shorthair breed, and even after the breed's function and type were set, there was no consistency in the

tail's length or size of its bone. Active tail-motion in thick woods and heavy brush caused multiple injuries, with some leading to infection and potential loss of the dog, which the families who depended upon the dog to help find game for the table could ill afford.

The forefathers understood that the dog didn't depend on his tail in the same man-

ner as his other extremities, the feet and legs. Injury to any extremity can be serious. Because of the tail's location, an almost-healed wound on that part can be re-injured and/or cause infection that could spread quickly through the body.

With dogs being an altricial species, newborns are blind and deaf at birth, and their bodies are undeveloped. Because of this, a dog's adult tail length could be modified at three to five days of age without stress or harm to the pup because the docking occurs before the extremity's blood, nerve supply, and bone calcification are completely developed.

Docking was then and still is a preventative method done to avoid problems of tail injuries and potential painful treatment should the damaged tail become infected and/or have to be amputated.

The developers and forefathers of the breed understood the importance of keeping the dog healthy, stating in the breed's standard, “*The tail ... must be docked leaving approximately 40% of its length.*” They understood the importance of tail length in relation to other functions required of the dog, as it would need some length for balance when quartering in the field and as a rudder when retrieving waterfowl. But they also understood that a tail too long was the potential for injury, infection, and loss of the dog at a very young age.

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

SPORTING GROUP

Not all sporting dogs have docked tails, most likely because the forefathers determined what worked best for their breed was dependant upon the function for which it was being developed. A quick glance at several breed standards finds “to or not below the hock”; “naturally tailless or docked to four inches”; and “docked to a specific length, six inches at maturity and docked or undocked but should be in balance with rest of the dog.”

The 1796 English dog tax law is often quoted about docking. This was intended to be a luxury tax for any dog(s) not used in sport if the individual lived in a dwelling assessed a tax. Individuals who lived in dwellings not assessed a tax could own one dog as a companion without being taxed.

So why do we dock? To avoid injury, infection, and potential amputation for the health and welfare of our dogs.

—Patte Titus,

chexsix@mac.com

[German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America](#)

Curly-Coated Retrievers

Jenny Dickinson is again sharing some more obedience ideas concerning training Curlies who are more mature, and her article follows.

TRAINING THE MATURE CURLY

I have been training my current Curly-Coated Retriever, Billy, since he was a little puppy, but life has gotten in the way of obedience work. After recent surgery, I just returned to obedience training. I am 70 years old, and my dog is now 5 years old. I am scared to run out of time, but what I have discovered is that he is more cooperative and settled in his work than he was before. He is giving me more sustained effort. *That is what a Curly will do if you let him grow up!*

The most compelling example of this was my dear Bart, who passed away some years ago. Bart was the orneriest puppy I have ever had to live with. He was contentious and uncooperative and picked fights with my other Curly male. After one particularly serious fight that landed us all in the veterinary hospital, I seriously considered re-homing Bart to a single-dog home. However, I loved him too much and decided I had to make our situation work.

After rigorous separations and lots of desensitization, harmony was restored. As time passed, the boys grew very comfortable with each other, and we were all able to sleep in the same bed together; one boy on either side of me. However, the best was yet to be!

My work involves helping families with reactive dogs. Bart became my “sidekick,”



Curly-Coated Retriever

working with me by reacting calmly to dogs who tended to bark and lunge. Bart became an essential partner, and along with my Lhasa Apso, he helped many cranky dogs learn to walk politely with their owners.

Bart went with me to pet expos, Meet the Breeds events, benefit strolls, and many other events where unpleasant behavior would have been unthinkable. Bart had become completely reliable. I marveled at his loyalty and

cooperation. Obviously, I learned some valuable lessons from him.

In the past, I have had breeds that took several years to mature, but Curlies are exceptional in this regard. Typically, Curly people will tell you that you do not have the complete package until a Curly is 5 years old. I am seeing this with Billy, and I certainly learned this with Bart.

I, myself, did plenty of stupid things as a

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY PHOTOGRAPHY

SPORTING GROUP

young person, and I like to think I have grown up. Maybe that is why it does not bother me that my breed needs time, too! —J.D.

Thank you, Jenny, for sharing Billy and Bart's stories. It does demonstrate to me that with some Curlies, older is certainly better. I have had only two Curlies who, over the past many years, responded well to early obedience training. Now, if I can only have my 7-year-old Curly earn her CD title, I would be thrilled!

—Ann Shinkle,

annshinkle@aol.com

Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America

Golden Retrievers

COVID-19 AND GOLDEN RETRIEVERS

During the current global pandemic, people are concerned not only about their own health, but also about the health of their dogs and other pets. Thankfully, there is no reason to worry.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, as reported by the American Kennel Club, there is no evidence that pets can spread the virus. It is known however, that a few dogs, worldwide, have tested positive. But those dogs had been exposed to people known to be infected, and the dogs experienced zero to mild symptoms. Thus,



Golden Retriever

the CDC recommends that you care for your pet as you would a family member and take the same precautions to keep them safe. It's important to note that coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, and *canine* coronavirus infects only animals and does not infect people.

As the world waits for a vaccine to protect against the virus, conversation has turned to immunity and antibodies. So, what does that mean for your Golden? How do you know he has the necessary antibodies to protect him against those canine diseases that put him at serious risk? A titer test, performed by your veterinarian, can measure the presence and number of antibodies in his blood to determine if your dog is immune to a given disease.

Vaccinations given at an early age offer protection for an estimated period of time. Most veterinarians recommend revaccination (booster shots) for the “core,” or life-threatening diseases—canine distemper virus (CDV), parvovirus (CPV), and canine adenovirus (CAV)—every year or every three years.

Dr. Ronald Schulz, professor of immunology and founding chair of the Department of Pathobiological Sciences at the Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, and author of the vaccination

TY FOSTER FOR AKC

SPORTING GROUP

guidelines in the journal of the American Animal Hospital Association, has conducted studies on the duration of immunity in vaccinated dogs. He has found that dogs maintain immunity to CDV, CPV, and CAV, for seven to nine years after vaccination, with the exception of rabies. (His studies show the duration of immunity for rabies lasts about three years.) He suggests using titer testing to determine the presence of antibodies rather than automatically revaccinating.

Dr. W. Jean Dodds, a clinical research veterinarian and founder of the non-profit Hemopet, also advises against arbitrarily revaccinating if immunity is still present, as it could produce adverse reactions, side effects such as skin problems, allergic reactions, and autoimmune disease, which can affect the long-term health of the dog.

Unfortunately, not all vets have confidence in titer testing and do not offer it to their clients. If you opt for titer testing (and I hope you do), seek out a vet who offers such testing and understands its importance.

Meanwhile, hugging your Golden is the best crisis therapy available for both you and your dog. So, if you're healthy, grab your Golden and hug away!

—Nona Kilgore Bauer,

nona@nonabauer.com

[Golden Retriever Club of America](#)

English Setters

HOW OLD IS YOUR ENGLISH SETTER?

In this year of COVID-19, many of us have been spending more time at home with our dogs than usual. If images on Facebook are anything to go by, English Setter folks have been training with their dogs, working on some groovy new hairdos (not always appreciated by the dogs), swimming, doing home-improvement projects (supervised by their English Setters), and having a few new litters. Some people are even starting to go back to showing their dogs! And, of course, old dogs have been getting older.

Speaking of old dogs, a Golden Retriever in Tennessee named August recently broke the record as the [world's oldest Golden](#) when he celebrated his 20th birthday. He is already well beyond the typical lifespan for Goldens, which is around 10 to 12 years. He'll presumably be setting his sights on the record of the oldest known dog—an Australian Cattle Dog named Bluey who lived to be 29, dying in 1939.

If you're wondering about English Setter aging, various health surveys in the U.K. (see <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/16414/english%20setter.pdf> and https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/749300/english_setter.pdf) found the median lifespan of the breed to be between 11 and 12 years, though it wasn't



English Setter

unusual for dogs to live between 13 and 15 years. I'm not aware of formal health surveys regarding the breed's lifespan in the U.S., but many of us have had dogs who lived between 12–14 years. I currently have a girl who is still very active at age 13.

Many breeds are involved in longevity stud-

ies, especially breeds that are known to have shorter lifespans. But there are researchers looking at the lifespans of dogs in general. One study was recently published with a [new way to calculate the age of dogs in human years](#). Most of us have heard that dogs age seven human years for each dog year, which would make my 13-year-old girl 91 in human years! I don't think she would agree.

A new formula developed by researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine studied 104 Labrador Retrievers, ranging from newborn puppies to dogs 16 years of age. They tracked changes in the DNA of the dogs. They found that dogs age rapidly when they are young, but then their aging slows significantly when they become adults.

“A one-year-old dog is similar to a 30-year-old human. A four-year-old dog is similar to a 52-year-old human,”

according to their news release. “Then by seven years old, dog aging slows.”

Senior author Trey Ideker, Ph.D., professor at UC San Diego School of Medicine and Moore's Cancer Center, said, “This makes sense when you think about it—after all, a nine-month-old dog can have puppies, so

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we already knew that the 1:7 ratio wasn't an accurate measure of age."

The researchers plan to continue their work by looking at ten other breeds, since it's known that different breeds age differently due to size and other genetic factors.

There are a number of researchers interested in canine aging at the moment. Along with benefiting dogs, it's also thought that these studies can help with human aging and health. One study that is seeking all kinds of dogs as participants is the [Dog Aging Project](#). The goal of the project is to understand how genes, lifestyle, and environment influence aging so the information can be used to help pets and people.

The Dog Aging Project study asks you to fill out a survey about your dog's health. Your dog continues to live a normal life at home. Some dogs will be asked to participate in some extra studies that can involve lab tests with veterinary specialists. All participation is voluntary. The study is working through the University of Washington and Texas A&M.

I think we all want our English Setters to live long, healthy lives. If these studies and researchers can help our dogs live longer and stay healthier, good luck to them!

—Carlotta Cooper,
eshever@embarqmail.com

[English Setter Association of America](#)

Gordon Setters

MIGHT YOUR DOG HAVE MITES—ALSO KNOWN AS MANGE?

A dear friend sent me the photo of the face of his Gordon girl, asking, "Do you know what this is?" I responded, "I think it is mites, or 'mange' (canine scabies or sarcopic mange)." I suggested they take their girl to the vet immediately, as mange is contagious to other pets and humans. Their vet determined it to be mites/mange after doing a skin scraping.

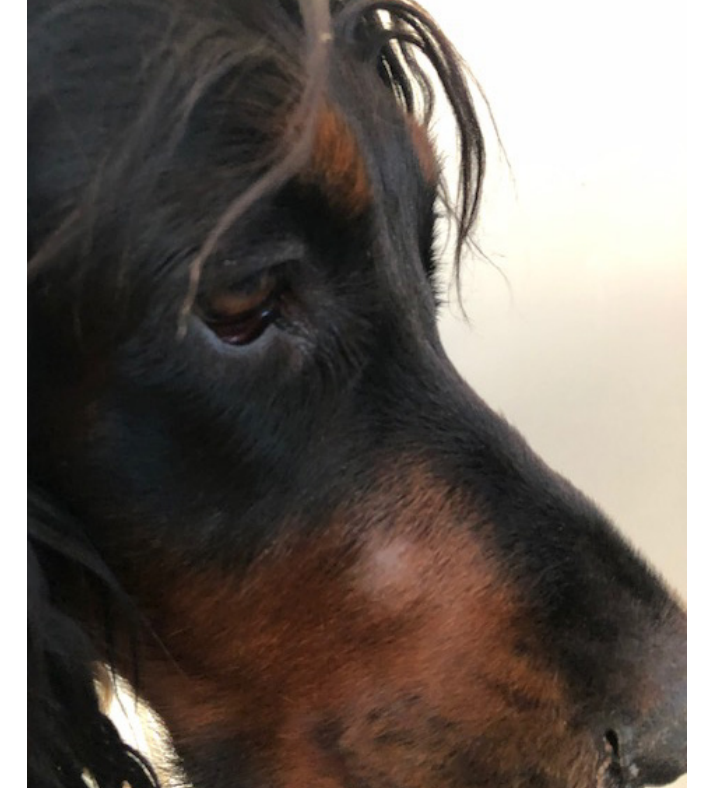
Dogs can be affected by several types of canine mange: skin mites/scabies; ear mites (otodectic mange); "walking dandruff" (cheyletiellosis); and trombiculosis.

Scabies (sarcopic mange or skin mites) results when microscopic mites invade your healthy pet's skin, causing irritation and leading to itching, causing inflammation and hair loss. Your dog may not have the initial signs of sudden itching and skin eruptions of small, solid bumps. The itching leads to not only hair loss but a layer of thick, crusted sores in the surrounding areas. These inflamed areas can lead to a secondary bacterial or yeast infection. Your vet will prescribe the appropriate medication, including perhaps an antibiotic if there is a bacterial infection.

Ear mites (otodectic mange) can also be found on the body, as well as deep in the external ear canal. Your dog will scratch his



A patch of hair loss can be seen on the face of a Gordon Setter



ears and shake his head. When untreated, the scratching can cause inflammation and sores, leading to pustules. Your vet will prescribe a parasiticide for treatment.

"Walking dandruff" (cheyletiellosis) is actually the mites walking around on the dog's skin. The infestation or dandruff looks like scaly skin, most commonly down your dog's back. Intense itching can also occur, causing inflammation and even a secondary bacterial infection. This form of mites is highly contagious. Active and continued flea control solves

the problem and will prevent recurrence of walking mites. However, not all dogs show signs of walking mites, that, being so contagious, can be passed to other dogs/household animals and humans. Once diagnosed, pet owners should be sure they have proper medication for pets and humans, as well cleaning their home environment of any infestation.

Canine Demodex mites are found in small numbers in the dog's hair follicles and sebaceous glands, and it is normal for them to be found. However, though it is not clearly

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understood why, sometimes these mites will multiply into large numbers, causing inflammation and hair loss. The suspected cause is suppression of the dog's immune system. This overgrowth can cause hair loss and red to deeply pigmented raised lumps (looking like acne). Itching can be mild or nonexistent. Diagnosis is by skin scraping with treatment recommendations from your veterinarian.

Trombiculosis is formed by the parasitic, six-legged larvae of mites in the Trombiculid family. Both the nymph and adult stage of the mites look like tiny spiders and are found on rotting materials, usually outside. The larvae attach to the dog's body when they walk through an infested area or lay on the ground where there is an infestation. Much like a tick, the larvae attach to the host for a few days, feed, and then drop off when engorged. When hungry, the cycle starts anew.

The larvae present as tiny, non-mobile orange-red oval dots. These dots tend to cluster on the head, ears, feet and abdominal areas. Symptoms include itching, bumps, inflammation, hair loss, and crusted areas. Even after the larvae have dropped off the host, intense itching can still continue. Your veterinarian will most likely take skin scrapings in the affected areas after careful examination to identify all affected skin. Treatment for this larval stage of the mites differs from other

treatment protocols for killing other types of mites.

Depending on the infested area where the dog acquired the mites, preventing re-infestation may be challenging. Your veterinarian will have helpful suggestions.

The best and easiest rule of thumb for preventing, diagnosing, and treating canine mange (skin mites) is to take your dog to your veterinarian immediately if you see your companion scratching on his or her body, or ears or persistently licking his or her feet.

—Carolyn R. Gold,
spellbound24kgold@gmail.com
Gordon Setter Club of America

Irish Setters

THE LESSONS OF HISTORY

History is a powerful force! It is what moves us forward from where we are, and hopefully teaches us not to repeat our mistakes. It helps us avoid reinventing the wheel every time a new idea comes into play, and gives us opportunities to modify and update ideas from decades before. A breed's history gives novice owners and first-time breeders something to guide them and, more importantly, it gives them something to think about. It allows those who have been at this a long time to ponder and reflect.



The Irish Setter is blessed with some well-preserved history, from very old volumes to current books on our breed, from our original breed video to the most up-to-date one, and onward to our fabulous pictorials, which appear twice a decade. From the catalogs of our national specialties to our Illustrated Standard, and on to judges' and breeders' education and health seminars, these materials remind us where we have been, chart where we are going, and expose the roadblocks that have appeared along the way.

It is the longtime club members, though, who have truly “been there, done that.” Those who have been intimately involved with the breed for the past 50 years or more hold history in their hands. Interviews should be conducted to record the thoughts, opinions, and stories of those who have seen the direction this breed has taken over the last half century. They represent a legacy that can not be replaced. There is no doubt in my mind that if you asked two or three breeders of significance from the 1940s and '50s about their

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experiences during those decades you would get wonderful, educational, and extremely varied stories. I encourage all of you talk to longtime breeders, and really listen to them: They are living references. If you're really clever, you'll take a tape recorder with you and get it all down for posterity. While you're at it, think what will be written in the history books about you and your journey with this breed! (*Karolynne McAteer, 2005*)

[Irish Setter Club of America](#)

Clumber Spaniels

QUOTABLE QUOTES – PART ONE

When editing Clumber Talk! Half Century of Clumber Spaniel Columns: 1969–2019, consisting of 221 AKC GAZETTE Clumber columns by 10 columnists and 41 guest columnists, there often occurred blank spaces between columns. Accordingly highlighted were “quotable quotes,” some of which are regroupped here.

- One cannot take a Clumber anywhere without: “What kind of dog is that?”
- Ninety-five percent think it's a Cocker; the remaining five percent know it's a Springer.
- “A Cumberland Spaniel?”
- The Clumber Spaniel was one of only nine breeds first recognized by AKC—thus no breed recognized longer.
- Clumbers are affectionate, happy clowns,



Clumber Spaniel: “What kind of dog is that?”

so anxious to please, asking for nothing more than your love.

- A Clumber can't get enough petting ... and keeps on nuzzling for more.
- The Clumber is just the right size—not too big and not too small—“a living hug.”
- A Clumber is a people dog and likes to be around its folks.
- Clumbers do not take well to being kennelled.
- Once a day let him know he is what really counts, and he will savor this thought the

remainder of the day.

- The girl Clumbers love us dearly, but with the boys it's total devotion.
- Like potato chips, once you have a Clumber you can't have just one!
- Most dangerous Clumber feature: lifelong addiction to humans.
- Clumbers shed only twice a year: January through June, July through December.
- Ears: thick leather, for protection against unwanted commands.
- Clumber roll: Reportedly first developed

by an early breeder who frequented burlesque shows.

- At the dog park a little boy asked me how to tell a boy Clumber from a girl Clumber. “Easy,” I said. “Boy Clumbers have a blue collar, girl Clumbers a pink collar.” And then I called over Mason and Chloe. He was satisfied.
- Prospective Clumber breeders must be aware of the financial, emotional, and physical resources needed—but raising happy, healthy pups is an unparalleled joy.
- A small gene pool presents difficulties for breeders.
- The four basic tests: PDP1, Caer eye test, hip, and elbow.
- Built-in rareness: Difficult to mate, difficult to whelp.
- In the first 72 hours: Tails docked, dew-claws removed.
- Important to cuddle and fondle the pups two or three times a day.
- Don't show new litter to visitors too soon: possible viruses.
- Choose your buyers carefully: These little bundles of joy you helped bring into the world have only you to count on.
- You're responsible—cradle to grave—for the puppies you produce.
- Clumbers are very stoic, so relying on signs of pain or suffering usually not helpful.

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- Clumbers are the eighth-highest breed for hip dysplasia.
- The OFA rated Clumber hips as 2.7 percent excellent, 36.7 percent good, 14.4 percent fair.
- When PDP1 test first developed, 25 percent of U.S. Clumbers were carriers.
- You can help prevent your Clumber from suffering disk problems by restricting its jumping.
- Unnecessary jumps from high places should be avoided whenever possible—for example, from the tailgate of a station wagon or out the back of a van.
- Least serious Clumber health problem: insomnia!
- Feeling abandoned at a veterinarian's cannot strengthen the will to live.
- Tail-docking is in no way for cosmetic effect.
- An undocked tail, when hunting in dense underbrush, results in bloody injuries from thorns, barbs, and briars.
- An undocked tail and dewclaws are a handicap in the field; “whiskers” (properly called *vibrissae*) are a defense.
- CSCA booklet: “Docked tail needed to protect dog working heavy cover.”
- Spaniel Club of France: “Undocked tail is downright cruelty.”
- Docked or undocked, tail moves in rapid

circular fashion—especially at dinnertime!

- How did a dog differing so considerably from other spaniels originate? Further DNA studies needed.
- White spaniels from France to England? We finally know, thanks to a long-forgotten but reliable 1807 article.
- Clumbers perpetuated due to a fortuitous gift to a visiting English nobleman.
- Totally ludicrous: any claims these spaniels came as a result of the French Revolution.
- William Mansell: thirty years of breeding unmixed these spaniels.
- The four Spaniels in Francis Wheatley's 1788 painting *Return from Shooting* differ little from today's Clumbers.
- The color most evident in almost all old paintings is white and orange (or mahogany!), not white and lemon.
- To be more accurate, Clumber coat is cream, not white; look at one in new-fallen snow.
- Clumbers first arrived on this continent in 1842, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- First Clumber club: England, 1904. First American club: 1972.
- Three generations of British royalty bred, hunted, and exhibited Clumber Spaniels: Queen Victoria's consort Prince Albert, their son King Edward VII, and their grandson King George V.

To ponder: Any other sport where opinion plays such a predominant role?

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

Cocker Spaniels

WHAT DOES COCKER SPANIEL GROOMING HAVE TO DO WITH THE STANDARD?

If you are someone who has long cared for, maintained, and groomed coats of Cocker Spaniels, especially those participating in the show ring, you have likely already realized the answer and connection between your everyday work and the Cocker Spaniel standard's provisions on coat.

In the section on “Head,” the standard says that the ears are “well feathered.” The “Coat” section says:

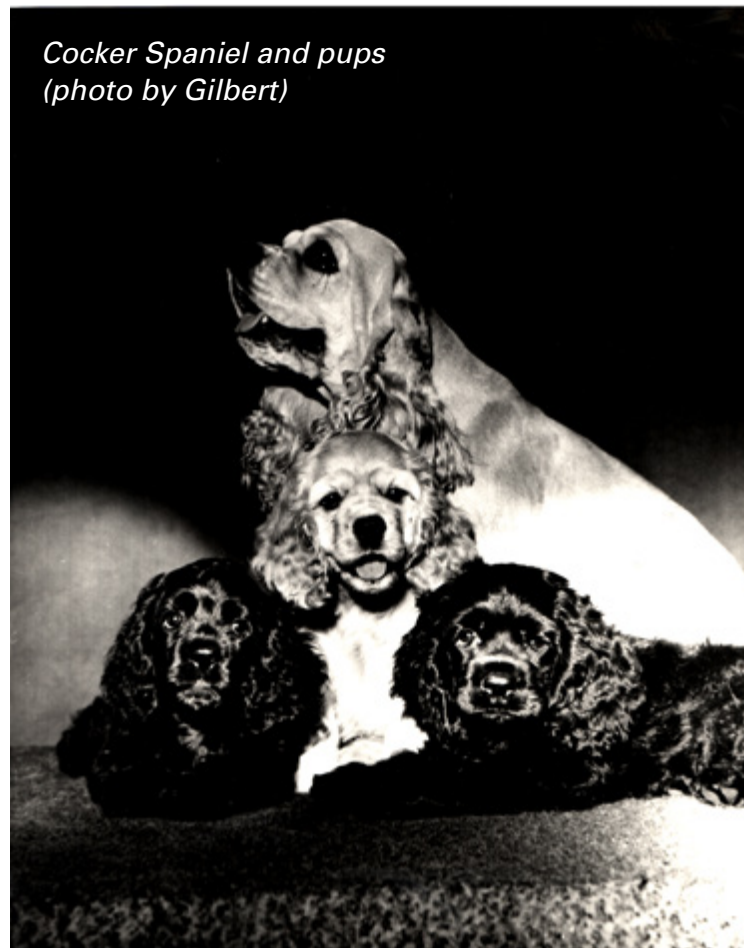
“On the head, short and fine; on the body, medium length with enough undercoating to give protection. The ears, chest, abdomen and legs are well feathered, but not so excessively as to hide the Cocker Spaniel's true lines and movement or affect his appearance and function as a moderately coated sporting dog. The texture is most important. The coat is silky, flat, or slightly wavy and of a texture that per-

mits easy care. Excessive coat or curly or cottony-textured coat shall be severely penalized. Use of electric clippers on the back coat is not desirable. Trimming to enhance the dog's true lines should be done to appear as natural as possible.”

Focus on these sentences for now: “The texture is most important ... Excessive coat or curly or cottony textured coat shall be severely penalized.”

These sentences should tell you that Cocker Spaniel breeders need to pay attention to the texture of coats on the dogs they are using in their breeding programs. Breeding Cockers who have faulty textured coats not only saddles the groomers of show dogs with many extra hours of maintenance and grooming, lifelong, but also imposes these extra burdens on owners of the companion Cockers they produce. Over the years I have observed lines, in particular lines of ASCOBs (but I am sure this problem exists in all varieties), where their cottony-textured coats pose a real maintenance problem. On the other hand, I have observed lines of Cockers who are heavy coated but have correct coat texture that makes them much easier and less time-consuming to maintain. Given the difference that bad versus good coat texture makes, conscientious breeders should do their best to consider this trait along with the other traits they select

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Cocker Spaniel and pups
(photo by Gilbert)

tangle-free and well groomed, and the skin healthy. Do not add to the burden by producing cottony or curly textured coats in contravention of the standard. A correct-textured Cocker coat conforming to the standard should help reduce matting as well as grooming time and effort, and increase the Cocker's comfort.

—Kristi L. Tukua

[American Spaniel Club](#)

English Springer Spaniels CORONA QUARANTINE

Springers excel at relaxation. What do you and your dogs do to relax and entertain yourselves during your stay-safely-at-home time? So often our days are divided into two activity columns: “should do” and “want to do.” During the past few months, most of us have had the opportunity for lots of “want to do” time, provided that activity could be done from home. Our dogs have been standing by, ready to fill our quarantine time with fun.

Many of us had to master new technology with video conferencing or holding classes and meetings on Zoom. Necessity dragged many of us into the computer media age. Virginia Huxley, of Quesst, explained, “My young one, Hetty, is getting to be demo dog for our online

‘Puppy and Pet Manners’ videos.” ([Columbia Canine Sports Center](#)).

Huxley also used the Corona down time for a kitchen remodel, with her dogs supervising “the remodeling, monitoring progress and surreptitiously moving the critically required tool.”

Springers excel working in the kitchen, Lauren Howard (Keswicke), is sure her Springer, Rolex, has a keen interest in kitchen design. “When Rolex relaxes at home on her bed, she likes to think about decorating. Countertops are much too high, and too many appliances require opposable thumbs. A toilet in the kitchen (no lid, please) for quick drinks would be a good thing. Dishwashers should be outlawed.”

Indoor relaxation often requires busy dogs settling down for a prolonged chew session. Spaniel boy Finch relaxes with his “best raw-hide bone, preferably something with a good-sized knot on one end.” His method? “Place it on the couch. Then, throw yourself upon it with gusto. A few minutes of this will have you feeling on top of the world!” Finch is the muse behind his mother, Elaine Fox’s very dog-friendly novels: *Bedtime For Bonsai*, *Guys and Dogs*, *Beware of Do(u)g*, and *Hello Doggy!* (all available from Amazon).

Some Springers have found that walks in the great outdoors are not enough. No show rings,

and no in-person training and visiting friends at classes. What is an active dog to do? JoEllen Schneider told me, “We turned our basement into a dog activity room. We pushed all the furniture against walls, and Chase and Ellah practice scent work with boxes. We hide treats and play ‘go find.’ The dog who is not having a turn working does a down-stay in their new rubber feed store 15-gallon stock tank. What an innovative find that makes for a comfy-to-curl-up-in nest.” (They found theirs at [Tractor Supply](#).)

Watching animals on television often captures dogs’ and owners’ attention in the evenings. Carleigh relaxes with her mom, Dr. Carol Rushing (Pullman). If human, Carleigh would “spend a lot of time at a spa, sleep in every single day, and watch lots of movies, especially movies with dogs. Carleigh gets on the treadmill with Mom and clocks about a quarter mile before she gets bored and jumps off.”

Carleigh also relaxes by daydreaming about her cat. “What would it be like to actually catch one of the cats? They are just so darn fast. I don’t want to hurt one, I just would like to know what it would be like to pick one up in my mouth: just for a second. Honest!”

Many Springers keep in touch with their fieldwork roots dreaming of open air and good, clean dirt beneath their paws. Skye

for in breeding stock.

The Cocker Spaniel is of course recognized as a breed that involves substantial maintenance and grooming of its coat. Breeders owe it to prospective people acquiring Cocker companions to educate them on the necessities of grooming. Why make things worse by not doing all that you can to select for correct coat texture in your breeding program? Cocker coats are work to keep them mat- and

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Clockwise, top left: Piper Magel-Ernst (Tri-ste's Auld Lang Syne, CGC, RN, TKN); Chase Schneider (Ch. Northgate's Tag You're It, CGC, DN, TKI, RN); Hetty Huxley (Quesst's Heart Rose of Gold, SBN, TKN); and Zeela (Mid Atlantic English Springer Rescue) and Tri-Ste's Velentine Vishnu I Will

and Piper, loved by Suzanne Magel-Ernst (Merritime), are spending their coronavirus home time outside. "This playtime is sometimes disguised as gardening work, while Piper and Skye assist and motivate by giving me tons of kisses! I'm working from home right now, and they enjoy 'sharing' lunch with me. They've both been more playful than usual, and I really like getting to be around them during the day."

Time spent with dogs abounds with ways to slow down and revel in the vast joy that dogs bring to our lives. Take this vow: *Every day I will find at least 15 minutes to be still with my dog's head on my lap.* Let a good dog show you how to relax.

—Sarah A. Ferrell,

saf@abrohamneal.com

English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association

Field Spaniels

THOUGHTS ON TEMPERAMENT

Sooner or later, we all get to discussion of a breed's temperament and what each standard says on the topic. To start with, let's think about the concept. *Temperament* is defined as a person's or animal's nature, especially as it permanently affects their behavior. Synonyms include *disposition*, *nature*, *character*,

personality, *makeup*, *constitution*, *mind*, and *spirit*.

This is the inherent quality we need to consider in our dogs when choosing breeding stock, making placement decisions, and observing appropriate training and activities for each individual. So temperament is not only a concept, but by the breed standard words to have in mind in creating an ideal image of what we are striving for as breeders.

I would be remiss if I did not quote the breed standard, so let's look at the Field Spaniel, keeping in mind it has been developed as a gentleman's hunting companion—a nice, medium-size dog of beauty and utility whom one could imagine meeting alongside their person.

"Temperament: Unusually docile, sensitive, fun-loving, independent and intelligent, with a great affinity for human companionship. They may be somewhat reserved in initial meetings. Any display of shyness, fear, or aggression is to be severely penalized."

Bear these words in mind as you handle and make choices with each dog based on that ideal.

I have always appreciated that Pat Hastings has stated in seminars that one can train behavior but not change temperament.

What is learned is not necessarily intrinsic. Inherent base temperament of an animal is not the same as what it has learned, gained

COURTESY OWNERS

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from experience and example, and also what it may be displaying given circumstances. As someone who not only trains and trials but also evaluates and has my own dogs evaluated, I consider carefully the differences between natural behavior but also what is socialized and trained. I encourage all Field folk to consider that there are not only puppy evaluations to observe but the nature and behavior of our dogs as adults in the big picture as well.

I thoroughly encourage learning from the American Temperament Testing Society process in which the dog's natural responses to stimuli are observed. When evaluating for a passing AKC CGC, there are elements of good temperament along with proper socialization and training being observed. Therapy-dog evaluation looks at temperament and training in an even different way (and should!) with regard to specific qualities, responses, and behaviors, with safety in mind for specific work. I bring this up to juxtapose differences between what is nature and what is nurture. It is all information to be considered in the big picture.

When we look at temperament in the Field Spaniel, we might also consider biddability, or ease of training. Particular individuals are more bold or soft and may be strongly suited for particular activities or less so as such. Owners and handlers are also to be consid-



Field Spaniel: "Unusually docile, sensitive, fun-loving, independent and intelligent ..."

ered in this equation as they are part of the team, though we should strive to work hard with variety in temperament and learn from our dogs. I personally choose to appreciate this aspect and have gained much from it as a trainer. There are so many ways to build drive and utilize techniques to play to a dog's strengths that we can really find great games to play and succeed in!

I do believe it is important to make wise placement and breeding decisions based around temperament so as to serve the breed appropriately and create best-case situations.

As fanciers, we know how important socializing our puppies is. We also see the big picture of age, hormones, experience, and exposure as we grow and train dogs. It is up to us to educate the uninitiated for future generations as we produce the best temperaments we can.

So, back to Mother Nature, as well as words and that standard ...

Every litter will have variety, and we can see that there is genetic inheritance in behavior, as well as environmental influence, for all in the animal kingdom. We also have plenty of great resources in grading litters, as far as noting outliers and middle-of-the-road responders, and we can utilize this knowledge in terms of puppy placements. We can have great influence through neurological stimulation and imprinting process early on with neonates and young

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pups, and adding appropriate variety and safe challenges as they age has proven to be very beneficial.

While we consider temperament, we should be striving for steady and sound minds. Sharpness is not becoming of a sporting breed around humans or other animals, and it is through selective breeding as well as careful exposure and educated rearing that we see well-balanced dogs. This is not to say individuals will not have their opinions, preferences, or particulars, but it is well within reach to produce sane companions.

Our standard notes aggression to be penalized, and this is to note as it applies whether the action is towards people or other dogs. We know that aggression defined is hostile or violent behavior or attitudes toward another; readiness to attack or confront. It is the action of attacking without provocation.

Also to be considered is fear, which can be a precursor to aggression (as in a fear-biting dog) or otherwise; it is for us to observe and understand. Finally, we must understand natural startle response, and how it is or is not overcome in the individual. A stimulus, such as a visual disturbance or another sensory stimuli, such as a sudden loud noise, may create response in animals (including humans!). It is how this startle is then recovered from or not that we need to be concerned about.

As always, a final note to cover in terms of temperament is that of health. In nature's balance we see change throughout age. Times of stress or imbalance will have tremendous effect on temperament and should be noted. It is not unheard of to see change with hormones or thyroid changes, post-whelp or amongst developmental periods. Aging also creates change and it is up to us to understand the physical and mental aspects and manage it in our dogs.

Like so many traits, temperament is multifaceted, not always as simple to understand as we'd like it to be, but ultimately one of incredible importance to our breed and dogdom as a whole.

—Shannon Rodgers,
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Field Spaniel Society of America

Irish Water Spaniels

Irish Water Spaniel breeder Colleen McDaniel wrote the following for this column in 2015, and the criteria and exercises detailed below to help fanciers practice their evaluation skills are worth revisiting.

EVALUATING DOGS IN THE RING

Developing an eye for assessing dogs is like any other skill: You need basic understanding of what you are looking at, and then you need

practice. The more you train your eye to look for variations, good and bad, the better you will become at evaluating a dog or group of dogs.

Start with reading the breed standard. The more you can familiarize yourself with what the “ideal” dog should look like, the more successful you will be when given the opportunity to apply the standard to a dog or group of dogs.

Following are four areas to focus on while evaluating, and exercises for each to help develop your skills.

1. Find the good points.

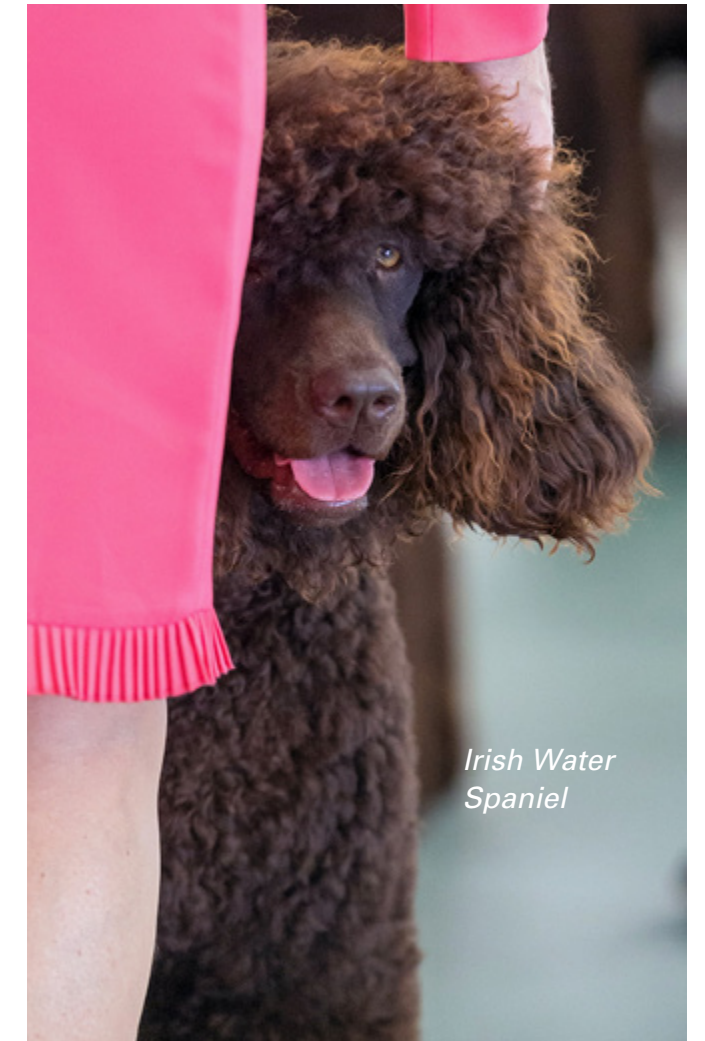
Start by looking for each dog's good points. As there is no such thing as a perfect dog, if you start by looking for faults, you will find them in any dog. It is more important to learn to find what is good in a dog as you then have that perspective.

Exercise: Pick a class at the show, and find two things about every dog in the class that you feel really is a good example of the breed standard. Place the dogs based on which dog has the strongest breed attributes. How did your placements line up with the actual placements?

2. Look at movement.

The standard is written with the intent that a dog so built can do the job it was bred to do. A good part of function is movement.

Exercise: Pick a class at the show, and study and compare the movement of the dogs in that class. Try to position yourself so you can



Irish Water
Spaniel

see the dog coming at you, moving away from you, and going around to evaluate side movement. What did you like about the movement? If there was something that did not appear to be right, can you identify why the dog moves the way it does? Do you feel that the dog could function at the task he was bred to do? Place the dogs based solely on movement.

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

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How did your placements line up with the actual placements?

3. Assess type.

To evaluate a dog, you must understand that *type* is a part of being that breed. It is what distinguishes the breed from other breeds. Part of that is knowing the size the standard calls for. Another part is understanding the silhouette or “outline” of the breed.

Exercise: Pick a class at the show, and see if you can guess the height and weight of the dogs in the class. Then rate the dogs on just their outlines, both standing and moving. Place them based solely on “type.” How did your placements line up with the actual placements?

4. Presentation.

Judges have a limited amount of time to make their decisions. Presentation of the dogs can and does have an impact on their decisions.

Exercise: Pick a class, and focus on how each dog is presented. That would include grooming and how well the dog is handled and presented to the judge. Is the dog ready when the judge looks? On the go-round, is the dog moving well during the window of time the judge is looking? If you were placing the dogs, would the overall presentation affect your final decision?

If you have placed the dogs using only one

of the above criteria, your placements may not line up with what actually happens in that class. That could be because all four areas must be considered for every class. Practice the pieces, with the goal of being skilled to apply all areas when evaluating an individual dog or a show class. —C.M.

[Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)

Sussex Spaniels

I would like to thank our guest contributor, John Robert Lewis, Jr., for this excellent column that follows. Bobby has been involved in the Sussex Spaniel breed for almost as long as I have and has not only bred and shown wonderful Sussex, but written a book on Sussex and done years of extensive pedigree research. He started in Sussex when he was so young that his father had to drive him to dog shows, as he was too young to get a driver's license! He has introduced many, many new people to the breed over the years, and the breed owes him a debt of gratitude. This column is a gem that all fanciers should keep and treasure. — Marcia Deugan

DELVING INTO BREED HISTORY

It would be a rare occurrence in any breed to have a significant pedigree discovery about a dog born more than a hundred years ago come to light. Still rarer would be that such a discovery involved a dog not registered with



Mrs. Bower's Sussex Spaniel "Agrivista Beta."
Photo : Fall



any kennel club. I was fortunate to have such a revelation on a summer's day last year.

I have been a breeder of Sussex Spaniels for 48 years, and during those years I have always had a fascination with pedigrees. While pedigrees of Sussex are my specific passion, I also enjoy delving into the histories of other



Clockwise, top left: Ch. Agrivista Beta, b. 1929; Ch. Bridford Giddie, b. 1888; Mrs. Youell and her Earlswood Sussex of the 1920s and early '30s (note how tall and off-type they were); and Ch. Bridford Mocky, b. 1897, grandson and great-grandson of Ch. Bridford Giddie.

rare breeds. What has struck me about Sussex Spaniels is the degree of completeness in the breeding record. All breeds have those “pedigree unknown” dogs that figure in their ancestries. Sussex Spaniels are no exception, but I do believe that there are significantly fewer of these dogs in the Sussex records than most

COURTESY JOHN ROBERT LEWIS, JR.

SPORTING GROUP

any other breed.

The majority of dogs of unknown pedigree in Sussex Spaniel lineage are found during a ten-year period after World War I. The Great War had a devastating effect on many breeds, but the war was particularly disastrous to Sussex. During the 1800s, and the first decade of the 20th century, individual registrations for the breed rarely surpassed the teens in number in the United Kingdom. While many breeds had supporters in the United States and elsewhere, the Sussex had none.

From 1906 until 1919, J.E. Kerr at Harviestoun Castle, near Tillicoultry, Scotland, and Campbell Newington, at Oakover, Ticehurst, Sussex, England, were the breed's only supporters. Just as Joy Freer had saved the Sussex Spaniel from extinction during World War II, these two men had preserved the breed during the First World War, and the decade preceding it.

Something went awry after the war. In comparing photographs of Sussex Spaniels prior to 1914 to those Sussex of the 1920s, the dogs bore little resemblance. The long, low, and massively built pre-war Sussex Spaniels disappeared. In their place sprung up dogs much higher on leg, much squarer in length, and lighter in build. What had happened? How could type have shifted so quickly in such a rare breed? I had suspected the reason for many

years, but had no conclusive proof until that summer's day last year.

In 1978, I had the honor of staying with Jack and Joy Freer at their Old Vicarage Farm in Harleston, Metfield, England. During the few days I spent with Joy, I tried to gather as much knowledge as I could. In the Sussex world, no one was held in higher esteem than she was. I did ask her why the dramatic change in breed type occurred after the war. She replied that the owners after the war simply decided that the best way to revive interest in the breed was to improve its hunting qualities. A decision was made to breed them up on leg. I suppose I should have asked how such a dramatic shift in type had been accomplished in so few years, but I didn't.

During the same visit to the Old Vicarage, I remember that Joy went to an old cabinet, rummaged around a bit, and brought out several old handwritten pedigrees. These pedigrees were not in her handwriting, and I never inquired who had set them to paper. I dutifully copied the information down on a college exam booklet that I had with me. At the time, I did not realize how significant the information was, since this was long before the days of the internet, and my pedigree research was just beginning. What these pedigrees contained was the lineage of several of unregistered dogs of the time. This information was

not available from any other source. Through these pedigrees, several different lines could be traced unbroken into the past. I still have those notes today. These pages along with all the hand-written letters that Joy Freer sent me are among my most treasured possessions.

One of Joy's old pedigrees set forth the lineage of a dog named Punch of Heanton. All present-day Sussex trace back to Punch through two of his offspring—Paxhill Buckle and Broadhurst Brora. He was the maternal grandsire of Joy Freer's foundation Sussex, Ch. Brosse. The pedigree listed Shot and Ruby as Punch's sire and dam.

Not being very adept at reading someone else's cursive handwriting, especially in dim light, as electricity had not yet come to the Old Vicarage, I made a scrivener's error when copying down the name of Shot's sire and dam. My notes have the sire as "Willington Tony" and the dam as "Willington Floss."

Over the years I had often wondered why Shot, being unregistered and of single name, would have two parents with an apparent kennel name. From time to time, I researched "Willington" in hopes of making a connection, but no information surfaced.

As with Shot's parents, I also had a problem deciphering Ruby's parentage. Her dam was clearly a bitch named Topsy. From what I could make out, her sire was a dog named "Denne

Orwith." At the time I wrote the information down, I was positive that "Denne" was correct, but I was so unsure of the name "Orwith," that I wrote a small question mark directly above the entry.

Again, I was struck that Ruby had a sire with an apparent kennel name. Early internet searches turned up nothing of consequence for "Denne." Several years ago, however, relevant information finally surfaced.

As it turned out, Mr. Charles Cyril St. Leonard (Bethune) Eversfield lived at Denne Park, Horsham, England, and had a large kennel of English Springer Spaniels. His breeding program was quite well known from the 1890s through to the beginning of the war, as he was very active in field trialing his Springers. Unfortunately, Mr. Eversfield committed suicide on December 28, 1914, and the Denne kennel came to an end. I still have not been able to determine whether I correctly wrote down the name "Orwith." That mystery is solvable, however, as Mr. Eversfield kept his own studbook, which is now in the possession of the Southern English Springer Spaniel Society. It should be relatively simple to determine whether he ever bred a dog named "Orwith." If none with that name appears in the Denne Studbook, then I made another scrivener's error. In any case, any dog carrying the Denne name was an English Springer Spaniel, and consequently, an English

SPORTING GROUP

Springer Spaniel was the sire of Ruby.

Last summer's revelation started with another internet search for "Denne." A website listing English Springer Spaniel kennels of the past turned up. In scrolling down the list of names, Denne appeared. Further down, I saw the kennel name Withington. I immediately made the connection. In writing down the pedigree information 41 years earlier, I had mistakenly read "Willington" for "Withington." Mr. J. Hulme of Lower Withington, Chelford, England, bred both English Springer Spaniels and Labrador Retrievers under the Withington prefix from the 1910s through to the 1930s. Further internet searches turned up specific information on Withington Floss, the dam of Shot. Floss was by Denne Druid (Kennel Club Stud Book number 0395P), out of a bitch named Biddy. Druid was a liver and white English Springer Spaniel, born on January 9, 1906. Druid's sire was the famous Dual Champion Velox Powder, and his dam was the equally famous FT Ch. Cannonite Powder, both being liver and white. I am hoping that once I can access The Kennel Club's records, information about Withington Tony will come to light.

With the name correction, my suspicions as to how Sussex type could have changed so radically in so short a time frame were con-

firmed. It is most likely that the other unregistered dogs that appear in post war Sussex pedigrees were some breed of spaniel, and most probably English Springer Spaniels. One thing is for certain: These unregistered dogs were not Sussex.

Starting in the same time period, the Field Spaniel that had so closely resembled the Sussex in outline prior to World War I regrettably underwent a complete breed type change through repeated documented outcrosses to the English Springer Spaniel. In the Sussex breed, outcrosses stopped around the mid 1920s. The same was not true for the Field Spaniel.

The damage caused by the Springer outcrosses had lasting consequences for the Sussex Spaniel. It would take the breed nearly 70 years to recover. Even though breeders for decades selected against the long, low, and massive characteristics which are the hallmark of the Sussex Spaniel, the genes that created the original breed characteristics survived. Restoration of the breed to its original type has been so successful in recent years that many of today's Sussex would be recognizable as such if transported back in time to the late 1890s. —John Robert Lewis, Jr. (©2020)

—Marcia Deugan,
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Sussex Spaniel Club of America

Welsh Springer Spaniels

WHAT'S A WELSH SPRINGER OWNER TO DO?

No dog shows on your horizon? No agility or obedience trials? Has your kennel club stopped holding group lessons? Welsh Springers are active and mentally alert. How do we keep them that way?

Luckily, most dog people can stay in touch via the magic of the digital age. We see what our friends are doing with their dogs and we adapt the best ideas for our own.

My dogs are spending more time outside because I'm able to take my laptop to the patio table and work from there. This has kept my three Welshies occupied with keeping the yard safe from squirrels, lizards, turtles, and black snakes (*EEK!*). Happily, we have yet to have an encounter with a snapping turtle this year, but plenty of painted turtles have been rescued via pooper-scooper and gently lifted over the fence line to go in peace and love other turtles.

All this additional time outside, especially since we haven't had much rain, means even this very active sporting breed is calmer and quieter in the evening. Sometimes they're so quiet that I have to check to make sure they haven't snuck off to do something bad. Every dog owner knows how suspicious complete silence is when you

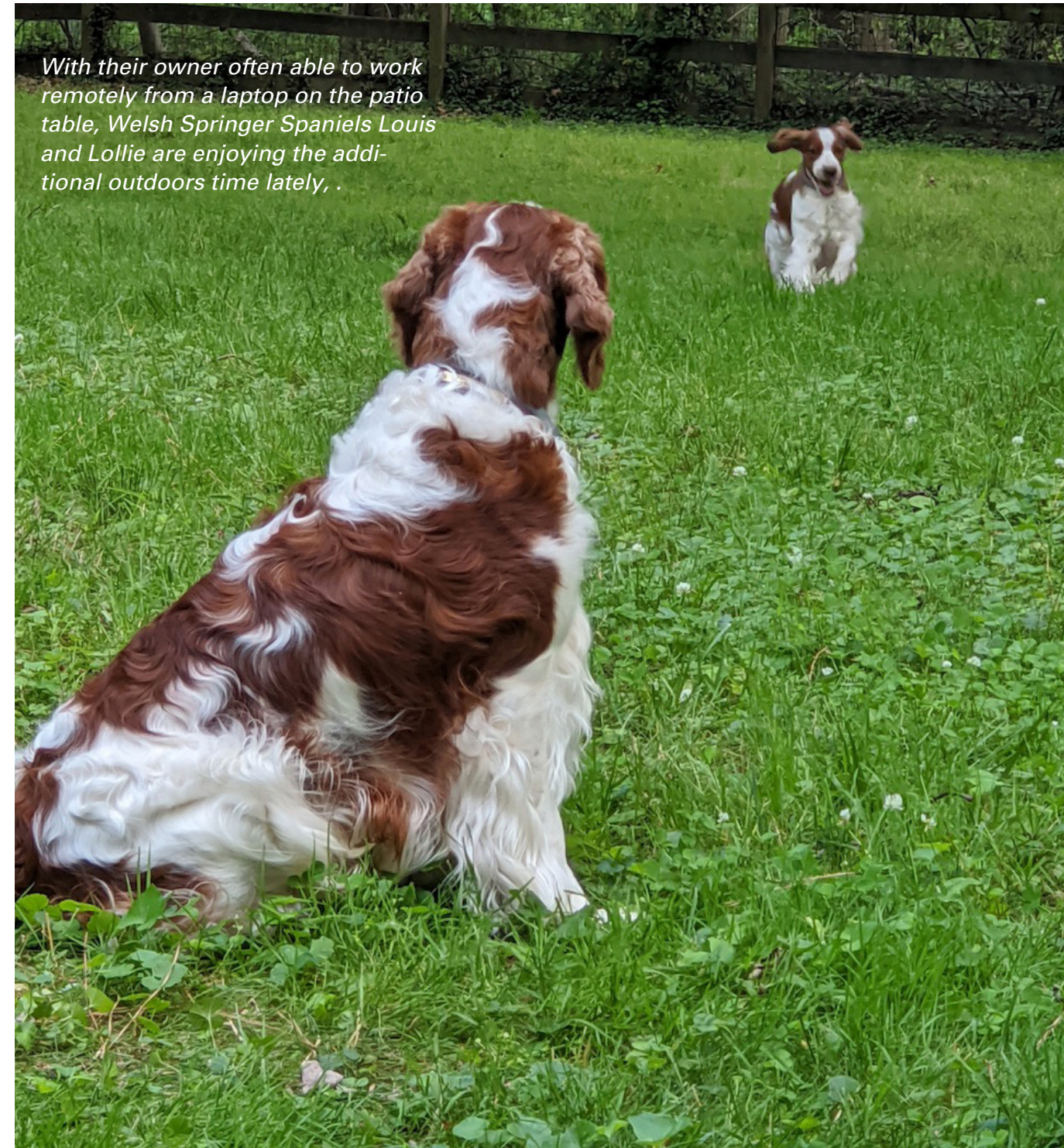
own multiple dogs! A quick peek around the sitting room, however, usually finds each of them, flat on their backs in typical Welshie sleeping style.

On rainy days, which have been seldom in the mid-Atlantic this year, I have to be more creative to keep the dogs content. I pulled an old dog puzzle off the shelf in the garage and loaded it with high-value treats. The younger dogs can be entertained for quite a while with one of those. My oldest, Mamie, looks at me with disdain and settles down under the kitchen table for a nap instead. More treats for the young dogs.

Welsh Springer people have been putting Trick Dog titles on their dogs via video. Grooming sessions have been held via Facebook Live. We even had a virtual dog show! Welshie owners are just as versatile as our dogs. And, of course, this has also been an opportunity to breed our bitches who might have been on show circuit instead. Given the number of puppy inquiries we've all had, there seem to be more families looking for companion dogs.

At this writing we are anticipating an actual dog show in Pennsylvania. That's likely to draw a robust Welsh Springer entry. Meanwhile, we'll keep engaging our dogs' brains and enjoying all this time with them.

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With their owner often able to work remotely from a laptop on the patio table, Welsh Springer Spaniels Louis and Lollie are enjoying the additional outdoors time lately, .

—Wendy J. Jordan,
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Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

Spinoni Italiani

NOT YOUR GENERIC SPORTING DOG

When people in other sporting breeds ask me to tell them about the Spinone Italiano, I usually say, “Well, think about what is correct for your breed. That’s all wrong for the Spinone!” I’m only half joking when I say this. The Spinone has several distinct features that set it apart from other sporting breeds. Too often, judges seem to judge our breed as if it were a pointer, a setter, or a retriever. These “generic sporting dogs” then finish their championships and advance to the group, and are assumed to be correct specimens of the breed. What should judges be looking for in a Spinone? What are the important features that make up Spinone type?

The most obvious difference between the Spinone and other sporting breeds is the topline. A level topline is a severe fault in this breed. A sloping topline is even worse than a level one. The Spinone topline slopes down slightly from the withers and must have a break approximately six inches behind the withers, after which there is a gradual rise to a rounded croup. What looks like a swayback to some is a spine that gives the Spinone its flexi-

bility to move and hunt with its head held up.

Head planes are another very important feature in this breed. The Spinone has a distinct profile. The AKC standard states: “The planes of the skull and muzzle are diverging, downfaced.” This means that the line from the nose to the eye slopes downward from the line from the brow to the occiput, with a barely perceptible stop. Parallel planes, like those of a setter or pointer, are very bad! Or, as the standard puts it, “Convergence of planes of the skull and muzzle or a dish-faced muzzle is to be faulted so severely as to eliminate from further competition.” Although the ears are set low like a setter’s, a Spinone with a setter or Pointer head is not a Spinone.

The Spinone is a square, solid dog. Look at the other pointing breeds, and you’ll find that a tuck-up is apparent. A Spinone should have minimal tuck-up. The chest is deep, extending at least to the elbow, and the underline of the abdomen should be as level as possible with that of the chest. Spinoni are not leggy or lanky; the length of leg from the ground to the elbow should equal the distance from the elbow to the withers.

The gait of the Spinone is loose, relaxed, and not too fast. These are not flashy dogs! They are built to work close and to have the endurance to work all day. As for “generic” tail carriage, most sporting dogs carry their

COURTESY WENDY JORDAN

SPORTING GROUP

tails horizontally or above the horizontal. A Spinone tail carried horizontally is fine, and just as acceptable is carrying the tail down. Not desired is a tail carried above the level of the back. Neither the Spinone's easygoing attitude nor a tail carried down should be penalized for lack of showiness.

Yes, Spinoni are unlike other sporting breeds—but that's why we love them! (*Jan Naigus, 2003*)

[Spinone Club of America](#)

Vizslas

DOG TRICKS AND THERAPY VISITS

The AKC's Trick Dog program debuted in 2017. I confess I didn't pay much attention to it until 2019, when the Vizsla Club of America offered AKC Trick Dog testing for the first time at our national specialty and companion events. It sounded like fun, so I entered Layla and Allie. Fun is exactly what it was, with lots of laughter and applause among the handlers, the evaluator, and the spectators. Layla and Allie were among the dogs who earned Trick Dog Novice titles that day.

Later in 2019, Layla and I took a therapy dog test. I wasn't sure we were ready, but we passed, and after processing some paperwork, we were officially a therapy dog team. This meant it was time to learn more about what is involved in



therapy visits.

There's a real connection between tricks and therapy. Dog tricks can be an important element in making visits fun for both the dog and the clients being visited—but there's more to it than that.

These activities involve a training relationship, and dogs thrive on the positive training that

qualifies them for therapy visits. Vizslas can excel at the human interactions of therapy dog work, and they typically love training with their owners. Both dog and handler benefit as the training relationship grows.

Multiple organizations offer therapy dog certification and registration for activities such as hospital and assisted-living visits, reading programs

for kids, hospice programs, and more. The three major registries are Pet Partners (formerly Delta Society), Therapy Dogs International, and Alliance of Therapy Dogs. Each registry has its own rules, policies, and procedures, and it's a good idea to visit the websites for each before pursuing testing and certification, to see which may be the best fit for you and your dog. Some hospitals, schools, libraries, and other facilities require that their therapy teams be certified by a specific registry.

Since its introduction three years ago, the AKC's Trick Dog title program has been growing in popularity. Another organization, Do More With Your Dog (DMWYD), also offers a wide range of trick and stunt dog titles, and these titles can be recognized by AKC. For more information, click [here](#).

Connie Priesz of Shakopee, Minnesota, has been combining therapy dog and trick dog activities in a big way with her Vizslas, Molly and Kimber. Molly, at age 10, has made therapy visits reaching more than 15,000 people at Veterans Administration facilities, libraries, nursing homes, and more; 2-year-old Kimber is just getting started on her therapy career. Both dogs have earned the Elite Performer title in AKC's Trick Dog program, plus additional trick, stunt, and canine conditioning titles through DMWYD.

As an evaluator for AKC's Canine Good

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY

SPORTING GROUP

Citizen and Trick Dog programs, an evaluator for Pet Partners to register therapy dog teams, and a Certified Trick Dog Instructor with DMWYD, Connie has been involved with many dog-and-handler teams. She believes nearly every aspect of dog training is about having fun. There isn't necessarily a clear line between tricks and commands, and in a therapy dog visit they can all be part of the dog's repertoire. *Sit, down, come, and fetch* are naturally part of the interaction with clients. The Settle command, which is one of the first things many owners teach each new puppy, is valuable in helping the dog know when it's time to chill. Many tricks/commands help expand the ways clients can interact with a visiting dog; for example, a "go visit" command encourages the dog to approach clients.

Connie noted several specific commands/tricks that many Vizslas seem to enjoy, and these are things that many clients find especially engaging:

- the "shell game," in which the dog finds a scented item under one of several flowerpots
- jumping through a hula hoop
- anything involving the Fetch command
- tapping a battery-operated light to turn it on and off

In a time of significant restrictions on in-person visits due to the coronavirus pandemic, tricks have become especially useful as therapy

teams adapt to doing "window visits" or virtual visits at nursing homes and other facilities. Tricks can entertain and engage even when close contact is not an option.

Connie pointed out an additional benefit of doing therapy dog visits. The dog and handler are frequently practicing behaviors in a variety of locations and conditions. This can help improve the dog's reliability and confidence, and it helps maintain the repertoire of commands. This is especially valuable for owners who are preparing to earn titles in obedience, rally and Trick Dog activities.

—Beth Nash,
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Vizsla Club of America

Weimaraners

SIGN ON THE DOTTED LINE

The phone rings, and the caller ID shows me that it's a friend whom I know is actively looking for a puppy. For decades she has had one purebred dog in her household, and she has gotten her last three generations from the same breeder. I also know that her breeder is no longer actively breeding, and my friend's search for a puppy has taken her into uncharted waters.

Hoping for news that she's found the litter of her dreams, I pick up the call, and from the tone of her voice I know that things are not



COURTESY REE SMYTH

SPORTING GROUP

going smoothly. Yes, she's located a respected breeder, there's a litter "on the ground" and her initial conversation with the breeder was very positive. What could be wrong?

"She wants me to sign a contract. What's that all about?" For my friend, getting a dog had always been a transaction between friends, and no sales contract was involved. She asks, is it "normal" to have a contract?

I explain that a contract was not unusual, and that it serves many purposes for both the buyer and the seller. My opening explanation opens a floodgate of questions. The business-like nature of a contract seems to rub my friend the wrong way. There's a subtle annoyance with the formality of the transaction, and an unstated question as to why the seller just doesn't trust that the dog will be getting a good home.

After my initial surprise about the reaction to signing a contract, I try to explain how it can be beneficial for both the breeder and the buyer.

First, it is a bill of sale. Would you make a substantial purchase and not want a receipt? The name, registration, parentage, price, and date of sale should be listed on the contract.

Secondly, it is an opportunity for the breeder to lay out their expectations and advice for the wellbeing of the dog. It is an opportunity for the buyer to know the specifics of what they signing up for when they buy a dog from this

breeder. Does the contract have reasonable stipulations for both buyer and seller?

Mutual review of the sales contract gives an opportunity to discuss things that might not have occurred to the buyer or might be assumed by the seller. Contracts contain subjects rarely addressed in regular conversation. Is this dog being sold as a pet, or a show prospect? If there is a possible show career in the future, who decides if, when, or by whom the dog will be shown? What about eventually breeding the dog? What health screening should be done before even considering breeding? Is there a requirement to spay or neuter the dog, and if so, at what age? Does the breeder get to dictate vaccination protocols? Should the puppy get checked over by a vet shortly after the sale? Are there any health guarantees being given by the breeder? What about the disposition of the dog if the buyer no longer wants or is able to keep it?

Yes, there are a lot of "sticky" questions, and ones that could be uncomfortable to raise in the course of casual conversation. A contract lets both the buyer and seller clear the air on these subjects and hopefully come to good, solid mutual agreement that is beneficial to all the parties.

—Carole Lee Richards,
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Weimaraner Club of America

WORKING GROUP

Alaskan Malamutes

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

It's finally summer, time to get outside and be with friends again, and with the gradual, cadenced transition to our cherished dog activities, to finally resume event planning! Along with lifting our spirits, it's time to enjoy a favorite topic: choosing the perfect registered name for that promising puppy—a name which, we hope, will evoke each of our bloodlines, be reflected in records and pedigrees for years to come, and indeed become part of Alaskan Malamute breed history.

In this spirit, I asked several of our most accomplished and highly-regarded AMCA breeder-members to contribute their approaches to selecting those all-important registered names, and they responded with marvelous and generous enthusiasm. I've grouped their processes into several approaches:

- Themes, generally used for the whole litter;
- Symbolism, capturing the heritage and unique qualities of our breed;
- The alphabet, with the name of each litter beginning with each successive letter;
- Generations, in which an important key word is used in the registered name of one or more outstanding individuals descended from an important foundation sire or dam; and
- Creative constraints, recalling the days

of maximum letters allowed in the AKC-registered name, and how breeders used creative spelling and other devices to work within those limits.

These personal journeys span many years, several generations of important breeding programs, ideas captured in journals, and themes inspired by the spirit of current events and the ever-evolving culture of our times. Often, too, the process of choosing one's kennel name is interwoven into each story. So let's enjoy this very personal glimpse and be inspired!

Themes

Themes are a favorite of Patty Ann and Tex Peel, SnoKlassic. Songs of major rock bands such as Bob Seger have inspired names like Ch. Sno Klassic Night Moves, Ch. Sno Klassic Turn the Page, and Sno Klassic Against the Wind. In another mode, the sport of basketball-inspired Ch. Sno Klassic Above the Rim (call name AJ) and Ch. SnoKlassic in Your Face (Barkley). Their kennel name, SnoKlassic, combines our breed's snowy origins with Patty's hobby of collecting Coca-Cola memorabilia, and so, with a nod to Classic Coke, SnoKlassic dogs are an outstanding presence in our breed.

Michele Coburn, Peace River, traditionally opted not to use litter themes, but finally, with Diva, Ch. Peace River's Bling It On,

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Left to right: Calvin, Ch. Taolan Traces of the Cat; Vader, Ch. Onak N Double T's Darth Vader, and owner Michelle Higgins Talalay accompany breeder Wendy Corr on their hikes; Wendy Corr negotiates a rocky trail with the help of Samantha, Ch. Onan N Onak's California Sun, and Rey, GCh.S Onak N Double T's The Way of the Force.

CGC, she relented and asked her owners to try to incorporate her love of baking goodies for friends and family, and so we have some of the cutest names ever: Peace River's Baked to Perfection (Mary Jane) and Peace River's Everything's Better With Butter (John). But the best name of all is a brainstorm that awakened Michele in the middle of the night, for a precious long-coat girl in the litter, Olivia Jane: Peace River's Puff Pastry.

Symbolism

In addition to their leading presence in the breed ring, Wendy and Randy Corr, Onak Alaskan Malamutes, are one of AMCA's most active members in AKC obedience and agility, and in AMCA's working events of weight-pulling and backpacking. Generations of Onak champions have also earned UD's. Obedience, MACH Agility, WPDx, WWPD, and Therapy Dog titles.

The Corrs work hard to maintain the work-



ing ability of their bloodline, built on a foundation of solid temperament, sound structure, and genetic screening. Starting at about one year of age, and carrying a lightweight pack at first and as they mature, a regulation-weight pack, Onak dogs are backpacking up in the Trinity Alps near Weaverville, California. Wendy carefully observes how each dog reacts to natural barriers—swift rivers and fallen trees blocking the trail, and finding the safest path when the area is covered with snow due



to an avalanche.

Wendy depends on her dogs to keep her safe, and so testing them to ensure they can do what they were meant to do enables her to keep these vital breed traits strong in her bloodline. As a result, Wendy's theme conveys the symbolism of succeeding "Against the Odds"—resulting in such names as Ch. Onak's The Girl on Fire, RN, NA (Katniss), and GCh.S Onak's and Double T's The Way of the Force (Rey).

COURTESY MICHELLE HIGGINS TALALAY, RON POHL, AND WENDY CORR

WORKING GROUP

The Alphabet

Sharon and Larry Kalous, Wintuk Alaskan Malamutes, follow the alphabet. Starting with their first litter, they have found this is a good way to keep track of their litters, and a handy reference when discussing each dog with clients and friends years later: As Sharon says, a mention of a puppy from the “C” litter prompts a quick look back in her breeding records and instantly leads her to the complete record of the litter and the individual puppy.

Sharon also describes the enjoyment and involvement of each person or family awaiting a puppy as they explore the search for the perfect AKC-registered name. She and Larry have found that companion homes can be quite creative in working with the letter of the alphabet to choose the puppy’s registered name, and always reassured owners that the puppy’s call name could be their own choice, beginning with any letter at all.

For their own show prospects, they often took the process a step further and tied the call name into the dog’s registered name. Thus, from the “G” litter, Ch. Wintuk’s Graystone Taconite carried the call name Steele, and the “P” litter gave them Ch. Wintuk’s Positive Traction, call name Posi. Through the years, this approach has brought fun to all involved with each litter, as of course when everyone is involved it brings a special meaning and pride

to the individual or family getting the puppy.

Generations

Barbara Lichota, Northpaw, has focused her creative approach to make sure the registered name of each puppy reflects that of the dog’s sire or dam. Thus, her Northpaw’s Moonstruck Mika reflects the name of her sire, Ch. Mushateer’s Lewis Moon.

Barb also stresses the importance of the appeal of the registered name, as it appears on paper, and in show catalogs, and it should have presence and strength when pronounced. Barb often used alliteration—for example, the repeated use of “M” in Mika’s name, to add interest and rhythm.

Ron Pohl and Laurie Newburn, Taolan, began a tradition with their first litter in 1982 that has continued down to the present, and built from an initial theme into a true generational presence: Cat, a symbolic name familiar to all in our breed, and beginning with Ch. Taolan Arctic Cat (Hobbes), is a name that has soared on through the decades.

Their first litter produced Ch. Taolan Flying Colours, Ch. Taolan Fancy Colours, and Ch. Taolan Frostflyer, who became the grand-sire of Calvin, Ch. Taolan Traces of the Cat. Calvin went on to become one of our breed’s most successful sires, and now we see new generations, such as Ch. Taolan One Bad Cat

(Hemi) carrying on the tradition. And another Taolan generational tradition, “Flying,” has come down the same generations, and reflecting the ownership of Alisa Syar and Michael Stone, Silverice, carries this meaningful prefix in a new form, as Ch. TaolanQuest Flying Cloud.

Creative Constraints

Michele Coburn, Peace River, recalls the days when choosing that all-important AKC-registered name was limited to 25 letters within a total of 28 actual spaces. (I recall those days too, as for years, the names in my journal always carried a word count and a note such as “25/28: Yes!”)

Michele relates how, 12 years ago, her Ch. Peace River’s She’s All That (Emily) produced a lovely litter with an exceptional puppy bitch, Michele’s pick. Michele had saved a special name for many years, and after trying every approach to abbreviating it, she went online to use AKC’s just-launched online registration system. To her surprise and delight, Michele discovered that for just an additional \$10, she could add ten more letters, and so Chrissy, Ch. Peace River’s All That and a Bag of Chips, went on to earn a winning presence in our breed.

And Finally...

Gay Hisatake, AKC breeder-judge, recalls that she has actually had three kennel names over the years, which evolved in harmony with her life. She emphasized, however, she always connected the dog’s registered name to his or her call name.

Following her early years in her Manhattan co-op, Hudson View Gardens, with her first Malamute, Ch. Kajo’s Balto of Hudson View (her first kennel name), Gay moved to the bucolic Cupsaw Lake region in New Jersey, and so her Cupsaw Mountain bloodline name began, and produced Ch. Cupsaw Mtn’s I’m Good Tu and Ch. Cupsaw Mtn’s Lookin’ Good Tu (evoking the name of her sire, Am./Can. Ch. Shamrock’s Kotze Tu B Good), as well as Ch. Cupsaw Mtn’s On a Roll (Dice), and Ch. Cupsaw Mtn’s Four Wheel Drive (Bronco).

The 1980s saw a move to Hawaii, and so Gay adopted the original spelling of Hawaii: Owyhee, and in due course, she bred Ch. Owyhee’s Ice Coal (Coal), Ch. Owyhee’s Wind Beneath My Wings (Cloud), Ch. Owyhee’s Dancin’ in a Grass Skirt (Hula), Ch. Owyhee’s Hawaiian Holiday (Mai Tai), Ch. Owyhee’s Hot Stuff (Lava), and Ch. Owyhee’s Monday Night Football (Tackle), with several more fine youngsters carrying on the tradition today.

Sincere thanks to all of these wonderful

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AMCA breeder-members who contributed such creative and historic decisions in order to make each and every name come alive with meaning and presence in our breed.

—Phyllis I. Hamilton,

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Alaskan Malamute Club of America

Anatolian Shepherds

Our guest columnist for this issue is Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America president E.J. Collins.

THOUGHTS ON THE NATIONAL SPECIALTY

In October 2019 the ASDCA held its national specialty. This was a first for the Anatolians to be heading to Boise, Idaho. A welcoming kennel club hosted us with great weather, great sights, and a fantastic venue. Our national specialty locations rotate yearly, West, Central, and East and this was the first to be in the upper West, so to speak. We rotate our locations to have the ability for all members, fanciers, and Anatolians to maybe be within reach of attending at least every third year.

Why is this a concern for us? As a small-entry breed, and a small-numbers breed, we want to make sure we try to reach all who



might want to attend. And why is attending a national important?

The national specialty is usually where you will see the biggest entry of the breed. In addition, non-regular classes that are offered give the opportunity to bring in veterans, puppies, extended generations, and more. While the regular conformation classes show off what is out there, these non-regular classes offer a better look into longevity of lines, what progeny look like, and what traits are being passed on

from generations. This is a place for breeders to see how not only their own breeding program is doing, but the programs of others as well, and maybe to find a breeding partner for their Anatolian. This is a place where a photograph now speaks a thousand words.

In terms of a judge's perspective on attending the national, this event provides the opportunity to see many examples of the breed—and in our low-entry breed, more than they will see in their rings at regular all-

breed shows. Judges' education seminars, the chance to evaluate major entries, and ringside mentoring are among the learning opportunities a national offers. Judges get to put their hands on many individuals of the breed and evaluate puppies to veterans.

In terms of attending the national as an individual fancier, this is a place where one can see old friends and make new ones. If you attend with a dog, there is the opportunity to compete with a bigger entry. It is a place where newcomers to showing can learn from more experienced owners and exhibitors. And it is a place where friendships can start. To possibly earn a championship during the weekend, or even a Best in Specialty Show win. Bragging rights for the year, and your name in history on the perpetual trophies. But that is not all.

Whether you enter a dog or attend as a spectator only, there are many reasons to be a part of the national. This is where the club's year-end celebrations are held and recognitions are presented, during our annual banquet. Throughout the year the club serves the breed in many ways, and this is where you can show your appreciation. At the specialty you have the chance to meet other club members face to face, and to learn what more the parent club can do for the breed and its members. Our annual general membership meeting is

COURTESY JO LYNNE YORK

WORKING GROUP

held during this weekend, and this is the time to hear about the committees and their work throughout the year. It is where concerns can be voiced and discussed and resolved in one conversation. At the national your voice can be influential regarding what direction you think the breed is going.

Finally—as was the case this year, with the national held in Idaho for the first time—sightseeing is fun! What better excuse to plan that trip, and not only attend the national specialty but see the sights and explore this great country? —Ed Collins, Edcollins.mail@gmail.com

Thank you, Ed.

—Jo Lynne York,
eboracum9@yahoo.com

[Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America](#)

Bernese Mountain Dogs

PRUDENT PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Our lives have rapidly changed since the coronavirus, or COVID-19, invaded our world. What do you do when concerned about the future? An uncertain future that has many issues far beyond our ability to control. When the present is spinning out of control, I organize, clean, and plan. It brings peace to my surroundings and to my mind.

As I contemplate what I can do, I remem-



Bernese
Mountain
Dog

bered an adage my dad quoted: “Plan for the worst, hope for the best, take what comes.” I was thinking about the worst and realized that we did not have a current will. The last time we updated the will was to change the guardians for the children. Since they are now in their 30s, that document is woefully out of date. I needed a plan for protecting my dogs. I have started putting together an “In Case of Emergency” file. Yes, I am old-school—it is a

paper and pen file. There are two phases for the file: what happens if I am unable to handle decisions, and what happens after I die.

Consultation with a lawyer may be necessary for your circumstances. Estate-planning documents on the internet can list details and ideas for wills. There are two kinds of wills: a last will and testament, and an ethical will. The last will and testament divides property for friends and family. Ethical wills bequeath

words to live by, memories, spiritual values, and blessings for the family’s future. Some methods used are a video, journal, diary, or letter. My Berner memorabilia is included in my ethical will. I have instructed my kids that they can have any of them if they want, and the rest is to be donated to the health auction held each year at the specialty.

Another priority for me is to create directives that will ensure that my Berners have blood and tissue samples sent to the Michigan State repository when they die. Contributions can be valuable to research and the next generations of our beloved Berners. For details on how to do this, visit bernergarde.org.

Perhaps this thought process is too overwhelming. If so, consider doing it piece by piece. You can slowly construct an “In Case of Emergency” file. List the most important aspects, and check one off each week. With the necessary cancellations of dog shows and trials, we have a bit more time on our hands. Planning and preparation now will make your executor’s and your dogs’ lives a little easier when you aren’t there. From personal experience, I know the relief this can bring for the executor.

General items to consider for your file:

A signed advance directive

—durable power of attorney, and a health care power of attorney

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Wills:

- an ethical will
- a will and living trust, naming your executor

Names, address, and telephone numbers of healthcare professionals

Medications (remember to include dosages, name and contact information for prescribing physicians, and pharmacy address and telephone)

Addresses and phone numbers of hospitals of choice

Medicare/Medicaid numbers, and case-worker contact information

Passwords, important websites, and other vital digital information

Certificates

- birth, adoption, marriage, citizenship records

Military records

Divorce/separation papers

Social security numbers/cards

Passports

Driver's licenses

Income sources (retirement and/or disability benefits, Social Security, etc.)

Financial assets (institution names, account numbers, address/telephone, form of ownership, current value)

Real estate (property addresses, location of deeds, form of ownership, and current value)

Other assets: list of automobiles, boats, inheritances, precious gems, collectibles, household items, any valuables/items hidden or in storage, and any loans to family members or friends

Liabilities (creditor institutions) of mortgages, personal loans, credit cards, notes, IOUs, and other.

This list is not exhaustive, there are many other details (and a lawyer) that some may need to include. This is to help you evaluate—and to “plan for the worst, hope for the best, and take what comes.”

Hoping to see you at the next dog show. Until then, happy training!

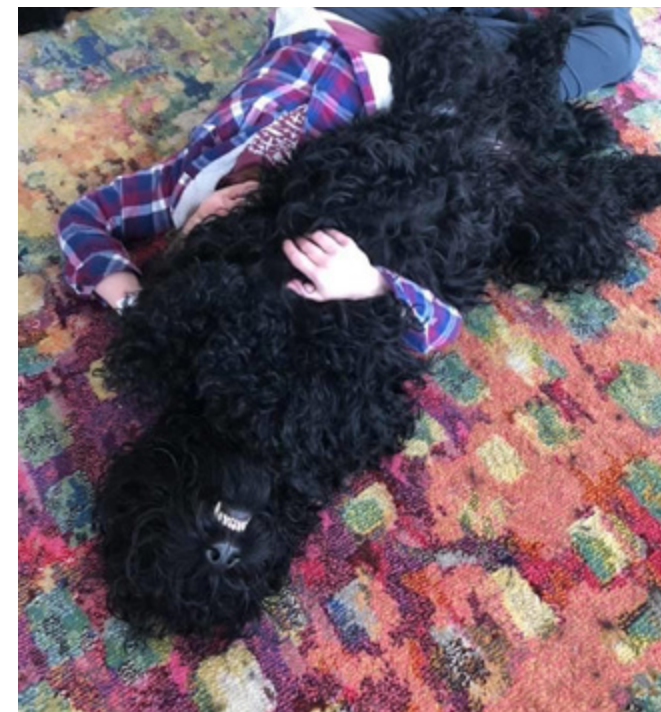
—Marjorie Geiger,
marggeiger@yahoo.com
 Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America

Black Russian Terriers

MEET THE BLACK RUSSIAN TERRIER

Black Russian Terriers are often referred to as BRTs, Russian Terriers, and Blackies. They are often misunderstood and misjudged. To really get to know the BRT, we must first understand what they were originally bred to do: to become the ultimate utility and protection dog.

The Red Star Kennel of Russia aimed to develop a large, brave, strong, and manage-



Black Russian Terriers have a regal, dignified demeanor, but once home with their people, they also have a silly, comical side—some even patiently participating in the occasional dress-up tea party!

able working dog with pronounced guarding instincts. It was also bred to be naturally aloof to strangers. At AKC events, some people deem the breed unapproachable and go out of their way to avoid them. As a proud owner of several BRTs, I want to introduce you to the softer, gentler side of this breed—the side many of us, privileged enough to be “owned” by these wonderful dogs, get to see.

In public, the BRTs maintain a regal, dignified demeanor, but once home with their people, they have a silly, most comical side



COURTESY EMILY FOSTER

WORKING GROUP

to their personality. Shenanigans like joyful bounding and leaping, and “zoomies” are often a backyard pastime that’s a delight to watch. Mine have even, patiently and in good spirits, participated in the occasional dress-up tea party!

The Black Russian Terrier is one of the most empathetic breeds I’ve ever met. They show great gentleness and kindness to those they love. They instinctually know when you’re sad and will come to console you. When you are sick, they’ll jump into bed and stay by your side until you’re feeling better. These wonderful and sensitive traits are the reason you will often see the Black Russian donning a service-dog vest. There are many reasons why so many of us share our homes with these endearing dogs. Their desire and need to be with you is why most owners lovingly consider them to be extensions of their own shadow. Wherever you are, there they’ll be.

—Emily Foster,
leighfost@gmail.com

[Black Russian Terrier Club of America](#)

Boxers

BACK TO HAPPY TAILS

As I write this, the great majority of North America, and indeed the world, is locked down due to COVID-19. No more socializa-

tion. No visits to loved ones. Crushing unemployment. All terrible consequences of this lethal disease. Oh, and I almost forgot: no dog shows.

But hey. Looking past very real tragedy to lesser effects of our mandatory isolation, there may be an incidental “up” side. Because dogs everywhere are enjoying more one-on-one time with their humans. More walks. More games of fetch in the yard. More treats from the kitchen table. More hugs.

Boxer breeders the world around can take advantage of this enforced nearly 24/7 time with their canine best friends. And one of the benefits of this time is the ability to realistically assess temperament in our young hopefuls. No excuses. We can really do this.

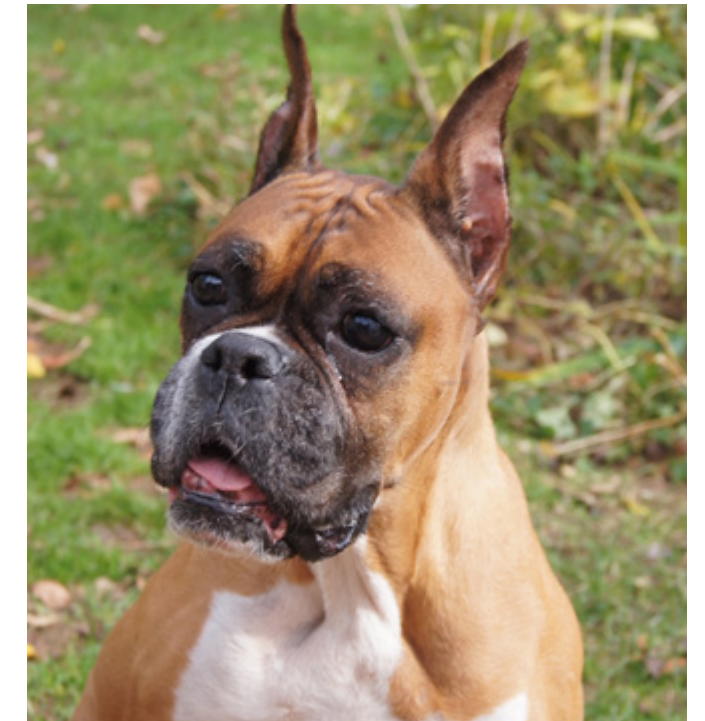
Temperament is everything. Without his bold, happy nature, the Boxer is a mere suggestion of himself—not the dog who can act as a sentry at time of war, guide the blind, or gently place a kiss on the face of a 2-year-old toddler.

Perhaps this is a time in history when breeders can truly assess the temperament of the dogs we are enjoying in our living rooms. And come to terms, up close and personal, with the fact that some of them are woefully lacking. That dog that looked so showy in the ring, who swiveled around at every noise and gesture—is not a happy and outgoing animal. He



is shy and fearful. He should not be bred. You cannot kill poor temperament with an axe, because it will come back to haunt you generations hence, every bit as much as a straight stifle or a light eye.

This breeding game that we play is not a trifle. It determines the very future of the breed for generations. In my travels to dog shows (when we lived in an age of dog shows), I can



The breed standard notes that character and temperament are of “paramount importance in the Boxer ... His intelligence, loyal affection, and tractability to discipline make him a highly desirable companion. Any evidence of shyness, or lack of dignity or alertness, should be severely penalized.”

see the deterioration of the Boxer temperament that made us fall in love with the breed in the first place. No longer do we see a majority of happy, wagging tails, but instead too many furtive glances and downright refusals to be examined. So far I have not witnessed aggression, but it is a small step from fear to a fear-biter.

It is time that we come together to acknowl-

COURTESY STEPHANIE ABRAHAM AND ROB ZURFLIEH

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edge that it is *not* ok for a dog to be shy for life because a bigger dog growled at him when he was a puppy, or a chair fell over at ringside, or a judge was wearing a hat. When I think back on the generations of Boxers I have seen, those with sound temperaments would have suffered no more than a momentary flinching at such occurrences, and then resumed their normal bold behavior. We should tolerate no less. We have that power!

I think we are at a turning point. Let us use this enforced “at home” time with our dogs to analyze them without prejudice or emotion—and have the courage to not breed those who may be beautiful to the eye but are a sad betrayal to the character that should define the very essence of “Boxer.”

—Stephanie Abraham, Scotland, Connecticut

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American Boxer Club

Bullmastiffs

Dr. Rebecca Fulton has been an ABA member for 20 years and currently serves as chair of the American Bullmastiff Association’s Health & Research Committee. She breeds Bullmastiffs under the Domer kennel name, and she and her family live with four Bullmastiffs, a French Bulldog, a rescued

pitbull, and two Welsh ponies. Thank you, Becca, for writing as a guest columnist and sharing your valuable perspective with the Bullmastiff community.

RESPONSIBLE BREEDING AND HEALTH SCREENINGS

Adding a new dog or new puppy to your family is an exciting event. It is important to decide what breed of dog is appropriate for your family’s lifestyle. Purposefully bred pure-bred dogs allow families to evaluate the history and standard for a breed. Knowing what a dog has been bred for through generations helps us to know which breed will fit in with our activity level and home life.

Finding a breeder of purposefully bred pure-bred dogs is important to ensure your family ends up with the best possible companion. Whether you are obtaining a pet or your next performance dog, starting with a solid foundation is critical. Geneticists have determined that early socialization is critical to the behavioral development of dogs. Through the years, that window of socialization has gotten smaller, and much of it needs to occur in the whelping box.

Breeders play a vital role in the social development of their puppies and their puppies’ future. Exposing puppies to sounds, textures, and touch while still in the whelping box helps



Breeders play a vital role in the social development of their puppies. Exposing puppies to sounds, textures, and touch while still in the whelping box helps develop a solid social foundation in dogs.

develop a solid social foundation in dogs. Lack of proper socialization at an early age often leads to fear behaviors in dogs.

Finding a breeder who produces purposefully bred purebred dogs is essential to starting with a solid foundation. These breeders have dedicated countless hours to raising the litter. They are also the people who are on the front lines of improving each generation of dogs that they produce. This is where you will find the perfect addition for your family.

Once a breed is decided upon, it is just as important to know what health issues affect the breed. Bullmastiffs are not immune from health issues, and it is important that breeders do their due diligence as they produce the next generation of dogs.

Bullmastiffs being used for breeding should have several screening tests prior to being used in a breeding program. As a breed club, we have found that cardiac disease and specifically sub-aortic stenosis has become a major

COURTESY REBECCA FULTON

WORKING GROUP

issue in the breed. Sub-aortic stenosis is a narrowing of the area below the aortic valve. This narrowing can be mild, moderate, or severe. The American Bullmastiff Association has had the honor of having our breed's hearts studied by Dr. Joshua Stern and the Stern Genetics Laboratory at UC Davis. An important conclusion is that an echocardiogram by a board-certified cardiologist is absolutely a necessity in any breeding Bullmastiff. An auscultation by a general practitioner or a cardiologist is no longer considered an appropriate screening test for hearts in our breed.

Not all affected dogs have a heart murmur that can be heard, and not all Bullmastiffs with heart murmurs have a cardiac abnormality. It is imperative that an echocardiogram is performed to evaluate the structure of the heart and velocities of blood across valves.

In addition to heart screening, it is recommended that all breeding dogs have radiographs of their hips completed before breeding. Hip dysplasia is an instability or laxity in the hip joint. Dogs with hip dysplasia have abnormal movement of the femoral head within the acetabulum (socket) which leads to cartilage loss and the formation of arthritis.

PennHIP is one program that evaluates the quality of hips in dogs. Veterinarians must be trained members of the PennHIP Network in order to be able to offer this service at their

offices. PennHIP looks at the laxity in the hip joint and determines the distraction index. A distraction index closer to zero indicates little joint laxity while a distraction index close to 1.0 indicates a high amount of laxity. It has been shown that dogs with tighter hips are less likely to develop hip dysplasia. This screening test can be performed in puppies as young as 16 weeks old.

Another group that evaluates hip radiographs is the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals. Hip radiographs are evaluated by three veterinary radiologists and given a rating of excellent, good, fair, borderline, mild, moderate, or severe. Dogs must be 2 years of age to receive an official certification; screenings done before age 2 are considered preliminary.

The Orthopedic Foundation for Animals also performs screenings for elbow dysplasia, and it is recommended that Bullmastiffs have their elbows evaluated. Elbow dysplasia is made up of three etiologies which can occur independently or collectively. These are the pathology of the medial coronoid of the ulna (fragmented medial coronoid), osteochondritis of the medial humeral condyle (OCD) or ununited anconeal process (UAP). OFA will not certify an elbow as normal until 2 years of age. Results for elbow screening are given as normal, Grade 1 elbow dysplasia, Grade 2 elbow dysplasia, and Grade 3 elbow dysplasia.

Bullmastiffs should have their eyes evaluated by a board-certified ophthalmologist, who will be looking for many disorders within the eye that are considered genetic or heritable. These are conditions of the eyelids, nictitans, cornea, lens, and vitreous. Certification is valid for 12 months from the date of the eye exam. —Dr. Rebecca Fulton

Thank you, Rebecca.

—Lindy Whyte,

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[American Bullmastiff Association](#)

Doberman Pinschers

DOBERMANS CAN DO IT ALL: JUMP IN AND MAKE A BIG SPLASH!

The Doberman Pinscher is an incredible blend of stubborn and trainable. Often frustrating when they decide to do it their way, which they often do, but once they “get it,” the results are spectacular. The official AKC standard describes the breed like this:

“Compactly built, muscular and powerful, for great endurance and speed. Elegant in appearance, of proud carriage, reflecting great nobility and temperament. Energetic, watchful, determined, alert, fearless, loyal and obedient.”

The home page of the website of the breed's national parent club, the Doberman Pinscher Club of America, adds the following adjectives:

“a fun-loving, exceptional athlete ... perceptive, intuitive, and sensitive.”

These descriptors mean that Dobermans can do it all, and they ultimately excel. In addition to conformation, obedience, rally, and agility, other events are attracting Doberman owners.

Dobermans do therapy work (the AKC offers titles acknowledging the important services these dogs provide); earn tracking titles, awarded when dogs accurately follow a scent-trail; they do nose work, also using the keen canine sense of smell to help human partners locate various targets; Barn Hunt—high prey-drive Dobermans love this activity, where dogs search and locate live rats (which are safely hidden and untouchable); Coursing Ability Tests, where dogs chase a mechanically operated lure across a field; Schutzhund/IPO, a physically and mentally challenging three-part working dog sport; herding, where dogs are judged on their ability to round-up and corral livestock; freestyle dancing; and dock diving!

Dock diving is one of the fastest-growing, fun, and exhilarating dog sports. In May 2014, the AKC became associated with the North America Diving Dogs organization (NADD) in recognizing titles earned at NADD trials. The first Doberman to place in a dock diving event was in the 2013 Eastern Regionals Purina Incredible Dog Challenge, in the Fetch-It.

WORKING GROUP

Dock Diving 101: You first need to teach your dog how to swim. A life vest—one designed for deep-chested dogs—is strongly encouraged while mastering the proper swimming technique. As in any sport, make sure you work with an experienced trainer; you can contact NADD or another dog diving organization for referrals.

Next they are taught how to jump off the dock and use the ramp to exit the pool. Finally, the dog retrieves the bumper or ball from the water. The handler and dog need to synchronize the dog's run off the dock with the throwing of the bumper. Timing is essential, and it takes a lot of practice.

One of the really “cool” things about Dobermans participating in this sport is the reaction of other breed owners. Initially, some would move their dogs out of the Doberman's path to the dock. Others might snicker and comment about how funny it is to see Dobermans being entered in this sport, not expecting success. Yet Dobermans took to the water, diving and retrieving, just as they do for lure coursing and other venues.

An additional benefit is that people see Dobermans in another open trial environment being well-behaved, smart, and talented. Several mention that being around them and watching them has changed their perception of the Doberman—for the better. Each time



Doberman Pinscher

the public watches Dobermans in performance and dog sports, it helps the breed be viewed in a positive light. They see the modern Doberman—an athletic partner and companion, not the caricature often portrayed in movies as aggressive or to be feared.

Check out dock diving or other dog sports—

you'll have a blast, and you might discover something new to do with your Doberman!

More information on registration (required to compete in NADD trials) and on titles, events, and trainers can be found [here](#).

Special thanks to Mary Ann Byrns for her contribution to this column.

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

German Pinschers

THINKING ABOUT A PUPPY? THINK ABOUT THE GERMAN PINSCHER

Are you thinking about getting a German Pinscher? Here are some things to think about as you weigh the breed standard, the breed's history, your lifestyle, and whether this is the right breed for you.

First, let's talk about the German Pinscher as a breed. They're short-coated, medium-sized dogs, 17 to 20 inches at the withers and generally weighing between 30 and 40 pounds as adults. They're described in the breed standard as: energetic, watchful, alert, agile, fearless, determined, intelligent, and loyal. In general, I have found them to be quick, curious, and independent.

Historically, the German Pinscher was a general farm dog, particularly useful for ratting and raising the alarm. They are generally a healthy breed. My 12½-year-old German Pinscher, though very willing to hang out on the couch, continues to like a long daily walk, plenty of backyard time, and still participates in tracking and Barn Hunt.

For some of us, for you maybe, this may

DAVID WOO ©AKC

WORKING GROUP



German Pinscher

sound like the ideal dog.

In addition to the type of dog, there are a number of general things to think about when you're thinking about a puppy: what's your living situation, how much time do you have to devote to a puppy, how will you ensure that this puppy gets lots of experiences as they're growing. These questions are important for any breed, not just German Pinschers.

When I taught obedience classes—most often, basic manners classes and puppy classes—I often had frustrated puppy owners say, “Our last dog was so different,” or “Our last dog was perfect.” Then, they would tell me something like “Our last dog lived to be 15.” When I suggested that maybe—just maybe—they'd forgotten what their last dog was like as a puppy, they shook their heads: “No, nope, we don't think so.”

But we do. We forget the times they needed to go outside every 10 minutes, about the times they chewed up our favorite shoe or got us up three times in the night. And it's good to think those things through, to be certain or at least pretty sure about this new adventure. German Pinscher puppies are energetic and agile and curious—good traits in a puppy, but important to be prepared for.

Through all of this, there are good reasons to appreciate purebred dogs and responsible breeders, which I suspect you do if you're

reading this column. One reason is the specific characteristics of a breed—you know the dog you're getting, what it will look like, and a fair amount about its temperament. Another is the work responsible breeders do when the puppies are young to give them a head start in the world. It can still be a challenge if you haven't had a puppy in awhile, or you haven't had a German Pinscher before, and that is worth thinking through as well.

Some people are really good at assessing the dog in front of them and working with that dog on his own terms. I am not that person. It helps me to know their breed characteristics, to know that my German Pinschers will be alert to the environment, will explore everything, and will be very interested in scent and chase-games, and that I can work with their strengths and help them develop into dogs who are both fun to live with and happy with their lives.

—Deb Coates,

charmingbillie@gmail.com

[German Pinscher Club of America](#)

Great Pyrenees

THE FIRST DOG SHOW

In my last column, I wrote about the Pyr-L listserv and the education that it provided. It was through this early mode of technology

DAVID WOO ©AKC

WORKING GROUP

that I learned about dog shows and clubs.

One of our Pyr-L members posted that she was going to be at a local dog show. Since I had never been to a dog show, nor been around very many Great Pyrenees, I wanted to learn and see more. So I decided to attend.

It was a cool summer day in the Rochester, New York, area, slightly overcast—a perfect day to be outdoors. While driving to the show site, my excitement was building. I had no idea what to expect, who to talk to, what was the protocol, or how are things set up ... so many questions!

I pulled into the parking area and saw dogs everywhere. Different shapes, sizes, coat types, all with owners to match. There were open-air tents, and rings with numbers—and gosh, where should I park? I wanted to be close, and I didn't want to waste one extra minute walking from my car.

Upon finding the information area, the kind woman explained to me how to read the ring information pamphlet. Thank goodness! I'm not sure I would have ever found the Pyrs in time.

During my walk over to the ring where the working breeds were being shown, I was in awe. There were grooming tables large and small, and crates, ex-pens, special leads for showing, and grooming equipment I never could have dreamed of! I had so many ques-



Great Pyrenees Nikki

tions to ask but wasn't sure who to talk with.

I walked around for about an hour, waiting for the Great Pyrenees ring time. Being a curious sort, I wanted to find out about some of the different breeds in attendance. I had the usual "newbie" questions and comments, such as "What kind of dog is that?" and "What a beautiful dog!"

It was during my information-seeking that I learned you should avoid speaking with anyone who is waiting to take a dog into the ring. I didn't understand the finer points of showing. Some people were kind and wonder-

ful, who you knew would be happy to speak about their breed for hours. Some people simply ignored you, and a few were verbally abusive. I had such mixed feelings. Was this what I wanted?

Finally, my friend showed up with her husband and her Pyrs—all *five* of them! I was ecstatic. She, however, was a bit frenzied. It seemed her handler hadn't shown up, and she needed help bringing her dogs into the ring. Would I mind helping her? Jeez! What did this mean?

The butterflies in my stomach came back. I didn't know a thing about showing! But I couldn't let my friend down. Of course, I would help.

I received the *Reader's Digest* version of How to Show a Dog: Go around the ring, stacking, down and back, showing the teeth, having the dew claws checked, and let's not forget testicles!

So that's how it all began. That was the day I decided to show my Pyrs. That was also the day I decided I would *never* be rude to someone who came to me asking about my breed. Whether I'm waiting to go into the ring or

standing idly by watching, if someone asks me about the breed, I'm happy to educate them. They may have to wait a few minutes, but I always have time to discuss the pros and cons of owning a Great Pyrenees.

—Karen Reiter,

karenreiter@comcast.net

Great Pyrenees Club of America

Komondors

DO SOMETHING GOOD FOR YOUR BREED

With dog shows mostly on the sidelines, now is a good time to reflect on the best parts of the sport. As we come back into action, let us bring back the best and leave the worst on the bench forever.

Do you love your breed and the sport more than just winning? Most Komondor owners have an easy answer to this because our dogs, so loyal to us and so driven to take care of us, trigger our love and loyalty in return. With such a rare breed, part of our responsibility is to help in the breed's survival. So the first thing to do is to breed good Komondors. Beyond that there are many personal things we can do.

Here are stories about a few of those things.

1. *Do something to help someone.* I go to a show with almost 40 years of experience

COURTESY KAREN REITER

WORKING GROUP

in Komondors under my belt. At a show a couple of years ago I saw there was a Kom entered, so I went to that ring a few minutes before the scheduled time. I spotted a large, handsome dog in good (young) cords at ring-side with his family. The dog was excited and was not responding easily to the handler's fumbling practice at stacking him. The need for some help (if welcome) was clear. We all know that a novice handler and excited Komondor can lead to an unfortunate ring experience. So, I went over and introduced myself. I greeted the dog, who was just as friendly as can be. I asked if I could play with the dog and teach him (and the handler) how to do the stack.

It went well. A few minutes later when they went into the ring, it was OK. The dog had just practiced having his mouth shown (I did that), he was open to meeting the judge, and good ribbons were awarded. I was there again the next day for the next easily given lesson.

Now that family is going forward as good owners and club members. I hope that early experience helped in that.

2. *Do something that helps the breed.* Not everybody has this opportunity, but I want to mention someone who did. We all want to know all we can about the essence and origin of our breed. The late Dr. Arthur Sorkin put together historical and linguistic information



This reconstructed Komondor bitch attends every Komondor national specialty.

to construct a logical and factual history of our breed (and perhaps the Puli) as the livestock guardians who migrated from Asia with the Cumans, a Turkic-speaking people who migrated into the Carpathian Basin in 1239 and sought asylum from the Magyar King Bela. A more detailed version of this history can be found in our [Illustrated Standard](#). Thanks, Art!

3. *Do something that helps us all.* We are a rare breed, we have a small club. If you have a

Komondor, you should be a member of the Komondor Club of America. If you are a member of the club, you should volunteer to help. What can you help with? Write an article about experiences with your dog for the club publication, *Komondor Comments*. If you are not a writer, send a picture! Help out with trophies, or something, at the national specialty. In any event, attend the national specialty; your club works hard to make it a great event. Closer to home? Offer to host a supported

entry at a show near you—it is good way to draw a nice entry, and maybe a major will happen.

The club and the whole breed will welcome your help.

—Eric Liebes,

ericliebes@earthlink.net

Komondor Club of America

Kuvaszok

PET OWNERS AND BREED PRESERVATION

A few months ago, I was at a Scent Work trial with Starlite, and something unusual happened, exhibitors approached me to ask if Starlite was a Kuvasz. It was not until Starlite and I completed our runs that I really had time to think about how unusual it was for someone to not only know what a Kuvasz is, but to recognize one. What was even more interesting was that these exhibitors also knew breed information such as purpose and temperament. It was quite a different scenario than the one we encountered when we first began Scent Work. In those days, we had plenty of people approach us, but it was only to ask about what breed of dog Starlite was. For a rare breed like the Kuvasz, it was refreshing to see awareness of the breed grow in this small segment of dog sports. Other

COURTESY ERIC LIEBES

WORKING GROUP



Starlite (Gypsy Wind Thundercracker) does her part to showcase preservation of the breed's scenting abilities during an AKC Detective level Scent Work search. Any positive display of the breed's ability aids in breed preservation.

breeders and owners have reported similar instances when competing in performance and companion events.

Luckily, I didn't have to speculate as to how these exhibitors became more knowledgeable about the breed. As it turns out, many of them explained that they had either heard of a Kuvasz competing or noticed Starlite's breed

on the trial results list. I thought about how nice it was to see how a little bit of exposure can increase knowledge of our breed.

I believe that the correct type of exposure is crucial for the preservation of the Kuvasz. When we think about breed exposure, I'm sure a good number of us think of conformation or other high-profile events. Although

our breed's accomplishments in these events is incredibly important, I thought it might be nice to focus on another group of Kuvasz owners who can assist with the task of breed exposure and, subsequently, breed preservation. Of course, that group of "other Kuvasz owners" consists of the pet owners in our breed's community. This segment of the community may not desire to take on the task of exhibiting, for a variety of legitimate reasons. However, they can still promote the Kuvasz in a variety of important ways, and it's important that they do not sit on the sidelines. It's important that all Kuvasz owners take up the task of increasing the public's knowledge of our breed. For the Kuvasz to survive, we need at least an equal number of new enthusiasts coming into the breed as there are retiring from it. This cannot happen unless we raise awareness of the Kuvasz and what it is capable of. This will not happen if we don't start to show off our dogs' traits in new ways.

Let's start out with the simplest task of all, taking your Kuvasz out for walk. Seems simple enough, right? Although it's a simple activity, it's important not to underestimate the daily walk as a way to start a conversation about our breed. Several times a week, Starlite literally stops traffic when drivers actually pull off the road to inquire about her. Usually, the conversation becomes a discussion about

general Kuvasz information. For extra credit, I usually try to squeeze in a little bit of info as to why preservation breeders are important too. I doubt we've brought in any new Kuvasz fanciers, but at least we put the breed on the radar of someone who might not have ever thought about one otherwise. Maybe one day they'll decide to bring a Kuvasz into their family, or maybe not, but it's a simple way to increase awareness. Plus, I think we all feel immensely proud when someone is in awe of our dog's beauty. You can even get a little bit of payoff for doing it if you join the AKC's Fit Dog program.

If you're up for more of a challenge, don't worry. There are some more advanced ways to promote the Kuvasz, such as volunteering for a Meet the Breeds event. Meet the Breeds is a great opportunity to educate people who are actively trying to learn more about purebred dogs. Many of the people are actually looking to bring a new dog into their family, and they might be able to provide a fantastic home for a Kuvasz. These types of events are usually held in conjunction with larger conformation shows, and they offer an ideal opportunity for a well-socialized Kuvasz to show of the great qualities of the breed as they interact with the public. They also offer a great opportunity for current Kuvasz owners to show off their knowledge of the breed to inquiring

COURTESY JULIA BABECKI

WORKING GROUP

minds. Although the main Meet the Breeds events take place in New York City and the AKC National Championship in Orlando, some smaller all-breed clubs offer Meet the Breeds events at their local shows. There may even be some other Kuvasz owners in your area who would be willing to participate with you. So, if your Kuvasz wouldn't mind meeting some new people, and you wouldn't mind talking about your Kuvasz for a few hours, consider volunteering at a Meet the Breeds event.

The annual judges' education seminar held in conjunction with the Kuvasz Club of America national specialty, in addition to other judges' education seminars held periodically throughout the U.S., also provide excellent opportunities to preserve the Kuvasz. Even if your Kuvasz isn't a show dog, he or she probably has some good (and even not so good) qualities that can help educate judges about the breed's standard. It is vital to ensure that conformation judges put up superb examples of our breed in the conformation ring. The breed has a small gene pool; this means that important breed features can disappear quickly if judges are not properly educated on what the standard is actually describing. It's important that the Kuvasz does not become a generic show dog. To prevent this, judges need to understand breed-specific details that

they may never see if not for these seminars. So, if your Kuvasz can tolerate an exam, and you don't mind learning about your dog's good and not-so-good conformation traits (because there is no perfect dog), please consider getting involved in a future judges' education seminar.

Right about now, you may be thinking that these ideas sound all right, but you would really rather volunteer in activities where your work receives more instantaneous gratification. Well then, I have one more suggestion for you: therapy dog work. Believe it or not, there are many Kuvaszok who participate in therapy work, and I'm sure that their handlers will testify to the joy that their dogs bring into people's lives. Therapy work does require some work and training, and not every Kuvasz is suitable for this type of work. There are many different facilities where you can schedule visits, such as occupational therapy centers, nursing homes, libraries, college campuses, juvenile correction facilities, and classrooms. Some dogs actively participate a patient's rehabilitation program, while others may just be a source of calmness and friendship. So, if you think therapy work sounds interesting, check out the AKC website for some excellent resources on getting started, and know that you're not only helping those in need, you're helping to promote and preserve the Kuvasz.

I hope this article shows that there are many ways to promote our breed. Know that when you take steps to promote the Kuvasz, you are helping to preserve it by teaching new people about our breed. Hopefully, some of you will get inspired to try out some of these activities or even think of a few new ways to show off the Kuvasz. Remember, no contribution is too small.

—Julia Babecki,
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Leonbergers

AGILEOS!

Leonbergers, though a very large breed, are extremely agile and athletic. It can be very surprising to see such a big, hairy dog not only complete an agility course, but also do it with speed and accuracy, zipping through weave poles, soaring over jumps, and zooming through tunnels. When longtime Leonberger owner Bonnie Goodfriend first started doing agility with her Leonberger, Frieda, her fellow competitors good-naturedly suggested she get a "real dog" to do the sport instead. Frieda went on to become the first giant breed in the world to title in agility in any venue. Goodfriend recalls, "When Frieda finished the final titling run, everyone was screaming,

'Frieda is a real dog!'"

Leonbergers can indeed do agility, although there are certain precautions that must be taken in doing the sport with such a large breed. Former Leonberger Club of America president Bill Wilson had two of his Leos, Denver and Nautica, invited to the AKC Invitational in the same year. Bill's long history with the breed helped him hone his training program with his own dogs in order to develop the skills they will need to do agility while protecting their skeletons and musculature during their prolonged puppyhood and adolescence.

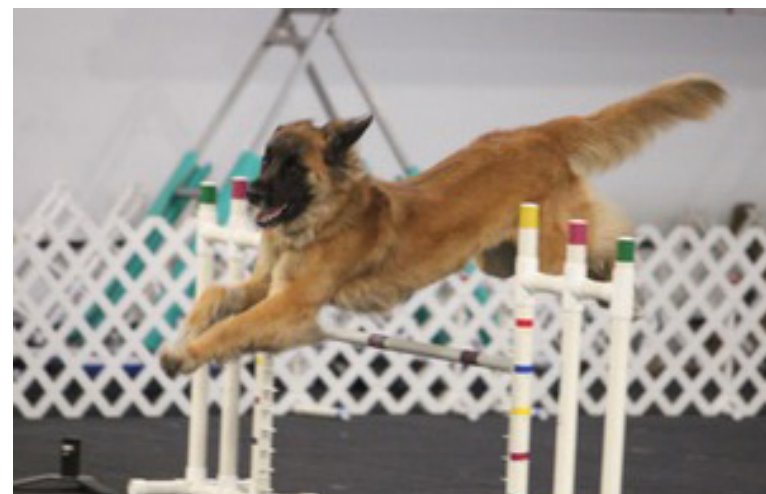
Wilson begins foundation training as soon as he gets a puppy, starting with body awareness, contact training, and safe-height (close to the ground) obstacles that can help the pup learn where to put their feet without risking a fall from height, which could damage those slow-to-close growth plates. He uses positive reinforcement to identify and reward contacts, speed, and clarity with his Leonbergers as they mature, so that by the time their skeletons are mature (around 2 years old), they already know how to safely maneuver the various obstacles involved in the sport. "Always keep it fun," Wilson adds, particularly when it comes to competing/trialing.

Care must also be taken to keep the thick-coated breed from overheating during

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Agility Leos, clockwise from top left: Bonnie Goodfriend's Frieda proves she's a "real dog"; Emi soars, making it look easy; Argo aces the A-frame.



training and competing. He will not run his dogs on hot, humid days, and will not even sign up for a trial that is not going to be held indoors with air conditioning, or during the hottest months of the year.

For those new to the sport, it helps to find an agility instructor who has experience working with very large breeds. Adult Leonbergers can slam teeters, bend weave poles, and leap to the top of the A-frame without touching the up contact. Obstacles must be taught with the dog's safety in mind.

Leonberger owner Mara Bovsun started out in agility with an adult Leonberger, but the lessons she learned with that dog led her to begin the journey anew with a puppy. Bovsun, who lives in New York City,

put a JWW title on her adult Leo before retiring her and began early foundation training with her next Leo as a puppy. Though she says if she could go back, she would spend even more time on building that foundation, her second Leonberger, Emi, already has 13 titles and has earned the LCA's Versatility title. Despite

her size, Emi completes clean agility runs with times consistent with smaller, lighter breeds. "Almost Border Collie times," Bovsun says, which underscores the importance of teaching the obstacles in a safe manner. Running a dog twice the size, or more, of those smaller breeds that can still do the course at that speed requires a solid training foundation and clear communication from the handler as well.

—Shannon White,
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Mastiffs

OUR MASTIFFS, THE CLOWNS PART ONE

Given the ongoing anxiety, depression and distress prompted by the ongoing COVID-19 crisis (whose impact on our lives I

hope will have lessened by the time this piece appears), I have written a humorous and light-hearted two-part article for this issue and the next.

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 grand and dignified 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 of America) members to share their stories.

The story with which I will begin is one written and submitted by Marty Hancock, involving a misadventure with her friend, Elise Slone, and Elise's Mastiff show dog, Evy. I love this story, as it exemplifies many of the all-too-typical Mastiff traits.

The Adventures of Evy Slone, by Marty Hancock

Back in April 2013, Elise Slone and I made one of our infamous weekend trips to a dog show with her daughter Shelby. This particular weekend was to the show in Wichita, Kansas (and how we got there is another story for another time!). Elise and I would always share rooms when we traveled, and

COURTESY BONNIE GOODFRIEND, MARA BOVSUN, AND SHANNON WHITE

WORKING GROUP

this particular weekend, we ended up with a suite at the La Quinta. Pulling the seniority card, Elise and I elected to share the king-sized bed and relegated Shelby to the pull-out sofa. Having arrived late the night before the show (again, a story for another time), we returned eagerly to the hotel room when we finished showing that first day, looking forward to a quiet evening in the room with pizza delivery and an early turn-in.

Now, for anyone who ever traveled with Elise and her bitch, Evy, the “Adventures of Evy” were regular inspiration for all kinds of stories told over dinner and margaritas.

On this particular evening, Elise was flipping through channels, looking for something to watch, and I was working on my laptop. Evy, who was loose in the room, came to Elise’s side of the bed to beg to climb up with us. Evy decided that she knew Elise was a soft target, and I was the one who needed convincing. She gave me that focused Mastiff stare that we all know so well; the stare where they try to become mental telepaths and make you give them what they want. I looked up and did exactly what Evy wanted me to—I invited her to join us.

Evy was so grateful that she leapt across Elise to put her head in the middle of my laptop and say thank you, whereupon she

promptly sat down and begged for more attention.

Within seconds, I realized Evy had done what all Mastiffs do—sat down with no thought, no awareness, and no concern for where her butt was. I became aware that Elise was frantically trying to push Evy off of her, without success. Evy, being Evy, was blissfully unaware of the writhing, squirming, wrestling body of her mom beneath her. It only took moments of hysterical laughter on my part before I realized that not only had Evy sat on Elise, but she was sitting on Elise’s face, literally, and Elise was struggling because she couldn’t breathe! It dawned on me that perhaps I ought to help Elise move Evy to a better spot on the bed before Elise suffocated.

Needless to say, I was way more entertained by Evy’s behavior than Elise was, and I got out a lot of good laughs while Elise caught her breath. I was incredibly happy that Evy was going home with Elise and I didn’t have to manage her ongoing adventures, of which there have been many since. The real moral of the story? Don’t let a Mastiff jump up in bed with you and be surprised by what she lands on. —M.H.

Thank you, Marty!

In Part II, I will include several members’ accounts and photos of their Mastiff Clowns in and out of the show ring, acting as guardians

of the bathroom, interacting with tortoises, threatening laundry piles, and their idea of “hiding.”

—Karen Cornelius,

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Mastiff Club of America

Neapolitan Mastiffs

“HOW MUCH DOES THAT DOG WEIGH?”

“OMG, that is the biggest dog I have ever seen! How much does that dog weigh?”

As this is the most common question asked at any Neapolitan Mastiff breed booth, and as I am a precise kind of person, I had weighed my dog at the vet the day before. Thus, I was ready and able to honestly answer, “He’s 165 pounds.”

The reply was, “Is that all? I have a [*Golden Retriever, Great Dane, even the rare but infamous Rockweiler—you fill in the blank*] who is over 250 pounds!”

Hmmm. Really? Now I am struck with figuring out what is the best reply: a scoffing “I don’t think so!” or a querulous “A minute ago you thought this was the biggest dog you’d ever seen”? Or, what I ended up doing: Just smile and nod.

Why do we persevere on what our dogs weigh? The Neapolitan Mastiff breed stan-

dard says: “Average weight of mature Dogs: 150 pounds; Bitches: 110 pounds; but greater weight is usual and preferable as long as correct proportion and function are maintained.”

Does it strike you as curious that we give a weight range and then follow it with a caveat that the range might be wrong? Here is the reason why. When the USNMC enacted its project to draft the FCI standard into AKC format and verbiage (back in the mid-1990s—yes, over 10 years before breed recognition), the goal was to develop a breed standard that correctly described the Neapolitan Mastiff so that American judges, using this AKC standard, would correctly pick the same type as an Italian judge would using the FCI standard.

We did not want the development of an “American” version of the Neapolitan Mastiff. We also needed the American breed community to accept the AKC standard as correct both in fact and in perception. And the problem was that the European judging community, being intimately familiar with the breed, were essentially ignoring a few well-understood flaws in the FCI standard.

So, the USNMC Standards Committee, headed by Dr. Sherilyn Allen, VMD, with Janet Hospodar, worked on this project. Dr. Allen went to shows in Italy and weighed and measured dogs who were winning or that were considered excellent. She found that the best

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Neapolitan Mastiff: a “heavy-boned, massive, awe-inspiring dog”

dogs were both slightly longer and considerably heavier than the FCI standard.

So the challenge became how to word the “new” standard to reflect the existing FCI

standard—which gave the typical weight of the Mastino as “Average weight of mature Dogs: 150 pounds; Bitches: 110 pounds”—but also ensure that our American judges,

who do not ignore their standard, will be enabled to select the same heavier-type dogs.

Thus, the introduction of that curious passage: “greater weight is usual and preferable as long as correct proportion and function are maintained.”

Luckily, there are no scales in the breed ring, and no fault is assigned to this trait. Truly it is not important to us how much the dog weighs. What is important is how much the dog appears to weigh.

Remember, the standard also says, “the Neapolitan Mastiff is a heavy-boned, massive, awe inspiring dog,” and this is “a stocky, heavy boned dog, massive in substance,” and also: “Due to his massive structure, his characteristic movement is rolling and lumbering, not elegant or showy.”

So, it is entirely correct if, when you first see that mature adult Neapolitan Mastiff, and you are struck by the awesome sense of massiveness and the imposing presence of the animal, you too might briefly think, “OMG, that’s the biggest dog I’ve ever seen!”

No, it is not the biggest dog you have ever seen. It is just that magnificent Neapolitan Mastiff.

—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe,
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[United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club](#)

Newfoundlands

HAIR TODAY, GONE TOMORROW

Warm weather is here. If you live with a double-coated breed like a Newfoundland, you know what that means: It’s shedding season! That thick coat has been coming out for a while now. Whether it comes out little by little or in the space of a few days seems to be an individual thing.

Whichever your dog’s shedding pattern, the process can be made easier for you with a few simple tricks. The most important is keeping your Newf thoroughly combed all year long. There is nothing worse than dealing with dirty, felted, months-old mats along with trying to get out the dead hair! Better to keep on top of things year-round.

Indispensable tools for managing a shedding coat are a good, sturdy rake that is comfortable in your hand; a Greyhound comb (I like ones that have longer tines); a slicker or pin brush; and an empty wastebasket, with extra bags! Nice to have is a forced-air dryer, too.

One might think that bathing before grooming would help to remove the dead hair. It has been my experience that this actually makes grooming much harder, as bathing tends to “set” any mats and loose hair. Dead hair makes drying the dog a much longer process. Moisture left in dead hair can cause a hot spot in no time! Making sure that the dog is thoroughly combed and all

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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dead hair removed will make the entire bathing process easier.

Some like to take their dry Newf outside and use a dryer on a cool setting to first blow away the loosest hair. Blow against the lie of the coat, brushing with your pin brush or slicker. You may find you have to stop every few strokes to remove the hair from your brush. I find that lightly spraying the coat as you blow with water and a little conditioner helps to cut down on the static electricity and makes brushing a little easier.

Once you have blown out as much hair as possible, it is time to take your rake and comb and get to work. (You may find using a slicker on a puppy's wooly coat works better than a pin brush or rake.) Working from rear to front and bottom to top, holding the hair up with one hand and brushing down a few hairs at a time, will let you get down to the skin and remove the dead hair. Be sure to get to those "problem" areas: under the tail, between the hind legs, belly, elbows, chest, and under the ears. Using your spray-bottle lightly will minimize the static. Remove any mats by picking at them with the end of your comb or by cutting through them carefully, not across, and then separating the hair using conditioner or a mat removal product. Just cutting out the mat will leave unsightly holes in the coat and may predispose a mat's return as the hair grows out.

Just brushing the topcoat in the direction the



hair lays will make the top look pretty, but all that dead hair will still be lurking underneath ready to cause problems. You need to get down to the skin. This is a good time to check for hot spots, lumps, and unwanted visitors like fleas and ticks.

Once that dead hair is gone and you have given a good brushing with your pin brush, the coat is cleaner, brighter, and shinier, even before a bath.

There are some uses for the amazing amount of hair left on the floor. If you are wanting a second Newf and your other half says no, take all the hair and arrange it into a lifelike sculpture. When done at a show, you can stop traffic with the "dog" lying in the middle of the floor! Birds appreciate the hair

for their nests. I always leave hair outside for the birds, and it is not uncommon to find nests with Newf hair incorporated.

Hair can be used as mulch in the garden. Put down thickly enough, and with some rain on it, it will form an almost impenetrable mulch. Just don't use it around green beans, as it lends itself to causing furry beans! And if you know of someone who spins, Newfoundland fur makes a most beautiful yarn and incredibly warm sweaters, hats, or mittens.

Happy grooming!
—Mary Lou Cuddy,

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[Newfoundland Club of America](#)

Portuguese Water Dogs

Our guest contributor this month is Deborah Lee Miller-Riley. Deborah Lee has been a very active member of the PWDCA Water Trial Committee and a Water Trial judge for many years and has easily earned the love and respect of many PWD owners.

A LIFE JACKET FOR YOUR DOG

Why use a canine flotation device in water-sports training? A canine flotation device, also known as a life jacket, is most commonly used to provide safety for a dog who does not swim

well or for a dog who might fall into dangerous water. Wearing a life jacket ensures that if the dog becomes helpless in the water, his body will remain at the surface for rescue or recovery.

Watersports training is done in a controlled environment, close to shore, and most of the time the dog is a very good swimmer. So, why should a dog with swim ability wear a canine life jacket during training?

A life jacket can build a stronger dog with greater stamina. While the dog is swimming, the canine life jacket creates water resistance. The greater the dog's swim intensity, the greater the water resistance, and thus a superior exercise experience for the dog. Appropriate conditioning with this water resistance helps to build canine stamina, strength and endurance.

A life jacket may also offer enough water resistance to slow an over-exuberant dog so the dog can relax and connect with the handler. Many trainers are excited to witness how much more energy, endurance, and speed their dog exhibits in a water test without a life jacket, after being fully trained in a life jacket.

A life jacket doesn't float the dog, it adds external buoyancy when needed. When the dog's swim propulsion slows due to the need to focus on handler instruction, take a treat, or retrieve or deliver an article, or due to fatigue, the life jacket provides just the right level of external

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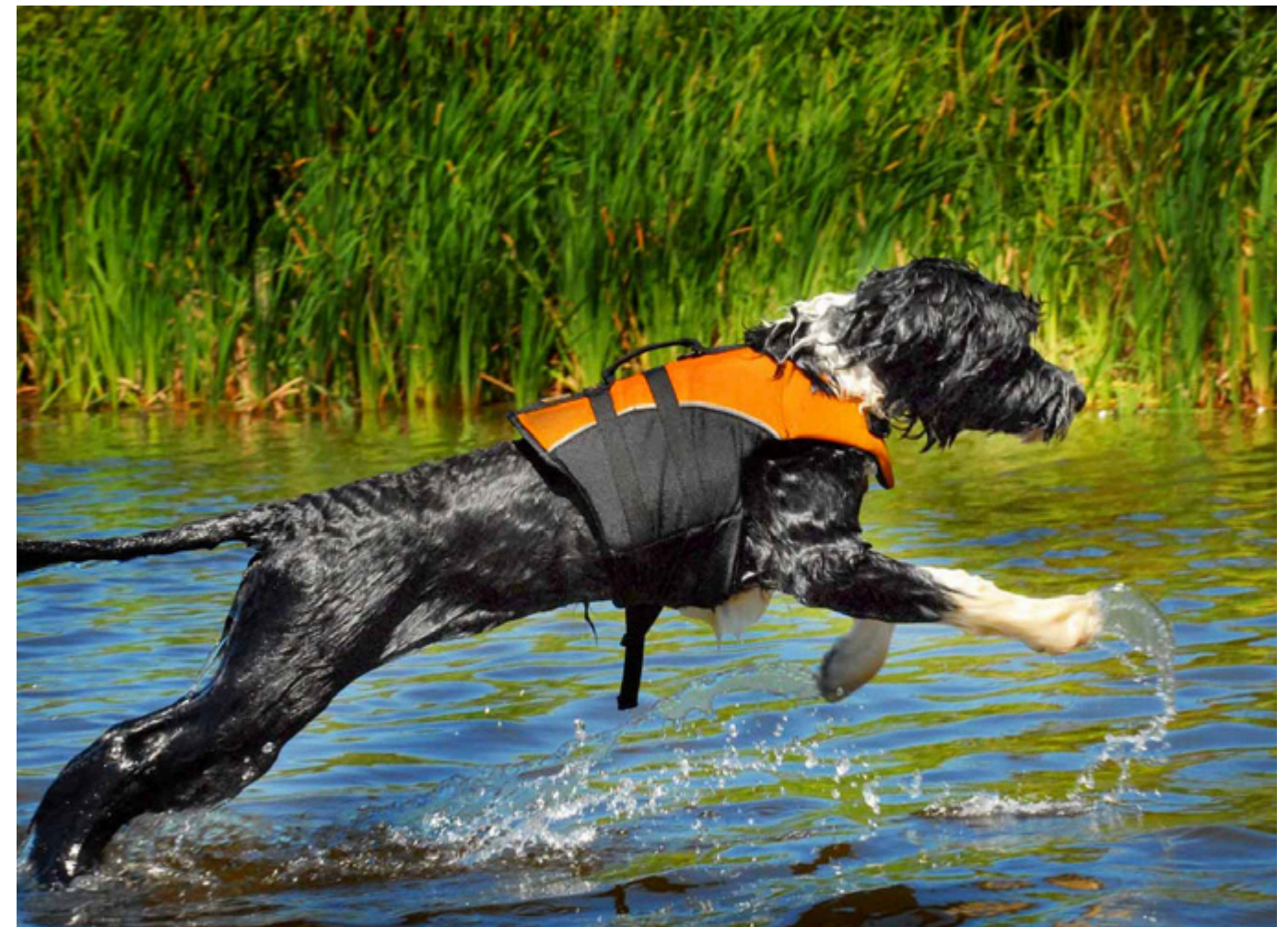


Dogs who train in a life jacket can stave off fatigue for longer periods and are better able to remain focused on training.

buoyancy to benefit. The life jacket supports the dog when the dog's natural buoyancy moves toward zero. Natural buoyancy is affected by a dog's muscle to fat ratio, plus his lung air volume and propulsion (paddling). Some dogs are more buoyant because they have the right balance of fat to muscle, large lung air capacity, and good leg length with wide paws for propulsion. Dogs with less natu-

ral buoyancy work harder in the water to stay at the surface. Adding a life jacket to swim sessions will offer external buoyancy when the dog needs it.

A lifejacket supports canine confidence while the dog is learning. The lifejacket's support can help a dog feel more confident in the water, whether the dog is just learning how to swim or is learning advanced water skills. Dogs who are



less buoyant in the water or who are processing information from their handler and trying to maintain a swim posture may worry and stress more about their safety than dogs who feel secure about their ability and buoyancy. Tension affects muscles, breathing, and buoyancy. Dogs who worry will seek an exit from the water, be less able to focus on the handler or the behavior, appear unwilling or disinter-

ested and may fatigue quickly. Adding a life jacket to canine training is a good strategy for buoying up swim confidence and succeeding at swift, joyful learning.

A life jacket can extend swim duration and increase canine focus. Dogs who train in a life jacket tend to stave off fatigue for longer periods of time and are better able to remain focused on the training goal and the handler for longer peri-

COURTESY DEBORAH MILLER LEE-RILEY

WORKING GROUP

ods of time.

A life jacket can offer emotional and physical protection. When multiple dogs are active in the water, a life jacket can protect an impressionable pup or inexperienced dog from an unwanted and unexpected submersion. There is always one rude dog who will climb on another swimmer's back or who throws a paw on a passing head—dunking the dog. For some dogs, this kind of negative experience can create water or other avoidance behaviors that negatively affect future training goals.

When platform jump training begins, the life jacket can minimize submersion upon impact with the water. This reduces the risk of a harmful experience and boosts jump confidence.

Even the best of swimmers can drown from fatigue or a traumatic event that renders the dog helpless. A life jacket can reduce the risks of a dog drowning or suffering fear and panic from a submersion experience.

A life jacket protects your investment. A life jacket protects your financial, time, energy, training, and emotional investment in your dog. It protects against risks of submersion, physical and emotional injury, and loss. Dogs who are extensively trained, conditioned, and used in professional water-rescue work are suited up in safety gear, including life jackets for dogs on or entering the water. You love your dog and

appreciate all that you have invested in your dog, right? Why risk loss or injury by not using safety equipment?

Get the best-quality life jacket you can afford for your dog. Canine life jackets differ in fit, comfort, durability, visibility, and price. Because dogs vary in size and shape, it is important to look for a life jacket that offers the best support, durability, and comfort for your dog. Here are some tips for your search:

- Measure your dog's girth, length of rib, total length of back, and the dog's neck. Look for a life jacket that is sold by a sizing chart defined by canine body measurements. Avoid a brand that sells by breed size or weight.
- Ideally, the saddle portion of the life jacket should end around the last rib of the dog's rib cage and should not interfere with the dog's range of motion in the rear.
- Straps should be durable and not extend past the dog's ribcage into the stomach or so far up as to interfere with the dog's leg and shoulder movement. If you have a long-coated breed, avoid large sections of Velcro, as it traps and pulls hair.
- Look for a life jacket that offers the least amount of pressure and interference with front leg and shoulder range of motion.
- The saddle should have a handle strong enough to lift your dog off the ground. The handle should also be positioned so that the

dog's head does not tip down when you lift. This is important if you have to rescue your dog and pull him up onto a boat or dock.

- If fitted correctly, the dog should not slip out of the life jacket when lifted off the ground by the handle.
 - Look for a life jacket that appears to be made for an athlete. Avoid life jackets that look like a blanket on the dog, covering the shoulders and all the way to the base of the tail. Long, bulky jackets are not designed for swim work—they are designed to just keep the dog floating for rescue.
 - Life jackets with high visibility in color and reflective material may aid in recovery if the dog swims too far from handler control, or the dog falls into risky water. —Deborah Lee Miller-Riley, [CanineWaterSports.com](https://www.caninewater.com)
- Thank you, Deborah Lee, for sharing this excellent information for all water dogs!
- Carole Prangley-McIvor,
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[Portuguese Water Dog Club of America](https://www.portuguese-water-dog-club.com)

Rottweilers

Our column for this issue is by guest writer Teresa Bradley, of Neu-Rodes Rottweilers. Teresa is also a Director of the American Rottweiler Club. She is active in conformation, obedience, and rally.

CHAMPIONS OF THE CART

The Rottweiler is a versatile breed. Today they can be found active in search-and-rescue missions, working as personal service dogs, or doing therapy work visiting hospitals and children. Over the years they have been used as police dogs, herding dogs, and carting dogs. The versatility is proven over and over when you see the breed participating in many different kinds of competitions like Schutzhund, herding, obedience, rally, agility, tracking, and carting. Unfortunately the majority of show dogs are lacking in the proof after their names. There is a split evolving between the show people and the working people, like it has in so many other breeds. I am always trying to encourage show people to venture into the work world, and try carting or rally.

One of the past functions of a Rottweiler was to bring the farmers' products to market via cart. The dogs and carts could navigate the narrow roads and crowded streets better than an ox and wagon and were more affordable to maintain. The Rottweiler was a perfect choice because of their strength, their loyalty to family, and their guarding instinct. They could protect the contents on the way to market and the money on the way back.

The American Rottweiler Club held the first official carting test at the national specialty in 2000. I was first introduced to carting with



Four multitalented Rottweilers: Can. Ch./Am. GCh. Neu-Rodes The Beat Goes On, CDX, GN, BN, RE, CS, CGC; Am./Can. Ch. Neu-Rodes The Quickening, CD, BN, RE, BH, CS, CI, CGC; Can. Ch./Am. GCh. Neu-Rodes Happy Hour, UD, RE, TD, BH, TR2, CS, CI, CGC; and Can. GCh./Am. Ch. Neu-Rodes Quick'staw McGraw, CDX, GN, BN, RE, BH, CS, CI, CX, CGC.

my Rottweiler in 1999 and shortly thereafter won High in Test at that national, and several since. I have introduced hundreds of dogs to the cart.

Some dogs when introduced to the cart are naturals, and others have to work a bit harder to become comfortable. I believe the dogs who get hooked up and never look back are the closest to our breed standard in temperament. Owners need to give them more opportuni-

ties to work, and breeders need to pay closer attention to temperament in general, remembering that this is a *working* breed. Show dogs can cart!

To date I have earned over 40 ARC carting titles with Rottweilers trained by me from start to finish and have had four successful driving dogs. *All* of these dogs are champions, and seven of those Rottweilers were nationally ranked top 10 conformation dogs before ever

seeing the cart.

Everyone understands that it's important to breed to the standard, and "form follows function" is a popular saying among exhibitors and judges. Structure and type should always be considered when breeding, but it is equally important to remember what each breed is bred for and aim to preserve temperament as well. It's hard for a breeder to find, recognize, and preserve the correct temperament if they never ask the dog to do more than stand and eat bait.

Breeders need to take into consideration the working heritage of a breed when producing top show winners. From a carting perspective, this means breeding a confident, bold, easygoing Rottweiler temperament with high biddability or willingness to please. The FCI standard describes the Rottweiler as "good-natured, placid in basic disposition ... very devoted, biddable, obedient and eager to work." It goes on to say, "His behavior self-assured, steady and fearless."

The AKC standard says the Rottweiler is a "calm, confident and courageous dog." This to me is the same exact description I would use to describe a good carting dog!

The Rottweiler likes to have a purpose. They enjoy a job and love working alongside their human! Whether they are serious show Rottweilers, or mostly family companions,

carting is a job they can learn and enjoy. It's an instinct to some! —T.B.

—Jill Kessler Miller,
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American Rottweiler Club

Samoyeds

Jeanne Nonhof wrote the following insights on the breed in 2015.

THE SAMOYED—HANDYMAN OF THE NORTH

Our smiling Samoyeds are a moderate dog. For size, they are the Arctic breed between the Alaskan Malamute (the heavyweight hauler) and the speedy Siberian Husky. Interesting that the Siberian Husky male is exactly the same top height (23½ inches at the withers) as the Samoyed. Most would never guess that fact. The optical illusion comes in with the four- or five-inch upstanding coat the Samoyed carries on his neck and shoulder area, rather like a mantle.

The Siberians have a height disqualification, while the Samoyed is to be penalized only to the extent of the deviation. So how much are you going to penalize a dog who is a quarter inch over or under? Any dog within the sizes listed in the standard must be considered to be correct. There is no preference for a larger

COURTESY TERESA BRADLEY



*Samoyed:
Gorgeous, but no
velvet pillows,
please.*

dog or a smaller dog. They are all correct.

In his native environment, the Samoyed was the “go-to” dog for any job that needed doing.

No way could he be considered a specialist. He did everything because that is what the subsistence-level, nomadic Samoyed people needed. When they couldn’t catch a reindeer (caribou) to pull a sledge, they hitched up dogs. When they needed a herding dog to keep the deer moving in the direction they wanted to go, who did they put to work? Their dogs, of course. When a polar bear needed to be hunted, who helped his people? He did all of these jobs well because of his desire to please.

His greatest accomplishment was learning to read his humans, and his greatest asset is his desire to please his people. From the very beginning of our knowledge of the breed and its people, it is said that the dogs slept in the reindeer-hide tents (*chooms*) with the people. If it was cold enough, it was a “three dog night.” I used to think this was a fairytale, but 50 years of close association with the breed and particularly their temperament have convinced me that they did, indeed, develop close relationships with their humans.

As the utility dog of the North, any exaggeration would be a liability. Too long a back would make it difficult to do any kind of hauling. The proportions of a giraffe would thwart the handiness needed to do herding. To illustrate, a Thoroughbred horse would have a Quarter horse running rings

around him when it comes to herding cattle; the Thoroughbred has other areas in which he excels. The same physics apply here. Samoyeds are more like the Morgan horse in their ability to do everything.

He moves with a very efficient working trot, with good reach in front and good follow through in the rear. His working trot is not the double-suspension flying trot.

The AKC and the Samoyed Club of America (SCA) offer recognition in many areas for the Samoyed to prove his ability as a can-do dog. Proper conformation is necessary for a dog to do well in all activities. Beyond conformation, there is agility (too much fun), obedience, rally, herding, therapy, tracking, weight-pulling, sledding, and the latest thing, Barn Hunt. The Samoyed can willingly do them all when he understands what you are asking him to do. The SCA even offers a Versatility title for dogs who are conformation champions and have earned a Working Samoyed Excellent title to prove he can do it all.

Therefore, when judging, one needs to be very thorough. You must get your hands into that coat to see if there is a strong, straight topline, and not just a good grooming job. You must feel where that elbow is, lest abundant coat hanging down fools your eye. Feel the stifle joint in case “stifle puffs” and creative grooming create an optical illusion.

While this is not a head breed, the “smiling face” is very important according to the standard for the breed.

There are specific reasons for the head described. The thick, medium sized, well-furred ears are a survival issue.

Thin, large ears with skimpy furnishings can freeze in the Arctic. Round or protruding eyes don’t do well in a blizzard when the dog needs to squint to keep the blowing snow out; therefore the proper almond-shaped eye is another survival issue.

Strong jaws are important, because the dogs often eat frozen food and those jaws are useful when defending himself or the deer herd from predators.

These type of things are all part of the Samoyed’s ability to survive in the harsh Arctic environment.

A black nose is preferred, but a lighter nose is not to be penalized, particularly in the winter when lack of sunshine can cause the nose to lighten. The lip-line actually does curve up, and a Samoyed will smile in his sleep.

To handle all of the jobs requested of him, he needs substance and more bone than would be expected in a dog of this size. Here again, you need to feel the bone to know what is there and not just a good fluff up job on leg hair. The Samoyed should never be so heavy as to appear clumsy nor so light as to appear racy.

COURTESY LYNDY BEAM

WORKING GROUP

Despite his huggable appearance, this is not a “velvet pillow” dog. This is a working dog born to do herding, hunting, and hauling. His eye-catching, standoff coat is part of his survival equipment. He needs to have a harsh outer coat, never droopy, but with a soft undercoat for insulation.

All in all, the Samoyed is a very natural breed who will smile at you and make you want to smile right back. —J.N.

—Heather LoProto, SCA Public Education Chair,

hloproto@comcast.net

Samoyed Club of America

Siberian Huskies

A WINNING NAME

After months of planning and anticipation, the litter finally arrives. Now, for my favorite part of the breeding process, which symbolizes the puppies’ first big step in their development as individuals. It is time for the name game. There are litterbox, call, and registered names to consider. Anyone who has been active in the dog world for any length of time will agree that sometimes a puppy does live up to his or her name. Some choices should be given serious thought.

Although the AKC does impose a few restrictions and limitations on approved



Olympic gold medalist Kikkan Randall visited with Siberian Husky ski shop dog Jessie Diggins—whose namesake was Kikkan’s teammate in winning the Women’s Freestyle Relay Sprint in Nordic skiing in 2018.

registered names, there is still plenty of flexibility for creativity. Choosing the registered name is the most important decision since it remains with a dog throughout its life.

Being in the bicycling and ski industry, my husband and I often find inspiration for dog names in these two sports. Sometimes timing is just right, and a perfect name presents itself. Readers were introduced to our cross-country ski shop dog, Jessie, who



arrived from Alaska a month prior to the 2018 Winter Olympic games. Her registered name is Marlytuk’s Nordic Girl, with a call name of Jessie Diggins. (Nordic skiing is the formal term for the cross-country aspect of the sport.)

Prior to the Olympics, few people outside of the skiing world knew much about the sport or its leading competitors. That would change on February 21, 2018, when Jessie Diggins and her teammate, Kikkan Randall, won the first ever USA Nordic gold medal by winning the Women’s Freestyle Relay Sprint. The following day, many of Jessie’s ski shop fans came into the shop to congratulate her on her namesake’s accomplishment. They now understood the significance of Jessie’s name, and so began Jessie’s adventure—all thanks to her name.

Following the Olympics, a ski team member stopped by the ski center on his way home to Colorado from PyeongChang. He was immediately smitten by Jessie’s outgoing personality and after a few minutes asked if he could share some photos and texts with a friend. Jessie Diggins, the Siberian, had been introduced to Jessie Diggins, the Olympic gold medalist.

Last February, Kikkan Randall, now retired and a motivational speaker and product development consultant, was the special guest at a regional youth skiing competition. My husband attended with Jessie the dog in tow, hoping to get a photo with Kikkan. The venue was overrun by hundreds of young skiers wanting a photo and autograph with Kikkan, but a quick introduction was all he managed.

At the end of the day, one of the sponsoring

COURTESY JANE STEFFEN

WORKING GROUP

corporate officials asked Jack if he would be at the ski shop in the morning. The next day, he and Kikkan walked into the shop where she spent several hours chatting with the staff, going for a 5K ski, taking photos with very surprised skiers, and giving to Jessie all the attention she wanted. Sometimes, the timing couldn't be better, and a name just clicks.

—Jane Steffen, Brownfield, Maine,
klonaquay@gmail.com
Siberian Husky Club of America

Standard Schnauzers

A SUMMER MEDLEY

Kudos to Jack Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC, for taking the lead to get dog fanciers back to the sport we all love—dog shows. The COVID-19 pandemic put most shows on indefinite hold.

By the publication of this issue, The Learning Cluster's four shows will have happened on June 27–30, in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Show entries each day nearly reached the 1,200-dog limit. The two shows by Bartlesville Kennel Club and one each by Claremore Kennel Club and Mid-Del-Tinker Kennel Club had Standard Schnauzer entries listed as 1-3-3-1, 1-3-3-1, 1-3-4-2, and 1-3-4-2, respectively.

The Onofrio organization planned, orga-



*Standard Schnauzer Ch. Gaudeamus
Graf Purple*

nized, and financed these shows to learn how superintendents could best assist kennel clubs in both working with local authorities' COVID-19 restrictions and adhering to the [AKC's Best Practices guidelines](#) for each sport. With the support and leadership of the clubs involved, the Southern Handlers Charity League and the Onofrio staff managed the physical execution of the events. (The Southern

Handlers Charity League is a charitable group of professional handlers organized to help fellow dog people in need; it also provides volunteer assistance for dog shows in the South. For ordering benefit T-shirts, contact deesplace1@sbcglobal.net, or click [here](#).)

A big “thank you” to the AKC for its continuing support and to the people making these shows a reality. Although many areas of our country still are (or are again) coping with the hardships of the coronavirus, exhibitors hope that dog shows will return to normal soon.

The Potomac Valley Standard Schnauzer Club will hold its 2020 specialty “The Beards Are Back!” as a one-day all-SS show outdoors at the Prince William County Fairgrounds in Manassas, Virginia, on July 18.

You and your Standard Schnauzer needn't interrupt your at-home training just because COVID-19 restrictions are interfering with training classes, nor must your pursuit of performance titles stop. (See [information on earning titles at home](#).) You don't have to be at a dog show or training class to have fun with your dog. Train your dog for all levels of Trick Dog at home. Then send videos of each level for review and evaluation to a CGC evaluator. The rules and video requirements for Novice through Elite Performer Trick Dog Titles are online.

If you and your dog enjoy walking, why not join [AKC's Fit Dog](#) program? Two titling levels include active dog-human pairs as well as those more senior and less active. Check out the rules at the link above—and while there, see how to establish a Fit Dog Club near you.

The [AKC Rally Novice Virtual Pilot Program](#) affords novice exhibitors an opportunity to stay at home and enter an AKC Rally event. The pilot program is designed to have a Rally Novice competitor set up in the safety of their own yard one of five pre-designed AKC Rally courses published on the AKC website for the exhibitor to choose. The exhibitor should:

- follow the course setup instructions provided,
- video the performance,
- upload the video to YouTube,
- set the required YouTube viewing options, and
- submit the video link with the entry form and fee to AKC.

A pre-selected judge will then score the team's performance and report to AKC. All qualifying scores will be recorded on the dog's AKC record and applied toward the Rally Novice title requirements. AKC will notify exhibitors of the results of their submission. All video submissions must be made by December 31, 2020.

COURTESY SUZANNE T. SMITH

WORKING GROUP

Summer Heat-Stress Advisory

The combination of dogs, summer heat, and cars with windows cracked open—even for moments—can be deadly. Your dog, like little kids, can’t communicate how much they have become overheated, leading to serious health issues. Signs of heat stress in dogs include:

- anxiousness,
- excessive panting and drooling,
- abnormal tongue and gum coloring,
- unsteadiness,
- general restlessness, and
- collapsing.

If your dog exhibits these signs of overheating, get veterinary care immediately.

“If you bring your dog along with you in the car, do not ever leave them alone in the car without you,” recommends John de Jong, DVM, president of the American Veterinary Medical Association. “The temperature inside a parked car can rise nearly 30 degrees in 20 minutes, even in temperatures as low as 72 degrees F and with the windows cracked. Minimize risks while driving by making sure the car is sufficiently air conditioned and your pet is traveling in a secure carrier, crate, or harness.”

Your car can become hot as an oven quickly. To test this out, start early, park your car in full sun, and mix up a batch of doggie-cookie dough. Roll out dough, cut

into bite-size squares or dog-appropriate shapes, and bake all day in your car, following the baking directions in the article “[As Hot as an Oven](#),” by Laura Johnson Andrews. Your car’s internal temperature can exceed 165 degrees F, especially in the South and Southwest, so cool cookies before giving them to your Standard Schnauzer.

Hope to see you at future shows!

—Suzanne T. Smith,

Los Alamos, New Mexico,

WustefuchsSS@aol.com

[Standard Schnauzer Club of America](#)

Tibetan Mastiffs

A HISTORICAL VIEW OF THE TIBETAN MASTIFF AS A WORKING DOG

Tibetan Mastiffs have been used as working guardians in historical Tibet (Ü-Tsang, Amdo, and Kham provinces) and surrounding areas such as Nepal, Bhutan, and northern India for centuries. The region lacks an agricultural base, and until recent times, crops such as vegetables and fruits were largely unknown. A portion of the population was mostly nomadic and highly dependent on livestock for milk, meat, wool, hair, hides, and calves and (goat) kids to trade or sell for income. The prosperity and wealth of these nomads and shepherds were measured by the

number of their livestock, and it would have been impossible for them to raise livestock without their dogs that were bred for their abilities as guardians. In 2004, Primož Peer noted:

“These dogs are living with people, lying (often chained) around the tents of nomads or in front of the houses of farmers ... As expected Do-Khyis are not used for herding, but they are also not used for protection of the herds of sheep and goat and yaks while out on pastures ... The main purpose of Do-Khyis is the protection of the nomads’ tents and herds who return to this place for the night. (While) some, especially male Do-Khyis are chained around the tents the most part of the day” (1).

Here, with the nomadic people of the Tibetan Plateau and the high Himalayas, is the origin of our breed. Over time, Tibetan Mastiffs not only became indispensable to the nomads, but also became a fixture outside the homes in the villages and by the gates of the monasteries, and an integral part of the Tibetan culture.

The nomads are always on the move with their livestock throughout the year, moving in winter to the lower, warmer regions and in summer to higher altitudes in search of pastures. Normally, their livestock consists of sheep, yak, or goats. The dogs are trained to work 24 hours a day, traveling alongside the

nomads/shepherds or encircling the camps. The dogs may be chained or not, depending on the location. In areas where the pasture is near to villages, they are chained during the day, as there is a high risk of unwanted casualties with humans. In more remote areas, they are not chained but accompany the nomads to the pastures with the livestock.

Those left behind to guard the camp patrol the perimeter of the encampment as a pack, although the composition of the pack may change as dogs join or drop out as they move around. “The dogs which belong to each tent keep fairly close to that tent, and any dog which gets too far away finds himself among more enemies than friends, and in trouble” (2). This moving wall of defense makes it impossible for anyone to cross into the encampment without their presence being made known.

At night, the chained TMs are let loose, but even when free, they keep close to the encampment, ringing the tents and barking with increased fury, keeping a trained ear and a watchful eye for intruders or predators. In this sense, their role more resembles that of watchdog than of livestock guardian. They are normally kept in numbers of two to five dogs, depending on the size of the herd. Predators include the common leopard, snow leopard, wolf, bear, and human marauders, and these

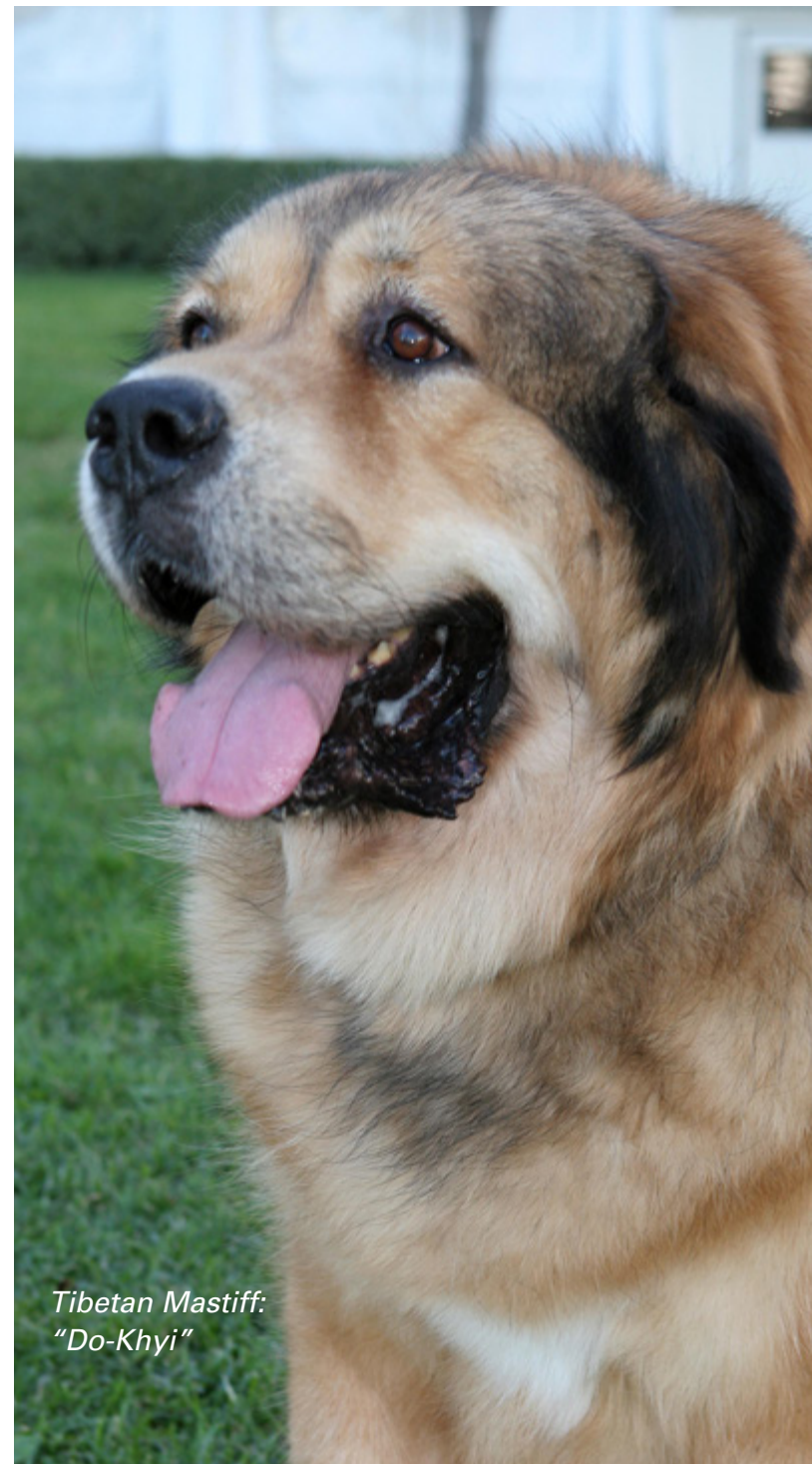
WORKING GROUP

predators are as much a threat to the people of the camp as to the livestock.

The presence and type of predators seems to influence the selection of these dogs. Very small dogs are easily picked off by leopards, and dogs who approach and attempt to attack the predators head-on may also not survive long. Dogs who bark and make their stand in numbers are more likely to survive, so dogs are selected who will take a fearless stand, bark to keep predators at bay, and work as a pack to protect the encampments and herds. The dogs are so trustworthy in their job that the nomads are able to leave their camp for periods of time, leaving the dogs with full responsibility.

There are stories of TMs doing search-and-rescue of livestock, guiding livestock on their own back to camp without the shepherd, and protecting injured owners all night against wild animals when they were unable to return to camp (3).

In addition to being utilized in the camps of the nomads, households in the villages keep TMs for security. Due to the historical absence of coordinated police and the presence of bands of armed robbers throughout the region, the dogs are responsible to guard against thieves, keeping the homes, women, and children safe. There is little or no fencing, so the dogs are chained during the day outside



Tibetan Mastiff:
"Do-Khyi"

the homes and let loose during the night to guard the home, the family, and the property, hence the common term "Do-Khyi," meaning "chained dog." Fierceness toward strangers is encouraged and enhanced by being on the chain. It should be noted that while the dogs can be ferocious towards strangers, they are regularly fed and cared for by the women and children with much affection, creating a special bond that lasts a lifetime.

Dogs considered too large, too slow, or unable to perform the job expected of them were often given to the monasteries to guard the gates there, where a more sedentary lifestyle was better suited to their abilities, giving rise to tales that the monastery dogs were larger and heavier boned. These dogs were highly valued by the monks and the Dalai Lama, and some monasteries even embarked on their own breeding programs.

The role of the TM within the monasteries and the role of the monasteries in preservation of the breed should not be minimized: Monasteries have traditionally served as the center of Tibetan culture. Prior to Chinese

occupation in 1959, Dreprung monastery alone housed 10,000 monks; Sera, 6,000; and Ganden, 4,000.

In summary, anthropologist Don Messerschmidt stated it well:


"Tibet's big landrace dogs are bred and raised locally to perform the important economic functions of protecting both fixed and moveable assets, land as well as livestock. ... Among the nomad folk, having a big dog that does its traditional job remains a necessary condition for cultural and economic survival" (4).

With this history in mind, a debate has arisen as to whether Tibetan Mastiffs can be utilized in Western societies as livestock guardian dogs (LGDs). In the next installment of this two-part series, this issue will be addressed from a modern-day perspective.

References:

- (1) *Primož Peer*, 2004.
- (2) *Ekvall, R.B., Role of the Dog in Tibetan Nomadic Society, Central Asiatic Journal, Vol. 8, No. 3, Sept. 1963, p. 168.*
- (3) *Moktan, A., private communication, May 2020.*
- (4) *Messerschmidt, D., Big Dogs of Tibet and the Himalayas, Orchid Press, Bangkok, Thailand, 2010, p. 138.*

—Deborah Mayer,
debmayer@thetatek.com
[American Tibetan Mastiff Association](#)



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 **Tuesday, September 15, 2020**. For the sole purpose of conducting the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees, the meeting will be called to order at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time (ET). The polls will remain open until 12:30 p.m. ET. The Forum will begin at 11:00 a.m. ET. The Delegate Meeting will reconvene at 12:00 p.m. ET.

DELEGATES CREDENTIALS

- Rhonda Dalton**, Monmouth Junction, NJ, Great Pyrenees Club of America
- Roy Ed Degner**, Montclair, CA, California Collie Club
- Joao Luiz Lopes Machado**, Humble, TX, Chihuahua Club of America
- R. Link Newcomb**, Santa Ana, CA, Bulldog Club of America
- Jack E. Sappenfield II**, Durham, NC, Durham Kennel Club
- Bettina (Tina) Sterling**, Glen Mills, PA, Penn Treaty Kennel Club
- Linda C. Wozniak**, Chapel Hill, NC, Bayou Kennel Club

NOTICE

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be

noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Mr. Ed Sullivan (Kansas City, MO)

NOTICE

Mr. Clifford Dupree (Oroville, CA) Action was taken by the Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego for conduct at its February 20, 2020 event. Mr. Dupree was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language and personal property damage. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the combined penalty at a one-month event suspension and a \$500 fine.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES
APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS

CHAPTER 3, Section 3 – Dog Show Classifications

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 3, Section 3**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, proposed by the Board of Directors. This amendment was inadvertently omitted from the March 2020 Delegate Meeting and was read at the June 25, 2020 Delegate Zoom Meeting.

CHAPTER 3

SECTION 3. The regular classes of The American Kennel Club shall be as follows: Puppy (may be divided 6-9 & 9-12 months) Twelve-to-Eighteen Month (may be divided 12-15 & 15-18 months) Novice Amateur-Owner-Handler Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy (may be divided 6-9 & 9-12 months) Bred-by-Exhibitor American-Bred Open Winners These classes shall be divided by sex. The balance of this section is unchanged.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES
APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS

CHAPTER 2, Section 10 – Making Application to Hold a Dog Show

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 2, Section 10**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee.

CHAPTER 2

SECTION 10. A specialty club that wishes to hold a futurity or sweepstakes, either in conjunction with a show or as a separate event, must apply to The American Kennel Club for permission to hold the event.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS

CHAPTER 16, Section 6 – Championships

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to CHAPTER 16, Section 6, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, proposed by Staff and supported by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee.

CHAPTER 16

SECTION 6. The preceding portion of this section is unchanged. Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Select Dog or Select Bitch shall count all eligible dogs of their sex in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition less the dog awarded Best of Breed or Variety or Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/ Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points. At independently held specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties, if a dog designated Best of Variety is also awarded Best of Breed in intervariety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of any variety entered at that specialty show. If a dog designated Best of Variety or Best of Opposite Sex in its variety is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in inter-variety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship

points figured at the highest point rating of its sex in any variety entered at that specialty show. Such points shall not be in addition to, but inclusive of, any Grand Championship points previously awarded the dog in its variety competition.

CONFORMATION JUDGES

Letters concerning judges and provisional judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations by email at judgingops@akc.org.

APPLICANTS

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

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Shira Lee Barkon (108315) PA

(610) 587-5542

snocrest1@gmail.com

Siberian Huskies

Mr. Justin Dannenbring (46593) CA

(951) 734-2559

orionkennelsofca@aol.com

Ibizan Hounds, Whippets

Ms. Judith Sherburne Gates (108313) RI

(401) 434-4536

jgates8@cox.net

Great Pyrenees, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, JS-Limited

Ms. Deborah Shindle (15129) FL

(772) 696-1556

debshindle@gmail.com

Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mrs. Emily K (Fish) Barnhart (92354) WA

(360) 904-5765

emilypawcific@yahoo.com

Barbets, German Wirehaired Pointers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Otterhounds, Siberian Huskies

Mrs. Lorraine Wegmann Bisso (6094) LA

(504) 782-1652

regel@bellsouth.net

Bloodhounds, Dalmatians

Mr. John F. Booth (6914) TX

(210) 487-0805

judgejbooth@gmail.com

Azawakhs, Basenjis, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Greyhounds, Harriers, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Scottish Deerhounds

Mr. Michael Canalizo (17022) NY

(727) 946-1880

tophounds@aol.com

Barbets, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Curly Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, Clumber Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Ms. Mary Ann Clark (97938) KS

(785) 539-2946

ma25275@aol.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Poodles, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Dr. Lisa M. Costello (101255) IL

(630) 625-2019

mtncow@earthlink.net

American Foxhounds, Basenjis, Beagles, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Otter-

hounds, Petit Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Ms. Pamela DeHetre (66060) GA

(770) 329-3044

pamdehetre@peoplepc.com

Alaskan Malamutes, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Komondorok, Standard Schnauzers, American Eskimo Dogs, Bulldogs, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchens, Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Nancy Eilks (23143) WI

(920) 650-2299

eilks@gdinet.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boerboels, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Dogue de Bordeaux, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

Ms. Olga K. Evelyn (7591) CT

(860) 429-2197

amunique_1@hotmail.com

Vizslas, Siberian Huskies

Ms. Donna Gilbert (58963) CT

(203) 253-5422

corgixoxo@aol.com

Lagotti Romagnoli, Flat Coated Retrievers, Pulik, Pumik

Miss Evalyn Gregory (6130) KY

(502) 777-1969

evjudge@aol.com

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, German Wire-haired Pointers, English Setters,

Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Alaskan Malamutes, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

Ms. Carolyn Herbel (4112) OK

(405) 823-1509

chirhoxp36@gmail.com

Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Borzois, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Salukis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Whippets

Ms. Dawn Hitchcock (100299) SC

(864) 238-2742

bubblezsc@hotmail.com

Chihuahuas, English Toy Spaniels, Maltese, Pomeranians, Poodles, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers

Mr. Ronald V. Horn (65755) CO

(303) 797-8642

vnnewf@gmail.com

Brussels Griffons, Havanese, Pomeranians

Mr. Jamie Hubbard (80432) IN

(812) 332-5923

ozjamiehubbard@gmail.com

American Hairless Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Welsh Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Berger Picards, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pulik, Pumik

Mr. Kristofer Kelso (40630) CT

(203) 520-3867

nevdiff216@aol.com

Barbets, Gordon Setters, Weimaraners, Ibizan Hounds, Bergamasco Sheepdogs

Ms. Gloria Kerr (17561) AZ

(520) 861-5211

gskerr1@yahoo.com

American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Salukis

Dr. Adam Stafford King (49694) IL

(812) 568-6972

askingdvm@gmail.com

Balance of Toy Group (Chinese Crested, Italian Greyhounds, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers), Labrador Retrievers, Bull Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers

Mr. David J. Kirkland (6340) NC

(919) 774-0989

rokirk@windstream.net

American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Scottish Deerhounds

Ms. Nancy Liebes (5170) IN

(713) 254-8106

ragmop@earthlink.net

American Hairless Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Rat Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mr. Brian Meyer (15140) IL

(815) 332-4848

bckennel@aol.com

Airedale Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Scottish Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mrs. Cindy Meyer (15141) IL

(815) 332-4848

bckennel@aol.com

Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Dachshunds, Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds

Mr. Ken J. Murray (44568) IL

(847) 910-6063

bispwd2@aol.com

Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds, Japanese Chins, Pomeranians, Poodles, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers)

Mr. Bradley K. Odagiri (94657) HI

(808) 389-7931

bradodagiri@aol.com

Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Bluetick Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Ms. Sheila Dee Paske (46304) CA

(530) 668-8700

sheila@storybookdachshunds.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds)

Ms. Madeline Patterson (16760) CA

(805) 529-7405

bradandmad@aol.com

Balance Toy Group (Japanese Chins, Manchester Terriers, Pekingese)

Mrs. Sharon G. Reynolds (98177) VA

(434) 237-4451

little-woods@nymrod-mesa.com

Afghan Hounds, Borzois, Ibizan Hounds

Mr. Eric J. Ringle (6564) FL

(954) 614-0851

eringle@msn.com

Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Irish Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mr. Andrew Ritter (92968) NJ

(908) 996-7355

cerri.bmd@att.net

Belgian Malinois, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Briards, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pumik

Mr. John Schoeneman (98359) NC

(704) 455-8114

schohaus1@aol.com

Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Berger Picards, Canaan Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Swedish Vallhunds

Mr. Gus Sinibaldi (103241) NC

(954) 614-9308

gus.sinibaldi@yahoo.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichon Frises, Coton de Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Lowchens, Norwegian Lundehunds, Schipperkes, Tibetan Terriers), Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Silky Terriers, JS-Limited

Mr. Joseph Smith (95833) CA

(510) 682-4335

rubyd2000@aol.com

Balance of Working Group (Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondor, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Saint Bernards)

Mrs. Helene Stearns (101598) PA

(570) 595-3097

cairns@aberdeencairns.com

Border Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Welsh Terriers, French Bulldogs

Mrs. Tami Worley (90328) OR

(503) 318-2847

worleycom1@aol.com

Australian Shepherds, Border Collies, Briards, Pumik, Shetland Sheepdogs

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

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANT

Mrs. Ashley Dawn (Fincher) Groves

(108345) OK

(405) 812-9199

missashleyfincher@gmail.com

JS

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 JUDGE

Ms. Debbie Owczarzak (108218) IN

(219) 374-8954

goldengaitecs@sbcglobal.net

English Cocker Spaniels

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Mrs. Bernadette F. Biasi (5655) PA

(610) 825-1362

bernbrate@hotmail.com

Bouviere des Flandres

Ms. Carol S. Brown (31144) NC

(717) 507-3230

carolb7521@gmail.com

American Hairless Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Chow Chows, Briards

Mr. Todd Clyde (52861) DE

(302) 542-3416

tclyde002@msn.com

Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, French Bulldogs

**Permit status approval for Poodles pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

Mr. Lloyd Constantine-Amodei (95053) FL

(215) 570-6674

ljamodei@gmail.com

Miniature Bull Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

Ms. Denise Dean (7044) AZ

(928) 635-2931

dean7044@gmail.com

Chihuahuas, Pugs

Ms. Victoria M. Jordan (7084) FL

(614) 395-3641

k9judgevicki@gmail.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Chinese Shar Pei, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu,

Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers)
Mrs. Nancy Lovelady (97313) CA
 jwnsl@sbcglobal.net
 Whippets, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Sealyham Terriers
**Permit status approval for Manchester Terriers pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*
Ms. Christie Martinez (22596) WA
 (503) 477-0801
 xtiepl@gmail.com
 American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, English Foxhounds, Sloughis
Ms. Ann C. Meyer (81890) FL
 (239) 848-6255
 ameyersimbali@yahoo.com
 Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Borzois, English Foxhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds), Dalmatians
Mr. David J. Peat (6909) AZ
 (480) 473-4776
 davepeat@cox.net
 Alaskan Malamutes, Cane Corsos, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs
Mr. Tim Peterson (92446) MN
 (612) 396-3466
 tim@oecscomply.com
 Newfoundlands
Ms. Deirdre Petrie (63937) PA
 (610) 763-8976
 deirdrepetrie@yahoo.com
 Beagles, Bluetick Coonhounds, Grand

Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, English Toy Spaniels
Mr. Adrian Quesada (96331) CA
 (951) 751-4109
 aqlexport@aol.com
 Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar Pei
**Permit status approval for Basset Hounds, Whippets, Dalmatians, Poodles, Shiba Inu pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*
Ms. Rhonda Silveira (100061) OR
 (503) 428-2021
 rsilveira.akcjudge@outlook.com
 Briards, Collies, Finnish Lapphunds, Swedish Vallhunds
JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES
Ms. Marlene Groves (108243) CO
 (303) 621-1111
 marlene@buffalogroves.com
 JS
Mrs. Carol Pyrkosz (96273) TN
 (352) 300-2711
 cpyrkosz@yahoo.com
 JS
Mrs. Allison C. Rogers (16204) OR
 (971) 344-3909
 devonshirelabs@comcast.net
 JS-Limited
REINSTATED JUDGES
 The Judging eligibility of the following

persons have been reinstated.
Mr. Clay Williams (17199) TX
 (214) 403-3303
 k9clay@gmail.com
 Poodles
Ms. Julie Virosteck (17307) KS
 (760) 490-1041
 jvirosteck@gmail.com
 Pointers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels
CONFORMATION JUDGE: RESIGNED BREED OR JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP
 The judges below have notified AKC to resign their privileges for the following:
Ms. Camille Gagnon (96303) SC
 Doberman Pinschers
RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE
 Ms. Christine (Chris) C. Carter
PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES COMPLETED
 The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.
Ms. Karen F Lamb (18089) CO
 (719) 200-8191
 goldenlamb1@gmail.com
 Rally – All

Dr. Hallie A Ray (6939) WI
 (540) 842-3070
 OTCHMolly@hotmail.com
 Rally – All
PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES
 The following persons have been approved as a judge on a Provisional basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. They may now accept assignments.
None
DECEASED OBEDIENCE & RALLY JUDGES
None
EMERITUS OBEDIENCE JUDGES
 Carol McCarthy (PA)
EMERITUS TRACKING JUDGES
 Robert Brown (OK)
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:
 ARTISTRY'S – Pomeranians- Marina Persic Lehn

BELLA NOTTE'S - Labrador Retriever-
Angela M. Rice

BLUE RUN- Portuguese Water Dogs-
Cheryl W Hoofnagle and Juanita Casey

BLULAKE-Kerry Blue Terriers- Phillip J.
Lemieux and Jose C. Benavidez

BUCKSKIN- Boxers – V. J. Ferguson

CATOCTINMTN- Bulldogs Debbie S.
Morrison

COOL RUNNIN- Dachshunds- Roberta C.
McKay and Dickie R. Rice

EARTHBORN- Miniature American Shep-
herds- Josephine W. Zukas

ENERGON- Bull Terriers- Pamela Pichilli
HEARTLAND- Havanese- Sandy McCabe
& Kevin McCabe

HHK- Australian Shepherds- Vivian Beard

JINGLE- Boston Terriers- Jill M. Moore

KASSEL- Poodles- Debra L. Smith

KNOLLWOOD- Golden Retrievers- Caro-
line A. Cafarelli

LIL DESCHUTES- Dachshunds- Debi K.
Ferrante

LINDMAR- Kerry Blue Terriers- Linda M.
Hickey

MAPLEWOOD- Vizslas- Amanda G. Mize
& Brandon L. Mize

OUTBARK-German Shorthaired Pointers-
Erica R. Walker & Shane J. Walker

STARFIRE- Giant Schnauzers- Marianne
Mazzenga & Keli Mazzenga

STONEY BROOKS- Xoloitzcuintli-
Dorothy Baker

SUDOX- Dachshunds- Susan D. Thomas

TIFFANY- Miniature American Shepherds-
Melissa Tiffany & Mark Tiffany

THUNDER PAWS- Siberian Huskies- Scott
M. Barber

TIMELESS- Cocker Spaniels- Michelle L.
Juliussen

TWILIGHT-Staffordshire Bull Terriers-
Chiara Crawford

VERDES PAMPAS-Dogo Argentino-Aurea
R. Giacomelli & Rogers R. Silveira

VON STELLAR AWF-German Shepherds-
Austin W. Fowler & Rebecca C. White

WAIDMAN- Irish Red and White Setters-
Christina Phillips

WINDSONG-Biewer Terriers-Debarah G.
Billings

WODEN-Mudi-Chirs Echard

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

BROOKMONT – Portuguese Podengo Pe-
quenos – Rose M. Hidlay & Robert W. Hidlay

CELESTIAL – West Highland White Terri-
ers – Susan J. Chapman

GUARDIAN BEARS – Black Russian Terri-
ers – DeAnne B. Hawkes & Richard J.
Hawkes

DRIFTLESS – Bernese Mountain Dogs –
Deanna Scott

FIRE AWAY – French Bulldogs – Dustin L.
Sitzes & Kryn R. Sitzes

FIREZONE – Giant Schnauzers – Marina
Raukhverger

FLYING M – Miniature American Shep-
herds – Heather M. Mabrey

LAURELHILLS – Australian Shepherds –
Lisa K. McCann

OBSIDIAN – Giant Schnauzers – Nickolas
Welton

PHASION – Whippets – Kimberly L. Nor-
ton

SALSA'S – Havanese – Sandi Miller

WANDERLUST – French Bulldogs – Toni
A. Lenhert

ZODIAC – Newfoundlands – Lisa A. Zo-
brist



DELEGATE ZOOM MEETING OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB JUNE 25, 2020

Dennis B. Sprung, President

ATTENDEES: 311

Abilene Kennel Club — Melanie Steele

Affenpinscher Club of America — Letisha
Wubbel

Airedale Terrier Club of America — Aletta Moore

Akita Club of America — Steven Lisker

American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc. —
Janina Laurin

American Bloodhound Club — Mary Lou
Olszewski

American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc. —
Patte Klecan

American Boxer Club, Inc. — Sharon Steckler

American Brussels Griffon Association — Mark
Francis Jaeger

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. — Sandra Bingham-Porter

American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc. — Barbara Donahue

American Pointer Club, Inc. — Danny Seymour

American Pomeranian Club, Inc. — Dr. Geno Sisneros

American Rottweiler Club — Peter Piusz

American Shetland Sheepdog Association — Marjorie Tuff

American Sloughi Association — Erika Wyatt

American Tibetan Mastiff Association — Martha Feltenstein

Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc. — Patricia Sample

Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc. — Anne Palmer

Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc. — Ann Wallin

Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc. — Gail LaBerge

Augusta Kennel Club, Inc. — Catherine Iacopelli

Austin Kennel Club, Inc. — Bette Williams

Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc. — William Christensen

Badger Kennel Club — Jennifer Amundsen

Basset Hound Club of America, Inc. — Dr. Norine Noonan

Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc. — Kathleen Ronald

Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc. — Susan Soviero

Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc. — Mary Buckwalter

Berger Picard Club of America — Jacqueline Carswell

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc. — Sara Karl

Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc. — Jerry Yarbrough

Black Russian Terrier Club of America — Susan Sholar

Blennerhassett Kennel Club, Inc. — John McCullagh

Border Collie Society of America — Lisa Pruکا

Borzoi Club of America, Inc. — Prudence Hlatky

Briard Club of America, Inc. — Diane Reid

Bryn Mawr Kennel Club — Victoria Glickstein

Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc. — Priscilla Gabosch

Bulldog Club of New England, Inc. — Francesca Castaneda

Burlington County Kennel Club — Dan Smyth

Cairn Terrier Club of America — Pam Davis

California Airedale Terrier Club — Nancy Bougher

Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club — Wayne Harmon

Canaan Dog Club of America — Pamela Rosman

Canada Del Oro Kennel Club — Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki

Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc. — Dr. Joyce 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 Drake

Central Beagle Club — David Bagaley

Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc. — Sally Allen

Central Iowa Kennel Club, Inc. — Kristina DeLisi

Channel City Kennel Club, Inc. — Janet Mitchell

Chicago Bulldog Club, Inc. — Jennifer Guinn

Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc. — Marge Calltharp

Chow Chow Club, Inc. — Margaret DiCorleto

Clarksville Kennel Club — Robert Schroll

Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts — Dr. Stephen Lawrence

Clearwater Kennel Club — Daniel Stolz

Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc. — Marjorie Underwood

Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc. — Maureen Setter

Colorado Kennel Club — Louise Leone

Colorado Springs Kennel Club — Douglas Johnson

Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Inc. — Anne Hier

Conroe Kennel Club — Jane Bates

Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc. — James Barron

Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc. — Pamela Rhyner-Hirko

Dachshund Club of America, Inc. — Larry Sorenson

Dalmatian Club of America, Inc. — Dr. Charles Garvin

Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc. — Karen Dorn

Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc. — Andrew Mills

Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore — Sandra Olsen

Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club — Stephanie Crawford

Delaware County Kennel Club, Inc. — Brenda Algar

Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club — Dr. Duane Butherus

Doberman Pinscher Club of America — Glen Lajeski

Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc. — Patti Strand

Durango Kennel Club — Donald Schwartz, V.M.D.

Durham Kennel Club Inc — Linda Wozniak

Eastern Dog Club — Theodore Hollander

Elm City Kennel Club — Dr. Gregory Paveza

Elmira Kennel Club, Inc. — Homer Hastings

English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc. — Chereen Nawrocki

English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association — Susanne Burgess

Erie Kennel Club, Inc. — Julie 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 Pough

Finnish Spitz Club of America — Cindy Stansell

First Dog Training Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc. — Mary Curtis

Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc. — Neal Goodwin

Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc. — June Guido

Fort Lauderdale Dog Club — Eduardo Fugiwara

Fort Worth Kennel Club — Harold Tatro III

Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc. — Gale Golden

French Bulldog Club of America — Ann Hubbard

Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc. — Cathy De La Garza

Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc. — Cynthia (Cindy) Collins

Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — Virginia Denninger

German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America — Barbara Schwartz

German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc. — Patricia Laurans

Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc. — Chris Reed

Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America — Jo Lynn

Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc. — Carole Richards

Golden Retriever Club of America — Ellen Hardin

Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc. — Nance Skoglund

Grand Rapids Kennel Club — Carol Johnson

Grand River Kennel Club, Inc. — Ann Lettis

Great Barrington Kennel Club, Inc. — Dr. Ellen Shanahan

Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California — Jack Smith

Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc — Karen Burgess

Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc. — Barbara Shaw

Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc. — Joseph Philip

Greater Miami Dog Club — Dr. Azalea Alvarez

Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association — Jerry Berkowitz

Greater Sierra Vista Kennel Club — Charlotte Borghardt

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc. — Catherine Cooper

Greenville Kennel Club — Gloria Askins

Greenwich Kennel Club — Donna Gilbert

Greyhound Club of America — Kathleen Whitaker

Harrier Club of America — Donna Smiley

Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc. — Sandie Rolenaitis

Hatboro Dog Club, Inc. — Sally Fineburg

Havanese Club of America — Shirley Petko

Heart of America Kennel Club, Inc. — Julie Lux

Heart of the Plains Kennel Club — Patricia Cruz

Hendersonville Kennel Club — Betty Ann Brown

Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc. — Nancy Fisk

Hollywood Dog Obedience Club, Inc. — Pia Paulsen

Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc. — Jane Wilkinson

Hungarian Pumi Club of America — Marilyn Piusz

Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — Dick Blair

Huntington Kennel Club, Inc. — Marile Waterstraat

Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc. — Barbara Penny

Ibizan Hound Club of the United States — Michelle Barlak

Idaho Capital City Kennel Club, Inc. — Robyn Foust

Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc. — Rita Biddle

Intermountain Kennel Club, Inc. — Michael Van Tassell

Irish Red and White Setter Association of America — Christopher Orcutt

Irish Setter Club of America, Inc. — Karolynne McAteer

Irish Terrier Club of America — Douglas Rapport

Irish Wolfhound Club of America — Eugenia Hunter

K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc. — Dave Morgan

Kanadasaga Kennel Club — Christine Cone

Keeshond Club of America, Inc. — Richard Su

Kennel Club of Beverly Hills — Thomas Powers

Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc. — Margaret Doster

Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc. — Dr. Suzanne Hampton

Kennel Club of Riverside — Sylvia Thomas

Kennesaw Kennel Club — Bud Hidlay

Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc. — Jacquelyn Fogel

Kuvasz Club of America — Richard Rosenthal

Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. — Tony Emilio

Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc. — Kimberly Van Hemert

Ladies’ Dog Club, Inc. — Arna Margolies

Lake Champlain Retriever Club — Wendy Jones

Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc. — Diana Skibinski

Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc. — Deborah Kreider

Land O’Lakes Kennel Club, Inc. — Jan Croft

Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc. — Debra Duncan

Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc. — Robert LaBerge

LEAP Agility Club of Central Massachusetts — Noreen Bennett

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 — William Tabler

Longshore Southport Kennel Club — Michaelann Cox

Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — Ruth Crumb

Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club, Inc. — James Henshaw

Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc. — Lynn Garvin

Mastiff Club of America, Inc. — Rebecca Campbell

Mensona Kennel Club, Inc. — Dr. John Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.

Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — Jeannette Nieder

Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa, Inc. — Dr. Andrea Hesser, D.V.M.

Middleburg Kennel Club — Susan Werner

Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc. — Joanne Wilds

Mississippi Valley Kennel Club — Gretchen Bernardi

Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc. — Mary Yoders

Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc. — Jane 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

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 — Jane Ogg

Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. — David Helming

Newnan Kennel Club — Luanne Dunham

Newton Kennel Club — Catherine Murch

Newtown Kennel Club, Inc. — Susan Marucci

North Shore Kennel Club — Richard Coletti

Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club — Joyce Engle

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) — Alyson Casper

Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc. — Beverly Conroy

Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island — James Ashton

Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc. — Sheila Kenyon

Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc. — Felice Jarrold

Olympic Kennel Club, Inc. — Betty Winthers

Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc. — Judy Murray

Otterhound Club of America — Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.

Ozarks Kennel Club, Inc. — Cathy Hawkins

Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc. — Link Newcomb

Pacific Coast Pekingese Club — Frank Meister

Parson Russell Terrier Association of America — Gary Koeppel

Pekingese Club of America — Steven Hamblin

Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc. — Anne Bowes

Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America — Helen Ingher

Pharaoh Hound Club of America — Dominic Carota

Plainfield Kennel Club — Linda Deutsch

Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado — William Ellis

Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc. — Robin Burmeister

Providence County Kennel Club, Inc. — Richard Grant

Pug Dog Club of America, Inc. — Michelle Anderson

Putnam Kennel Club, Inc. — Florence Laicher

Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc. — Frances Stephens

Queen City Dog Training Club, Inc. — Erica Behnke

Ramapo Kennel Club — Jeffrey Ball

Redwood Empire Kennel Club — Johnny Shoemaker

Reno Kennel Club — Vicky Cook

Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc. — Grace Wilkinson

Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc. — Judith Lichtman

Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club — Barbara Burns

Rogue Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — Paul Bodeving

Rubber City Kennel Club — Cathy Gaidos

Sahuaro State Kennel Club — Rita Mather

Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club — Karen Cottingham

Saluki Club of America — Monica Stoner

Sammamish Kennel Club — Dr. Robert Gloster, M.D.

Samoyed Club of America, Inc. — John Ronald

San Antonio Kennel Club, Inc. — Nancy Shaw

Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc. — Abbe Shaw

Santa Clara Dog Training Club, Inc. — Becky Luft

Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC. — David Peat

Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc. — Mimi Winkler

Schipperke Club of America, Inc. — Betty Jo Patrick

Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc. — James Phinizy

Scottish Terrier Club of America — Helen Prince

Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc. — Dr. Dawn Schroeder

Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — Sharyn Hutchens

Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County — Susan Hamil

Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc. — Ann Cook

Silver State Kennel Club — Tammy Russell-Rice

Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc — William Feeney

Skye Terrier Club of America — Stephen Hersey

Skyline Kennel Club, Inc. — Gloria Shaver

Somerset Hills Kennel Club — Harvey Goldberg

South Shore Kennel Club, Inc. — Linda Flynn

South Windsor Kennel Club — Laurie Maulucci

Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club — Ricky Adams

Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club — Marilyn Vinson

Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc. — John 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 Davies

St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — Deborah 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. — Robert Eisele

Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc. — Marcy Zingler —

Superstition Kennel Club, Inc. — Nancy Perrell

Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc. — Laura Trainor

Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc. — Marylyn DeGregorio

Tampa Bay Kennel Club — Mary Stolz

Tennessee Valley Kennel Club — Richella Veatch

Texas Kennel Club, Inc. — Dr. Michael Knight

Tibetan Spaniel Club of America — Linda Foiles

Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc. — Stacey La Forge

Topeka Kennel Club, Inc. — Robert Bostrom

Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc. — Christopher Sweetwood

Trenton Kennel Club, Inc. — Karen Gunzel

Trinity Valley Kennel Club — Debby Fowler

Troy Kennel Club, Inc. — Donald Gillett

Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc. — James Corbett

Tucson Kennel Club — Kenneth Levison

Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc. — Patricia Sarles

Union County Kennel Club, Inc. — Kathy Sanders

United States Australian Shepherd Association — Jeff Margeson

United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc. — Carl Ashby

United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club — Margaret Wolfe

Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club — Robert Lachman

Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc. — Carol Fisher

Vancouver Kennel Club — Jolyne Lea

Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association — Lorraine Ebdon

Virginia Kennel Club, Inc. — Sandie Friend

Vizsla Club of America, Inc. — Elise Wright

Walla Walla Kennel Club — Rod Strand

Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc. — John Cadalso

Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc. — Cindy Miller

Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc. — Mary Eschweiler

Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc. — Richard Rohrbacher

West Highland White Terrier Club of America — Tracy Pancost

Westbury Kennel Association, Inc. —
Geraldine Jaitin

Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association —
Judy Descutner

Westminster Kennel Club — David Haddock

Windham County Kennel Club, Inc. —
Frederick Vogel

Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association
— Karen Mays

Woodstock Dog Club, Inc. — Karen Dewey



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB DELEGATE ZOOM MEETING JUNE 25, 2020

Dennis Sprung, President in the Chair,
called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Ms. DiNardo: Good morning, Delegates,
and thank you for attending the Delegates
Zoom Session. For your information, the
meeting will be recorded. Attendees will
not be seen or heard, and therefore, inter-
active features for attendees have been dis-
abled, and to avoid background noise,
everyone has been muted.

Mr. Sprung: Please join us in the playing
of the National Anthem.
(National Anthem played)

The Chair would like to introduce the
Chairman, Dr. Thomas M. Davies; Vice
Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota;
Executive Secretary, Gina DiNardo; and
the Court Reporter, Sharon Pearce.

At the May Board meeting, Chairman Dr.
Tom Davies asked the Staff to present tech-

nology solutions that would allow AKC to
hold virtual meetings in June 2020, in
order to update the Delegates on the state
of our sports and business. After consulting
AKC's not-for-profit Counsel, Staff received
and reviewed the guidance from the New
York State Attorney General on holding
electronic member meetings during the
pandemic. The New York State Attorney
General recognizes the extenuating cir-
cumstances of a pandemic and has laid out
best practice guidance for conducting such
electronic meetings. Under that directive,
Gina and I created a blueprint for virtual
delegate meetings. The IT department
then sourced technology solutions in full
compliance with that plan, using the pro-
fessional Zoom Webinar platform.

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

Ms. DiNardo: These are Delegates seated
since the last meeting:

James F. Barron, Redwood City, CA, to
represent Contra Costa Kennel Club

Jane E. Bates, Montgomery, TX, to repre-
sent Conroe Kennel Club

Joann B. Beavers, St Michaels, MD, to rep-
resent Talbot Kennel Club

Michael Capozzi, Manorville, NY, to repre-

sent Riverhead Kennel Club

Stephanie A. Crawford, Binghamton, NY,
to represent Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club
Luanne K. Dunham, Newnan, GA, to rep-
resent Newnan Kennel Club

Dr. Andrea C. Hesser, DVM, Flower
Mound, TX, to represent Mid-Continent
Club of Tulsa

Chereen M. Nawrocki, Bangor, PA, to rep-
resent English Cocker Spaniel Club of
America

Tracy J. Pancost, Louisville, KY, to repre-
sent West Highland White Terrier Club of
America

Susan Soviero, Little Silver, NJ, to repre-
sent Bayshore Companion Dog Club

Mr. Sprung: The Chair calls on the
Executive Secretary to read new Delegate
biographies that were submitted in lieu of
introductions from the floor.

Ms. DiNardo: I am pleased to introduce
the following new Delegates:

James Barron, Redwood City, California
Contra Costa County Kennel Club

James Barron is representing the Contra
Costa County Kennel Club from the San
Francisco Bay Area. James' breed of
choice is the Doberman Pinscher. He pur-
chased his first purebred Doberman
Pinscher in 1991 and presently has his

12th, 13th and 14th Doberman Pinschers. From 1991 to the present he has been actively involved in Rescue, Breeding, Conformation, Parent Club and All-Breed Kennel Clubs. James believes there is a serious threat to the rights and privileges of purebred dog enthusiasts. He welcomes and is honored by the opportunity to join his fellow AKC Delegates in the representation, protection and preservation of purebred dogs for future generations. Mr. Barron thanks everyone for their dedication and he looks forward to meeting in person in the near future.

**Jane Bates, Montgomery, Texas
Conroe Kennel Club**

Jane is the first AKC Delegate for the recent new member club – Conroe Kennel Club in Conroe, Texas. She currently serves as the Show Chairman for Conroe Kennel Club, the Treasurer and Show Chairman for the German Shepherd Dog Club of Houston and is also a member of the Houston Kennel Club and a Co-Vendor Chair for the Houston World Series of Dog Shows. Her primary breeds are German Shepherd Dogs and Belgian Malinois and her primary interest is conformation although some of her GSDs have participated in herding competition. She has also worked in protection sports with her Malinois. She

looks forward to learning more about other member clubs and the AKC.

**Michael Capozzi, Manorville, New York
Riverhead Kennel Club**

Michael is a breeder/owner of Best in Show winning Afghan Hounds. But, 25 years ago he had no idea what an Afghan Hound was, let alone a dog show. That all changed when he met his wife and he has learned a lot since then. He is currently a member of several all-breed clubs and several specialty clubs. Michael is a Board member of the Long Island Kennel Club and the Corresponding Secretary of the Afghan Hound Association of Long Island. He has assisted in the planning and running of many dog shows over the years. With retirement in his near future, Mike will have more time to devote to actively showing and working at the shows to further the sport. He looks forward to representing the Riverhead Kennel Club as their new Delegate.

Stephanie Crawford, Binghamton, New York

Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club
Stephanie represents Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club located in Oneonta, NY. This is a small club with members having various interests in the fancy but primarily focused on bringing more AKC perform-

ance sports to the upstate NY area. Stephanie looks forward to sharing the vast experience of the Delegate Body with her club.

**Luanne Dunham, Newnan, Georgia
Newnan Kennel Club**

Lu Dunham is the new Delegate for the Newnan Kennel Club in Newnan GA. Lu is past President and has been a member of NKC since 2005. Lu is a retired nurse. She became an AKC judge in 2008 and judges Cavaliers, Shelties and Junior Showmanship. Her current breed is Cavaliers but she started out with AKC and Shelties in the 1980's. Lu is also Corresponding Secretary for the American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club and a Trustee for the ACKCSC Charitable Trust and has been a member since 2003.

**Dr. Andrea Hesser, Flower Mound, Texas
Mid-Continent Club of Tulsa**

Dr. Andrea Hesser is the new Delegate from the Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa. Her breed interests are varied, but she is most involved currently with Whippets. Dr. Hesser is a boarded veterinary reproduction specialist who practices primarily on canine patients at a busy general practice. She serves on the board for the American College of

Theriogenologists, and also stays involved with local veterinary organizations. Her interests in reproductive medicine stemmed originally from her involvement as a junior handler in AKC sports, especially conformation. Outside of work, she is passionate about conformation and lure coursing with her dogs.

**Glen Lajeski, Cloverdale, California
Doberman Pinscher Club of America**

Having Min Pins as his family's dogs Glen struck out on his own and transitioned to Great Danes in college. While in college and graduate school he began working for Kitty Kolyer of Kolyer Great Danes on weekends. Kitty introduced Glen to the world of dog shows, leading to his becoming a member of the Professional Handlers Association and handling professionally while also developing a career in the music industry. A career advancement caused a move from New York and the east coast to Hollywood which necessitated a shift from handling to judging and down-sizing from breeding Great Danes to Standard Poodles. Currently he judges breeds in the Toy, Working and Non-Sporting groups as well as Junior Handling. Glen actively breeds and shows Dobermans and Poodles, having co-sponsored the #1 Dog News Non-Sporting dog of 2010 and several top winning

Dobermans. In the world of Poodles Glen is partnered with Joseph Vergnetti of Dassin Poodles. He recently retired from Disney as Executive Vice President of Music Creative/ Marketing for the film division, working on all live action, animated, and Pixar films during his tenure. Now he can focus full time on the great sport of dogs.

Jolyne Lea, LA Center, Washington Vancouver Kennel Club

Jolyne Lea is the new Delegate of the Vancouver Kennel Club in Vancouver Washington. She has been a club member since 2003 and currently is the Treasurer as well as having held several board positions. Jolyne is also a member of the Greater Clark County Kennel Club in Washington and has been a past treasurer and board member for that club. In breed clubs, she is a member of the Kuvasz Club of America and has served as treasurer and show chair of the 2000 National Specialty. She is also a member of the Great Pyrenees Club of America and served as President and Board member of the regional Columbia Cascade Great Pyrenees Club in southwest Washington.

Chereen Nawrocki, Bangor, Pennsylvania English Cocker Spaniel Club of America

Chereen Nawrocki represents the English

Cocker Spaniel Club of America, for which she has served on the board previously as a Director and President. In 2008 she was the show chair of their national specialty and was very involved in the 2012 national. Currently she is President of the ECSCA Health & Rescue Organization and is involved in planning for the 2022 ECSCA National. In over 25 years in the breed she has served her local English Cocker clubs in various positions while breeding and showing her English Cockers.

Tracy Pancost, Louisville, Kentucky West Highland White Terrier Club of America

Tracy Pancost is the new Delegate for the West Highland White Terrier Club of America. She has been involved in Westies since she was five years old. Her passion is showing Westies in the conformation ring. She is extremely involved in her national club including Immediate Past President, current Finance Committee Chair, and current Roving National Chair. In addition, she is also very active in her all breed club, the Louisville Kennel Club and is currently the Vice-President. She is very excited about being a delegate and she looks forward to working with fellow Delegates in order to further this wonderful world of purebred dogs!

Susan Soviero, Little Silver, New Jersey Bayshore Companion Dog Club

Susan is a retired bank officer and lives in New Jersey with her husband, John. She competes and trains in agility, obedience, rally, fast cat and has certified in therapy. All Susan's dogs have shown in conformation attaining Level Grand Championships. Susan shares her home with two Portuguese Water Dogs which she considers her breed and a Frenchie. Susan is dedicated to the all-round training of the dog for a fulfilling experience between dog and owner as well as to the health of her breed. Susan's club, Bayshore Companion Dog Club is a very active performance club that offers classes and sponsors trials year-round for most of the dog sports. Susan is past President of Bayshore and current Vice President. She also belongs to two breed clubs. Susan looks forward to this experience as a Delegate.

Grace Wilkinson, Barrington, Rhode Island

Rhode Island Kennel Club

Grace Wilkinson has been breeding and showing English Cockers under the Cliffwalk prefix for 15 years. Two of her litters all finished championships, and she recently put her first Grand Championship on a puppy. Her specialty

is breeding litters of all boys. Her latest? 8 boys, no girls: a breeder's dream! Grace is also a very active, experienced ring steward who works for many clubs in New England. She frequently mentors upcoming stewards with a hands-off approach, allowing them to find a system that works best for their judges and for them. Mr. Sprung: Thank you. And a sincere welcome to each new Delegate. The Chair calls on Dr. Tom Davies for the Chairman's Report.

Dr. Davies: Good morning, everybody. It certainly is the dawn of a new day when our meeting of the AKC Delegate Body takes place over the Internet via Zoom. Although it's a depressing set of circumstances that has brought us together in this way, I'm grateful that we have been able to convene safely and efficiently. I'd like to give a huge thank you to our management and staff for organizing the technology that's made this meeting possible. Most importantly, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for participating with us in this new way today. I'm also grateful to those Delegate Committees who have hosted their meetings virtually as well. Changes like these aren't easy, but we all know that the key to success is often the ability to adapt. We've all been grieving the loss of so many events, which has affected

each of us in many different ways. It has deprived us of the joy of participating in our sports. It's meant significant loss of income for clubs, handlers, vendors, judges, and others who have supported our mission through their work. These are indeed very trying times. We will get through this, united as we are, for the sake of our dogs and our sports. As Jack Welch put it, we will "face reality as it is, not as it was or as we wish it to be." Although events have suffered tremendously, it is true that "the show must go on." And it has. Our staff has done incredible work throughout this ordeal, most of it behind the scenes and unsung in order to keep the home fires burning. As people around the country have brought puppies and dogs into their lives at rates we have not seen in quite some time, our registration department has been there to serve and welcome them into our ranks. Breeders who have been fortunate to welcome litters during the pandemic have also benefited from uninterrupted AKC services. Our communications and marketing teams have risen to the occasion in educating the public about responsible dog ownership during challenging times. Public Education has been delivering top-quality webinars for our judges to continue honing their knowledge and skills while everybody is sidelined. Club Development and

the Events department have been hard at work during this crisis helping our clubs to manage cancellations and postponements. They have worked with other departments collaboratively, forging a path to normalcy with new procedures for our 26 sports. We have offered Pet Pals, Rally, Trick Dog, Act 1 Agility online and even a virtual dog show, to bring back a taste of what we have been missing for so long. Our staff has been agile and creative, because circumstances have necessitated flexibility. In the words of John F. Kennedy, "We would like to live as we once lived, but history will not permit it." You'll hear more from Dennis about all of these recent achievements and more. I will add that your Board has been very active during this time as well. We have met three times, virtually, appointed three ad hoc committees and elected a new Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips. Our thoughts have been with you and your club members every step of the way. Before I turn the virtual podium over to Dennis, I would like to say, speaking for the Board of Directors, we do have reason to have hope for better days ahead. These are unprecedented times. There is a sea change going on in our country right now, and some would say we are at a turning point in history. I will leave you with a thought from someone who lived under unimaginable circumstances and had

much to teach the generations that followed, and that was Anne Frank: "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." Let's keep working together constructively. We'll get through this, and we'll meet again, with our dogs by our sides. Thank you very much and thank you for your time. Be safe.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Tom. The Chair calls our Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota, for a report on three new committees.

Mr. Carota: Good morning, fellow Delegates. In an effort to serve the Delegate Body better and provide a high level of transparency, Dr. Tom Davies, Chairman of the Board, appointed three ad hoc committees in the areas of Communications, the Judging Approval Process, and Sample Bylaws. The AKC Chairman of the Board and I, as Vice Chairman, will sit as ex officio members of each Committee. The Board Communications Committee will consist of Karolynne McAteer, Ann Wallin and Steven Hamblin. The goals for communications committee are to institute a protocol for Board communication to the Delegate Body and the fancy in general in an appropriate and timely manner, and in

particular, to avoid haphazard and inaccurate dissemination of such information. It will also communicate in an open and transparent fashion, so that the entire AKC constituency has the same information, at the same time, and in a reliable and easily understandable format. Additionally, the AKC Board of Directors has appointed two committees to study and make recommendations. The Committees are: The Committee to address the Judging Approval process. This is a reconstitution of the previous committee. It will monitor and review the Board's current policy on judging approval and determine where modification may be warranted. The committee will consist of Red Tatro, Tim Thomas, Bob Ennis from American Dog Show Judges, and Sam McDonald from Dog Judges Association of America. The Committee to address the AKC Sample Bylaws for Clubs. This committee will examine and make recommendations to modernize the current AKC "Sample Constitution and Bylaws" document and the process for making changes to a Club's existing document. The committee will consist of Lisa Cecin, AKC Director of Club Relations (Chair), Rita Biddle, Carl Holder, Gretchen Bernardi, and Heather McManus. Our goal with these committees is to continue to move AKC forward

with thoughtful leadership and combined experience from the Board, AKC Staff and our constituency. Each committee will help improve and grow the AKC. We are here to serve you and better our cherished sports. Thank you and stay well. I look forward to when we can all be together again. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Dominic. Next on the agenda is the President's Report. An eternity in our life of dogs has gone by since we last met at the annual meeting just 111 days ago. Under the direction of the Chair and Vice Chair, the Board met three times rather than twice. Within days of the Delegate meeting on March 10th, it became obvious that our sports and corporate life must change. Clubs were postponing or cancelling events not of their choosing but because of federal and state mandates. Our clubs want to hold their events encompassing 26 enjoyable sports; however, state fairgrounds, county parks, et cetera are closed to us. Both the Event Programs and Club Development areas, aided by numerous other employees in Events, assist clubs daily. As the pandemic increased, so did cancellations. We are at over 11,370, equaling 50 percent of our annual total. From early March, inspectors could not attend to their kennel visits and representatives in the field for our multi-

ple sports had no events to attend. I made several decisions for the short- and long-term future of AKC, many painful, some heartbreaking, while simultaneously bearing in mind that I am responsible to keep each department open to serve you, our diverse core constituency. This was with the support of the Executive Committee. We closed the North Carolina office on March 13th except for approximately 25 staff performing essential duties daily. We waited until April and laid off personnel who could not do their jobs due to cancellations, travel restrictions, or a reduction in certain work areas. The New York office closed on March 18th. Both offices are open. As COVID-19's devastating effects took over our nation and the economy collapsed, management reviewed every department's goals and expectations, researching opportunities for new or enhanced revenue and simultaneously looking at each line item for cost containment. My initial approach as reported to the Board on April 6th was to manage the corporation without a loss over the following four months, although there was some doubt that possibility could be achieved with declines being apparent everywhere businesses turned. Nevertheless, a dedicated and creative Executive Committee and Management group is accomplishing that.

On April 3rd, I began a call to action for daily management meetings to ensure cross-department communication, collaboration, and leadership so that efforts of government relations, branding, public relations, advertising, and sponsorships were maintained. During this time, we also dedicated ourselves to the success of new initiatives, such as Virtual Rally, Trick Dog videos, Virtual Pup Pals, as well as Puppy Visor, Virtual Act 1 Agility, Conformation and last week launched Virtual Water Dog. AKC.org and social media visits grew as did Judges' Education with 60 breed webinars and 17,653 live attendees. Marketplace is up. Registration saw significant increases across each offering – the best in decades. Management has met each day except when the Board was in session and once out of respect for Easter Sunday. These daily meetings have taught us that the first seven days of the week are always the hardest. I must publicly thank Gina, Mark, Doug, Keith, LB, Tim, Torraine, Ron, Seth, Peter, and our new CFO, Ted Phillips, Chairman Tom Davies, Vice Chair Dominic Palleschi Carota, as well as an engaged Board of Directors and Chairman Emeritus. Delegates, please remember we are here to assist each of you and your clubs. We understand this difficult and frustrating time everyone is experiencing. Now more than ever, dog

people must be united. We have a shared responsibility to be protective of one another, our lifestyles and beloved dogs. Be sure to tell your membership that Staff in each and every department are available for them. In the midst of uncertainty, be certain our enjoyable events will once again be held. Thank you.

It is my pleasure to introduce Theodore Phillips, who began as our CFO last month. He is a seasoned CPA with 32 years of experience and possesses significant background in Technology and Cyber Security for not-for-profit organizations. Ted will present the Financial Report.

Mr. Phillips: Thank you, Dennis, and good morning to all Delegates. I'm very pleased to be part of the American Kennel Club. This morning, I'm also pleased to present to you a revised and refreshed report for key financial reports. You'll see key performance indicators and financial results as we go through this presentation. For the five months ended May 31, 2020, we're pleased to present very positive news about our litter and dog registrations. This slide provides a monthly view of litter registrations for the five months ended May 31, 2020, with comparisons to the same period in 2019. As you can see, litter registrations totaled almost 115,000, which is

seven percent higher than the same period in 2019. Notably, the month of May 2020, litter registrations were five percent better than the prior year. And our registration staff reports this was the best May since 2009. Turning to our dog registration statistics, please note that year to date registrations totaled over 291,000, which is 12 percent higher than the same period in 2019. Like our litter registrations, May 2020 was an outstanding month and the best since 2007. We thank our breeders, the entire delegate body, the Board of Directors, management, and staff for this achievement. As we have all experienced, 2020 has been a year on hold. AKC is not immune and has felt the impact of cancelled events and fewer entries. As of May 31, 2020, year to date, entries and events were lower than the same period in the prior year by 49 percent and 55 percent respectively. We are hopeful that each day in 2020 as we go forward, we will see a return to many wonderful AKC sanctioned, licensed, and member events that are our hallmark. Next, we will review the financial operating results for revenues, expenses, and net operating income as of May 31, 2020, comparing these results to the same period in 2019. The columns presented here are three data points. We have revenues in blue, expenses in gray, and net operating income in green. When

comparing the year to date results at the end of May 2020, we see total revenues are five percent higher, reflecting increases across all revenue lines except events. Total expenses are 1.4 percent lower as a result of the cost containment measures implemented by management. As you heard from Dennis, these were implemented due to the pandemic, as we expected lower levels of business activity and anticipated the need for a lower operating cost structure. Finally, the green columns on this slide report net operating income as of May 31, 2020, of 4.6 million as compared to 2.6 million in 2019. On the next two slides, we will dive into the various revenue and expense lines that contributed to these variances. Our revenue lines present the total change in revenue by category. The columns in blue are increases in revenue and the orange column represents a decrease. As I said earlier, we are pleased to report that the total revenues from registrations of litters, dogs, pedigrees, and other enrollment fees total \$2.5 million higher than the same period in 2019 with dog registrations leading this group at 1.5 million. Additional revenue increases totaling 1.5 million come from admissions to events like Meet the Breeds that occurred at the Javits Center in New York in January of 2020 and merchandise sales both from e-commerce and tradi-

tional fulfillment methods. As mentioned earlier, when reporting on events, year-to-date revenues as of May 31, 2020, are lower than the same period for 2019 by \$2.3 million. And again, this is due to cancellations. The expense slide presents variances compared the five months ended 2020 against 2019. And again, for orientation, blue columns are areas where we spent more in the period ending May 31, 2020, than we did in the prior period of 2019. We see that the total of travel, marketing, professional fees, and staff costs are lower than the prior year by 1.4 million. Areas where we reported expenses greater than 2019 are grants to our affiliates and others. For 2020, the majority of the increases are grants to the Museum of the Dog. Fulfillment increased slightly due to increased registrations, but overall, on a comparative period basis, we spent less on operations in the five months ended May 31, 2020, than we did in 2019. For the investment's performance and analysis slide, we begin with some brief comments from our investment advisor. The month of May saw a slow and gradual reopening of many parts of the U.S. and global economies. Markets rallied on optimistic economic recovery news as well as promising headlines related to a shortened timeline for COVID-19 vaccine. What I'd like to present here are two charts. One is a

pie chart, which shows the asset allocation of investments, and a chart with performance data for the current period extending to one and three-year trailing 12 months. The pie chart shows that AKC's investments are broadly diversified to manage market risk, and the other chart presents the investment performance for the five months ended May 31, 2020, reporting that the portfolio performance was a loss of 3.3 percent versus the benchmark, also a loss of 3.57. So, we outperformed the benchmark by 27 basis points. And given this type of market, this is pretty good performance. Finally, we present the balance sheet. Notable changes between the period ended May 31, 2020, and 2019 are on the line's investments and debt and capital leases. The overall decrease in 2020 is due to relieving debt in a period when investment values were much higher due to financial markets functioning in a pre-COVID-19 condition. I want to thank you for your time today. We appreciate your dedication to the AKC and look forward to serving you. I'm available to answer any questions at your convenience. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ted. Per the email notification on April 7, 2020, of the official cancellation of the June 9, 2020, Delegate Meeting, there will be no voting at this Zoom Meeting.

The Chair now calls on the Executive Secretary to please read the proposed amendment to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 3 – Dog Classifications.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 3 – Dog Show Classifications, inserts the proposed new Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy Class into the list of regular classes. It also adds the language to clarify the puppy class may be divided. This proposal is contingent on delegate approval of the new Chapter 3, Section 8A, to create the Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy Class. Rejection of the proposed Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy Class would require amendment to this proposal.

This amendment was inadvertently omitted from the March 2020 Delegate Meeting.

The amendment was proposed 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 next meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

Mr. Sprung: Delegates were asked to email amendment questions prior to this meeting. There were none for this amendment.

The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Section 10 – Making Application to Hold a Dog Show.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Section 10 – Making Application to Hold a Dog Show, generalizes the language of the section by removing the reference to a form and deleting the phrase whether the future or sweepstakes will be open to non-members. The amendment also provides flexibility so that any future modification to the application procedures will not require further amendment to the rule.

This amendment was proposed by the Dog Show Rules Committee 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 next meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

Mr. Sprung: Delegates were asked to email

amendment questions prior to this meeting. There were none for this amendment.

The Chair now calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 6 – Championships.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 6 – Championships, 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 explaining that at an independent specialty show 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 Sex would receive the highest number of Grand Championship points awarded in its sex in any variety at the specialty show.

This amendment was proposed by AKC Staff, endorsed by the Dog Show Rules 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 next meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

Mr. Sprung: Delegates were asked to email amendment questions prior to this meeting. There were none for this amendment.

The Chair now calls on the Executive Secretary to read a list of vacancies for the Delegate committees that are to be filled in September.

Ms. DiNardo: These are the vacancies on Delegate committees that are to be filled at the September Delegate meeting:

All-Breed Clubs Committee: 3 three-year terms and 1 one-year term.

Bylaws Committee: 4 three-year terms and 1 two-year term.

Canine Health Committee: 4 three-years terms.

Companion Events Committee: 3 three-year terms and 1 one-year term.

Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee: 3 three-year terms.

Dog Show Rules Committee: 3 three-year terms.

Field Trial and Hunting Test Events

Committee: 4 three-year terms.

Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events

Committee: 4 three-year terms and 1 two-year term.

Parent Clubs Committee: 3 three-year terms and 1 two-year term.

Perspectives Editorial Staff: 6 two-year terms.

Mr. Sprung: Delegates will be emailed self-nomination forms by the week of July 6th. This self-nomination form must be returned to the Executive Secretary by August 3rd. Questions on the procedures to be followed should also be directed to our Executive Secretary. Delegates may self-nominate for one committee, except that a member of the Perspectives Editorial Staff may also serve on another standing committee. In August, the Delegates will be emailed the nominees for each committee and their qualification statements.

Due to the continuing global pandemic, details on the September 15, 2020 Delegate Meeting will be provided to you after the July Board of Directors Meeting.

Delegates were given the opportunity to submit questions prior to this Zoom Meeting.

We received a question from Lorraine Ebdon, Delegate from Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association.

The question reads: "Will the AKC have a policy concerning COVID-19 and require the wearing of masks for judges/exhibitors, or will they defer to the state requirements? If so, would a face shield instead of a mask be acceptable?"

The Chair calls on Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President of Sports & Events to respond to this inquiry.

Mr. Ljungren: Since the local situation varies across the nation, AKC's policy is that club-holding events must be in compliance with local guidelines. In addition, clubs may at their option require all participants to wear a face covering. This must be clearly communicated in the premium and signage at the event. Unless specified otherwise by government ordinances, face shields are an acceptable alternative to a mask.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Doug.

There being no further business to come before the Delegate Meeting, on behalf of your Board of Directors and Staff, wishing you the best of health – and also to your loved ones and families and dogs, the

meeting is adjourned. Thank you and be well.

[One sharp rap of the gavel]

[Time noted: 11:41 a.m.]



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



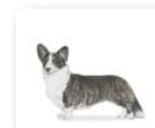
Bouvier des Flandres



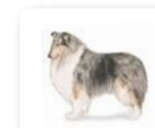
Briard



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/>