



Board of Directors

Carl C. Ashby, III serves as Chairman of the AKC PAC and is a member of the American Kennel Club's Board of Directors. Mr. Ashby became involved in the sport of dogs in 1971 through the obedience ring. He and his wife quickly developed an interest in the conformation ring and bought their first Kerry Blue Terrier in 1972. Since then, they have bred and exhibited Best in Show winners, specialty winners, and 25 champions.

Mr. Ashby joined the Forsyth Kennel Club in 1973 and has served as board member, show chairperson and treasurer. He has also been active in the Virginia Kennel Club and Carolina Kennel Club. He was a founding member of the Carolina Terrier Association and has been Delegate for the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc. since the late 1980s. As a Delegate, he has served on the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee, the All-Breed Club Committee and the Perspectives Committee. As past chairperson of the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Charitable Fund, Mr. Ashby helped to raise \$50,000 dedicated to the health and future of the breed. He has served in a number of leadership positions in Guilford County and currently serves on the Guilford County Animal Advisory Board.

Mr. Ashby worked for AT&T for 27 years, ultimately becoming President of Custom Manufacturing Services, one of only 23 business units in the company. He grew the unit from sales of \$15 million to sales of over \$200 million with 900 employees, two factories and nationally known customers. He is currently employed as president and majority owner of Ann Crittenden, Inc., which owns and operates a chain of Hallmark Gold Crown Card stores and is Managing Partner of CarePatrol of the Triad, Inc.

Joseph V. Baffuto, Jr. serves the PAC as Treasurer. Joe joined the AKC in 2000 and served as AKC Controller since 2008, with responsibility for the Accounting and Finance Department. The AKC Board elected Mr. Baffuto to the position of Chief Financial Officer in December 2014. He earned his BS in Business Administration, Finance, and Economics from Pace University, and an MBA in Marketing from Fordham University.



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Sheila Goffe serves the AKC PAC as its Secretary. Sheila joined the AKC in 2006, becoming Director of Government Relations in 2008. In this capacity, she leads the AKC's efforts in working to protect the rights of all dog owners and advance public policy that promotes responsible dog ownership. She oversees AKC legislative policy strategy and outreach, works with policymakers on key issues in canine policy, and supervises the AKC Government Relations team.

Prior to joining the American Kennel Club, she was a Senior Legislative Analyst/Editor and Deputy Director of Editorial Product Development for Congressional Quarterly in Washington, DC. Previous experience included federal legislative staffing and advocacy, work as an editor and analyst for The Economist Intelligence Unit, and teaching Comparative Politics at the State University of New York/Stony Brook.

Sheila has completed Ph.D. coursework and research in American Politics/Public Policy, earned a Masters of Philosophy in American Politics and a MA in International Political Economy and Development at Fordham University. She was a Fulbright Scholar, studying Political Economy and Development in Sri Lanka.

Sheila owns, shows and breeds Siberian Huskies. She is a member of the Siberian Husky Club of America, the Bull Terrier Club of America, and several specialty and all-breed kennel clubs.

David Helming and wife Peggy share their home with 10 Newfoundlands, five Portuguese Water Dogs and six Norwich Terriers. The Helmings began their Newfoundland breeding program in 1968 under the Pouch Cove prefix. Since that time, they have bred and/or owned approximately 350 champions, many of whom are National Specialty, Working Group and Best in Show winners, and includes Ch. Darbydale's All Rise Pouch Cove ("Josh"), who was awarded Best in Show at the 2004 Westminster Kennel Club show and is the all-time top-winning Newfoundland. The Helmings have devoted years of service to the Newfoundland Club of America and are life-time members of the club. Equally impressive is the Helmings' work with Portuguese Water Dogs. They co-own 2014's top dog all-breeds, GCH. Claircreek Impression De Matisse. "Matisse" is the all-time top-winning Portuguese Water Dog and all-time top winning male of all breeds.



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(*David Helming*, continued...) Mr. Helming served on the Newfoundland Club of America Board of Directors for eight years and as NCA President for three of those years. He is presently the Vice-Chairman of the NCA Charitable Trust and is the NCA Delegate to the AKC. Both Peggy and David are honorary members of the Newfoundland Club of America. On the all-breed front, Dave is a member of the Somerset Hills Kennel Club, Westchester Kennel Club, Morris & Essex Kennel Club, and the Kennel Club of Philadelphia. He presently serves as Westchester KC's Show Chairman, Somerset Hills KC's Vice-President, Kennel Club of Philadelphia's Treasurer, and as Morris & Essex's Vice-President. David is approved to judge Newfoundlands and Junior Showmanship.

Wendy J. Jordan is a breeder, fancier, and exhibitor of Welsh Springer Spaniels and an officer of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America.

For more than thirty years, Ms. Jordan has worked in the nation's capital, working on issues related to national security. Prior to her current position as Senior Policy Analyst for Taxpayers for Common Sense (TCS), a nonpartisan budget watchdog group, Wendy ran her own lobbying and consulting firm for seven years. Wendy also ran the Washington office for a mid-sized defense contractor as its Vice President of Government Relations. Prior to that, she was a political appointee at the Department of Defense for six years during the Clinton Administration, serving in the Office of the Secretary of the Navy and the Office of the Secretary of Defense in several capacities. She has also worked in the Washington office of a major, nation-wide, law firm. The firm hired her after her time on Capitol Hill where she worked for both a Democrat involved in high-tech defense issues and a Republican Member of the House Appropriations Committee.

Ms. Jordan received her B.A. from the University of Maine at Orono and her M.Sc. in economics from the London School of Economics. She is a native of Topsham, Maine.



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Alan Kalter brings a unique combination of experience in the world of purebred dogs, business, and marketing to both the AKC Board, for which he serves as chairman, and to the AKC PAC Board, of which he is an original member. As an active breeder/exhibitor of Bullmastiffs for over 20 years, he has produced 160 champions including Best in Show, Specialty Best in Show, and five generations of group winners under the HappyLegs registered prefix.

He is the past President of the American Bullmastiff Association and currently serves as a director and Delegate.

Professionally, Alan was the CEO and owner of a multi-national, multi-billion dollar advertising agency employing 1,000 people throughout 11 offices in three countries. The company developed Morris Animal Foundation's communications, including the Canine Cancer Campaign, as well as AKC pro bono marketing, and originated the, "*We're more than champion dogs. We're the dog's champion.*" slogan.

Gail A. LaBerge is former recipient of AKC's Community Achievement Award who has been described as a "legislative superstar". In addition to serving as President of the Georgia Canine Coalition, LaBerge is a member of the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Companion Animal Advisory Board and chairs the legislative committees for the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America and the Dachshund Club of America. She also serves as an AKC Legislative Liaison for the Georgia Canine Coalition, the Atlanta Kennel Club, the Lawrenceville Kennel Club, the Dachshund Club of Metropolitan Atlanta, the Dachshund Club of America, and the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America.

In the role of chairman of the Gwinnett County Animal Advisory Council, LaBerge was instrumental in the successful rewriting of the county's animal ordinances and restructuring of the county Animal Advisory Council. She assisted in the rewriting of the Georgia Veterinarian Practice Act and has helped redraft animal-related legislation. LaBerge travels the state to speak on canine legislation issues and how to combat laws that discriminate against dogs and their owners. She and her husband are breeder/owner/handlers of Cardigan Welsh Corgis and Dachshunds.



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Thomas S. Powers is a second generation dog fancier whose parents also served as AKC delegates. In addition to serving the AKC PAC as a Director, he also sits on the American Kennel Club's Board of Directors. He has participated in the sport as a breeder, club president, show chair and delegate. He has also served on the AKC Board's Constitution and Bylaws Committee and on the Southwest Trial Board as Chairman. Thomas breeds and exhibits Irish Wolfhounds with his wife and has also exhibited and finished a number of Dachshunds, Beagles, Mastiffs and Harriers, including the number one Harrier in 1990, Ch. Powerscourt Patience DeAmo. Professionally, Thomas has practiced law in California for more than 35 years, with clients including major Fortune 500 companies. He has also owned and operated a chain of dry cleaners, a chain of retail pet supply stores and a veterinary hospital.



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