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BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

Sporting and Working
January, April, July,
and October

Hound and Terrier
February, May, August,
and November

Toy, Non-Sporting,
and Herding
March, June, September,
and December

The new Open Show will become an AKC-sanctioned event on July 3. The program was developed by the board of directors and staff to offer more opportunities for novice exhibitors, dog clubs, judges, and stewards to gain experience needed for licensed events. With fewer stand-alone sanctioned matches, this new Open Show will provide a training ground to attract new exhibitors, including FSS breed owners, to the sport of dogs.

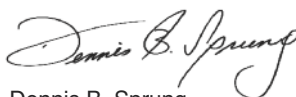
Unlike matches, the Open Show will offer the opportunity to earn points toward an AKC suffix title: the Certificate of Merit. All-breed clubs must offer classes for all AKC-registerable breeds and varieties, purebred dogs of any breed eligible for entry in the Miscellaneous Class, and all FSS-recordable breeds. Classes start with the 4–6 Month Puppy Class and run through “Best in Open Show.”

Hosting an Open Show is attractive for clubs, as it fulfills *all* Eligibility Requirements to Hold a Future Dog Show. I encourage all clubs to consider hosting this new event. The AKC will assist you in making the event attractive to new exhibitors by sending an e-mail invitation to owners of eligible registered or listed dogs between 4 months and 3 years of age within a 50-mile radius of the show. We will also provide press-release templates to help you publicize the event in your community and list your Open Show on the searchable Events Calendar at akc.org.

Best of all, the Open Show will increase the number of people having fun with their dog, attract potential new club members, increase club income, and, most likely, draw additional entries to your future dog shows. Contact the Events department at 919-816-3514 or OpenShow@akc.org with any questions.

For more information about this opportunity for clubs to grow, stay tuned to akc.org.

Sincerely,



Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO



New Board Members, Chairman Elected

Delegates elect Cruz, Feeney, Thomas to board; directors name Kalter, Smith chairman and vice chairman

NEW YORK—At the annual meeting of the American Kennel Club on March 13, the AKC delegate body elected the board of directors class of 2016: Patricia M. Cruz (Heart of the Plains Kennel Club), William J. Feeney (Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club), and Thomas S. Powers (Kennel Club of Beverly Hills).

The newly constituted board elected Alan Kalter (American Bullmastiff Association) chairman and Dr. Robert D. Smith (Memphis Kennel Club) vice chairman during a meeting convened after the board elections.

Board Leadership

Alan Kalter, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, has spent over 20 years as the breeder-exhibitor of HappyLegs Bullmatiffs. His 160 champions include Bests in Show, Bests in Specialty, and five generations of group winners.

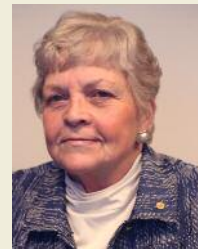
Kalter is the American Bullmastiff Association's president and delegate, and is past vice president-treasurer of the Detroit Kennel Club. He was a founding board member of the AKC PAC and served on the committee that evaluated recipients of legislative donations.

Kalter was the owner-CEO of a multinational, multibillion-dollar advertising agency with 1,000 employees in 11 offices and three countries.



experienced judge, a founder of the Owner-Handler Association, and a Dog Writers Association of America board member.

Cruz is former president of a civilian-employee union in one of the largest police departments on the East Coast, and secretary of a county-wide union representing over 10,000 employees. She served as sales manager and marketing consultant for radio stations in the country's number one-market.



William J. Feeney, of Cotati, California, is a 33-year veteran of the sport, breeding Golden Retrievers under the Birnam Wood banner with his wife, Sylvia. Feeney served the Golden Retriever Club of America in several key roles, including president. He has judged several specialty sweepstakes and futurities.



Feeney, a lawyer by profession, is the vice president of the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals.

Dr. Robert D. Smith, of St. Stephens Church, Virginia, is an all-breed judge and a breeder-owner-handler of American Foxhounds, with more than 50 years in the sport. As an AKC board member, he proposed the creation of two successful initiatives: the Registered Handlers Program and the Breeders Education Program.



Smith has held every office and most committee positions in kennel clubs in several states and judged Best in Show at the 2008 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. He ran highly successful small-business programs for the states of Mississippi and Virginia before retiring in 1996.

Class of 2016

Patricia M. Cruz, of Coram, New York, has spent more than 40 years in the sport. She is a former AKC field representative and holds numerous club memberships. She is an internationally

Thomas S. Powers, of Northridge, California, is a second-generation dog fancier. He has served on the AKC board's Constitution and Bylaws committee and chaired the Southwest Trial Board. Known as a breeder-exhibitor of Irish Wolfhounds, his successes in other breeds include the top-winning Harrier Ch. Powerscourt Patience DeAmo.

Powers practices law in California. He was owner-operator of a veterinary hospital and dry-cleaner and pet-supply chains.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This isn't so much a Chairman's Report as it is a little straight talk among friends. And I intend it to be the first of many.

We are fortunate that my predecessors, Ron Menaker and David Merriam, had the foresight to carefully plan for a financially sound American Kennel Club. Your Board and Staff developed and are executing a plan for this year that will allow the AKC to be in the black and still maintain the deep resources of our reserves and endowment.

The challenges we have been addressing seem to occupy all of our conversation, but I assure you, they do not occupy all we are doing. Beyond the challenges, there are exciting opportunities in every area of everything we do. It is our opportunities, those we have in hand today and those we will innovate tomorrow, that hold the true future of the AKC—and they require attention from us all.

Our potential for successful growth encompasses the 100 million Americans who own a dog, purebred or mixed-breed. Today, we only scratch the surface of those who make dogs an important part of their lives. We are concentrating on three major areas in order to engage, excite, and enroll more of them into the world we all hold so dear.

At the core is our advocacy for the purebred dog, which is the gateway to so many defining aspects of the AKC. The discernibility of the purebred dog in form, purpose, and temperament is undeniable—and desired by millions of people. Responsible breeders need our support, encouragement, and recognition. The AKC Breeder of Merit program is an example of how we put that commitment into practice. It is no surprise the Fancy has enthusiastically embraced the program.

Our successful “AKC Meet the Breeds®” events in New York and Orlando bring purebred dogs to the public in an entertaining and educational format. We will continue to explore ways in which we can bring this event in

some form to more people.

An exciting new initiative is the re-imagining of our website, which draws more than 1.5 million unique visitors each month. The new website will serve as an important and useful resource for breeders, puppy buyers, owners, exhibitors, clubs, judges, and the general dog-loving public. And, yes, it will be much easier to navigate.

“When the fancy, staff, and board band together with common purpose, we are an unstoppable force.”

Our sport is evolving to be more inclusive and inviting than ever before. There are plans in place to create greater ease of entry into each of our sports and compelling reasons to continue participation. We have conducted significant research to understand the needs of our exhibitors and have subsequently created innovative new programs aimed at growing participation in every sport. Some are completed, some are being pilot tested today, some will be launched soon, and some are still being developed.

Most importantly, the quest for continuous invention, while still maintaining our heritage, is unwavering. These initiatives include the 4–6 Month Puppy competition, the new Grand Champion achievement levels, the Owner-Handler Series, the soon to be launched Open Shows, the “My Dog Can Do That!” introduction to agility and rally, the Coursing Ability Test for all dogs, and others.

Our commitment to improving our

sport includes event-process improvement as well. Our new Competition Management System will provide faster, easier, and more flexible service to clubs and exhibitors in conformation, companion, and performance events. There is a pilot test being conducted and we will roll out aspects of the program later this year, with even more to come.

The third major opportunity is community impact in support of dogs, dog ownership, and responsible dog breeding. This area encompasses initiatives to enhance the image of breeders and purebred dogs, expand our efforts for responsible dog ownership (including potential new additions to our successful CGC program), and continue our involvement with legislative issues, with a greater emphasis on legislator education and proactive community support. Importantly, our commitment to improving the health and welfare of dogs is unparalleled and will continue with fervor.

We can accomplish all this and much more if we make one further commitment: to all work together to achieve all that we must. There is ample proof that when the Fancy, Staff, and Board band together with common purpose, we are an unstoppable force. I personally commit to open better lines of communication with all AKC constituents, to solicit new ideas from everyone to advance our mutual opportunities, and to better serve our clubs, exhibitors, breeders, judges, and owners. I ask for your support of our mutual goals with the same positive, passionate spirit you all bring to our sport every day.

I always appreciate hearing from you. Please contact me at atk@akc.org.

Sincerely,



Alan Kalter
Chairman

That's a *Goooooooooooooood* Dog!

AKC Companion Events News Roundup

BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND—AKC/USA team member Petra Ford and her Labrador Retriever NOC/OTCH Count Tyler Show Me the Money, UDX7, OM6, MH, are the first American dog-and-handler team to win the World Cup individual obedience competition. The event was run as part of the Crufts dog show at the National Exhibition Centre on March 11.

“Tyler worked his heart out for me,” Ford said of her 7-year-old black Lab soon after her triumph. “He works his hardest every single time I train him and compete with him.” Ford and Tyler finished second in individual competition at the 2010 World Cup.

Making their win even more impressive, Ford, of Washington, New Jersey, had to retrain Tyler to comply with European obedience regulations. “In America everything is different,” Ford said. “I had to retrain Tyler for this from the ground up. The heeling, the scent work is completely different. So, it was quite a challenge to train him for the highest level here as well as for home.”

And yet, for Ford the trip to England wasn't all hard work. “We did tons of shopping,” she admitted with a smile.



Reno Agility Showdown

RENO, NEVADA—Nine hundred agility teams converged on the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center for the 2012 AKC National Agility Championship on March 30 to vie for the National Agility Champion title.

But after a long weekend that saw a total of 4,200 runs, only an elite 11 dogs earned the right to be called national champions when the event concluded on April 1.

One dog-and-handler team won in each jump-height category in both the regular and Preferred competitions.

“Thank you to Reno, which was a great host city to the 900 dogs and handlers who exhibited,” AKC Agility Director Carrie DeYoung says.

“I would also like to thank J&J Dog Supplies for their support of the National Agility Championship.”



They Have the NAC

2012 National Agility Champions (NAC)

8-inch Papillon Carly, owned by Andrea Samuels; **12-inch** Shetland Sheepdog Race, owned by Laura Dolan; **16-inch** Pyrenean Shepherd Luka, owned by Ashley Deacon; **20-inch** Border Collie Zing!, owned by Gabrielle Blackburn; **24-inch** Belgian Tervuren Smartie, owned by Julie Hill; **26-inch** Border Collie Solar, owned by Daisy Peel

2012 Preferred National Agility Champions (PNAC)

4-inch Papillon Buddy Lee, owned by Dennis McCoy and handled by Mike McCoy; **8-inch** Pembroke Welsh Corgi Eve, owned by Janelle Julyan; **12-inch** Border Collie Tori, owned by Beth Rogers; **16-inch** Border Collie Emma, owned by Barbara Persson; **20-inch** Border Collie Oliver, owned by Ira Dauer

American Kennel Clips >>>

Bellissima, Bella!

GRAND JUNCTION, TENNESSEE—Pointer FC Old School Attitude (Bella) was top dog at the AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship, February 27 to March 10. Bella (handled by Greg Dixon, of Wisconsin, and owned by Justin Martin, of Minnesota) defeated the largest number of AKC pointing-breed Field Champions ever assembled for a single event.



The Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championship is the largest National Championship open to pointing breeds, and all nine of the major pointing breeds were represented.

The event drew an entry of 124 dogs—including 105 Field Champions—to the historic Ames Plantation, near Grand Junction.

Last Call: Colorado Breeders Symposium

FORT COLLINS, COLORADO—The AKC and the AKC Canine Health Foundation will present a Canine Breeders Health and Education Symposium on Saturday, April 21, at the Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Pathology Building.

Experts in canine genetics, nutrition, and reproduction will present on these and other topics, including the latest advances in oncology. Breeders are invited to meet, learn from, and share ideas with some of the most sought-after researchers and experts in their respective fields.

Register at akchf.org. For more information, contact Tina Yuhl (919-816-3932; txy@akc.org) or Samantha Wright (888-682-9696; SJW@akc.org).



Star-spangled Honor

PHILADELPHIA—In February, at the University of Pennsylvania office of AKC Canine Health Foundation researcher Dr. Cindy Otto, an unexpected package arrived. It contained an American flag and a certificate from the Army Veterinary Corps recognizing Otto's dedication to the health of working dogs. "It totally caught me by surprise," Otto told the *Penn Current*. "Then I opened it and broke into tears."

The citation said the flag was flown in Afghanistan by U.S. troops "in support of missions utilizing military working dogs, in honor of you and your colleagues."

Otto, who leads the groundbreaking health study of the 9/11 search-and-rescue dogs, said, "This was the most humbling and amazing honor one could imagine."

TOP: COURTESY GREG DIXON; BOTTOM: COURTESY AKC/CHF

AKC Weekly
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Edwin Megargee, Ch.
Flornell Checkmate,
1940, oil on canvas.
Checkmate was a top-
winning British import
of his time, handled by
Percy Roberts.

I Am Not a Camera

Here's an excerpt from "A Dog Artist at Work," an interview with Edwin Megargee that first appeared in the May 1926 *GAZETTE*. Megargee, among America's leading canine portraitists of the 20th century, was an AKC delegate, board member, and judge. His greatest claim to immortality, though, is his design for the Greyhound bus logo, which with some modifications is still in use today.

How do I produce portraits of dogs? Well, I suppose you are thinking that I am more or less a human camera, that I set the dogs up in braces like the old tin-type man, and put an exact likeness on canvas, paper, or copper plate. If you are thinking that, you are wrong.

As a matter of fact, I seldom employ the same methods to get what I want. Once in a while a dog will act natural and easy as I am doing his portrait, but more often I must catch fleeting glimpses of good poses.

The actual work of painting, drawing, or etching a dog is far less tedious and consumes less time than the taking of mental notes and rough sketches.

Sometimes I start with a dog by making five or six rough sketches of poses that he assumes while mov-

ing around. Eventually the pose I consider the most attractive is evolved. Then the polishing begins.

The artist must be a capable man. His lines must be quick and sure, for his model will pose for only hurrying moments.

Personality is the hardest thing to put on canvas, and unless the portrait shows the character of the subject, the artist has missed his biggest bet. Every lover of dogs knows they are capable of expressing almost human emotion.

Dogs are self-conscious. No animal seems to have a keener realization that he is having his picture made than the dog.

Ordinarily I prefer to do dogs in their natural surrounding rather than in my studio. When at home they retain a certain amount of aplomb, no matter what takes place.



Lou Auslander

International Kennel Club of Chicago president Lou Auslander has played many roles in our sport. He is, for instance, the only person ever elected both president and chairman of the AKC. He has in fact held just about every official title a fancier can hold, along with a highly unofficial one: "I've been told I'm a benevolent dictator," he says. "And I am!"

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ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by a breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's history, function, and possible health issues. A national parent club comprises dedicated breeders and fanciers, and it represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to the fancy in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate 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.

sporting

Brittanys

Hip Dysplasia in Brittanys

The number-one health problem in Brittanys is canine hip dysplasia (CHD), a genetic condition that leads to degenerative joint disease (DJD) of the hip. As responsible breeders, we desire to guarantee our pups to be free of CHD, but how do we guarantee against a problem that seems to be beyond our control?

For decades, we took our dogs to veterinarians and had X-rays done of the "hip-extended view," with the dog lying on his back and the rear legs pulled rearward—the position requested for assessment for CHD by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). This X-ray was sent to OFA, where it was subjectively rated by radiologists as "Excellent," "Good," or "Fair" if the hip conformation was deemed to be acceptable. (No rating was given if there were signs of DJD.) The OFA recommended that breeders only select for breeding dogs with ratings of "Excellent" or "Good."

After decades of following these guidelines, however, an unacceptable number of dysplastic dogs continued to be produced. It seems that the testing method we have been faithful to is not providing the information we need to guarantee hips nor to make optimal breeding decisions. Maybe it is time to find a better way to improve hips in our breed.

An alternate rating system is that offered by the University of Pennsylvania Hip Improvement

Program (PennHIP), a not-for-profit program wholly owned and operated by the University of Pennsylvania that incorporates a new method for evaluating the integrity of the canine hip.

Developed in 1983 by Dr. Gail Smith, PennHIP measures joint laxity, which is the primary cause of hip DJD.

Unlike OFA, with PennHIP a dog is given a precise measurement called the "distraction index," or DI. This number is an objective measurement of *passive hip laxity* when the dog's hips are completely relaxed. The lower the number, the tighter the hip. For example, a dog with a DI of 0.30 is less likely to develop hip DJD than a dog with a DI of 0.70.

Additionally, PennHIP ranks the dog based on other dogs in its breed, and the program recommends breeding dogs with DI in the top 50 percent of the breed. The median DI for Brittanys in November 2010 was 0.52.

What does PennHIP mean for us? It means that we now have a tool to accurately predict hip DJD using DI numbers. We can finally measure the one attribute that gives us real information on predicting hip DJD: laxity.

Let us say that we have an outstanding female who has a DI of 0.58. We can choose a mate for her with a DI in the 0.30s and be fairly confident about producing good hips.

Another advantage of PennHIP is that with this method dogs can be rated as young as 16 weeks with great accuracy. To receive an OFA rating, a dog must be at least 2 years old, although a

preliminary X-ray may be done earlier. Let us say we have a litter and we want to keep a female, and at the same time we want to improve hips. With PennHIP, we can choose two young female puppies to hold back, and then we can decide between them at 16 weeks by finding out which has the tighter hips.

OFA has been the standard for rating hips, but PennHIP may be a better choice. It gives us a specific measurement of passive hip laxity to use in our breeding programs, and the assessment can be done as early as 16 weeks. What a great feeling to be able to guarantee hips and know we have some control over CHD.

Special thanks to Allen Dahl, DVM, for help with this column. —*Martha Greenlee*; greenlee@touchva.net; *American Brittany Club website*: clubs.akc.org/brit

Pointers

Our guest columnist this month is Scott Thomson.

Fade to Black

I recently had a conversation with a friend who is a very well known and respected judge. She judges several groups and Best in Show and has presided over some of the sport's most prestigious venues, including Westminster.

This judge friend explained that for her, the most challenging and rewarding judging is still at the breed level. "Here," she said, "is where a judge can most influence the direction of a breed. To be effective at judging at the breed level, you must be familiar with the nuances, the challenges, and the defining characteristics of a breed. To a judge who really cares, this is where you need to be your sharpest."

Each breed has its distinctive characteristics, those that set it apart from all the others and draw those who admire it. Granted, for some breeds those defining characteristics are less distinguishing than for others. For a certain blessed few, however, those characteristics are hallmarks that can be confused

with no others. There's the Greyhound, with his lean head, long neck, dramatic, deep brisket, and curves that leave no question as to his purpose; the Smooth Fox Terrier, with his strong muzzle, alert ears, powerful, yet long neck, and straight back with tail set forward, creating a handle to pull the dog from the ground; and, of course, the Pointer, who along with the two breeds described above, reaches that artist in all of us, with his deep muzzle, high-set ears, body that suggests endurance and speed, and his tail quivering like an exclamation point.

It is no mere coincidence that all three of the above breeds have found favor with artists over the years. The distinctive outline of the Pointer is one of the breed's hallmarks, and one that breeders should neither take for granted nor let slip away.

For every Pointer breeder or judge, the breed's standard is a good place to go back to as the touchstone to keep you on course. The very first paragraph is on "General Appearance," and it highlights a dog who is bred for sport afield and must look the part. The dog should give *the impression of compact power and agile grace, the head noble, proudly carried and the muscular body bespeaking both staying power and dash.*

For the last several years, the attention to our breed's defining traits seems to have slipped a little as Pointers, along with other breeds, risk simply becoming generic show dogs. Movement is strong, bites are good, and eyes are dark—but those are the easy-to-identify, common-denominator traits that any dog needs to appeal to a judge.

We need to cherish those traits that make the Pointer. The next time you are standing ringside, or evaluating a dog, I encourage you to "paint the dog black": Look at his silhouette. Would you immediately recognize him as a Pointer? If you can't answer that question with certainty, then it is time to step back.

Low-set ears, thick necks, topline that rise over the loin, and rears that are too straight in the second thigh and appear to "have trouble reaching the

ground" are all incorrect for the breed.

The Pointer was created with crosses of several older breeds to bring in specific characteristics that make him the successful field dog of today: the Greyhound for speed and endurance, the Bloodhound and Foxhound for nose and range, and a setting spaniel to provide the instinct to freeze on game. The traits of these breeds are there in the background and occasionally come forth—for this reason, breeders need to know the history and development of the breed and guard against their occasional resurgence.

When you are evaluating puppies and adults, look at them closely and ask yourself, "Are that puppy's ears too long and set low? Does that puppy have too much of an 'S'-shaped outline and look too racy? Is that tail set a little low and curve too much?" All of these faults would suggest a reference to breeds that figured in the breed's development—the "eggs and flour"—and not the successful result that is the "cake." We as breeders need to know the Pointer's history and what went into its development so that we are aware of where these traits come from and can then select appropriately in affirmation of our standard.

So, next time you are looking at a ring full of Pointers, ask yourself, "Ah, but does she look good in black?" —S.T.

Thank you, Scott, for this informative column. Please visit the APC website at americanpointerclub.org for information on our wonderful breed. Your suggestions and comments are welcome. —*Helyne E. Medeiros*; seasydehm@aol.com; *American Pointer Club website*: americanpointerclub.org

German Shorthaired Pointers

Slightly Longer Than Tall

The parent club was formed in 1938, and its first standard was approved in 1946, revised in 1976, and revised again in 1992 (to the current version).

The following statement can be found in all three versions: *It gives the*

impression of medium size, but is like the proper hunter, "with a short back, but standing over plenty of ground."

The 1992 revision added:

Proportion—measuring from the forechest to the rearmost projection of the rump and from the withers to the ground, the Shorthair is permissibly either square or slightly longer than he is tall.

So how does one reconcile the reference to "short back" found in all three versions with the 1992 addition of "square or slightly longer than he is tall"?

I decided to look into this, and a few phone calls later it was explained some dogs and bitches had been measured in the early 1990s and were found to be slightly longer than they were tall. This raised the question: How much longer than tall?

The answer and insight provided by the 1992 breed-standard committee chair was 5 percent, but no more than 10 percent. This was derived after measuring several dogs and bitches and finding them to be slightly longer in body length than their height at the withers.

As an example, a Shorthair bitch in the middle of the bitch height standard would be square if she measured 22 inches at the withers and 22 inches in body length. Using the parameters of 5 percent but no more than 10 percent as given for the 1992 addition of "slightly longer than tall," at 5 percent she would be 22 inches by 23.1 inches, and at 10 percent would be 22 inches by 24.2 inches.

It is important to remember that the measurement used to determine whether the dog is slightly longer than tall is an *overall body-length measurement*, from the forechest to the rearmost projection of the rump—not the length of the back as measured from the first thoracic vertebrae to the base of the tail.

Considering the Shorthair breed was developed to go at a steady pace—that is, trot all day—it stands to reason the early breeders wanted a short-backed dog because it was more efficient. "Standing over a lot of ground" meant in addition to the short back, the dog had well-laid-back shoulder blades and properly tilted pelvis, along with rear

angles to complement those of the forequarters. This allowed adequate room for the legs to converge and foot placement under the dog without interference, and the short back allowed for less energy expended as the body weight was being transferred forward.

A dog who measures square has no room for error when it comes to foot placement under the body if the rest of his skeletal structure is not in perfect proportion and alignment. On the other hand, dogs who are slightly longer than tall will have more room underneath, but the energy expended to move the longer body can adversely affect endurance over time.

The question remains: Can a dog or bitch who is slightly longer than tall have a short back? The only way to know for sure is for GSP breeders and owners to measure their Shorthairs and find out. —*Patte Titus*; chexsix@mac.com; *German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America website*: gspca.org/

German Wirehaired Pointers Facebook Blunders

The Internet and e-mail have transformed the way we interact with people. Twenty years ago, if someone were interested in purchasing a puppy of a certain breed, they would most likely look in their local newspaper or find an all-breed magazine with classified ads for puppies of that breed. If you were looking for a less-popular breed, it could be difficult to locate a breeder. Fast-forward to 2012, and all it takes is a quick search using Google or Yahoo, and you can instantly find breeders with websites and breed-club websites offering breeder referrals.

The Internet has also enabled fanciers within a breed to easily communicate with others involved with the breed throughout the country and even the world. While in the past folks would mail letters or pay for expensive long-distance phone calls, breeders and exhibitors can now transmit information instantly using e-mail and social-networking sites such as Facebook. In

addition, most of us now have some sort of low-cost or unlimited-minute long-distance telephone plan (either for land line or cell phone), so we no longer have to keep our phone calls short and on a "must" basis. We can chat leisurely, broadcasting the latest happenings to anyone who we think will care.

There is, however, a dark side to all of this great new technology. One or two typed statements broadcast on Facebook and Twitter without benefit of tone of voice or body language that can soften our opinions, and what remains is a broad statement that can easily be misinterpreted by a reader who has strong opinions. Something that may have been a friendly exchange of ideas if communicated face-to-face can quickly lead to a heated argument and name-calling.

We all have our likes and dislikes when it comes to our dogs, and we each have our own picture of what the ideal dog should be. And there are breeders and exhibitors we respect, and those we don't. This is normal, and there is nothing wrong with voicing your opinions to a small, like-minded group, or to individuals open to a discussion. When you publicly post an opinion about a particular dog, however, you can be sure that what you said will eventually make it back to the breeder or owner of that dog. And if the words are negative, the situation can instantly blow up and result in deep feelings of dislike or even hatred between you and the other person. And, in the end, who does this benefit? Does it benefit the breed? Or you? I don't believe it benefits anyone, and in fact it will not only hurt your reputation but can cause damage to the breed, as other breeders and exhibitors are forced to choose "sides," no longer working together for the overall benefit of the breed.

It is so easy to post a comment to Facebook, and before you know it, that message has gone to hundreds of people involved in the breed, as well as many, many more who are not as directly involved. And in my experience, people are even more sensitive to criticism of

their dogs than of their kids! Please try to restrict your negative comments to phone calls and private messages. Regardless of your intention, it is so easy for things to be misunderstood and cause hard feelings that can take years to repair. —*Jodi Quesnell; idawiregwps@isp.com; German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America website: gwpcac.com*

Chesapeake Bay Retrievers

Guest columnist Doreen Palmer has owned, trained, and shown Chesapeakes for 35 years.

The AKC National Tracking Invitational

The AKC National Tracking Invitational! This is the Holy Grail for tracking enthusiasts around the United States. A dog must be a Champion Tracker (CT) to be invited. A CT is attained after the dog has earned all three tracking titles (TD, TDX, and VST). Since 1995 around 300 dogs have earned a CT. Ten tracks are offered at each of the Invitationals, which have been held every other year since 2003. Tracks at the Invitational are modified TDX/VST tracks. A dog follows the track of the tracklayer as closely as possible, indicating dropped articles along the way. The tracks are 600 to 800 yards long and aged two to four hours.

The passing rate at the Invitational is low—which is why it was such an incredible thrill to not only be invited to the Invitational, but to pass with one of the most remarkable dogs I've ever had the honor to track with, Zephyr—CT Eastern Waters' Sea Zephyr, VCD3, RE MX, MXJ, NE CGC, WD.

I started tracking in Juneau, Alaska, in 1993 and was hooked. I am totally in awe when following a tracking dog. It is amazing that they can follow one particular scent among all the others.

When I started tracking, my mentor told me that tracking with a Chessie was like being behind a Mack truck. He was right! Having mentored many breeds, I have yet to find one that tracks like a Chessie.

Our first dogs, Ch. Chesachobee's Taku Winds, VCD3, MX, MXJ, and Eastern Waters' Hornpipe, VCD3, MX, AXJ, were unbelievable trackers, never missing a footstep. It was fortunate I had those two to "warm up" on, because if they were Mack trucks, then Zephyr is a monster truck!

Zephyr started tracking at 8 weeks old. Since then he's been wild about tracking. All our dogs start by working a short track every day for a week. Then we switch to once a week, working up to full tracks, extending time or length or working on bits and pieces. We track in all weather, day or night, and we track everywhere there is enough space to lay a track.

Zephyr earned his TD at a year old, at the 2006 Ohio national; his TDX a year later, at the 2007 Colorado national; and his VST/CT, at not quite 5 years old, in Maryland in 2010.

Competing at the Invitational was an incredible thrill. When asked about our track, I have to reply that I'm not sure of the details. I was so busy concentrating on staying on my feet—Zephyr ran his track in nine minutes—that I really didn't see much of it. I do know that it was 630 yards long, aged 2¼ hours, and went through woods, hayfields, pine trees, and across a bridge.

Everyone at the Invitational was wonderful, from the AKC staff to the volunteers, competitors, and spectators.

One of the most memorable things was learning that our tracklayer knew Millie Buchholz, longtime Chessie breeder, tracking mentor, and friend. Millie has been gone awhile, but I know she was cheering us on.

The experience at the Invitational was the thrill of a lifetime. —D.P.

Thank you, Doreen. —*Nat Horn; Kcboy0@yahoo.com; American Chesapeake Club website: amchessieclub.org*

Curly-Coated Retrievers

Backing Up!

In obedience, being able to enter the optional titling classes now offered by the AKC has been interesting. I have

used these classes as stepping-stones into the next higher level. However, my plan for entering my Curly in her next obedience trial will be to take a step or two *backward*.

I am doing this as my bitch has been out of training for five months as of writing this column. She recently had a litter of eight puppies, and before breeding her we had been traveling quite a bit.

When training Curlies, one needs to keep it fun. She is not yet ready to enter the Utility ring, nor is she ready yet for the graduate Open class. However, I want to return to obedience as soon as possible. We are going to step back to the Beginner Novice class and hope to make this a positive experience.

I realize that some people may not agree with this plan, but I want a happy attitude, and I like the little bit of rally steps in the class. I know that the two of us can have fun, and the stress level will not be there. Then on to Graduate Open!

While on the subject of the optional titling class, please learn by my mistake. I went into the Graduate Novice class before entering the Open level. My big mistake was that foolishly, I did not teach both ways over the broad jump.

In Graduate Novice, one is allowed to stand on the opposite end of the broad jump, facing the dog, and call the dog over toward you and have him finish. When going into the Open class level, however, the handler must stand to the side of the broad jump, and as the dog jumps over it the handler turns to receive the dog, who then finishes. My big challenge in Open was that after she jumped over the broad jump, I had to try a lot of different methods to get her to come around to the side, as I had only trained her to go over directly toward me at the opposite end.

She did earn her CDX title recently, but not without entering quite a few trials. —*Ann Shinkle; annshinkle@aol.com; Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America website: ccrca.org*

sporting Flat-Coated Retrievers

Our guest columnist Mary Young has had Flat-Coats since 1976, and she very actively and successfully competes in conformation, field trials, hunt tests, obedience, and agility. She also judges, is past president of the FCRSA, and breeds under the Windfall kennel prefix.

Regular Eye Exams—Updates From Around the Globe

New information on eye problems in FCRs has become available from many countries over the last few years. The following will highlight some of the most important developments and continuing research efforts.

The importance of regular eye exams for breeding stock and open sharing of results cannot be overstated. Animals that are bred even once should be followed up over the years with at least a CERF exam, as well as tests for glaucoma or other conditions. Ideally, as many relatives as possible of breeding stock should also receive exams.

Getting a canine eye exam performed can be difficult and expensive, and many people do not have ready access to a certified specialist. Some local dog shows offer reasonably priced CERF exams. Also, some breed clubs offer health-screening days, which may be available in your area if you are lucky enough.

The FCRSA requires that any animal advertised as a sire or dam must have a CERF exam (or its foreign equivalent) in the previous 24 months. CERF certificates expire in 12 months, so the FCRSA is generous with the policy of 24 months for breeding animals.

FCRSA specific requirements for frozen-semen breedings: The male must have a CERF certificate or equivalent if under age 8. A CERF or equivalent conducted at or after age 8 allows older dogs or deceased dogs to meet FCRSA requirements.

FCRSA specific requirements for breeding females: There are no specific requirements beyond those already stated. Females are not required to have

any exams beyond the time period required for breeding purposes. (This is potentially a concern, as many females are bred but have no exams later in life if they are spayed or are not bred again. Thus the follow-up rate in older females is much smaller than in older males.)

FCRSA requirements or recommendations for offspring or littermates: None.

FCRSA requirements or recommendations regarding glaucoma exams, ERG (electroretinography) use: None, though glaucoma screening has been recommended.

Recent Developments

Retinal problems: There were a number of FCRs in Europe who were diagnosed by exam with symptoms of progressive retinal atrophy (PRA). PRA in retrievers is most commonly found as PRA/prcd 1. While there are genetic tests for this very specific type of PRA in Golden Retrievers and Labs, there is no such test for FCRs.

The researchers were confounded, as the distribution of cases did not match that of the classic inherited form of PRA. There was a concentration of cases in certain geographic areas, but there was not the usual situation of parents or progeny being diagnosed with the same symptoms. So researchers considered inheritance, environment, parasites, toxicity, or other plausible causes for what seemed to be PRA. Dogs that were still alive were re-examined using more advanced examination techniques such as ERG. Excellent work was conducted among the group of researchers working in Europe, including the proper use of control groups. There was no evidence of PRA as it is currently understood, and all dogs examined were put back into the database as “retinopathy, non-inherited” versus PRA.

Conclusions? There are definitely FCRs that are showing signs of retinal disease. Recommendations from Sweden suggest it is acceptable to breed from dogs who have retinopathy if the specialist states the type is “non-inherited.” It has also been suggested that when a dog with an eye problem dies

the eyes be preserved for future study.

There is at least one new case in the U.S. where a 6-year-old dog showed severe retinal problems. It should be noted that the same dog had perfect CERF exams when younger.

We hope that this information is useful and that breeders will continue to have their older dogs eyes examined between the ages of 6 and 8. Additional research results will be available in the near future. —M.Y.

Thank you, Mary. —Sally Terroux; sjterroux@aol.com; Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America website: fcr-sainc.org

Golden Retrievers Worthy Achievements

When, 20-plus years ago, I was offered the daunting task of writing “yet another book” on the Golden Retriever, my writer-self recalled the poet Horace’s famous words: “Seize the day!”

Had my dog-self been my alpha person at that time, I might have had second thoughts. What more could I write that had not already been chronicled by so many respected authorities on the breed? For several agonizing months, I struggled mightily to find a “heart” for my new book.

I finally decided to focus on the amazing versatility of the Golden: show dog, hunting companion, field competitor, tracking star, agility performer, assistance dog, therapist, and comforter. Golden Retrievers have always had their paws in everything, but their activities and achievements have exploded during the past several decades—and in that process have made the world a better place.

I plan to follow that same path in writing this column. There are countless thousands of Golden Retrievers out there quietly achieving in big and small ways in every discipline, both in dogdom and in every aspect of the human-animal connection. I plan (hope?) to recruit guest columnists who represent those many aspects of Golden life and accomplishment. Doing so will honor not only those dogs for their achievements, but

also the dedication of their owners who devote their time and talent to the breed they own and love. —*Nona Kilgore Bauer; nona@nonabauer.com; Golden Retriever Club of America website: grca.org*

Labrador Retrievers Labs and Kids PART ONE: Younger Children, and the Labrador as Nanny

*M*other and apple pie. Chocolate and cabernet. Labs and kids—few things are better suited to each other. However, the romantic notion of Labrador Retriever and child growing up together can be fraught with unfair expectations. Children under about 8 years old are not typically able to form a mature relationship with a dog. All Labradors need training to be safe and pleasant companions. However, a Labrador can still be a wonderful part of early childhood. Young children and their Labrador Retrievers simply have different relationships—not better or worse—than what we experience as adults.

With their affable and forgiving nature, Labrador Retrievers are well suited to receive the sometimes clumsy attempts at affection from their young human charges. The “nanny instinct” is strong in the breed, and many Labradors will assume this duty even when it seems contrary to their previous behavior. More than one wild and seemingly irresponsible Labrador Retriever has found an inner calm and control when a “hairless puppy” is introduced to the pack.

A classic example of “Labrador as Nanny” has been widely viewed on YouTube:

youtube.com/watch?v=BRM6gZ8Lw_k&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL.

Children under 3 years old content themselves with very simple relationships. Their world is mostly about parallel play. Supervision is necessary to ensure that boundaries are respected and everyone kept safe, but adult intervention can sometimes confuse rather than enhance the relationship.

There are two errors adults make in

supervising dog–children interactions. One is injecting tension onto an otherwise uncomplicated relationship—in other words, seeing trouble when there is none. Sometimes it is the adult’s own “dog fear” that is transmitted to the child. Alternatively, the adult may attempt to over-control a fairly innocuous situation. Correcting an otherwise polite dog interacting with a happy child could potentially cause the dog to worry every time the child comes near—not the right message to send.

The more substantial error occurs when the adult fails to observe and respect the warnings that the dog is not comfortable with the child and its behavior. Safety is all about reading the dog correctly.

While it isn’t good for either child or dog for a child to handle a dog roughly, certain minor indignities might be considered “the price of dog food.” Most Labradors will get up and leave if they aren’t comfortable with the attention they receive. However, extra consideration must be afforded the elderly or injured Labrador who might feel defensive when his nap is disturbed by a disrespectful child. Housing such dogs out of the main flow of the household activities and the wanderings of a toddler is a kindness to both.

Adding a puppy to a family with children under age 3 can be a challenge. Smooth integration requires extra dedication to see that the puppy and child are taught boundaries, self-control, and respect for each other. The families that are most successful at bringing a puppy into this situation usually have some years of dog experience and are dedicated to doing something with their puppy, such as hunting, competition obedience, and so on. Actively training the puppy against jumping, biting or mouthing, and food aggression as well as lots of typical lead work is critical to successful puppy–child integration.

Regardless of his age, a Labrador Retriever expected to socialize with children needs conscientious veterinary care and ample opportunity for exercise. Typical Labradors are more likely

to be overexuberant rather than aggressive, so self-control and calm should be emphasized in training. The family Labrador also needs his share of protected “down time.” Most experts recommend a crate or bed where the dog can retreat—a sanctuary from child-tending duties. —*Lee Foote; Labrador Retriever Club website: thelabrador-club.com*

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers Hunting With a Toller

*H*unting with a Toller is a great experience. Watching them do the work for which the breed was developed highlights the human–dog relationship in a way that no other activity can. Sitting in a blind scanning the sky with the dog brings a sense of camaraderie and teamwork. Watching the dog bring in a bird brings an upwelling of pride and joy. Seeing the look of disappointment on the dog’s face when the hunter misses a shot brings a twinge of embarrassment for disappointing the dog.

Tollers can and do serve as multipurpose hunting dogs. A day hunting can start in the duck blind and then move to upland fields using the same dog. Properly fueled and hydrated, Tollers can go all day long.

The day can start with the early-morning duck flight, sending the dog out to fetch the downed birds for as long as they are falling. I mostly hunt my dogs on small water, and as long as the dogs aren’t moving, the ducks don’t seem to be worried about their presence outside of the duck blind.

Once the ducks are done flying, it’s time to pack up the gear and dog and move to dry land. The Toller is an excellent flushing and retrieving dog on upland game. Pheasants and quail are no problem for a trained Toller.

As a flusher, the Toller is a fairly close-working dog. Keeping an eye on the dog will yield good results after the flush. If the hunter misses the first shot, the dogs are very good about tracking and re-flushing the birds for a second or even a third chance.

Tollers also are able to work with other dogs quite well. The combination of a Toller and any pointing breed can work nicely, as the two types of sporting dogs have complementary skills.

Because of the Toller's size, many people think that the breed can't fetch a goose, but that is not the case. Tollers can and do fetch geese. Their tenacity and gameness is most obvious here. The sight of a small retriever bringing in a goose illustrates the breed's drive and determination.

In the water, Tollers have plenty of courage. They will swim in swift currents or big water after a cripple with a "never say die" attitude. A diving cripple will have trouble fooling a Toller. Their intelligence and independent working ability helps them to bring back crafty birds.

After the hunt, the Toller's coat is able to go into the house with a minimal amount of fuss. Once dry, Tollers seem to be able to drop most of the accrual of dirt and debris with a quick brushing. Cockleburrs can be an issue, but they are easily removed if the burrs are first smashed with a pair of pliers before trying to remove them. Having the dog wear a vest while working in burry areas also helps to limit their accumulation in the coat.

The Toller's size fits nicely in a smaller boat, car, or blind, and their color blends nicely with winter grasses. They are nice, medium-sized, all-purpose hunting dogs. I highly recommend them. —*Phyllis L. McDonald*; tollerphyllis@comcast.net; *Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) website*: nsdtrc-usa.org

English Setters

To Sir (Dick Fox), With Love

English Setters lost a giant with the passing of Dick Fox in December 2011. Dick and his wife, Ingrid, bred wonderful English Setters under the prefix Foxtract for many years, producing about 50 champions.

The typey dogs he produced as breeder were only the beginning of Dick's legacy to English Setters. He

took his concerns with breeding better dogs a step further by creating a database of more than 36,000 English Setters, going back 20 or more generations. With this database, breeders could try possible combinations of sires and dams to see the resulting pedigrees.

They could discover the progeny and siblings of dogs in those pedigrees. They could look at the health status, color, titles (both conformation and performance), and gender of the dogs in those pedigrees. They could also learn the overall inbreeding coefficient, as well as the percentage of genetic contribution and the frequency of appearance of each dog in a pedigree. The database was updated every year. Dick's database is worth its weight in gold to a breeder.

Dick was concerned about English Setter breeders going to the same sires over and over and the breed getting too inbred. On several occasions, he urged me to consider broadening my search for a stud dog and to limit the amount of inbreeding in a potential combination to 15 percent or less. For health reasons, he liked pedigrees with lots of different animals rather than the same dogs appearing over and over.

Dick's interest in pedigree analysis as a breeding tool led him into a serious quest to reduce genetically based diseases. He became very involved with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), sitting on its board for many years. He kept the OFA informed of breeder concerns and urged breeders to report the results of their hip, elbow, hearing, and thyroid testing of their dogs and bitches to the OFA so we could get a picture of the current state of English Setter genetic health.

Always, his goal was breeding better English Setters, a big part of which is improving their genetic health. By identifying the dogs and bitches who test normal for the main genetic diseases that affect English Setters, Dick paved the way for those dogs to be chosen for breeding programs, which, over time, resulted in a lowering of the incidence of those diseases.

Dick and Ingrid bred many great English Setters. One of the most famous was Ch. Foxtract's the Invincible One, who was campaigned by Mark Threlfall in the late 1980s. Vince was the number-one sporting dog in America in 1988 and twice earned the title English Setter of the Year. He won a total of 16 Bests in Show.

Not content to theorize about ways to breed better dogs, Dick Fox dedicated his life to creating concrete tools that would actually help breeders to plan breedings with the right amount of linebreeding (that is, not too much) and with eyes wide open about the genetic health of the individuals within a pedigree.

Dick was also a respected AKC judge selected by the fancy to judge many English Setter specialties during his judging career.

Dick Fox touched many lives, and he left things better than he found them in this life. —*Jill Warren*; Esthete.es@comcast.net; *English Setter Association of America website*: esaa.com

Gordon Setters

Bulla: The Silent Killer

Throughout the many years I have bred Gordons, and with as much exposure as I have had to veterinary medicine, I had never heard of a *bulla* (plural *bullae*).

I decided to X-ray the lungs of my 13-year-old bitch, who was diagnosed with cancer three years ago (and treated successfully with Palladia). That is when I first heard the term *bulla*.

Generally, bullae (also called "blebs") are rounded, blisterlike anatomical structures, often encapsulating air or fluid. In the respiratory system, bullae are very small, often microscopic, cyst-like sacs of encapsulated air residing in the lungs. They can leak over time, or rupture, releasing air into the lungs. When that happens, it causes *bullous emphysema*, or primary spontaneous pneumothorax (SP). (Other causes of SP include trauma, parasites, and infectious diseases.)

SP is a relatively common condition in humans. According to two Gordon breeder-owners who are also veterinarians, the incidence of bullae in Gordons is higher than in other breeds. (Mixed-breeds also are affected.)

Thought not to be inherited, the cause of bullae both in dogs and humans is unknown, making diagnosis and treatment difficult, especially for canines.

The X-ray of my bitch's right lung showed two tiny, round, clear-in-the-center circles, indicating bullae. Microscopic bullae are the most dangerous, present but unseen, possibly leaking slowly until full-blown SP occurs. CT scans are more effective in finding bullae than X-rays. Bullae *can* cause death when they leak or rupture in one lung, and *nearly always cause death when in both lungs*.

Rupturing bullae release the air trapped inside them into the lung. The lung deals with the changed air pressure by releasing that air into the chest cavity outside the lungs, and the increased outside pressure often collapses the lung.

There is no known cure for bullae, nor any antibiotic or other treatment that will make them disappear. The most effective treatment in canines is *surgical removal of the lung* if there are numerous bullae, or *surgical removal of that part of the lung* where bulla(e) were previously seen on X-ray and/or CT. *This only applies if one lung is affected, not both.*

Rupture of the microscopic bullae can be life threatening, and surgical treatment is tricky since once ruptured, the location is not discernable. Having X-rays or CTs showing the location of bullae can be important if surgical intervention is needed.

Bullae seldom disappear or decrease in size. On follow-up X-ray, my girl's larger bulla had diminished in size. No one can tell me why; I asked five veterinarians, including two surgeons.

Various treatment methods have been tried on dogs that mirror treatment for SP in humans. Treatment for humans is the insertion of a tube into the chest cavity to express the trapped air, and re-inflating the lung(s). This

method must be used when both lungs are affected in a dog, but it has not proven successful. Successful treatment for dogs remains surgical removal of all or part of *one lung*, ideally via thoracoscopy (performed with a scope vs. cracking ribs), which minimally invasive, less traumatic and painful, and allows a speedier recovery.

Bullae's symptoms are subtle and can be missed or misdiagnosed (it can be confused with bloat), which can make effective, lifesaving treatment impossible. Coughing can cause a bulla to rupture. Then again, maybe nothing discernable can cause rupturing. *A dog having difficulty breathing*, with or without coughing, should signal the need for *immediate intervention by a vet*.

One Gordon hunting with her owner was having a breathing problem, which her owner attributed to the summer heat. He let her "rest." She died before her owner realized the respiratory distress was not due to the heat; bullae were diagnosed on the post mortem.

Bullae can be silent and deadly. However, a dog can live a long, healthy life with bullae, so long as they do not rupture.

Vigilant monitoring of your dogs' health and daily well being can be the difference between a long, joyful, healthy life and the alternative. — Carolyn R. Gold; spellbound24k@net-zero.com; Gordon Setter Club of America website: gsca.org

Irish Setters A New Era

The elections for the AKC board, of directors, class of 2016, were held at the annual meeting of the American Kennel Club, which was held in New Jersey on March 13. Those elected were Patricia Cruz, Thomas Powers, and William Feeney. The board voted to appoint Alan Kalter as the new chairman and Dr. Robert D. Smith as vice chairman. Both Chairman Ron Menaker and Vice Chair Dr. Thomas Davies retired from the board as a result of term limitations.

In his final remarks as Chairman, Mr.

Menaker gave a précis of several initiatives that were instituted during his tenure. The AKC Canine Partners program, initiated in 2011 has proven to be a very successful way to introduce newcomers to the sport of dogs. Through this program mixed-breed dogs are invited to participate in non-conformation events, such as obedience, agility, rally, and lure coursing. Over the space of one year, 89 percent of clubs eligible to invite mixed-breed dogs held events including them. A number of Canine Partners qualified and entered the AKC National Agility Championship, held at the beginning of this month.

At the start of his tenure as chairman, Mr. Menaker brought onto the staff a number of well-qualified professionals in the area of finance, public relations, Internet services, and club relations, and others who were instrumental in bringing the AKC into the modern age. He and his financial advisors established a reserve fund for the AKC, to guard against economic downturns that could jeopardize the organization's financial standing.

He and Dennis Sprung, AKC president and CEO, developed and instituted the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, a yearly event that brings top-winning dogs from all over the world to compete in conformation, agility, and obedience. He emphasized the importance of breeders in this national venue by offering special classes for breeder-owner competition—all the way from Best of Breed to Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show. National breed parent-clubs are invited to introduce the public to their breeds. Thousands of local citizens, school groups, 4-H clubs, and others are invited to attend the show and "Meet the Breeds."

In addition to these national events, local clubs have been encouraged to hold their own attractions as part of Responsible Dog Owners' Day, during one week in September.

In his farewell speech to the delegates he acknowledged two board members who retired with him: Dr.

Thomas Davies, and a “living legend” in the sport, Walter F. Goodman. He also acknowledged the wisdom and experience of a former chairman and vice chairman, the Honorable David Merriam.

Mr. Menaker leaves the board at a time of change and uncertainty at the AKC. Assaults resulting from the poor national economy of the last several years have affected the organization. This has caused many challenges in how its constituents see themselves and how others perceive devotees of purebred dogs. Dog owners in all areas of the country are under attack from radical organizations that would like to do away with all pet ownership through prohibitively restrictive legislation.

The AKC Government Relations department has been given new life and vigor under Mr. Menaker’s tenure and Mr. Sprung’s administration. This department keeps abreast of national and local pending legislation. It is a great resource for dog clubs to keep abreast of activities in their states. The department has a wealth of information to help communities fight anti-dog legislation. They are willing to send AKC representatives to states that are in need of help to combat laws that would adversely affect responsible pet owners. It is an invaluable resource for dog owners.

One would hope the new members of the board will continue to fight for and support their constituents by providing the resources and personnel necessary to maintain the confidence of purebred-dog owners and those breeders whom the AKC was created to serve. —*Connie Vanacore*; fcvanacore@aol.com; *Irish Setter Club of America website: irishsetterclub.org*

Irish Red and White Setters

Plants That Can Be Hazardous to Your Dog

Now that spring has sprung, we are all looking forward to outdoor activities with our dogs, training for upcoming field events, a fall hunting trip, or just an enjoyable nature walk.

The last thing we want is for our dogs to be harmed. Some cultivated and wild plants in public parks, neighborhoods, and even our own backyard can pose a risk to our dogs.

To be honest, I had never given this subject much thought until a friend’s dog became sick after eating a poinsettia. The following is only a short list of plants commonly used in landscaping that are hazardous to dogs.

Azalea/rhododendron species. These unassuming ornamentals contain a toxin that can be lethal, even in small amounts. Both the leaves and the nectar are known to be harmful if chewed or ingested by your dog. If large amounts of toxins are ingested, it can lead to severe poisoning, possible coma, and even death.

Oleander. Oleander is one of the most poisonous plants in the world—even small amounts of its toxin can be fatal, as every part of the plant is toxic, from the flowers to the roots. The sap can irritate the skin and eyes, and the leaves retain their toxicity, even when dried out.

Chrysanthemum. This is a popular ornamental that blooms in late summer and early fall. The beautiful flowers contain a natural insecticide which can cause drooling, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Foxtails. The top of this weed resembles the tail of a fox, and it is considered a widespread nuisance in most states, especially west of the Mississippi. Prevalent from late spring to early fall, foxtails and are more dangerous in late summer, when their seeds dry. When seeds are released from their pods, they are covered in barbs, making them potentially very dangerous to your dog. Seeds can become snagged in the coat, pierce the skin, or even be inhaled. Foxtail seeds can become lodged in a dog’s eyelid or between the toes, ears, or armpits. If inhaled or swallowed, they can burrow onto the interior walls of the nose or throat and pose serious risk. Once a foxtail is lodged somewhere, it can migrate from the entry point and cause damage and serious infection. Keep in mind that these seeds are so small that they can be very difficult to locate. Needless to say, this is a very

nasty weed. If you see any evidence of a possible encounter with a foxtail, take your dog to a veterinarian immediately.

As many of us travel to different states for vacation or to attend hunt tests, dog shows, and hunting trips, it is a good idea to familiarize yourself with the vegetation in the area just to be on the safe side. As long as you’re keeping aware of your surroundings and using common sense, outdoor activities can be fun and free from environmental risks.

For more information on these and other toxic plants, Google “toxic plants for dogs.” —*Lee Robinson*; robilee6@myfairpoint.net; *Irish Red and White Setter Association of America website: irishredwhitesetterassociation.com*

Boykin Spaniels

The Boykin Spaniel is a rare American breed—not only in numbers, but in the nature of its origin as well. Few breeds can trace their origin back to one man and his efforts to develop a dog to fill a very specific need. The story of the Boykin’s origin is an interesting one, and in an effort to tell it for the AKC Archives, here is what is known about this wonderful little dog. Due to space limitations, the story will appear here in three parts.

The Little Dog Who Doesn’t Rock the Boat PART ONE

One Sunday morning in the early 1900s in the town of Spartanburg in the upstate region of South Carolina, a gentleman by the name of Alexander White found a small spaniel-looking dog following him home from church. He took the little dog into his home as a pet and named him Dumpy.

White was an avid outdoorsman, and he often took the train some 130 or so miles to the small mill-town of Boykin, located near the town of Camden. Camden lies in the Wateree River delta, a part of the South Carolina midlands and an area teeming with wildlife, from wild turkey to ducks, geese, dove, quail, and deer—a hunter’s paradise. His friend and hunting partner, a gentleman named Whitaker “Whit” Boykin, lived there,

and the two men often served as guides for hunters visiting the area.

Apparently Dumpy showed some talents as a hunting-retrieving dog that White considered useful, so he left the dog with Whit for training. It is believed that this little chocolate-brown spaniel was the progenitor of today's Boykin Spaniel.

In the decades following the Civil War, the industrial revolution in the North had created a class of businessmen with leisure time as well as disposable income. Hunting was a popular sport among these men, and in seeking a more temperate climate to pursue the sport in the winter months, places were sought out in the South. The midlands of South Carolina fit the bill nicely. There was shopping for the women and good hunting weather for the men, and the area was easily accessible by trains from the North. Soon entire families began to winter in the area around Camden.

In those days the main means of transportation through the landscape was by mule or horseback, and in the swampy areas, a small three-piece boat called a section boat was used. Basically, it consisted of three separate boxes that could be carried individually by just a couple of men; when bolted together, the boxes created a craft large enough to carry perhaps three hunters, their supplies, and a dog to retrieve game birds and waterfowl.

The dogs commonly used were large Labrador Retrievers or perhaps Chesapeake Bay Retrievers. However, once a retrieve was necessary, a large dog launching from this rather small craft probably caused more than one boat per trip to capsize. Then there was the problem of getting the dog back into the small boat—once again, without it capsizing. It became clear that a smaller dog was needed.

In Part Two, we will look at what we know about how this was accomplished. —*Carole Thomas; caroles-boykins@gmail.com; The Boykin Spaniel Club and Breeders Association of America website: theboykinspanielclub.com*

Clumber Spaniels

Our guest columnist is Sue Carr (“Saint Sue”), unanimously elected Life Member of the CSCA in recognition of her many years chairing the club's Rescue and Placement program for our wonderful breed.

CSCA Rescue and Placement

The need for Clumber rescue was negligible when beginning this work in 1993. In asking for record files, I expected a box or so. Instead was a single sheet of paper with eight names and phone numbers. Nothing more. Our rescue program was in its infancy.

In 1995 alone, eight Clumbers were placed—seemingly a lot at the time. The watershed moment came in 1996 when Brady, Ch. Clussexx Country Sunrise, won Best in Show at Westminster. Though flattering for our breed, this became a double-edged sword for rescue. Fame attracted the casual buyer who wanted “that great face.” Calls poured in from people who couldn't get a Clumber fast enough. Ironically, not one person completed our screening and actually adopted one. It was frightening to see how quickly Clumbers had become an impulse item.

The win at Westminster, however, certainly got the notice of puppy millers, and auctions were thrilled to capitalize on this rare breed with “the Clumber mystique.” Soon we were hearing of Clumbers from unknown breeders without any breeding standards. Clumbers were shipped from Eastern Europe to commercial high-volume breeders in the Midwest in a cycle of quickly inflated purchases. Not surprisingly, these dogs eventually found their way into Rescue and Placement.

Ready availability of the breed due to the ease of finding dogs via the Internet has boosted the number of rescues ever since. Unfortunately, it's not uncommon to see a Clumber listed for free on Craigslist or in a local newspaper, or to hear of multiple Clumbers being taken to shelters when determined to be “not productive” for a puppy miller.

Fortunately, rescue has met the need,

with greater placements. In 2010, 19 rescue Clumbers were placed, and 15 in 2011. And this year appears to be even more active. One small blessing is that the Clumber isn't an easy dog to breed.

While the volume of Clumbers needing adoption is minimal compared to some major breeds, it has nevertheless become a growing concern. Often a Clumber is mistaken for a mixed-breed. Most shelter staff have never seen a Clumber, and the majority of dogs listed as Clumbers on *Petfinder.com* bear no similarity to the breed. Accordingly, we try to disseminate Clumber information to as many shelters as possible, with our website playing a pivotal role.

The club's Rescue and Placement committee has been expanded to cover more regions of the country, but there are areas with very few Clumber people, so working with other breed-rescue groups is essential for locating dogs in shelters and arranging transport. Being a rare breed necessitates this kind of interaction, and we try to return the favor whenever possible.

Our screening process for prospective homes requires familiarity with the breed to see if owning a Clumber is for them. We offer “before and after” assistance to ensure a good match. In keeping close relationships with these new owners of the breed, many continue to adopt Clumbers over the years. Once you have a Clumber, you can't have just one!

A great benefit of having fewer dogs to place as compared to some breeds is that we can give each Clumber individualized attention. Health-care guidelines allow up to \$1,000 per dog, and occasionally significantly higher.

Many of our rescue dogs have had a difficult life, but Clumbers are a resilient, endearing, devoted breed. Our goal is to ensure that every Clumber will have the best possible chance for a good home and a better life. —S.C.

Reminder: Saving one dog won't change the world—but the world will change for that one dog. —*Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.; bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com; Clumber Spaniel Club of America website: clumbers.org*

sporting Cocker Spaniels

Best Foot Forward

If you are a runner or even do a substantial amount of walking, you are well aware of how your feet and their condition impact your stride and well-being. This concept certainly applies as well to the Cocker, his gait, and his ability to perform the function(s) for which the breed was developed.

The Cocker is a flushing spaniel, a category of sporting spaniels that locate and flush game birds in the field. As such, the Cocker is expected to have stamina and to be able to effectively make his way through ground cover in this pursuit.

Certain portions of the breed's standard help us picture what is expected of the Cocker and why the conformation of the feet is significant. The standard's "General Appearance" section, in part, informs us that *The Cocker Spaniel is the smallest member of the Sporting Group ... He is a dog capable of considerable speed, combined with great endurance ... and in action show a keen inclination to work.*

Under "Forequarters," the standard says, *Feet compact, large, round and firm with horny pads; they turn neither in nor out.*

The "Gait" section completes the stated requirements for Cocker action, reading in part *Above all his gait is coordinated, smooth, and effortless. The dog must cover ground with his action ...*

Once the Cocker puppy is weaned and the breeder is finished observing the baby's enthusiastic use of his paws in nursing, it is easy to lose sight of Cocker feet. Coat grows rapidly as the puppy develops, and the feet are soon "out of sight, out of mind." The breeder should pay attention to the foot conformation of dogs selected for show and breeding and should bear in mind the standard's description of the feet, along with the commonsense need for that type of foot in the Cocker's fulfilling of its breed function.

From time to time you will observe a judge lift the front leg of a Cocker exhibit and run a hand down the leg to

check bone and the construction of the foot. This examination is not always popular with the exhibitor whose dog may not be prepared for or welcome such examination. (Unfortunately, people may not readily do what is *expected*, but only what is *inspected*.) Judges may help draw attention to feet by employing the examination and "inspection."

From early puppyhood, breeders and exhibitors should accustom their Cockers to thorough examination. Gently handling the puppy's feet will advance the puppy's acceptance of grooming and examination. Procedures that might otherwise be resented by the Cocker will become accepted and commonplace.

The breeder should select for the correct foot conformation that helps propel and support the Cocker's prescribed sporting gait. The breeder then prepares the Cocker for examination and the training to put its "best foot forward." —Kristi L. Tikua; American Spaniel Club website: asc-cockerspaniel.org

English Cocker Spaniels

The Global English Cocker

In today's world of efficient global trade and travel, it is no surprise that serious fanciers are "going global" as well. For many, the cost, effort, and regulations entailed in importing dogs may seem insurmountable, while others may not have even thought of possible benefits. Several breeders shared their experiences and thoughts on the whys and hows.

One of the first questions is "Why should I bother importing a dog?"

Virginia Lyne, of British Columbia, a respected breeder-judge behind the Ranzfel English Cockers for 50 years, explained that she imported dogs from England and Scotland "to ensure that I remained as closely focused as possible on the expectations of the breed in the country of origin." Lisa Ross, of Winfree English Cockers, in Virginia, built on her 30 years of success by importing a dog from Denmark to expand available bloodlines and avoid

the problems inherent in "breeding ourselves into a corner."

In the United Kingdom well-known Andrew Jones and Jane Simmonds, of Shenmore Cocker Spaniels, imported a bitch from the United States in order to "bring a little of the show attitude and glamour of the ECS in the U.S.A., whilst ... remaining true to English cocker type." Ms. Ann O'Keefe, of Australia's top-winning Glenayden Kennel, believes, "Without new blood or some addition of hybrid vigor, the gene pool would be weakened, and our type would be poor, [as] proven by other countries that have not been able to access outside quality lines."

In the bigger picture, is there a positive impact on the breed itself through importing? O'Keefe sees imports as beneficial not only to the breeders who actually bring the dogs in, but also to other breeders who are "smart enough to access the lines others have put the time and money into bringing in."

Jones points out that by carefully selecting dogs, specific breed-points can be improved in a country where those points may have weakened. Ross believes that all breeders can be helped by actually being able to see and put their hands on dogs from other countries, even if they themselves cannot travel.

Several recent imports, including Worlewood Ain't No Sunshine, who came to Lyne for a limited time, have had significant impacts on many bloodlines both in the U.S. and Canada.

These experienced breeders shared several important times about choosing a dog to import and about the actual process. At minimum, several recommended that you see video of the dog in action from all sides. Ensure that the dog you are importing is actually of the quality you want, as sometimes dogs are sold as show prospects to buyers overseas that would not have been shown by the breeder at home. Research and study the lines and dogs you're thinking of importing. Have a clear idea of what you are trying to add to your line, and be flexible in planning. All emphasize knowing what tests are required before

shipping by the specific country. Make sure your veterinarian knows of the plans, and investigate what quarantine is required.

In short, use the experience of these noted breeders by doing your research on the dog you wish to import, know why you believe this dog will benefit your breeding program, and plan well in advance to ensure you have met all requirements. Also, expect the costs to range from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

Most importantly perhaps, be thankful there are serious breeders importing wonderful dogs to enrich English Cocker Spaniel bloodlines around the world. —Robin Tingley; newsteadecs@carolina.rr.com; *English Cocker Spaniel Club of America website*: ecsca.org

English Springer Spaniels

St. Louis Bound—2012 ESSFTA National

Many years ago at the national specialty in Allentown, Pennsylvania, I was standing ringside, breathlessly watching the Veteran Bitch class. Julie Hogan, of Pride 'n Joy Springers, turned to me and said, "They are all so beautiful. There's not a dog here you wouldn't want to take home with you." That is real Springer love: when you not only admire your own breedings and your own pets, but you can feel joy at the beauty of others' dogs as they fly around the ring.

Have you marked your calendar for this year's national, September 22–29?

Our 2012 event will be held at Purina Farms, in Gray Summit, Missouri. This rural setting of fields and country roads is ideal in terms of its dog-friendly locations and memorable attractions. Tourist activities and outdoor fun make the Saint Louis area unsurpassed as a place to hold a national specialty.

Forget your worries about wet dogs, rain gear, or perspiration spoiling your usually fine temperament. Purina Farms offers indoor, climate-controlled show rings for the enjoyment of spectators and exhibitors alike. Imagine the rush of vendors, happy to set up indoors,

with hundreds of Springer shoppers parading the indoor exhibition center. The 2012 ESSFTA national specialty promises to be heaven on earth for all of us who count the days until each year's event.

Take a look at the national's website (essftanational.com) as you plan ways to celebrate the beauty, companionship, and working joy of our breed. Join in or enjoy watching the tracking, hunting, obedience, dock diving, agility, and conformation excitement. Gather training, exhibition, and health tips for your own dogs. Celebrate the companionship of our breed by watching the annual Rescue Parade. Experience the excitement of bidding on Springer collectibles and Springer finds only seen at the auctions and raffles at the national.

Purina Farms (purina.com/purina-farms) is 40 miles from the grand, bustling, dog-friendly, historic city of St. Louis. Tourist lures abound. Attractions you might want to visit include the St. Louis Zoo (stlzoo.org); The AKC Museum of the Dog, with its huge and glorious gift shop (museumofthedog.org); the St. Louis Arch and Westward Expansion Museum (stlouis-arch.com); Grant's Farm (grantsfarm.com); the Old Courthouse, location of the historic Dred Scott decision (home.nps.gov/jeff/planyourvisit/och.htm and library.wustl.edu/vlib/dredscott); the Budweiser downtown tour (budweiser-tours.com); and the ancient Cahokia burial mounds (cahokiamounds.org). Baseball fans can check out the home of the 2011 World Series Champion St. Louis Cardinals at Busch Stadium (stlouis.cardinals.mlb.com). In nearby Eureka, you can visit the Wolf Sanctuary (wildcanidcenter.org).

Pack your elastic-waist trousers and your big appetite for famous St. Louis-area food delights, including the many memorable Italian eateries in the area locals call "The Hill" (thehillstl.com) and in the cozy atmosphere of Annie Gunns Restaurant (anniegunns.com), renowned for the bread pudding and smokehouse meats. Ask anyone, "What's the one place not to miss in St. Louis?" and they will point you to Ted Drewe's

famous frozen custard (teddrewe.com).

Hours of work and months of planning make our national a week that is memorable, with excitement for everyone who ever fell in love with a Springer. Have even more fun this year by lending a hand to help make the show happen. When you visit the national-show website, see all the committees, filled with volunteers just like you, who need your help. Send a note and offer to volunteer. You will be welcomed and appreciated.

September fast approaches. The time is now to make reservations and dream about the fun we will have when we meet in St. Louis. —Sarah A. Ferrell; saf@abrohamneal.com; *English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association website*: essfta.org

Field Spaniels

"Just Another Dumb Dog"?

I am constantly entertained by behaviors my dogs offer that verify just how intelligent they are. Is the average Field Spaniel smarter than some dog breeds? Perhaps, but I might be a little biased.

In spite of the fact that the average Field Spaniel is 18 inches tall, items left anywhere on the front five-eighths of a typical kitchen counter are just not safe from reach. I firmly believe that some Field Spaniels possess telescoping legs that enable them to reach much farther than would seem possible. On occasion I have caught Pollyanna utilizing the stepstool to gain access even farther back on the counter.

As a young dog, Baxter actually jumped up onto the counters—and he also turned on the faucet to get a drink. One day I walked into the kitchen and discovered him halfway in to the microwave, helping himself to a bowl of half-cooked rice. What does one do when confronted with this scenario? I snuck out of the room, got my camera, took a picture, and then yelled at Baxter to get off the counter.

Ivy brings me items she takes from the other dogs that she feels they shouldn't have. Ivy would never dream of counter-surfing. She would never consider stealing my shoes or taking and

destroying anything she knows is mine. If there is any doubt in her mind concerning potential contraband found on the floor, she brings me the item for approval as if to say, “May I destroy this?”

The other day, 9-month-old Pollyanna had something that Ivy felt was not supposed to be destroyed. She worked diligently to take the item away from the puppy. When Pollyanna objected, they had a squabble over it until Ivy was finally able to grab the object and deliver it to me. Ivy will also frequently bring me her treasures for safekeeping. It’s like she trusts me to guard it and knows I won’t chew it up.

In contrast, Pollyanna firmly believes anything not nailed down is fair game, no matter how far off the floor it may be. She will chew and destroy items even as I am chasing her in attempt to get them from her.

I find it humorous that Ivy destroys dog toys. We might have a brand-new toy around for weeks and weeks, and then one day she rips the stuffing out of it. Is this OK in her mind because she recognizes the fact that the toys are *hers*, and she feels the need to destroy something on occasion? Or perhaps she doesn’t want a “goody two-shoes” reputation?

Another “thinking dog” trait I see is with Ivy’s mother, Token, pertaining to favored sleeping spots on the bed or couch. Rather than create a scene or attempt to intimidate someone in what she considers to be “her” spot, Token creates a diversion. She growls or barks her “Who’s there?” alarm, then runs toward the back door. Invariably, *all* of the dogs run to investigate, except Token—who then jumps onto the bed or couch to settle into her favorite spot. What amazes me is that the other dogs never catch on to her act.

Incapable of reason? Dumb dogs? I don’t think so. —Karin Cartwright; arborfield@hotmail.com; *Field Spaniel Society of America website: fieldspaniels.org*

Irish Water Spaniels “Irish Eyes”

The eyes of the Irish Water Spaniel betray the complex nature of the

dog within. They are the windows through which we catch a glimpse into the mind of this singularly smart and sensitive canine.

The standard describes the IWS as having “great intelligence” with an “eagerness of temperament.” These qualities are best understood when the dog is looking directly at the viewer. Although a profuse topknot generally obscures the head of adult dogs, it is not difficult to recognize the correct, intelligent expression when those brilliant Irish eyes come into view.

An exceptional performer in water and on land, the breed’s ability to search and retrieve a mark is greatly aided by eyes that are “set almost flush” and “comparatively small and almond shaped, with tight eyelids.” Correctly sized and shaped eyes afford a natural defense against the elements. Yet, just as their form protects, it also establishes the framework that allows the breed’s inner “essence” to be expressed.

Color, as much as any aspect of the eyes’ conformation, creates the desired *keenly alert, intelligent, direct, and quizzical* expression described by the standard. Too light, and the look is one of startled bewilderment; too dark, on the other hand, and the expression approaches an unrecognizable softness. Neither extreme is correct for the breed.

According to the breed standard, an acceptable range exists for the value of the eyes’ pigment: *The color is a warm tone of medium to dark brown, dark amber but never yellow.* Prior to a 2009 revision to the standard, eye color was defined as *hazel, preferably a dark shade.*

As with other chocolate- or liver-colored sporting breeds, maintaining a dark eye can be a challenge and, once lost, is difficult to re-establish in a line. Many misinterpreted the use of the term “hazel” as making acceptable the lighter green or yellow colors that completely mar expression. Light eyes are the bane of any brown-dog breeding program, so the emphasis of the current standard is placed on a value that is “warm” and a color that approaches “dark,” either amber or

brown.

“Brown,” of course, is not the same color in every breed. Many sporting dogs allow for brown eyes, although each has a standard that describes the color in relative terms. Descriptions range from *dark* in Pointers, through *dark brown* in Cocker Spaniels and *dark hazel* in Field Spaniels, to *hazel* in Sussex Spaniels and *yellowish or amber* in Chesapeake Bay Retrievers.

It is generally preferred that eye color harmonizes with the color of the coat, and this may account for the many terms used to describe this very common color.

For the Irish Water Spaniel, with its rich, liver-colored coat with a “purplish tinge,” the eyes must possess the desired qualities of size, shape, placement, and unquestionably color that allows the breed’s alert and inquisitive nature to shine through.

When it comes to this Celtic water dog, Irish eyes do indeed smile. —Dan Sayers; Ninodanny@aol.com; *Irish Water Spaniel Club of America website: clubs.akc.org/iwsc*

Sussex Spaniels Meeting the Breed

“She’s so soft!”

This was the statement we heard over and over at the recent “Meet the Breeds.” The fact that the booth next to us was Standard Schnauzers—not a breed with a soft coat—may have played some role in this! Other great questions from the public included “Why isn’t his nose black?” and “Why are their eyes sad but they smile?”

One of my favorites was “Do they get along with parakeets?” The answer to that one of course depends on what you mean by “get along.” Mine would grab the bird and carry it around—not good for the bird. I explained that with the Sussex being a bird-hunting dog, I wouldn’t chance it.

By far the most-asked question was “Can I pet him [or her]?” Hopefully we educated some of the thousands of people there about the Sussex Spaniel, and hopefully some of them will follow through on contacting the club about a

future puppy.

Sussex Spaniels are rare—as was pointed out in a recent British news-magazine, they are more rare than pandas. Some of us in the breed who are the most responsible for upping the registrations of Sussex in the last 40 years are getting older, and we need new, younger people who will love and breed Sussex and who will continue to preserve (without changing!) this old and beloved breed.

The thing that makes me shudder is when someone new comes to the breed and informs the “old guard” that we should do it “like Labradors” or like some other breed they have been involved with. How many times have I told people that Sussex aren’t like other breeds? They are not easy to breed, they are not easy to raise, and what worked in your breed that had 12,000 dogs registered last year does not work in Sussex.

What makes me smile and offer a hug is when someone new comes and tells me they want to learn about Sussex and want to be involved with this wonderful breed. These gems want to know the history of the breed, the pedigrees, the difficulties, and the progress we have made. These people are willing to invest time, money, hard work, and possible heartbreak to ensure that our breed continues to prosper.

Yes, I said *prosper*. There are more Sussex now than ever before (even though pandas still outnumber them). There are approximately 650 of the breed in the United States, which is 646 more than there were here in 1970. There are puppies as young as 3 weeks, adults as old as 16, and all ages in between.

Interested in becoming involved in this wonderful breed? Contact the Sussex Spaniel Club of America. You can e-mail club secretary Sue Caniff at AZsussex@cox.net, or breeder-referral chair Helen Marshall at hmarshall@wi.rr.com, or visit the club website.

Or you can contact me, and I will take you by the hand and lead you into the wonderful world of the Sussex

Spaniel! —*Marcia Deugan*;
ZIYADAHreg@aol.com; *Sussex Spaniel Club of America website*:
sussexspaniels.org

Welsh Springer Spaniels

Let's Hear It for the Volunteers!

It is no secret that clubs are run by volunteers. Dog clubs are no exception. Many of us were raised in homes where volunteerism was emphasized. My father is a professional artist and would fabricate and decorate the signs needed for an event. My mother chaired a church committee and ran the annual series of pancake breakfasts the church used to raise funds. Ask any of our neighbors about the year my mother was collecting used *soap* for a worthy cause. They all have a tale about that!

When I joined the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, a friend who is very prominent in another breed e-mailed me. She advised me to volunteer my time and service to the club. I remember so clearly her advice: “Volunteer for the worst jobs, and do a good job at them.”

Looking back to the example of my parents, I took Sylvia’s advice to such a degree that a dog friend recently gave me a pack of note cards that say, “Stop me before I volunteer again!”

So here’s to the volunteers in our club. Here’s to every officer and board member, past and present, who spends their time and money attending board meetings and who so often hear nothing but complaints.

Here’s to every committee chair who volunteers their expertise to make sure the club serves the needs of all: juniors, conformation enthusiasts, those who work their dogs in the field, rally and obedience participants, and those people in the comfortable clothes who run their dogs in agility. Here’s to the people who volunteer their time, gasoline, love, and knowledge to the rescue and fostering of Welsh Springers. In these tough economic times, rescue is becoming busier, even in our rare

breed.

Here is to every national, regional, and supported-entry show chair. This is a truly thankless job. There are hundreds of details: contracts, AKC paperwork, judge-wrangling, trophies, fund-raising, table decorations, banquet menus, parking, crating space, the raffle, the silent auction, educational events—and oh yeah, don’t forget the actual dog show! These things conspire to wake you up in the middle of the night and keep you staring at the ceiling, wondering what you have forgotten.

Here is to everyone who has volunteered to run a Hunt Test. Dealing with land owners, finding gunners who might actually *hit* the bird, judges, AKC paperwork, buying birds, getting the birds to the test site *alive*, feeding everyone—and, if you are really lucky, arranging for indoor plumbing!

Here is to everyone who makes our breed-club newsletter the award-winning publication it is—our editor; our columnists; the people who suggest topics for each edition; the photographers who share their artistic abilities with us; the statisticians who make sure we know about new titleholders and the status of the health of our breeding stock; and the advertisers who help support the newsletter and the club at large with their beautiful, innovative, funny, and touching ads about their dogs.

Here is to everyone who volunteers their time to the greater good of our freckle-faced, red-and-white companions. —*Wendy J. Jordan*; wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com; *Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America website*: wssca.com

Spinoni Italiani

Toplines, Croups, and Tail-sets: Is There More? PART TWO

This excerpt from the parent club’s judges’ education letter discusses movement and coat.

Spinone movement is unusual in that it is relaxed and energy-conserving, as is normal with the trotting breeds that are built for stamina. There is flex in the wrist-joint and with the widely placed

scapulae; the large, round front feet will rise and fall without exaggeration.

The Spinone's unique profile outline should be held when gaitting. The backline will remain gently broken in Spinoni who are correctly constructed—that is, who have symmetrical angles. An imbalance of angles will create level, sloping, or the highly undesirable downhill movement. Any exaggeration or imbalance between the front and hind assembly will clearly affect the profile when gaitting.

A Spinone who is lacking in length of upper arm, in depth and breadth of chest, or has excessive length to the tibia (generally coupled with an overly-short metatarsus) will produce an atypical, and therefore undesirable, gait that may be highly regarded or acceptable in the more elegant sporting breeds.

The correctly constructed Spinone will carry his head just above the backline, with the nose pointing slightly downward. He is therefore unable to move in the extreme style of a German Wirehaired Pointer, a breed built for hunting at a faster pace in wide-open countryside.

The desired gait for a Spinone in the field is an extended trot, with intermittent galloping strides. Loose-lead gaitting at a natural pace will illustrate so much more than foot placement in this breed.

Check for a deep underline in addition to the lightly broken topline and the correct proportions (long head, almost-square body, equal leg/chest depth, and symmetry of fore/hind angles).

High head-carriage is undesirable and may be an indication of poor shoulder placement and an upright front assembly.

The correct close-fitting, wiry coat may appear from a distance to be too short, which is our reason for asking judges to take the time to evaluate the coat and skin very carefully.

Examine the texture and lay of the coat, in addition to the length, at the midline in the center of the rib cage, rather than at the withers or along the backline. Coat that is soft, with an

undercoat, may well stand away from the body. This type of coat is incorrect for the Spinone!

Please grasp the skin as you examine the coat. The skin must be thick and leathery. Thin skin will often be attached to an incorrect coat in the Spinone.

The recommended length of coat on the body is between 1½ and 2½ inches. Texture, lay, and length are all important when evaluating coat. The skin is of equal importance.

Judges should note that shorter hair on the head is desirable. It may be hand-stripped in order to present some of the most important qualities of the Spinone.

Stripping dead hair or tidying of the body coat to present the unique outline of the breed should not be considered sculpting or molding, but the use of scissors is contrary to the breed standard. Dogs with the correct wiry texture and lay of coat will require only a small amount of hand-stripping.

Poor-quality coats may not strip at all. Excessive, soft leg hair or the evidence of scissor marks in the case where shaping may have taken place are helpful hints at pre-groomed texture and quality. —*Jan Naigus; spinone@cfl.rr.com; Spinone Club of America website; spinoneclubofamerica.com*

Vizslas Lost & Found

A few months after going High in Trial at the 2010 VCA national events, Aedan got out of his owners' fenced yard and went missing. (His owners didn't know someone had damaged their fence.) It was late February, when Minnesota has deep snow and below-zero nights.

When the owner of Huck, another Vizsla, swerved to avoid hitting a deer, the SUV rolled. Huck wasn't seriously injured, but he fled the scene—about 200 miles from home.

Charlie was a rescue Vizsla in foster care when he displayed his remarkable talent for fence-jumping.

When a dog goes missing, how do

you improve the odds for a happy ending? Following are some things you can do.

- *Distribute posters.* As soon as Sandy and Art Kimmerle realized Aedan was missing, they printed at least 1,000 posters including a good-quality photo, contact information, and where he was last seen. Friends printed countless additional posters.

- *Get the word out to everyone in the area.* In addition to posters, use e-mail and social media to contact everyone you know (and people you don't know, too). It's amazing how many people want to help.

- *Consider the help of a service such as FindToto.com.* How does it work? The service makes automated "lost dog" calls to a specified number of homes in a selected area. Aedan's owners arranged for 2,500 calls to homes in their neighborhood, and they later expanded the calls to a nearby community.

- *Contact local news media.* In smaller towns or rural areas, reporters may be interested in the story. They can really get the word out.

- *Offer a reward—but don't advertise the amount.* We all hope our dogs never get lost, but it can happen to anyone, even the most careful owners. To improve your dog's odds of being found:

- *Microchip your dogs.* If someone finds your dog and takes him to a shelter or vet, odds are good that he will be scanned.

- *Use collars with appropriate ID, including contact information.*

Now for the happy endings.

Aedan. After six long, cold days, the posters and FindToto calls worked. A few blocks from the Kimmerles's home, a driver almost hit a dog running along the road. She stopped, and Aedan got into her car. A man out jogging stopped and said, "That's the lost Vizsla. Call 911!"

The dispatcher routed the call to local Animal Control, and staff carefully got Aedan into custody without risking another escape. They immediately scanned for his microchip before calling Sandy (who had just heard from the jogger). After a visit to the vet and lots of

TLC, Aedan has completely recovered.

Huck. After getting his head stitched up, Mark spent the next three days searching for Huck in a rural area near Fargo, North Dakota. Local news media picked up the story, and many people helped search. When a farm family saw Huck, they called the sheriff's office, and Huck was reunited with Mark and Becky Michaels.

Charlie. Never underestimate the value of good friends and creativity. Charlie was hiding in a cornfield, reluctant to approach people—but his curiosity got the better of him when one of the searchers slipped and fell, and he started to approach.

"Fall again!" said Sandy (Aedan's owner), who was helping with the search.

Several falls later, Charlie was safely in custody. He has since been adopted by a loving family. —*Beth Nash*; nash@pro-ns.net; *Vizsla Club of America website*: vcaweb.org

Weimaraners The Dog Can't Help It

If you decide to become a breeder of Weimaraners, there are many choices you will have to make. One of the most difficult and most maddening is, "Which stud dog should I use?"

From personal experience, I guarantee you will continuously obsess over this decision until you make your final pick. Throughout the day it will interrupt your usual train of thought. It will be served up with your morning cereal, distract you from your daily activities, and be waiting on your pillow to guarantee some sleepless hours.

There's no single bit of good advice on the subject of choosing a stud dog, but here's one thing to consider. Bear with me as I draw parallel to a personal interest outside the world of dogs.

If I'm asked to name a compelling interest in my life (excluding dogs), I will answer without hesitation, "Food." Being a self-professed "foodie," I'm often glued to the TV, watching the latest cooking show.

I was watching one of these shows where a panel of judges critiques the

cooking efforts of several chefs. In this particular program one of the chefs was an obnoxious, self-centered, loud-mouthed individual who openly demeaned the efforts of the other chefs.

When the judges were deliberating about the merits of the dishes, one judge begrudgingly awarded first place to the chef who had annoyed everyone within earshot. This judge defended his choice, saying he discounted the contestant's abrasive personality and proclaimed, "I'm just here to judge the food."

His frustration and need to explain himself reminded me of a comment that I heard at a dog show. It was a show where the winning dog was owned by someone who was less than beloved. In fact, you might say, the winning dog was owned by someone whom others loved to hate. A competing exhibitor reacted to the choice of the winner with, "A dog can't help who owns 'im." A dog can be owned by a sinner or a saint.

Like it or not, there is a tendency to transfer the way we feel about a person to the dogs they own and exhibit. This cognitive bias is termed a "halo effect" and is a recognized psychological phenomenon. It is found in all aspects of our lives and is not relegated to only dogs. If we consider a person to be likeable, friendly, and affable, we have a tendency to agree with things they support. Politicians use this mechanism all the time to try to get us to vote for them.

While we try to be objective in our preferences in dogs, there's a tendency to like the dogs of people we like, and vice versa. This tendency can seriously undermine the choice of a stud dog.

I've heard people explain their choice of a stud dog by prefacing it with, "That dog's owners are so nice." This makes we want to scream. You're breeding to the *dog*, and who owns the dog and what they're like is irrelevant. Breeding decisions should be made objectively and based on the pedigree and knowledge of the animal.

My advice on selecting a stud dog: If

the devil owns the dog that is perfect for your breeding program, make a deal with the devil. —*Carole Lee Richards*; ymar_column@yahoo.com; *Weimaraner Club of America website*: weimaraner-clubofamerica.org

Wirehaired Pointing Griffons The Importance of Breed History

It is no secret that I am a Griffon history buff. I believe it's important to know the history of our breed and breed standard to understand and guide the breeding of Griffons today.

Unfortunately there are not many resources in the English language, and I've had to rely on using sources in French, with the help of a few bilingual Griffonniers. From these sources one can learn of the breeding strides and dilemmas that our breed's founder, Eduard Korthals, faced in his endeavor to create the ideal versatile hunting dog.

It would be very difficult, if not impossible, to recreate Korthals's breeding program today, given the limitations and restrictions in many areas on the number of dogs one can keep. Korthals produced hundreds of dogs using inbreeding and linebreeding, keeping for breeding only the very few that met his stringent expectations in type and performance.

These relatively few dogs that possessed and reproduced the qualities he sought and that consistently reproduced themselves were the foundation of the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon breed.

Within just over a decade or so of establishing his breeding program, in 1887 Korthals wrote the breed standard that was subsequently adopted by 16 Griffon breeders who shared his vision—and is, in effect, our AKC standard today.

So what are we to learn from Korthals's experience some 125 years later? Today's breeding dilemma for Griffon enthusiasts is how to manage those dogs that are either carriers of or exhibit tan-point genetics. According to coat-color geneticist Dr. Sheila

Schmutz, of the University of Saskatchewan, tan-point coloration is a breed trait of certain sporting dogs in England, commonly found in English Setters and English Pointers, but not found in purebred Griffons.

While still scientifically inconclusive, the emergence of tan-pointed Griffons suggests a crossbreeding of some sort. When Korthals's Griffons of the late 1800s showed great field success in various European contests and exhibitions, there were those who believed this success was only possible with an infusion of English blood, namely from the wider-ranging, faster setters and pointers.

To his detractors Korthals responded

emphatically, "I declare herewith that my main concern was always to keep the breed pure, and in breeding only griffons I never added any blood of another breed. The improvement of the breed was achieved only and exclusively by selection, training, and methodical breeding."

In his historical account of the breed, *Le Griffon d'arret a poil dur* Korthals, Jean Castaing says, "Furthermore, as for the fiery tint, in spots or traces, it is also to be forbidden, for it also indicates a misalliance."

Korthals denied the use of English blood in his breeding program—blood that would have produced tan points and also black, a disqualifying

trait in the standard. Korthals would have culled from his breeding program any dog that either possessed or produced these faulty traits.

We have the only Griffon gene pool left in the world that is not pervasively tainted by the tan-point gene. Tan points are not in the breed standard.

Why breed a dog or bitch that produces a substandard trait of uncertain origin or impact as of yet? Let history be our guide to the future. Korthals wouldn't have selected for tan points.

We shouldn't either. —Ann Allen; ams2allen@aol.com; *American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association* website: awpga.com

Akitas Less Is More

Less is more. In today's world where everyone is cutting back on everything everywhere, it may be time to qualify this. Let's examine this statement and how it applies to breeding, temperaments, and the ultimate outcome.

Recently, I posed a question and my concern regarding a "breeder" who had three breeds and seven litters in a two-month time frame. None of these dogs are AKC champions, only a couple have even been entered in an AKC show, and yet this "breeder" is selling puppies and touting themselves as "reputable."

Consider this: If this individual was truly reputable, the breeding animals would be shown in AKC events, which would mean they were being judged against the national breed club—accepted standard for their breed. The fact that this is not the case indicates that this "breeder" will not put stock up against others and is only concerned with producing volume, with no regard for quality.

Simply put, when breeding that many litters in a short time frame, those puppies can't be properly socialized and ready to become good members of society. Considering breed-legislative efforts nationwide, it is reprehensible to send these ill-equipped puppies into unsus-

pecting and uneducated pet homes where a questionable or dominant temperament might go unnoticed, uncorrected, and ultimately lead to disaster!

Additionally, again, if one is not willing to put their stock in a ring against others of that breed and be judged against the breed standard, how can the quality be improving with each breeding? Sadly, it will not! More often than not, the faults will simply be perpetuated and magnified with each litter. While John Q. Public has come a long way in educating themselves about buying from a breeder, they are not well versed on how adept the mass-quantity "breeder" is at marketing themselves and at "talking the talk" without "walking the walk." This is detrimental to the fancy and to the truly reputable breeders who are doing things correctly and breeding for quality over quantity.

What can be done about these high-volume "breeders" and the smokescreen they hide behind? Education of these individuals has been repeatedly suggested, but those of us who have tried that route have found it both ineffective and disregarded.

My thoughts on this are that we have to do an even *better* job of educating the public. The AKC Meet the Breeds program is a terrific avenue to reach the public, perhaps discussing the differences between a truly reputable breeder and the

high-volume breeder. The AKC's Breeder of Merit program is also a good avenue to reach the public. It should mean something to the prospective buyer that their puppy came from a Breeder of Merit—they need to know why!

I am a *huge* advocate of going into the schools using the AKC's Public Education department and lesson plans, and speaking to the children about dogs and responsible dog ownership. I find this program to be extremely effective! I've received many phone calls over the years from these children's parents when they are looking for a breeder of a particular breed and have been able to help them make informed choices when looking for not only their next dog, but a breeder who will be there for them.

I urge each of you in the fancy to think about how we can continue to reach out to the public and offer further assistance, so that well-informed choices can be made. —Julie Strausburg-Mayes; DarqWitch@aol.com; *Akita Club of America* website: akitaclub.org

Alaskan Malamutes The Wonderful World of Kids and Mals

Gavin, age 3½, was ready for preschool. His left hand was on the front-door doorknob, his backpack strapped on, and his other arm wrapped

around his new, furry Malamute friend, Tango. His mother, Mandy, primarily handles Whippets and Ridgebacks, and this was Gavin's real first look at something furry who thought he was wonderful.

Gavin was not letting go. So he and Tango headed out to the van, where the back seat next to Gavin's car seat was full of dry cleaning. Gavin reluctantly agreed that there was no room, and Tango would have to stay home.

The next day, the same thing. Only this time, the dry cleaning was gone. Tango went to preschool.

As Mandy texted me, "Tango and Gavin one, me zero."

This is the answer to all those who ask me if the Alaskan Malamute is good with children: *You betcha*. It's a breed characteristic. Of course there is the odd one that doesn't like kids, but in general, a Mal lights up when it sees a child.

When I was called and asked where Tango should stay while he was with Mandy, I said, "Outside—the cold weather is good for his coat."

I asked where he was. "Under the breakfast-room table" was the response. "Put him outside," I said.

She did, and there he was—back in. I may have thought "outside," but Gavin thought "inside" and let Tango back in each time he was put out.

Malamutes are also tremendously protective when it comes to "their" kids. Take Alla and Chris with their new baby, Lauren, and their two Mals, including a 2-year-old red bitch, Skya, who considered the baby hers.

Malamutes are hugely friendly and make awful watchdogs. If an intruder comes through the front door, they will show him where the silverware is. But if they break into the house and into a child's bedroom, the intruder will be lucky to escape with all of his parts.

Alla and Chris were having major construction work done on their home, and the place was full of workmen. Stationing herself by Lauren's playpen, moving so as to be between Lauren and whatever workmen were there, was Skya.

No one was coming near that kid unless Alla and Skya agreed—and Alla's

agreement wasn't always heeded. There is a staircase in her home, and Alla thought that it would be good to show Lauren how to climb the steps correctly now that toddler was beginning to zoom around the home. So she took Lauren out of the playpen and proceeded toward the steps.

Skya didn't think so. Slowly but surely, she started herding Alla away from the steps and away from Lauren, and putting herself between the two. Soon, Skya had Lauren to herself.

Chris, watching from the couch, called out and asked Alla if she knew what Skya was doing. Yes, she did, and she wasn't too sure what to do about it.

What you do is enjoy an animal that gives you and yours total devotion—and then turn her outside to chase rabbits! —*Dian McComb*; alcan@att.net; *Alaskan Malamute Club of America website*: alaskanmalamute.org

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog in the United States

Americans use Anatolian Shepherd Dogs in many capacities. The breed's guarding responsibilities include care of the animals of all sorts on ranches and property of all sizes. Anatolians may be found caring for sheep, goats, llamas, cats, other dogs, and human families.

So strong are Anatolians' protective instincts that they will undertake to guard whatever they relate to in their own territory. However, care must be taken to create clear boundaries for them. Since the breed is territorial, one of the most important prerequisites to a successful relationship with them is to provide secure fencing, or they will naturally expand their territory. Five- to six-foot chain-link fencing with a locked gate is optimum, both for rural and urban environments. Whether the dogs are working or kept as family companions, socialization in all sorts of circumstances at an early age is necessary.

Obedience training is highly recommended. Owners need to be clear, consistent, and even-handed in order to

garner the breed's respect. Only with people they love and respect do Anatolians display their capacity for deep affection, lightheartedness, and good humor.

Anatolians prefer an introduction to strangers and well-behaved children. They should not be left alone with strangers until the dogs have accepted them.

Alone on their property, the breed is typically unfriendly to strangers. They protect using an escalated method, beginning with their intimidating size. The males range from 110 to 150 pounds and stand 29 inches upward from the shoulder. Females range from 27 inches upward, and weigh between 80 and 120 pounds.

The next level of protection is irritated barking, then there is serious-warning barking, followed by chasing interlopers at high speeds of up to 35 miles per hour, and finally killing predator animals—only as a last resort.

Off their property, Anatolians are aloof but polite.

Anatolians are strong and sturdy, with few maintenance requirements other than standard care and annual vaccinations. Care should be taken if they must undergo anesthesia, because some of the dogs are sensitive to it. Hip dysplasia is rare in the breed, as is hypothyroidism. There is occasional entropion (inverted eyelids). Shelter should be provided during inclement weather, but outdoor dogs usually choose to remain outdoors, because a thick undercoat that they shed twice a year gives them more than adequate protection. Life expectancy is 11 to 13 years because they have incredibly strong hearts.

Some Anatolians will dig, especially when they are bored or in need of exercise. They are somewhat nocturnal because that is when most predators make their presence known, causing the dogs to bark at them; they do not bark indiscriminately.

In whatever capacity the Anatolian functions, owning one of them is an enormous responsibility, not to be taken lightly. However, a successful relationship with one of these magnificent dogs

is a truly rewarding experience. —
*Karen Sen; senflower@q.com; Anatolian
 Shepherd Dog Club of America website:
 asdca.org*

Bernese Mountain Dogs

A Remarkable Junior Member

The BMDCA has always welcomed and encouraged Junior Members, ages 10 to 18. Before reaching 18, many future juniors tag along with their parents at regional specialties, the national, and various other Berner events.

Matthew Korotki was such a youngster. His mother, Robin, a BMDCA member since 1987 and devoted Berner owner, introduced Matt early on to dog shows. At age 5, several years before eligibility for Junior Showmanship, Matt showed in conformation. As a member of the Potomac Valley Bernese Mountain Dog Club, Robin, with Matt and his maternal grandparents, Saul and Elaine Genendlis, enthusiastically attended shows and Berner activities. The Potomac Valley BMDC was for Matt the village that it takes to raise a child.

Matt's love for dogs and an incredible commitment to volunteerism became a way of life for him.

A few years ago, Matt was deeply stirred by a television ad that flashed pictures of shelter dogs and cats, with Sarah McLachlan singing "Angel" in the background.

Turning to his mother, he said, "I hate this commercial; it makes me really sad."

She responded, "Well, what are you going to do about it?"

A member of the Carroll County 4-H Dog Club, Matt took up the challenge. For his level six diamond clover 4-H project, Matt founded Carroll's Pets in Need, a charity within the Carroll County Community Foundation. Its purpose is to provide assistance in the form of food and supplies to pet-owning families and individuals in Carroll County, Maryland, who are experiencing financial difficulties and as a result are in danger of losing or having to give up their pets.

Currently, Matt has a seat on the board

of Carroll's Pets in Need and is its youngest member. The group supplies two pet pantries with dog food for distribution and has partnered with Meals on Wheels to provide a monthly delivery of pet food and supplies to the needy.

In recognition of Matt's work, he was honored as 2011 Youth Philanthropist of the Year by the Carroll County Community Foundation. Earlier that year, Matt graduated as a Maryland Scholar from Manchester Valley High School, with a Service Star for having over 1000 volunteer hours—the most in his class. He also won the Getty Senatorial Scholarship and the 4-H Nathan Blizzard Scholarship, as well as the Future Farmers of America Green Hand Award and a BMDCA Scholarship. And Matt was named the Westminster, Maryland, Kiwanis Club's 2011 Teenager of the Year.

Matt achievements are particularly remarkable when one realizes that since he was about 10, he has coped with a seizure disorder that includes not permitting him to drive. His hope is that by his example others with health issues will know that they shouldn't give up on accomplishing their dreams. He emphasizes, "I want to send a message that if you try your hardest and you really believe that you can succeed, then you can basically accomplish anything."

Matt's focus for the future is becoming an elementary school teacher. He is enrolled at Carroll Community College and then onward to Stevenson University in Maryland.

In December 2011, Matt celebrated his 18th birthday. He is now among the ranks of voting BMDCA and PVBMDCA members. May his accomplishments in serving the sport of dogs inspire Junior Members seeking to make a difference. —*Julia Crawford; cwyemede@dmv.com; Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America website: bmdca.org*

Black Russian Terriers

Hyperuricosuria PART ONE

When talk of *hyperuricosuria*, better known as bladder stones, started in Black Russians, I knew this was

something not to be ignored or thought of as an oddity affecting only a few dogs.

It is believed that uric-acid bladder stones are a genetic condition and are caused by the liver's inability to metabolize uric acid. All dogs should be tested to find out if they are normal, a carrier (having one gene mutation), or affected (having two copies of the hyperuricosuria mutation), which would make them genetically predisposed to bladder stones.

If you were to breed normal to normal, you will get a dog who is free of the mutation.

Normal to a carrier will result in some normal and some carriers.

Normal to an affected dog will produce all carriers.

A carrier to a carrier can give you a mix of all of the above. A dog who has two copies of the gene (affected) if bred to another affected dog will always be genetically predisposed.

However, because the genetics of this condition are not completely understood, the above are just general guidelines; you may not necessarily get the same results.

Some dogs who test positive may never form stones and appear to be normal, but it is still a good idea to monitor them closely. Dogs who test normal can still develop other types of stones formed because of diet, bacterial infections, or kidney defects.

Our dogs can be easily tested for this gene mutation with a simple cheek-swab that is sent to a lab for verification. You can contact your vet for information regarding a DNA diagnostics center that can perform the test.

Dogs with bladder stones may urinate in small amounts frequently and can have blood in their urine. Other symptoms can be straining to go, pain, or inability to urinate at all.

There are also dogs who display no symptoms but have stones that are found though a routine examination of the abdomen.

Take your dog immediately to the vet if he is having any of the above symptoms, because untreated bladder

stones can cause an obstruction to the urethra that prevents urination, and this can be very painful and can be fatal, especially in males.

X-rays of the abdomen are used to confirm the presence of stones in the bladder, and special dyes are used to make uric acid stones visible. If the stones are very small, they can be flushed out of the bladder with a solution. This procedure is called urohydropropulsion. With larger stones the bladder must be surgically opened so it can be cleared. The entire urinary tract is also flushed clear, then the bladder is closed and checked for leaks because a leak in the urinary tract, although rare, can be fatal.

If need be this surgery can be performed several times in your dog's lifetime. Some males may need a surgery to reroute the urination tube so it no longer passes through the penis structure, as this will eliminate the need for some repeat surgeries.

Black Russians are sensitive to anesthesia and must be monitored closely when procedures are done. No surgery should be considered routine.

If all goes well your dog should come home in about two days, provided he can urinate on his own and is able to eat.

In my next column I will talk about different diets and medications related to hyperuricosuria. —*Mary Curtis*; blk-diamondmc@yahoo.com; *Black Russian Terrier Club of America website: brtca.org*

Boxers

Have You Heard About Herding?

The evolution of the AKC petition by some dedicated Boxer fanciers to allow the Boxer to participate in AKC herding trials reads like a whodunit, canine-style—who approved it, who supported it?

The idea of the Boxer competing in AKC herding events officially originated at the ABC board meeting in 2009, when interested fanciers who were already competing in American Herding Breed Association events brought up the subject. At that time, the idea was tabled by the board.

But in May 2010, the herding enthusiasts presented to the board an illustrated and historically documented draft petition, based on the model of another lesser-known herding canine, the Kerry Blue Terrier, which was approved by the AKC to compete in herding tests and trials beginning in January 2007.

The ABC board voted 10–1 to submit to the AKC the May 2010 petition requesting permission to participate in AKC herding events.

However, the plot thickened when several board members at the fall 2010 regional objected to the petition, and they directed the ABC president to appoint a committee to survey ABC members as to whether or not they favored Boxers competing in AKC herding events. The major argument against the idea was based on a perception that natural herding tendencies were not historically documented in the Boxer breed.

The herding committee (consisting of longtime fanciers Korrine Vanderpool, Tina Truesdale, and Debbie Marshall) expanded the original draft to include what it believed to be precedent supporting the Boxer's use as a herding and cattle-drover dog. In addition, the committee illustrated the breed's contemporary successes in AHBA and CKC herding trials and instinct tests. The accompanying survey was mailed to the ABC membership and resulted in a great plurality of support for the AKC petition.

In May of 2011, the ABC board passed the "official" wording of the petition to AKC (still not a unanimous decision). The presentation included video, pie charts, statistics, and PowerPoint—all submitted by dedicated proponents of the Boxer attaining AKC herding titles. Finally, the ABC-sanctioned and fully expanded petition was submitted. The AKC approved it in November 2011, and in December the Boxer Club of San Fernando Valley became the first individual member club licensed to hold AKC herding trials for the breed.

No mention of this achievement

should fail to acknowledge the tireless work of Reagan Ray, Diane Stevens, and other members of the SFV Boxer Club who were the driving forces behind the Boxer becoming officially recognized as a breed that could successfully compete at AKC herding events.

Thanks to ABC board member Virginia Zurflieh and her blog at boxerunderground.blogspot.com for a summary of the Boxer herding odyssey. —*Stephanie Abraham*; landmarks.properties@snet.net; *American Boxer Club website: americanboxerclub.org*

Bullmastiffs

Cindy Platt, one of our Bullmastiff agility enthusiasts, has shared some of her thoughts on the breed in this sport.

An Agility Bullmastiff?

The description of our breed includes such phrases as "strong, powerfully built, great intelligence, willingness to please, large but agile, and strong, active." The Bullmastiff is a breed developed in the United Kingdom in the late 1800s from the Mastiff and Bulldog. The purpose of the breed was to down and hold poachers on the large game estates. A dog was needed that could cover large distances quickly and work with the gamekeepers. These original attributes, still present today, make for a great agility dog.

Agility is a sport where the dog must be able to take directions from the handler and react quickly. It is based on trust, mutual respect, and fun. Bullmastiffs are an active breed that enjoys exercise. Because agility training is positive and fun and often includes food, they enjoy it all the more!

As AKC agility has evolved from 1994 until the present time, it has become more inviting to the Bullmastiff. Those who petitioned for the inclusion of the Preferred agility class were thrilled when AKC added this option in 2002. A Bullmastiff of the correct breed type has a high weight-to-height ratio, and jumping at excessive heights puts them in danger of

injury. The Preferred class allows them to jump at a lower height and gives us additional time to complete the course. This class is very popular among Bullmastiff competitors, and in the past few years we have had Bullmastiffs invited to the AKC Invitational and National, as well as a breed MACH and PACH.

A Bullmastiff should be physically and mentally sound to participate in agility. They must be lean and fit. As with all breeds, the Bullmastiff must have the proper training to successfully compete in agility.

There are a few drawbacks to running a Bullmastiff in agility. They are not a long-lived breed, so longevity within the sport is short compared to that of other breeds. Also, they are very stoic and do not show pain like other breeds, so we must be ever-diligent to monitor their soundness and call it quits when it is in their best interest. The dogs must be conditioned and trained to tune out the high energy and often high stress of agility trials.

On the upside, the Bullmastiff is truly a crowd favorite at agility events. In a sport where a handful of breeds dominate, it is good to be different. As a handler, I love having the dog that everyone remembers!

The following Bullmastiffs are a few of the agility pioneers and history makers:

Ch. PACH2 Mindseye Maremac
Serenade, RAE, PAX3, MXP9, MJP10,
MFP,VCD2

Ch. Buffalo Bill Cody, CD, NA
Tauralan Tequila Sunrise, NA
Keeper's Anne Bonney CD, MX,
OAJ

Ch Irresistabull Solar Serenade CD,
RAE, OA, NAJ, AXP, MJP2, XFP
Melkev's Whoa Nelly O'Limerick,
CDX, OAP, OJP

Melkev's Be All You Can Bea, VCD2,
TDX, RE, MXP, MJP, XFP

Waters Tornatic Action, MACH-2
Ch. Bastion's Ruff Rider O'Waters,
OA, CD

Ch. Bastion's Dream Girl, UDX,
VCD2, MXP, MJP, NF, RAE, owned by
Kim Cook, became the first UDX in
the history of the breed at this year's

American Bullmastiff Association
national specialty in Ft. Mitchell,
Kentucky.

Congratulations to those dedicated
to the working Bullmastiff for their
hard work and accomplishments! —
Helene Nietsch;
Helene@BanstockBullmastiffs.com;
American Bullmastiff Association website:
bullmastiff.us

Canis Corsi Corso Temperament

There are two sides to the coin of
Corso temperament. On one hand
the breed is a dominant guardian who is
suspicious of strangers and best suited
for an experienced, confident, consistent
owner. On the other is a sweet, sensitive
marshmallow who can't stand to be
parted from his master by even the
bathroom door!

The Corso can be an enigma. One
moment he is pushy and demanding,
and the next he is so sensitive that even
a raised voice hurts his feelings, sending
him into a pout.

It would seem that these two sets of
characteristics would not blend well,
but that's not the truth of it. The Corso
is delightfully intelligent. With a solid
foundation on who's the boss, he is so
devoted to his master and lives to please
to such an extent that he quickly learns
and strives to accomplish what is asked.

It's not unusual for the Corso to look
into the eyes of his master as if trying
to read the master's thoughts in order
to obey—or it could be that there is a
piece of meat on the counter he wants,
and he is trying to get you to under-
stand! Either way, all those who have
experienced the bond with a Corso
realize they are not like any other
breed. They steal your heart.

The Corso is hardwired to be a
homebody, staunchly devoted to one
small group of people. But in today's
world, not only is this no longer practi-
cal, it's not desirable. Most dog lovers
want their four-legged family members
to experience life with them. So for
those who choose the Corso, puppy
rearing is more extensive, but certainly
well worth it. In the right hands, the

Corso can be a good ambassador and
thrive in the modern world.

The Corso is not for the first-time
dog owner, nor is he well suited for a
family whose members are anxious or
unsure. He needs a family unit that is
confident and “take charge.” This does
not mean heavy handed, however. In
fact, a well-raised puppy rarely needs
correction as an adult.

With a correct foundation laid, the
Corso is an easy keeper, extremely
interactive with his people and pro-
foundly faithful and bright, adapting to
whatever environment the family
chooses.

However, in the hands of a person
who is erratic and fickle, shy or anx-
ious, or even one who is constantly
absent, the dog will become one of two
things: overly protective and bossy of
the person he perceives as weak or
incapable, or shy and fearful himself.

*Ninety percent of all “temperament-
behavioral” issues in the Corso are created
and fostered by the owner.*

Separation anxiety can be avoided by
ingraining in the young Corso that he is
fine without his “mom and dad.”
Handing the leash off to a trusted friend,
family member, or trainer regularly will
only help to reinforce the dog's confi-
dence. “Overbonding” is an issue in the
breed, and the dog has to be literally
taught that new environments and new
people are a positive thing.

Any dominance or aggression should
be nipped in the bud. The Corso owner
must always be on alert to any trigger
that may arise. Most of the time, a simple
correct and then redirection is adequate
to defuse the situation.

A good Corso owner will always be in
control, keeping a sharp eye and remain-
ing vigilant in order to avoid any situa-
tion that may be wrong for the Corso.
Because of their size and the formable
appearance, the burden is on the owner
to ensure that the dog, and those around
him, stays out of harm's way.

The old adage “You reap what you
sow” is profoundly true with the Corso.
Those who are willing and capable to
invest the time and energy are richly
rewarded with the most wonderful of

dogs, a family companion who becomes so dear to your heart and part of your life that you just could never imagine not having one lying at your feet—or scratching at the bathroom door! —*Shauna DeMoss*; shauna@castleguardcanecorso.com; *Cane Corso Association of America website*: canecorso.org

Doberman Pinschers

Our guest columnist is Doug Matson.

Bonding Activities

Our dogs relish the bond between themselves and their family. This can be felt and observed whether you are playing games with them in the yard or lovin' on the couch. However, engaging your Doberman in a more cerebral challenge such as a performance activity can enrich this bond and be very enjoyable for both you and your four-legged friend.

Many Dobe owners have found the joys of training and competing with their dogs in performance events such as obedience, agility, working-dog sports, flyball, and search-and-rescue. One activity that some Dobermans seem to be particularly suited for is Working Dog or protection sports. *Schutzhund*, which means “protection dog” in German, is a Working Dog Sport developed for German Shepherd Dogs, but is quite well suited for Dobermans with the proper temperament and work ethic.

There are other competitions with different names, but they are virtually identical in training and requirements. These are IPO (International Police Organization) and VPG (*Vielseitigkeits Pruefung fuer Gebrauchshunde*, which translates from German to “Versatility Examination for Customs Dogs”). All of these sports combine tracking, obedience, and protection training. Each of the three exercises is performed separately, but the dog-and-handler team must pass all of them at the same event to attain their title. This could be thought of as the canine triathlon.

There was a period of time when the

AKC and some in our society viewed training dogs in protection sports in a negative light. But with the recent increase in terrorist events around the world, the value of these kinds of dogs has reached a new appreciation in our society.

It is no secret that all Dobermans seem to excel in obedience. They are the stars in most of the local pet-obedience classes. Most of them, however, have a very keen nose and with a proper introduction can be great tracking dogs. Many Dobermans are avid tracking dogs, and the only challenge is slowing them down enough to not miss the turns and articles on the track.

Once the handler is confident with their training ability in tracking, many wonderful hours can be spent with the dog and handler pair alone on the tracking field, and the dog loves it. Similarly, a Doberman with the correct temperament will love the challenge and excitement of the protection field. Contrary to some uninformed opinions, protection training does not increase the possibility that your dog may bite someone unprovoked or behave inappropriately. Proper protection training will increase the dog's self-confidence and teach your partner when it is appropriate to defend.

Most Dobermans love this type of intense training and the equally intense bond that it forges with their handler. Some will literally drag their owners to the field to work protection and squeal with delight when you drive into the training area.

The main Doberman club involved with Working Dog Sport activities is the United Doberman Club, uniteddobermanclub.com. The primary all-breed organizations are DVG-America (dvgamerica.com) and United Schutzhund Clubs of America (germanshepherdclub.com). You can search their websites to find a training club in your area. The USCA is primarily a German Shepherd club, but many will welcome dedicated Doberman trainers as well. Please check them out, and enjoy your new intense relationship with our versatile Dobermans. —D.M.

Thank you, Doug. —*Faye Strauss*; Sherluckmm@msn.com; *Doberman Pinscher Club of America website*: dpca.org

Dogues de Bordeaux

The year 2012 marks five years for the DDB in the Working Group. Since then two major issues have come up in the standard: topline, and amount of white on the chest and extremities. The DDBSA will address these in the standard this year.

In 2008 Dr. Raymond Triquet wrote the following to help with the confusion regarding our breed's topline. With permission we offer Dr. Triquet's article as a guest column.

To Be or Not to Be Concave

A new problem arose among Dogue de Bordeaux fanciers, especially in the USA: “There is much discussion about the topline.” *The FCI standard says that the Dogue de Bordeaux is a concave-lined molossoid.*

Molossoid dogs (Pierre Megnin's classification, 1897) *have a massive body, rather low to ground. Concaviligne* (concave-lined) animals show a concave outline—not only the head, but also the body. The skull is broad, the muzzle is turned up, the topline is hollow, the extremities (paws, tail, and tip of muzzle) are thick, the feet turn out, and the skin is thick.

The Dogue de Bordeaux is basically a concave dog, *but* breeders have tried for a century to avoid exaggeration. Consequently the standard says, *a very muscular body yet retaining a harmonious general outline ... built rather low to the ground, metacarpal region (pasterns) slightly outwards.*

Now, what is the effect of *selection* on the Dogue de Bordeaux? The standard in French says *bien soutenu*, meaning “well sustained,” no hollow or swayback.

In concave dogs, the withers are not marked or only very slightly marked. In our Dogue, on the contrary, the withers are “well marked.” Several dogs with straight backs are said to have “well marked withers” or “pronounced withers,” including the Doberman, the Belgian shepherd, the German Pointer,

and the Auvergne Pointer. Then there is a slight or very slight dip behind the well-marked withers. The back slopes slightly down (except in dogs “camped behind” in the show ring, like the Doberman or the Boxer, when the “slope” is much steeper) toward the loin, which is always slightly or very slightly arched. Let us not speak of the croup, which is not a part of the topline.

In the Dogue de Bordeaux, the back *never slopes down* to the rear (it would be against its nature). The topline is never perfectly “straight” in a mathematical meaning, nor is it horizontal. At best, after the “dip” behind the withers, the line rises insensibly to melt into the slightly arched loin. This is what we call a “well-sustained” topline. This is why in my *Saga of the Dogue de Bordeaux* I said in the commentaries to the standard, “No molossus has a rectilinear topline. In the Dogue de Bordeaux, we aim for it as *straight as possible* in a concave-lined dog”

Should we describe the topline as dipping from the rear to the front? Certainly not! A standard being the description of the ideal model, we would rapidly obtain roach-backed bulldogs.

See what the (British) Kennel Club says about our Dogue’s cousin (or brother) the Bullmastiff: *Roach and sway backs highly undesirable*. The British standard for the Bulldog says, *top of loin higher than top of shoulder* (which is the top of the withers). It should never be the case in the Dogue de Bordeaux.

—Andrea Switzer-Bialoblocki; pnknhd-brdx@aol.com; *Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America website*: ddb.org

German Pinschers

January 2012 Revisited

In the German Pinscher column appearing in the January issue, the following statements were made: “The German Pinscher is a medium-sized dog, 17 to 20 inches (dogs or bitches). There is no DQ in the standard. Twenty (20) inches is the top of the standard. Judges should not award taller examples of the breed. It does not represent the German Pinscher.” This is incorrect; the breed standard actually states, *The ideal height at the highest point*

of the withers for a dog or bitch is 17–20 inches. Size should be penalized in accordance with the degree it deviates from the ideal. Quality should always take precedence over size. Faults—under 17 inches or over 20 inches.

Thus, height is not a determinative factor when judging the German Pinscher. Rather it is merely one factor among many that should be taken into consideration when judging the whole dog.

There is no DQ for height in the German Pinscher breed standard, which precludes a dog from being measured in the ring. Therefore, there is no way to absolutely be certain of the actual height of any given dog. Though many judges know exactly where on their leg different size dogs hit, it is only an approximation. This is further complicated by the fact that a German Pinscher’s size can be deceptive and there is quite a bit of variation in the breed. A dog with more bone and one that is well muscled will appear larger than one with lesser substance.

More established breeds will often have regional variations in size and type, with a West Coast dog differing from an East Coast dog in some ways. As a relatively new breed in the United States, the German Pinscher will vary depending on where in the world its recent ancestors were born. German Pinscher exhibitors and breeders are still actively importing dogs from all over the world. The German Pinscher is not yet to the point that one can look at a particular dog and say what kennel it came from with any degree of certainty. While there are some longtime breeders who have developed a look or a type, they are few and far between. It is more likely that a judge will see a wide variety of type and size in any large entry, especially at a national specialty, where dogs are coming from many different parts of the country.

It is very important that each German Pinscher be judged individually against the breed standard only and not against each other. This is also why it is dangerous to embark on fault-only judging in this breed.

The January 2012 column also con-

tained an incorrect statement regarding the requirements for a ringside mentor. The statement was made that a mentor can be either club approved or an individual with a minimum of 12 years’ experience breeding and exhibiting the specific breed. Rather, the AKC states that an individual with a minimum of 12 years’ experience breeding and exhibiting can act as a mentor. There is no requirement that the mentor has to have the experience with the specific breed that she is mentoring. —GPCA Board of Directors

—Debbie Kaminski; German Pinscher Club of America website: german-pinscher.com

Giant Schnauzers

The Essence of Breed Character

Our written standard describes the ideal Giant Schnauzer in terms of both physical conformation and character. Specifically, it says, *Temperament which combines spirit and alertness with intelligence and reliability. Composed, watchful, courageous, easily trained, deeply loyal to family, playful, amiable in repose, and a commanding figure when aroused ... sound, reliable temperament.*

Both shyness and viciousness are listed as faults. Other faults are only considered with regard to the whole. That these two faults are singled out makes them faults that can not be overlooked in considering the merit of the dog.

The subject of character or temperament is matter of great debate. Some feel we’ve lost the toughness of our breed that made them capable of doing the work for which they were created—to be a working dog that did many tasks including guarding, protecting both his master and his property. Some feel that we have lost breed character, preferring the hard-bitten temperament of dogs from the past, dogs that were to the point of being difficult to manage, especially in the level of assertiveness toward other dogs. Others feel we have served the breed well by making the Giant Schnauzer a more desirable pet by toning down the

assertive dog-to-dog behavior, and made them a more “marketable,” if you will, breed for the pet home.

In my opinion I feel we have done both. I think the breed is in a great place somewhere in the middle. I do feel that a Giant Schnauzer should show some attitude that says *I am a Giant Schnauzer* but should not be so over the top that the owner can't control him.

The standard says, *An aggressive or beligerent attitude towards other dogs shall not be deemed viciousness*. So if your male Giant growls or rumbles at another male dog, or if your bitch doesn't like another bitch, this should not be considered over-the-top aggression. It is part of the breed's character. It is a breed that is willing to stand its ground, that wants to be the alpha. Typical breed character as described in the standard, would lead one to believe the breed is not designed to greet every stranger with wet kisses and wagging tails.

In the same way we have discussed the difference between what has become known as the “American” and “European” coats—the coats did not change in texture when crossing the ocean—the theory is true with regard to the character or temperament of our dogs. We have all levels of assertive behavior in the breed in both America and Europe. The various temperaments are found in the litters of both conformation and working-dog breeder. The individual dog in each litter will develop not only according to its heredity, but also its breeder, owner, and environment.

I believe, based on my personal experience with dogs on both sides of the ocean, that the essence of breed character exists in dogs on all continents. All pedigrees have dogs from both sides of the ocean, often going back just three or four generations, so to say that we have “American and European” temperaments or “working dog” and “conformation dog” temperaments actually makes no logical sense. The essence of breed character is in every litter, no matter where it was whelped or what the intentions were of the breeder. There will be bold dogs

with drive and lazy dogs without it within any litter whelped anywhere in the world.

Breeder's selections are based on retaining in their breeding programs dogs who appear to have more of what they want going forward in their breeding program, thus reinforcing particular characteristics. The true essence of our breed—a working dog willing and wanting to learn whatever he is expected to do.

As usual, this is simply the opinion of this humble writer, based on my observations of so many Giants from all over the world, from breeders breeding for the dog to perform for all the different reasons it was created for.

I feel so fortunate to get to be a part of this incredible breed, and I think whatever the reason you were attracted to the Giant Schnauzer, he will surpass your highest expectations of what you think he is capable of as a working dog. But don't expect him to be easy to live with. He is far too smart to lay back and expect him to not think for himself and question if he may not know a better way than you to accomplish the task at hand.

Giant regards —*Greg Reyna*;
delareinas@yahoo.com; *Giant Schnauzer Club of America website*: giantschnauzer-clubofamerica.com

Great Pyrenees

This month I have a guest columnist, Mary McGuire, breeder-referral chair for the GPCA, who has advice based on the history of our breed. Even if you are not a breeder, I believe you will find this interesting.

Why Sell a Pup as a Livestock Protection Dog?

Since I took over the job of the club's public-information/breeder-referral person, the number of requests for livestock-guardian dogs has risen.

At first the calls were just occasional, but in the past year the calls and e-mail requests have risen to a record of 37 percent for the last quarter of 2011. I am finding myself at an impasse. Many

of us who primarily breed quality working dogs have for one reason or another not been having the usual one or two litters a year—but even if we could, that would not have begun to meet the need.

The people requesting referrals are for the most part not looking for cheap dogs. They are people who have searched enough to find the AKC or the GPCA website or have seen our many ads in the dog magazines. They want a quality dog to guard their stock. Most don't have big farms; some just have five acres or so, with a few animals to protect, while a few have larger operations. Their animals are treated more as pets than livestock. These dogs don't have to be LGDs who will be guarding hundreds of acres; rather, they are more properly considered family farm dogs. Some farms are larger than others, but for the most part these are small family farms or ranches whose owners are raising a small number of livestock and need some protection from predators.

Many breeders resist placing their pups on these small farms because they have no experience in mentoring such a situation. That is where the parent club's Livestock Guardian committee comes into play. We can do the mentoring and also help the breeder evaluate that special pup who seems to want a job.

We all know that one pup who just seems more independent or is always looking for something to do. He or she is just a bit different from the litter-mates in terms of a pet personality. This is the kind of pup who might be a good candidate for a family farm dog position. The purchaser of such a pup will still have to be evaluated to see if they are indeed a good home for one of your dogs—again something we can help you figure out.

This seems to require a great deal of work, but it would provide great homes for dogs working at the job they were bred to do and love to do. This would also help to decrease the purchase of pups from unethical breeders who will sell their pups to whoever will buy them with no knowledge of what they

are breeding. This also helps to decrease the use of high-volume breeders and animal auctions that are all too often just the start of a terrible life for a pup.

Of course these dogs would be working outside and living in a barn, but they do have a good life and good vet care. These farmers love their working dogs just as many love their couch potatoes. So please feel free to contact me or other members of the Livestock Committee, chaired by Catherine delaCruz, for advice and questions. We need to find a way to find a way to place our dogs in family-farm situations, doing the job for which they were originally bred. —M.M.

Thank you, Mary! —Gail Knapp, Ph.D., J.D. Gail.Knapp1@gmail.com; Great Pyrenees Club of America website: clubs.akc.org/gpca

Komondorok Delivery Person

Recently I had a unique experience, but some background information first. We've lived in our home for six years. Our residence is on 10 acres. Our neighborhood consists of five houses on a total of 75 acres. We're rural. Every one of our house doors opens into a secure fenced area that includes decks and yards. Our dogs are never in the yard unless someone is home. We have signs on the gate with Koms on them, but due to potential legal and insurance issues, there are no BEWARE OF DOGS-type signs.

One morning, just before Christmas, I was in the middle of the canine breakfast routine. I had just put four Komondorok outside and noticed a white pickup truck pulling off the highway onto our road. I thought nothing of it, as it was not even 8 A.M. A couple of minutes later, the Koms are barking loudly. I go outside to see what is going on. The white pickup is parked in front of our house and it has a magnetic sign with the logo of a national delivery company. I walk around the corner of the house thinking the delivery person is at the gate. Nope, the guy is holding a box, is only five feet from my side door, and is surrounded by three

Komondorok! Yikes! I'm yelling at this guy to "Stop!" I also give the universal palm-up signal with my hand because of all the barking. He finally stops. I usher the three Koms into the house. (The fourth one is elder and going deaf—she didn't hear the commotion.) I then turn back to the delivery person and scream at him, "What are you thinking?" His reply is, "It's OK, I've been bit before." My reply was along the lines of "No kidding," but a bit more expletive.

Now let me just say here, we were very lucky, he did not get bit at my house. And the four Koms who were in the yard have never bit anyone, but it scared the daylight out of me and made me furious that this idiot had the ability to open me up to a potential lawsuit.

I settled down then called the company's national phone number and spoke with a very nice woman who understood my concerns. I wanted to ensure that these delivery people are actually trained not to enter a fenced yard with dog(s) in it. She assured me it is one the first things they are taught. She contacted the local hub and brought this over-hire's supervisor up to speed. Thanks to tracking numbers, it was possible to identify him.

We've had a very good relationship with our regular delivery people. I strongly suggest meeting with your delivery people or at a minimum, leave them a note to inform them know your preferences. Make sure they know never to enter a fenced area. If your entire home and yard is fenced, consider having a weatherproof container outside the gate for deliveries. New signs stating "Do not enter" will be placed on our gates. Snaps or locks on the gates may be practical for some households. Safe and convenient deliveries are the goal. —Adrienne Freyer; kburgkom@aol.com; Komondor Club of America website: komondorclubofamerica.org

Kuvasz Health Clearances Don't Breed Dogs

How does one choose breeding pairs? When considering breeding a Kuvasz, there is much to

contemplate beyond the few things we typically test for.

A prime example of the folly in relying singularly on these tests is my Zera. Though on paper Zera was the best, she was far from *the best*.

If you looked only at Zera's impressive OFA data page, you would consider her a top-quality choice for breeding. PennHIP essentially rated her "best Kuvasz to date—tighter than the 90th percentile." With OFA Excellent hips, clear elbows, and patellas, VonWillebrand's normal, and MSU thyroid normal, what could go wrong?

Regardless of her lovely type and conformation (finishing easily novice-owner-handled), she had a horrid disease: autoimmune peripheral vasculitis. I watched her ear tips rot off and every joint near the skin develop open wounds that wouldn't heal. Her pads developed bizarre wartlike growths. Her claws became thick, hard, and overgrown like rhinoceros horns.

The severity of her disease took years to fully develop. Along the way she was on high-dose prednisone, underwent various medication trials, food trials, surgery to cut her ear tips off, treatment."

Over the course of her life, Zera had a failed TPLO, she bloated (with full and immediate recovery), and finally died of bone cancer days after her 8th birthday.

In the real world, Zera should not have been bred, but I had bred her long before even her reproduction-specialist veterinarian suspected anything serious. By some doggie miracle, none of her five pups developed her illness; however, none of them were subsequently bred. Therein lies the problem with putting all our eggs in the health-clearance basket; if we insist on systematically using clearances to remove animals from our already-limited gene pool, we will be breeding plenty of other bad genes we simply don't know are there, and thus genetically bottleneck the breed.

With each new test we run the risk of eliminating valuable dogs from our breeding programs, dogs who may possess genes nearly lost to our unique

breed. If we had 50 possible tests, every dog would fail at least a few of them. If a dog like my Zera could pass everything yet not be worthy of breeding, in a small gene pool, we *must* be open to those dogs who should be used despite a less-than-perfect complement of clearances.

In any breed, every breeding is a spin of the roulette wheel. Depth and breadth of clearances in the pedigrees of the breeding pair lessens the gamble, opening a window into the genotype of our dogs. The phenotypic presentation of genes we see in individual dogs is one thing, but that can be affected by environmental influences. It's their genotype they will pass to their pups.

As we consider breeding pairs, we must keep room in our breeding programs to consider the *whole dog*. Clearance tests are tools. Tools don't build a house; the people using the tools do. Clearances don't breed dogs; breeders do. —*Beth Lenoski; Elso@ElsoKuvasz.com; Kuvasz Club of America website: kuvasz.com*

Leonbergers

Leonberger Therapy Heals Hearts and Minds

There's something about a warm, furry body, soft ears, and deep, patient eyes that calms the body and soothes the soul. Possessed of all these characteristics as well as a proclivity for children, Leonbergers are perhaps the quintessential therapy dogs. It should come as no surprise then that when it comes to making the lives of those around them a bit brighter, Leonbergers shine.

Currently, approximately 200 Leos are active across the United States in some form of animal-assisted therapy with their owners. Hospitals, hospices, nursing homes, schools, and disaster scenes across the country have all benefited immeasurably from LCA members and their amazing dogs.

The LCA is proud to count as members many remarkable therapy teams. One such Leo, GCh. Cherrywood's Quintessential, CGC, THD, owned and loved by Peggy and Jim Walker, works

at Baylor Hospital, following in the paw-steps of previous Walker Leos Gus, Elsa Beth, and Jake.

This year, Quinn participated in the national event "Swim Across America" to raise money for cancer research. In one week, Quinn raised over \$4,000 for Baylor Hospital. Peggy reports that as far as she's aware, Quinn is the only dog to participate in this effort.

When Cowboy (LCA Ch. Conquest's By George, TDIEVA, LTA) and his owner, Dorothy Moulthrop, visited homebound hospice patients at Hospice of the Sierra, his gentle spirit eased the hearts and minds of those around him. In his nine years, Cowboy logged nearly 700 therapy visits in medical facilities and schools before succumbing to cancer. Last year, the Hospice of the Sierras dedicated a memorial stone to Cowboy's healing presence.

Therapy team Kathy Simmons and her Leonberger, Ernie (Miracle Ernst von Stutensee), were profiled on CNN for their outstanding work in the R.E.A.D. program, helping elementary-school readers gain reading confidence and fluency. The Atlanta Speech School wrote a book, *Ernie Goes to School*, about Ernie's work with children. The book is used in R.E.A.D. and other therapy programs around the world.

The LCA is extremely proud of the work done by Ernie, Cowboy, Quinn, and the hundreds of other therapy Leonbergers and their owners across the country.

Several years ago at the urging of one such member, John McRae, a special club award was created to recognize their efforts. John and his therapy Leonberger, Coach (BoBev's Annie at Kanasatka), pioneered the LCA's Therapy Awards program, which recognizes Leonberger therapy teams who have logged a minimum of 50 therapy visits. LCA Therapy Award recipients are recognized at a special ceremony during our national specialty and are profiled on our club's website. To date, 85 proud teams have earned the award.

Ribbons and trophies look nice on display and certainly indicate success in

the ring. But if therapy dogs teams could keep an album of every ache they've soothed, every procedure they've made a little less scary, every heart they've encouraged, and every soul they've calmed, that would indeed be a tribute beyond measure. —*Astrid Robitaille; astridrobi@gmail.com; Leonberger Club of America website: leonbergerclubofamerica.com*

Mastiffs

Responsibilities, Conscience, and Common Sense

It has been said that time flies when you are having fun, and I am enjoying sharing my point of view when it comes to this world of dogs, dog shows, breed clubs, and those who make up this interesting arena. I have given you my take on how my ideas and perceptions have changed over almost 30 years, as I have grown from one who "knew nothing" (as Sergeant Schultz of *Hogan's Heroes* might say) to someone who has looked at all aspects of the life with purebred dogs and those who associate with that life, and I have done so with a rather critical eye.

When I last wrote, I had attempted to present the two positions held by those in our breed clubs when it comes to the question of just who should be allowed to become a member.

The practical position would be that from a financial point and from a workforce pool, you would welcome all who are willing to commit to your code of ethics and exhibit a sincere interest in the breed.

Every breed club has a constitution, and within that document can be found the stated reasons for its existence, and those who become members should be willing to work toward those goals.

The reason I brought up the idea of who should be a member of a breed club again is because I really wanted to expand that thought and look at a subset of the overall membership: the board of directors.

You do not have to be around those in the world of purebred dogs very long to pick up on the idea that one

personality trait exhibited by many is a very tracked vision as to what is right and what is wrong. There is not much travel down “the middle of the road.” That should be expected because the whole idea behind showing dogs is that “my dog is better than your dog,” and that philosophy does not leave much room for argument.

This makes for an interesting blend when you get a group of individuals with that personality as the governing body. At times it is not easy, but obviously clubs function quite well, and much good is accomplished.

Having said that, and having had many years as a member of a BOD, and many more dealing with those on boards, I will put forth my observations, for what they are worth.

Every breed club has a constitution, and as simple as it may sound, those who assume the responsibilities that come with being a board member should know what that constitution says.

You may read into this that I do not find that all members of a BOD have read the constitution, and you are correct. Also, every breed club has by-laws and those by-laws are really the rules by which every breed club should be playing. You may read into this that I do not feel that every member of a board knows the whys and wherefores as put forth in the by-laws. You are right again.

I believe that the true success of any BOD only comes if that group is well informed—and open minded—and allow their actions to be determined by their constitution, their conscience, and common sense. —C. Cuthbert; rydalmtmastiffs@aol.com; *Mastiff Club of America website*: mastiff.org

Neapolitan Mastiffs Lack Thereof

Why is it that Neapolitan people still don't get the whole picture of what it takes to be an AKC breed? Why is it that so few of the Neapolitan people still have the attitude of a rare breed? Why is it that for a parent club, the USNMC's club membership numbers are “small”? Why, indeed!

Education has always been the key to success in all aspects of life. Most people will seek out methods and means to educate themselves in all of their endeavors. Some people like to educate others and share their knowledge freely. Some use education as a control and dependency tactic, a means of being the “people turn to” for information. Some want everything handed to them. Some will question what they have learned. Some will accept anything they are told. Some people have the attitude that one never knows it all and will continually learn from new ideas, new research and new experiences. Some people have the attitude that they know it all.

How do these attitudes describe Neapolitan owners?

There are many people who own Neapolitan Mastiffs, perhaps for a variety of reasons: some for the love of the breed, some for the love of what the breed can do for them, some for the macho attitude and attention that the breed brings to them. Doesn't this hold true for other breeds also? I thought so. Then I realized that other “rare” breeds have seemingly blended into the AKC world with more finesse than the world of the Neapolitan Mastiff.

Let me share an example of this. I recently attended a dog show where the Neos were gathered to begin their classes; the proverbial Neo odor was prevalent. Now I have been to many, many shows where this had not happened. True, most of those shows were outdoors; but many have been indoors. My first thought was, didn't anyone ever instruct these individuals that their dogs were to be groomed—especially before being shown? Perhaps these dogs' owners were new to showing. Wait—who was there to instruct them? Their breeder-mentor? Did these individuals receive the benefits of an education on “show protocol 101” from their parent club, or from a local breed or all-breed club? Did they receive the necessary information and choose to ignore it?

Ah, yes; it's the “old” rare-breed approach that thinks, *Rules don't apply to*

me, life is informal, I'm here, deal with it. This is what I am talking about!

From my experience of involvement with several dog clubs, it seems to me that individuals no longer want to join dog clubs. The clubs that I am in are comprised of more mature members. The clubs seem to be seeking younger members, but few are joining. Will this be the fate of all existing dog clubs?

Neapolitan owners have been told through the years to join local AKC clubs and welcome the education the club members have to share. There have been various articles in the parent club's publication stating the same thing.

Through the years, breeders and mentors have shared their knowledge, and through the years, education has been shared freely and frequently. Perhaps being “told” is the root of the problem. —Donna Welty; forrestedge@att.net; *United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club website*; neapolitan.org

Newfoundlands In Praise of Newfoundlands

I still remember the first time I saw a Newfoundland dog. He was enormous and splendid, his shining black coat groomed to perfection, his pendulous lips and gigantic tongue framing a friendly grin, his broad chest swathed in a big white bib.

I didn't know much about purebred dogs then, way back in 1984, as I stood ringside at my first dog show. I didn't realize this impressive Newfie boy was a celebrated champion and stud dog. And I'd never have guessed that meeting him and his canine tribe would change my life forever.

I'd grown up with dogs, mutts mostly, loving them all so much that I'd spent years of my youth determined to become a veterinarian. Yet somehow I'd managed to reach my thirties without ever encountering a Newfoundland or even knowing the breed existed. My husband, Bob, on the other hand, had long admired Newfs. “The dog of my boyhood dreams,” he called them.

Eventually, Bob decided to introduce

me and our two young daughters to this dream dog of his. On that serendipitous day at the annual Silver Bay Kennel Club show near our home in San Diego, we also met Claire Carr, one of the Newfoundland community's true mentors.

During the 1970s, Claire chaired the committee that created the Newfoundland Club of America (NCA) Water Test to celebrate and preserve our furry partners' innate water-rescue abilities. She and her beloved Newfy partner, Shipway's Avalon Holly, Am./Can. UDT, WRD, were the first team to earn both the Water Dog (WD) and Water Rescue Dog (WRD) titles. And at a time when Newfs were generally considered slow thinkers and performers, Holly became the first Newfoundland to achieve the elusive AKC Utility Dog Tracking (UDT) title.

I will always be grateful that this remarkable woman saw something in our young, Newf-naïve family that convinced her we could provide a suitable home for one of her Newfoundland pups. A few months later, Claire trusted us with a 6-year-old male who needed a new home. Ch. Seaworthy Head Winds Tuffin blew into our lives in August 1984. What a magnificent soul! Tuffin instantly won our hearts, rearranged our family to suit his priorities, and began teaching us what every Newf lover knows:

Newfoundland dogs are extraordinary creatures. They bring an ineffable and unique dimension to the animal-human bond. Rarely deserved, a Newfoundland's love surely ranks among life's greatest blessings. It cannot be defined or explained, only experienced, with deepest gratitude.

Since those early years with Tuffin, I have known and loved many Newfs. Some have been my partners in the show ring, in the water, on draft and agility courses, at nursing homes and family shelters, and at firefighters' camps and evacuation centers. Some have excelled primarily as babysitters, hiking companions, and couch potatoes. Each one has far out-given me and patiently tutored me in life's most

important lessons.

Dogs may humor us in our petty obsessions with pedigrees, titles, and politics. But they know none of that really matters. Look into any Newfoundland's eyes, and you'll see that it's love and only love that counts. Every fuzzy puppy who comes into our lives has already mastered this fundamental lesson.

After nearly 30 years of life with Newfoundlands, I am still learning. — *Sandra Millers Younger*; sandrayounger@gmail.com; *Newfoundland Club of America website*: ncanewfs.org

Portuguese Water Dogs

PWDCA Celebrates First Top 20 Event

The First PWDCA Top 20 Event was held at the 2011 national specialty in September at Callaway Gardens, Georgia. A separate commemorative catalog for the event included photos and pedigrees of the Top 20 qualifiers. It also included a section of advertisements for some of the noted Portuguese Water Dogs from prior years.

The Top 20 judging was separate from any of the specialty classes and was opened only to dogs that placed in the Top 20 based on their AKC statistical rankings in breed competition from 2010. Overall, this event allowed the judges and spectators to observe these top-winning Portuguese Water Dogs in a head to head competition.

The Top 20 was judged three days before Best of Breed competition with the winner's results kept secret until the awards banquet that ended the specialty. The identity of the three judges, chosen by the Top 20 Committee, was not disclosed until one hour prior to the start of Top 20 judging.

Following are the judges for the event and their qualifications:

Danik Dancause. "A professional handler, past or present who meets the requirements for membership in any professional handlers organization (though not necessarily be a member) who has at least five years' professional

handling experience who must be in good standing with the AKC, CKC, etcetera, who has at least three years' experience handling Portuguese Water Dogs."

Janye Johns. "A PWD breeder who has been breeding for at least five years who has produced at least five AKC Champions of Record or any AKC judge approved to judge Portuguese Water Dogs."

Sondra Esprite. "An all-round multi-breed AKC judge who is approved for Portuguese Water Dogs and the Working Group who is not a Portuguese Water Dog breeder."

The basis for judging the Top 20 is the Portuguese Water Dog standard, and individual preferences should not prevail. Specific categories from the standard were listed on the scoresheets. Every dog was judged and scored individually by all three judges on structure and movement and then rated on a scale of 1 to 10. Once all dogs were judged, scores were tabulated, but the Top Twenty winner was kept secret until it was announced at the 2011 awards dinner on Friday evening.

Also, a Viewers' Choice Award was presented on the evening of the Top 20. It allowed spectators to not only observe and evaluate the dogs from ringside but to vote for "their" Top 20 winner. The Viewers' Choice was announced at the Top 20 event.

The Top 20 evening was a black-tie affair, with handlers, owners, and members of the audience wearing tuxedos and lovely dresses. Everyone who attended was presented with a glass of champagne and desserts, as well as a commemorative Top 20 wine glass.

Our heartiest and warmest congratulations to the very First PWDCA Top 20 Winner: GCh. Spyglass's Legend of Bahia (Pele).

Special congratulations, also, to the winner of the First Viewers' Choice Award: GCh. Driftwood's Call Me SexSea (Drifter).

My sincere thanks to Milarie Rude and Kathy Bumiller, co-chairs of the PWDCA First Top 20 Competition, for providing subject matter for this column.

—Carole Prangley-McIvor;
mcivor_carole@yahoo.com; *Portuguese
Water Dog Club of America website:*
pwdca.org

Saint Bernards Importing a Dog

I thought I would share some information about importing a dog. I think the most important thing is having a good relationship with the person from whom you intend to get your dog. I waited two and a half years before I got the dog I wanted.

It helps if you have seen one or more of the dogs in the potential pedigree. I saw the grandfather on the father's side of my puppy at Crufts, and I saw her father at Eukanuba. Check to see if you can see pictures of the offspring of the parents and other sibling. This will help you get an idea of the way your dog should turn out.

The hardest part is the selection of the dog. It is so difficult to pick from pictures! It really helped that the breeders took pictures of the litter the exact same way. A front shot, a head shot, show side, non-show side, and at the same distance from the camera. That made it easier to compare. I even took measurements that way, so that I wasn't thrown off by any markings.

Once I made my decision it was time to do the financials. Make sure you find out what currency the breeder wants to be paid in, and get all of the breeder's information including the name of their bank, account number, and routing number. The bank will have you fill out a long wire-transfer form. Banks normally do wire transfers by 2 P.M. They will charge you a fee between \$35 and \$45, and banks also have their own exchange rate (this can be higher than the one you see on the Internet). The wire transfer can take up to 24 hours before it shows up in the breeder's account.

The breeder will take care of travel arrangements from their side. A week before my puppy came, I got a call from the airlines giving me the flight information and a tracking number, and a number to call to make sure that

the puppy was on the flight. They told me to arrive at the cargo desk one and a half hours after the plane landed.

When you get to the cargo desk you receive a lot of paperwork and have to fill out a number of forms and pay a fee (about \$50). Cargo then faxes the paperwork to the health department so that they can give their approval that the dog has all of the required health certificates.

After the health-department faxes back the paperwork, you can go to customs. At customs you fill out some more paperwork, and the customs officials may ask you some questions.

After customs approves you, you can go back to cargo, where they make copies of all of the paperwork—and finally send you to the warehouse to collect your dog. All of this additional paperwork took about three hours, but it was worth it when you see that wagging tail and happy face finally come out of the crate!

Make sure you have some bottled water (the pup will not be used to our water yet) and some baby wipes. Accidents happen, and it was a long time in the crate.

—Pam Leighton; sierrasaint@sbc-global.net; *Saint Bernard Club of America website:* saintbernardclub.org

Siberian Huskies Foiled By a Puppy

The long-awaited litter arrived with nearly identical puppies: four males and three females. It was a line breeding with a leased dam and a pedigree with notable Siberians, both past and present. When my husband and I were asked to help raise one or two puppies to give their breeder sufficient time to evaluate them before determining placement, we eagerly agreed.

At 8 weeks, the puppies were striking—healthy, happy, and delighted in being chased and bitten by their littermates. At our friend's suggestion, we returned home with the smallest female, with her size in no way reflecting her very strong personality. For the first week, she totally bluffed us with

her sweetness and willingness to please. As her confidence grew, we began to see glimpses of juvenile delinquency. My husband named her Nellie, in honor of Doc Lombard's lead dog, but by week three I considered changing it to Eve, as in "Eve of Destruction."

Maybe we had just been extremely fortunate, but before Nellie, we have never had such a challenging puppy, and she constantly tested us. Every weekend, she accompanied us on an outing and was introduced to new people and situations; she handled each adventure to perfection. Once back home, however, nothing seemed to be safe. We began to puppy-proof part of the house, but anything short of confining her to a crate when 100 percent of our attention was not possible provided an opportunity for mischief. She nibbled on woodwork, regarded furniture as large chew-toys, and turned housebreaking into a standoff. Her saving grace was her beautiful structure, a face that made everyone smile, and our familiarity with the dogs in her pedigree.

Jack and I had never experienced such apparent defeat in training a puppy and began to question if we had forgotten everything learned in 25 years of living with Siberian Huskies. Our copy of the monks of New Skete's *The Art of Raising a Puppy* had become a constant companion, and just about the time I was beginning to feel some level of accomplishment, it happened.

I had just finished the final painting preparation for a section of repaired woodwork, which had Nellie's dental imprint all over it. Confident that Nellie was secured in her wire crate within view, I opened a fresh gallon of white latex paint.

Then, one of two things happened—either I did not carefully latch the crate door, or she found a way to open it.

Just as I began to pour paint into a smaller container, I caught a glimpse of something gray and white run between my legs. I felt myself falling as

the contents of the entire gallon spread across the maple floor, splattered the walls, and splashed onto the pantry shelves. Thank goodness the paint was white and latex, meaning there was some hope of cleaning up the disaster.

As I got to my feet, I came face-to-face with a paint-covered puppy, staring at me with two dark eyes peering out from a totally white face. Undecided whether to start mopping paint or washing Nellie, I watched in horror as she bolted, running up the steps and heading for the bedrooms, leaving a trail of white paw prints. Normally, I think paw prints are very cute, but this was not one of those times. Half an hour in the dog bath solved half of my problem. Not knowing whether to laugh or cry and with time being of the essence, I began to tackle the paint. Eight hours later and with Jack's help, the kitchen, dining room, and panty floors were no longer white.

While watching the clean-up process, Nellie may have experienced a revelation, and since puppy misbehavior is often partly the result of human error, I acknowledged that I might not have properly latched the crate door. We declared a truce, and slowly Nellie's behavior improved and training became less of a battle of wills.

Four months later, Nellie is a fairly well behaved, beautiful young bitch and will soon begin her show career. She also has shown great aptitude while hiking in harness and maybe in a year or two, she will be another lead dog named Nellie. —*Jane Steffen*; klonaquay@fairpoint.net; *Siberian Husky Club of America*: shca.org

Standard Schnauzers In the Heat of the Summer

As weather warms, doggy danger arises. Both high and low humidity regions have problems accompanying heat. Heat exhaustion, heat prostration, and heatstroke can kill your beloved Standard Schnauzer. Puppies, older, obese, or black/dark-coated SS are

most susceptible. The best treatment is avoidance: keeping your dog cool. Second is recognizing heat-related symptoms. Third is knowing how to treat these conditions.

"Your car is an oven!" warns the American Animal Hospital Association regarding warm-weather risks. It's a death trap. Even on a mild sunny day of only 70 degrees, with windows partially open, car temperatures can exceed 130 degrees in only 15 minutes. Your dog's normal body temperature is about 101; at 105, life-threatening conditions occur, starting with fatal organ deterioration. Leave your SS home even on a mild day if he can't accompany you when you leave the car.

Be sure that your SS has shade and fresh, cool water outdoors at all times. Don't leave him in a crate or a run that's shady when you put him there but could become sunny as the sun moves on. Protect his feet from hot asphalt and concrete. Provide him a kiddy splash pool—SS love playing in water.

Limit duration and location of his exercise in heat. Skip doggy salons and their hot dryers. Remember, high humidity makes high temperatures feel even warmer. Keep your dog slim if your summers tend toward heat. Keep him inside in air-conditioned comfort if outdoor temps exceed 105 degrees.

Dogs cool themselves by panting and through limited sweat glands in their feet. I have seen folks at dog shows try to "help" their dogs cool themselves by draping soaked towels over them. It's better to wet the dog down, then remove the towels and fan the dog so the moving air cools his body. At home, use a garden hose.

Monitor rectal temperature so that it never exceeds 103 degrees. *Never* use ice water; cool water won't shock the system. Use lukewarm water for brachycephalic breeds.

Hyperthermia describes body-temperature elevation leading to heat exhaustion or worse, heat stroke and death. Time is of the essence with heat stroke. Signs of hyperthermia, heat exhaustion, and/or heatstroke can

include the following:

- High rectal temperatures (temperatures over 104 degrees require action; 106 and over is a dire emergency in which internal organs start breaking down; as temps rise, the damage becomes irreversible, leading to death.)
- Vigorous panting, breathing difficulties, heaving, irregular panting, or sudden cessation of panting.
- Dark red gums, which later become pale.
- Tacky, dry mucous membranes (gums, eyelids), thick saliva, eye discharge.
- Vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration (dehydration presents as loss of skin elasticity: pull up the skin on the neck, and if it stays in a ridge, the dog is dehydrated. Other signs include dryness of mouth and nose, sunken eyes, and collapse).
- Collapse, confusion, coma, and death.

Begin treatment by moving the dog away from the heat source. Involve your vet immediately. Try to get the dog cool. Getting his feet cooled off will help: Place cool wet rags on his feet and around his head, but use these sparingly on the body just enough to wet down his coat, then let him air dry or fan him slowly. Water dripped slowly on the dog's tongue or inside his cheek will help if he can't drink on his own—do *not* use human sports drinks to attempt replacing his electrolytes.

The SSCA 2012 national specialty is July 4–8, in Springfield, Massachusetts; for information, visit knickerbockerSSC.com/SSCA2012/index.html. —*Suzanne T. Smith*; stspers@aol.com; *Standard Schnauzer Club of America website*: standardschnauzer.org

Tibetan Mastiffs Woman's Best Friend

It is often said that Tibetan Mastiffs are not a dog for the weak, either of body or of will.

I believe this is true, as a rough rule of thumb. It's necessary to be able to walk, groom, train, and medicate a dog. And though their wishes ought always

to be considered, there are times when an owner must demand something that makes no sense to the dog. A person who is overwhelmed by the physical power of a TM/Dokhyi, may become fearful and reluctant to perform basic tasks that the dog requires for health and happiness.

Also, it may seem counterintuitive, but since wild dog packs demand elaborate “manners” to reinforce pack structure, breeds such as the TM, which retain many of their primitive “instincts,” are the most willing to cooperate in the ordinary business of living (albeit not in rote training).

The Dokhyi who lives in an ordinary family situation (I am not discussing “kennel dogs” here) will be extremely solicitous with family members. Once a proper relationship has been formed with a member of our breed, the person who becomes weak, ill, or disabled, will not lose the authority that has been established.

I had the mixed fortune to experi-

ence this aspect of Dokhyi behavior myself, recently, during a bout of influenza that became pneumonia. My female is extremely “primitive” in terms of her guardiness and sense of responsibility. But she was a darling during my enforced bed-rest.

Desperately bored because I couldn't play with her, she would resignedly settle on my bed, with loud sighs, after her morning outing. There she'd stay until she needed to go out again. My husband kept her exercised, letting her run energetically once a day. (Twice would have been better, but I never suggest that human husbands are wildly cooperative, only that TMs are.)

After my dogs had played for a few minutes, they were eager to return, positioning themselves about the bed, and watching over me. They never once challenged anything I asked of them.

The whole experience has been something of a revelation.

There is a belief that a dog who real-

izes he is physically more powerful than his people may become impossible to manage. This might be true with some dogs whose integration into the family is not complete, or with dogs who live under circumstances that reinforce that sort of behavior. There is certainly a time when adolescent male dogs who are learning their power may test their people—but this should never be permitted to eclipse the dog-human relationship. For everyone's welfare, they must respect the fact that humans are wiser in the ways of society than they are. But in a properly run home with TMs of correct temperament, I'm happy to report that this should not become a problem.

What I have learned, over and over, is that Tibetan Mastiffs are loyal friends, first and foremost. They will be your best friends, if you are worthy of the honor—and even sometimes if you aren't. —*Mary Fischer; meryt@att.net; American Tibetan Mastiff Association website: tibetanmastiff.org*

GZ DELEGATES' QUARTERLY MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB MARCH 13, 2012

Dennis B. Sprung, *President*

PRESENT 408

Abilene Kennel Club—*Neil A. Bates*
Affenpinscher Club of America—*Chad Howard*
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*
Airedale Terrier Club of America—*Aletta L. Moore*
Akita Club of America—*Sherry E. Wallis*
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia A. Peel*
Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary M. MacCollum*
American Belgian Malinois Club—*Ms. Nancy L. Bennett*
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—*Ms. Janina K. Laurin*
American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—*Robert Urban*
American Bloodhound Club—*Mary L. Olszewski*
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—*Patte Klecan*
American Boxer Club, Inc.—*Bruce E. Voran*
American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Judith Tighe*
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Carol Williams*
American Chesapeake Club, Inc.—*Dyane Baldwin*
American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold Miller*
American Manchester Terrier Club—*Roberta Berman*
American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—*Don Farley, II*
American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen R. Spey*
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—*Dr. Geno Sisneros*
American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth W. Mader*
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—*Marjorie Tuff*
American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sally L. Vilas*
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Julie*

Virosteck
American Tibetan Mastiff Association—*Martha Feltenstein*
American Whippet Club, Inc.—*Bo Bengtson*
Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Karen Sen*
Anderson Kennel Club—*Phillip D. Sample*
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Antelope Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Daniels*
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Mulvey*
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A. LaBerger*
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bette D. Williams*
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Joyce Rowland*
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Nina Schaefer*
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Jon Curby*
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—*Wayne Boyd*
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—*Gloria Marshall*
Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Kathy Coxwell*
Beaumont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carl Holder*
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Phyllis Belcastro*
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Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carole A. Wilson*
Berks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally Birgl*
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Sara Karl*
Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Gerald H. Yarbrough*
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*George Sikes*
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Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Pam Davis*
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Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*
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Central Ohio Kennel Club—*David W. Galloway*
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Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Claire K. Steidel*
Chaparral Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pam Goldman*
Charleston Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*
Chattanooga Kennel Club—*David Gilstrap*
Cheshire Kennel Club, Inc.—*G. Robert Stevens*
Chester Valley Kennel Club—*Dr. Samuel M. Peacock, Jr.*

G7 delegates' quarterly meeting

- Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Rey Burgos*
 Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
 Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nick Pisias*
 Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Ginny Atkinson*
 Cincinnati Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Patricia H. Haines*
 Clarksville Kennel Club—*Robert A. Schroll*
 Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—*Dr. Stephen Lawrence*
 Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*
 Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marjorie Underwood*
 Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Maureen R. Setter*
 Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Judy Hiller*
 Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Harold W. Sundstrom*
 Colorado Kennel Club—*Mrs. Louise Leone*
 Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Sidney L. Marx*
 Columbia Missouri Kennel Club—*Robert Brown*
 Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—*Norma J. Ryan*
 Concord Dog Training Club, Inc.—*John Adams*
 Connecticut River Working Group Association—*Fred G. Ferris*
 Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry D. Cavanna*
 Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*
 Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—*Larry Sorenson*
 Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*James W. Smith*
 Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Dorn*
 Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Barbara L. Mann*
 Dayton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Groeschel*
 Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merlyn A. Green, D.C.*
 Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*
 Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—*Dr. A. D. Butherus*
 Des Moines Kennel Club, Inc.—*John D. Hughes*
 Des Moines Obedience Training Club—*Lee Slorah*
 Detroit Kennel Club—*Mr. Erik Bergishagen*
 Devon Dog Show Association, Inc.—*Meg Weitz*
 Doberman Pinscher Club of America—*Mrs. Naomi R. Shorr*
 Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*
 Dog Owners Training Club of Maryland—*Kathrynann Sarvinas*
 Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Tabor*
 Elm City Kennel Club—*Dr. Gregory J. Paveza*
 Elmira Kennel Club, Inc.—*Homer R. Hastings, III*
 Empire Beagle Club, Inc.—*Christopher Keenan*
 English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Barbara A. Penny*
 English Setter Association of America, Inc.—*Mr. John P. Nielsen*
 English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois—*David H. Hopkins*
 Erie Kennel Club, Inc.—*Peggy Helming*
 Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*
 Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cathleen Rubens*
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 Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margaret B. Pough*
 Finnish Spitz Club of America—*Kim Raleigh*
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 Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc.—*Kurt Anderson*
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 Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Mr. Harry G. Ottmann*
 Fox River Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marcy G. Bankus*
 Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cathy De La Garza*
 Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Connie S. Clapp*
 German Pinscher Club of America—*Deidre E. Gannon*
 German Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia*
 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—*Mr. Kenneth A. Marden*
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 Golden Retriever Club of America—*Ellen Hardin*
 Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*
 Grand River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Lettis*
 Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Robert M. Brown*
 Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc.—*Ms. Karen J. Burgess*
 Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Shaw*
 Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club—*Patricia B. Staub*
 Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia M. O'Connell*
 Greater Miami Dog Club—*Pedro Cofino*
 Greater Murfreesboro Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margaret DiCorleto*
 Greater Naples Dog Club—*Steven D. Gladstone*
 Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—*Linda LaFrance*
 Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—*Marlene Steinberg*
 Greater St. Louis Training Club, Inc.—*Jane V. (Candy) Slay*
 Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.—*Caulder Ripley*
 Greenwich Kennel Club—*Margaret K. Curtis*
 Greyhound Club of America—*Melanie S. Steele*
 Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Miller*
 Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert D. Black*
 Havanese Club of America—*Jane F. Ruthford*
 Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—*Patricia M. Cruz*
 Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*
 Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Leonard Abraham*
 Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Carol A. Williamson*
 Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dick Blair*
 Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gwen*

GZ delegates' quarterly meeting

McCullagh

Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc.—*David*

Helming

Ibizan Hound Club of the United

States—*Luane V. Williams*

Idaho Capital City Kennel Club, Inc.—

Wyoma M. Clouss

Illinois Capitol Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann*

L. Cookson

Illinois Valley Kennel Club of Peoria,

Inc.—*Dr. John F. Davidson*

Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—

Rita J. Biddle

Intermountain Kennel Club, Inc.—

Michael L. Van Tassell

International Kennel Club of Chicago,

Inc.—*Susan Olsen*

Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—

Karolynne McAteer

Irish Water Spaniel Club of America—

Evelyn M. Van Uden

Irish Wolfhound Club of America—

Linda Souza

Italian Greyhound Club of America,

Inc.—*Carole Plesur*

James River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mallory*

C. Driskill

Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally*

McNamara

Jefferson County Kennel Club of

Missouri—*Cledith Wakefield*

K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex

County, NJ, Inc.—*Dave Morgan*

Kalamazoo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joanne E.*

Kinnelly

Kanadasaga Kennel Club—*Mrs. Beverly*

M. Nosiglia

Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—*Mr.*

John D. Sawicki

Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut,

Inc.—*Mrs. Gwen Wexler*

Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—*Thomas*

Powers

Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—*Margaret*

Doster

Kennel Club of Pasadena—*Jarratt*

Brunson

Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Inc.—

Charles H. Schaefer

Kennel Club of Riverside—*Sylvia A.*

Thomas

Kennesaw Kennel Club—*James F.*

Gibson

Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—

Jacquelyn J. Fogel

Komondor Club of America, Inc.—

Michael Harman

Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs.*

Virginia Van Doren

Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Kathi Brown*

Ladies' Kennel Association of America—

Ruth Winston

Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Diana*

Skibinski

Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms.*

Crecia C. Closson

Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan*

Croft

Langley Kennel Club—*Ms. Dianne E.*

Franck

Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—

Robert N. LaBerge

Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—

Dominic P. DiBalsi

Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—

Sue Goldberg

Lima Kennel Club—*Dr. Anne*

Midgarden

Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—*David*

M. Powers

Louisiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Luis F.*

Sosa

Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr.*

Sandra B. Barker

Manatee Kennel Club—*Pat Edgington*

Manitowoc County Kennel Club, Inc.—

Romana Arnold

Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. J.*

C. Garvin

Maryland Kennel Club—*Gary Sarvinas*

Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Dr.*

William R. Newman

McKinley Kennel Club—*Herman H.*

Tietjen

Memphis Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr.*

Robert D. Smith

Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—*John S.*

Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.

Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—

Jeannette Nieder

Michiana Kennel Club—*Cheryl*

Crompton

Mid-Hudson Kennel Association, Inc.—

Gayle Bontecou

Middle Tennessee Amateur Retriever

Club—*John Russell*

Middleburg Kennel Club—*Shelley C.*

Roos

Miniature Bull Terrier Club of

America—*Giselle Simonds*

Mispillion Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs.*

Blackie H. Nygood

Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—

Gretchen Bernardi

Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—

Robert H. McKowen

Mohawk Valley Kennel Club—*Sandra*

Haber

Monmouth County Kennel Club, Inc.—

Mrs. Helmi Konderock

Montgomery County Kennel Club—

Ms. Ida E. Weinstock

Monticello New York Kennel Club,

Inc.—*Lilian Ostermiller*

Mount Bachelor Kennel Club—*Lynette*

Blue

Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—*Mrs.*

Ruth W. Crumb

Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs.*

Rebecca S. Stanevich

Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs.*

Judith V. Daniels

Nashville Kennel Club—*James Efron*

National Beagle Club—*Eddie Dziuk*

National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—

Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson

National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi*

Strouse

Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Viola*

Burgos

New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—

Virginia Rowland

Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—

Mrs. Mary W. Price

Newnan Kennel Club—*Willie Crawford*

Newton Kennel Club—*Catherine H.*

Murch

Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs.*

Diane F. Taylor

Nisqually Kennel Club—*R. H. Hachtel*

North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F.*

Coletti

Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club,

Inc.—*Billie Ponton*

Norwegian Elkhound Association of

America, Inc.—*Margaret Mott*

Norwich Terrier Club of America—

Betty McDonnell

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever

Club (USA)—*Marile A. Waterstraat*

Obedience Training Club of Hawaii,

Inc.—*Ms. Patricia C. Scully*

Obedience Training Club of Rhode

Island—*James M. Ashton*

Okaloosa Kennel Club—*Mrs. Gayle G.*

Stillwell

Old Dominion Kennel Club of

Northern Virginia, Inc.—*Martha Nazak*

Old English Sheepdog Club of America,

Inc.—*Christiana Gaburri*

Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—

Felice Jarrold

Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Harvey A.*

Mueller

Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—

Daniel R. Cunningham

Orange Empire Dog Club, Inc.—*Burton*

GZ delegates' quarterly meeting

J. Yamada

Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.*
 Ox Ridge Kennel Club—*Jack P. De Witt*
 Ozark Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mark A. Chambers*
 Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club—*Mr. Carl E. Gomes*
 Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—*Link Newcomb*
 Papillon Club of America, Inc.—*Miss Arlene A. Czech*
 Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—*Gary Koepfel*
 Pasanita Obedience Club Inc.—*Sheila Miller*
 Pasco Florida Kennel Club—*Patricia J. Lombardi*
 Pekingese Club of America—*Joseph B. Franklin*
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne Bowes*
 Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dennis J. Gallant*
 Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America—*Anne Gallant, Ph.D.*
 Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Dominic P. Carota*
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Larry Wilson*
 Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joachim N. Blutreich*
 Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Margaret Vohr*
 Plainfield Kennel Club—*John McCullagh*
 Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—*William E. Ellis*
 Pocono Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Krieger*
 Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Mary Ellen Fishler*
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Robert A. Amen*
 Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*James Primmer*
 Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Savage*
 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Janis C. Watts*
 Progressive Dog Club—*William H. Blair*
 Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Michelle R. Anderson*
 Puli Club of America, Inc.—*Maggie Witwer*
 Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—*Florence R. Laicher*
 Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—*Frances Stephens*

Ramapo Kennel Club—*Mrs. Rose J. Radel*
 Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*
 Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gerard Baudet*
 Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.—*Michael J. Teeling*
 Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Jan M. Ritchie*
 Rio Grande Kennel Club—*Juxi Burr*
 Riverhead Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bonnie Lane*
 Roanoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Charles Kerfoot*
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Ronald H. Menaker*
 Rockland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Justin*
 Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*
 Sahuaro State Kennel Club—*Rita L. Mather*
 Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—*Mrs. Barbara Furbush*
 Saluki Club of America—*Monica H. Stoner*
 Sammamish Kennel Club—*Dr. Robert C. Gloster, M.D.*
 Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
 San Gabriel Valley Kennel Club—*Anthony Vasquez*
 Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Tom Brown*
 Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—*Abbe R. Shaw*
 Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*Audrey Sutton*
 Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laurence J. Libeu*
 Saratoga New York Kennel Club—*Wanda H. Allen*
 Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Ralph Reuter*
 Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia—*Kay Allred*
 Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—*Betty Jo Patrick*
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*Helen A. Prince*
 Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Nancy Perrell*
 Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Frei*
 Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sharyn Y. Hutchens*
 Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*
 Shreveport Kennel Club, Inc.—*LuAnn*

Moore

Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ann M. Cook*
 Silver State Kennel Club—*Daniele Ledoux-Starzyk*
 Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—*William J. Feeney*
 Skokie Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pat Grossmann*
 Skye Terrier Club of America—*Mr. Walter F. Goodman*
 Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gloria Shaver*
 Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—*John Mandeville*
 Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Billie McFadden*
 South Hills Kennel Club—*Raymond P. Harrington*
 South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Linda B. Willson*
 South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*
 South Texas Obedience Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Gerry Dalakian*
 South Windsor Kennel Club—*Margarette (Peggy) Wampold*
 Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club—*Medora Harper*
 Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*John V. Ioia*
 Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lee Arnold*
 Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay—*Glenda Stephenson*
 Spinone Club of America—*Karen Luckey*
 Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*
 St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—*Kit A. Brostrom*
 St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Deborah J. Wilkins*
 St. Joseph Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dale Hunsburger*
 Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*Holly S. Stump*
 Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser*
 Staten Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Bernard E. McGivern, Jr.*
 Steel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Miss Susan M. Napady*
 Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert Eisele*
 Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Marcy L. Zingler*
 Superstition Kennel Club, Inc.—*G Philip (PHIL) Booker*

GZ delegates' quarterly meeting

Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Florence Duggan*
 Sussex Spaniel Club of America—*Mr. John R. Lewis, Jr.*
 Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marylyn DeGregorio*
 Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Manning-Stolz*
 Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Catherine Bell*
 Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kelly Yarish*
 Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Steve Schmidt*
 Tibetan Spaniel Club of America—*Mr. Herbert H. Rosen*
 Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Stacey La Forge*
 Tidewater Kennel Club of Virginia, Inc.—*Jane Brumley*
 Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert E. Bostrom*
 Town and Country Kennel Club, Inc.—*Toni Doake*
 Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—*John Shoemaker*
 Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*
 Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joseph Martyn*
 Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*
 Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*
 Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—*Patricia C. Sarles*
 United States Australian Shepherd Association—*Leon B. Goetz*
 United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*
 United States Lakeland Terrier Club—*Alfred J. Ferruggiaro*
 Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club—*J. M. Haderer*
 Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Sharon Sakson*
 Vacationland Dog Club, Inc.—*Iris K. Frankel*
 Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
 Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—*Mr. William F. Dumas*
 Virginia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bradford W. Noyes*
 Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Lynn Worth-Smith*
 Walla Walla Kennel Club—*Rod Strand*
 Walkkill Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rose M. Robischon*
 Wampanoag Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms.*

Naida L. Parker
 Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Anita A. Lustenberger*
 Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary A. Eschweiler*
 Weimaraner Club of America—*Judy Colan*
 Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Peter J. See*
 West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Thomas H. Barrie*
 West Volusia Kennel Club—*H. G. Geoffrey*
 Westbury Kennel Association, Inc.—*Carmen Armstrong*
 Westchester Kennel Club—*Michael A. Jackson*
 Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. William A. Russett*
 Westminster Kennel Club—*Harvey M. Wooding*
 Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.—*Colleen McDaniel*
 Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Candace Mogavero*
 Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frederick R. Vogel*
 Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*
 Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Inc.—*Fred T. Kampo*
 Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Rosann Sexton*
 Worcester County Kennel Club—*Debra A. Hokkanen*
 Yakima Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Richard Lewis*
 Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia D. Reynolds*

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Delegates Meeting March 13, 2012

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Chair introduced the people seated with him on the dais: Chairman, Ronald Menaker; Dr. Thomas Davies; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Jim Crowley, the Executive Secretary, and Mark Schaffer, the court reporter.

The Executive Secretary read the report on the Nominating Committee as

follows: Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, the Nominating Committee, Harold Miller, American Foxhound Club, Chair; Eric Bergishagen, Detroit Kennel Club; James S. Corbett, Tualatin Kennel Club; Dr. Patricia Haines, Cincinnati Kennel Club; Ruth Winston, Ladies Kennel Association of America, appointed by the Board of Directors at its August, 2011 meeting, has nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 13, 2012. There are three vacancies for the Class of 2016. The Class of 2016: William J. Feeney, Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club; Thomas Powers, Kennel Club of Beverly Hills, Lynn Worth Smith, Vizsla Club of America.

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as candidates for the vacancies on the Board of Directors, Class of 2016 to be filled at the annual meeting of the Club on March 13, 2012.

Class of 2016: Patricia M. Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club; John Ronald, Samoyed Club of America; Robert A. Schroll, Clarksville Kennel Club; Larry Sorenson, Dachshund Club of America.

The Chair spoke as follows: The Bylaws provide that no nominations may be made from the floor. Therefore, nominations were closed on November 15, 2011. Delegates are reminded that our elections are held in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, which requires a majority to elect.

There was a brief recess, and the Delegates cast their ballots.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary who read the names of Delegates seated since the last meeting: Bo N. Bengtson, Ojai, CA, American Whippet Club
 Sally Birgl, Kempton, PA, Berks County Kennel Club
 Anne H. Bowes, Duxbury, MA, Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America
 Ann Mariah Cook, Jefferson, NH, Siberian Husky Club of America
 Daniel Cunningham, Minoa, NY,

GZ delegates' quarterly meeting

Onondaga Kennel Association
Deidre Gannon, Oaklyn, NJ, German
Pinscher Club of America
H. Geoff Geoffry, Deland, FL, West
Volusia Kennel Club
Robert W. Gilmour, Limerick, PA, Penn
Treaty Kennel Club
Homer Russell Hastings III, Westfield,
PA, Elmira Kennel Club
Charles Kerfoot, Vinton, VA, Roanoke
Kennel Club
Bonnie Lane, Commack, NY, Riverhead
Kennel Club
Ann Lettis, Staten Island, NY, Grand
River Kennel Club
Patricia Peel, Lennon, MI, Alaskan
Malamute Club of America
JD Rowell, Highland Park, TX, Trinity
Valley Kennel Club
Gary Sarvinos, Catonsville, MD,
Maryland Kennel Club
Lynne Schmitt, Aptos, CA, Monterey Bay
Dog Training Club
Susan Sholar, Valley Center, CA, Black
Russian Terrier Club of America

The following Delegates, who were
attending their first meeting since
approval, were introduced from the floor:
Bo N. Bengtson, Ojai, CA, American
Whippet Club
Sally Birgl, Kempton, PA, Berks County
Kennel Club
Anne H. Bowes, Duxbury, MA,
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America
Ann Mariah Cook, Jefferson, NH,
Siberian Husky Club of America
Deidre Gannon, Oaklyn, NJ, German
Pinscher Club of America
H. Geoff Geoffry, Deland, FL, West
Volusia Kennel Club
Homer Russell Hastings III, Westfield,
PA, Elmira Kennel Club
Charles Kerfoot, Vinton, VA, Roanoke
Kennel Club
Bonnie Lane, Commack, NY, Riverhead
Kennel Club
Ann Lettis, Staten Island, NY, Grand
River Kennel Club
Dr. Anne Midgarden, Wapakoneta, OH,
Lima Kennel Club
Patricia Peel, Lennon, MI, Alaskan
Malamute Club of America
Caulder Ripley, Waterbury, VT
Green Mountain Dog Club
Susan Sholar, Valley Center, CA, Black
Russian Terrier Club of America
Robert Stevens, Hancock, NH, Cheshire
Kennel Club

The minutes of the December 16, 2011
Delegate meeting were published in the
online January 2012 Gazette, and the
complete transcript was posted on the
Delegates Portal on AKC's web site.
There was an error in the reading of the
proposed amendment to Chapter 16,
Section 1 of the Rules Applying to Dog
Shows. The criteria for a major for
reserve at the National Specialty for each
breed is twice the number of the dogs
required for a five point major, and not
just a five point major, as read. This
correction has already been noted in the
online minutes and the transcript.
There were no other corrections, and the
minutes were approved as published.

The next item was the approval of two
new Member Clubs. The Leonberger
Club of America and the Northeastern
Maryland Kennel Club were duly
elected as members of the American
Kennel Club.

Ron Menaker gave the Chairman's
report as follows: Good morning. I'd like
share an update with you on the AKC
Canine Partners Program. Since the
program's inception, cumulative trial
entries have topped 30,000. Last year, 85
percent of the events that were eligible
to allow AKC Canine Partners did invite
them. This figure is up to 89 percent so
far this year.

Clubs welcoming Canine Partner
enrollees have allowed these dogs and
their owners to experience AKC agility,
obedience and rally. Those clubs offering
the Coursing Ability Test, which also
includes Canine Partners enrollees, have
also seen an increase in entries.

We recently reached a milestone by
awarding the first MACH, MACH2 and
MACH3 titles to a Canine Partner. One
accomplished dog, Princey, achieved all
three titles.

Staff has also been working on the "My
Dog Can Do That" experience. This
program exposes new owners and dogs
to AKC events. It allows people to try
different companion events with one on
one attention from a trainer. The "My
Dog Can Do That" program is getting
off to an impressive start: 230 dogs
participated in the program at the Rose
City Kennel Club Dog Show in
Portland, Oregon, and 204 dogs took

part in the program at the Middle
Peninsula Kennel Club in Doswell,
Virginia. The majority of these dogs had
never tried an AKC event. We hope to
welcome many more dogs and owners to
the wonderful world of AKC through
this program.

Later this month, we are pleased to
welcome Canine Partners to the
National Agility Championship in Reno,
Nevada from March 30th through April
1st. We are delighted that a number of
Canine Partners have qualified and will
compete in this prestigious event.
Notably we have continued to see
growth in agility, with the achievement
of over one million entries in 2011. I
encourage you to check the AKC
website and the AKC Facebook page for
complete coverage and results of the
NAC. We wish the best of luck to all
entrants.

As we continue to develop programs for
all dogs, we hope you will encourage dog
owners in your communities to
participate. It's easier than ever to learn
the ropes and get involved.

Turning now to another subject, I am
pleased to report that our 2012 budget is
projected to show an operating surplus
of 1.7 million dollars. I extend my thanks
to the management, staff and Board for
achieving this important positive result.
You will hear the specifics from Jim
Stevens during his presentation shortly.
During my tenure as Chairman, I have
been truly fortunate to have had the
support of many dedicated Board
members, and especially two outstanding
Vice Chairmen: The first was the
Honorable David Merriam and the
second, who has served as Vice Chairman
for the past three years, Dr. Tom Davies.
While Tom is also leaving the Board
today, I know he will continue to be an
important contributor to this body. AKC
and our sport will benefit from Tom's
involvement hopefully for many years to
come. Tom has been invaluable as Vice
Chairman. While he may be accused of
many things, being a "yes man" or being
too subtle are not among them. You
always know where Tom stands on the
issue, and if he disagrees with you, he
will not be bashful about letting you
know. Fortunately for me, we agreed far
more than we disagreed.

The third Board member leaving today
after 24 years of service is the

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incomparable Walter Goodman. We talk about legends and icons in this sport: Walter is a living legend. There are few who have contributed so much to the sport of dogs over so long a period. As a breeder, exhibitor, judge, club officer, not to mention President of the most prestigious terrier club in the world, Walter has done it all, done it well, and done it with grace and dignity. I know the Board will not be the same without him.

Tom and Walter, thank you both for your support and contributions to AKC, as well as your continuing friendship. On a personal note, I wish to thank the Staff, the Delegates and the Board for all the support given to me during my tenure. It has been a privilege and honor to work with each and every one of you, and I wish you all the best of luck. Thank you very much.

(Prolonged applause)

The Chair called on the Chair of the Tellers Committee, Kim Johnson of KPMG, to give the results of the balloting for the Class of 2016.

Ms. Johnson spoke as follows: The total number of ballots cast was 392. Therefore, the majority to elect was 197. The results of the ballots were as follows: Patricia M. Cruz, 219; William J. Feeney, 179; Thomas Powers, 197; John L. Ronald, 120; Robert A. Schroll, 141; Larry Sorensen, 116; Lynn Worth Smith, 102.

The Chair declared that Patricia M. Cruz and Thomas Powers were duly elected as members of the Class of 2016. There was a brief recess while the Delegates cast the second ballot.

Mr. Sprung gave the President's report as follows: It's always special for me when we honor our own. Today John and I say thank you to a number of people for their service and contributions. Walter F. Goodman is a dog person who is a true terrier man. Walter has owned Skye Terriers for 75 years. Just think about that. Walter got his first Skye Terrier the year that Peter Green was born. Along the way, he has volunteered his time as President of the Skye Terrier Club of America where he has been a member for 60 years. The enjoyment we

share annually at the Montgomery County Kennel Club, the finest terrier event in the world, is due to his presidency of 25 years, and his teamwork with the late Delegate, Josephine Deubler.

Before I joined AKC some 22 years ago as an Executive Field Representative, Walter was already giving of himself as a Board member. As one of history's most successful breeder owner handlers, his 1969 Best in Show triumph with Suzie at Westminster was a night many of us remember. The stories surrounding that accomplishment are part of dog show lore. In total, Glamour Skyes won 99 Best in Show.

On behalf of the Delegate body, the Board and the staff, we applaud you, Walter, for being a friend, mentor, and a true gentleman in the sport. Most of all, we thank you for always caring about our dogs, Walter.

(Prolonged applause.)

Vice Chairman Tom Davies is a quiet contributor, a man gifted with common sense and a love for everything to do with our sport. A true legacy of the "Sultan of Springfield" is his outstanding contributions to events. Rather than exercising his club's right of exclusivity within their territory, he welcomed and nurtured other clubs so that they would have the ability to use a quality site. He built "The Big E," or as we say in the Events Department, "The Big T," into a home for many clubs holding all breed shows, as well as numerous obedience and agility trials.

Never one to procrastinate and certainly not one to ever, ever, over analyze, Tom has always been an achiever, willing to shake up the status quo and take the inevitable heat that follows. Working with other members of the Board, he was a major contributor to countless innovations; most recently the Grand Championship, the revision of the judging approval process, four to six month puppy competition, Open show, and the list goes on and on.

His consistent dedication to new ideas, more efficient systems, fairness, and support of staff's initiatives is appreciated by this and past administrations. We respect your devotion to the principles we all believe in concerning breeding, exhibiting, and judging. Tom, your

integrity, knowledge and passion for the AKC is something that we will always admire.

Thank you, Tom.

(Prolonged applause.)

Lastly, we have a man named Ron.

Quiet, non committal, calm, calm, calm.

To start the discussion of our Chairman is to restate the virtue that we love in our dogs: That is loyalty. His appreciation and respect for AKC, dogs, clubs, fanciers and employees has no barriers.

I really came to know him well while serving as Vice President and being told by both he and David Merriam that as a result of the 2003 registration meltdown, I was immediately being transferred to the North Carolina operations facility as the new COO. What they didn't tell me was that Ron would be working in the Registration Department for a few months.

He went through every single file cabinet, emptying them of registration forms and checks. In so doing, he earned the nickname "Pops," from the ladies in the Registration Department. I recall during a conversation one day while they were all seated on the floor in jeans and T shirts, placing all the registration applications into batches, one of the ladies said to Ron, "What do you do?" He said he was the Chairman of the American Kennel Club. The room erupted with laughter. The women were hysterical. What a sense of humor Pops had. After all, how could this regular guy, who treated them the same way he treated himself, with common courtesy and without privilege, be Chairman?

We would begin work every day at 7 a.m. and go to 7 p.m. Each 12 hour day ended with dinner when we met nightly with the consultants who were handling the systems analysis to rebuild the registration process and right the sinking ship. Thanks to Ron, we did.

He leads by example. His outspoken support of ideas advanced by the Business Development Department resulted in earnings of more than 100 million dollars in alternative revenue, allowing staff to monetize opportunities that were rejected just a few short years earlier. He also supported staff's enhancements to events, resulting in an increase of 530,000 entries, or 20 percent, over a ten-year period.

However, there is another important side to your Chairman: Humanitarian. And that entails much more than his generous donations to dog related organizations, or the gift of his monthly Board honorarium to dog charities. Without mentioning a single name, the people whose lives he has helped from a health point of view are too many to count. Standing here, I see a number of you who were touched because when you reached out to him, he reached out to others. Whether it was the fancier who came to New York for a second opinion and had to be tracked down as he was boarding a plane to come back to the City because the impossible to arrange procedure became possible; or the show chair whose grandson was dying, so Ron sent a Medivac helicopter; or the Delegate who wanted to come to Manhattan because her daughter had to see a world renowned specialist, only to be told that it was a three month wait while her own doctor gave her just weeks to live. You are right; she saw the specialist that very week.

I once accompanied someone from the sport whose family member was ill; we arrived at the emergency room's ambulance entrance and were met by the caregivers, from the President of the hospital on down. Later I asked the President, "What were you doing out in the cold with a host of doctors and nurses in tow?"

He said, "Dennis, what do you think I was doing there? Ron called." I often watched as your Chairman moved mountains to help people in our sport. What amazed me is that many of the people he helped, he had never met. They were family to some dog person, sometimes one of you; and that was good enough for Ron.

The American Kennel Club has been blessed with some great women and men over the past 127 years, but in the modern era, the word "great" has become too commonplace. Every breed does not have a great one. Some people will say we're not all great judges. Each pick of the litter does not produce the next great show dog.

However, this Chairman will be remembered as a great human being who touched all dog people. In my opinion, his contributions are yet to be fully realized or appreciated.

Ron, on behalf of the Board and staff, we are grateful for your respect of our combined efforts to advance AKC, our dogs, and all of our clubs. We thank you and will always be indebted for your friendship and for your leadership, Ron. (Prolonged applause)

The Chair called on Jim Stevens, CFO, for the annual financial report. Mr. Stevens reviewed 2011's results as reflected in the consolidated audited financial statements.

The first vote was to have been on the proposed amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, new sixth paragraph of Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The proposed amendment was brought forward by the Progressive Dog Club. This amendment would have created a new three point major for the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch at one National Specialty each year, specified by the AKC Breed Parent Club.

The Progressive Dog Club requested that the amendment be withdrawn, based on an error in the reading at the December meeting and on input it has received. The club plans to resubmit an amended version at a later date. There being no the amendment was withdrawn.

The second vote was on the proposed amendment to delete Chapter 1, Section 3 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows Dog Shows Defined. The proposed amendment was brought forward by the Delegate Dog Shows Rule Committee. This rule change would remove references to a show limited to puppies and to dogs that have placed at previous shows as there are no such events and none have been held for many years.

There were two thirds of the affirmative, and this amendment was adopted effective immediately.

The Chair called on the Chair of the Tellers Committee to read the results of the second ballot.

Ms. Johnson: The total number of ballots cast was 407. The number of invalid ballots were eight. Therefore, the majority to elect was 200. The results of the ballots were as follows: William J. Feeney, 172; John L. Ronald, 49; Robert

A. Schroll, 98; Larry Sorensen, 52; Lynn Worth Smith, 28.

There was a brief recess and the Delegates cast a third ballot.

The next vote was on four amendments which were interrelated and also co dependent, so they were voted upon as one item.

Chapter 6, Section 3 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows Premium Lists and Closing Entries, removes all reference to seven groups, eliminating a specific number; Chapter 3, Section 1 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows Dog Show Classifications, splits the Sporting, Hound and Working Groups, creating 11 groups; Chapter 3, Section 15 - 20 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows Dog Show Classifications, removes all references to seven groups, eliminating a specific number; and Chapter 2 of Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline Registrable Breeds By Groups, which splits the Sporting, Hound and Working Groups creating 11 groups. The proposal was brought forward by the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Sherry Wallis, Delegate for the Akita Club of America, who spoke as follows: I'd like to propose an amendment to Chapter 3, Sections 15 through 20 and Chapter 6, Section 3 and to insert into the new proposal 11, where 7 has been deleted. The motion was seconded and this amendment to the amendment was adopted.

A two-thirds affirmative vote was required to adopt the amendment. The motion as amended failed. There was a counted vote of 231 in favor and 165 opposed.

The final vote was to be on the proposed amendment to Chapter 9, New Section 8 of the Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two Couple Pack Hunting Tests Entry Requirements and Eligibility. This new section would describe the requirements to earn a Grand Field Champion title, and would explain that no title certificate will be issued unless ordered by the owner. The proposal was recommended by the Beagle Advisory Committee and approved by the AKC

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Board.

There was discussion as follows:

The Chair recognized Eddie Dziuk, Delegate for the National Beagle Club, who spoke as follows: The National Beagle Club is of course the Parent Club for the breed which would be impacted by this particular amendment. We've got some concerns the way it is currently written and if possible we would like to request this be sent back to the Beagle Advisory Committee. So my motion would be to refer it back to committee for further discussion.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second on that?

Unidentified Delegate: Second.

Mr. Sprung: Is there further discussion?

The Chair recognized Christopher Keenan, Delegate for the Empire Beagle Club, who spoke as follows: For the past three years I have served on the Beagle Advisory Committee. Now, for those Delegates not familiar with the Beagle Advisory Committee, this committee consists of 13 members who represent 548 licensed Beagle Field Trial Clubs and their respective Beagle Field Trial Associations and Beagle Field Trial Federations. This committee works along with the AKC Performance Department to manage AKC Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures.

This proposal has been well vetted within the Beagle Field Trial community. At the 2010 Beagle Advisory Committee meeting, it was voted 13 to zero to bring the question back to beagle clubs for consideration. At the 2011 BAC meeting, the proposal was passed again with a 12 to zero vote, and then moved to the AKC Board for approval.

It's now in your hands, and I would ask the Delegate body to vote in favor of this proposal.

Mr. Sprung: Is there further discussion?

The Chair recognized David Hopkins, Delegate for the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois, who spoke as follows: I'm Chairman of the Field Trial Hunting Test Events Committee. Yesterday we voted to support the motion that was just made by the National Beagle Club Delegate, which will lead to deferral on the substantive

vote here.

Again, the Delegate body is faced with a variance in views on a particular issue important to the beagle field trialing world. The variance in views is between the Beagle Parent Club and the Beagle Advisory Committee. Deferral will not preclude an ultimate substantive vote. The Delegates Committee did not take a position yesterday on the substantive issue. We merely voted to affirmatively support the motion made by the Delegate of the National Beagle Club.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Mr. Keenan: Just one comment. The National Beagle Club has a seat on the Beagle Advisory Committee. And also if this goes back to committee, we won't see it on the floor again for three years. It would then have to go back to the beagling community and then proposed again to go through the cycle, and it's a three year cycle.

The Chair recognized Steven Gladstone, Delegate for the Greater Naples Dog Club who spoke as follows: Mr. President, I'd like to know whether or not the Beagle Advisory Committee, when it voted, was aware of the issues that are being raised of concern by the Parent Club? In other words, did they already know and taken those concerns into? That's all I would like to know.

Mr. Keenan: I have no knowledge of the concerns of the National Beagle Club.

Mr. Dziuk: The National Beagle Club's representative to the Beagle Advisory Committee was not present at that meeting where that vote was taking place.

Mr. Sprung: What we have now is a motion and a second to refer this amendment back to the Beagle Advisory Committee.

A vote in favor means you wish to refer it back; a vote opposed means you do not wish to refer it back and it will be voted upon today. This is a majority vote. All those in favor of referring the amendment back to the Beagle Advisory Committee, please raise your hand. Thank you.

All those opposed, please raise your hand.

Thank you.

The yeas have it, and it is referred back to the Beagle Advisory Committee by majority.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 11, Section 6 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility.

Mr. Crowley spoke as follows: This amendment is to Chapter 11, Section 6 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility. The amendment would allow superintendents and show secretaries, using AKC entry verification, to correct entries as appropriate. The amendment was brought forward by the AKC Staff and is approved by the AKC Board. It will be published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it at the June 2012 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously distributed.

The Chair called on John Lyons to address the Delegate body.

Mr. Lyons: Good morning, everyone. I'm pleased to announce the first quarter Community Achievement Award Honorees. This award is given to AKC Clubs and Federations and their members who have made outstanding contributions to public education or canine legislation activities. Each honoree receives an AKC Certificate of Recognition, and the AKC donates a thousand dollars to each honoree's club or federation. Details about the honorees' accomplishments are published in the online AKC Gazette, and featured also on the AKC website.

The first quarter AKC honorees are Pasco Florida Kennel Club, Patricia Lombardi, Delegate; and the Delaware County Kennel Club, Lindy Miller, Delegate. Please join me in congratulating this quarter's honorees. (Applause)

It is also my pleasure to announce that the AKC Publications Department was the recipient of seven awards from the Dog Writers Association of America. Please join me in congratulating our Staff for this extraordinary

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accomplishment.
(Applause)

Now, something very positive happened this last weekend that I wanted to make you aware of. Petra Ford, our previous AKC National Obedience Champion, represented the AKC and the U.S. this past weekend at the Crufts show in England and took first place in the Individual Competition with her Lab. Now, that's the first time ever for an AKC representative over at Crufts to accomplish that.

(Applause)

Just a footnote. Talk about dedication and sacrifice. She of course enjoys competing with her Lab here in the States, but she decided not to do that for six months leading up to the Crufts competition because they do things a little bit differently over there and she didn't want to confuse the dog. So pretty amazing. Also, Tori Self, competing in Agility at Crufts. Now, Terry is a 19 year old college student who made us quite proud over there. She represented us very well with two clean runs with her border collie and, in fact, she was beaten by the current world champion by .15 seconds. A round of applause, please, for Tori.
(Applause)

Today I would also like to inform you of the upcoming retirement of two senior members of our Staff who have provided outstanding leadership over AKC's Conformation and Companion Events Departments.

Robin Stansell has served AKC for over 12 years. He began his service as an Executive Field Representative in 2001, transitioning into the North Carolina office as Director of Conformation Rules and Policies in 2003, and then in 2004 was promoted to Assistant Vice President of Event Operations, where he oversaw all aspects of AKC rules, regulations and policies governing conformation events. In 2006, he became Vice President of Event Operations. Robin has been involved with the creation and implementation of many successful AKC programs, such as AKC Global Services, the Canine Experience, the Grand Champion title, the new four to six month puppy class, the open show and the owner handler series. A hallmark

of Robin's career has been his accessibility to the fancy, and his fairness while serving all of our clubs.

Curt Curtis has been with AKC for seven years. In 2005, he started as Director of Companion Events, and in 2006 was promoted to Assistant Vice President. Curt has been responsible for the stewardship of Obedience, Agility, Tracking and Rally events. During this time, Curt oversaw the development of the AKC Agility Invitational and the implementation of Rally as a titling event.

Curt established new agility classes such as "Time to Beat," and optional obedience classes such as the Beginner Novice Class. These and other initiatives have allowed entries in the Companion Events area to increase each year. In fact, in 2011 history was made when AKC Agility celebrated the milestone of one million entries in a calendar year.

Curt leaves the department with momentum and clear direction, having created a comprehensive business plan, recently approved by the Board, that envisions the strategic development of Companion Events through 2016. As this will be their last Delegates meeting, please join me in thanking these two individuals for their passion and diligence on behalf of The American Kennel Club and the sport of dogs.
(Applause)

The Chair called on the Chair of the Delegates Committee to give the Tellers Committee report.

Ms. Johnson: The total number of ballots cast was 408. Therefore, the majority to elect was 205. The results of the ballots were as follows: William J. Feeney, 207; John L. Ronald, 30; Robert A. Schroll, 104; Larry Sorensen, 48; Lynn Worth Smith, 17.
(Applause)

The Chair declared that Mr. Feeney has been elected to the Class of 2016.

Lisa Gonzalez, VP of Marketing and Communications, provided an update to the Delegates on the positive progress of last year's Operation Jumpstart marketing initiatives in improving dog registration trends, including the Breeder of Merit Program and the Good Things We Do

campaign. Ms. Gonzalez also updated the Delegates on new market research and initiatives underway to address key challenges including litter registration trends, the breeder environment, and the growth of events. Additionally, the new AKC website, with improved navigation and look and feel, was previewed to the Delegate audience.

The Chair informed the Delegates that the Tuesday, June 12, 2012 Delegates meeting will be held at the Hilton in Raleigh, North Carolina

The following exchange took place during New Business:

The Chair recognized Ken Marden, Delegate for the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America, who spoke as follows: I would like to briefly report on a recent home run for the American Kennel Club. I have just returned from two weeks in Grand Junction, Tennessee, where we ran the AKC Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championships. We ran it at the Ames Plantation, which is the Mecca for everybody who has anything to do with bird dogs, only no AKC dogs have ever run on this. The dogs have run in the pointer/setter championship since 1896, and since then, no AKC dog has set foot on those grounds.

Because of the efforts of our Performance Vice President, Doug Lundgren, he got together with the people down there and they gave us permission to run on those grounds. We ran 119 dogs of nine different breeds for one hour. After we finished that, we then ran the top 12 dogs for one hour. And from that we selected the winners, which were a pointer, a short hair, and a Brittany.

The thing that impressed me, and I've been down there for two weeks, was the incredible performance of our Field Staff. I have never seen people work harder in my life. We knew this was going to be a bit of a problem from a logistical standpoint. For example, we run three braces in the morning and three in the afternoon. The afternoon course is five miles from the headquarters. Therefore, how do we get the horses down there? They had two huge, long trailers. We put 14 or 15 horses in each trailer, and drove them down. Our reps did this. They loaded the horses, they drove the

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vehicles. They hauled hay for people. They helped people saddle horses. They took care of everything. And all the local people that have only been associated with the American Field since 1896, said, boy, you AKC people are fantastic. We have heard not one single gripe; your people are so friendly; everybody is helping everybody else. And I have to tell you, it's the finest field event that I have ever seen. It was absolutely fantastic.

So I just want to compliment our Field Staff.

(Applause)

Mr. Marden: We even got a couple of beagle guys to come for one week to drive those trucks. But the other were our Field Reps, and they were absolutely fantastic. As I say, it was an absolute home run for The American Kennel Club. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ken. We appreciate that report about the event and our Staff.

The Chair recognized Peggy Wampold, Delegate for the South Windsor Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: First I'd like to thank the committee that worked on the Realignment for all their diligence and the time they put into it. Secondly, I'd like to thank AKC for the Delegate Directory; it's very much appreciated. And thirdly, I'd like to ask if those Delegates such as myself, that are not computer literate could pay for a subscription to Perspectives. I'd be very happy to pay for it and get it in a hard copy. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Peggy

The Chair recognized Dr. J. Charles Garvin, Delegate for the Marion Ohio Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: I just want to talk about a couple of our favorite topics: Revenue generation and empowerment of the Delegates and the members of our clubs; and it's not going to cost you a penny.

The Board of Directors of the AKC Canine Health Foundation asked me to remind us all about the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program, professionally known as PPCPP, that is a major sponsor.

For the last several years, Purina is the leading contributor to the Canine Health Foundation, to the tune of more than a million dollars a year, and the Parent Club Partnership Program provides nearly a quarter of a million dollars a year, and this is where you can help. There are easy steps to take to make that number grow considerably. The Parent Clubs need to sign up for the program. Well, 174 clubs have done that; then the breeders need to sign up with Purina and designate which breed they want their money to go to.

Then the next key step is to turn in the weight circles. Each of those little weight circles brings in four and a half dollars to the AKC Canine Health Foundation. So if you can encourage all of the people in your club not to throw that away, don't leave that five dollar bill sitting on the sidewalk, but instead cut out the little weight circle, send it in; it will mean a lot more money for the Canine Health Foundation, which in turn provides research funding for the health and well being of all of our dogs. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Christopher Sweetwood, Delegate for the Trap Falls Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: Recently we were treated to a wonderful DVD featuring Dennis and the AKC's fine work in the aftermath of 9/11. As we all know, the AKC does a great deal of fine work covering all aspects of the dog world, but one of the difficulties we face is getting the word out, not only to the public, but sometimes to the fancy. I'd like to encourage AKC Staff to prepare a short DVD touting AKC's many and varied programs that could be reproduced and given to Delegates for a minimal expense to utilize to help educate the fancy and the public on the importance and value of AKC registration and participation in AKC programs.

Again, such a DVD could be produced at minimal cost and utilized to promote AKC's many, many successes to club members and the public as part of a grass roots public education program. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: We appreciate that idea, and

Lisa [Gonzalez] was taking notes while you were addressing us. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Margaret Pough, Delegate for the Finger Lakes Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: We all know the graying of this sport. Our club had a match last weekend, and we got permission for a special attraction of 4H grooming and showmanship. This was judged by 4H rules. Kids could come in with their dog.

And we had a big entry in the 4H grooming and handling class, in fact I think bigger than our Junior Showmanship entry at that match. And since there was an obedience show going on in the same building, the kids could participate, and some of the kids participated at both 4H and AKC Junior Showmanship. And a lot of the kids were going around and looking at good examples of purebred dogs.

And I would encourage your clubs, if you have active 4H clubs in your area, to do this. We had the A, B and C Classes, and every kid gets a rating and a ribbon, plus the placements. So it's a great idea and it brings kids into the world of purebred dogs. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for sharing that.

Mr. Gladstone: Mr. President, as President of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, I want to call your attention to and thank Genie Bishop, who has served for 20 years as our Delegate here. She's attending her last meeting today as our Delegate. She has voluntarily stepped aside, and we will proudly produce a new Delegate to you in three months. But please join me in thanking Genie for her service.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Steve. Genie, we thank you for all of your contributions.

The Chair recognized Carol Williamson, Houston Kennel Club. I just want to remind you all that if you have any articles that you want to have published, we have Perspectives that will do that. The coordinator this time will be Sylvia Arrowwood, and you will see her name in the posting.

Mr. Sprung: Thanks for the reminder on Perspectives.

The Chair recognized Kenneth Mader, Delegate for the American Sealyham Terrier Club, who spoke as follows: I brought this up to you, Dennis, in the past. The public who goes on the AKC website, who reads our website and hits it probably many thousands of times, I believe there should be a "Donate" button in order to take contributions that we need for specific causes; you know, whatever the Board comes up with. I firmly believe that should be accomplished in order to help our revenue situation. Thank you.
(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: I appreciate that idea. You don't have to twist my arm for that one.

Mr. Hopkins: I wanted to call attention to Alice Byrd, the long time Delegate of the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, the Springer Parent Club. Unfortunately, Alice can't be here at this quarterly meeting because of the sad passing of her husband just a matter of ten days ago, but this is Alice's last Delegate meeting. She's been the Delegate for over 20 years with the Springer Parent Club, and she too chose to pass the baton, and the Springer Parent Club will be going forward with a new Delegate. But recognition to Alice is also appropriate.
(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Absolutely. Thank you and our appreciation to Alice.

Hearing no further business to come

before the body, we will adjourn the meeting for lunch. Board members, please go to the Gloucester Room. Thank you.
(The meeting is adjourned at 11:55 a.m.)

The American Kennel Club Board of Directors convened after the conclusion of the Delegate Meeting. At this meeting the following Board Officers were elected:

Alan Kalter, Chairman
Dr. Robert D. Smith, Vice Chairman

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



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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.

Attention Delegates

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh, in Raleigh, North Carolina, on June 12, 2012, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m. It will follow the Delegates Forum.

Delegates Credentials

Katie Campbell, Seattle, WA, Basenji Club of America

Dr. J. Charles Garvin, Marion, OH, Dalmatian Club of America

Lynn Garvin, Marion, OH, Marion Ohio Kennel Club

Pamela Helmer, Cordova, MD, Talbot Kennel Club

Frank Holloway, Foxfire Village, NC, Chow Chow Club

Graafin Ginger Leeuwenburg, Sterling, CT, South County Kennel Club

Don James, Washougal, WA,

Leonberger Club of America

Laurie Morris, North Augusta, SC, Augusta Kennel Club

James W. Smith, North Collins, NY, Washington State Obedience Training Club

Notice

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individuals stand 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:

Mrs. Betsy Habich (Salisbury, MD)

Mr. David Gansz (Verona, NJ)

Notice

Mr. Richard Glenn (Clarkston, MI) Action was taken by the American Kennel Club ("AKC®") for conduct at its December 17, 2011 event. Mr. Glenn was charged with physical altercation in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the event committee's report, found it in order and set the penalty at a six month suspension from AKC event privileges and a \$300 fine, effective December 17, 2011.

Mr. Glenn appealed the decision. The South East Trial Board denied the appeal.

Notice

Mr. John Downey (Stockton, MO) Action was taken by the Gateway Terrier Association for conduct in connection with its December 2, 2011 event. Mr. Downey was charged with disruptive behavior at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report, found it in order and set the penalty at a reprimand and a \$100 fine.

Notice

Mrs. Shawn Clute (Rosharon, TX) Action was taken by the Nolan River Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its January 8, 2012 event. Mrs. Clute was charged with disruptive behavior at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report, found it in order and set the penalty at a public reprimand and a \$100 fine.

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mrs. Tammie Winkley (Waldron, AR) from AKC registration privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, effective February 21, 2012, for her submission of an online litter registration application and two dog registration applications containing the false certification as to the signature of the co-owner of the dam. (Multiple Breeds)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mrs. Earline Fifer (Reading, PA) from AKC registration privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, effective February 10, 2012, for submission of an online litter registration application containing the false certification as to the signature of the co-owner of the dam. (Boxer)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mrs. Kim Jennings (Woodville, AL) from AKC registration privileges for six months and

imposed a \$500 fine, effective March 12, 2012, for submission of online litter registration applications containing the false certification as to the signature of the co-owner of the dam. (Multiple Breeds)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mrs. Sonia Carroll (Bartlesville, OK) from AKC registration privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, effective March 12, 2012, for signing an AKC certificate of transfer on behalf of another. (Cocker Spaniel)

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, for refusing to make their dogs and records available for inspection when requested:

Effective February 10, 2012

Dr. John Brooks, D.V.M. (Wichita, KS) Multiple Breeds

Mr. Marc Nickl (Wichita, KS) Multiple Breeds

Effective March 12, 2012

Mrs. Mary Jo Silzell (Mesa, CO) Yorkshire Terrier, Labrador Retriever

Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for ten years and imposed a \$2000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC's *Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy*.

Effective March 12, 2012

Mr. Scott Gears (Palmyra, NY) Siberian Husky

Mrs. Carrie Rohde-Smith

(Newburg, WI) Multiple Breeds

Mr. Jason Smith (Newburg, WI) Multiple Breeds

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendment to **Chapter 11, Section 6**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog*

Shows, to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 11 Section 6

No entry may be corrected or canceled unless notice of the correction or cancellation is received in writing by the Superintendent or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries, prior to the closing date and hour for entries, except that a correction may be made in the sex of a dog, or a dog may be transferred from one division of an age dependent class to the correct class at a show prior to the judging of any regular conformation class within that breed or variety. A dog determined to be ineligible, by its owner/agent, for the class in which it has been entered may be transferred to an eligible open class at a show prior to the judging of any regular conformation class within the sex of that breed or variety, and that dogs which according to their owners' records have completed the requirements for a championship after the closing of entries for a show but whose championships are unconfirmed, may be transferred from one of the regular classes to the Best of Breed or Variety competition, provided this transfer is made by the Superintendent or Show Secretary at least one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any regular conformation judging at the show. No dog may otherwise be transferred to another class. Owners are responsible for errors in the entry forms, regardless of who may make such errors. However, superintendents and show secretaries that validate entries with AKC records may correct the dog information to match the AKC registration data for the dog as specifically authorized by the American Kennel Club.

REGISTERED HANDLERS

Letters concerning registered handlers and handler applicants should be addressed to the Handlers Department at 8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Raleigh, NC 27617.

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

dlers applicant.

It is the responsibility of all registered handlers to notify the Handlers Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your handlers record, the Web site and the Handlers Directory. Please notify the Handlers Department at (919) 816 - 3884 or Email handlers@akc.org

NEW REGISTERED HANDLER APPLICANTS

The following persons' have submitted an application for the Registered Handler Program.

Juliet Clendenon

4777 S. Hanauer St.
Murray, UT 84107

Dave Clendenon

4777 S. Hanauer St.
Murray, UT 84107

JUDGES

As a result of the October 2010 Board Meeting, publication notice in the Gazette was combined into one notice, therefore the judging approval process continues to include an opportunity for the fancy to respond to each permit judge.

Letters concerning judges and permit 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 by AKC concerning their qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and JS 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 at (919) 816-3593 or email, judgingops@akc.org

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 JUDGES

Ms. Sandra Bingham-Porter (94107) IL
(217) 345-7571
sbinghamporter@eiu.edu
Maltese

Mr. Larry S. Bruton (94633) OR
(503) 297-7267
jandlbruton@hotmail.com
Lhasa Apsos

Mrs. Carole Corbin (94673) PA
(570) 619-8787
carole@tervs.com
Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs,
Belgian Tervuren

Mr. Eric Henningsen (94775) AZ
(623) 271-2081
jagies@aol.com
Dachshunds, JS-Limited

Ms. Tina Webb Heres (94741) NC
(919) 562-0356
bayleafpugs@aol.com
Pugs, JS-Limited

Ms. Cindy Huggins (92440) CA
(805) 331-3723
courtlord@comcast.net
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, JS-Limited

Mr. Andrew I. Kalmanash (93225) CT
(203) 322-4139
aikalmanash@ruffwave.com
Portuguese Water Dogs, JS

Mrs. Kari Loken (6774) CO
(303) 345-7895
kari@harmonycairns.com
Carin Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mr. David L. Anthony (25447) PA
(814) 434-0822
dragonpatch@gmail.com
Balance of Herding Group
(Beaucerons, Belgian Malinois,
Belgian Tervuren, Canaan Dogs,
Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic
Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds,
Swedish Vallhund)

Mr. Jeffery M. Bazell (5777) OH
(740) 569-7288
bazell1@aol.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons

Frises, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs,
French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos,
Lowchen, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels
Ms. Liz Bianchi (55587) VA
(757) 436-4868
k4ux@cox.net
Australian Shepherds, Pembroke Welsh
Corgis

Mrs. Delores Burkholder (5355) IL
(815) 624-7357
dcburkholder9@msn.com
Brittanys, Pointers, German
Shorthaired Pointers, German
Wirehaired Pointers, Golden
Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers,
English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish
Setters, American Water Spaniels,
Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker
Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels,
Weimaraners

Mrs. Yvonne DeFreitas (44742) WA
(360) 887-3826
yvonne@pacifier.com
Collies

Mrs. Dawn Droel (7078) MN
(651) 433-5287
mail@sovereignbrits.com
Cocker Spaniels, Australian Shepherds

Mr. Robert Ennis (5915) NY
(716) 947-9975
rennis1@roadrunner.com
Siberian Huskies

Dr. Karen M. Ericson (7034) WA
(425) 788-8907
happyk9@earthlink.net
Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Smooth
Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers,
Miniature Bull Terriers, Norfolk
Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Parson
Russell Terriers, Scottish Terrier

Mr. Gene S. Hains (37995) NC
(704) 821-5008
gaidoune23@yahoo.com
Bull Terriers

Mrs. Penelope C. Inan (25622) CA
(661) 274-0358
jatocrest@earthlink.net
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels,
Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds,
Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Kimberly Meredith-Cavanna (5978) CA
(925) 676-9606
kimberlymeredith@comcast.net
Basset Hounds, Beagles, Black and Tan
Coonhounds, Bloodhounds,
Dachshunds, Ibizan Hounds, Irish
Wolfhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons
Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Plotts,
Redbone Coonhounds

Ms. Mary C. Murphy-East (36967) MN
(763) 291-2263
marmcmurph@aol.com
Australian Shepherds, Border Collies,
Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke
Welsh Corgis

Mrs. Patti Widick Neale (6097) FL
(386) 462-3809
zoisrus@windstream.net
Chihuahuas, Italian Greyhounds,
Pomeranians, Australian Cattle Dogs,
Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs,
Belgian Tervuren, Collies, Polish
Lowland Sheepdogs

Mr. Terry A. Sigler (92654) KS
(913) 649-5282
kaleasibes@mac.com
Pugs, Junior Showmanship

Ms. Sharon K. Steckler (65373) TX
(281) 242-1178
steckler@swbell.net
Great Danes, Rottweilers

Mrs. Faye Strauss (6544) WA
(253) 631-1442
sherluckmm@msn.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group
(Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows,
Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds,
Xoloitzcuintli), Labrador Retrievers,
English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish
Setters, Irish Red & White Setters,
Irish Water Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Mr. Steve Terry (76004) OK
(918) 899-8059
exechef@atlasok.com
French Bulldogs

Mrs. Cindy Vogels (6275) CO
(303) 741-1422
cgvogels@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers,
Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels,
Japanese Chin, Maltese, Miniature
Pinschers, Papillons, Pomeranians,
Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers)

Ms. Susan Willumsen (52119) NH
(603) 642-5893
willcare@comcast.net
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, English
Setters, JS-Limited

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES

Mr. Steven P. Dostie (38241) ME
207-666-5714
stevendostie@aol.com
JS-Limited

Mrs. Sue A. L. Rekuc (94731) GA
(770) 663-0674
salr998@aol.com
JS

Ms. Carole Lee Richards (91784) NJ
(856) 854-6336
zarasweimaraners@yahoo.com
JS-Limited

PERMIT ASSIGNMENTS COMPLETED

The following persons have **com-
pleted** their Permit Judging assignments
in the breeds listed, and their names have
been added to the list of regular
approved judges.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Mrs. Robin Casey (92447) MD
(410) 867-9791
sgborzoi@aol.com
Borzoi

Mrs. Sally George (82793) CA
(707) 321-8567
sally@aberglen.com
Portuguese Water Dogs, Standard
Schnauzers, Airedale Terriers, Cairn
Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Irish
Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland
Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers,
Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers,
Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers,
Skye Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten
Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West
Highland White Terriers, Bichons
Frises, Bearded Collies, Pembroke
Welsh Corgis

Ms. Victoria Harris (92950) CO
(970) 532-0322
imagedobes@gmail.com
Doberman Pinschers

Mr. Paul L. Kouski (92390) IL
(309) 523-3047
paul@goldnblu.com
Silky Terriers

Ms. Ellen Kroll (90186) WA
(425) 377-1390
kroll.ellen@gmail.com
Irish Wolfhounds

**Ms. Nannette L. Newbury (92798)
CA**
(831) 726-2700
stonepine@hughes.net
Australian Shepherds

Mr. Andrew Ritter (92968) NJ
(908) 996-7355
cerri.bmd@att.net
Bernese Mountain Dogs

**Ms. Leigh Ann Yandle-Perry (82616)
NC**
(704) 904-8129
hollowlog@earthlink.net
Australian Cattle Dogs

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mrs. Carolyn I. Alexander (6797) CA
(831) 455-2135
brigadoonbt@aol.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels,
Chihuahuas, Italian Greyhounds,
Manchester Terriers, Miniature
Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese, Pugs,
Silky Terriers

Mr. David A. Alexander (5971) CA
(831) 455-2135
teesnterriers@aol.com
Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chinese
Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, French
Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos,
Schipperkes, Shiba Inu

Mr. Fred C. Bassett (2567) OK
(918) 355-1188
fredcbassett@cox.net
Balance of Terrier Group (American
Staffordshire Terriers, Bedlington
Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie
Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal
Terriers, Irish Terriers, Miniature Bull
Terriers, Russell Terriers, Sealyham
Terriers, Skye Terriers, Staffordshire
Bull Terriers)

Ms. Donna Beckman (53011) CA
(510) 524-9950
beckmandl@yahoo.com
Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes

Ms. Patricia G. Burnham (4239) CA
(916) 965-1253
pgburnham@juno.com
Whippets

Mr. Danny J. Bussard (38416) TX
(210) 863-9588
dbboxer@aol.com
Brussels Griffons, Italian Greyhounds,
Japanese Chin, Maltese, Shih Tzu,
Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers,
Yorkshire Terriers

Mr. Paul Campanella (48571) NY
(631) 786-7720
orchardcreek@optonline.net
Golden Retrievers

Mrs. Anne K. Catterson (17478) CA
(951) 656-7667
annecatt@gmail.com
Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows,
Dalmatians, Shiba Inu

Mr. Brad R. Child (64363) UT
(801) 254-2585
brchild@xmission.com
Akitas, Doberman Pinschers, Mastiffs,
Rottweilers

Mrs. Karen M. Child (64362) UT
(801) 254-2585
brchild@xmission.com
Irish Wolfhounds, West Highland
White Terriers

Ms. Kathryn A. Cowsert (17121) CA
(925) 202-9000
kcowsert@hotmail.com
Brittanys, German Wirehaired
Pointers, Gordon Setters, Clumber
Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels,
Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels,
Sussex Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Mr. Bradford C. Dunn (45666) MA
(508) 835-4200
alteriago@aol.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Mastiffs,
Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water
Dogs, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds,
Boston Terriers, French Bulldogs

Mr. Alfred J. Ferruggiaro (7410) MD
(301) 421-1930
alferrug@gmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers,
English Toy Spaniels), Cane Corsos,
American Eskimo Dogs, Boston
Terriers, Bulldogs, French Bulldogs,
Lhasa Apsos, Schipperkes

Mrs. Janet L. Fink (6374) CA
(909) 307-9778
janetfink@verizon.net
Cane Corsos, Bearded Collies, Border
Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Briards

Mr. Philip K. Freilich (16669) CA
(925) 229-8040
freilance1@aol.com
Balance of Terrier Group (Cesky
Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers,
Glen of Imaal Terriers, Russell
Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye
Terriers), Boxers, Great Danes,
Mastiffs, Rottweilers, Samoyeds

Ms. Linda Galphin (66305) SC
(803) 429-5596
foxllyn@welshcorgi.com
Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Mrs. Sue Goldberg (6502) NJ
(908) 647-0907
brandongrp@aol.com
Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Dalmatians,
French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos,
Lowchen, Schipperkes, Tibetan
Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Dr. E. Carolyn Hensley (23262) CA
(213) 369-0781
chensley.dogjudge@gmail.com
Basset Hounds, English Foxhounds,
Harriers, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, West
Highland White Terriers, Chihuahuas,
Papillons, Pekingese

Mr. Albert P. Holabach (7439) WA

(360) 841-8286
williwawmials@msn.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black
Russian Terriers, German Pinschers,
Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs,
Komondorok, Kuvaszok

Mr. Warren D. Hudson (5576) WA

(360) 297-4785
warjoypugs@juno.com
Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers,
Bulldogs, French Bulldogs, Lhasa
Apsos, Lowchen, Tibetan Spaniels,
Tibetan Terriers

Mrs. Alice Inman (48667) TX

(817) 341-1811
schal@swbell.net
Balance of Herding Group (Bouvier
des Flandres, Canaan Dogs,
Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish
Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Old
English Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland
Sheepdogs, Pulik, Swedish Vallhund)

Ms. Lin Jensen (26419) AZ

(480) 860-1964
jensenboxr@gmail.com
Akitas, Bullmastiffs, Mastiffs

Ms. Gloria Kerr (17561) AZ

(520) 762-1922
gskerr1@yahoo.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers,
Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King
Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels,
Havanese, Italian Greyhounds,
Maltese, Manchester Terriers,
Pekingese, Poodles, Shih Tzu, Silky
Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire
Terriers)

Mrs. Marianne C. Klinkowski (7135) CA

(408) 446-0604
naharin@comcast.net
Borzois, Whippets, Silky Terriers,
Finnish Spitz

Mr. Ronald Lukins (56312) CA

(805) 482-9689
ron.lukins@verizon.net
Dachshunds

Mr. Sam Houston McDonald (5181) PA

(610) 458-0587
samisiw@verizon.net
Irish Wolfhounds, Great Danes,
Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke
Welsh Corgis

Mr. Richard V. Miller (5872) IL

(217) 659-7955
mrichchi@winco.net
Airedale Terriers, Bedlington Terriers,
Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox

Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue
Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Soft
Coated Wheaten Terriers

Mr. George Milutinovich (15748) CA

(559) 439-7179
milut1@aol.com
Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King
Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds,
Havanese, Maltese, Miniature
Pinschers, Pekingese, Poodles, Toy Fox
Terriers

Ms. Denny C. Mounce (7050) TX

(281) 468-6484
denny7050@aol.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Irish Red
& White Setters, Boykin Spaniels, Irish
Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels,
Wirehaired Pointing Griffons)

Mrs. Pat A. Mowbray-Morgan (5017) FL

(772) 221-7768
patmmorgan7@aol.com
Chinese Cresteds, Japanese Chin,
Papillons, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers,
Yorkshire Terriers

Ms. Patricia G. Mullen (32334) FL

(727) 418-6855
pmullen813@gmail.com
Doberman Pinschers, Junior
Showmanship

Mr. Ken J. Murray (44568) IL

(847) 526-2027
bispwd2@aol.com
Afghan Hounds, American
Foxhounds, Basenjis, Beagles, Borzois,
Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds,
Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis,
Scottish Deerhounds, Whippets

Ms. Laura Myles (48767) WA

(206) 310-9039
invernesskennels@frontier.com
German Shorthaired Pointers, Irish
Setters

Ms. Betty Nelson (39858) TX

(903) 684-3091
avalonkennel@aol.com
Akitas, American Eskimo Dogs,
Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chow
Chows, Keeshonden, Poodles,
Schipperkes

Ms. Carol Jean Nelson (17019) TX

(903) 684-3120
lovemybear2899@aol.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group
(American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons
Frises, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden,
Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds,
Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan
Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers,
Xoloitzcuintli)

Mrs. Monika Pinsker (6522) CN

(604) 391-1490
mephistoboxers@shaw.ca
Alaskan Malamutes, Boston Terriers

Col. Joe B. Purkhiser (1800) TX

(210) 497-0759
jpurk@me.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group
(Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers,
Bulldogs, French Bulldogs, Lhasa
Apsos, Lowchen, Poodles, Tibetan
Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers)

Mrs. Donnelle Richards (16762) CA

(408) 848-3336
donnellerichards@verizon.net
Bichons Frises, Chow Chows,
Dalmatians, Schipperkes, Tibetan
Spaniels

Ms. Phyllis Rosinsky (35938) NJ

(201) 529-2714
cantails@optonline.net
Basset Hounds, Rhodesian
Ridgebacks

Mr. Johnny R. Shoemaker (19267) NV

(702) 834-6557
dssup@cs.com
Brussels Griffons, Chihuahuas,
Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds,
Papillons, Pekingese, Toy Fox Terriers,
Yorkshire Terriers

Dr. Dale D. Simmons (2068) OR

(503) 590-9963
d.d.simmons@frontier.com
Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Chow
Chows, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos,
Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan
Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Ms. Wendy L. Sorrell (75680) WA

(360) 264-4864
wendysorrell@comcast.net
Alaskan Malamutes

Mrs. Kristi Trivilino (65704) WA

(206) 612-6558
kt11858@gmail.com
Chihuahuas, Pomeranians, Poodles,
Pugs, JS

Mrs. Marian (Mimi) Tysseling (17433) WA

(520) 904-5180
basethund@aol.com
Pointers, Petits Bassets Griffons
Vendeens

Mr. Carl Vitner (27701) GA

(404) 291-0123
samoyed@bellsouth.net
Alaskan Malamutes, Bullmastiffs,
Mastiffs, Newfoundlands

Dr. Elizabeth L. Wenner (52864) SC
(843) 559-1542
surrylabradors@att.net
Weimaraners

Ms. Sandy I. Wheat (4385) AZ
(602) 437-3409
sandywheat1@yahoo.com
Balance of Herding Group (Briards,
Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain
Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, German
Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs,
Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland
Sheepdogs, Pulik, Pyrenean
Shepherds)

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES

Mr. Brad R. Child (64363) UT
(801) 254-2585
brchild@xmission.com

Ms. Debra Nordby (90076) MN
(763) 785-9128
dnordby1@comcast.net

Mrs. Adrienne Owen (56862) CA
(909) 472-5519
aowen@newpointkennel.com

Mr. Jim Owens (92926) NC
(919) 649-9035
drydockdogs@gmail.com

Miss Amy L. Reusch (39193) NY
(716) 866-9928
rhapsodynblue7@yahoo.com

BEST IN SHOW

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

Mrs. Delores Burkholder (5355) IL
(815) 624-7357
dcburkholder9@msn.com

Mr. William G. Daugherty (6220) CT
(203) 266-5496
zack80@aol.com

Mrs. Sharon C. Smith (5415) GA
(770) 573-4874
sharon@octoberbernese.com

RESIGNED JUDGE

Mrs. Bonnie L. Guggenheim

DECEASED JUDGES

Mr. W. Everett Dean, Jr
Mrs. Judith Goodin
Mr. Norman Shuman

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.

Karen (Kay) Bedeau 21038 (SD)
605-745-5796
token@gwtc.net
Obedience - Open

Frank Cardillino 91806 (MD)
410-901-6020
fcardillino@hughes.net
Obedience - Open

Barbara Wedekind Selton 90892 (MN)
952-893-1493
baw4305@aol.com
Obedience - Open

Jeffery Shaver 57514 (TX)
713-557-0807
jshaver522@yahoo.com
Variable Surface Tracking

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.

Rita Crawford 90682 (CA)
408-773-0931
rlchonor@comcast.com
Tracking Dog

Carole Lynn Evans 38443 (CO)
303-660-0526
Ramayes2@msn.com
Obedience - Utility

Suzanne Mayborne 5009 (IL)
815-218-2663
shorelandkennel@yahoo.com
Rally - All

Larry Wilson 27305 (PA)
215-368-8941
Larry009@comcast.net
Obedience - Utility

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 James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary:

FINNGAEL - Irish Terriers - Robert A. Schmelzlen

CARLINS - Pembroke Welsh Corgis - Judith A. Bolin

BERIBBONED - Bichon Frise - Stepheni C. Scott

CASTLEHILL - Irish Water Spaniels - Susan Tapp

KORVETTE - Boxers - K. Page Conrad

SUTHERN - Golden Retrievers - Pamela J. Jaecksch

DRAGONPATCH - Cardigan Welsh Corgis - David L. & Deborah L. Anthony

TRIPLE T - Mastiffs - Anna G. May

MAJESTICAL - Bull Terriers - Jose L. Mateo-Cortes

DEL ADORA - Havanese - Rita L. Marsh

WILL-CM - Chihuahuas - Curtis F. Williams & Michael D. Dunnington

WILD MTS - Beagles - Andrew M. & Margaret C. Pfendler

PCH - Great Danes - Suzzane M. Kelleher-Duckett

BELLISSIMA - Cane Corso - Stephanie L. Simpson

KRISMA - Kerry Blue - Lois J. & Ted A. Grier

ADALWINE - German Shorthaired Pointers - Michael C. McQuaid, SR. & Stacie R. McQuaid

BELLEBRAE - Shetland Sheepdogs - Dr. Craig E. & Cailyn E. Bowen

LONGTREE - Australian Shepherds - Jeri L. Long

BANYAN - French Bulldogs - Barbara McCarthy

SOLANA - Skye Terriers - Michelle M. Shiue

FORJOY - French Bulldogs - Sheila J. Holton

BAJORON - Bouvier des Flanders - Lynn L. & Greg N. Vellios

BLU PARAGON - Yorkshire Terriers - Pamala D. Kech

DOGWOOD HILLS - German Shorthaired Pointers - Cathy M. Lewis

PATRIOT - Portuguese Water Dogs - Kathy M. Maguire

Registered Name Prefixes Granted

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

BLUMYST - Silky Terriers - Maureen D. White



ORLEANS – Miniature Schnauzers –
Darlene T. Petche
UYAK – Alaskan Malamutes – Harold B.
Schwartzapfel & Paula Honigman
KARIBA-PRIDE – Rhodesian Ridgebacks
– Yolande LaFrance-Martinez & Dennis
Martinez
CREGHOLLOW – Smooth Fox Terriers –
Richard W. Metts & H. Creg Kelly
STARRING – Cavalier King Charles
Spaniels – Jennifer Flowers Foster
SNOWSHOE – Tibetan Terriers – Joyce
Killingier
CHARNWOOD – French Bulldogs – Dr.
Sarah B. Lagan & Marjorie W. Lagan
BRESA – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels
– Teresa R. Bresset
DZATA – Rhodesian Ridgebacks –
Michelle E. Cavanaugh
BETVET – Poodles – Dr. Betsy R. Oesch
RUSSIAN BEARS – Black Russian
Terriers – Helene M. Haldi
BONNY BLUE – Old English Sheepdogs
– Sonja K. Pianka
SUGAR-N-SPICE – Australian Cattle
Dogs – Rochelle A. & Todd L. Gribler
ROYAL HEARTS – Pembroke Welsh
Corgis – Linda Wenger
UNDER MNT – Doberman Pinschers –
Danielle M. Paufve
CA-MAJESTIC – Bernese Mountain
Dogs – Linda Wenger

Parent Club Links

Sporting



American
Water Spaniel



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 &
White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water
Spaniel



Labrador
Retriever



Nova Scotia Duck
Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone
Italiano



Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer
Spaniel



Wirehaired
Pointing Griffon

Parent Club Links

Hound



Afghan Hound



American English
Coonhound



American
Foxhound



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan
Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick
Coonhound



Borzoi



Dachshund



English
Foxhound



Greyhound



Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish
Wolfhound



Norwegian
Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset
Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Redbone
Coonhound



Rhodesian
Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish
Deerhound



Whippet

Parent Club Links

Working



Akita



Alaskan
Malamute



Anatolian
Shepherd Dog



Bernese
Mountain Dog



Black Russian
Terrier



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Doberman
Pinscher



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

Parent Club Links

Terrier



Airedale
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



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



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

Parent Club Links

Non-Sporting



American
Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese
Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



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



Australian
Cattle Dog



Australian
Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian
Malinois



Belgian
Sheepdog



Belgian
Tervuren



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



Norwegian
Buhund



Old English
Sheepdog



Pembroke
Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland
Sheepdog



Puli



Pyrenean
Shepherd



Shetland
Sheepdog



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/handlers/>

To view the AKC Registered Handlers Membership list, click here:

www.akc.org/handlers/states/allstates.cfm

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics:

http://www.akc.org/handlers/jr_clinics.cfm

http://www.akc.org/handlers/adult_clinics.cfm