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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 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently introduced proposed new regulations that could have harsh and unintended consequences for responsible breeders. Thousands of you made your voices heard regarding these regulations by signing the AKC petition *Join With the AKC to Protect Responsible Small Breeders* (gopetition.com/petitions/join-with-the-akc-to-protect-responsible-small-breeders.html). We received more than 39,000 signatures in just a week's time, and as of this writing, we've received thousands more. Thank you for all your support.

We're proactive on this issue because under the proposed regulations, breeders who maintain more than four "breeding females" and who sell even one puppy sight-unseen—by any means, including online, by mail, or by telephone—would now be regulated as commercial breeders by the USDA.

This is troubling for a number of reasons:

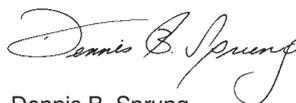
- AKC fanciers raise their litters in their homes as part of the family and may not be equipped to meet the USDA standards that were created for large-scale kennels, never the home environment.
- Breeders and fanciers of our rare, low-population breeds may rely on the ability to selectively place dogs in known situations without physically meeting with the purchaser at the specific time of sale.
- Breeders who actively show their dogs may be comfortable purchasing an animal sight-unseen based on known pedigrees, bloodlines, previous relationships, or personal knowledge of each other's facilities and programs.

Ultimately, we know through experience that a "one size fits all" breeder regulation is unfair and unenforceable, and we fear that the effect of these proposed regulations would be to take away the public's opportunity to obtain puppies from some of the AKC's best breed-

ers who have dedicated their lives to the improvement of their breeds.

Thank you for showing your support by signing the petition and also sending comments to USDA/APHIS. We'll post the latest information on the situation as we receive it at akc.org/governmentrelations.

Sincerely,



Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO



EDITED BY BUD BOCCONE

Colorado Wildfire Relief

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO—AKC Companion Animal Recovery, working in conjunction with the AKC and its affiliated clubs in Colorado, has donated \$6,000 from its Canine Support and Relief Fund to the Larimer Humane Society, the Humane Society of Boulder Valley, and the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region. The three nonprofit organizations are caring for pets displaced by wildfires that have ravaged the state this summer.

Each organization received a \$2,000 donation to help them to care for 600 evacuated animals. With hundreds of homes destroyed and tens of thousands of people evacuated across the state, many pet owners now occupy temporary housing that will not accept pets.

In addition to disaster relief, the Canine Support and Relief Fund makes annual grants in disaster preparedness and to volunteer K-9 teams. Last month the fund awarded grants nationwide worth a total of \$258,000. These grants included donations to several groups in Colorado.



E-mail from Hell

These photos come to us from Doug Johnson, who, with his wife, Michaelanne, won the 2006 AKC Breeder of the Year Award for their Bugaboo Old English Sheepdogs. The Johnsons are doing their part by housing dozens of displaced dogs and cats at their facility in Fort Collins.

In a June 30 e-mail to friends in the fancy, Johnson wrote that “the fires have been upon us at a very close range” but he and his family were “alive and well.”

He went on: “The dog community and its extended family has reached out and have made donations and brought food, supplies, and many other things to us for the care of these pets. I can’t thank everyone enough for what they have done.

“We are in good shape for now, and we have all learned a very valuable lesson: No matter what comes our way, there are those who will stand up and come together to help. What a wonderful feeling this is for me and my family.”



COURTESY DOUG JOHNSON

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

President John F. Kennedy's address to a special joint session of Congress on May 25, 1961, was both a historic and a defining moment for the United States. During that speech he announced a plan to put a man on the moon before the decade was over. A little over a year later, President Kennedy explained further why he believed that was a goal worth pursuing:

"We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win, and the others, too."

There was just one small problem. There was no plan. But there was something stronger: a shared agenda for success.

Study the participants in any AKC event and you'll witness the shared agenda for success that exists between exhibitors and their dogs. It is a commitment to work together to achieve something that could not be achieved individually. When the judge points or the finish line is reached or the exercise is completed, both dog and handler rejoice in their mutual achievement. That essential nature of our sport, the shared agenda for success, is something we intuitively apply throughout many of the challenges in our lives with dogs. Sometimes it is to stand up for our rights; sometimes it is to do the right thing.

Today we are faced with potential USDA regulations that will seriously impede, if not eliminate, many fancy-breeders as well as endanger a number of low-number breeds we are trying hard to preserve. Our efforts to effectively comment on the APHIS proposed regulations by July 16 took on a life of their own, with thousands of concerned members of the fancy submitting their comments. In addition, the AKC petition in support of the numerous comments made by

AKC Government Relations recorded more than 50,000 signatures.

The emergence of a shared agenda to accomplish the right thing was never more evident than in our response to the needs of the search dogs working in New York on 9/11. The request for portable X-ray equipment to help veterinarians treating the dogs was met in one day by Dennis Sprung and a team of volunteers in several states. There was no formal plan, just a shared agenda to achieve the goal. The DOGNY project celebrated this success.

Together we have accomplished small miracles by simply establishing a goal and working together to make it possible. We have also achieved success with game-changing ideas that altered our course dramatically. In 1994, there was an idea for a new AKC event. It was an idea that a number of our constituents embraced, wanted to see succeed, and committed their time to work to make it happen. From those small yet enthusiastic beginnings, AKC Agility was born. Last year, agility entries reached one million, making it our fastest-growing event and our second largest event in entries.

In each instance, we answered in the affirmative to the *Mission Impossible* offer of "Your mission, should you choose to accept it ...". In each instance, we worked together to achieve success made possible by common purpose: a shared agenda. In each instance, we stayed the course until we achieved success.

A 2020 Vision

What will we choose to do next? What will be our next game-changing idea that will propel us forward by the end of the decade?

I propose this goal for your consideration: Increase the number of dogs which annually participate in the AKC Canine Good Citizen® program to 10 times what it is today—from more than 50,000 to 500,000.

The benefits would be enormous. CGC attracts the general public, particu-



larly young people and parents; brings new people and new revenue to our training clubs and events; serves as a bridge to companion, performance, and conformation events; strengthens our story in the legislative arena; amplifies the ability to insure homes when "redlined" breeds are present; significantly enhances the public's image of the AKC; and dramatically expands our base. Currently 43 states and the U.S. Senate have issued proclamations in support of CGC. An additional goal would be to have all 50 states support the program.

Training a dog is at the core of all we do, and nobody knows how to do it better than we do. We can help make America's dogs be better members of their families and society. We can help make America's dog owners be more responsible owners. We can help make America think differently about our role in their lives.

We can do it, if we choose to do it.

As always, your comments are welcome at atk@akc.org.

Sincerely,

Alan Kalter
Chairman

Lucky 7

Breeder of the Year group winners dedicated to improving health, temperament, quality

The AKC has announced the names of the seven group recipients of its 2012 Breeder of the Year Award. The award honors breeders who have dedicated their lives to improving the health, temperament, and quality of pure-bred dogs.

At a presentation held during December's AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, honorees will receive medallions in recognition of their achievements. At the presentation's conclusion, one of the recipients will be named 2012 AKC Breeder of the Year.

AKC Breeders of the Year



2011 Breeder of the Year Pluis Davern does search-and-rescue work, demonstrating the working ability of her Sundowners Sussex Spaniels.

- 2011:** Pluis Davern (Sundowners)
- 2010:** Debbie Butt (Sporting Fields)
- 2009:** Claudia Orlandi (Topsfield)
- 2008:** Joan Savage (Stagedoor)
- 2007:** Barbara Miller (Max-Well)
- 2006:** Douglas & Michaelanne Johnson (Bugaboo)
- 2005:** Dave & Peggy Helming (Pouch Cove)
- 2004:** Catherine B. Nelson (Pennywise)
- 2003:** Mary Rodgers (Marienburg)
- 2002:** Wendell J. Sammet (Aleikai)

2012 AKC Breeder of the Year GROUP WINNERS

SPORTING GROUP

Dr. Dana Massey, Win'Veim Weimaraners

Massey has owned and bred Weimaraners consistently in the Top 10, plus BIS, WCA Hall of Fame, and Pedigree Top Producers. Win'Veim dogs have won more than 20 Bests in Futurity/Maturity awards. Massey is proud that her dogs have AKC VCD1, TDX, SH with MH legs, over 85 AKC performance titles, and several WCA Versatile Excellent designations.

HOUND GROUP

Alicia Hanna, Kimani Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Hanna won her first national specialty in 1968 with a dog from her first litter; her name was Kimani, and since then Kimani-registered dogs have produced over 700 AKC champions. Hanna has bred, owned, and handled the RRCUS national-specialty BIS dogs an unprecedented 12 times, and has retired every national-specialty conformation challenge trophy, including the Best in National Specialty Trophy twice.

WORKING GROUP

Lynn Brady and Connie Townsend, Szumeria Kuvasz

Szumeria has achieved an impressive record, including over 45 BIS, 36 earned by GCh. Szumeria's Wildwood Silver SixPence, and over 125 AKC champions and multiple Hall of Fame sires and dams. Three times they have owned and/or bred the top-winning Kuvasz in breed history. Szumeria has won the KCA national specialty 13 times out of 20 nationals.

TERRIER GROUP

James W. Smith, Absolutely Smooth Fox Terriers

Smith is in his third separate term as president of the American Fox Terrier Club, having previously served as vice president, delegate, and

secretary. Absolutely has produced over 50 bred, owned, and campaigned champions, Best in Show dogs, national and regional specialty winners, and numerous group winners. Preservation and maintenance of the breed are paramount, while adherence to the standard is constantly reviewed.

TOY GROUP

Tammy and John Simon, Ta-Jon Maltese

Ta-Jon has produced over 80 AKC champions and 115 all-breed BIS, including Ch. Ta-Jon's Tickle Me Silly, Ch. Ta-Jon's Whose Your Sugar Daddy?, Ch. Ta-Jon's Just Bee-Ing Silly, and Ch. Ta-Jon's Pawsitively Pawparazzi. The Simons also have six national-specialty BOB winners with four different Maltese.

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Krista Nuovo, Delamer Schipperkes

Nuovo has bred five national BOB winners, five national BOS, numerous national WD, WB and BW, multiple Bests in Sweepstakes and Bests in Futurities, and multiple all-breed BIS winners at home and abroad. Delamer bred the all-time top BIS-winning Schipperke, BIS BISS Ch. Delamer Beach Blanket Baby, with 18 BIS. Ch. Delamer Pink Flamingo was a two-time national-specialty BISS BIS.

HERDING GROUP

J. Frank Baylis and Chris Oldt, Bayshore Border Collies

Of the five breeds in which Baylis and Oldt are actively involved, they've bred or owned the all-time top-winning Border Collie, Australian Shepherd, Chinese Crested, and Xoloitzcuintli. Since 1993, they have bred or owned over 20 number-one dogs and have garnered more than 75 all-breed BIS. They've had over 20 national-specialty BOB winners.

American Kennel Clips >>

Meet the Breed

The AKC welcomes the Russell Terrier, the feisty and fearless Brit that became the AKC's 175th breed on June 27.

"It is thrilling," American Russell Terrier Club founder and president JoAnn Stoll says of the breed's 17-year journey to AKC recognition. "It's been the ride of a lifetime."

To learn about the breed, visit the parent-club website at *theartc.com*. Meet a Russell Terrier in person at AKC Meet the Breeds at the Javits Center in New York on October 20 and 21, or at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship December 15 and 16 in Orlando, Florida.

Also on June 27 the Coton de Tulear, Spanish Water Dog, and Miniature American Shepherd entered the AKC Miscellaneous class.



From the standard: "The Russell Terrier is a strong, active, lithe, predominately white-bodied working terrier of character with a flexible body of moderate length and rectangular profile."



Brevard KC members attend the dedication of the war-dog memorial.

Brevard KC Honors War Dogs

COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA—The Brevard Kennel Club recently dedicated a war-dog memorial on the grounds of the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center. The memorial is a life-size bronze of a military K-9 standing next to an empty helmet, atop a granite marker. Major John Newton, commander of the 45th Security Forces Squadron at Patrick Air Force Base, spoke at the ceremony.

A spokesperson for the club wrote us: "The Brevard Kennel Club is honored to have been able to fund this beautiful monument which will keep Americans mindful of the valor, dedication, and sacrifice of war dogs and their handlers made in assuring freedom and security for all Americans."

What a Life!

The AKC has announced the nominees for its annual Lifetime Achievement Awards. The three nominees apiece in the categories of Conformation, Companion Events, and Performance events were chosen with input from AKC member clubs. The clubs will now vote for the winners. Balloting ends September 14.

The AKC established the awards in 1998 to honor those whose years of dedication have significantly touched the world of purebred dog sports on a national level.

2012 Lifetime Achievement nominees

Conformation Peter Green, Ed Sledzik, Patricia Craige Trotter

Companion Events Susan (Suzi) B. Bluford, Sharon Redmer, Robert Squires

Performance Events Jean Dieden, Dana Jensen, Leida Jones

The awards will be presented in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in December.

BC's Herd Mentality

WALTONVILLE, ILLINOIS—Congratulations to breeder-owner-handler Joyce Walton and her Border Collie HC Norwood Winthrop Upon a Rock CD, RN, AX, AXJ, OF, HXA scd, HIBs, HXBdM (Rocky), who has become the first dog to earn the AKC Master Herder title.

Rocky finished his AKC Herding Championship in 2010 in two weekends, with five 3-point major wins on both sheep and ducks. He went on to finish an HXAc title before he was retired from competition in 2011.

"When I heard about the new Master Herding titles starting in January of 2012, I was excited to be able to compete with him again, as he is only 8 years old, in the prime of his life," Walton says. "We returned to trialing this past March. Rocky earned his Master Advanced B Course Duck title in eight straight trials, finishing the title on May 27, 2012, with another High in Trial! He is also working toward his A Cattle, A Sheep, and A Duck Master titles."



Eye of the Tiger: Rocky's the new champ.



My Andy

Of the thousands of letters the GAZETTE has received over the decades, perhaps none has epitomized the human-canine bond more vividly than this one delivered to our offices 67 years ago this month.

Dear Editor:

War is a grim business in which sentiment plays little part. But one of the most touching things in this global conflict is the complete mutual devotion, confidence, and understanding that exist between America's war dogs and their handlers.

Such was the relationship of Marine PFC Robert E. Lansley of Syracuse, and Andy, an affectionate, alert Doberman Pinscher, formerly owned by Theodore A. Wiedemann of Norristown, Pa. Lansley and Andy went through months of bitter fighting on Bougainville, where the Devil Dog's keen nose repeatedly saved Marines from certain and sudden death by discovering camouflaged Japanese machine-gun nests. He was cited for his heroism.

Then, one tragic night, Lansley wrote to his

mother this letter—a Marine's simple, yet beautiful tribute to his dog:

Dear Mom: My heart is wide open. My Andy is gone. The darn mutt got out and as he couldn't hear because of deafness brought on by the shelling, he was run over by a truck.

I got the worst order the Marine Corps ever imposed on me. I had to destroy my Andy.

To think, Mom dear, he saved my life and I had to take his. No matter how many dogs they give me, I'll never have the faith in them that I had in Andy. It seems that he was my other self.

Bob and his Andy are now together again. The Marine was later killed in action fighting on the island highway to Tokyo. —**Clayton G. Going, July 1945**

AKC FILE PHOTO



boccone

Adrian Woodfork

Now in his fifth decade in dogs, the esteemed Working Group judge waxed philosophical in the February 2009 GAZETTE: "Look for the good and you will have a fun journey," he said about the odyssey that began as a 12-year-old junior. "Don't be discouraged when faced with adversity. Of course there have been problems here and there, but that's life. There have certainly been more positives than negatives. I love it. It has been a grand time."

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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

This month's column is contributed by Dee Hartnek. Dee has been active in showing and field-trialing Brittanys since 1989.

The Standard, Always the Standard

"Pretty is as pretty does" is a phrase I hear fairly frequently from my more field-oriented friends. Many of them consider conformation shows to be nothing more than doggy beauty pageants.

Brittanys at dog shows are supposed to be judged by the breed's standard, which was written with optimal performance in the field first and foremost in the minds of those who developed it. "The standard, always the standard" is another phrase I have heard frequently from a well-respected member of our Brittany community who has mentored more than a few successful people over the years.

Gait is of primary importance to the Brittany standard, precisely because of how it translates into function in the field. The standard says the following: *When at a trot the Brittany's hind foot should step into or beyond the print left by the front foot. Clean movement, coming and going, is very important, but most important is side gait, which is smooth, efficient, and ground covering.*

When judging gait, the observer should look for movement that meets the above description. *Ground covering* doesn't necessarily translate into "fast." If a dog must take many steps to cover

the same ground that another dog covers in fewer steps, then movement is not efficient and that dog would not last long in the field. The standard doesn't say "flashy or eye-catching." It specifically mentions *efficiency* of movement and states that the gait should be smooth. A dog who is pounding his feet around the ring will be tired after a few minutes and would not well endure a half-day's hunting, nor a 30- to 60-minute run at a field trial.

Correct structure is important in all other performance events, such as agility and obedience, and it is of utmost importance to the Brittany's function in the field. There is good reason for each and every aspect of proper structure, as it pertains to a sound animal.

Brittanys are supposed to be square because that shape balances the dog's movement and keeps him from experiencing undue pain or wear as he performs the function for which he was bred. There are plenty of successful field dogs who are long in the loin, but this is not ideal for long-term performance.

We all know the Brittany has a huge amount of willingness and will often perform well in spite of any structural defects, but is such a situation in the best interest of the dog? More importantly, is it in the best interest of the breed?

Field people as well as conformation folks might do well to study the conformation standard and attempt to breed to it as closely as possible. Many field trialers simply breed two winning dogs

together to get top performers, instead of trying to understand how proper structure can also contribute to the dog's win record, as well as strengthen the future of our breed. Plenty of show people also breed to top-winning dogs without regard to how closely potential mates meet the written standard or how each might compensate for the other's faults. The standard should always be more important than win records or rankings.

We are proud of the number of dual champions we count among our breed, and it should be this way. Our standard outlines every detail of what makes champions, both in the field and in the show ring. "The standard, always the standard" is a blueprint for dual champions. —D.H.

Thank you, Dee, for sharing your expertise with us. —Martha Greenlee; greenlee@touchva.net; American Brittany Club website: clubs.akc.org/brit

Pointers

Our guest columnist this month is Berna Welch.

Conditioning: It's Not Just About Exercise

Show breeders attempt to "build" show dogs when planning a litter. Pedigrees are studied, and the physical traits, health, longevity, and temperament of the prospective parents are taken into consideration. Often a breeder's instincts come into play when making final decisions.

Once pups are born, it is paramount that they receive the best care, nutrition, and socialization to maximize their potential. Litters are carefully scrutinized with the aim of selecting which pups have the greatest potential. Yet for many show pups, this point in their lives is when preparation for the future comes to a grinding halt—when in reality, this is the time when it should all begin.

The breeder or new owner of the show pup must immediately start conditioning their pup for the ring. Socialization continues, and lead- and

stacking-training begin in earnest. Basic manners training cannot be overlooked. Dogs must come when called—never settle for anything less from your pup. Teaching your pup to do his "business" while on a lead makes airings at shows quick and easy. Play-exercise along with mental stimulation such as hide and seek, retrieving practice, running through tunnels, and introduction to things related to breed purpose all become an integral part of preparing the pup for the ring. Available today are some wonderful interactive toys that stimulate interest and promote focus. It's great fun to watch a dog problem-solve. Lavish praise builds confidence—be sure to use it!

Introduce pups to a wide variety of sounds. Expose them to other breeds of dog and to all kinds of people—including men, women, children, people with facial hair, and people wearing hats, carrying umbrellas, using wheelchairs or walkers, or pushing strollers—so they don't later react to any of these as though they've seen scary aliens from Mars.

As pups grow, more forms of physical conditioning should be added to their routine, such as swimming and walks in the woods or on the beach. Inclement weather brings greater challenges to conditioning a pup, yet things like up-and-down stair-climbing on lead and retrieving down a hallway can take the place of outdoor exercise for brief periods. Always be careful on slippery surfaces.

Once the pup is more mature, introduce short periods of lunging on a 20-foot lead. Go clockwise and counterclockwise to build equal muscling. I often start my pups on the treadmill, slowly building them to the trot. The trot is the most demanding gait, and when done at the proper speed it will build muscle and improve foot timing. The correct speed will be different for each dog.

Keeping breed purpose in mind, begin to exercise your youngsters as they would when doing the task they were bred for. Your dog may never hunt, perform water rescues, pull carts, or herd livestock, but he will condition

faster and more efficiently when using his body as intended. This type of exercise exhilarates the dog, which builds self-esteem.

Conditioning also includes proper diet, parasite control, bathing, coat care, mouth, ear, and nail care. A successful show dog is a picture of health with a gleaming coat, hard muscles, and a happy, confident demeanor.

All this won't happen overnight, but with time and work, the end result will be a winning show dog with an owner who believes in total conditioning! —B.W.

Thank you, Berna, for this informative column.

Please visit the APC website 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

Chagas

Chagas ... is it a new type of margarita? Is it a Latin dance, or a deadly disease?

Unfortunately, it's the latter. First discovered in Brazil in 1908 by Dr. Carlos Chagas, *chagas* is caused by the parasite *Trypanosoma cruzi*, or *T. cruzi*. Its vector is the triatomine bug, and the parasite is transferred via the bug's feces left near the feeding site. When this site is scratched or the ear or nose area is inadvertently rubbed, the parasite is transferred into the body via blood or mucous membrane.

Originally enzootic (restricted to animals within a specific geographic area), the disease became zoonotic (transmittable from animals to humans) when humans and domestic animals began to inhabit the bug's natural habitat. This has resulted in serious implications for humans and domestic dogs throughout Latin and South America.

Named the "kissing bug" because its bite is often found on or around the face, the triatomine bug, like the tick, flea or mosquito, will feed on both

humans and animals. While most people can recognize the first three pests, very few are familiar with this bug, a nocturnal feeder that nests or lives in cracks or crevices in older homes of poor construction, as well as outdoors in a variety of places. Outdoor kennels and runs provide hiding places and close proximity to a blood meal, since these bugs do not live on their hosts.

Found as early as 1949 and subsequent years, the parasite *T. cruzi* was collected from triatomine bug specimens in Texas, California, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana. In 2003, 11 of the 130 subspecies of the triatomine bug were reported in the southern half of the United States.

Extremely infectious, chagas (aka *trypanosomiasis*) has resulted in the death of both humans and dogs, in addition to other hosts. In 2008, a study was done to determine occurrence patterns. The research used documented case records from 1993–2007 to assess frequency, geographic location, age/sex/breed, and spectrum of chagas in domestic dogs in Texas. Primarily represented were 48 breeds from the sporting and working groups, probably because these breeds are most likely to be kenneled outdoors.

Chagas has an acute stage and a chronic stage. Affected animals will develop generalized infection with extensive myocardial and central nervous system lesions. The acute stage also features anorexia, generalized enlarged lymph nodes, diarrhea, myocarditis, and sudden death. In most cases, chagas is not thought of as the cause of the dog's symptoms or death unless a blood test rules out the disease or an autopsy was performed.

In 2011, a staff epidemiologist for vector-borne and zoonotic diseases at the Texas Department of State Health Services noted, "Dogs can look perfectly healthy, and they'll be running around and just die."

Occurrence of chagas disease is not limited to Texas, nor does it only affect outside dogs or people who live in

rural areas. The triatomine bug that carries the parasite has been reported in 26 states—as far north as Illinois and Pennsylvania—and in both rural and urban settings.

Currently there is no vaccine for chagas. There are a few drugs that may be helpful in the acute stage, but both have serious side effects. Once chagas enters the chronic stage, there is no known treatment. Both humans and domesticated animals are at risk, and the presence of the disease in an area may go undetected because deaths due to chagas may simply be recorded as "due to myocarditis." Without autopsy the parasite-damaged heart tissue would not be discovered.

More information on the disease can be found on the Internet using the search terms *chagas* or *kissing bug*. Detailed information is available at cdc.gov/parasites/chagas/gen_info/vectors/index.html#list.

—Patte Titus; chexsix@mac.com;
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America website: gspca.org

German Wirehaired Pointers

GWP Color and Markings

The standard for the German Wirehaired Pointer is fairly straightforward when it comes to the breed's color: *The coat is liver and white, usually either liver and white spotted, liver roan, liver and white spotted with ticking and roaning or solid liver. The head is liver, sometimes with a white blaze. Ears are liver. Any black in the coat is to be severely penalized.*

The GWP standard basically allows one color: liver. Black is severely penalized, and there is no mention of any other allowed color. In fact, black and liver are really the only colors ever seen in purebred GWPs. The standard does mention white, but white is basically a result of pattern and markings; when you see a liver and white GWP, consider that dog to be a liver dog, even when there are enough white markings so that it is virtually a white dog with a liver head and ears.

GWP markings are ticked and roan, with or without liver spots. A solid-liver dog is simply a liver dog who lacks the ticking and roaning genes. While these are not common, solid-liver dogs are a perfectly acceptable color and pattern.

The GWP breed standard has no mention of "mismarks." However, the term is typically used by breeders to refer to a GWP who has one or two ears that are not liver colored but are either white, ticked, or roan. A mismark may also be a GWP with such minimal amounts of liver on the head that the liver does not cover both eyes or is not connected to the liver color on the ears. Think of the liver on the head as two liver spots—each spot covers one ear and half the face. Sometimes the spots overlap so there is no blaze, while other times the two spots don't touch so that there is a complete blaze, while sometimes the spots partially overlap, creating a partial blaze.

The amount of liver markings, including the liver on the head and ears, falls within a genetically predetermined range. There is at least one gene modifier that indicates if there will be more or less liver color. Mismarks are most commonly produced when two dogs who have minimal markings, while not mismarks themselves, are bred together. To reduce the potential for mismarks, I recommend breeding any dog with minimal markings to a dog with heavier markings, ideally with a solid-liver head (no blaze).

The most unusual markings occur when a solid-liver dog is bred to a dog with minimal markings. This is when you get mismarks who have virtually no liver on their heads and ears. While these puppies are healthy and don't seem to have any health issues associated with their coat pattern, the lack of markings really takes away from breed type. The breeding of a solid-liver dog to a dog with minimal markings also leads to solid-liver pups that may have white or ticked blazes, and sometimes even ticking that goes up the legs and occasionally even over the shoulders. While these markings technically meet

the breed standard, with liver head and ears, if such a dog is bred, he is very likely to produce mismark puppies, even when bred to a normally marked dog. So for breeding purposes, this type of dog should be considered a mismark and be expected to produce large numbers of mismarks. —Jodi Quesnell; idawiregups@gmail.com; German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America website: gupca.com

Chesapeake Bay Retrievers

Disqualifications

Many breeds have only one or two disqualifications mentioned in the standard, while some breeds don't have any. A number of others, however, list quite a few "DQs." The Chesapeake is among those breeds. The breed's disqualifications are as follows:

- *Specimens lacking in breed characteristics.* Note that *characteristics* is plural, meaning the dog in question has to be lacking at least two type features. Rose ears, a sloping topline, and cat feet are just three examples of features of incorrect type. If a dog is in poor, unhealthy condition or is of poor quality but does not lack breed characteristics, it is more appropriate for the judge to withhold a ribbon for lack of merit rather than to disqualify the dog. In cases where there is minor deviation, the severity of the fault must be considered and weighed against the competition.

- *Teeth undershot or overshot.*

Undershot is an incorrect bite where the lower jaw extends out past the upper jaw; overshot is having the upper teeth projecting beyond the lower jaw in an extended way. A scissors bite is preferred in the breed, and even bites are acceptable.

- *Dewclaws on the hind legs.* When a Chesapeake is born with dewclaws, the breeder is expected to remove hind-leg dewclaws soon after birth. They can be removed later, but this is more of an ordeal. Judges must disqualify a dog who competes in the ring with a dewclaw on the hind leg. They are not to disqualify if a bump remains from the

removal, however.

- *Coat curly or with a tendency to curl all over the body.* Basically, the dog's coat should not resemble that of a Curly Coated Retriever. Avoid a coat with excessive ringlets throughout. On the other hand, a short, thick coat that has a kinky appearance and consists of short waves is a quality coat and should not be mistaken for a curly coat. The length of wave varies, but it should never be greater than one-and-a-half inches.

- *Feathering on the tail or legs over one and three-quarters inch long.* The hair on the tail may not be measured or stretched out by hand. This is a judgment call that should be determined strictly by appearance.

- *Black colored.* "Black colored" could be solid or spotted. In any case a black dog will have a black nose. Do not be confused by extremely dark hairs in the coat; typically these hairs are actually extremely dark brown. In this case it does not disqualify.

- *White on any part of the body except breast, belly, toes, or back of feet.* Therefore any white *above* the breast as it is anatomically structured is a disqualification—that is, any white on the neck area. Also any white on the head, beyond the toes, above the back of the foot anatomically, or in the form of spots on the body (with the exception of those body parts specified as allowable) and tail all must be disqualified. Always determine this disqualification in terms of *spots*. Strays hairs that are white or white from scarring or age should *not* be considered a fault or disqualification.

As always, comments can be e-mailed to me at kcboy0@yahoo.com. — Nat Horn; kcboy0@yahoo.com; American Chesapeake Club website: amchessieclub.org

Curly-Coated Retrievers

Puppy Musings

My Curly bitch recently whelped a litter, and the new owners communicate very often with one another on our own litter website. I

highly recommend creation of such a site for anyone producing a litter, as the exchange of information has been very worthwhile. As the breeder of the litter, I never had thought of doing this, but one of the new puppy owners did, and it has worked out beautifully. Following are some of the ideas that have been shared on the site, and I am happy to pass them along.

We had observed that the pups often tear apart soft stuffed toys and remove the stuffing, which causes a mess. For some pups, Kathi Kostynick suggested that a better idea may be to give them the "road kill"—type toys. These are long, flat, unstuffed toys in animal shapes and are super for Curlies. She believes that they like having these "prey" hang from their mouths as real game does. I know that my pup certainly loves this type of toy.

Kathi also shared with us her method of making "flossies," which are similar to the road-kill toys but are not in animal shapes. To make a flossie, buy a half-yard of fleece and cut it into six long strips. Then knot three pieces together at the end, and braid to halfway. Then she knots again, braids, and knots the other end.

Another reminder for puppy owners came from me, as I recalled what had happened at an obedience trial a few years ago. The trial was held in a very crowded building, and there was not enough room on the first floor for crates, dogs, and their owners. Many handlers and dogs had to take their equipment and dogs upstairs, and I was amazed at the number of dogs who had to be carried up the stairs because they had never been introduced to using stairs when a pup. Be sure to teach your pup to use stairs while he's young.

We who own retrievers should think ahead when having our pup retrieve an object. Do not remove the item from his mouth right away when he returns to you. This could lead to his running away with his prize in the future. Instead, when pup returns, gently stroke his neck or chest for a moment, and then remove the retrieved item.

Sometimes give it right back to him, sometimes keep it—and always give lots of praise.

In the future, I hope to have more ideas to share. —Ann Shinkle; *annshinkle@aol.com*; Curly Coated Retriever Club of America website: *ccra.org*

Flat-Coated Retrievers

Rehoming the Adult Flat-Coat

PART ONE

The Flat-Coat is a friendly but very loyal dog. All dogs are creatures of habit, and every change of homes causes the dog to feel more anxious and insecure. Therefore changes should be accomplished with careful thought and planning. Be sure that the dog going to a new owner is an appropriate choice for the new home.

It is very helpful to have preliminary visits and work sessions between the dog and the prospective owner or family, including any pets, but the preliminary visits should not include any separations from the former owner or foster family. Once the dog changes homes, there should be no visits with the former owner, as these only upset and confuse the dog.

The Flat-Coat adjusts more easily if the change is done early in the day, since all dogs feel more insecure at night. Everything should be ready for the new dog in the home—food and water dishes, familiar food, a crate of size and type the dog is used to, and appropriate toys. The former owner or foster family should send to the new home a piece of bedding and/or toys with familiar scents to be kept with the dog for at least two weeks.

If the dog is being picked up by the new owner, there should be a pleasant visit, with the dog sitting for treats or biscuits for the new owner. The dog's play and training can then be demonstrated, and the lead handed over to the new owner, who then practices the play and training. From that point on there should be no attention from the owner or family giving up the dog, and the dog should be taken out to the car by

the new owner with cheerfulness and treats. Long goodbyes are not understood by the dog and only cause confusion. It is better if the new owner can keep the dog's undivided attention with the training and the treats. Most dogs settle down quickly once they are in a car that is moving, but it is easier if one of the new owners can ride in the back seat holding the dog's lead and attention while someone else drives.

If the dog is being delivered to the new home by the original owner, follow the same instruction, but when it is time for the new owner to take the dog away with training and treats, he or she should go out of sight and keep the dog busy while the former owner leaves, quickly and quietly. Under no circumstances should the dog ever be allowed to see or hear the former owner leave.

If the dog is being picked up at the airport, try to have the dog arrive so that you get home while it is still daylight. Give the dog a short training session when taking the dog out of the crate (in a closed room, in case the dog gets past you) with plenty of treats, and more training, treats and play when you first arrive home. Don't underestimate the importance of treats, training, and play to help the new dog feel secure.

To be continued. —Sally Terroux; *sfterroux@aol.com*; Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America website: *fersainc.org*

Golden Retrievers

A Basic History Lesson

“Primarily a hunting dog ...” This, at the beginning of the second sentence in the Golden Retriever's AKC standard, reflects the origins of the breed and the vision of its Scottish champion, Sir Dudley Marjoriebanks (later known as Lord Tweedmouth).

Most Golden owners know of the legendary Marjoriebanks, an ardent waterfowl enthusiast and dog breeder who dreamed of a canine hunting partner suited to the rough terrain and cold, rugged waters of the English sea-coast. Those lofty aspirations, in 1868, launched the historic breeding journey

of a superb hunting dog with a water-proof golden coat.

Fast-forward to the 21st-century Golden Retriever. The Golden's unique combination of beauty, biddability, and athleticism easily propelled the breed into the top 10 of AKC-registered breeds. And as its popularity surged, the breed morphed into the “do-it-all retriever”—with prowess in the field diminishing proportionately.

Enter the AKC Hunting Test program. Originally devised by hunting enthusiasts who were determined to provide a venue for the hunting retriever, the non-competitive testing program served an important need in the world of sporting dogs. As retriever field trials had grown more competitive and more expensive, many Golden owner/trial-hopefuls found they could no longer afford the time and money required to maintain a competitive field trial dog.

Hunt tests bridged that gap, offering wannabe trialers, as well as hunters, a chance to prove the working abilities of their dogs. The tests also encouraged conformation and obedience competitors, and even pet owners, to demonstrate the original purpose of their dogs.

Conversely, the testing process also inspired some test participants to venture into the intimidating world of field trials. Thrilled by the sight of their own or someone else's Golden flying through the tests with speed and style and working head-to-head with Labrador owners, some Golden owners wanted more—bigger challenges and more-competitive dogs. Having witnessed Goldens with superior intensity and drive working with true passion for the game, they promised themselves a dog like that one “next time.”

As the hunt-test program continues to grow, it can only benefit the Golden Retriever and bring him back to his roots as a superior hunting companion who can, indeed, do it all. —Nona Kilgore Bauer; *nona@nonabauer.com*; Golden Retriever Club of America website: *grca.org*

sporting Labrador Retrievers

Labs and Kids PART TWO: The Sibling Years, Ages 3 to 7

Once a child is verbal and starting to participate more actively in the family, their relationship with the family dog changes. A low-level struggle may take place as the child attempts to emulate his parents and assert his will on the family dog. The dynamic that ensues in many ways resembles a sibling relationship with a full range of (often conflicted) emotions.

From the dog's side of things, it is mostly about companionship. Typical Labrador Retrievers adore attention of even the most awkward type. Their tolerant nature sees them through long hours of dress-up. Surrendering status is done relatively easily for this easygoing, not usually politically conscious breed. It is the nature of a Labrador to be charitable when the small person shoves her over on the couch or wrestles a toy from her mouth.

True respect from the family dog might be some time in coming. The best way to foster a child's authority is to include them in obedience-training sessions—especially the informal sessions that involve “alphabetizing” spontaneously around the house. Young children tend to offer vague commands, issued without consequences (either positive or negative). This is counter-productive when attempting to gain compliance from the family dog. Adult reinforcement is necessary until timing and reward strategies are established. Utility hand signals become very practical when one wishes to support a child's commands.

Kids beyond the toddler stage have a more complex attitude toward the family dog. Preferring all available attention and with a strengthening sense of self, children often see their dog as a competitor and annoyance. Two minutes later, they will claim the dog to be their truest friend and a great comforter and protector.

One common area of contention is the tendency of the orally oriented

Labrador to become a reinforcer on why bedroom doors should be closed or precious toys picked up. Toys will be relocated, if not “modified.” The Labrador's general *joie de vivre* is also not always appreciated—especially when one is at “dog-lick level.” By far the most powerful skill for young children to acquire when interacting with Labradors is the “quick turn to deflect”—an excellent deterrent for a too-enthusiastic greeting or opportunistic ice-cream sampling.

Most children comfortable with dogs react quickly to any expression of high spirits and rarely can resist escalating the fun. A happy bounce on the part of a Labrador can rapidly end up in a full-fledged butt-tuck and chase through the house. Almost inevitably this will lead to someone crashing into something and a precipitous end to the fun.

Running outside can be even more dangerous, as a dog's natural prey-drive can be triggered. The Labrador Retriever body-slam is something that can lay low even an adult who might be caught off-balance. It is best to set limits on behavior before things get too wild.

Other rules, such as having the dog always greet people (especially children) politely, are clearly called for. If some children are up for rowdy games, try to instill upon them the need to remain in control of the situation. The family dog has to understand that all kids aren't universally “party animals” and that tug-and-chase games are done at the human's discretion.

A Labrador Retriever who is maintained as a family pet might never spend a frigid morning in a duck blind scanning the skies. However, the patience and cooperative nature that are fundamental to the breed's success in the field have proven to serve the needs of families well. With a Labrador invited to live close to the family, this often means the children end up with a furry sibling. —Lee Foote; Labrador Retriever Club website: thelabradorclub.com

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers

What's in a Name?

Usually the conversation starts like this:

“Oh, how cute! Is your dog part Golden?”

“No, it's a Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever.”

“A *what?*” asked with a doubtful expression, indicating that the person thinks you are pulling their leg.

“A Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever,” you repeat. “We call them ‘Tollers,’ for short. It's the smallest retriever you can get.”

Almost every Toller owner can relate some version of this. The conversation then goes into an explanation of what “tolling” means (no, it's not “trolling”).

The littlest of the retrievers, with the longest name, the Toller is a decoy dog used to “toll” or lure game into gun range. When the breed's founders were considering its official name, they wanted to include things like where it originated, and what it did—not just retrieving, but that little extra part that made it more than just the smallest of the retrieving breeds: *tolling*.

The dog could easily have been called, and still is in some places, the Little River Duck Dog or just Little River Dog. But that really didn't explain what the breed was all about. The namers wanted to distinguish the breed from the other *duck dogs*, so they came up with a name to do it all, just like the dogs.

That name is something that all Toller owners end up explaining to strangers who express interest in the dog itself. It's fun at first, and for some folks it remains fun—the look of disbelief on the face of the inquiring person, and then the extended conversation while you explain that you really are serious and not pulling their leg. Sometimes the person is happy to be educated, while at other times they thank you quickly and go on their way, possibly having been given much more of an explanation or conversation than they were looking for.

Even the short form of the name

gets confused. Many people erroneously refer to the breed as “Trollers.” Owners explain that *Tollers* are decoy dogs, who toll or lure game into gun range—and while they are water dogs, they don’t pull a fishing lure around a lake, like a boat.

The novelty of the breed’s name is just one of the little things that makes Toller ownership fun. —Phyllis L. McDonald; tollerphyllis@comcast.net; Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) website: nsdtrc-usa.org

English Setters

Who Is Willie Walker?

The Willie Walker English Setter Database is a treasure-trove of information about English Setters. Created and maintained by Austrian English Setter fancier and English Setter Association of America (ESAA) member Andrea Strobl (with a lot of help from members all over the world), it contains over 94,000 pedigrees of English Setters, going back to about 1850, with more than 9,000 pictures and including almost 3,000 breeder/owners from 36 different countries. Established in 2007, the database added about 20,000 dogs in its first year of existence, and it’s still growing.

The database can be found online at williewalker.net and is free of charge for everyone.

You can search the database for a dog by name, or you can browse alphabetically. Once you click on a dog, you get a four-generation pedigree including photos of the dogs in it (that is, of those who’ve had a photo added to the database). You also get the dog’s registration number, sex, birthdate, date of death (if applicable), land of birth, offspring, siblings, color, and coefficient of inbreeding.

If you click on a dog in the last generation and then click on a dog in the last generation of *that* dog, and keep doing that, you eventually get back to the genesis of a dog—often all the way back to Edward Laverack’s foundation stock—Dash or Moll, or both. (Working in England starting in about 1825, Laverack

and his contemporary R.L. Purcell Llewellyn are credited with taking the methodical approach to breeding that standardized the traits of the modern English Setter.)

Today, U.S. English Setter breeders see the value in expanding our gene pool. They are importing dogs from other countries, using stud dogs from other countries, and sending their own stud dogs, both in the flesh and through the magic of frozen semen, to other countries to be bred. The Willie Walker database contains the information breeders need to research dogs from all over the world to begin the process of planning breedings.

Strobl uses many sources to build her database as comprehensively and as far back in time as possible, including records from the American Kennel Register, which existed between 1883 and 1887; old AKC Studbooks; old United Kingdom Studbooks; old Field Dog Studbooks; old show catalogs; and old ESAA *Annals*.

The database yields some very interesting statistics. For example, historically and worldwide, English Setter colors are split about evenly among blue (16.8 percent of the database), tricolor (15.2 percent), and orange (13.9 percent); for some entries, the color is not known. Of the rare colors, the incidence of lemon is slightly higher (3.2 percent) than liver (1.3 percent). Other statistics indicate that the lifespan of most English Setters is 12–13 years, with a lucky few living to as old as 18.

Who is Willie Walker? He is Austrian Ch. Walker William Nobleheart von der Guldegg, one of Ms. Strobl’s much-loved English Setters and the inspiration for the database, which contains 11,314 of his direct ancestors.

This valuable database is a testament to one woman’s love of English Setters and is a great service to all English Setter breeders worldwide. Anyone can become a registered member and help add information.

Invitation. You’re invited to attend the English Setter national specialty in Albuquerque, November 7–9.

Complete information about the national is available at esaanational.com. —Jill Warren; Esthete.es@comcast.net; English Setter Association of America website: esaa.com

Gordon Setters

This is the first in a series on breeding and whelping based on interviews with and information drawn from articles supplied by Autumn Davidson, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVIM, VMTH SAC, of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis. Dr. Davidson also maintains a private practice in Santa Rosa, California, specializing in reproduction.

You’ve Decided to Breed a Litter. What’s Next?

As the owner of the brood bitch or stud dog, after careful consideration and having done your “homework,” you have made your selection of the perfect stud dog for your girl or the perfect girlfriend for your male. We know there are a number of health-related tests and health concerns to look at prior to breeding. What are they?

Both the prospective dam and sire should be current on appropriate vaccinations (check with your veterinarian). Boosters should only be given in pregnancy if an unvaccinated bitch is at risk for parvovirus or distemper. Both dam (before each breeding) and sire (annually) should be tested for canine Brucellosis, a venereal disease that does not require breeding to be transmitted. It is important that the bitch have a physical exam prior to breeding to determine whether a vaginal stricture is present that could inhibit or prevent breeding and/or whelping. Both dog and bitch owner should provide OFA (hip/elbows), CERF, Optigen, and DNA certificates, if possible.

Please elaborate on canine Brucellosis, in terms of (1) what it is; (2) why it is important to test for it; (3) diagnosis; and (4) appropriate treatment if test results are positive.

This venereal infection is caused by *Brucella canis*. It is transmitted during breeding or contact with infected

urine, saliva, or aborted tissue. The organism crosses a dog's mucous membranes to the lymphatic system, genital tract, spinal discs, eyes, and kidneys. The bacterium is not always virulent; clinical signs can be minimal. Infected males exhibit inflammation of testicles, epididymi, and/or skin problems. Infected pregnant females abort dead puppies late in gestation.

Symptoms can include oversensitivity to touch, limb weakness, or paralysis. A rapid slide agglutination test using a blood sample has been a quick and inexpensive way to detect antibodies, indicating past exposure and/or possible infection. However, recently, this test has been taken off the market, and serology testing at commercial laboratories must be used. False positives can occur due to cross-reactions with other bacteria; other blood tests are needed for additional information if the test result is positive. A negative test is reliable unless taken very early in the course of infection.

Semen samples from an infected male can show sperm abnormalities (immature and/or deformed sperm). As infection often leads to infertility, it is recommended infected animals be neutered to reduce their contagiousness. The disease can be transmitted to humans (meaning it is zoonotic). Many consider this to be an incurable disease. The current recommendation is to treat with enrofloxacin. Relapses often occur when antibiotics are stopped, especially if repeated courses were not given. —A.D.

Thank you, Dr. Davidson.

Want to know about herpes infection in dogs and septate vaginal strictures? These topics will be discussed in articles to follow! —Carolyn Gold; spellbound24k@netzero.net; Gordon Setter Club of America website: gsca.org

Irish Setters

Fund-raising

In its simplest form, fund-raising is the art and science of persuading people to part with their money. There are whole industries whose sole

mission is to persuade clients how to convince people to "Show me the money!"

The first example that comes to mind is the AKC itself. The people who manage the finances for all of the AKC's constituents spend a great deal of their time persuading dog lovers to spend on behalf of all those who benefit from the largesse which the AKC has been able to afford. To run a successful business on behalf of any worthy cause involves creativity, ingenuity, public relations, and persistence.

During the days when registrations were in the millions and supported most of the functions of the corporation, it was not necessary to raise money on a continuing basis. When registrations declined, however, the AKC's officers and board had to devise other means to support all the programs that serve AKC constituents. Thus began the era of corporate fund-raising that continues to this day.

Just as the AKC needs money to do the things and promote the activities that its constituents expect, individual clubs have the same challenges, albeit on a smaller scale. Clubs are constantly seeking ways to raise money to support their efforts. There are numerous ways in which club members can persuade people to part with their money. Some are ingenious and fun. Others are tiresome, but necessary.

The most successful fund-raising efforts are usually aimed at specific goals. Clubs raise money for their rescue efforts, health research, trophy donations, and events that will raise awareness of the projects for which they are held.

Fund-raising projects are most successful when donors receive something in return for their largesse. As an example, Take the Lead, an organization that helps people within the dog fancy who are in need of supportive care, holds several fund-raising events throughout the country each year. These range from post-show parties to on-site sale of merchandise with the organization's logo on shirts, jackets, and other portable

items, to silent auctions featuring donations from clubs and individuals.

Some clubs develop individual items of jewelry, artwork, or clothing to sell throughout the year, with emphasis on their largest events. Raffles, preferably of unique items, are always good, provided the proceeds are designated for specific projects. Fund-raisers focused on supporting health projects or rescue are usually more successful than general pleas for funds.

Clubs that host national events such as specialty shows or trials are always in need of general funds. Two recent successful fund-raisers were those held for specialties. For two years prior to a recent Irish Setter Club of America national, club members held a coin toss. For this, a large paper shamrock is placed in the middle of a show ring, and people pay to try to toss toy leprechauns into the center of the shamrock. The person whose elf comes closest gets to keep half the proceeds collected, while the other half goes to the club. This gimmick brought in a great deal of money over a year of elf-tossing, and it drew large crowds to play.

Another successful fund-raiser was held by the English Cocker Spaniel Club of America. The club held a "memory walk" for which participants could purchase luminaria bags in advance of the opening of the show. Each bag came with an electric candle to set inside it. People were encouraged to inscribe on the bag the name of a dog or a person whose memory they wished to honor for the event. Some participants decorated their bags. The bags were placed along a pathway and the candles lit at sunset. After the walk the bags were placed around the show ring, where they could be collected after the show and taken home.

Basket raffles are another good means of bringing people together. If it is a national event, clubs from various regions can each donate a basket filled with goodies reflective of the area they represent. For instance, a New Jersey basket might contain garden-related

goodies or saltwater taffy from Atlantic City. The baskets are displayed with a small can in front of each one, and people purchase tickets to put into the cans of whichever baskets they're interested in. At the end of the day, tickets are drawn to determine the winner of each basket.

Finally, there is always a general raffle, for which tickets are sold in advance and the winners drawn at the end of the show. The trick here is to provide unique items, with funds going to a specific cause.

Be creative. Create a stir so folks will notice the effort and support the results. —Connie Vanacore; fcvanacore@aol.com; Irish Setter Club of America website: irishsetterclub.org

Irish Red and White Setters

2012 National Specialty—Wisconsin or Bust!

The Irish Red and White Setter Association of America's 2012 national specialty will be held in the Midwest and promises to be another great specialty weekend. Be sure to save these dates: September 7, 8, 9, and 10.

The host hotel is the beautiful new Best Western Plus, in Antioch, Illinois, offering unsurpassed comfort, neighborhood charm, and magnificent views of Chain O'Lakes. Spend some time enjoying a few of the local highlights. Visit the Chain O'Lakes State Park, explore the Gurnee Mills Mall, play golf at the nearby Antioch golf course, or spend a day at Six Flags Great America. For more suggestions of what to do, visit the Kenosha Area Convention and Visitors Bureau at kenoshacvb.com.

The hotel is pet friendly, with lots of green space for walking dogs. A block of rooms have been reserved and will be available until August 1. To get a discounted rate, be sure to mention the IRWSAA when you call.

The event location is the Kenosha County Fairgrounds, at 30820 111 Street in Wilmot, Wisconsin, approximately 15 to 20 minutes from the host hotel.

Schedule of events:

On Friday, September 7, will be the judges' education seminar and national specialty. Judging sweepstakes will be Jim Frankhauser; judging conformation, Junior Showmanship, and the non-regular classes is Beth Spiech; judging obedience and rally is Cindy Simonson. On Saturday and Sunday, September 8 and 9, the IRWSAA will support the entry of Irish Red and White Setters at the Kenosha County Kennel Club's all-breed show.

On September 10, the IRWSAA will hold a hunt test at the Ottawa Field Trial Grounds in Eagle, Wisconsin, approximately 30 miles from the host hotel. The hunt test is open to all pointing breeds. Breakaway will be at 8 a.m. Judging are Sandra Hoesel and Terri Everwine. There will be morning coffee and muffins, and a lunch. Note: A Wisconsin State Park/Forest vehicle sticker is required at the site. One-day stickers cost \$7 for vehicles with Wisconsin plates, and \$10 for out-of-state vehicles. Stickers can be purchased at the Forest Headquarters, on Highway 59 west of Eagle, or on the day of the hunt test via the yellow self-registration box located near the entrance to the grounds. Vehicles without a sticker will be ticketed by the DNR.

For more information, contact hunt test secretary Lynn Petterson, at capette@jowatelecom.net.

The 2012 national specialty committee has been working very hard to make this year's specialty the best one yet, so be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend.

For more information, contact show chair Eibhlin Glennon at eibhlinglenon@yahoo.com. —Lee Robinson; robilee6@myfairpoint.net; The Irish Red and White Setter Association website: irishredwhitesetterassociation.com

Boykin Spaniels

Boykin Spaniel History, Continued

In our last column we introduced to you the amazing story of the beginnings of an American dog breed.

The breed's progenitor was named Dumpy, and he was a stray dog who followed Alex White home from church in Spartanburg, South Carolina in the early 1900s.

White was an avid hunter and sent Dumpy to his friend and hunting partner Whit Boykin, a farmer and experienced hunting dog trainer who lived near Camden, in the midlands of South Carolina.

At the time, wagons, mules, and small boats were the main means of transportation of hunting dogs such as Labrador Retrievers and Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, which were the popular sporting dogs used to retrieve game. The size of these dogs made them a convenient necessity; however, they were too large and active for the boats. The smaller size of the spaniel-type Dumpy, combined with his superior intelligence and natural hunting instincts, inspired Whit Boykin to seek a new cross that would satisfy the need for a smaller, more relaxed dog and produce a line of retrieving dogs better suited for this purpose.

According to Kelley and Creel in their book *SC's Dog: The Boykin Spaniel*, Whit Boykin advertised in local church bulletins and rail stations for a suitable female. Luckily, a railway porter found a small dog with the criteria mentioned in the article and contacted Boykin, and "she was a perfect match, with long, curly reddish-brown hair and a mild personality. Boykin took her in and named her Singo."

Singo and Dumpy are known to have produced at least one litter. These pups have become the foundation stock for what is now known as the Boykin Spaniel. In choosing dogs from other hunting breeds, the qualities sought were smaller size and a friendly, sociable temperament with good swimming abilities. These characteristics along with a strong natural ability to retrieve both on land and in water are what Boykin and his fellow hunters were looking for. Superior intelligence and a strong desire to please also factored in, as these are strong characteristics in

today's Boykin Spaniel.

No written records of how Whit Boykin actually ran his breeding program have been found. There are some scattered reports found in various personal letters that would seem to indicate a "type" of spaniel-looking dog was seen on hunting trips in the Camden area by the early 1920s. In at least one letter it seems questionable whether the dogs on one particular hunt were American Water Spaniels or some other breed. One interesting fact that one can surmise from these accounts is the versatility of this early "breed." They were seen on hunts tracking deer and raccoons as well as hunts for turkey, ducks, and geese.

By the early 1930s these "little brown dogs," who were then variously known as "Mr. Boykin's Spaniels," "Boykin retrievers," or "those hunting spaniels from Boykin," were showing up at hunts all along the Wateree River (Kelley and Creel: *SC's Dog: The Boykin Spaniel*). It was around this time that a movement began to get them recognized and registered as a breed.

The next column will bring the Boykin Spaniel's history to the present day, with a look to the future of this amazing "little brown dog."—Carole Thomas; carolesboykins@gmail.com; The Boykin Spaniel Club and Breeders Association of America website: the-boykinspanielclub.com

Clumber Spaniels

This is an expert description of Clumber Spaniel hunting style by longtime Clumber Spaniel Club of America field-trial chair Darrell Reeves, with input from other members of the CSCA hunting community.

This description of the breed's hunting style is the best and most complete I have ever seen—from any country, any period. Even if the majority of today's Clumberphiles do not hunt, this information is invaluable for insights into our breed's mentality. Persistence in following a scent, for example, can account for Clumber single-minded-

ness—or stubbornness! The Clumber's caution in approaching a downed bird can help explain the mature Clumber's hesitation when approaching an unknown object. Even why the Clumber moves as he does becomes more evident.

Try reading the following carefully, and apply its lessons to the everyday behavior of our beloved white-haired companions (not pets!).

Insights Into the Clumber Mind

This description is a composite of the breed characteristics we find desirable and want to preserve. Since training and experience can modify these traits, it cannot apply to every Clumber. But when we retain these inherited features, we find the resulting style both pleasing and efficient.

Clumbers were first recognized as a distinct English breed in the late 1700s, with the gene pool controlled by the nobility for about the following century. The Clumber was selectively bred for use in hedgerows and gorse—tough, woody cover similar to the hardwood thickets and briars forming traditional grouse cover in America today.

Sporting dogs developed specifically for this terrain have a unique hunting style. A dog who hunts fast and hard in this hardwood cover will soon be crippled, therefore Clumbers were developed to hunt at a trot or pace. This is a gait in which one front foot and the opposite rear foot move simultaneously—very different from the gait of a wheat-field dog, who normally drives off both hind feet simultaneously in a bounding or running gait.

This woody cover had a canopy of leaves holding in scent. Required was much more a tracker than one developed to catch scent rising out of grass.

Since this cover was so difficult to penetrate, the Clumber was developed to use his nose more than his feet. Even today, they tend not to cover every inch of ground in hopes of startling birds that were not scented. Rather, the dog moves more slowly, in order to catch

the faintest of scents. If there is no scent, he will calmly leave an area and move on to new cover. This gives the Clumber a laid-back appearance when covering ground devoid of bird scent.

Since this cover was so difficult to penetrate, required was a dog with tremendous drive and determination to fight through brush when birds were scented. A fast, hard flush was physically impossible, so the Clumber had to be very persistent until the bird was forced to the edge of the cover. Clumbers come alive when perceiving bird scent, and they show strong determination and persistence exploring even the faintest scent while "working it out." Jim Spencer describes this as a "painstakingly thorough" search at the slightest indication of scent. This persistence also makes them somewhat more difficult to call off from an old fall or nest. The more experienced dogs quickly recognize the difference, but junior-level dogs should be given leeway in this area, otherwise we lose the drive and determination intrinsic to the breed. We lose it in favor of the biddability that is so impressive in a field-trial situation, but does nothing to actually produce birds in a hunting situation!

Shotguns and ammunition from earlier periods were not as effective as today. They produced even more crippled birds than do modern hunters. Thus a Clumber approaches every bird as though a cripple it is determined to catch. If the bird is moving, the dog will track it intently. If the bird stays on the nest or stops in heavy cover, he will slow down, stalking like a cat. When close to the bird, they often stop in order to locate it precisely before pouncing.

This "English-style hesitation flush" is common to spaniels with hunting roots in England. English national championships have been won by spaniels exhibiting this flushing style, which is also valued by many American hunters as it gives time to prepare the shot. As a Clumber pounces, there will be an attempt to bat down a flushing bird with his feet. If really successful,

this can result in a bird without marks. Some 70 pounds of Clumber can be quite effective.

The Hunt Test standard uses “enthusiasm” repeatedly to describe spaniels, but enthusiasm and speed are not synonymous. The dictionary defines enthusiasm as “intense or eager interest; zeal; fervor.” None of these definitions has the connotation of speed, but describe rather the attitude with which a job is done. Nothing portrays a good Clumber’s attitude towards birds better than the word *intense!*

We are aware of no records indicating water work was required of the breed, but most Plumbers do swim well. Entry is deliberate and speed moderate, but they get the job done. The Clumber coat protects from cold water, and some hunters today even use the breed as duck dogs.

To summarize, Plumbers are slow-moving spaniels, normally hunting at a steady trot that can be maintained all day. They may be rather casual on barren fields, but they come alive when hitting bird scent. They demonstrate excellent noses as they thoroughly investigate the faintest scent; once on scent, they are persistent as they “work it out” with that well-known intensity of our breed. —D.R.

Reminder: If the ribbon ever becomes more important than the dog, hurry to the nearest fabric shop—it’s much cheaper and easier! —Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.; bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com; Clumber Spaniel Club of America website: clumbers.org

Cocker Spaniels

Nature vs. Nurture, and Cocker Temperament

The question of the relative importance of nature versus nurture (inheritance versus environment) is constantly debated. As a Cocker fancier of many years, I bring the question to bear on the issue of Cocker temperament.

The standard for the Cocker relays the idea of temperament in the

“General Appearance” section, with “Above all he must be free and merry, sound well balanced throughout and in action show a keen inclination to work,” and in the “Temperament” section, with “Equable in temperament with no suggestion of timidity.”

This description seems clear enough, but as Cocker Spaniel fanciers and breeders, how do we get there from here?

Do we place our efforts more into selecting breeding stock with good, stable temperaments (rejecting those with questionable temperaments), or more into raising dogs in an environment that fosters confidence through socialization and introduction of puppies to different situations?

I recall information that one of my mentors imparted about Cocker temperaments in the 1950s. It made an impression on me; it was horrifying! This breeder had well-known stud dogs and would have bitches shipped to her for breeding. Apparently at times these bitches were so hysterical and difficult to handle that they had to be tranquilized for breeding. Granted, the trauma of being in season, air travel, and being in new surroundings may not cultivate display of a dog’s best temperament, but such behavior is unstable. I believe that a dog possessing stable temperament would handle such situations more equably.

My mentor also noted instances of her Cockers’ personalities and behavior that were astonishingly similar to that of the dogs’ ancestors, yet she knew these instances could not be learned behavior. This sort of experience gives weight to the “nature” or genetic side of the equation. Other anecdotal evidence also suggests the importance of nature. For example, skittish temperament may be found in one dog from a litter (with all dogs in the litter raised the same way), whereas a littermate is exceedingly bold and accepting of interaction with new people and situations.

Although my experience inclines me to consider nature of more significance, the conclusion I must draw is that we

as fanciers and breeders have no choice; we must make best efforts to ensure good temperament on both fronts.

Selection for stable temperament characteristics is key. Beautiful but skittish specimens are not acceptable choices as breeding stock. Further, we must consider the overall pedigree of an individual in terms of the ancestors’ temperaments. It is certainly a breeder’s heartbreaking challenge if a gorgeous specimen has poor temperament such that it should not be used in a breeding program. However, no one promised us that being a conscientious breeder would be problem-free. Fortunately, the dogs themselves, when you do produce beautiful dogs who have equally beautiful temperament, provide a joy that offsets the times of heartbreak, whether you experience heartbreak in cases of poor temperament or other faults.

Experience dictates that the fundamental is to produce stable temperament and then work on nurture. Provide puppies socialization with people and exposure to situations. Help them learn to be confident in meeting new people and encountering new places and situations.

Even if we take a view that either nature or nurture plays a greater part in our Cocker’s temperament, to achieve the best results for a happy companion and show dog, we need not decide the question but instead take strong action on both fronts. —Kristi L. Tukua; American Spaniel Club website: asc-cockerspaniel.org

English Cocker Spaniels

Mentoring—Thinking Outside the Box

At the recent ECSCA national specialty, a breeders’ symposium was held with three longtime esteemed breeders. These three breeders were chosen by the ECSCA membership in advance—and as it turned out, all three were well chosen to speak at this specialty: Bonnie Threlfall, of Edgewood English Cockers, showed her Edgewood First and Foremost to

Best in Sweepstakes; Lisa Ross, of Winfree, showed her Ch. Blueprint Winfree Parti Waggin, ECM, to first in Veterans; and Deb Owczarzak, of Golden Gait ECs, showed her homebred GCh. Golden Gait's Never Lose Hope to Best of Breed!

For both new breeders and those not so "new," mentors are an important part of the learning process. All of us hopefully have had the opportunity to learn and grow in our breeds by building upon what those before us have done, and a mentor serves to help further that knowledge.

A mentor can provide guidance in the myriad issues that face a new breeder, such as understanding correct type, interpreting pedigrees, and so on. But a mentor can only do so much for those they are helping—I am sure at times those mentors who have devoted years to a breed feel like a brood bitch with a large litter of puppies clawing at them! Mentoring takes time and effort and is often an unappreciated task.

Having one mentor is a wonderful thing; how much better would it be to have several mentors whose brains you could pick? Offering a breeder symposium at specialties gives fanciers the chance to ask questions and hear ideas from longtime breeders. The ability to hear three different breeders offering their opinions on important questions can be of great value to all of us.

Questions from the audience at this symposium touched on a wide range of topics—from choosing the best stud dog, to selecting puppies, to planning for the future of your line. Among these three breeders, participants were able to draw upon close to 100 years of experience—an opportunity no single mentor can provide! It gave the audience the chance to hear how successful breeders differ in their approaches to breeding, choosing puppies to show, and doing repeat breedings. After the three breeders answered questions from the moderator, those in attendance were able to ask about specific issues they were interested in.

For a successful breeder symposium,

clubs must be able to choose from well established breeders who are willing to be open and honest about their breeding practices and happy to share that knowledge with others. Allowing club members to have input regarding whom they would like to hear on these panels is a way to give the members ownership of the process.

I am certain I am not the only one looking forward to more breeder symposiums to expand my knowledge of the best breeder practices! Thanks to the hardworking club members and the three breeders who made this year's symposium possible. —Robin Tingley, newsteadecs@carolina.rr.com; English Cocker Spaniel Club of America website: ecsa.org

English Springer Spaniels

A dog with a glazed expression, quivering chin, and an unexplained release of bowel and bladder: These symptoms can mark the beginning of the frightening and difficult-to-diagnose disease of epilepsy.

In the guest column that follows, veterinarian Carol M. Rushing shares the following comments on her own clinical experience with the condition and information on diagnostic procedures and pharmacological breakthroughs.

Thank you, Dr. Rushing, for your generous support of Springer health education.

Epilepsy: Diagnosis and Education

Seizures can vary widely in appearance, from a single muscle-twitch that might even go unnoticed to a classic *grand mal* episode, where the dog falls on his side and may thrash his legs back and forth, draw back his head and neck, clench his jaws, or foam at the mouth, urinate, defecate, and vocalize.

Epilepsy is a diagnosis by exclusion. There is no single diagnostic test for it; rather, you run tests for everything else until you feel comfortable calling the disease epilepsy. In a dog of the right

age and breed (and perhaps bloodline) who has obvious, discreet seizures occurring while being 100-percent normal between episodes, and with completely normal CBC and chemistries, that might be all that is done.

If routine bloodwork shows an abnormal or borderline result or other neurologic symptoms are present, the owner of an affected dog might decide to pursue a more extensive workup. Additional testing might include routine chemistry panels, CBCs, ACTH stimulation testing, serum bile acid testing, titers for tick-borne infections, titers for fungal disease, titers for toxoplasmosis and neospora, radiographs of chest and abdomen, CT scan of the seizing dog's brain, a tap and analysis (including titers for distemper, toxoplasmosis, et cetera) of the cerebrospinal fluid.

In order to rule out every possible cause other than epilepsy, you need to take the dog to a board-certified veterinary neurologist. I can't stress enough how important it is to look for a cause.

I treat dogs in my practice every week for seizures. Usually we start with giving the old standard, phenobarbital. It works, and it is inexpensive. Often I will combine it with potassium bromide, which can help lower the dose of phenobarbital needed.

A newer drug called Zonisamide is also very good, although a little more expensive. Most people add it or switch to it if phenobarbital is not effective. A really great drug called Keppra is also gaining favor. Cost factors prevented it from being used much, but it is now available in oral form as a generic, which is allowing more widespread use. Keppra doesn't control all seizures all the time, but it can be more effective than the other drugs in a lot of bad cases. You occasionally still find some people giving diazepam (Valium) by mouth, but it is currently believed to be ineffective given this way. Injectable diazepam can be excellent to stop a seizure, and it is what most veterinarians give intravenously if you go into

the clinic with an actively seizing dog. Many times, people are sent home with a “rescue dose” of diazepam to give rectally or intra-nasally for if the dog has a seizure at home.

Owners can find education and information about current treatments, medical specialists, and current research information about epilepsy at *veterinary-partner.com* (which offers an excellent article on seizure disorders) and *dvm360.com*.

Rushing emphasizes that responsible breeders want to know if a dog they bred has seizures. She urges owners, “Let the breeder know ASAP. Do all the testing to find a reason, because if you find a reason, it may prevent scrapping an entire pedigree. Share test results with the breeder. [Knowing a dog has epilepsy] should make the breeder be very careful how they breed dogs that have had an epileptic relative. In other words, you wouldn’t want to breed to the fabulous sire that had an epileptic littermate if your fabulous bitch had an epileptic great-aunt. Also, it would make you want to wait to breed your dogs with epilepsy in the pedigree. Usually if your dog is going to seizure from epilepsy, it will happen by 5 years of age (although not always).”

If you have never witnessed a dog having a seizure, consider yourself most fortunate.

We can all help researchers find a cause and a cure for this heartbreaking illness by supporting the work of the ESSFTA Foundation. Visit *essfta.org/essfta/foundation.htm* and learn more about epilepsy in the breed. —Sarah A. Ferrell; *saf@abrohamneal.com*; English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association website: *essfta.org*

Field Spaniels

Use That Nose!

It’s no secret to Field Spaniel owners that our breed is gifted with unusually sensitive noses that frequently lead our dogs into and out of trouble. Tracking tests prove our dogs’ prowess, but not all humans are able-bodied enough to participate. The slower pace

and controlled conditions afforded by nosework trials not only accommodate humans who are not quite as able-bodied, but also give us the opportunity to enjoy the company of our older dogs who may have been retired from activities but are in no way ready to be retired from life. That your dog is able to see or hear is not a requirement; his nose just needs to be in working order. Any and all dogs are welcome, regardless of breed or mix.

I was recently introduced to the world of nosework by one of my puppy people who was looking for something entertaining for her dog and herself. So how does it work? First, you need to locate a certified instructor. In the beginning, the dog is taught to use his nose to find treats in a box. Once the dog is proficient and comfortable, you introduce specific odors to the equation. The first odor used is birch, followed by anise and then clove.

Similarly to a tracking test, to enter a nosework trial, your dog must first prove he is able to do the work by entering an Odor Recognition Test (ORT). Only by passing an ORT are you allowed to enter an actual nosework trial.

At this time there are three levels of testing. Each level offers four separate tests (called elements), and in order to gain the title, you must pass all four elements on any given day. The four elements are *container*, *interior*, *exterior*, and *vehicle*.

At the first level, your dog would be expected to locate the “hide,” consisting of a Q-tip with a couple of drops of birch. This is usually hidden in a small container, within or upon a larger item.

In the container search there will be around 16 similar boxes, lined up in rows on the floor in a room. The handler does not know where the hide is. The dog is released to search, and once it locates the hide, it then indicates to the handler that it has found the item. Dogs display a variety of ways to indicate they have located the hide.

There is a maximum test time. For

the interior search, the dog has to locate the item within a room. Usually the room is littered with a lot of stuff the dog needs to work around in order to locate the hide. The exterior search is similar to the interior search in that the dog needs to locate the item regardless of what sort of junk he may encounter, with an additional variable of weather conditions. The vehicle search has the item hidden in a vehicle.

Once you have completed the element—regardless of the success—you are expected to give your dog treats. Penalties are assessed if you drop treats on the floor, but this is all about rewarding the dog here and now—not later.

From my observations, dogs absolutely love nosework, and so do their owners.

For more information, visit *nacsw.net*. —Karin Cartwright; *arborfield@hotmail.com*; Field Spaniel Society of America website: *fieldspaniels.org*

Irish Water Spaniels

“When a Breed Chooses You”

My introduction to the Irish Water Spaniel came by way of the *New York Times*. A 1979 article by Walter Fletcher introduced readers to that year’s Westminster Kennel Club Best in Show winner, Ch. Oaktree’s Irishtocrat, CD.

Known to friends by his call name, Dugan was the top dog at the Garden that year and was photographed with his handler, Bill Trainor, after winning dogdom’s grand prize. One memorable shot captured the big dog with his front paws resting on Bill’s steady shoulders. That remarkable photograph and the accompanying story spoke to me in a way that I’ve never been able to articulate. I just couldn’t get the image of that dog out of my mind.

By the end of that year, I attended my first all-breed show but, alas, there were no Irish Water Spaniels entered on the day.

In the spring of the following year, I spent the first weekend in May at the home of a classmate’s parents. As it hap-

pens, the family lived directly across the street from Mercer County Park, site of the Trenton Kennel Club's conformation show. It was the day of the show when my friend and I made our way towards the rings and I saw, for the first time, a living, breathing Irish Water Spaniel.

It was, as they say, love at first sight.

This particular dog was sitting on a grooming table, simply watching the world go by. His name was Duffy, Ch. Lindholme Duffington Crickcin, and he was one of four dogs entered. Duffy was a son of the Westminster winner. He was bred by George Tabner and owned by Arthur and Norma Heiny. For many years, the Heiny's dogs were the only Irish Water Spaniels I'd ever see.

Eventually, I was able to attend the parent club's national specialty, where I saw many fine examples of the breed. They all spoke to me in one way or another, and within a year I finally had an Irish Water Spaniel to call my own.

Teala, Ch. Mirkwood's Cameo Appearance, CD, was everything I'd expected the breed to be—and more. She was as smart as the books said she'd be, but her intelligence was more intuitive, almost mystical. Friends used to tell me they thought she could read their minds!

My current Irish Water Spaniel is an altogether different creature. Kurre, Ballyhoo's Kurre O'Quiet Storm, is too smart for her own good. She's a very mental creature, always planning five steps ahead. Make that 10 steps.

For more than 30 years, Irish Waters have been a big part of my life, and so have the people who are devoted to the breed. They're among the most interesting people I know. Fanciers of the breed have proven time and again that they're able to set aside differences for the good of the breed. I've always been proud to be part of that group.

The Irish Water Spaniel Club of America has entrusted me to author this column for more than a decade. For this I am grateful, and I hope I have done right by the club and the breed we all love.

This, however, is my last breed column. I'd like to thank my editors, especially Arliss Paddock, for their guidance and encouragement. I'd also like to express my appreciation to the readers and encourage all of you to show your support for my successor. —Dan Sayers; Ninodanny@aol.com; Irish Water Spaniel Club of America website: iwsca.webs.com

Sussex Spaniels

Eyes and Expression

The standard for the Sussex Spaniel says:

Correct head and expression are important features of the breed. Eyes—the eyes are hazel in color, fairly large, soft and languishing, but do not show the haw overmuch. Expression—The Sussex Spaniel has a somber and serious appearance, and its fairly heavy brows produce a frowning expression.

The statement “but do not show the haw overmuch” means that the eyes are not “tight” eyes, like those of some breeds; Beagles come to mind. It means that the haw is shown (visible) but not to an extreme.

What is the “haw”? One definition: “The haw generally sits all but unnoticed at the inner corner of the eye but can be seen in some dogs. It is also sometimes known as the nictitating membrane. Its job is to keep the eye lubricated and protected.”

Why should the Sussex have a loose rather than tight eye? Think of why the Sussex breed was originally developed: “Its short legs, massive build, long body, and habit of giving tongue when on scent made the breed ideally suited to penetrating the dense undergrowth and flushing game within range of the gun.” It makes sense, then, that in going through all that dense undergrowth, weed seeds and other bits and pieces of debris would get into the eye—with a tight eye, seeds or other debris would be caught between the eyelids, and the eye itself and would irritate and rub as the eye blinked, with possible scratching of the cornea. With a loose bottom lid, the water and mucus would help to wash out any debris, and thus this

would be safer and more comfortable for the dog. Many are the times that I have simply wiped out a seed or even a small bug (“no-see-ums”—a common Florida bug) from a Sussex eye with no bother or damage. Judges (and veterinarians) should take note of this.

Gait

The standard says: *The head is held low when gaiting. The breed should be shown on a loose lead so that its natural gait is evident.*

Recently I was going through an old book of mine, *The Truth About Sporting Dogs*, by C. Bede Maxwell. (By the way, this is a great book for anyone with a sporting breed, published in 1972 by Howell Book House; it is not easy to find but is worth looking for.) The author put it even better: “That big head is carried just slightly above the backline on a rather thick neck. It should be physically impossible to haul up a Sussex on a tight gallows lead. The attempt would be against his build and also his nature.”

I encourage everyone in a breed to go back and read your breed's standard at least once a year. Judges should read the standard for every breed they will judge on the night before they judge. I have shown under judges who have obviously never read the standard again after being approved to judge our breed. Parent clubs go to great lengths to write a standard, and in the standard for the Sussex breed we state proudly, “Although it has never gained great popularity in numbers, the Sussex Spaniel continues today essentially unchanged in character and general appearance from those 19th-century sporting dogs.”

Upcoming national specialty

The next Sussex Spaniel Club of America national specialty will be held on Friday, September 21, at the Butler County Fairgrounds in Butler, Pennsylvania. A judges' seminar will take place on the morning of the show, enabling judges to go immediately after to the ring to see more Sussex than they will ever have seen at one time, unless they have previously attended a national. This is an opportunity that

should not be missed! —Marcia Deugan; ZIYADAHreg@aol.com; Sussex Spaniel Club of America website: sussexspaniels.org

Welsh Springer Spaniels

Preserve the History of Your Breed

Since January, the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America (WSSCA) has lost three stalwarts of the breed: Dr. Colleen O’Keefe, DVM, Tom Tracy, and Beth Wasserman. Collectively Colleen, Tom, and Beth accounted for more than 90 years of knowledge and history of the breed. In a breed as rare as Welshies, we can’t afford to lose that level of expertise without doing something to preserve it—and neither can your breed!

Several years ago we began a series of columns in our parent club’s award-winning breed newsletter, *The Starter Barks*. Our editor, Merrielle Turnbull, our head of judges’ education, Adrienne Bancker, and I drafted up a basic questionnaire that we ask longtime breed fanciers to fill out, either in writing or by responding to the questions verbally. Some minimal editing by me, an online call for funny pictures of these fanciers “back in the day,” and we have a very popular feature for the newsletter.

Most of our questions can apply to any breed:

What breed was your first dog?

Where and when did you see your first [insert your breed]?

How did you get interested in [insert your breed]?

Who sold you your first dog?

Who were your breed mentors?

What year did you first show a dog?

Which of your breedings worked best, and why?

What breeding do you most regret not doing?

What were your happiest moments in showing dogs?

Tell us something others don’t know about you.

That last request for information has elicited some fascinating and funny answers: “I was a flag twirler in high

school.” “I sing show tunes in the car driving to and from dog shows.” “I once delivered a baby in the back of a Volkswagen Beetle.” And the pictures we have been able to put together to support this feature have been hilarious, touching, and a real education on why certain fashions and hairstyles should never come back! (Think plaid sport-coats, bell-bottoms, “The Shag” haircut ...)

Another way to preserve breed history is to keep a photo archive. Ours is kept by WSSCA vice president Sandy Lear. When this information is submitted by a club member it goes into the archives and can also be accessed by people looking for pictures of the dogs in their own dog’s pedigree. It is also a source where we can find photos of the people we are profiling in *The Starter Barks!*

Happily, Colleen O’Keefe was one of our first featured breeders in this effort to get fanciers to put their own experiences into writing. Sadly, Beth Wasserman and Tom Tracy had not yet been featured. We will go forward, re-energized, in our efforts to preserve this portion of the history of our breed in America. Please think about doing the same thing with your breed.

Following are tributes to these three influential people in our breed.

Dr. Colleen M. O’Keefe, DVM, Limberlost Welsh Springer Spaniels

As one of only three women in the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine’s class of 1980, Colleen O’Keefe successfully demanded a change to the school’s dress code that had previously required female students to wear dresses in the laboratory. She went on to earn an advanced degree in animal reproduction from Kansas State University. She later practiced at several clinics in both the Chicago suburbs and in the Springfield area, and toward the end of her life she served the state of Illinois as the Manager of Food Safety and Animal Health at the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Colleen first met a Welsh Springer when she had one as a patient in her

veterinary practice. She fell in love with the breed, and after much research she purchased her first Welsh from Connie Christie in 1979. Lindy, Ch. Killagay’s Limberlost, CD, WDX, VC, was Colleen’s first show dog and went on to produce six champions, one Utility Dog, two Companion Dogs Excellent, one Companion Dog, one Junior Hunter, and three Working Dogs. In the very first *WSS Yearbook*, the 1993–94 edition, Colleen had this to say: “Limberlost was established in 1979 with the purchase of Lindy. Who could know what a major event that was? She and her offspring have brought me many friends, and I have seen many places—some good, some strange, and all interesting.”

Colleen’s contributions to the breed and the parent club were numerous. She was chair of the national specialty several times; initiated the first breed health survey; started the Epilepsy Registry; was member and chair of the club’s health committee; judged sweepstakes at a national specialty; was a founding member of the Heartland Welsh Springer Spaniel regional club, serving in several capacities, including president; and served on the WSSCA board of directors and as club president.

Colleen also served the wider interests of the dog world by breeding and selling health-tested puppies to many people who wanted a Welsh Springer as a family pet and loving companion. She was an early recipient of the TomJoy Breeder of Merit trophy, in 1990. She mentored too many people to count in both dog ownership and the sport of dogs. Most importantly, she was an example to others in her positive attitude and good sportsmanship.

At the most recent WSSCA national specialty this May in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, Colleen was, once again, the show chair. Although increasingly frail from her battle with cancer and occasionally using a wheelchair during the day, Colleen served as the mistress of ceremonies at the annual awards banquet and presided with her trademark dry sense of humor. At the end of the

evening, the club's board of directors was pleased to honor her as the first recipient of the WSSCA Lifetime Achievement Award: The Greenwood Cup. In her remarks upon receiving this award, named after the kennel established by the late Beth Wasserman, Colleen said that all of us should remember that while winning is wonderful, we should not be in this for the glory, but in it for the dogs. She received a standing ovation.

Elizabeth Lee Wasserman, Greenwood Welsh Springer Spaniels

Beth Wasserman was born in Clarke County, Virginia on the farm that would eventually give her the name for her line of Welsh Springer Spaniels, Greenwood. In the 1980s, when looking for a medium-sized dog to raise with her young and growing family, Beth found Welsh Springers in an encyclopedia of dogs and began her quest to find a breeder. She eventually bought her first Welsh from Margaret Dickerson, of DMS Welsh Springers.

As she did in every other part of her life, Beth threw herself into service to the sport of dogs. She attended the first organizational meeting of the Greater Chesapeake Welsh Springer Spaniel Club and served for many years as the club's recording secretary. She served in the same capacity for the Maryland Sporting Dog Association, as well as being the secretary for many MSDA hunt tests over the years. Her service to the breed's parent club was evident in her organization of Working Dog tests at three national specialties and doing myriad other administrative tasks in support of nationals. She further served with her willingness to volunteer her time and expertise visiting shelters to identify whether a potential rescue dog was a Welsh Springer, pulling that dog from the shelter if needed and fostering it until a suitable home was found. In dozens of small and largely unheralded ways Beth served the sport of dogs in general and Welsh Springer Spaniels in particular.

Beth brought many people into the breed and into the world of conformation dog shows. She also sold healthy, happy pups to many others who chose

not to enter conformation but who found wonderful, loving family companions in the dogs Beth sold to them. She always had time for anyone interested in Welsh Springers in particular and field work in general. She gave so much more than she got.

When preparing her eulogy, the speaker asked for and received many stories of Beth's kindnesses to others in the sport of dogs. Here is just one, from a woman, new to dog showing, who was discouraged that she would never finish her bitch: "It was a very hot August day, and I was packing up my car and in a hurry to leave. I saw [Beth] waving and slowly walking toward me from the other end of the field in what must have been 95-degree heat. When she got to the car, she settled herself on the back bumper and gave me encouragement and perspective in just the right amounts. She said the perfect words at the perfect time. ... She was surely one of the kindest people in the world. Her generosity of spirit was amazing, and I never heard an unkind or snide remark from her about anyone—she always seemed to look for the good in people."

Thomas J. Tracy, TomJoy Welsh Springer Spaniels

Along with his wife, Joyce, Mr. Tracy bred Welsh Springers under the "Tomjoy" prefix. Previously a Boxer man, Tom bought his first Welsh Springer, Ch. Sylabru's Dusty Rusty, from Sylvia Foreacre in 1978. He was also an AKC judge of sporting and working breeds as well as some toy breeds. Through the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Mr. Tracy and his wife founded the "Tomjoy Breeder of Merit" award. The TomJoy Award was given, at the discretion of Mr. Tracy, to applicants who met a set of criteria, including having bred or co-bred 15 AKC champions of record. At the request of the Tracy family, the Tomjoy award has been retired.

He was a major contributor to the Welsh Springer Spaniel edition of the column "You Be the Judge" in *Dog News*. After his experience in helping

to write and evaluate that piece, he found that he enjoyed reading each column as it appeared and writing to the author of the column, Robert Cole, to let him know what Tom thought of his latest piece.

Tom was asked by the WSSCA to judge puppy sweepstakes at the national-specialty show in 1988 at the Penn Treaty shows in Ludwigs Corner, Pennsylvania. Tom's many contributions to the breed and to the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America will be missed. —Wendy J. Jordan; wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com; Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America website: wssca.com

Spinoni Italiani Changing Breeds

As dog people, we each have our chosen breed and are part of a community of people also devoted to that breed. Our breed has the physical characteristics, purpose, temperament, and personality that appeal to us—and which are obviously superior to those of any other breed! Our breed is so beautiful, intelligent, devoted, so sensitive and empathetic, such a special companion, that we can't imagine why anyone would have anything else. Obviously, there is something wrong with someone who doesn't recognize the best dog in the world! We know that we have found perfection and will forever live our lives surrounded by these wonderful creatures.

Sometimes, though, circumstances change. Unexpected things happen. There can be unforeseen changes in living arrangements or in the amount of indoor and/or outdoor space available. There can be a move to a different climate, the changes that come with getting older, health limitations, even health issues, or changing characteristics of the beloved breed itself. Sometimes you have to face the fact that the breed that has suited you so well is no longer a good choice for you. You grieve for the loss of a major part of your life, and then you make a new list of desired traits, research breeds and breeders, and

bring home that new puppy.

That is not all there is to it, though. The dog world associates each of us with a specific breed and is not necessarily quick to accept a new one. There are many puzzled looks; after all, you already had the most perfect breed, so how could you change? You get used to hearing “That’s a funny-looking (former breed!)” and, in a shocked tone accompanied by an expression of disbelief, “You have a (new breed)?”

The challenges are not just with friends and acquaintances. Where once you knew every dog in your breed by their call names, could discuss pedigrees and traits generations back, and could recite the breed standard in your sleep, now you have to start over. You are the newcomer. Conversations filled with breeders’ names, dogs’ call-names, or references to various national specialties sound like they are in a foreign language. There is so much to learn.

Another problem with changing breeds is the “stuff.” If you were in your former breed for any length of time, you have collected books, figurines, prints, sculptures, jewelry, purses, clothing, and countless other items relating to that breed. Now what?

There is always eBay, but it is hard to part with items that hold so many memories. You might also need to replace items you use every day, if the new breed requires different grooming tools or is significantly different in size from the old breed. Collars, show leads, crates, toys, obedience equipment, and other accessories may need to be purchased. It’s exciting and sad at the same time.

While the people in your former breed most likely don’t understand your decision to change breeds, the people in your new breed don’t question it at all. It makes perfect sense to them; after all, their breed is the most beautiful, intelligent, devoted, sensitive, empathetic, and special of all!

I have enjoyed writing this column for the past 10 years. Now it is time for me to pass it on to someone else, while I immerse myself in my new breed. I’ll

be the one with the funny-looking Spinone. —Jan Naigus; spinone@cfl.rr.com; Spinone Club of America website: spinoneclubofamerica.com

Vizslas Finding the Best Vet

If you’re new to dog ownership, or if you’ve had a dog but are moving to a new community, finding a good vet clinic is one of your top priorities.

The greatest resources for information are experienced dog people who can refer you to a trusted clinic near your home. The Internet can also be helpful—as long as you’re very careful about not believing everything you read online. The American Veterinary Medical Association website (avma.org) offers a helpful brochure, “Choosing a Veterinarian,” that you can download. The American Animal Hospital Association also has useful information on its website, aahanet.org.

Here are some things to consider when considering a vet clinic:

What is the level of experience of the veterinarians and other staff?

Are they committed to continuing education and keeping their skills up to date?

Are the clinic’s hours compatible with your schedule?

How are emergency calls handled? If they will refer you to a local after-hours emergency clinic, what can they tell you about that clinic’s quality of care?

Is the location close enough for you to get there in a reasonable amount of time?

Is the staff knowledgeable about where to refer you if you need qualified specialists?

Are the vets experienced at stitching up barbed-wire cuts? Hunting dogs can get some interesting injuries, and you want a vet who considers these to be routine, not extraordinary.

If you breed, there are additional considerations. Does the vet have experience with things like C-sections and progesterone testing? And what is the vet’s attitude toward breeding? (There

are some who just plain disapprove of breeders.) You’ll also want to ask ahead of time about docking tails and removing dewclaws. Some vets are reluctant to dock, not knowing how easily a tail-wagging Vizsla can injure a tail and how difficult it can be for the injury to heal.

Most vets are competent and caring, but some are better than others, and by doing your homework you can find the ones who are excellent, not just OK, or even downright bad.

Lately I’ve heard of vets giving the wrong shots to young puppies, following vaccination protocols that are at least a decade out of date, or talking clients into unnecessary surgery.

And not long ago, our local news media ran a story about a veterinarian whose license was suspended after numerous reports of substandard care. His brother, also a vet, had his license revoked several years ago.

Why did the story get my attention? That was the clinic where we took our first Vizsla puppy many years ago. At the time we didn’t have any real connections with experienced dog owners, and we had no idea what to look for. After a few visits, something seemed “off,” and we found a better clinic—but I hate to think how easily Bartok could have suffered from the kind of horrific mistakes described in the state veterinary board’s report about those vets.

Fortunately, there are a lot of good vets out there, and it’s worth the effort to find the best one for your dog. Once you’ve found one, you’ll want to do your part in establishing and maintaining a good relationship. When they know that you’re a considerate and responsible client, a sense of mutual respect and trust can develop, and the dogs are the ones who benefit. —Beth Nash; nash@pro-ns.net; Vizsla Club of America website: vcaweb.org

Weimaraners Boy or Girl?

Responsible breeders have a “job description” that includes far more than the production of puppies. To be a good breeder, a person should

be willing to take on the role of educator, whose job is to influence, guide, and teach those who are about to acquire a puppy.

From my own experience at placing puppies, the first “rough cut” in screening a potential home is based on whether or not the breed is appropriate for the buyer’s lifestyle and their expectations for their dog.

If prospective buyers pass my test of “Is a Weimaraner for you?” the next question they often ask is “Should we get a male or female puppy?” Here is where a knowledgeable breeder should give advice that is tempered by experience and accompanied by facts about breed and gender characteristics.

First, there are the obvious things to point out, like the size differential between the sexes. While no one interested in a Weimaraner is expecting a small dog, the size and strength of our breed is a factor that cannot be overlooked. Since the males are bigger and can weigh 10 to 15 pounds more than their feminine counterparts, this fact needs to be brought to the attention of the buyer.

Next, we get into gender differences in behavior and personality. Before I’m taken to task for spouting stereotypes about the sexes, I’ll admit that this is exactly what I am doing. There are tremendous variations in individual personalities, but some generalizations seem to hold up when you compare the sexes.

I’ve heard people say, “If you want a good dog, get a male, but if you want a great dog get a female, and hope that luck is on your side.” If a buyer wants an affectionate, happy-go-lucky dog who seeks and easily gives affection, a boy puppy is just their ticket.

On the flip side, the boys are more easily distracted and always seem to have one eye on the horizon. Boys may have the attention span of a gnat, but they’re rollickingly good-natured about it and will work diligently to please, despite playfulness being their middle name.

And what about the lady dogs?

While they too are affectionate, they tend to be more independent, as though they have their own agenda. When your agenda overlaps theirs, everything is in sync, however the girls always retain the right to do things the way they think they should be done. When motivating a female, it’s wise to couch your tactics around an assumed “What’s in it for me?” attitude. The girls are shrewd survivors who negotiate partnerships; the boys are open-as-a-book playmates.

As I write this, my male has his head in my lap and thumps his tail every time I look down at him. Meanwhile my female is glued to the window, watching for the neighborhood cat to make her daily rounds. It’s as though they’re illustrating my observations on the differences in male and female behavior.

A friend of mine who is an accomplished trainer may have summed it up best in her description of one of her males and her females. “Such a sweet boy. You give him a command, and he does it without question. Then there are the girls ... they want to know, ‘Why?’” —Carolee Lee Richards; ymar_column@yahoo.com; Weimaraner Club of America website: weimaranerclubofamerica.org

Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

I enjoy learning from experienced breeders to gain new perspectives on our breed.

I recently interviewed Mary Kiblan, who has been in purebred dogs since 1956 and Wirehaired Pointing Griffons since 1993. I asked her what she believed were the most important considerations when judging the Griffon in the ring.

Judging the Griffon

Kiblan notes, “There are two hallmarks of the WPG. One is size and proportion, the other is coat.”

What is one’s initial impression of this dog?

“Well, he is a hunter. The breed came

out of the Netherlands’ marshy lowlands, so you should see a dog of economical size and strength and a coat that protects. He is slightly longer than tall: 10 is to 9.”

Regarding the judging of puppies, Kiblan notes, “When judging the WPG, you will frequently see a less-than-ideal coat in your puppy classes. An old adage in this breed is that it can take three years before the correct coat develops. In a puppy one should never see a curly or woolly coat, but you may see a soft coat. This should not be penalized. This coat will change over time. This may be one area when judging the Griffon where it is appropriate to ask a dog’s age.”

“When viewed from the side, the head is square, with equal distance from the back of the skull to the medium stop, and from the stop to the end of the muzzle. Look for a well-developed under-jaw. This dog must be able to carry anything from a chukar to a goose.”

There seems to be some confusion regarding the correct foot in the Griffon.

Confirms Kiblan, “Yes, erroneously, some think this breed has a hare’s foot. That is incorrect. The foot is round, tight, and well-arched. Pads are thick, and the toes are webbed.”

“And I cannot forget to stress [the requirement of] a scissors bite and solid temperament in the Griffon. Those two things are absolutely essential and non-negotiable!”

In summing up the overall essence of the ideal Griffon, Kiblan says, “The good Griffon has beautiful bone and substance. He is not a ‘reedy’-looking dog. He has an iron-hard, level topline and a level tail-set; is beautifully, powerfully balanced, front and rear; and has a harsh coat. You should see a beautiful headpiece and neck. He is noble of bearing and sound of mind.”

Thank you, Mary, for sharing your perspective on judging the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon! —Ann Allen; ams2allen@aol.com; American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association website: awpga.com

working **Akitas****To Wicket, or Not to Wicket?**

To wicket, or not to wicket? That is the question. Ultimately, the responsibility to wicket should lie with the judge, since we are trusting that this person knows the five disqualifications for the Akita.

The disqualifications are:

Partial or total lack of pigmentation on nose.

Drop or broken ears.

Noticeably undershot or overshot.

Sickle or uncurled tail

Dogs under 25 inches; bitches under 23 inches.

For this column I will be discussing the height requirement. Notice that the requirement states very clearly that it is “under 25 inches” for dogs and “under 23 inches for bitches”—no matter the age. Recently, a passionate Internet discussion from the fresher perspective of a newer Akita fancier (yes, I am an “old-timer”) about a young, undersize Akita who should have been wicketed made me give this some thought. Unfortunately, it appears that some judges either do not understand this disqualification or are choosing to overlook the height requirement when it comes to young Akitas.

So, what *can* or what *should* those in the Akita fancy do about it? I have been reluctant to call the wicket on a fellow exhibitor. Both the judge and the exhibitor can take doing this personally, and feelings can get hurt, egos get bruised, and so on.

Something that was brought up in the discussion made me re-think that. It was stated (I am paraphrasing):

“In 98 percent of the issues that breeders are concerned about, since they are not disqualifying faults, there is really nothing that can be done to change others’ breeding programs except to educate and hope those producing these faults will, in time, recognize it and work to correct it—but this is one area where the AKC allows handlers and breeders to make a statement. *Why aren’t we?*”

This was a proverbial “Ah ha!” moment for me as I sat there thinking,

She’s absolutely right!

Now, to be clear, a dog who doesn’t make size is not the worst thing one can produce in a litter, and undersize Akitas are still well-bred companions.

However, breed size *is* something we can influence—and should, if we are truly interested in preserving the Akita standard!

It is always possible that the exhibitor is new to the breed and does not realize that there is a height requirement; this may simply necessitate a discussion with the person and some education before she shows the dog or has him shown.

The conflict arises when a person repeatedly shows an undersized animal. This then becomes a disservice to the standard and the breed. By not calling the wicket, we condone it. This is *not* acceptable!

The purpose of showing dogs at AKC shows is to prove breeding stock *to the standard*, and we all, judges included, need to remember this and not take it personally when someone calls for the wicket. One may not call the wicket as a spectator; *one must be in the ring with the animal* to do so. Therefore you may not be able to call the wicket until you and the undersize dog are both in the Winners class or Best of Breed, if the animal was not in your initial class.

Exhibitors should keep in mind that this is about adhering to the standard and not about poor sportsmanship or jealousy. There is nothing wrong with not wanting to lose to an Akita with a disqualifying fault and caring enough about the standard to preserve it.

Thank you to Diane Merits for this thought-provoking discussion and proving that this “old dog” could be taught new tricks! —Julie Strawsburg-Mayes; DarqWitch@aol.com; Akita Club of America website: akitaclub.org

Alaskan Malamutes**Insurance: It Can Be More for Mals**

Looking at my yearly litter of four pups, I wonder if I have them going to the right homes—one to me,

one to another breeder, and two to two different college professors. I haven’t met one of the professors, but he’s been in Mals for 30 years, always having gotten his Mals from a reputable breeder who is no longer active. And they have usually been sired by one of my males.

Yes, I would say the prospective owners all check out well. Yet ...

A few months ago, I was at training class, when a woman with a Golden Retriever walked over to me and said, “Dian McComb, you haven’t changed a bit. You’re the one who encouraged me to enter my bitch in the 1980 Mal national out here, and she won!”

I had seen her bitch competing in obedience, and since in those days we hardly ever got a good entry in obedience at the national, I had encouraged her to try. She won with a score of 180, something that our obedience contestants now surpass all the time.

“Besides, she was really one of yours,” the woman continued. “I got her from the Mal owner to whom you sold a puppy for breeding to her wolf. She didn’t bred her to the wolf all the time, just once.”

My heart stopped. I didn’t recognize the Golden owner, nor remember the puppy owner she was referring to, but I sure recognized that one of my Mals had been bred to a wolf. To me, there’s nothing worse.

There are those who for some macho-driven reason think having a wolf-Mal mix would be cool. It isn’t cool, it’s stupid. The result of such a breeding is a dangerously strong dog that has the Mal’s strength and the wolf’s fear and is a fear-biter from the start. In the Los Angeles area where I live, such animals are turned into the Wildlife Waystation wild-animal sanctuary as what they are: wild animals.

Dog bites affect some 800,000 people yearly, enough so that the third week in May is National Dog Bite Prevention Week, sponsored by the AVMA, the U.S. Postal Service, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Such data is often revealed to those seeking to add insurance coverage for their new Mal pets when agents quote higher rates for the breed. There are statistics covering 1979–1998 that put Mals into fifth place for biting. I wonder, however, how many of those bite statistics credited to the Alaskan Malamute really should have been given to the wolf-Mal hybrid.

Although the appearance of the Malamute on the “biters list” should not be taken lightly, there are self-described “dog bite” lawyers on the Internet who are terribly misinformed. For example, one says that the Malamute should not be washed and that they “become aggressive when they overheat in summer.”

Every Mal that I have known benefits from a good bath—and gets almost comatose when faced with heat. They zoom inside to get into the air conditioning and flop on the tiled bathroom floor.

A friend of mine recently contacted her agent representing a major insurance company. Yes, he told her, her rates would be higher because of her Mals.

She asked, “Because of a risk of biting?”

“Nope,” he answered. “Digging. They can mar your landscaping.”

Her answer? “So can gophers and ground squirrels.”

And when was the last time you insured your lawn? —Dian McComb; Alcan@att.net; Alaskan Malamute Club of America website: alaskanmalamute.org

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs in the Show Ring

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs have been bred through the centuries for endurance, athleticism, and speed.

They are large dogs, not giant-breed dogs, with the males standing from 29 inches at the withers and weighing from 110 to 150 pounds. Females stand from 27 inches at the withers and weigh from 80 to 120 pounds.

Anatolians have massive heads and

necks, powerful shoulders, and broad, deep chests. A slight tuck in front of the loin is reminiscent of the build of large, fast-moving cats. Behind the tuck is a strong rear atop huge, powerful thighs on long legs. This structure permits speeds of up to 30 miles per hour from an apparent resting position.

It is pure pleasure to watch one of these dogs racing at top speed across an open field, easily changing directions rapidly and powerfully, with the single intent of protecting its territory and all the creatures in it from suspected interlopers.

Unfortunately, their power and flowing grace is rarely on display in the show ring. Ample room is required in the show ring in order for their reach, drive, and fluid movement to occur.

To encourage maximum freedom of movement within the ring, handlers should move the dogs at their natural gait, neither too quickly nor too slowly, whenever possible. Choppy, mincing gaits can be an indication that the dogs either don't have enough room to move, are being moved too slowly, or have structural issues.

Off their home property, Anatolians are aloof but polite. They are calmly vigilant about their surroundings. This includes the show ring, where they are always aware of and monitoring any activity within and outside the perimeter of the ring. Sometimes judges interpret this demeanor as disinterest when it is simply the breed's inherent guarding instinct.

Anatolians should be given plenty of individual space when lined up in the ring, with judges approaching them from the shoulder, not “head on,” since this may be construed by the dogs as an aggressive motion.

All color coats, markings, and coat lengths are acceptable.

Function, overall balance, and structure that are the necessary attributes of all successful working dogs should be the basis for final evaluation of this magnificent breed. —Karen Sen; senflower@q.com; Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America website: asdca.org

Bernese Mountain Dogs

Breed Popularity Continues to Rise

Statistics for 2011 AKC registrations show that the Bernese Mountain Dog ranked 34th for the year in dogs registered. In 2010, Berners were 39th, and the breed was 41st in 2006. Ten years earlier, in 2001, they were 54th in registrations.

Notable dog trends, according to the AKC, indicate that in the past decade the larger breeds continue to rise in popularity, the report specifically citing that Berners have come from 54th to 34th. The Greater Swiss Mountain Dog moved from 101 to 82. Other large breeds that have increased in popularity are the Bullmastiff, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Irish Wolfhound, and Belgian Malinois.

In 2011, the Entlebucher Mountain Dog, the smallest of the four Swiss Mountain Dogs, made its debut in the Herding Group and was 141st in registrations as one of the six new breeds in the AKC registry of 173 breeds. The Entlebucher had been an AKC Foundation Stock Service (FSS) breed since 2000. At some point in the future, the Appenzeller Sennenhund, also known as the Appenzeller Mountain Dog, which became FSS-enrolled in 1998, will become a part of the Herding Group. The breed is currently eligible to earn suffix titles in companion events and herding. Both Berners and the Greater Swiss in the Working Group are eligible for herding events.

Coursing Ability Test

Last year, the AKC launched an exciting new titling event that is open to all breeds, Canine Partners (mixed-breeds), and PAL (Purebred Alternative Listing) dogs, provided that they are at least 12 months of age and are individually registered or listed with the AKC.

Fashioned after the sport of lure coursing, which is limited to sight hounds, the Coursing Ability Test is designed to be a fun and healthy activity for all dogs and their owners. The course is planned for the safety of non-

sighthound breeds, with no turns being tighter than 90 degrees. The distance of the course is based upon the height of the dog at the withers and whether the breed is brachycephalic (flat-faced) or not. For Berners the distance is 600 yards, which is to be completed enthusiastically and without interruption within the maximum time of two minutes. The time limit is not set to make it difficult to achieve but to prevent a dog who “walks” the course from passing.

In 2011, three Berners earned the CA (Coursing Ability) suffix title. This is a noncompetitive, pass/fail event that requires three passes for the CA.

Dogs and handlers who enjoy the sport can continue amassing Coursing Ability suffix titles. A Coursing Ability Advanced (CAA) requires a total of 10 passes, and the Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX) suffix title may be attained with 25 total passes. The fun of running the course for titles continues with 50 total passes to achieve the CAX2. For every additional 25 passes, a higher-numbered title is awarded.

With this activity open to all breeds, Berner owners who love doing things with their dogs will find coursing a welcome addition to performance events. The wide variety of activities in the sport of dogs that are open to Berners provides a veritable smorgasbord from which to select one or more ways to enjoy doing things with your Berner. —Julia Crawford; cwyemede@dmv.com; Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America website: bmdca.org

Boxers

This month’s guest columnist is Beth Coviello-Davis. Beth has been showing and breeding Boxers since 1983, under the Belco kennel name. She lives in Massachusetts.

The Story of Miles

The conversation started innocently enough: discussion of the upcoming dog show with a friend who was traveling here from another state. My friend casually mentioned that she’d have an

“extra passenger” for the ride home, and I, being nosy, asked who that could be.

It seems there was a puppy in a bad situation in southern Massachusetts whose breeder had put out a plea for help on the Showboxer list on the Internet. My friend offered to bring the puppy part of the way home from the show. His breeder would meet her on the New York–Pennsylvania border.

I offered to pick the little guy up on Saturday morning and transport him the two-and-a-half hours to the dog show on Sunday. Next step: puppy rescue!

I received an urgent email the next morning from the concerned breeder: She wondered, could I take the puppy ASAP? She was worried he’d be dumped at a shelter, in a rescue, or even on the side of the road.

Whoa! This situation has now gone from bad to desperate. What had happened that made it impossible for the new owner to keep the puppy a few more days? The outrageous answer: The puppy, 15 weeks old, is not housebroken yet.

I immediately agreed to take him. The owner was given my work address (this is closer to his home), and he called before I got there. It’s about an hour and a half drive to the grooming shop from the Cape Cod town where the puppy lives.

The puppy owner arrived at the shop. We are four Boxer breeders working there, all show people, all with 20 years experience in the breed. This man walked in with an emaciated, lame, but happy puppy. He looked me in the eye and told me that Rocky had been playing with a dog that morning and hurt his leg. He handed me a bag of (awful) food, his vet records, and a lead with the puppy attached.

I couldn’t get him out of there fast enough. We all had tears in our eyes. Rocky hobbled happily into the grooming shop.

After a quick evaluation, we all agreed: The injury was *not* new, Rocky was in serious condition, and he needed veterinary attention immedi-

ately. The leg was hot, swollen, and atrophied, and Rocky was a walking skeleton. Hipbones, spine, and ribs all showed, but his tail was still wagging—a true Boxer.

My vet is a saint and said, “Bring him right down.” Rocky had a very high fever, was dehydrated, and had a serious infection of his joint. I was scared to death for this puppy I barely knew. Some digging on his breeder’s part revealed the owner had brought him to the vet five days earlier, lame, and had declined treatment!

Rocky stayed with my vet until 7:00 that night. When I picked him up he was hydrated, happy and bouncing! His joint had been flushed and injected with antibiotics, he’d had fluids, and he’d had pain pills. His prognosis was guarded but good.

I brought him home to my “zoo.” Rocky walked in, peed on my floor, and introduced himself to all—just your average, happy Boxer puppy! He ate a *huge* dinner and fell asleep in his crate.

Through this all, I stayed in touch with his breeder. She was very concerned about the puppy, his vet bill, and the fact that his owner had lied. I seriously contemplated filing charges against the man.

Rocky, now called Miles, improved by the hour. He never missed a meal or a treat. He played with all my dogs and ran around the grooming shop and greeted customers. His friendliness and cheerful personality endeared him to everyone. He had two collar changes as he gained weight, his bones disappeared, and he barely limped anymore. He started to play with toys and bark! This “not housebroken” puppy had one accident in my house.

I think Miles’s story needs to be told, because there are lessons to be learned from his sad experience. In the end, Miles had a soft landing. But how did such a nice puppy end up five states away from his breeder, with such an uncaring owner?

Please, breeders, there are good Boxer people everywhere. Give your

puppies a cushion; contact the local Boxer club and let them know one of yours is coming their way. Give the new owners the contacts. People will say what you want to hear over the phone, and they'll write what you want to see online. Boxer people help their own—take advantage of that! Thank goodness for the Showboxers list and Miles's breeder's plea for help, but how many more like Miles are there? How many slip through the cracks and wind up dead or in shelters?

Please, please, breeders, take advantage of us, your fellow breeders, and contact us so puppies like Miles have a safe place to land and their new owners have people to reach out to in case of need. Remember, this could have happened to any of us. Miles is a well-bred puppy. His breeder did right by the puppy after he got into trouble, but the trouble might have been avoided in the first place if the new home had been checked out better beforehand.

We will all wonder about Miles until he completes his journey back to his breeder. The four of us were just one step, one leg on the journey of an incredibly tough and resilient puppy. A journey that could have ended very differently. —B.C.-D.

Many thanks to guest columnist Beth Coviello-Davis and the Boxer Underground blog, boxerunderground.blogspot.com.

—Stephanie Abraham;
Landmarks.properties@snet.net; American Boxer Club website:
americanboxerclub.org

Bullmastiffs

Gender Discrimination

The AKC standard for the Bullmastiff says:

Size, Proportion, Substance: Size—Dogs, 25 to 27 inches at the withers, and 110 to 130 pounds weight. Bitches, 24 to 26 inches at the withers, and 100 to 120 pounds weight. Other things being equal, the more substantial dog within these limits is favored. Proportion—The length from tip of breastbone to rear of thigh exceeds the height from withers to ground only slightly,

resulting in a nearly square appearance.

In comparison of specimens of different sex, due consideration should be made not to favor Bullmastiff males, as females do not bear the characteristics of the breed to the same degree of masculinity and overall impression as do the males.

Other things being equal, the more substantial dog within these limits is favored. The reason for this statement should be clear: A more substantial dog is better equipped to knock down and hold the poacher. Bigger is not necessarily better ... and quality should always win over quantity.

Why then is the bitch often ignored and frequently rewarded with Best of Opposite or not given Best of Winners when clearly her quality might be superior overall to that of the males?

If we adhere to form following function, a petite bitch could not knock a man down and hold him. Bitches should proportionately have good bone and substance as their male counterparts. They should be compact, as there is nothing in our standard that forgives more length of back in a bitch, and they should be equally “nearly square” as a male. There also is no preference to size/weight range in our standard.

Conversely, we also see dogs at 120 pounds that are ignored as considered small, which is equally inappropriate. Dogs and bitches can actually be the same size and be perfectly correct within the standard, if both were 120 pounds.

Although we don't often see bitches in the classes that are up to the standard size in height, there are some who are very competitive with males in both the classes and Best of Breed ring and are far superior to a coarse, overdone, less well-put together male. Bitches who are 115 pounds, well within the standard in weight, can look petite next to a dog who is significantly over the weight parameters for males—and we often see males that are upward of 150 pounds and even 160 pounds.

We see advertisements in magazines as well as breed-specific publications

extolling the virtues of their “huge-boned, massive dogs”—and this is a good thing? Clearly if the Bullmastiff standard calls for 110–130 pounds, a 150-pound male is more closely fitting the Mastiff standard. Moreover, those dogs are often rectangular, which further conflicts with the standard calling for a “nearly square” dog.

Although there may be a place in a breeding program for a sound, typey, small bitch, a truly petite bitch should not be rewarded in the show ring. Judges must remember, however, that bitches can be smaller and more feminine than males, which does not automatically make them inferior to the male.

Size, weight, and proportion are not up for discussion, as those limitations are clearly stated in our standard; there is no room for personal preference to breed dogs over the prescribed size and weight in our standard. As a breeder and judge I would like to see more appropriate adherence to breeding to the height and weight standard in our Bullmastiffs, both dogs and bitches, and due consideration given to the quality bitches presented within the boundaries of our standard. —Helene Nietsch; helene@banstockbullmastiffs.com; American Bullmastiff Association website: bullmastiff.us

Doberman Pinschers

Our guest contributor for this issue is Ray Carlisle (caradobe@aol.com).

Once Upon a Time

Do you remember when the Doberman Pinscher was the breed of choice of the United States Marine Corps, police departments wanted to use the breed, and professional dog trainers preferred them? This is a breed that was very popular for its beauty and working ability.

Why did it lose what had made it one of the best and greatest breeds ever developed by man? Because if you don't test, you're guessing. The breed isn't as good as it was 25–30 years ago. Many breeders don't care about “work-

ing ability” or correct type, and they won’t admit they are a major part of the problem.

Remember how proud we were to hear stories about our dogs coming back from the war, credited with saving thousands of lives? How proud we are when one of our own apprehends a criminal, makes a large drug bust, alerts his family of an intruder, or assists the disabled?

What happened? Multiple things, and not at the same time. Some of the dogs coming back from the wars needed a lot of retraining that never happened. Some had issues that went untreated. Then several insurance companies would not insure homes with Dobermans, some police departments refused to use them, and many professional trainers would not accept them in their training classes.

It gets worse. During the war, DPCA members donated their family pets to the Marine Corps, and our breed became the USMC’s breed of choice. Now the Marines won’t even use them, however. Working-dog trials of all types have very few Doberman entries and even fewer who pass or score well. Only about one-third of the Dobermans that even enter a Working Aptitude Evaluation pass. Only a small group of people in the breed really care about the situation, and even fewer are willing to do anything about it.

We have failed our breed! We did not preserve and protect it. Fads and exaggerations became the norm. Correct balance is not preferred nor understood by many breeders. From the extra-long swan neck to the excessively long ears, extra-long tail, and out-of-balance body, these exaggerations serve to stress elegance, not correct breed type.

Many breeders only care about conformation and winning in the show ring. I feel this has destroyed correct breed type. Unless you are willing to do something about it, all will be lost.

One sometimes hears people say, “I don’t care if it can do the work it was bred to do, I only want a dog who wins

in the show ring!” Those are the very people who are destroying the breed. No, they don’t accept that, nor will these same people do anything about it. If *you* care, you *will* get involved and do something about it.

What can you do? If you are a dedicated Doberman fancier, and even if you’re not a breeder, you can still make a *huge* difference. Just remember to ask if the dog you’re interested in comes from tested breeding stock. Yes, *tested*—not “assumed” or “It’s not important,” or “My dog is a champion,” or any other lame excuses for not testing—actual, recorded, published tests! Did the sire and dam pass the Working Aptitude Evaluation? Were the sire and dam health tested? Were the granddam and grandsire tested? How did they score?

If you’re interested in a stable, naturally protective, healthy dog, these will be questions you start asking *first* and insist on knowing before you consider this dog as a good representative of the breed. That is how *you* can make a difference! —R.C.

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

Dogues de Bordeaux Changes

The “popular sire syndrome” and breeding to big winners is a practice that occurs in all breeds, and almost any seasoned dog person can tell you how a popular sire can cause havoc in a breed. A big problem with this can be the influence the popular sire can have on the future of the breed and the breed standard if not kept in check.

All dogs have faults; it is the severity of the faults that should determine if the dog should be shown, and if he is shown, how he should be placed, and also to whom he should be bred. The problem is that if a dog with a slight but significant fault begins to win—or even a dog with a large fault that is overlooked time and time again—others want their dogs to “look” like the

winning dog, because they believe that is “what the judges are looking for.”

But is this what the judges are looking for? Or is it that the judges do not know they have overlooked this fault? Or do they choose to overlook it because this is the dog that “everyone else is picking”?

We cannot start to dissect the minds of people, but we should remember to stay true to the standard. Just because Spot is the hot dog of the year does not mean that all dogs going forward should be bred to Spot or bred to look like him. If Spot is a 210-pound monster and is winning based on his size, is that correct? No, because 210 pounds is too large for a DDB—even if Spot looks impressive, he is not to standard. Why is he being picked? Perhaps Spot has all the other features of a DDB to standard except that he is overweight and maybe too tall—but he looks impressive.

So many “maybes.” Let’s not have the maybes determine the future of the breed.

The DDBSA will be working on revising its standard in 2012 to follow the changes made in the FCI standard five years ago. The DDBSA will not be making random changes based on the popular dogs of the last few years, nor on the personal opinions of breeders or judges. For example, if judges “prefer a straight topline” on a DDB, then they are not judging our breed to our standard; they need to review the standard, because a DDB topline is not “straight,” whether or not a judge “prefers” it. The revised standard will not be sent out without approval from the club members and the AKC—this is a long, tedious process—but be assured that the board of directors of the DDBSA has one goal in mind: to keep true the standard worldwide as best as they can.

The DDBSA has fantastic judges’ education materials available, one being the HEARTS flyer, which is the perfect ringside reference. It can be downloaded from the DDBSA website, which is currently under reconstruction.

If you cannot locate it, please feel free to e-mail me, and your request will be forwarded to the judges' ed committee.

Congratulations to all the participants and winners of the 2012 DDBSA national specialty in Kentucky this year, and the hard work of everyone putting it together. In 2013 the show will be in York, Pennsylvania, and another great weekend is being planned. —Andrea Switzer-Bialoblocki;

pnknhdbrdx@aol.com; Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America website: ddbbs.org

German Pinschers Sit, Stay, and Think

One of the most fascinating characteristics of the German Pinscher is the breed's intelligence. Sometimes referred to as a "thinking breed," their primitive or innate intelligence will captivate owners and frustrate trainers.

The German Pinscher is inquisitive and will continuously explore his environment. Even in everyday home situations the German Pinscher will seek out the new and the interesting. They are full of surprises and will find things that no one else even knew were there. When nothing else is available, they will create their own activities.

When faced with new places and things, the German Pinscher is alert and ready to react. They will constantly view and assess their environment. However, they quickly learn what is normal in the surrounding areas and will only seriously react to what is abnormal. Therefore, they are not excessive barkers and will tend to take most things in stride.

However, the German Pinscher is not well suited to structured or repetitive training. They also do not do well with compulsive training methods. More often than not, German Pinschers will do it their way. As long as the result is the same, owners should learn to accept the German Pinscher's unique way of getting the job done. The German Pinscher will never be a robotic worker. While they love to work, they will not do so just for the

pleasure of the activity or to please their owner. Rather, they are problem-solvers who need to be challenged. The more varied the activity, the more likely that the German Pinscher is to stay focused and excel. A bored German Pinscher can become recalcitrant and appear to be stubborn.

The German Pinscher is outgoing and likes to keep busy. They need an outlet for their high energy. Any job will do, as long as it engages their mind and spirit. In an effort to keep their German Pinschers happy and engaged, breeders and owners have discovered that the German Pinscher is a very versatile working dog.

Good basic training is a must for all German Pinscher puppies, whether they are destined for the show ring, the companion-events ring, the performance ring, or as a family pet. An owner needs to get control of and shape their German Pinscher's natural tendencies early and to teach him or her good judgment.

Age does nothing to diminish the German Pinscher's bright mind and spirit, which is why some owners pursue companion and performance events, as in these there is almost always another level to challenge their dog.

There is no question that the German Pinscher is smart. As the old saying goes, if you give them an inch, they will take a mile. Never underestimate the German Pinscher; many are smarter than the average owner. However, with a solid foundation of mutual respect and adaptive training, the owner and the German Pinscher will form an unbeatable team that will last a lifetime.

Some German Pinschers owners have recommended the book *Control Unleashed*, by Leslie McDevitt, as a good source on innovative training methods. While the book was originally targeted towards dogs with issues, the author's commonsense approach to training can assist those dealing with the precocious canine. —Deidre E. Gannon, Esquire; chocori@aol.com; German Pinscher Club of America Website: german-pinscher.com

Giant Schnauzers

In the Giant Picture

We've often heard the phrase "look at the bigger picture." In this case I want to look at the Giant picture. It is an odd thing that I've seen; in breeds with larger numbers the breeders seem to work in the "bigger picture" more often than is the case in breeds with smaller numbers.

I'm not sure what causes this phenomenon. It may be in part that these breeds attracted this type of people and breeders, and that has what has launched them into the bigger numbers.

I'm not saying that more of any breed is necessarily better. But we do need options in order to have the best gene pool from which to pull for our breeding programs. And unlike the dog world of the 1920s and '30s, when some kennels housed hundreds of dogs to create a look or type, modern times prevent most of us from the ability to do so.

It is so easy to get caught up in our own breeding programs and the goals we've set for ourselves that we sometimes forget to see the bigger picture—the Giant picture. We really all have the same goal: to breed the best Giant possible. In striving for this, it helps to learn from others' mistakes and to pool all our resources together at times to help the betterment of the breed. We can only learn from other breeders if we actually pay attention to their dogs. So many Giant fanciers go to a show with their dog or dogs, focus on preparing them, show them, and then leave—having not watched a single Giant but their own.

We should pay attention to breeds with numbers that have a huge success in the groups and beyond. You will notice that the fanciers of these breeds are true supporters of their breed at dog events. The Bulldog, the Doberman, and the Boxer always seem to have huge applause and cheering sections around the group ring. Why? Because the breeders and owners of these dogs stay to support their breed. Supporting our breed helps everyone in the breed. You may not have the win-

ner today, but hopefully you will tomorrow. If you're there to support your friend or rival's dog, perhaps they'll be there for you when you have your day.

Making judges know we are a breed to be considered seriously helps the breed as a whole. Support for the Giant in the ring shows the rest of the dog world we love our breed and are happy whenever any Giant wins. It's good sportsmanship and teaches the new people who come into our breed that we are there for them.

It also helps us to really notice other dogs, to ask ourselves honestly why we lost to this or that dog. We may not agree with a judge's opinion, but if we look objectively through their eyes, even if we don't agree, it can help us see things in our own dogs. Maybe we need to breed for something another line has to offer. Maybe we need to work on our grooming or handling skills.

Whatever the case, if we look at our breed with a positive light, even if it's not our dog, it will surely help in our own goals—and the bigger, more *giant* goal of creating the best Giant we can.

It's so easy to have a passion for the Giant. Lets go out there and show the rest of the dog world just how Giant our passion is!

As usual, this is just my opinion on the way to help protect and promote our breed so the Giant will always be a Giant force to be reckoned with.

Thanks. —Greg Reyna;
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www.giantschnauzerclubofamerica.com@

Great Pyrenees

Great Pyrenees Mythology

While other Pyrenees people may have accumulated a list of common myths about our breed that differs from mine, I believe that most of us have heard all of the following things said. So here is my list of the top five untrue things about Great Pyrenees that are commonly believed.

Myth #1: "They are so big!"

I know they look big. And the breed's name in the U.S. is *Great Pyrenees*. But in Europe they are actually called Pyrenean Mountain Dogs. And the breed's official AKC standard says they should be a dog of "medium substance."

In general, even large Pyrenees weigh no more than about 100 pounds. This is a lot smaller than the Newfoundland or the Saint Bernard, with whom they are often compared. Mostly the large size is just an optical illusion: They are white, and they have a lot of hair. A *lot* of hair.

Here is a true story. My friend had a beautiful, top-winning Pyrenees bitch whom she bred. Just after a bitch has her pups, she typically sheds out almost her whole coat. The massive undercoat is totally gone. This beautiful girl also lost a good bit of weight feeding and caring for her puppies. In other words, she looked very scrawny as she lay in her whelping box with her growing brood. When a potential buyer came to see the puppies with the thought of getting a pet, she saw the framed picture on the wall of the mom's biggest show win. What a beautiful dog she was! But the potential buyer was not impressed, and said, "What are you trying to pull? You don't expect me to believe this is the same dog, do you?" Well, yes. It was the same dog. Just minus the hair.

Myth #2: "They must eat a lot." This is actually related to the first myth. If they are so big, they must require a lot of food. Actually, Pyrenees have a very slow metabolism, which means they eat less than expected for their size. Pyr owners must be very careful not to overfeed or overmedicate their dogs. It is very easy to do.

Myth #3: "How can they live through a hot summer with all that hair? You should shave it off." No, please don't. The Pyr has a double coat. There is an insulating undercoat of fluff, with harsh guard hairs on the outside. When it is hot, the undercoat is shed, leaving the protective outer coat. It is at least mostly white and reflects the sun. It traps a layer of

air that is not a good conductor of heat to protect the dog underneath. In the winter, the dogs who come from the colder climates do have a beauty advantage in the show ring as they grow their massive undercoats to keep them warm, but the dogs from the warmer climates are just as comfortable with their smaller coats.

Myth #4: "They are just gentle giants." Actually, the Pyrenees has been used for centuries to guard sheep. They are perfectly capable of fighting off predators and years ago were known for their protectiveness, not their gentleness.

Breeders have worked for the past 50 years to breed our dogs so that they are fearless and tame. If you talk to people about the breed from many generations ago, they will tell you that having a stable temperament was the highest priority for selecting breeding stock, and the effort paid off. Today's Pyrenees should be a good housedog who should never be a danger to people.

Myth #5: "They need a lot of space to run." Maybe not a lot of space. They are not a good choice for an apartment, but most Pyrenees are very happy lying around most of the time, being petted, and being watchful just in case some other animal wants to invade their home. They are not a quiet breed, since they will loudly announce everyone who comes anywhere near your house or yard. This is where they still are our protective guardians. —Gail Knapp, Ph.D., J.D., PRP;

Gail.knapp1@gmail.com; Great Pyrenees Club of America website: gpcaonline.org

Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

Our guest columnist is Katie Markley, of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania.

Lessons Learned! Experience of a First-time Breeder

I was presented with the opportunity to whelp a litter of puppies that had been sired by my dog, and I jumped at the chance for my first whelping experience. This would be great fun!

Other than the experience factor, I felt I was prepared. I had spent eight years attending seminars on the K9 College Cruise that covered whelping and neonatal care, and I had delved into all the books and videos I'd collected over the years long before the puppies were due. Friends had given me every whelping and neonatal-care supply known to modern man. So, armed with knowledge and supplies, I was ready for the big day. The puppies were due on Easter Sunday.

Ten days before the due date. I began taking the bitch's temperature twice a day, waiting for the drop in temperature that would indicate whelping time was near.

Five days before the whelping date. Everything was proceeding as expected. No changes in behavior, no discharge, and the bitch's temperature was still at 101, so I knew the puppies weren't coming soon. *Wrong!* Five minutes after taking her temperature, I turned around to fill a water dish and in that instant, a stillborn puppy was delivered at my feet. Apparently mama dog had not read the books!

Puppies arrive five days early. An examination at the vet's office revealed that mama's cervix was fully dilated, and she was in labor. There was no stopping the puppies now. Six live puppies were delivered by C-section. During their first day of life, they nursed on their mother's colostrum. They all lost some weight by the end of the first day, but that was normal.

"Where's the Milk?" The premature newborns continued to nurse, but by the end of the second day, I was really worried that all of the puppies had continued to lose weight ... more than the expected weight loss. In the middle of the night, panic set in. The puppies were crying. Some were becoming lethargic. I checked the mother, and sure enough, no milk! I tried feeding them with a baby bottle and milk replacer, but after two hours of bottle-feeding, the six of them combined had taken less than 2 cc's of milk. This obviously wasn't working.

Tube-feeding 101. I had watched Dr. Hutchison's video on tube feeding. Still, it was scary to put a tube down the throat of a tiny baby. But it was clearly a case of "you do what you need to do," so I watched that video one more time and started tube-feeding puppies. Tube-feeding continued every three hours around the clock for the next three days. The puppies responded. They started gaining weight and seemed content.

Thankfully, on Easter Sunday, the Easter Bunny hopped by and brought mama's milk. Definitely a cause for celebration!

Lessons learned. I've often wondered how breeders can cope with the inevitable loss of puppies. Two of the puppies from this litter were lost, and it was so heartbreaking. But I think I get it now. Just like a human mother who quickly forgets the pain of childbirth for the joy of holding her newborn child, the joy of watching four healthy puppies grow and thrive makes it easier to accept the losses. I've also learned that dogs don't read books—the unexpected is to be expected! And last but not least, breeders don't charge nearly enough for their puppies! —K.M.

Thank you, Katie! —Cathy Cooper; shadetreegsm@gmail.com; Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America website: gsmmdca.org

Komondorok OFA Dentition Database

Missing teeth is always a heated topic of discussion amongst the Komondor fancy. Recently there were e-mails flying around regarding the vote on the missing-tooth disqualification in the standard. Many of these e-mails focused on lots of finger-pointing and accusations. Some people think missing teeth are a huge problem in the breed, while others tend to think we do have dogs who, on occasion, produce offspring with three or more missing teeth.

While having any missing teeth is a concern, three or more missing is the disqualification. Our Breeder's Code of

Ethics says that a Komondor Club of America (KCA) breeder will never breed Komondorok who have disqualifying faults or who repeatedly produce offspring with disqualifying faults.

My own opinion is irrelevant, but one of my biggest concerns was, "How do you know?" Unless one takes the time to count teeth personally, how do you know if the dog or bitch you plan to breed to is missing teeth? How does a breeder know if any of their puppies leave their homes with all their puppy teeth but end up with missing adult teeth? Can you expect the average pet owner to count their dog's teeth? I have seen breeders and judges not able to count teeth, so how can you expect new-puppy owners to do an accurate count? How realistic is this?

Missing tooth is not a fault you can see from across the room. It does not affect how the dog eats. It does not affect the dog's health. It does not affect the dog's behavior. Only in these situations would missing teeth be of concern to a pet owner, and only if their dog were exhibiting any of these symptoms would they bring their dog to the veterinarian because of the issue. How many veterinarians do you know who count their dogs' teeth during routine checkups? Probably none, because it's not a health concern.

The Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) has a new database for dentition (for information, visit ofa.org). This could be a perfect solution for fellow Komondor breeders and owners to the missing-tooth question. The only caveat is that adult teeth must be fully erupted for evaluation. It appears to be quite simple: You simply have your veterinarian count your dog's teeth, and any missing teeth are marked on the OFA form. Once complete, you submit the form to OFA with the reasonable fee. Fees are \$15 for individual, \$30 for a litter of three or more, or a kennel rate of \$7.50 a dog, when five or more submissions are made at once. Also, and even more attractive, if you agree to submit an abnormal (any missing teeth) into the open database, your submission

is cost free.

I'm strongly recommending that *everyone*—from KCA and Middle Atlantic States Komondor (MASKC) breeders and owners, to any friends and foreign owners of Komondorok—participate in this open database. Only until we have breed representation in the database will we know what percentage of Komondorok have missing teeth. It'll also be a tool for breeders to use when making breeding decisions.

—Adrienne Freyer; kburgkom@aol.com; Komondor Club of America website: komondorclubofamerica.org

Kuvasz

Genotype Versus Phenotype

Humans have an interesting view on reproduction. Humans reproduce for all manner of reasons other than bettering the species. If all dogs bred each other of their own accord, like Darwin's finches, the dogs in wet areas would have evolved the webbed feet of waterdogs; those in hot locales would have thinner coats, with no undercoat. But humans control the breeding of dogs.

Breeders must pay homage to those who developed our many distinct breeds. There is something magical in the genetic variability of the canine species that has allowed humans to mold dogs into such a wide range of different appearances, personalities, and hardwired behaviors. Would a Kuvasz really be a Kuvasz if it were not confident? If it ran off when faced with a threat? If it wasn't white? If it was snub nosed, or tiny?

No, the things inherent to being a Kuvasz would be missing. So it is for all breeds that each is hardwired with breed-specific behaviors in addition to breed-specific appearance. Humans have toiled to create hardwired traits and behaviors that define our different breeds.

So how does one maintain or even improve our breed? The answer is *pedigree*. The breeding pairs we choose are only two pieces of the puzzle. It is the pedigree, the genetic makeup of those

two that creates the pups. Phenotype is what one sees when looking at a particular individual, the outward expression of the genetic bits he or she received at conception. Since the expression of genes is affected by factors such as dominance, recession, and environmental influences that allow genes to fully develop (versus being inhibited), phenotype is a snapshot, capturing one image of a much larger picture.

Each animal's genotype is its cauldron of genetic potential for the next generation. The pedigree is a window into genotype. One can see which phenotypic characteristics will appear in the whelping box by looking at the phenotype of all siblings, and at first- and second-degree relations.

Ever see an amazing animal out of a litter of mediocre siblings? Likely, yes. Ever see that amazing animal be able to reproduce similar quality? Almost universally, no. This is because of genotype. That amazing animal was a hodge-podge of genetic material that happened, by chance, to combine into a rare gem. Breeding that animal with expectations of passing on its greatness is futile. A genetic happenstance of greatness, its fleeting beauty will be diluted by dividing, pairing, and recombining to form new lives with little to no chance of greatness. The phenotype of those little lives could have been predicted had the pedigrees, more so than the sire and dam themselves, been considered the breeding pair.

Respectfully submitted. —Beth Lenoski, RN, BAP; elsokuvasz@gmail.com; Kuvasz Club of America website: kuvasz.com

Leonbergers

Guest columnist Kirsten Becker has been sharing her life with Leonbergers since 1998. She resides in Pennsylvania with her husband, six chickens, a cat, and their two Leonbergers, Rutger and Dutch. Kirsten is chair of the Leonberger Club of America's Health Education committee and vice-president of the

Leonberger Health Foundation.

Considering a Leonberger

As written in the last column, a Leonberger is a utility player. In order to run an agility course, compete in obedience, tow a boat to shore, pull a wagon, or gait around the conformation ring, a Leonberger must, first and foremost, be healthy. There is never a guarantee that the Leonberger puppy you bring home will be healthy for life, but there are things you can do before purchasing your puppy and after bringing your puppy home that can stack the deck in your favor.

Purchasing a Leonberger, or any dog, should never be done on a whim and should always be done only after doing sufficient research.

First things first: Meet several Leonbergers in person, and make sure you can handle the physical, financial, and lifestyle demands of living with a Leonberger. Is the Leonberger the right fit for your family, in terms of size and temperament? Next step is to find out what health issues may affect your new Leo and what health testing is available for the breed.

By the time you start researching breeders, you should be well educated on the various health testing the breeders should be doing prior to breeding their dogs. Our breed is a participant in the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC), a centralized canine health database jointly sponsored by the AKC/Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF) and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). The Leonberger Club of America has worked with CHIC to lay out the health tests required for a Leonberger to receive its CHIC number. You can review the required and recommended health testing for a Leonberger on the CHIC website (caninehealthinfo.org), and you can view health-test results for specific dogs on the OFA website (offa.org).

Once you understand the health tests, you can begin having conversations with Leonberger breeders. Any breeder listed on the Leonberger Club of

America's website has agreed to abide by the club's Member Practices, which include specific language about health-testing and breeding Leonbergers who have a CHIC number. However, you still need to review what health tests the breeder has completed and what the results of the health tests show, regardless of the breeder's club affiliation. A health-conscious breeder will be more than happy to discuss health testing and share copies of health-test results. If a breeder does *not* want to discuss health-testing with you, that is a red flag meaning you should steer clear and look elsewhere.

You have now developed a relationship with a breeder, and your new Leonberger puppy is in your home. Now, what? Leonberger puppies grow quickly, often gaining several pounds a week. You want to protect their growing bones and joints by limiting exercise and limiting jumping and going up and down stairs. A Leonberger puppy should be on a very high-quality diet and fed several small meals throughout the day for the first few months.

You will want to stay in touch with your puppy's breeder, as they will be a valuable source of information and advice as your puppy grows. Most importantly, enjoy every second with your Leonberger puppy—because before you know it, he or she will be over 100 pounds! —K.B.

Many thanks to Kirsten for contributing this article. —Astrid Robitaille; astridrobi@gmail.com; Leonberger Club of America website: leonbergerclubofamerica.com

Mastiffs

Coming to Understand the Sport of Dogs

Over the past columns I have attempted to move you through my transition from being a person not even remotely connected to anything associated with purebred dogs and the sport to one who has for the last 20-plus years been immersed in every aspect of that world. I have attempted to do this through sharing my very candid

thoughts as to how my values and perspective have been influenced and changed over this time.

I have been presumptuous enough to categorize those we see exhibiting their dogs at any given show. There is always the newcomer, the person who, having purchased a purebred, either has the notion that it will be fun to let the world see their pride and joy or has been talked into giving the show experience a whirl by the seller of said dog.

The newcomer's fate is to take one of a few paths: He or she will show, maybe not too successfully, and chalk it up to "been there, done that" and disappear. Or he may have some success and, depending on all sorts of intangibles, continue and become one of the faithful who show up whenever possible, stay as long as possible, and then go home to talk on the phone or email about that show throughout the week until the next show.

Or he may add to that level and begin to think about adding another dog or two or three and breeding that perfect [fill in the breed of choice]—and that is where we get a majority of those whom we see at events week after week, month after month, and year after year. This is where the support of the fancy has its base. Add to that base the professional handlers, and weigh their impact on any given weekend, and we have that population who will bring the dogs to be judged.

While most about the fancy that was puzzling and not well understood has fallen into place and been easily accepted by the person at this point, the area that still causes me much thought and at times distress, I must say, is the actual process that we call *judging*. There are different levels when it comes to those who present dogs for judging, and if you would discuss the aim of the judging process with any, the first thing that would be said (I hope) would be that each dog is judged to the standard set for that breed.

There is much more that does enter the picture, however; the grooming, the presentation, and even the confidence

shown by the person holding the lead have an impact. A judge has a difficult job if he or she is to do it right. There must be total concentration on the set of dogs in the ring for evaluation, and a good judge will be looking only at that set and placing accordingly.

I once had someone ask me, "If a dog is judged in the ring to a known standard, why do some who show advertise?" That is a whole other story. —C. Cuthbert; rydalmtmastiffs@aol.com; Mastiff Club of America website: mastiff.org

Neapolitan Mastiffs 7-12

Where Are All the Neapolitan Mastiffs?

Everyone asks at the shows: "Where are all the Neapolitan Mastiffs?" "How can AKC judges learn the Neapolitan Mastiff breed standard if they can't see them in person?" In answer to this, strong measures are being taken by the parent club to alleviate this almost desperate situation. Without "live" dog bodies, even the most knowledgeable breed-seminar presenter and the most skillful judges are gravely handicapped.

In a breed such as the Neapolitan Mastiff, with traditionally very low numbers to begin with, the decline of the economy has had a negative impact on breed-standard education through the "domino effect."

It has been increasingly difficult for most experienced and new breeders of quality Neapolitan Mastiffs around the country to pay for traveling and exhibiting on a regular basis. Since most of the breed-seminar dogs are taken from the dogs attending the AKC shows on a particular weekend, this has in turn hurt the quality of the breed-education seminars by not being able to provide enough high-quality examples of the breed.

And because of low breed numbers, in most areas there isn't a pool of dogs to call up to attend the seminars. Aside from a few areas such as the Northeast, the mid-East Coast, Texas, and the Indiana/Michigan areas, there are only

a few individuals here and there on the West Coast and in the Midwest—this isn't enough.

Recent efforts by the breed's AKC parent club, the United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club (USNMC), has implemented changes by making a prominent push to make club members aware of the problem and by making funds available to get expert presenters to the breed seminars.

The largest number of dogs to attend this year will be at the USNMC national-specialty weekend, September 21–23. Thirty to 40 of the best Neapolitan Mastiffs in the country will be present, attending four AKC-pointed shows in three days and accompanied by two sweepstakes shows and the new 4- to 6-month Baby Puppy classes. The Neapolitan Mastiff breed seminar will be held on the Saturday of that weekend. One of the most highly respected Neapolitan Mastiff FCI breeder-judges in the world will be judging this year, and expert ringside mentoring will be provided by the club's best mentors. In addition, the breed seminars in Houston in July and in Florida in December will also have a high number of dogs attending, therefore increasing the quality of the seminar.

It is one of the parent club's goals to maintain and increase the quality of the breed. It is the parent club's responsibility to educate judges. Judges base their knowledge and interpretation of the breed standard on how well the breed standard is presented to them.

New breeders not only learn the breed standard and listen to their mentors but also watch what the judge picks.

Judging has a high influence on what breeders try to breed for, so the club is taking great efforts to encourage showing and to increase the number of live dogs to attend the breed seminars. This in turn will help the judges and have a most positive effect on the Neapolitan Mastiff as a breed. —Wendy Gieske; *rune-stonewendy@neapolitan.us*; United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club website: *neapolitan.org*

Newfoundlands

Summertime, and the Water Is Calling

There's nothing more fundamental to a Newfoundland dog's natural instincts than swimming. Our giant canine companions are built for the water. While most other breeds dog-paddle furiously at the surface, a Newfoundland's deep, muscled chest and huge, webbed feet allow him to pull easily, even against a current, with powerful underwater strides.

Of course, there's much more to a Newf's love of the water. No other breed approaches the intense water-rescue instinct of the Newfoundland. Legend and history brim with stories of great Newfy rescues—from Napoleon, to the Titanic, to modern-day saves from rushing rivers.

Although we can't vouch for the veracity of all these stories, many Newfoundland lovers can recount cases of their own dogs' saving grace in real-life water situations—retrieving items adrift in the waves, guarding wading toddlers, or pulling in swimmers crippled by a sudden cramp or asthma attack.

In Europe, particularly Italy, Newfoundlands stand real lifeguard-duty as official Coast Guard working dogs. To see these fearless water canines at their best, check YouTube for videos of Newfs and their handlers jumping out of helicopters in daring open-water rescues.

Granted, you'll occasionally meet a Newfoundland who'd rather hang out on the dock and watch the fish than retrieve life-rings or drowning "victims." But by far, most Newfs love the water, and there's no better way to bond with your gentle giants than by taking the plunge with them.

The Newfoundland Club of America (NCA) long ago instituted official water tests and titles to preserve the water-rescue instinct and abilities unique to our breed. Each year, regional Newfoundland clubs across the country host late-summer or early fall water tests. Qualifying dogs and handlers earn a succession of coveted

NCA water titles—the basic Junior Water Dog, or WD; the more advanced Senior Water-Rescue Dog, or WRD; and the ultimate, Water-Rescue Dog Excellent, or WRDX.

Cinching a water title with your Newfoundland is a sweet moment that more than makes up for all the bother of water-training—acquiring the equipment (ropes, life rings, paddles, and so on, maybe even a boat); setting aside at least a day a week for training, all summer long; loading up and driving, sometimes long distances, to dog-friendly beaches; treading cold water as you patiently repeat each part of each water exercise; and finally, once you return home, hosing down the equipment and bathing the dogs before jumping into your own, welcome hot shower.

But the best reason for water-training with your Newfoundland has nothing to do with tests or titles. It's all about the sense of teamwork that evolves as the two of you learn together. By the time you've mastered the full range of water exercises, you're no longer simply pet and owner, or even dog and handler. You're working partners. It's a different kind of interspecies relationship, a deeper bond than perhaps you've experienced with any other canine friend. And it's not to be missed.

Find out for yourself. This summer, go jump in a lake with your Newfoundland. —Sandra Younger; Newfoundland Club of America website: *ncanewfs.org*

Portuguese Water Dogs

Cross-training With Your PWD

Imagine yourself and your water-titled Portuguese Water Dog training for Utility obedience. Others in the class are struggling to get their Labs, Aussies, and Border Collies to run out straight to the fence, sit, and wait for you to direct them over a specified jump. You haven't actually trained for this, but in less than five minutes your

PWD is executing this difficult exercise with aplomb, to the chagrin of some of your classmates who have spent months on this with less than stellar results.

What's the secret? It doesn't hurt that our breed is known for intelligence—but those other dogs struggling with this exercise aren't exactly dumb, nor are their handlers. The secret is *cross training!* A dog who has learned to swim beyond a marker to drop a buoy-ball quickly intuitively understands the essentials of a new exercise that requires leaving the handler and running toward a target (in this case, the back fence-post). Of course you've taught the basics: *sit, stay, wait*. And that double-directed water-retrieve or the agility "out" easily translates to your dog jumping a specified obstacle.

Cross-training can be as straightforward as teaching your dog (at home or in class) foundation exercises in a variety of trialing venues—or, as I prefer, teaching a toolbox-full of behaviors that can be linked into complex exercises.

Teach each behavior as a game, with lots of treats, and use a clicker or marker word ("Yes!") to communicate to the dog that she's got it. Beyond the basics (*sit, down, stay*), teach your dog to touch an object with her nose, paw, or even chin (this makes getting *great* photos that much easier). Increase the distance to the object to begin training a "go-out." Hide the object and have your dog find it.

Include other objects so your dog learns to discriminate among different objects. Next, introduce selecting a specific object that smells different (hint: smearing the correct object with a bit of soft cheese will quickly teach this concept). Teach your dog to move left or right on verbal and nonverbal cues.

Don't forget the conditioning component! Teach your dog to walk or trot along a flat board, stopping in the middle or at the end through target-placement. Elevate the board on cushions so your dog learns to balance. Sits, downs, and turns on the board build muscle and body awareness. Weaving through your legs or curling around traffic-cones

increases flexibility. Set up different "stations" around your house or yard: *Voilà!* "Curves for Dogs" will reinforce different behaviors *and* develop strength and balance. Your dog is learning to use his mind *and* his body, making him physically and mentally flexible.

Above all, make it *fun* for both of you! Don't forget warm-ups and cool-downs, consisting of five minutes walking nicely on a leash before and after each training session.

Even if you don't compete, having a cross-trained dog has great benefits. They can pick up their toys, help with the laundry, or even find your car keys or cell phone. And having good balance and flexibility keeps your dog fit and less likely to get an injury.

There are books, videos, and increasingly more classes that take a cross-training approach. These are well worth seeking out.

My sincere thanks to Ann Camp, an owner of well-behaved, cross-trained Portuguese Water Dogs, for sharing this very valuable information with us. Ann recommends Susan Garrett's video *Crate Games* for more information, since games are a good foundation for training almost any behavior. —Carole Prangley-McIvor; mcivor_carole@yahoo.com; Portuguese Water Dog Club of America website: pwda.org

Rottweilers

Our guest columnist is Frank Nelson, longtime owner, trainer, exhibitor, and supporter of the breed. [Utilizing Drive to Understand and Train the Rottweiler](#)

Drives are basic instincts that control behavior in canines. By understanding and utilizing drive, the understanding and training of Rottweilers progresses rapidly.

Most American-written books on dog training primarily deal with the pack or social drive, ignoring the other drives that often get the dog in serious trouble. For the purposes of this column, we will deal with just the three basic canine drives and how they relate

to the Rottweiler. These basic drives can be split into smaller segments, but we will keep them basic.

The canine species has three fundamental instinctual behaviors or drives that control the actions of individuals:

Prey drive. This is where predatory behavior comes from. It includes chasing, stalking, and even biting. I have seen dogs react negatively to a hand-capped person, and the stimulus for the dog was the awkward movement they are seeing. Instinctually if the prey drive is high enough and the dog not trained well enough, there can be a reaction. Predators are attracted to sick, wounded, and dying prey.

Pack or social drive. This is what is often discussed in American dog-training books. Approaches range from being the dog's best friend to being alpha over the animal. While this is a very important drive, it is just one of three that influence behavior.

Defense fight/flight. When people see aggressive dogs, defense fight comes to mind. Actually, it is more complicated than that. Defense, as you can see, is split between fight and flight—sounds like we are talking about humans, doesn't it? The canine fight/flight complex is on a much more basic level. In nature, a dog that had only one defense—fight—wouldn't last long enough to procreate. The flight mechanism is there to ensure procreation. Presently, we meddle unfortunately with the gene pool and often produce dogs that are a liability.

I don't believe there is such a thing as bad temperament; there is unacceptable temperament, but certainly not bad.

Schutzhund trainers are taught to recognize drives in their dogs and those that they are working. Some years ago, the training authorities Wendy and Jack Volhard developed a canine-personality profile. It is available online (see volhard.com). The original test broke down the drives, utilizing questions. The questions were given numerical values rating the tested dog's drives, such as "balanced" or "unbalanced," and so on.

The ideal working Rottweiler

should be even in his drives. Using the Volhard's early test, I would like to see the dogs score six or higher.

Problems with temperament come from an imbalance of the canine's drives. For example, a dog with a very high prey-drive can be a danger to any moving object, including children. With proper training this tendency can be channeled effectively to work for you rather than against you.

When we get into the high scores for defensive fight, there can be some real issues. It can encompass things such as territory and food. Prey and fight instinctual behavior is where biting comes from. I often consult with problem dogs, and if a bite was involved, I like to evaluate the type of bite. In the prey-bite, it will exhibit a full bite—that is, you can count the back teeth in the wound. In nature, this bite is what holds and restrains prey. Defensive bites are often shallower, mostly involving the canines.

I had an interesting Rottweiler bitch whom the Volhard test explained perfectly. She was at the top for prey instinct, almost nil in pack/social drive, had no defense-flight drive, and topped the charts in defense-fight drive. She had low bite-inhibition; the Volhard test made sense of this, her two highest drives being the same drives that promote biting. A high-enough pack drive usually inhibits bites.

I earned a CD title on her and for fun, I named her Rosemary's Baby. Till the day she died, she remained handler-aggressive.

Utilizing these drives in training can bring very quick progress. A dog with a lot of flight drive presents many problems with avoidance issues that test your patience. This type of dog requires repetitive training and not breaking routine.

I love training high-prey-drive Rottweilers. The reward is in the "prey" for them. For instance, I teach the recall utilizing prey drive. In the past, I relied on training the recall using "pack"—that is, "I am the most wonderful person to come to!" Problems can develop

with this approach, however, when fronts need to be fixed. Now you are *not* that most wonderful person.

However, by utilizing "prey" you bypass the correction issues. First I evaluate what works best as prey—food or toy. Often food is too much, so I lower reward for the exercise by using something of less value to the dog. If you have to correct the front, they get instant rewards after the correction using the prey method. On the go-outs, most trainers use "prey" by putting food or an object at the other end of the ring.

High-defense-drive dogs can be problematic. If the defense-fight drive is much higher than the pack and prey drives, you don't have much that works, since rewarding with prey doesn't work. Once I acquired a 1-year-old dog who was never properly socialized who had high defense drive, low prey drive, and was right in the middle with pack. He had no name and very little understanding of words.

With this handicap, I trained the dog utilizing his defense drive. It wasn't easy nor rewarding for me. He titled in AKC obedience, herded sheep and was finally retired after snapping off a canine tooth while doing Schutzhund work.

Years ago, I taught a "special ed" class for really "bad" dogs. The handlers were grateful to have this option, as other trainers in conventional classes had turned them away due to their dog's outburst of negative behavior.

Each dog was evaluated in relationship to his drives. The basics accomplished, serious training began. For aggressive prey or defense behavior, the answer was putting the dog into pack drive with the handler.

Yelling or screaming "No!" was the most ineffective response for the handlers. When the

dog reacted negatively to a stimulus, I had the handler tell the dog "heel" and do a quarter-turn in place. This switched the dog from either prey-drive or defense-fight drive and gave a behavior that was positive, replacing the

negative. Neutralizing these dogs and giving their handlers the proper tools, they returned to conventional classes and earned titles.

I recommend my students with really high-drive dogs to become proactive, which is what we should be with this wonderful breed.

—FN.

Thank you, Frank. —Gwen Chaney; gachaney2@aol.com; American Rottweiler Club website: amrottclub.org

Saint Bernards Three for the Road

Snitche, Tundra, and Hummer. Not everyday names, and not everyday dogs. These three dogs and their owners have achieved something that most Saint owners can be envious of: qualifying for the AKC National Agility Invitational (NAI).

Most people don't associate Saints as being very athletic dogs, and certainly most can't imagine them doing agility. People tend to see them as big couch potatoes.

Well, they are wrong! Saints started out climbing mountains looking for lost travelers. Saints are more than capable of doing a variety of activities such as weight pulling, carting, tracking, obedience, and agility.

The National Agility Invitational (NAI) is being held in Orlando in December, in conjunction with the Eukanuba show. The AKC Agility Invitational report lists the top dogs ranked in agility events, based on the Top MACH Dog formula (double Q's x 10) plus MACH (Master Agility Championship) points that dogs have earned during the qualifying period.

To be invited, dogs must have competed and qualified in Regular Excellent B Standards and Jumpers With Weaves classes and be in the top five ranked dogs of their breed. If there are not five dogs of the breed ranked from the Regular Excellent B classes, dogs will be ranked on the Preferred Excellent B Standards and Jumpers With Weaves classes using the Top PACH Dog formula (double Q's x 10),

plus any PACH (Preferred Agility Championship) points that the dogs have earned during the qualifying period.

The NAI was first held in 2006. In 2006 and 2007, the Saint Bernard Ch./WDCH XmaxKris Van't Hof Ten Eynder, VCD2, UDX, RAE2, MXP5, MJP4, XFP, owned by John Cox, was invited. In the following years, 2008 thru 2011, no Saint Bernard met the qualifications to be invited.

This year we have three qualifiers: Shadow Mtn Quidditch VVictory, CD, RAE, AXP, AJP, OFP (Snitch), owned and trained by Jann Hayes; Snowy Pine's Hummer, UD, GN, Go, VER, RAE, OAP, MJP, XFP, TDD (Hummer), owned and trained by Terry Popish; and Snowy Pine's Tundra, CD, GN, RE, AXP, AJP, NFP, TDD (Tundra), also owned and trained by Terry Popish.

It takes a lot of time, energy, and effort to have the kind of close working relationship needed to accomplish such achievement. All three of these dogs are West Coast dogs. Let's wish them the best and hope that all three can hit the road and make the trip to Florida in December! —Pam Leighton; *sierra-saint@sbcglobal.net*; Saint Bernard Club of America website: *saintbernardclub.org*

Samoyeds

Breed Clubs—Call to Action

We, the breeders of show dogs, have for years kept an attitude that “We are *right*, puppy mills are *bad*.” We perpetuate this attitude; “We need to do something about *them*. We're the good guys.”

The problem is, the HSUS has painted the picture that *all* breeders are bad—that we are *all* sending pups to the pound to overpopulate the earth.

The public doesn't know the difference—and worse, most politicians don't care. They don't have time to research every problem, so they depend on lobbyists to educate them. Since the HSUS is not sending money to any shelters, where do you think their money is going? To hire lots of lobbyists to educate politicians at the state

and national levels.

Where is our voice? The HSUS has prepared a war on animal ownership and are employing war tactics of “divide and conquer”: “Get the stupid dog breeders to point fingers at the other guy, and they won't know what hit them.”

Currently there are laws on the books against poor husbandry practices and cruelty and neglect. We don't need more legislation like HR835 and S707. What is happening here is the criminalization of breeding dogs.

It doesn't matter anymore if we care more. We are all dog breeders; we are all affected by the laws regarding this. We need everyone to fight to band together to be able to beat this. Don't look at this legislation as a solution to get rid of the bad puppy mills. The HSUS is counting on this and then will lower the production numbers. *We need to voice opposition now!*

Legislators are including the co-ownership numbers in these federal laws. You don't *really* believe they would do that to get puppy millers, do you? This is aimed at *us*.

What can we do? We need to market our views and let the public know the truth about the tactics of these groups. The AKC has over 170 recognized breeds, and there are 99 more breeds in the Miscellaneous and Foundation Stock programs. If each breed club would pay for one anti-HSUS or pro-purebred commercial a year, we would see five commercials a week educating the public about our side of the story.

If licensed kennel clubs and regional specialty clubs purchased one billboard in their city, we could begin to start to educate the public and legislators. A few clubs have held bake sales at their local shows and matches to pay for a billboard, while others are applying \$1 an entry to go toward this purpose.

We need to market our message better, and we all need to get involved.

There is power in numbers.

This is my call to action.

Fanciers can visit akc.org/government-relations/index.fjm for detailed informa-

tion on proposed legislation that can affect purebred dogs and the sport.

Respectfully submitted. —Debby Jahnke; *stardansams@yahoo.com*; Samoyed Club of America website: *samoyedclubofamerica.org*

Siberian Huskies

Our guest columnist is Sandy Weaver Carman, chair of the Siberian Husky Club of America's Education Committee.

SHCA Education—A New Year, A New Mission

The SHCA's Constitution, Section 2c, describes a vital part of the club's mission as follows:

To educate members and to urge breeders to adhere to the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Siberian Huskies shall be judged.

The SHCA has provided that education through the hard work of one woman, Phyllis Brayton, for 20 years. Education is a big job—so big, in fact, that it will now take four people to do the Education Committee's work.

The SHCA board, on the recommendation of the Education Review Committee, has put in place a new structure for our club's educational programs. Here it is:

Education Chairman/Coordinator:

Have the responsibility to oversee the development, organization, and implementation of any/all budgets, materials, and programs of the three subcommittees. Act as primary contact person for all education efforts of the Siberian Husky Club of America assuring that the SHCA standard for Siberian Huskies as approved by the American Kennel Club is strictly adhered to.

Judges Education Chairman:

Have the responsibility for the development, organization, and implementation of any/all programs and materials needed to effectively educate potential AKC conformation judges as well as interested members; while maintaining an SHCA Member Breed Mentoring

program in accordance with AKC guidelines.

Breeder/Exhibitor/Fancier Education Chairman:

Have the responsibility for the development, organization, and implementation of a Breed Steward Program that provides information and education in the areas of AKC breed standard, breed history, ethical breeding practices, member referral, and activities and events that lead to club and/or AKC awards.

Public Education Chairman:

Have the responsibility for the development, organization, and implementation of introductory breed materials and programs. Maintain link with AKC Public Education efforts and our Legislative Liaison in order to keep our members informed about current activities. Organize the Breed Mentors and Breed Stewards in order to provide volunteers for various Public Education Events hosted by kennel clubs, SHCA, and AKC.

It is my vision as Education Chairman to have meaningful education that meets the Siberian owner where they are—novice, fancier, exhibitor, breeder, and judge—and it is my pleasure to work with three wonderful women to implement an expanded SHCA Education program.

Heading up Judges Education is Donna Beckman. As past president and AKC Delegate for the SHCA, she is widely known and respected in the purebred-dog community.

Taking the lead in Breeder/Exhibitor/Fancier Education is Anne Palmer. Anne has been active in many aspects of our sport, and successful in each venue. She is already a mentor to many newcomers and brings a breadth of knowledge to this arm of SHCA Education.

In charge of Public Education is Dawn Eisele. Dawn's sunny disposition, plus her educational and organizational abilities, make her perfect as the ambassador to our breed for those just discovering the fun of Siberian Huskies—whether pet, first show dog, or first

performance dog.

Following the lead of the Basset Hound Club of America's program, the Education Committee is already working on Siberian Husky University. This is a major undertaking, and we welcome your input and assistance. Please let me know if you'd like to help—you can email me at swcarmanshca@gmail.com. —S.W.C.

Thank you, Sandy.

A related article appears in the January 2012 *SHCA Newsletter*. —Jane Steffen; klonaquay@fairpoint.net; Siberian Husky Club of America website: shca.org

Standard Schnauzers A Sight for Sore Eyes

At a recent veterinary checkup, I mentioned noticing the cloudiness in our 10-year-old Emma's eyes, fearing cataracts. After examination, our veterinarian said she showed normal signs of aging due to the high UV component of our 7,500-foot altitude's sunlight.

This prompted me to think about Standard Schnauzer eyes. Our breed standard says:

Eyes medium size; dark brown; oval in shape and turned forward; neither round nor protruding. The brow is arched and wiry, but vision is not impaired nor eyes hidden by too long an eyebrow.

In 40-plus years of dog shows, we've seen SS eyes that are not the dark brown specified in the standard—some bordering on yellowish brown, and some slightly protruding or round instead of oval (or the almond shape specified in our earlier standard). And what about the oft-seen "lampshade eyebrows" that are trimmed to hide less-desirable eyes?

Canine eyes show aging at about age 7; signs become more pronounced at 10 to 11, according to veterinary ophthalmologist Dr. Tom Sullivan, of the Animal Eye Clinic in Seattle, in a *Seattle Times* article. In a condition called nuclear sclerosis, caused by the UV in natural sunlight, a cloudy film in aging lenses reflects light when we view the canine eye; it does not inter-

fere with the dog's vision, although it could progress to cataracts at around age 15. The only treatment for cataracts is lens replacement surgery.

Older canine eyes are subject to glaucoma, a pressure buildup inside the eye that damages the optic nerve and retina and can lead to blindness. Symptoms include increased corneal cloudiness, bulging eyes, or bloodshot whites of the eyes. Glaucoma sometimes can be treated with drops or surgery, but sometimes removal of the eyes is ultimately needed.

Eye problems can arise from bug bites (such as from fleas or ticks—common dog ticks or those causing Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever) or from foreign substances invading the eyes. In the 1960s, a bitch came to us in Pennsylvania from Tennessee for breeding and showing; her owner had taken her to numerous veterinarians over six months for an undiagnosed, thick eye discharge. During pre-show grooming and eye-wiping, her lower eyelid adhered to the paper towel; looking at the inflamed, swollen interior eyelid, I noticed a tiny white spot amongst the red tissue. With magnifying glass and tweezers, I removed a small, pointed grass seed. Now I patrol all grassy areas where the dogs roam to keep them clear of seed-heads.

Veterinary ophthalmologist Dr. Ralph Hamor, of the University of Illinois Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital, Urbana, says that conjunctivitis, an itching inflammation of the eye's mucous membranes is "the most common eye disease of all domestic animals." Ticks transmit conjunctivitis, uveitis, and keratitis. The *Whole Dog Journal* has an excellent article about conjunctivitis in the March 2012 issue.

Treatment of conjunctivitis and similar eye disorders includes several days of veterinarian-prescribed antibacterial eyedrops or a single application of a soluble bioadhesive ophthalmic drug insert (BODI) that is placed in the eye's lower *cul de sac*.

Blepharitis, a painful infection of the eyelid-edge, arises from tick or flea

bites, cat claws, allergies, chemical burns, parasitic infections, nutritional dermatitis, endocrine system disorders, and chronic inflammatory disorders. Symptoms include thick discharge from the eyes, eyelid muscle-spasms, scales and crust, abscesses, inflammation of the eyelid's inner surfaces, swelling or hardening of the eyelid, scales and crust, and skin loss from scratching or rubbing. Veterinary care is required for treatment.

Get to your veterinarian when you notice canine eye problems. Google "canine eye problems" for further information that can be found on the Internet.

Be prepared: Disaster plan and emergency kit. [Already this summer there have been disastrous wildfires, floods, and other emergency situations across the country. In the spirit of sharing reminders of important information for dog owners, below we revisit some vital tips from our October 2011 column on emergency preparedness.]

Disaster plan. Having a disaster plan prepared and an emergency kit already assembled can mitigate disaster for you and your furry companions. If you must evacuate, take your pets with you. Despite the heartwarming stories shown on TV, most animals left behind in disasters are never reunited with their families; many die. Designate a family member to be responsible for each pet.

Specify a meeting place for people, pets, and gear—both at home before a possible evacuation, and another outside the danger zone in case of separations.

Include determining a safe place to leave your pets in the event you must go to an emergency shelter: most shelters don't allow animals. If possible, shelter with friends or in pet-friendly hotels well away from the disaster area; take sheets for covering beds or furniture in your shelter destination if your pet isn't trained to stay on the floor. Assure each pet has been microchipped and registered in a national database, and have him wear a collar with both a current rabies tag and your ID and contact information.

Pet emergency kit. Your pet emergency kit should include your pets' medical records and vaccinations in a water-proof, zippered bag; food and water for a week's stay, a water bowl, and food bowls for each pet; necessary medications, with instructions for use; a first-aid kit, including a muzzle, antibiotics, bandages, thermometer, and so on (see akc.org/pdfs/clubs/template_evacuation_kit_for_pets.pdf and akc.org/public_education/emergency.cfm); treats and toys to reduce your pet's anxiety level; leash, tagged collar and/or harness, and crate with bedding; towels, blankets, disinfectants, odor controllers, plastic pick-up bags, paper towels, and large plastic bags for general disposal; recent photos of you with your pet(s) in a waterproof container for identification; and combs, brushes, waterless shampoo, and other interim grooming supplies. Include a list of contact numbers outside the emergency area for veterinary facilities, kennels, animal shelters, pet-friendly hotels, and friends and relatives with whom you might stay.

Personal emergency kit. Include in your own emergency kit, besides what your family needs for at least a week away from home, a laptop computer and recharger, cell phone and recharger, and a hand-cranked and/or solar flashlight and radio for information about the emergency.

What to do. During an emergency or disaster, keep your pets close at the first sign of trouble. Don't let them roam your property; keep them on lead for potty breaks.

If you have time, call ahead to make necessary arrangements away from the danger area for you and your pets. Assemble pets, family, and gear at the designated place in preparation for evacuation.

If evacuation looks imminent, head out before the official order is given—traffic will be lighter, drivers will be less frantic, and you will be safer. — Suzanne T. Smith; STSpers@aol.com; Standard Schnauzer Club of America website: standardschnauzer.org

Tibetan Mastiffs

Honor Bound

One of the things that has always set the Tibetan Mastiff apart, as far as I am concerned, is what I call a sense of honor.

(To the obvious charge of "anthropomorphism" that might be leveled by members of the scientific and academic communities, I can only say the following: I have known many scientists and academics who were profoundly honorable. I have never known a sane Tibetan Mastiff who was not.)

The need for a meaningful existence is not confined to human beings. Not one of the animals I have known (and there have been many) has been satisfied with a merely comfortable existence. Once material needs have been met, both human and nonhuman animals seek an additional dimension to life. All of them desire some sense of connection, even supposedly solitary animals; and all of them crave a sense of satisfaction, derived from what they regard as the proper performance of meaningful work.

Many domestic breeds were created to perform tasks that are no longer needed or even possible. For these breeds, obedience, agility, or assistance training may provide an excellent substitute, enabling the dog to work cooperatively with his people at challenging tasks.

In the Tibetan Mastiff, there seems to be an inborn need to guard what is most precious—family, home, turf. A TM may appear to be snoozing in the sun, but if a single sound or scent that doesn't belong in the dog's world should encroach on those dreams, she is up in a flash, checking the direction from which the unaccustomed stimulus came and patrolling the territory. They are never, really, off duty.

Two of my TM Ladies discovered their sense of purpose at the same instant that I discovered their profound sense of responsibility. I loved them dearly but privately doubted that such seemingly gentle creatures would ever risk themselves on my behalf. They

seemed quite cautious when presented with new things, which didn't increase my confidence.

How wrong I was! One night, very late, they were allowed out just at the moment when some misguided person chose to break into our yard. Their cheerful barking changed to enraged roars in the instant it took them to reach the other end of the yard, a considerable distance away.

They hit the fence just as whoever-it-was made it over, leaving only footprints and a few shreds of cloth. The excited dogs rushed around the yard for a long time, patrolling every inch. They came in, finally, satisfied that they had eliminated any threat.

Thereafter, they went out purposefully several times a day, to "run fences" and check every part of their domain. They would return, crestfallen. "No interlopers today." Then they puffed out their chests: "And there won't be any, either, as long as we are on the job!"

They took to their duty naturally and never ceased to consider themselves responsible for the safety of our home and everyone within it, all the days of their lives.

It may be that my dogs' bravery is one of the reasons that I have survived, to write these lines in tribute to a great breed, and my own, truly great TMs. —
Mary Fischer; meryt@worldwide.att.net;
American Tibetan Mastiff Association
website: tibetanmastiff.org

GZ DELEGATES' QUARTERLY MEETING

DELEGATES FORUM

SYNOPSIS OF THE JUNE 12, 2012 DELEGATES FORUM

The Delegates Forum is an informal meeting of Delegates that provides an opportunity for open discussion and the expression of ideas. No official business is transacted, a quorum is not required and no attendance record is kept.

MAKING THE SUPER DOG

AKC Board member, Dr. Carmen Battaglia, gave a presentation on breeding dogs with traits and aptitude suitable for military and police service. He covered all aspects of this from evaluating pedigrees and maintaining careful records, to stimulating, socializing and evaluating the puppies.

WORKING AND SERVICE DOGS

Dr. Cindy Otto, spoke about the University of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School Working Dog Center, of which she is the Director, including its work in education research. Its mission is to serve as a research consortium, to educate, and to implement and validate findings, to develop a detection dog breeding program, and to optimize the selection, breeding, performance, and well-being of working dogs.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB JUNE 12, 2012

Dennis B. Sprung, *President*

PRESENT 243

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 Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—*Robert Urban*
American Bloodhound Club—*Mary L. Olszewski*
American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Judith Tighe*

American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Carol Williams*
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—*Marilyn E. Currey*
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold Miller*
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—*Dr. Geno Sisneros*
American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*
American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth W. Mader*
American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sally L. Vilas*
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Julie Virosteck*
American Whippet Club, Inc.—*Bo Bengtson*
Anderson Kennel Club—*Phillip D. Sample*
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Antelope Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Daniels*
Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pamela J. Arwood*
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Mulvey*
Ashtabula Kennel Club—*Kathleen Kinney*
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A. LaBerge*
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bette D. Williams*
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*William I. Christensen*
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Nina Schaefer*
Baltimore County Kennel Club—*Lucy C. Campbell-Gracie*
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—*Katie Campbell*
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—*John A. Studebaker*
Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Gerald H. Yarbrough*
Black Russian Terrier Club of America—*Susan Sholar*
Border Collie Society of America—*Ms. Carol Clark*
Briard Club of America, Inc.—*Michael Gibson*
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—*Ruth A. Williams*

Bull Terrier Club of America—*Rebecca Poole*
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*
Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Pam Davis*
California Collie Clan, Inc.—*Robette G. Johns*
Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Vivian A. Moran*
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*
Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*
Catonsville Kennel Club—*Beverly A. Drake*
Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.—*Julian Prager*
Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally Allen*
Central Ohio Kennel Club—*David W. Galloway*
Charleston Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*
Chattanooga Kennel Club—*David Gilstrap*
Cheshire Kennel Club, Inc.—*G. Robert Stevens*
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nick Pisas*
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Frank Holloway*
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*
Columbia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara B. Shives*
Columbia Missouri Kennel Club—*Robert Brown*
Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*
County-Wide Dog Training Club, Inc.—*John D. French*

GZ delegates' quarterly meeting

- Cudahy Kennel Club—*Don H. Adams*
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—
Larry Sorenson
Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Charles Garvin*
Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Dorn*
Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—
Barbara L. Mann
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*
Detroit Kennel Club—*Mr. Erik Bergishagen*
Devon Dog Show Association, Inc.—
Meg Weitz
Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*
Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Linda C. Wozniak*
Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Tabor*
Elm City Kennel Club – *Gregory J. Paveza*
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*
Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cathleen Rubens*
Field Spaniel Society of America—
Katherine Sullivan
Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Almira B. Dallas*
Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Mr. Harry G. Ottmann*
French Bulldog Club of America—*Mrs. Ann M. Hubbard*
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
German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—
Ms. Patricia W. Laurans
Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—
Kimberly Demchak
Gig Harbor Kennel Club—*James R. Dok*
Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—
Mrs. Bonnie Lapham
Great Dane Club of America, Inc.—
Thomas Sandenaw
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 Murfreesboro Kennel Club, Inc.—
Margaret DiCorleto
Greater Naples Dog Club—
Steven D. Gladstone
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—
Linda LaFrance
Greater St. Louis Training Club, Inc.—
Jane V. (Candy) Slay
Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—
Mary Jo Rasmussen
Greenville Kennel Club—
Linda A. Knorr
Greenwich Kennel Club—
Margaret K. Curtis
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
Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—
Ms. Carol A. Williamson
Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—
Dick Blair
Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—
Gwen McCullagh
Ibizan Hound Club of the United States—
Luane V. Williams
Illinois Capitol Kennel Club, Inc.—
Ann L. Cookson
Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—
Rita J. Biddle
Italian Greyhound Club of America, Inc.—
Carole Plesur
Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.—
Sally McNamara
K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—
Dave Morgan
Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—
Mr. John D. Sawicki
Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—
Thomas Powers
Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—
Margaret Doster
Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—
Esther J. Cassatt
Kennel Club of Riverside—
Sylvia A. Thomas
Kennesaw Kennel Club—
James F. Gibson
Komondor Club of America, Inc.—
Michael Harman
Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.—
Mr. A. N. Sills
Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—
Ms. Virginia Van Doren
Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—
Carolyn M. Vack
Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—
Jan Croft
Langley Kennel Club—
Ms. Dianne E. Franck
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—
Robert N. LaBerge
Leonberger Club of America—
Don James
Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—
Sue Goldberg
Lima Kennel Club—
Dr. Anne Midgarden
Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—
Lynn Garvin
Maryland Kennel Club—
Gary Sarvinas
Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—
Dr. William R. Newman
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
Middleburg Kennel Club—
Shelley C. Roos
Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—
Ralph Hogancamp
Mispillion Kennel Club, Inc.—
Mrs. Blackie H. Nygood
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—
Gretchen Bernardi
Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—
Robert H. McKowen
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



delegates' quarterly meeting

- National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi Strouse*
Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Viola Burgos*
Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Mary W. Price*
Newnan Kennel Club—*Willie Crawford*
Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane F Taylor*
North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F. Coletti*
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*
Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.—*Martha Nazak*
Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Felice Jarrold*
Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—*Daniel R. Cunningham*
Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.*
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—*Gary Koepfel*
Pekingese Club of America—*Joseph B. Franklin*
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne Bowes*
Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert W. Gilmour*
Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Dominic P. Carota*
Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Larry Wilson*
Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joachim N. Blutreich*
Plainfield Kennel Club—*John McCullagh*
Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—*William E. Ellis*
Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Mary Ellen Fishler*
Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Robert A. Amen*
Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*James Primmer*
Progressive Dog Club—*William H. Blair*
Ramapo Kennel Club—*Mrs. Rose J. Radel*
Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gerard Baudet*
Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Jan M. Ritchie*
Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*
Sagehen's Retriever Club—*Katharine B. Simonds*
Sammamish Kennel Club—*Dr. Robert C. Gloster, M.D.*
Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*Audrey Sutton*
Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laurence J. Libeu*
Saratoga New York Kennel Club—*Wanda H. Allen*
Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia—*Kay Allred*
Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.—*Heather Smith*
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*
Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ann M. Cook*
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—*William J. Feeney*
Skokie Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pat Grossmann*
South County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Graafin Ginger M. Leeuwenburg*
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*
South Windsor Kennel Club—*Margarette (Peggy) Wampold*
Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club—*Ricky Blackman*
Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*John V. Ioia*
Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lee Arnold*
Spinone Club of America—*Karen Luckey*
Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*
St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—*Kit A. Bostrom*
St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Deborah J. Wilkins*
St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—*Dr. Gerry Meisels*
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—*Jenny Merritt*
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*Holly S. Stump*
Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser*
Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert Eisele*
Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Marcy L. Zingler*
Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marylyn DeGregorio*
Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Manning-Stolz*
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Catherine Bell*
Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Steve Schmidt*
Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert E. Bostrom*
Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—*John Shoemaker*
Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*
Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*
Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*
Tucson Kennel Club—*Pat Jacobs*
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*
Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Lynn Worth-Smith*
Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*James W. Smith*
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*
Westminster Kennel Club—*Harvey M. Wooding*
Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc—*Colleen McDaniel*
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*
Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Inc.—*Fred T. Kampo*



delegates' quarterly meeting

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Delegates Meeting June 12, 2012

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The Chair introduced the persons seated with him on the dais: Chairman, Alan Kalter; Vice-Chairman, Dr. Robert Smith; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; James Crowley, Executive Secretary, and Arthur Frannicola, the Court Reporter.

The Chair informed the Delegates of the passing of two Delegates. Robert Proctor, Delegate for the Middlesex County Kennel Club since September of 1996 died on March 26th.

Rey Burgos, Delegate for the Chihuahua Club of America since 1995, died on April 10th.

The Executive Secretary read the names of Delegates seated since the last meeting.

Katie Campbell, to represent Basenji Club of America

William Christensen, to represent Australian Terrier Club

Marilyn Currey, to represent the American Chinese Crested Club

Dr. J. Charles Garvin, to represent Dalmatian Club of America

Lynn Garvin, to represent Marion Ohio Kennel Club

Pamela Helmer, to represent Talbot Kennel Club

Frank Holloway, to represent the Chow Chow Club

Don James, to represent Leonberger Club of America

Graafin Ginger Leeuwenburg, to represent South County Kennel Club

Vivian Andre Moran, to represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

Laurie Morris, to represent Augusta Kennel Club

Anne Palmer, to represent Ann Arbor Kennel Club

Diane Pearson, to represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America

Bonnie Pike, to represent Cocker Spaniel Breeders Club of New England

Rebecca Poole, Hixson, TX, Bull Terrier Club of America

James W. Smith, Washington State Obedience Training Club

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting since approval, were introduced from the floor:

Katie Campbell, to represent Basenji Club of America

Dominic Carota, to represent Pharaoh Hound Club of America

William Christensen, to represent Australian Terrier Club

Daniel R. Cunningham, to represent Onondaga Kennel Association

Marilyn Currey, to represent the American Chinese Crested Club

Dr. J. Charles Garvin, to represent Dalmatian Club of America

Lynn Garvin, to represent Marion Ohio Kennel Club

Robert Gilmour, to represent Penn Treaty Kennel Club

Don James, to represent Leonberger Club of America

Frank Holloway, to represent Chow Chow Club

Graafin Ginger Leeuwenburg, to represent South County Kennel Club

Vivian Moran, to represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

Rebecca Poole, to represent Bull Terrier Club of America

Kathleen Rubens, to represent Fayetteville Kennel Club

James W. Smith, Washington State Obedience Training Club

The minutes of the March 2012 Delegates meeting were published in the April 2012 online AKC Gazette and a complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. The minutes were approved as published.

AKC Board Chairman Alan Kalter, gave his report as follows:

Good morning, fellow Delegates.

Outside the Johnson County Courthouse in Warrensburg, Missouri, stands a statue dedicated to a Foxhound named "Old Drum". It commemorates a famous trial held there in 1870. "Old Drum" was shot and killed when he wandered onto a neighboring farm. His owner's only recourse was to sue the neighbor. A young attorney, George Vest, who later became a United States Senator, was retained by the owner. Senator Vest's closing argument at the trial was just 400 words, eloquently in support of the value of the dog and included this thought: "The one

absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his dog. He is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens." Shortly after he spoke, the jury found for his client and awarded the maximum allowable damages of \$50, which then was a lot of money back in 1870. In addition, Vest's speech established the phrase "man's best friend is his dog." We all know firsthand the devotion that Vest spoke about. It is a large part which makes us ardent supporters of our dogs. But today there are forces at work who do not look at dogs the way we do. And there are those who think breeding should be controlled to the point of extinction.

I believe the greatest characteristic we possess is our unyielding dedication to the preservation of each of our unique breeds. It is through a combination of our responsible breeders committing to a never-ending quest to produce dogs true to type and healthy in body, mind and spirit, coupled with all of you personally committing to always do what is best for the dogs, that have allowed people associated with the American Kennel Club to claim the mantle of the dog's defender from Senator Vest for the last 128 years.

When we come together like this, we always have much to discuss - some about our sport, some about our business and some about our governance. All of those are good and valid topics that require discussion that will only serve to strengthen our organization. I believe there is no unsolvable problem if we face it wisely, creatively and courageously. But we know that our calling is much more than the job of simply overseeing our business. It is, most importantly, the responsibility we each embrace to, and for, the dogs. By recognizing that we can together establish a beachhead of cooperation to create new initiatives that grow ownership of purebred dogs, grow our ranks and participants and supporters and grow our voice in all things pertinent to the preservation of our breeds. We must act quickly and with great purposes to accomplish all of that and we must start right now. While we are faced with many challenges, none is more immediate than



delegates' quarterly meeting

the proposed federal regulation of our responsible Fancy breeders. Undoubtedly you have heard about the proposed rule changes to the Animal Welfare Act which regulates the selling of puppies in the United States. Currently, our Fancy breeders - like you and I - are exempt, but the new regulations will treat each of us like a large-scale business. What does that mean for you? Breeders who maintain more than four females biologically capable of having puppies and who sell a puppy to just one person at a distance, no matter what their age, when they sell a puppy to one person at a distance, even if that's a stud back puppy, will now be rated as commercial breeders under USDA regulations. Think of the impact that would have to the preservation of our low number breeds. Our AKC Government Relations team met with the USDA on our behalf to get clarification of the language in the proposed rule that we will use to shape our comments. We have critical issues that must be addressed by the USDA before they act. There are strong forces supporting these onerous regulations, making it more imperative that we create not a new balance of power, but a new understanding that the public wants the breed of dog they want and those dedicated AKC fancy breeders must be afforded the protection to not only survive, but prosper. Without our Fancy breeders, there will only be a matter of time before our breeds that have been preserved for hundreds of years will become extinct. While that may be perceived as an unintended consequence of overzealous regulation, I believe it is a quite intended consequence sought by the groups that challenge dog ownership every day.

Because we are the AKC, the USDA will pay careful attention to our comments. But we can maximize their attention through our individual support. Each of you can help achieve that. We have the opportunity now to unite our forces and clearly communicate the single positive message for change. We have created a petition in support of the comments on the proposed regulations. We will be submitting to the USDA, and place it on the AKC website. I ask that all of you join in and sign the petition and then I ask that each of you circulate the link to every person you can think of to rally

support for the most necessary outcome we have. As Ronald Reagan said, you and I have a rendezvous with destiny, I believe it will be the one we make and not the one some others make for us.

The most important single characteristic that defines a great organization is the desire to succeed that overwhelms all obstacles. I know we have that desire. To those who believe we cannot come together and accomplish that, I say: "You don't know us".

To those who doubt our voice, I say: "You will hear us".

To those who love dogs as much as the jurors in Old Drum's case, I say: "You must join us". Thank you.

The Chair thank Mr. Kalter and spoke as follows:

For your convenience we have created a dedicated landing page so that you can access the online petition at akc.org. Just go to the AKC website homepage and click on the link: Sign the 'Join With the AKC to Protect Responsible Small Breeders' petition. In addition, we have just sent all Delegates an email with this link. For those of you with smart phones or tablets you have the ability to sign the petition right now, during lunch or on your way home. Don't forget to pass along the email to others as Alan has suggested. You can share the petition via Facebook, Twitter, blog or email from the petition signature page as well. We also have a one-page fact sheet on how-to sign the online petition available at the AKC booth for your convenience. To show you just how easy this is, Gina DiNardo will now take you through the quick process live to sign the online petition."

Ms. DiNardo spoke as follows: We are on the AKC home page. All you do is type into the top AKC.org/petition. That will take you to the page that is created for the "protect responsible small breeder's" petition. Click on "sign here now", which will take you to the website where the petition is located. Click on "sign the petition", and then you just fill in a couple of brief fields. Bill Adams will sign up right now. He is filling in his name, email address, city or town, state, zip code. We suggest that you do click the signature display box so your name will be publicly listed as opposed to

being listed as anonymous. You have the opportunity to fill in a short comment. Then you have to scroll down to the verification code, type that in and click "sign", and you have signed the petition.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. If you take anything away from the meeting, this is the takeaway. Please communicate it to your club members and to your friends, not just in the Fancy, but to all dog lovers, to protect their rights.

AKC President, Dennis Sprung, gave his report as follows:

I am delighted to share some positive news with you. First a re-introduction to Connie Pearcy, our new Chief Information Officer originally hired as a consultant and then joining our staff as a programmer/analyst. She enjoyed several promotions including Principal Software Engineer, Managing Network Engineer and finally Assistant Vice-President. Connie was with us from 1998 through 2007 and will begin again next week on June 18th. At the same time we thank Charley Kneifel and Tracey Tessier for their numerous contributions to our organizations and wish them well in their new endeavors.

Secondly, the Business Development Department under the management of Daphna Straus executed a contract just two weeks ago to publish the next edition of The Complete Dog Book with BowTie Press. Yesterday, Board members Bill Feeney and Tom Powers provided initial information to the Parent Clubs Committee. They invited every club to participate in this project as we enter the development stage. Soon our staff will communicate with each Parent Club's President, Corresponding Secretary and Delegate, welcoming contributions of texts as well as images of your respective breed as we move forward together on this initiative. The first edition was published in 1929 by G.H. Watt entitled Pure-Bred Dogs. Our next book will be the 21st edition. The project is being managed in-house by Gina DiNardo and Mara Bovsun. At this time we would like to thank ten Parent Clubs for sharing their expertise and cooperation on the recent and upcoming publication of the Family Companion Series of Breed books. Also, an AKC S.T.A.R. puppy book is in the



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pipeline following the footsteps of Citizen Canine, the best-selling and award-winning training book authored by Dr. Mary Burch.

From the world of events, last week I received finalized statistics for January through April of this year from Bobby Birdsong and Alan Slay. They advised me that with the completion of records for the month of April this is the only time in AKC's history that entries have exceeded one million in the first four months of any year. I noticed that 12 of 13 event types had an increase and I will highlight this information for you sport by sport. In the all-breed arena, entries are up 12,600 plus. Group clubs have an increase of 446, and specialties 226. In Obedience, there was a giant leap, almost 6700 additional entries, plus 16%. Field trials are up 930. Hunting tests gained over 2700, better than 18%. Coonhounds is the only area where there is a decrease being 1500. Herding increased almost 25%, 777. Lure coursing gained over 82%, more than 2,800. Agility, which always has a 10 to 15% increase, is up by 13 and a half % with more than 44,000 additional entries in four months. Earthdog grew by 15%, 233 entries, and tracking by 173, 22%. Lastly, Rally has increased by almost 1900. Looking at the aggregate of these numbers, in the first four months of 2011 we reached 967,769 entries. In that same period this year, we have achieved more than one million, 1,040,096, an overall increase of 72,327 entries, a growth of seven and a half %. Considering the challenging economy and high gasoline prices, this is positive news for all of our clubs and for AKC. The Board and management believe these broad-based gains are attributable to the enhancements we have made to various events. Thank you.

AKC Chief Financial Officer, James Stevens, gave his report. A summary follows:

We're pleased to report that 2012's operating results to date are an improvement from the previous two years.

Our total revenues for the first five months of this year were \$710,000 higher than last year. Event fee revenues were greater than 2011. The number of events increased 6.6% so far this year, compared to last year. The number of

entries was 7½ % greater than 2011. Our registration revenues have increased by over \$400,000 as a result of higher dog registration fees. We're also pleased that revenues from sponsorships and royalties increased by \$372,000 and \$207,000, respectively.

Our total expenses were marginally higher by \$76,000. We're continuing to make a strategic investment in marketing. In addition, we're legally obligated to make quarterly contributions to the pension plan. We weren't required to do this last year. The painful cost reductions we absorbed in 2011 have essentially offset these incremental expenses this year.

When you put all this together, our operations produced a surplus of over \$900,000 for the first 5 months of this year.

The market value of our investments increased by \$2 million. This was a 3.7% return for the first five months.

This year's rate of return has outperformed the composite benchmark for our portfolio.

There was a vote on the proposed amendment to Chapter 11, Section 6, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which would allow superintendents and show secretaries using AKC entry verification to correct entries as appropriate.

It was published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette. The proposed amendment was brought forward by AKC staff and approved by the AKC Board. There were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted, effective immediately.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 2, Section 3, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which would require clubs that hold a show in their territory at least once each two consecutive calendar years shall have the sole show privilege in the city, town or district, which has been assigned to it as its show territory in order to maintain exclusive privilege in the territory.

This amendment was brought forward by the Suffolk County Kennel Club. While the AKC agrees in principal with the removal of territorial exclusivity if a club

did not have an event in that territory for two consecutive years, the AKC Board disagreed with enabling a club to come back years later and establish exclusivity with the ability to expel clubs that had in the interim established shows at sites at that territory. The club was contacted about modifying its amendment. The club declined and required that it go forward with a reading at this meeting. It will be published in two issues in the online AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the September 2012 meeting.

The AKC Board proposes that when it is considered for a vote in September that it be amended so that the last sentence in the proposal is removed. The removal of the sentence would not preclude a club from returning to its original territory, provided no other club has been holding shows in that territory during its absence. If another club has held a show in that territory, it would be considered open, with no one club being given exclusivity. Any club, which met AKC requirements would be considered for approval to hold a show there. If approved this rule would take effect immediately and would be implemented prospectively. Any club would therefore have over two full years to re-establish exclusive show privileges in its territory.

The Chair recognized Robert Eisele, Delegate for the Suffolk County Kennel Club who spoke as follows: Originally, the Board proposed to Suffolk County Kennel Club that the last sentence totally be removed. Their train of thought is probably more in line with what we are interested in. What I will be proposing at the next meeting is an amendment to the motion that reads to the effect that if there has been a club in that territory having a show for five consecutive years, and if the first club comes back and has a show and reestablishes exclusivity, that the two clubs are then considered concurrent in that territory.

The Chair asked that when once finalized, that it be sent to the Executive Secretary.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 5,



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Sections 6 through 8, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Ribbons, Prizes and Trophies, which would create consistency with Chapter 6 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. It was brought forward by the Dog Show Rules Committee 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 September, 2012 meeting.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, a new sixth paragraph, to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which would create a new three point major for the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserves Winners Bitch at one National Specialty each year, specified by the AKC Parent Club, provided there are twice the number required for a five point major in the winner's sex. This amendment was brought forward by the Progressive Dog Club. The AKC Board has not made a recommendation. It will be published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it in September, 2012 meeting.

The Chair recognized Peter Piusz, Delegate the American Rottweiler Club who spoke as follows: Speaking for the Parent Clubs Committee, I would like to point out that all Parent Clubs have the option of opting out of this. Also the materials placed on the seats this morning were prepared by the Committee. Additional material will be distributed as we get closer to September.

An unidentified Delegate spoke as follows: Would you happen to know how many breeds that are entered that exceed twice the number required?

Mr. Crowley spoke as follows: We don't have any statistics, but I'm sure it is the overwhelming majority of the National Specialties in each breed.

The Chair recognized Constance Butherus, Delegate for the Afghan Hound Club of America, who spoke as follows: A survey was done by a Delegate and is in the published information.

Approximately 67% would qualify.

Mr. Sprung: I appreciate that information.

The Chair recognized Dr. William Newman, Delegate for the Mastiff Club of America who spoke as follows: Last week I had the pleasure of judging the Nationals. The entry was pretty good, 444 entries. I had over 300 Mastiffs to judge. I cut my classes to 10 to 15. I can tell you those classes had so many great dogs, that everyone in the class should have a major. I can tell you I think it's a great idea. You can opt in, or opt out. I think it's a great idea.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for your comments.

The Executive Secretary read a list of vacancies for the Delegate Committees that are to be filled in September as follows:

- All-Breed Clubs Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Bylaw Committee: Three, three-year terms and one, two-year term.
- Canine Health Committee: Three, three-year terms.
- Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Dog Show Rules Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Field Trial and Hunting Test Event Committee: Three, three-year terms and one, two-year term.
- Herding, Earthdog, and Coursing Events Committee: Three, three-year terms, one two-year term, and one one-year term.
- Obedience Tracking and Agility Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Parent Clubs Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Perspectives Editorial Staff: Six, two-year terms and one, one-year term.

The Chair advised the Delegates as follows: All Delegates will be emailed self-nomination forms by the end of this month. It is to be returned by Friday, July 20. Questions on the procedures to be followed should also be addressed to the Executive Secretary. Delegates may only self-nominate for one committee, except that a member of the Perspective Editorial Staff may also serve on another Standing Committee.

In August, Delegates will be emailed the nominees for each committee and their qualification statements. At the September meeting, following the election of committees, meeting space will be provided for each committee to elect their chairs and secretaries, if they desire.

For your information, the September 2012 Delegates meeting will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel, formerly the Sheraton, on Tuesday, September 11th. We will be emailing and placing hotel information on the Delegate Portal after our block of rooms becomes available.

Also, the December Delegates meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida. The meeting will be held at the Rosen Centre Hotel on Friday, December 14, 2012. A block of rooms have been reserved for Delegates' use. To reserve, please call the hotel and use the special code that was sent to you. This information is already on the Delegates Portal for your convenience.

The Chair called on AKC Board member, Carl Ashby, to speak about the PAC.

Mr. Ashby spoke as follows: Good Morning. Fellow Delegates, today I speak to you as Chairman of the AKC Political Action Committee (PAC) which also has oversight responsibility for the Canine Legislative Support Fund (CLSF). In March Jim Stevens shared that our Club Members contributed a "nickel" each to the AKC PAC in 2011 – a very small amount when one considers the challenges we face.

Since its formation 6 years ago the AKC PAC has made a real difference using its meager resources, but for sustainable, across the country impact, we must have more resources. Today we are introducing the "Club Presidents Challenge" which we hope will increase considerably the impact of the both the PAC and the CLSF in our efforts to fight over reaching legislation and the threats to dog breeding and ownership in the United States.

The rights of responsible dog owners are under attack. State legislatures across the country continue to introduce bills (facilitated by HSUS and other animal rights extremists) that seek to infringe on



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our ability to own and breed dogs—including mandatory spay/neuter, ownership limits, warrantless search and seizure, breeding restrictions, and breed bans.

The increase in anti-dog and anti-breeder legislation threatens our purebred dogs and our way of life. It affects all of us—whether we're owners, breeders, or involved in dog sports. In 2007, AKC tracked just over 400 bills. In 2009 there were 800 bills. In 2012 there were 1350 bills, through end of May.

Opposition is well-funded. We aren't. In fact, in 2011, the AKC PAC received only \$6,662 in contributions from members of AKC-affiliated clubs. That's an average of only five cents per club member, with the balance coming from AKC staff personally and the AKC Board of Directors.

The AKC Government Relations Department is working hard to fight back, but needs everyone to participate in the battle. Our goal is to facilitate Clubs in their fight and give them access to the training and resources needed to be successful. That's the idea behind the Club Presidents Challenge.

To provide the resources, tools, and environment that we must have to be successful, I challenge your club's president to take a leadership role in defending responsible dog breeders and owners.

There are two parts to the challenge: First, I challenge AKC member club presidents to secure at least \$300 from your club's members for the AKC Political Action Committee (AKC PAC). Simply collect contributions from your club members, complete a donor information form, and submit one check to the AKC PAC. In addition, you might also consider designating all or a portion of your Club's annual dues to the PAC. This would comply with the law while providing an easy way for members to support the PAC.

Licensed clubs are also being asked to participate in this effort at differing funding levels. The AKC PAC is an integral part of our government relations strategy.

Our challenges are great, but our potential is unlimited. AKC PAC gives club members a special opportunity to financially support candidates who will

protect their rights. It combines 100% of their contributions with those of others to offer strong financial support of dog-friendly candidates in critical races.

Federal Elections Committee rules prohibit the AKC – or AKC clubs – from making direct contributions to candidates. As experts on canine legislation, we have the resources to learn which candidates support our interests, and which don't.

AKC pays all the costs of administering this program. This includes all overhead – office space, staff time, legal fees, reporting, and so on.

This means that, no matter what you choose to give, 100 percent of your contributions to the AKC PAC are used to directly support the candidacy of leaders who share our commitment to reasonable laws that protect your rights and promote responsible dog ownership and breeding.

The more legislators there are who support our values, the more assured you can be that your rights will be protected. It's that simple!

Although you cannot earmark funds for specific candidates, as a contributor, you can recommend legislators to the AKC Government Relations Department whom you believe deserve AKC PAC support.

And where else can you make a contribution where you know 100% is going to the actual cause? Federal elections law heavily regulates who can and cannot give money to political campaigns. Just as federal elections law prohibits AKC from making direct campaign contributions to political candidates, it also limits who can give to the AKC PAC. Eligible contributors include the individual members of AKC clubs and AKC employees.

The AKC PAC, however, is not the only focus of the Club Presidents Challenge. There is a second part to the challenge. Clubs may donate to the Canine Legislative Support Fund. All money contributed to Canine Legislation Support Fund helps to defray AKC's costs in supporting legislation, securing formal representation in Congress and statehouses, and educating legislators and the public about responsible and fair policies for dog breeding and ownership. For example, it played a significant role in helping AKC lead the effort in

defeating California's statewide mandatory spay/neuter bill in 2007-2008. It also underwrote the cost of the State Federation meeting in Raleigh during the spring where many states and Clubs were represented. It can provide training access at the state and local level to make sure you have the best chance of being successful in working with legislators, etc. With significant threats on the horizon, there is no question that the CLSF will play a leading role in our future.

Mr. Ashby called on Alan Kalter to present a video.

Mr. Kalter spoke as follows: Thank you. My wife and I live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, which is home to the University of Michigan. It's a rather idyllic and charming community. In fact, we who live there refer to it as seven square miles surrounded by reality. The reality that surrounds us today is being driven by the HSUS. They have installed the State Director in our state and that Director has been incredibly active in the past couple of years. We have been faced with a number of bills that they are taking around to our state legislature. We have been fortunate that we have been able to withstand the onslaught of them, everything from a rather onerous puppy Lemon Law to certain regulations of breeding kennels; meaning, Fancy breeding kennels caught up with all the others that should be regulated. There are some like yours and mine that can be inspected by the AKC, inspected by the county, licensed; but we don't need the help of our local Humane Society to come in and inspect us, which is what HSUS is pushing for. And they spend an inordinate amount of money electing officials. One example, in the 2008 election they targeted one congressman who was running in Michigan. They wanted to get him elected because they believed he would be a strong supporter of their initiatives, their anti-breeder initiative, and they were supportive, they gave him in support \$300,000 and he got elected. He has been an ardent supporter of HSUS anti-breeder regulations in Washington. So now comes, what are we going to do? Some of you might remember a few years ago I produced a video that I would hope would capture



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the emotional sense of what we were up against and what we might do and I would like to show you that now. (Video played.)

Mr. Kalter: Our destiny really is in our hands and I have every faith that we will take that and run with it. I believe that the President's challenge is one that will help us create a voice in every legislative arena we need to create that voice in, and I know you will support it. For those who feel so moved at the moment that you would like to make a donation, Sheila will help you. With that, I thank you all.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for sharing that with us, Alan.

Is there any further business to come before the Delegate body?

The Chair recognized John Ioia, Delegate for the Southern Adirondack Dog Club who spoke as follows: Two issues that deal with that. The question is if they sponsor a fundraiser can they write a club check?

Mr. Ashby: To answer the question I really need to go back and talk about the PAC and the CLSF. If the money is being designated for the PAC it has to be from club members, which means a club can write a check for it. For example, if you with your club dues either check off or chose to donate 50 percent of your dues collection to the PAC you would list just the dues payers and that would suffice and that would work. If however you want to do a fundraiser like at a show, for example, and raise money that's going to be from non-members. The club can still write the check, but that money is going to go to the Canine Legislative Support Fund.

So you have two options; a club option as a general rule sort of a check off on your dues notice, or a donation of a portion of your dues, which is what we hope clubs will start to consider, especially those where the dues are inconsequential to their income stream.

Mr. Ioia: Does it matter which pocket it goes into?

Mr. Ashby: It does matter. Well, it's two

different uses. The PAC donates directly to candidates. We hope to get enough dollars and we hope people will apply for these grants so they go back more. We have a broad cross section across the United States right now, but not like we'd like to have just because of assets. The Canine Legislative Support Fund is a different pot used in some of the different ways that I talked about. Advocacy is one way, training is another, other conferences, things like that. Sheila could give you more direct information. So it does matter. But PAC dollars have to come through membership.

Mr. Ioia: The second point was, Alan, for us to make presentations to our clubs. Is there a way that we could download, upload, or whatever the jargon is, that video? It's available to us?

Mr. Kalter: There are a number of copyright issues with that video. The video can be shown at a meeting as long as there's some representative who brings the video and takes the video back. So we can't legally distribute the video, but we have to find a way to make it available as long as we get it back.

Dr. Ioia: And how do we do that?

Mr. Kalter: Talk to Sheila.

The Chair recognized Cathy De La Garza, Delegate for the Galveston County Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Mr. Kalter, with all due respect, this wonderful video was shown at the legislative conference. Why can't you make another one? I'm willing, my club is willing, to put that in 150,000 homes through Comcast, but if we don't have the product and if it's a copyright infringement for me to go and make my own what good is that doing us?

Mr. Kalter: I produced it to be shown at meetings. It was never intended to be distributed electronically on YouTube or on television. I could not do a video like that because that would mean having to go out and shoot original footage and produce original music.

So the cost of producing this was rather reasonable. Ask any of the many attorneys in this room -

Ms. De La Garza: Sir, I don't mean to interrupt, but I understand the issues, I'm not an attorney, but why can't we make another one that we can distribute? Everybody in this room understands what's going on. I'm willing to put something like that on big screen TVs and put it in one of the biggest clusters in the country. We get thousands of people that come through the door. Mom and pops who don't show dogs. That is the market we need. And it's not doing us any good to agree there's a problem, we need a product.

Mr. Kalter: Well, I'm sure we can produce a product that could be put on television, or show it at a dog show or a pet expo or what have you. I'm sure we can produce something like that at a very reasonable cost.

Ms. De la Garza: Why not on TV? If my club is willing to pay the several thousand dollars to put it on Comcast and if we're paying for it, why not?

Mr. Kalter: Yes. Okay.

Ms. De La Garza: And just have a little bar at the bottom saying these are your local kennel clubs, Brazoria County Kennel Club, Houston Kennel Club, Galveston County Kennel Club, Cyprus Creek Kennel Club. Why not?

Mr. Kalter: We will look into that.

Judith C. Daniels, Chair of the Delegate Bylaws committee, Cindy Miller, Chair of the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee, Ann Wallin, Chair of the Delegate All-Breed Clubs Committee, and Patricia Laurans, Chair of the Delegate Parent Clubs Committee all spoke in opposition to the AKC Board policy requiring that at least fifty percent of the available grooming space be free to exhibitors. The Bylaws, All-Breed Clubs, and Parent Clubs Committees unanimously voted to request that the Board reconsider and change the policy.

The following Delegates also spoke: Kenneth Mader, Delegate for the American Sealyham Terrier Club, spoke about doing something on the AKC website to raise funds from the public.



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Susan Sholar, Delegate for the Black Russian Terrier Club of America, spoke about getting Family Dog into medical facilities and doctors' waiting rooms.

Carol Williamson, Delegate for the Houston Kennel Club, spoke about submitting articles for the next issue of *Perspectives*, which will be coordinated by Dan Smyth. She also encouraged anyone interested in being on the *Perspectives* Editorial staff to see any of the current committee members.

There was no further business to come before the Delegate body. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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 Doubletree (formerly Sheraton) Newark Airport Hotel on Tuesday, September 11, immediately following the 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Delegates Forum.

Delegates Credentials

Roger M. Arbuthnot, Mesa, AZ,

Superstition Kennel Club

Jeffrey David Ball, Ridgewood, NJ,

Ramapo Kennel Club

Susanne E. B. Burgess, Waddell, AZ,

English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association

Tarianne Gallegos, Albuquerque, NM,

Silky Terrier Club of America

Larry E. Hansen, Jr., Surprise, AZ,

Kachina Kennel Club

Brytt Boyle Hasslinger, Four Seasons,

MO, Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

Andrew I. Kalmanash, Stamford, CT,

Saw Mill River Kennel Club

Adele Keyfel, Yakima, WA, Yakima Valley

Kennel Club

Sanda J. Launey, Cypress, TX, Basset

Hound Club of America

Caryl Myers, Jacksonville, FL,

Jacksonville Dog Fanciers Association

Douglas Rapport, Leesburg, VA, Irish

Terrier Club of America

Michael Sosne, Attica, MI, Oakland

County Kennel Club

Letisha Wubbel, Mohnton, PA,

Affenpinscher Club of America

Notice

On April 11, 2012, the Northeast Trial Board of the American Kennel Club heard charges against Mr. Barry Elliott, Springfield, IL. The charges concerned his leaving 28 dogs unattended, in a closed vehicle, for an extended period of time in a manner that would constitute neglect as defined by the AKC. Further, that he failed to seek or provide appropriate medical attention for a dog in a manner that constituted cruelty as defined by the AKC.

The Trial Board sustained the charges

and recommended that the penalty for his violations be set at a five year suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$7,800 fine.

At its May 2012 meeting, the AKC Board of Directors reviewed the Trial Board recommendation and set the penalty for Mr. Elliott's violations at a ten year suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$2000 fine, effective May 13, 2012.

Notice

Mr. David Gansz (Verona, NJ) Action was taken by the Delaware County Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its March 3, 2012, event. Specifically, Mr. Gansz was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report, found it in order and set the penalty at a one month suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$300 fine, effective March 3, 2012.

Mr. Gansz appealed the decision. The Northeast Trial Board denied his appeal.

Notice

Mr. George Michael Dalby (Maple Park, IL) Action was taken by the Vizsla Club of America, Inc. for conduct in connection with its March 24, 2012, event. Specifically, Mr. Dalby was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report, found it in order and set the penalty at a reprimand and \$100 fine.

Notice

Mrs. Lou Novosad (Colorado Springs, CO) Action was taken by the Hutchinson Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its April 8, 2012 event. Specifically, Mrs. Novosad was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report, found it in order and set the penalty at a reprimand and \$200 fine.

Notice

Mrs. Nancy Young (Ashville, AL)

Action was taken by the Valdosta Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its April 13, 2012, event. Specifically, Ms. Young was charged with disregard of published club regulations. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report, found it in order and set the penalty a reprimand and \$100 fine.

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 May 7, 2012

Mr. Daniel Pictrowski (Pittsfield, MA)
Golden Retriever

Effective June 11, 2012

Mrs. Lucille Mabe (Danbury, NC)
Multiple Breeds

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 non-compliance with AKC's record keeping and dog identification requirements:

Effective May 7, 2012

Mrs. Olena Merrill (Long Beach, CA)
Bulldog, French Bulldog

Effective June 11, 2012

Dr. Pierluigi Scalia (Los Angeles, CA)
Neapolitan Mastiff

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Suffolk Kennel Club has proposed the following amendment to Chapter 2, Section 3, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, to be voted on at the September 11, 2012, Delegates Meeting. The Board of Directors does not recommend approval of the proposed new last sentence, and would only recommend approval if that sentence is deleted.

Chapter 2

Section 3

Each member club or association not a

specialty club which shall hold a show within their territory at least once in every two consecutive calendar years shall have the sole show privilege in the city, town or district which has been assigned to it as its show territory. Clubs that have not held a show in their territory within two consecutive calendar years will be granted the exclusive privilege of their territory one year after the next date they hold a show in their territory.

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Ribbons, Prizes and Trophies

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendment to **Chapter 5, Sections 6-8**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, to be voted on at the September 11, 2012, Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 5

Section 6

All prizes offered in a premium list of a show must be offered to be awarded in a regular procedure of judging and in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter to the owner and/or breeder of the dog, but any prizes or trophies not listed in the premium list may be awarded with the permission of the Event Committee and the reason for the exception included in the show report.

Section 7. Prizes may be offered in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter at a show for the following placings:

First, Second, Third, Fourth in the Puppy, Twelve-to-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur Owner Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred or Open Classes, or in any division of these designated in the Classification. First, Second, Third, Fourth in any additional class which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 13, and in the Miscellaneous Class (at all-breed shows only).

Winners, Reserve Winners, Best of Winners, Select, Best of Breed or Variety, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety.

At all-breed shows only: First, Second, Third, Fourth in a Group Class and for Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show, Best Brace in Show and Best Team in Show.

Section 8. At any specialty show, prizes may also be offered in accordance with Sections 7 through 12 of this Chapter for: Best in Puppy Classes, Best in Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes, Best in Novice Classes, Best in Amateur Owner Handler, Best in Bred-by-Exhibitor Classes, Best in American-bred Classes, Best in Open Classes, Best in any additional classes which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 13, in which the sexes are divided.

(In breeds in which there are varieties, a prize may be offered for Best in any of the above classes within the variety.)

In shows held by breed Specialty clubs, awards for Best in Puppy, Twelve-to-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur Owner Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred, and Open Classes, Best in any additional classes which the show-giving club may offer in accord with the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 13, in which the sexes are divided, may also be awarded on a three-time win basis provided permanent possession goes to the owner and/or breeder winning the award three times, not necessarily with the same dog, provided such prizes are offered by the show-giving specialty club itself or through it for competition at its shows.

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The following amendment to **Chapter 16, Section 1, New Sixth Paragraph**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, is to be voted on at the September 11, 2012, Delegates Meeting. The Board has not made a recommendation.

Chapter 16

Section 1 (new sixth paragraph)

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

Unless the Parent Club, in its Application to the AKC to hold its National Specialty, chooses to exclude the following award: At the National Specialty the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch will be awarded a three-point major, provided that the

number of dogs competing in the regular classes of the Reserve Winner's sex totals at least twice the number required for a five point major, in the region in which the event is held.

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

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 handler 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.

Shane Hooper
9945 Cleveland Ave.
Riverside, CA 92503

Erin Karst-Hooper
9945 Cleveland Ave.
Riverside, CA 92503

Evan Threlfall
1406 River Road
Selkirk, NY 12158

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

Dr. Paul Burton Averill, D.V.M.
(95039) GA
(706) 865-7010
pbaverill@yahoo.com
German Shorthaired Pointers,
Labrador Retrievers, Irish Setters,
Weimaraners, JS

Mrs. Celia Hoffman (93977) PA
(610) 365-8750
karhiba@aol.com
Rhodesian Ridgebacks, JS

Mr. Glenn R. Hoffman (93975) PA
(610) 365-8750
karhiba@aol.com
Rhodesian Ridgebacks, JS

Mr. Bradley Katsuji Odagiri (94657) HI
(808) 373-3838
bradodagiri@aol.com
Poodles

Ms. Michelle Sager (95055) NJ
(201) 683-4263
mikesager@me.com
Beagles, Dalmatians

Mrs. Kim Shira (94907) OR
(503) 762-6626
coedwigcardigans@comcast.net
Cardigan Welsh Corgis, JS

Ms. Sandra (Sandi) Weldon (94809) CA
(805) 540-0749
monamitervs@prodigy.net
Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs,
Belgian Tervuren, JS

Ms. Susan Landry Whiticar (94953) FL
(386) 963-4494
goldengaitsusan@yahoo.com
Australian Shepherds

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Ms. Christine Salyers Anderson (6474) AR
(501) 525-4016
hillview71913@aol.com
Balance of Working Group (Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Diane Anderson (17566) OH
(419) 866-4723
likeabear@sbcglobal.net
Balance of Working Group (Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Dyane M. Baldwin (7380) PA
(717) 582-4997
pondholo@pa.net
Balance of Sporting Group (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels)

Mrs. Janet Cohen (90134) NJ
(609) 566-3217
newfie219@aol.com
Mastiffs, Havanese

Mr. Dean Dickey (59042) MO

(816) 914-3393
bulldog9712@gmail.com
Boston Terriers

Mrs. Beverly A. Eichel (6751) NC

(704) 609-7248
beichel1@carolina.rr.com
Australian Cattle Dogs

Mr. Thomas J. Feneis (0645) NJ

(732) 598-0840
woodsong73@optonline.net
Anatolian Shepherds, German
Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers,
Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers,
Standard Schnauzers

Mrs. Janis I. Grannemann (7083) CA

(831) 333-0660
janrodlabs@aol.com
Golden Retrievers

Mr. Brian Meyer (15140) IL

(815) 332-4848
bkennel@aol.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Pointers,
Irish Red & White Setters, American
Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Irish
Water Spaniels, Welsh Springer
Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing
Griffons)

Ms. Susie Osburn (18649) NV

(702) 262-0163
lidopoodles@cox.net
Whippets

Mr. Jim Owens (92926) NC

(919) 649-9035
drydockdogs@gmail.com
Basenjis, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Siberian
Huskies

Mrs. Barbara G. Pepper (5842) NC

(828) 686-8131
bonheurcavs@bellsouth.net
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-
Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated
Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling
Retrievers, English Toy Spaniels,
Italian Greyhounds

Dr. Kevin T. Shimel (80431) NJ

(201) 653-0885
kevcadoc@aol.com
Afghan Hounds, Dachshunds

Mrs. Beth G. Speich (2130) IL

(618) 639-2778
speichbeth@aol.com
Miniature Schnauzers, English Toy
Spaniels, Pugs, Shih Tzu

Mr. Michael L. Van Tassell (38468) UT

(801) 942-1682
cobblecreek@comcast.net
Alaskan Malamutes, Australian
Shepherds

Mr. Elliott B. Weiss (6383) CT

(860) 349-1967
ebw@englishsetter.us
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers,
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Italian
Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers,
Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox
Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers), Bearded
Collies, Border Collies, Briards, Old
English Sheepdogs, Pulik

Mrs. Deborah J. Wilkins (18907) MN

(952) 440-5040
wrsmark1@aol.com
Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian
Terriers, Cane Corsos, Dogues de
Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Giant
Schnauzers, Greater Swiss Mountain
Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE

Ms. Dylan Kipp (95037) WI

(262) 878-0492
kippdylan@live.com

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

Mr. Glen C. Carr (92620) OH

(740) 964-6040
glencarr@yahoo.com
Bulldogs

Mr. Michael W. Conradt (92360) MI

(810) 325-1688
mwconradt@yahoo.com
Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Rottweilers, Saint
Bernards

Ms. Jan Haderlie (66180) CA

(714) 649-2511
haderlie@cox.net
Shetland Sheepdogs

Ms. Peggy Haderlie (66179) CA

(714) 649-2511
haderlie@cox.net
Shetland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Agi M. Hejja (92456) VA

(804) 556-6937
ahejja@mac.com
Kuvaszok

Mr. Harry C. Meierarend Jr. (93905) MO

(816) 230-3335
solidrockbulldogs@wcbblue.com
Bulldogs

Ms. Linda Porch (90520) NJ

(856) 589-4798
porchie@comcast.net
Dachshunds

Ms. Karen A. Pratt (3075) KS

(785) 564-2747
albiona@cox.net
Saint Bernards

Dr. Valeria Rickard (92450) VA

(703) 919-8753
vrickard@jovallairedales.com
Airedale Terriers, American
Staffordshire Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Ms. Cynthia L. Roten (92444) PA

(717) 548-2343
penmelbulldogs@comcast.net
Bulldogs

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mr. Fabian Arienti (66407) FL

(305) 257-2818
starfirespoms@aol.com
Papillons

Jean (Mrs. Norman) S Austin (7606) OR

(404) 502-9008
jeana5776@aol.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Golden
Retrievers, Irish Red & White Setters,
American Water Spaniels, Boykin
Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water
Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh
Springer Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing
Griffons)

Mr. Lewis W. Bayne (0106) NM

(575) 461-4128
lewisbayne50@gmail.com
Affenpinschers, Chihuahuas, Italian
Greyhounds, Japanese Chin, Papillons,
Pomeranians, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox
Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers

Mr. Kenneth E. Berg (6162) CA

(925) 376-0136
keberg@fire-eng.net
Leonbergers, Airedale Terriers,
Australian Terriers, Bull Terriers,
Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull
Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich
Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Welsh
Terriers

Mr. Rick Blanchard (90228) RI

(401) 623-1475
nixbmf@aol.com
Rottweilers

Mrs. Terrie Breen (65930) CT

(860) 688-2921
breenta@aol.com
Boxers

Mrs. Kathleen V. Carter (6164) CO

(303) 425-6756
dancehalldolly@live.com
Siberian Huskies

Ms. Cheryl Curtis (66104) MA

(508) 446-1530
erinhill@verizon.net
Golden Retrievers

Ms. Marcel Daignault (59512) CA

(714) 296-2474
marcel@wt.net
French Bulldogs

Ms. Denise Dean (7044) AZ

(928) 635-2931
dean7044@gmail.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Samoyeds,
Siberian Huskies

Mr. William deVilleneuve (4244) NY

(631) 586-3376
duffdescots@aol.com
Balance of Working Group (Akitas,
Anatolian Shepherds, Cane Corsos,
Chinook, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great
Pyrenees, Komondorok, Kuvaszok,
Leonbergers, Portuguese Water Dogs,
Samoyeds, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Marcie S. Dobkin (6442) CA

(858) 748-8848
mdobkin@prodigy.net
Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Doberman
Pinschers, Great Danes, Great
Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain
Dogs, Newfoundlands, Siberian
Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

Mr. James M. Fankhauser (18843) MI

(269) 679-5095
nexus@net-link.net
Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers,
Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden
Retrievers, American Water Spaniels,
Field Spaniels, Vizslas, Wirehaired
Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Julie Felten (17972) IL

(847) 526-9332
jacfelten@aol.com
American Staffordshire Terriers,
Bedlington Terriers, Cairn Terriers,
Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers,
Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers,
Scottish Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Mrs. Toby B. Frisch (7248) NY

(631) 467-7510
tobybf@verizon.net
Havanese, Italian Greyhounds,
Maltese, Miniature Pinschers,
Papillons, Yorkshire Terriers

Mr. Peter Gaeta (90490) NC

(917) 209-1937
pgaeta88@yahoo.com

Brittanys, Pointers, German
Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay
Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers,
English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish
Setters, Irish Red & White Setters,
Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Weimaraners,
Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Nancy R. Griego (90264) NM

(505) 681-8020
redondorott@spinn.net
Akitas

Mr. Vern A. Harvey (5575) MS

(662) 890-7694
harvey@oshvah.com
Balance of Working Group (Black
Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos,
Chinook, Dogues de Bordeaux,
German Pinschers, Greater Swiss
Mountain Dogs, Komondorok,
Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan
Mastiffs, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan
Mastiffs)

Dr. Kammi Kai Hefner (80757) WV

(304) 825-6105
drhefner@pobox.com
Basset Hounds

Mrs. Lisa M. Hoffman (65756) NJ

(732) 389-2884
countylinridge@comcast.net
Beagle

Dr. Steve Keating (6065) TX

(214) 923-6201
suke19@airmail.net
Balance of Working Group (Anatolian
Shepherds, Cane Corsos, Dogues de
Bordeaux, Komondorok, Kuvaszok,
Leonbergers), Australian Shepherds,
Bearded Collies, Bouviers des Flandres

Mr. Bill Lee (18750) CO

(303) 287-3511
plee685891@aol.com
Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei,
Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Shiba Inu

Mrs. Joan A. Lester (5169) IL

(630) 551-1628
dymondal@aol.com
Brittanys, German Shorthaired
Pointers, Bichons Frises, Boston
Terriers, Bulldogs, Finnish Spitz,
Tibetan Spaniels

Ms. Peggy L. Lloyd (7049) TX

(281) 468-1198
peggy_lloyd@yahoo.com
Balance of Terrier Group (Australian
Terriers, Border Terriers, Cesky Terriers,
Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers,
Russell Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten
Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Welsh
Terriers), Basset Hounds

Ms. Melinda L. Lyon (5917) KY

(502) 244-8094
lairolyon@insightbb.com
Affenpinschers, Havanese, Maltese,
Pomeranians, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox
Terriers

Mr. Robert E. (Gene) McDonald (6673) WV

(304) 755-8472
kaskadebh@aol.com
Bloodhounds, Dachshunds

Mr. Mark S. Milligan (82070) WI

(920) 822-8174
bonmead@netnet.net
Newfoundlands

Ms. Mary B. Napper (62737) TX

(817) 221-9078
tumbleweed.dogs@juno.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels,
Papillons, Poodles, Shih Tzu

Ms. Louise Palarik (6054) IL

(847) 487-5677
colliejudge@juno.com
Australian Cattle Dogs, Beaucerons,
Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs,
Briards, Canaan Dogs, German
Shepherd Dogs, Polish Lowland
Sheepdogs, Pulik

Mrs. Janice G. Pardue (6842) CA

(559) 280-3734
jameldogs@aol.com
Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Chow
Chows, Dalmatians, Keeshonden,
Lhasa Apsos, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu,
Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Mr. Robert Paust (27933) MO

(717) 779-8695
rpaust@yahoo.com
American Staffordshire Terriers,
Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers,
Bull Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers,
Basset Hounds, Borzois, Salukis

Ms. Kathleen M. Pavlich (82065) CA

(707) 444-3293
kpavlich@suddenlink.net
Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Kelly D. Reimschiessel (66207) UT

(801) 756-2092
kileipoms@gmail.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels,
Chihuahuas, Papillons

Ms. Nikki Riggsbee (5983) FL

(813) 654-3412
nriggsbee@aol.com
Miniature Schnauzers, Cavalier King
Charles Spaniels, Havanese, Boston
Terriers, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs,
Schipperkes

Mrs. Kathy A. Rust (27507) ND

(701) 998-2025
kathy@kizmar.com

Brittany's, German Wirehaired
Pointers, Irish Setters, English
Springer Spaniels

Mrs. Andre B. Schoen (4024) CO

(719) 282-8209
aschoen540@aol.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group
(American Eskimo Dogs, Chow
Chows, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden,
Norwegian Lundehunds, Shiba Inu,
Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers,
Xoloitzcuintli)

Mr. David Stephenson (58245) WY

(307) 760-5236
davidste@uwyo.edu

Brittany's, German Shorthaired
Pointers

**Ms. Elizabeth "Beth" Sweigart
(59413) PA**

(610) 698-2580
greenfield1183@aol.com

Balance of Terrier Group (American
Staffordshire Terriers, Bedlington
Terriers, Border Terriers, Cesky
Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers,
Manchester Terriers, Miniature Bull
Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers,
Russell Terriers, Skye Terriers, Soft
Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staffordshire
Bull Terriers), Golden Retrievers,
Havanese, Pekingese

Mr. Bruce E. Voran (5610) AZ

(928) 476-3972
bjvoran@gmail.com

Balance of Working Group (Cane
Corsos, Chinook, Dogues de
Bordeaux, Komondorok, Leonbergers,
Tibetan Mastiffs), Australian
Shepherds, Bouviers des Flandres,
German Shepherd Dogs, Swedish
Vallhund

Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO

(573) 431-9246
n2rotts@yahoo.com
Bichons Frises

Mr. Paul F. Willhauck (6287) MA

(508) 339-9242
frostfield@aol.com

Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers,
Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden
Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova
Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers,
Borzoi's

Mrs. Joan M. Zielinski (3857) WA

(253) 631-1352
stoans@gmail.com

Dogues de Bordeaux, German
Pinschers, Greater Swiss Mountain
Dogs, Leonbergers, Neapolitan
Mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs,
Rottweilers, Samoyeds, Standard
Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs

APPROVED BREED ADJUNCT JUDGE

Ms. Linda Robey (6621) MO

(636) 677-6644
lrobey@swbell.net9

Cane Corsos

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES

Ms. Marianne Claflin (73311) MA

(508) 561-8289
tcovie@aol.com

Ms. Donna R. O'Connell (81640) TX

(214) 706-9936
tuscanydoc@tx.rr.com

Miss Danielle Warner (91813) CA

(858) 829-1494
danielle.warner@pandf.us

BEST IN SHOW

The following persons, having success-
fully **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.

Ms. Kalen M. Dumke (7141) WI

(920) 566-4023
nonsuchbzi@yahoo.com

Ms. Karen A. Dumke (7168) WI

(920) 566-4023
kdumke@wildblue.net

Mr. Lloyd Graser Jr. (16626) WI

(608) 655-1942
bluhvns@msn.com

Dr. Steven Herman (6305) FL

(813) 973-3153
sherman@wearethethehope.org

Mrs. Alice Inman (48667) TX

(817) 597-7537
schal.alice@gmail.com

Mrs. Christie C. Smith (22596) OR

(503) 639-8403
xtiesmith@comcast.net

Mr. Adrian W. Woodfork (6877) CA

(916) 422-2571
addoxdobes@sbcglobal.net

REINSTATED JUDGE

The Judging eligibility of the follow-
ing person has been reinstated.

Mr. Allen L. Odom (5448) CO

(303) 371-9512
backglen@aol.com

Afghan Hounds, Basenjis, Borzois,
Whippets, Australian Shepherds, JS-
Limited

RESIGNED JUDGES

Mrs. Cynthia P. Schmick
Ms. Linda M. Sparks

DECEASED JUDGES

Mr. Allen M. Buckner
Mrs. Susan B. Dale
Mr. Edward H. Haas
Ms. Wendy C. Brown McNaughton
Mr. Walter Shellenbarger
Mr. Thomas J. Tracy
Mrs. Helen T. Vitous
Mr. Winston J. Vitous

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.

Michael Roehrs 94623 (OH)

419-353-4930
Mjroehrs@aol.com
Tracking Dog

Cheryl Tisdale 94543 (TN)

615-653-5523
Eqwynd@peoplepc.com
Tracking Dog

**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.

Deborah Neufeld 19916 (FL)

407-346-5156
Obdnn@aol.com
Obedience - Open

Danae Steele 42416 (WI)

920-617-3049
noheaecs@gmail.com
Tracking Dog

Gretchen Stephenson 49297 (NJ)

270-681-1937
gretchen.stephenson@gmail.com
Tracking Dog Excellent

RESIGNED JUDGE

Noreen C. Cartwright #0817 (OR)
Active in Conformation

DECEASED JUDGE

Mr. Edward H. Haas

**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:

- E-ROSEWOOD** – Labrador Retrievers – Virginia M. & Ronald F. Erickson
- EDELMARKE** – German Shorthaired Pointers – Lisa M. Hauck-Gaede
- JAZZIN** – Golden Retrievers & Clumber Spaniels – Collette Jaynes
- WINDYCANYON** – Labrador Retrievers – Anne M. Swindeman
- SILHOUETTE** – Doberman Pinschers – Joyce A. Cates
- ABOUT TIME** – Cane Corso – Laura A. Essenmacher
- BLUE PANDA** – Old English Sheepdogs – Dianne S. McKee-Rowland & Lita E. Long
- PATTEN GOLD** – Golden Retrievers – Greg D. Vick
- OASIS** – Mastiffs – Teresa M. McMahan
- MIKAJE** – Borzois – Karen J. & Kevin J. Miller
- DIAMANTE** – Briards – Laurie C. Senti
- VACA VALLEY** – American Staffordshire Terriers – Genoa Brown
- MAP ROCK** – Labrador Retrievers – Casey A. & Natalie K. Johnson
- LZL** – Labrador Retrievers – Laurel C. & Rory A. Perram
- TENACITY** – Miniature American Shepherds & Australian Shepherds – Carol Carlson
- RIOT** – Boston Terriers – Elizabeth Johnson
- LOBUFF** – Labrador Retrievers – Lisa Weiss

Registered Name Prefixes Granted

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

- 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 I. 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



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



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



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