

Quarterly Meeting Of The Delegates
of
The American Kennel Club
December 5, 2006

Dennis B Sprung, President
PRESENT 260

Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*
Akita Club of America—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Virginia P. Grefe*
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—*Patte Klecan*
American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Karen Stout*
American Brussels Griffon Association—*James M. Neposchlan*
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Mrs. Helma N. Weeks*
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—*Simon M. Dickerson*
American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold Miller*
American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen R. Spey*
American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*
American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth W. Mader*
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—*Margorie Tuff*
American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—*Ms. Betty E. Blair*
American Water Spaniel Club—*Beth Lagimoniere*
Anderson Kennel Club—*Phillip D. Sample*
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Antelope Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Daniels*
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Mulvey*
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia M. Mayhall*
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kay Joiner*
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Kathryn A. Hamilton*
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Kim Occhiuti*
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Nina Schaefer*
Baltimore County Kennel Club—*Mrs. Lucy Campbell-Gracie*
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Barbara Wicklund*
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. John A. Studebaker*
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—*Wayne Boyd*
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Denise Dean*
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*George Sikes*
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Griffin*
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Ruth A. Naun*
Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen Staudt-Cartabona*
Briard Club of America, Inc.—*Tommy Millner*
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—*Sam H. McDonald*
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*
Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Mrs. Molly D. Wilder*
California Airedale Terrier Club—*Carole Bullwinkle-Foucault*
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.—*Ms. Eugenia B. Bishop*
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*
Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*
Charleston Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*
Charlottesville-Albemarle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Peggy B. Kessler*
Chattanooga Kennel Club—*David Gilstrap*
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nick Pisas*
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Ginny Atkinson*
Cincinnati Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Patricia H. Haines*
Clackamas Kennel Club—*Steven E. Nielsen*
Clarksville Kennel Club—*Robert A. Schroll*
Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Maureen R. Setter*
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Ricky Blackman*
Colorado Kennel Club—*Louise Leone*
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Mrs. Andre B. Schoen*
Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Anna Carlson*
Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*
Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joan Urban*
Cudahy Kennel Club—*Don H. Adams*
Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*James W. Smith*
Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merlyn A. Green, D.C.*
Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*
Des Moines Obedience Training Club—*Lee Slorah*
Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*
Dog Owner's Training Club of Maryland—*Kathrynann Sarvinas*
Duluth Kennel Club—*Hon. David C. Merriam*
Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Linda C. Wozniak*
East Tennessee Retriever Club—*Catherine Bell*
Eastern Dog Club—*Charles J. Foley*
Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Tabor*
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.—*Arlene R. Harris*
Finnish Spitz Club of America—*Kim Raleigh*
Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Almira B. Dallas*
Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Mr. Harry G. Ottmann*
Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynda Kenney*
Furniture City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merry J. Millner*
Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kathleen Nuzenski*
Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Connie S. Clapp*
Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Barbash*
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*
Golden Retriever Club of America—*Mr. Howard Falberg*
Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*

Great Dane Club of America, Inc.—*Thomas Sandenaw*
Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Robert M. Brown*
Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc—*Ms. Karen J. Burgess*
Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*David Keene*
Greater Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Ronald H. Menaker*
Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia McEvoy O'Connell*
Greyhound Club of America—*Melanie Steele*
Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cynthia A. Miller*
Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert D. Black*
Hawaiian Kennel Club—*Norman B. Kenney*
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*
Idaho Capital City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Wyoma Clouss*
Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rita J. Biddle*
Inland Empire Kennel Association, Inc.—*Lawrence Coleman*
Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Constance B. Vanacore*
Irish Terrier Club of America—*Peggy E. Gill*
Irish Wolfhound Club of America—*Eugenia Hunter*
James River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mallory C. Driskill*
Jefferson County Kennel Club of Missouri—*Cledith Wakefield*
K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—*Mrs. Pam Goldman*
Kachina Kennel Club—*Mrs. Marilyn R. Vinson*
Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John D. Sawicki*
Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—*Polly Fleming*
Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—*Carole Plesur*
Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—*Mrs. Florence L. Pravel*
Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton*
Kennel Club of Pasadena—*Jarratt Brunson*
Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Inc.—*Charles H. Schaefer*
Kennel Club of Riverside—*Sylvia Thomas*
Key City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Fred C. Bock, II*
Klamath Dog Fanciers, Inc.—*Mrs. Nancy M. Damberg*
Kuvasz Club of America—*R K. Barnes*
Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia T. Rowland*
Ladies' Kennel Association of America—*Ruth Winston*
Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club—*Sylvia Meisels*
Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Crecia C. Closson*
Land O' Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan Croft*
Langley Kennel Club—*Ms. Dianne E. Franck*
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert LaBerge*
Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sue Goldberg*
Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—*David M. Powers*
Louisiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Luis F. Sosa*
Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Judy R. Melear*

- Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Sandra B. Barker*
- Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gordon C. Chambers*
- Manitowoc County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Romana Arnold*
- Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. J. C. Garvin*
- Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. William R. Newman*
- Medina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Pat Dresser*
- Menona Kennel Club, Inc.—*John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.*
- Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—*Giselle Simonds*
- Misplillon Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Blackie H. Nygood*
- Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—*Robert H. McKowen*
- Montgomery County Kennel Club—*Ms. Ida E. Weinstock*
- Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—*Mrs. Ruth W. Crumb*
- Mountain States Dog Training Club, Inc.—*John D. Landis*
- Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Rebecca S. Stanevich*
- Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Judith V. Daniels*
- Nashville Kennel Club—*James Efron*
- New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Liz Sullivan*
- 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*
- Northern Kentucky Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Betty C. Pomeroy*
- Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club, Inc.—*Billie Ponton*
- Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—*Marile A. Waterstraat*
- Oakland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Alan D. Dorfman*
- Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia C. Scully*
- Oklahoma City Kennel Club, Inc.—*William C. Harris*
- Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.—*Robert Nazak*
- Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Hugh Jordan*
- Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Harvey A. Mueller*
- Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy F. Murray*
- Orange Empire Dog Club, Inc.—*Burton J. Yamada*
- Otterhound Club of America—*Mark J. Hawley*
- Ox Ridge Kennel Club—*Jack P. De Witt*
- Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club—*Mr. Carl E. Gomes*
- Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—*Link Newcomb*
- Panhandle Kennel Club of Texas, Inc.—*Mrs. Geraldine M. Shastid*
- Papillon Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Arlene A. Czech*
- Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Judy A. Hart*
- Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marieann Gladstone*
- Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America—*Anne Gallant, Ph.D.*
- Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Mr. Gary A. Reed*
- Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joachim Blutreich*
- Plainfield Kennel Club—*John McCullagh*
- Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—*Charles McWilliams*
- Pocatello Kennel Club, Inc.—*Fred Hughes*
- Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Scott Olund*
- Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*James Primmer*
- Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Savage*
- Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Arends*
- Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kerstin T. Ottmar*
- Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Michelle R. Anderson*
- Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*
- Reno Kennel Club—*Mr. Steven D. Gladstone*
- Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gerard Baudet*
- Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.—*Mr. George D. Sexton*
- Richland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Shirley L. Boyer*
- Richland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Donald B. Harris*
- Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Jan M. Ritchie*
- Sahuaro State Kennel Club—*Dr. Alvin W. Grossman*
- Saluki Club of America—*Joseph P. Pendry*
- Sammamish Kennel Club—*Robert Gloster*
- Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
- San Gabriel Valley Kennel Club—*Ralph S. Roberts*
- Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Tom Brown*
- Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—*Abbe R. Shaw*
- Santa Clara Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Barbara L. Norton*
- Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*James R. Dok*
- Santa Cruz Kennel Club, Inc.—*B. Sue Adams*
- Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laurence J. Libeu*
- Saratoga New York Kennel Club—*Jessica Eggleston*
- Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—*Betty J. Patrick*
- Scottish Terrier Club of America—*John McNabney*
- Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Nancy Perrell*
- Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Lynne M. Myall*
- Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*
- Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Donna Beckman*
- Silver State Kennel Club—*Michael J. Connell*
- Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—*William J. Feeney*
- Skye Terrier Club of America—*Mr. Walter F. Goodman*
- Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—*Cindy Vogels*
- South Hills Kennel Club—*Mrs. Kathleen R. Parks*
- South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Linda B. Willson*
- South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*
- South Windsor Kennel Club—*Margarette (Peggy) Wampold*
- Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*Dr. John V. Ioia*
- Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lee Arnold*
- Spinone Club of America—*James Channon*
- Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*
- St. Joseph Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas W. Carneal*
- St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—*Dr. Gerry Meisels*
- Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Kathy A. Donovan*
- Steel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Miss Susan M. Napady*
- Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Paullet De Long*
- Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Parrotti*
- Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Manning*
- Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—*John Shoemaker*
- Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*
- Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*
- Tucson Kennel Club—*Pat Jacobs*
- United States Australian Shepherd Association—*Leon Goetz*
- United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*
- United States Lakeland Terrier Club—*Alfred J. Ferruggiaro*
- Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club—*J. M. Haderer*
- Upper Suncoast Dog Training Club—*William H. Blair*
- Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
- Vancouver Kennel Club—*Robert F. Damberg*
- Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—*Mr. William F. Dumas*
- Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Lynn Worth*
- Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.—*Suzanne Gray*
- Walla Walla Kennel Club—*Mr. Rod Strand*
- Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Mr. Donald Rennick*
- Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy C. Russell*
- Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Donald Ong*
- Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Peter J. See*
- West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Carolyn M. Gardner*
- West Volusia Kennel Club—*Ferdinand Reinlieb*
- Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*
- Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. William A. Russett*
- Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc—*Clare L. Lincoln*
- Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frederick R. Vogel*
- Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*
- Women's Field Trial Club—*Judy Rasmuson*
- Yakima Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Richard Lewis*

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair.

Mr. Sprung: The meeting will come to order. For those of you who joined us last night at the Delegates reception at the Aquarium of the Pacific, we hope that you enjoyed your evening.

If there is any Delegate in attendance who has not yet signed the attendance record, please be sure to do it before leaving, as this is our official record of attendance. The Chair would like to

introduce to you those persons seated with me on the dais. On my immediate left is Chairman Ron Menaker. To his left is the Vice Chairman, David Merriam. On my right is Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian. To her right is Jim Crowley, the Executive Secretary. And to Mr. Crowley's right is Cathryn Baker, the court reporter.

New Delegates have been requested to submit individual photographs for publication in the *AKC GAZETTE*. Any Delegate who has not done so but wishes to submit a photograph, please see the photographer after the meeting. It is my sad duty to report to you the passing of John Honig, on October the 21st. He was the Delegate for the Worcester County Kennel Club since 1972. The Chair calls on Jim Crowley to read the names of the Delegates seated since our last meeting.

Mr. Crowley: These Delegates have been seated since the last meeting:

Sharon Jolly, El Paso, Texas, to represent the Rio Grande Obedience Club.

Wayne F. Harmon, Minneapolis, Minnesota, to represent the Cambridge, Minnesota Kennel Club

Barbara L. Norton, San Jose, California, to represent the Santa Clara Dog Training Club

Judy R. Melear, Fisherville, Kentucky, to represent the Louisville Kennel Club

Scott Olund, San Rafael, California, to represent the Poodle Club of America.

John Shoemaker, Culver City, California, to represent the Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California

Marjorie Tuff, Freehold, New Jersey, to represent the American Shetland Sheepdog Association

Marilie A. Waterstraat, Macedon, New York, to represent the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club USA

Burton J. Yamada, Blue Jay, California, to represent the Orange Empire Dog Club.

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

Michael J. Connell, West Simsbury, CT, Silver State Kennel Club

Martha G. Griffin, Pell City, AL, Birmingham Kennel Club

Fred M. Hughes, Pocatello, ID, Pocatello Kennel Club

Judy R. Melear, Fisherville, KY, Louisville Kennel Club

Barbara L. Norton, San Jose, CA, Santa Clara Dog Training Club

Scott Olund, San Rafael, CA, Poodle Club of America

John Shoemaker, Culver City, CA, Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California

Marjorie Tuff, Freehold, NJ, American Shetland Sheepdog Association

Marilyn R. Vinson, Glendale, AZ, Kachina Kennel Club

Marile A. Waterstraat, Macedon, NY, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)

Burton Yamada, Blue Jay, CA, Orange Empire Dog Club

Mr. Sprung: Thank you and a sincere welcome to all of our new Delegates.

The minutes of the September 12, 2006 Delegates meeting were published in the October 2006 *AKC GAZETTE* and they were mailed to each Delegate. If there are no corrections, then the minutes will stand as published. Hearing no corrections, the minutes stand approved.

The next item is the approval of new member clubs. The following club has been approved by the Board of Directors and will be voted on at this meeting: Trinity Valley Kennel Club. In accordance with the Bylaws, a written ballot shall be required if requested in writing by at least five Delegates made to the Executive Secretary at least seven days prior to the start of the meeting at which the vote is scheduled. The Chair has been advised that no such request has been made to the Executive Secretary. We will, therefore, proceed with the vote. An affirmative vote of four-fifths of all Delegates is required to elect. The question is on the Trinity Valley Kennel Club as a member of the American Kennel Club. Those in favor, please raise your hand. Thank you. Those opposed, please raise your hand. Thank you. There are four-fifths in the affirmative. The Chair declares that the

Trinity Valley Kennel Club has been elected a member of the American Kennel Club.

I would now like to call on Jim Stevens for the Chief Financial Officer's report.

Mr. Stevens: Today, I'd like to take a slightly different approach in presenting our current financial results to you. Let's begin by taking a look at how our numbers would appear without including the benefit of our alternative revenues and also excluding the gains from our investments. This offers some real insight into the composition of our results. This P&L summary shows our revenues for the first 10 months of this year as approximately \$45 ½ million, excluding alternative revenues. If we then deduct our operating expenses of almost \$52 million, we're left with a deficit of \$6 ½ million. Fortunately, this picture changes dramatically once we include our alternative revenues. These include sponsorships and royalties from licensing agreements. The inclusion of these revenues results in a year-to-date operating surplus of \$3 ½ million for this year. It's worth noting that our total year-to-date revenues are 1% higher than last year. Total expenses rose by less than 3% from 2005, as a result of our continued efforts to control costs. While we're pleased with having generated a respectable operating surplus with the inclusion of our alternative revenues, please recognize that there is no guarantee that these revenues will repeat in the future. In fact, our 2007 budget already anticipates some erosion in this area due to the non-recurring nature of some of these revenue items. Nevertheless, we thought we'd take this opportunity to introduce you to a new idea for raising other alternative revenues, which is non-controversial.

We're thinking of having the AKC's officers manage bake sales at future Delegate meetings to raise added revenues. What do you think? O.K. We're just kidding and wanted to make sure we had your attention.

On a more serious note, our investment gains so far this year have been outstanding. As of the end of October,

these gains were \$3.7 million. With the inclusion of these gains, our net surplus was \$7.2 million for the first 10 months of this year. The performance of our investments in 2006 has driven our bottom line to be 25% above last year. We'll come back to discussing some further details on our investments in a minute. If we next review trends in our revenues, registrations still leave a great deal to be desired. The volume of year-to-date litters was down 1.3% as of the end of October compared to last year. Dog registrations were over 5 ½% lower for 10 months vs. 2005. Moving beyond registrations, there were some positive results with other revenues such as royalty fees increasing 13% over last year. This was due to the success of our licensing programs and pet insurance. Recording fees were 4% higher than 2005 as a result of increased entries in agility and rally.

As previously noted, our investments have performed very well. Here's a comparison of our investment gains for the previous two full years vs. 10 months of this year. 2006 appears as the blue bar on the right. Even though this represents only a 10 month number, this \$3.7 million figure far exceeds the gains from the previous two years. In comparing the rate of return on our investments, so far this year, we're up over 8% for 10 months. Last year's return for the entire year was approximately 8%. Clearly, we're quite pleased with how well our investments continue to perform. If we next review the trend of our recent year's financial results, this graph analyzes the components of our net surplus for the prior two years vs. the first 10 months of this year. It provides some useful insight into our results. We've split the surplus figure between the amounts generated from our operations (which appear in blue) vs. investment gains (in yellow). You may recall that 2004 and 2005 were the two best years in AKC's history in terms of our financial results. In those record years, investment gains represented about 1/3 of AKC's bottom line. However, the trend changed significantly this year where our investments gains now represent over 50% of our bottom line. Quite honestly, this is both good and

bad news! Having the benefit of increased investment gains is wonderful for sure. Who would complain about that? However, a shrinking profit from operations does give us cause for concern. I'm sure you'll agree that today's investment gains could be considerably lower in the future when the markets behave poorly. Therefore, we must be somewhat cautious in becoming too reliant on investments as a major component to our bottom line in the future.

Let's now discuss some points of interest concerning our investment activity. As many of you are aware, these investment gains are unrealized. Some of you might ask, "What does that mean?" Our gains result from the appreciation in the market value of our investments which is driven by higher stock prices on our holdings. However, since we have not sold these appreciated securities to generate cash, we have not realized any gains. Therefore, the AKC has not increased its cash position as a result of these investment gains. We've simply increased the market value of our existing investments. This is similar to what occurs in your own 401(k) or IRA account. We hope that this clarifies what's happening with our investment activity.

Lastly, I'd like to provide you with an updated status of our various reserves. The operating reserve, previously recommended by our external auditors, is 100% funded at almost \$33 million. This is pegged at 50% of our annual operating expenses which could be viewed as a minimum threshold. The endowment reserve is currently 10% funded at \$10 million, which is a positive development. As this endowment fund balance grows to a more significant amount in the future, the earnings it generates will be useful in providing funding for our programs. In conclusion, 2006 has been a good year so far from an overall financial perspective. Let's hope this continues.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Jim. I now call on our Chairman Ron Menaker for his report.

Mr. Menaker: Good afternoon. This

weekend's show was a wonderful way to close our year, and I think that it showcased the best of the American Kennel Club, both for the dog fancy and for the general public. We hosted nearly 3,000 dogs for the weekend's three events, all 165 AKC breeds and varieties, all 50 states, and 16 countries were represented in competition, and 145 parent clubs participated in the ever-popular AKC Meet the Breeds. In all, we utilized approximately 400,000 square feet of event space, welcomed tens of thousands of spectators and can expect a cumulative ten million viewers to see the show on Animal Plant and Discovery. We're delighted that this year's Bred-By-Exhibitor competition represented nearly 40 percent of our total entry. These numbers clearly illustrate that this event has become the breeder's showcase. Further recognizing the importance of this competition, the entire Bred-By-Exhibitor group competition will be available starting this evening as a streaming video on the AKC website. This added coverage of our Bred-By-Exhibitors means fanciers and the public will be able to enjoy this facet of our sport. Next year we plan to offer same-day coverage of the seven Bred-By-Exhibitors groups via streaming video.

We also highlighted the purebred dog breeder in our on-air ceremony featuring the Breeder-Of-The-Year Award. All this public exposure clearly demonstrates our continued support and pride in our breeders. I cannot underscore how proud I am that together with our partners at Eukanuba we have built one of the most anticipated and respected events in the dog world that has become more than just a dog show. It is a platform to engage and involve all dog lovers. The sport involves all dog lovers of purebred dogs.

On another note, I would like to remind all of you as you exit this evening or this afternoon with your badges, we have a copy for each of you of our AKC show guide that was put together for this weekend, so please remember to pick that up.

Now I'd like to review some highlights from the past year. Certainly one of the busiest areas has been our Canine

Legislation Department with breed-specific legislation continuing to be an issue across the nation. We have tracked more than 100 breed-specific ordinance introductions this year. Because of the concerted efforts of our dog fanciers at the local level, seven out of ten governmental entities are now rejecting breed-specific proposals. I want to applaud the many fanciers active in their states and communities combating mandatory spade and neuter ordinances, dog ownership limit laws, and state-level breeder bills that threaten the right to own and breed dogs responsibly.

On the federal level, AKC endorsed the Pet Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act, (PETS), recently signed into law by President Bush. PETS require that state and local emergency plans include provisions for persons with pets and authorizes appropriations in the planning and construction of emergency shelter facilities.

Earlier this year we added a staff position to coordinate disaster preparedness. A national protocol is evolving which dictates that all responders now work with their local officials. We have contacted every State Veterinarian and every Veterinary school dean to learn what particular requirements their state may have so that we may begin to integrate all of our resources. The AKC/CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund also ordered grants to Mississippi State University to fund a mobile emergency response unit for its veterinary assistance team or "VMAT," and to North Carolina State Animal Response Team and to the University of Florida to purchase temporary shelters for future emergencies.

In the events area, 2006 has seen much activity. Overall events are up approximately 12 percent and we predict entries to top three million. Our newest companion event, Rally, has grown over 60 percent from 2005 and we continue to welcome Coonhound enthusiasts into AKC. In Agility we were proud to have one of our World Team members receive a silver medal at the World Agility Championships in Switzerland earlier this year. And this weekend, we held the inaugural AKC Agility Invitational which encouraged

all breeds to show off their skills.

Beyond our ongoing publicity and advertising campaigns which continually highlight our programs, services and expertise to hundreds of millions, we continue to discover creative ways to reach dog owners with our message of responsible dog ownership. For example, we worked with Buena Vista Home Entertainment to place breed inserts into the DVD releases of two highly successful films featuring dogs: *Eight Below* and *Shaggy Dog*. This partnership is continuing with the upcoming DVD release of *Air Buddies* which will contain an insert about Golden Retrievers. We also reached the public via our growing licensing program which has resulted in AKC branded products in over 4700 retail stores nationwide, including Target, Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, Costco, Petco, Pet Smart and Walgreen's.

New dimensions were added to this year's Fourth Annual AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day via our AKC Pet Promise, which allowed owners to pledge their commitment to providing the basics of responsible care. We were also pleased to dedicate our Fourth Quarter Community Achievement Awards to clubs which held RDO events. We will be recognizing these clubs later in today's meeting. As always, we are proud to recognize all facets of the dog community with our various awards programs such as the Breeder-of-The-Year, ACE and the Lifetime Achievement Awards which we just celebrated here in Long Beach.

And finally, I wanted to touch on our direction in 2007. You will receive an update on our progress with the Strategic Plan in the next delegates mailing. And I want to reiterate that the goal of this plan is to strengthen The American Kennel Club. This is a critical time for the fancy and the AKC that will no doubt present future challenges. We are in the midst of evolving from a registry and regulatory body that once enjoyed the status of being the "only game in town" for certainly for much of the last century, to being one of among a bevy of animal welfare and animal interest organizations, as well as numerous registries vying for public attention. The

Board's strategic plan emphasizes a more proactive approach to dealing with this new environment. We are moving toward this as an organization, but as with any change, there will always be a healthy debate. To face the challenging issues that we need to address, it is imperative that we work together. I would like to state my intention of keeping the Delegates and the broader constituency far more engaged as we pursue our strategic direction. I know we need to foster a productive dialogue regarding all issues that affect the way the AKC is perceived and that reflect on the values that we stand for as a whole. I know all of you here today are very interested in seeing the AKC prosper and remain healthy, and your input and participation is crucial and critical in assisting the Board and staff to achieving that goal.

I personally would like to thank the entire Board, the Delegate body, and the wonderful staff for all their hard work, dedication and contributions to the Sport of Purebred Dogs this year. I feel honored to work with all of you. I look forward to a productive 2007. And I wish you all a happy holiday. Thank you very much.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ron. Next on the agenda is the President's report.

I'll start off first by thanking all of our Delegates who attended the national championship and also all of those who helped us. That knowledgeable assistance made a great difference in the quality of the show. And to our parent clubs whose members were there for Meet The Breeds, special recognition for having those people there, teaching the public what purebred dogs are about, what the AKC is about and responsible dog ownership.

And lastly, I know I say this a lot, the AKC staff, you are all greatly appreciated. I am pleased to share with you a host of new programs and services designed for our core constituency.

The first service is for the long-term benefit of our clubs and their shows. It is the New Exhibitor Orientation Program directed at welcoming novices.

The program, which was borne out of discussions with Superintendent Ken Sleeper, will be implemented by Darrell Hayes, Vice President of the Dog Show Judges Department. It was created to address the drop-out rate of novices in the sport.

Orientations will be held at some shows beginning February 2007, and they're designed to help make the new exhibitors' first experiences at an AKC all-breed dog show as positive as possible. Briefings will be held on Saturdays at a time which will attract the most participants, such as a half-hour before group judging begins. The mentors will ideally include an executive field representative, a judge, a superintendent, the show chairperson or a member of the event committee, as well as a member of the Registered Handlers Program. Clubs will receive educational credit for holding new exhibitor orientations. Additionally, Robin Stansell, Vice President of event operations, and his department are working diligently with The Dog Show Superintendents' Association on other enhancements to welcome newcomers. For more information, please speak with Darrell or with Robin.

AKC is launching a new event cancellation notification system. Beginning in 2007, exhibitors can access this designated toll-free number for immediate up-to-the-minute information on canceled events. The toll-free number is 877-252-3229. The same information will be posted on the AKC website and sent electronically to those fanciers who sign up to receive this free update via e-mail or text messaging. I would like to thank Executive Field Representative Ray Scott for working with me on this idea while we stood outside in the cold, wind and rain at a show that was canceled in late October, thinking of ways to better communicate with our core constituents in an emergency situation.

Our third initiative for our core constituency is a new award recognition program for member clubs. The AKC's Member Club Outstanding Sportsmanship Award Program will begin in 2007.

Annually, AKC will provide every member club an outstanding sportsman-

ship medallion. The club may then present it to a member of their choosing. We will list all recipients of this award on the akc.org. Further details will be presented in an upcoming mailing to all member clubs.

As the holidays are just around the corner, AKC is sending a token of appreciation to all Delegates, judges and club officers. This holiday mailing will consist of an AKC logo window decal that can proudly be displayed in a car or office window, a 10 dollar certificate redeemable in AKC's online store for a research pedigree or any other report of one's choosing, and to announce we are expanding our toll-free service to more of our core constituents, so that more judges and fanciers will have direct access to a staff member to help them personally.

Finally, I would like to ask you for your input. As you are aware, staff has conducted research to help us begin the discussion, analysis and exploration of the possibility of creating a listing service for spayed and neutered mixed-breed dogs.

(applause)

We would further explore the possibility of enrollees in this service being eligible to compete in separate classes at companion events.

As we have not moved beyond the conceptual and initial research stage of this idea, and we will not until we have obtained input and suggestions from all segments of our sport and listened to the opinions of the fancy, and in order to proceed with our due diligence, I will now unveil the current status of the plan on the screens.

Once we have a tentative plan, which will be based on feedback and best business practices, it will be put forth again to the fancy for consideration before any decisions are made. Please let your club members know that further information will be forthcoming and that we welcome informed and thoughtful input from as many people in the fancy as possible. On this and other initiatives, in order to make the progress necessary to lead the AKC, I am seeking your advice, concurrence and assistance.

Please remember also that you and

your club members are invited to the Ninth AKC Open House which is being held on Sunday, February 11, 2007.

(applause)

The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the first proposed amendment to Article VIII: Board of Directors Nominating Committee - Timeline of AKC's Charter and Bylaws.

Mr. Crowley: This amendment is to Article VIII: Board of Directors Nominating Committee Timeline of the AKC's Charter and Bylaws. This amendment would change the publication of the nominating committee in the *AKC GAZETTE* from the October to the September issue, require that the Nominating Committee make their report by October 15, as opposed to the present December 1st, and require that all petitions be received by November 15th. This would enable Delegates to get meaningful input from all candidates at the December/January meeting to take back to their clubs before the March elections. Full text is on the blue worksheet. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Is there any question on the proposed amendment?

The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Article VIII: Board of Directors Nominating Committee - Petition of the AKC Charter and Bylaws.

Mr. Crowley: This amendment is to Article VIII: Board of Directors Nominating Committee - Petition, of the AKC Charter and Bylaws. This amendment would require all petitions to have 50 signatures rather than the current 20. The reasoning is that if a Delegate cannot get 50 signatures, then he or she would have no real chance to get the

majority needed for election. The 20 signatures represents only about 3 percent of the Delegate body.

The full text is on the green worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The

proposal was made by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE*, and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Is there any question on the proposed amendment? The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 4, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Mr. Crowley: This amendment is to Chapter 3, Section 4, of the AKC Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The revision would formally define the 6 - 9 and 9 - 12 month puppy classes, and further clarify the age determination at multiple-day events. The full text is on the tan worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The proposal was requested by the Dog Show Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Any questions on this proposal? The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 4, Section 3: Approval of Judges' Panels and Premium Lists, of the AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Mr. Crowley: This amendment is to Chapter 4, Section 3: Approval of Judges' Panels Premium Lists, of the AKC Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This change would remove obsolete references to a non-existent sample premium list. The full text is on the grey worksheet that was sent to all Delegates.

The proposal was requested by the Dog Show Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Is there any question on the proposed amendment? The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 6,

Section 4: Premium Lists and Closing Entries, of the AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Mr. Crowley: This amendment is to Chapter 6, Section 4: Premium Lists and Closing Entries of the AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This revision would clarify the requirements prohibiting a Best of Breed at designated specialties in breeds which have varieties.

The full text is on the lilac worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The proposal was requested by the Dog Show Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Are there any questions? The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendments to Chapter 9, Section 5: Superintendents and Show Secretaries, of the AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Mr. Crowley: This amendment is to Chapter 9, Section 5: Superintendents and Show Secretaries, of the AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This revision would relieve a requirement for clubs that use a veterinarian off the show premises.

The full text is on the canary colored worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The proposal was requested by the Dog Show Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Are there any questions? The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the final proposed amendment to Chapter 10 of the AKC's Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds, Beagle Field Trial Rules, and Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Dachshunds.

Mr. Crowley: This amendment is for Chapter 10 of the AKC's Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds, Beagle Field Trial Rules and Field Trial Rules and Standard Pro-

cedures for Dachshunds. This amendment would modify and facilitate a trial secretary's ability to retain entry information with the club records, while allowing faster submission of the trial reports to AKC.

The full text is on the pink worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The proposal was requested by the Dachshund Club of America, and a member of the Hound Field Trial Group, and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Are there any questions? The Chair recognized Barbara Wicklund, Delegate for the Basset Hound Club of America who spoke as follows: My club had no advance notification of this. And in the limited time that we had to discuss it and share the information with our field trial advisory council, there is opposition to it and I would like to move that Basset Hounds be removed from the rule change.

Mr. Crowley: That amendment would be made when it comes up for a vote. That's the proper time to make an amendment, and deleting it would certainly be within the scope.

Mrs. Wicklund: We would like to get it taken care of now and thus not interfere with the change for the other two breeds if that's what they wish.

Mr. Crowley: We could take that request. Again, this was approved by the Board. We could take that request to remove that portion of it, or if the Board decides otherwise, you can still have that option to have it removed when it comes up for debate.

Mrs. Wicklund: I understand that, Jim. We would like to get it removed now, and if the Field Trial operations convinces our Field Trials Committee that it's a good thing to do, we could always put it back in at a later date.

Mr. Sprung: At today's meeting this is a reading and notice of the proposal. It's

not a time for an amendment to the proposal. Notice will also be published in the February and March issues of the *AKC GAZETTE*.

Mrs. Wicklund: All right, then, I will be moving to amend it at the March meeting, and hopefully the Delegate body will support the wishes of a parent club. Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair now calls on Noreen Baxter, Vice President of Communications to announce the fourth quarter AKC Community Achievement Awards.

Ms. Baxter: The AKC Community Achievement Awards are given to clubs and AKC federations and their members who have made outstanding contributions to public education or canine legislation activities. The American Kennel Club announced that starting this year, the Fourth Quarter Community Achievement Awards will solely honor AKC clubs and federations holding exceptional AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day events. Each of the three honorees will receive an AKC Certificate of Recognition and the AKC will donate 1,000 dollars to each club or federation.

In addition, two honorable mentions have been named in recognition of their efforts. Details about the honorees' events will be published in the *AKC GAZETTE* and featured on the AKC website. The special fourth quarter RDO day honorees are:

The Oshkosh Kennel Club

The Lake Cumberland Kennel Club

The Greater Panama City Dog Fanciers Association

With honorable mentions going to:

The Rapid City Kennel Club, Delegate Sally Nist and the Huntsville Obedience Training Club.

Please join me in thanking the honorees.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Noreen. For everyone's information, the annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at the Crown Plaza Times Square Manhattan Hotel. If you need

assistance with the accommodations, please contact Paula Spector.

The March meeting will be the annual election of Directors, the class of 2011. We will start this meeting at 10:30 a.m. in order to have adequate time for the three-minute speeches by candidates and to accommodate multiple ballots. Delegates are asked to please make your travel arrangements accordingly.

Once again, our photographer is outside for those choosing to have photographs taken, and please turn in your badges upon leaving. Is there any further business to come before the Delegate body?

The Chair recognized Patricia W. Laurans, Delegate for the German Wire-haired Pointer Club of America, who spoke as follow: Talking at this point in time as the Chair of the Parent Club Committee, I'm very pleased to announce that the Parent Club Conference will be held July 20 through 22nd, 2007, 30 miles south of Atlanta at the Wyndham Peachtree Convention Center in Peachtree City, Georgia. Hopefully letters will be going out this week to the President of each Parent Club, with copies to the Delegate and the Secretary, and they will all get to see the varied topics that we will be offering, and to send names back into us by February 9th. There will be directions on who at the AKC the selected names should go to. We thank you and we look forward to a wonderful Parent Club conference. Thank you to AKC for allowing this to happen.

The Chair recognized James W. Smith, Delegate of the Dalmatian Club of America, who spoke as follows: I rise again to discuss very briefly the judging approval process, and to once again urge the Board of Directors to accept the advice and counsel of Judging Management, wherein they be given the right to bring forward names of professional handlers who are entitled, in their view, to be awarded an entire group on an initial application. You've entrusted that department with the responsibility of approving every new applicant for the breeds which they apply for. They make those decisions. The great majori-

ty of those people are unknown to you and unknown to the fancy as a whole. The professional handlers' names that they would bring forward are known to all of you and all of us because of their service and ability. I again urge the Board to look at that.

Now, on a far more serious note. I made these comments several years ago. Anyone who is running for the Board of Directors should be required to respond to anyone who asks them, "Who will you vote for as Chairman?" And if you get an answer that's fuzzy or noncommittal, please press forward. We've got Chairman Menaker, Vice Chairman Merriam. We're talking about plans for 2007 and beyond that are critical for the future and the very survival of this organization. We need to continue that sound solid leadership. You need to know that someone you're going to vote for will continue to vote for those people. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Dr. Gerry Meisels, Delegate for the St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association, who spoke as follows: When somebody does something right, then I think they deserve a response of some kind. The mindless form is to thank them, the next higher form is to commend them, then up there you can applaud them. And I don't quite know what I would use, but it would be higher than just an applause, to thank you for the approach you took to the discussion of the registration of mixed-breed dogs to the fancy and the unity that that's saying, and I appreciate you doing that.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Nancy Fisk, Delegate for the Hockamock Kennel Club who spoke as follows: Today we listened to Sarah Sprouse talk wonderfully about the legislation issues and the importance of networking and the importance of the work that the Legislative Department does and the tools they provide to all of us. I've been privileged to be on the Delegate Ad Hoc Legisla-

tive Committee for the past year. It was appointed for a year and yesterday was our final meeting. Our committee has had incredibly positive outcome in the sharing of resources that each of the members who came from various areas of the country brought to that committee. We were able to share successes, we were able to share experiences, and from that interaction we could take that value – those valuable tools and take them home and make them part of the successes that we were then able to generate. Therefore, we intend to continue in this line and we would like to ask each of you to join us in a legislative caucus that we will be having starting in March, and bring with you your success stories, your not-so-successful stories, your issues, and we can all share. And with that networking, as Sarah pointed out, we will all be much more successful with the help of the Legislative staff. And please, please come and join us in March. You will be receiving information about when that caucus will be held. We will try and plan it at such a time that it won't interfere with anything else. And we really need your help and we need all of your input. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Joseph P. Pendry, Delegate for the Saluki Club of America who spoke as follows: Mr. President, Board members, fellow Delegates. The Board of Directors of the Saluki Club of America believes that the AKC should be inclusive, not indulging in nameless exclusivity. In that context, I attended the Herding, Earthdog, Coursing Committee the other day which was discussing the needs of the Herding breed clubs, in terms of the AKC new policy on Conflict of Interest for judges. The Herding breeds have asked for an exemption to the new rules as critical to their breeds. Some months ago, four Working breed Parent Clubs came before the Parent Club and the Delegate body asking to be sanctioned through all Working breed events. This was a controversial matter. The Parent Club Committee and Delegate body voted to support, just because in the judgment of those clubs, this was crucial to the develop-

ment of those breeds. Now history is repeating itself with the request of the Herding breeds to be exempted from the new Conflict of Interest policy for judges which goes into effect in January. I would point out that the Saluki is not a Herding breed. In the spirit of inclusiveness and in listening to breed clubs' desires for their breeds, I urge the Board of Directors to grant the request of the Herding breeds. Delegates, we need to stand together in the core interest of our breeds. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Carol A. Williamson, Delegate for the Houston Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: It is my very sad duty to report to the Delegate body and those of you that knew her, that long-time judge Hazel Arnold passed away this morning. Hazel was a founding member of our cluster. Hopefully our cluster will continue to be a testament to her far-reaching plans for the future of the sport and for our working with the public in our area. Because at the cluster we worked towards public education, and I believe we were one of the first to do so, and that has helped forestall many of the problems in our area that some of the rest of you experience. We are very sad. I received the notice just at noon, so that's my report.

The Chair recognized Patte Klecan, Delegate for the American Bouvier des Flandres Club, who spoke as follows: I would just like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the powers that be in organizing the Invitational, and for providing the Performance events demonstrations. I stood there and watched the Herding demonstration. I was absolutely taken back by Field Director Carol Delsman's performance. She is a real gift to the AKC and to Herding events. So thank you to whoever put this together. Mr. Speck, I know, was involved, and Carol Delsman. To me there's nothing more exciting than to watch a dog perform a task for which they were bred, and that was really awesome. Thank you.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. Bill is here and we'll certainly let Carol know about those compliments.

Is there any further business to come before the Delegate body? Hearing none, the meeting stands adjourned. I will see you in New York.

[The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.]

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