

**QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES  
OF  
THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB  
DECEMBER 16, 2008**

Dennis B. Sprung, President

PRESENT 260

Abilene Kennel Club—*Neil A. Bates*

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.—*Mrs. Virginia P. Grefe*

Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dennis J. Gallant*  
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—*Patte Klecan*

American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Judith Tighe*  
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*

American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—*John D. Gammon*

American Chesapeake Club, Inc.—*Dyane Baldwin*

American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*

American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—*Don Farley, II*

American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen R. Spay*

American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*

American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth W. Mader*

American Shetland Sheepdog Association—*Marjorie Tuff*

American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sally L. Vilas*

American Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Julie Virosteck*

American 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*

Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*

Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia M. Mayhall*

Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kay Joiner*

Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Kathryn A. Hamilton*

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*

Bedlington Terrier Club of America—*Mrs. Marjorie M. Hanson*

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Denise Dean*

Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*George Sikes*

Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Grif-fin*

Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Helma Weeks*

Bull Terrier Club of America—*Dr. Dale R. Schuur*

Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*

California Airedale Terrier Club—*Kayla Kurucz*

California Collie Clan, Inc.—*Robette G. Johns*  
Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—*Mr. Wayne F. Harmon*

Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*

Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*

Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*

Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*

Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*

Catonsville Kennel Club—*Gary Sarvinas*

Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally Allen*

Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Claire K. Steidel*

Chaparral Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pam Goldman*

Charleston Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*

Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Rey Burgos*

Cincinnati Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Patricia H. Haines*

Clackamas Kennel Club—*Steven E. Nielsen*

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.—*Majorie Underwood*

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

Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Ricky Blackman*

Colorado Kennel Club—*Louise Leone*

Columbia Kennel Club, Inc.—*H. M. Anderson*

Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—*Norma J. Ryan*

Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry D. Cavanna*

Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchar*

Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joan Urban*

Cudahy Kennel Club—*Don H. Adams*

Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Charles A. Baris*

Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*James W. Smith*

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

Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Barbara L. Mann*

Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merlyn A. Green, D.C.*

Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*

Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—*Dr. A. D. Butherus*

Des Moines Kennel Club, Inc.—*John D. Hughes*

Detroit Kennel Club—*Mr. Erik Bergishagen*

Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*

Dog Owners' Training Club of Maryland—*Kathrynann Sarvinas*

Duluth Kennel Club—*Hon. David C. Merriam*

Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Linda C. Wozniak*

East Tennessee Retriever Club—*Garry Claus- ing*

English Setter Association of America, Inc.—*Mr. John P. Nielsen*

English Toy Spaniel Club of America—*Vanes- sa N. Weber*

Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*

Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Arlene R. Har- ris*

Field Spaniel Society of America—*Katherine Sullivan*

Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Margaret B. Pough*

Finnish Spitz Club of America—*Kim Raleigh*

Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Almira B. Dallas*

Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—*Charles Arnold*

Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Mr. Harry G. Ottmann*

Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynda Kenney*

Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Connie S. Clapp*

- 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*
- Gig Harbor Kennel Club—*James R. Dok*
- 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*
- Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California—*Jack Smith*
- Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Shaw*
- Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club—*Patricia B. Staub*
- Greater Naples Dog Club—*John D. French*
- Greater St. Louis Training Club, Inc.—*Jane V. (Candy) Slay*
- Greenville Kennel Club—*Linda A. Knorr*
- Greyhound Club of America—*Mrs. Melanie S. Steele*
- Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cynthia A. Miller*
- Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert D. Black*
- Havanese Club of America—*Jane F. Ruthford*
- Hawaiian Kennel Club—*Norman B. Kenney*
- Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*
- Hollywood Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*Jan Wolf*
- 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 Clous*
- Illinois Capitol Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Cookson*
- Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rita J. Biddle*
- Kachina Kennel Club—*Mrs. Marilyn R. Vinson*
- Kalamazoo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joanne E. Kinnelly*
- Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John D. Sawicki*
- Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—*Thomas Powers*
- Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—*Carole Plesur*
- Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—*Mrs. Florence L. Prawel*
- 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*
- Kuvasz Club of America—*R K. Barnes*
- Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathi Brown*
- 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*
- Lima Kennel Club—*Rod Ott*
- Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—*David M. Powers*
- Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Sandra B. Barker*
- 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*
- Memphis Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Robert D. Smith*
- Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—*John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.*
- Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jeanette Nieder*
- Middleburg Kennel Club—*Shelley C. Roos*
- Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—*Giselle Simonds*
- Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Gretchen Bernardi*
- Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—*Robert H. McKowen*
- 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*
- National Beagle Club—*Eddie Dziuk*
- National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson*
- National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi Strouse*
- Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Viola Burgos*
- Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Mary W. Price*
- Newnan Kennel Club—*Willie Crawford*
- Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane F. Taylor*
- Nisqually Kennel Club—*R. H. Hachtel*
- North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F. Coletti*
- Norwich and Norfolk Terrier Club—*Marjorie McTernan*
- Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia C. Scully*
- Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Marilyn Mayfield*
- 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*
- Ozark Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mark A. Chambers*
- 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*
- Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—*Mary Strom*
- Pasanita Obedience Club Inc.—*Sheila Miller*
- Peninsula Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Joanne Jaytanie-Duncan*
- Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marieann Gladstone*
- Pensacola Dog Fanciers Association—*Dennis Daigle*
- Plainfield Kennel Club—*John McCullagh*
- Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—*Charles McWilliams*
- Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Mary Ellen Fishler*
- Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Robert A. Amen*
- Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*James Primmer*
- Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Savage*
- Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Arends*

Progressive Dog Club—*William H. Blair*  
 Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kerstin T. Ottmar*  
 Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Michelle R. Anderson*  
 Ramapo Kennel Club—*Mrs. Rose J. Radel*  
 Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*  
 Reno Kennel Club—*Mr. Steven D. Gladstone*  
 Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gerard Baudet*  
 Richland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Donald B. Harris*  
 Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Jan M. Ritchie*  
 Rio Grande Kennel Club—*Mr. William H. Green*  
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Ronald H. Menaker*  
 Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*  
 Sahuaro State Kennel Club—*Rita Mather*  
 Saluki Club of America—*Monica H. Stoner*  
 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.—*Audrey Sutton*  
 Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laurence J. Libeu*  
 Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—*Betty J. Patrick*  
 Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.—*Sally Poole*  
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*John McNabney*  
 Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Nancy Perrell*  
 Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Lynne M. Myall*  
 Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Patricia Anders*  
 Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*  
 Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Donna Beckman*  
 Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego—*Nancy Dandrea*  
 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 Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*  
 Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*Dr. John V. Ioia*  
 Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lee Arnold*  
 Southern Oregon Kennel Club—*Sharon Weston*  
 Spokane Kennel Club—*Tina Truesdale*  
 Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*  
 Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*Holly S. Stump*  
 Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert Eisele*  
 Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Parrotti*  
 Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Manning*  
 Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Karen Claus-ing*  
 Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Steve Schmidt*  
 Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Stacey La Forge*  
 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*  
 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*  
 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.—*Lynn Worth*  
 Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.—*Suzanne Gray*  
 Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Mr. Donald Rennick*  
 Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Peter J. See*  
 West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Thomas Barrie*  
 West Volusia Kennel Club—*Ferdinand Rein-*

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 Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*  
 Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc—*Clare L. Lincoln*  
 Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frederick R. Vogel*  
 Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*  
 Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Rosann Sexton*  
 Yakima Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Richard Lewis*

## AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB DELEGATES MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2008

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

The Chair introduced the persons seated with him on the podium: Chairman, Ronald Menaker; David Merriam, the Vice Chairman; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; James Crowley, the Executive Secretary, and Christina Montana, court reporter.

The Executive Secretary read the Nominating Committee report and the report on additional nominations. Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club the following Delegates were nominated by the Nominating Committee for the Class of 2013, to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 10, 2009: Lee Arnold, Southern Colorado Kennel Club; Alan Kalter, American Bullmastiff Association; John P. Nielsen, English Setter Association of America; Dr. Robert D. Smith, Memphis Kennel Club.

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as candidates for the vacancy on the Board of Directors for the Class of 2013 to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 10, 2009. Class of 2013: Carl C. Ashby III, United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club; Dr. Fred C. Bock II, Key City Kennel Club; Judith V. Daniels, Mt. Baker Kennel Club; Carl E. Gomes, Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club.

The candidates for the Class of 2013 addressed the Delegate body in alphabetical order.

The Chair introduced Lee Arnold, representing Southern Colorado Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Good morning, fellow Delegates. There are three essential qualities we must follow today and in the future. We must honor the traditions of our past. We must operate our Club with the best business practices, and we must communicate. Yes, I said communicate – to our fancy and beyond. We must tell the AKC story. I can help tell that story. My entire career has been broadcasting in radio and television in New York, Boston, and other big markets, selling sponsors' products to millions of viewers and listeners and generating a great deal of revenue for the stations.

In that same vein, the AKC message has to be sold to the masses. We need to motivate dog owners to participate in every aspect of the AKC. That means registering their puppies, helping to fight anti dog legislation, and joining us to promote responsible dog ownership. It all matters for our future.

Because of my experience hosting nationally syndicated shows on over 3500 stations, I can secure celebrity talent as spokespersons for the AKC. Celebrities who love purebred dogs can bring tremendous value to the AKC.

I also bring significant business experience to the table. In radio I've been a program director responsible for the management and direction of staff, talent, sales, and also budgets. These skills will serve me well as a productive Board member.

I've proved that in my ten year tenure on the Board of the AKC Canine Health Foundation through the successful work in fundraising that I've done on behalf of my own breed.

The months ahead will provide a very critical challenge for the AKC. The uncertainty for the economy will have a tremendous impact on immediate and long range plans. In our last meeting, the Chairman painted a bleak picture of what we're facing. I, for one, take this very seriously.

To confront the challenge will take a Board comprised of individuals who have experience in finance, law, public relations, and

communications to find solutions for the decline of registrations, the issue of mixed-breeds, corporate alliances, how to raise revenue, and all the other unknowns we face. I guarantee that if I'm elected, I will devote my time, expertise, and knowledge to get us through the tough times. This organization and those who work diligently to make it what it is today are too precious to let slip away.

Let me thank the nominating committee for including me in the Class of 2013. Let me also thank you for considering my candidacy. Let's work together to tell the AKC story. I can communicate that message better than anybody else, but I need your vote to do it. Thank you for your support.

The Chair introduced Carl C. Ashby III, representing the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, who spoke as follows:

Thank you, Dennis, and good morning fellow Delegates. These are difficult times for the American Kennel Club, difficult times for registrations, operating income shrinking, and our investments on the skids. This is definitely not business as usual. As always, with adversity comes opportunity. I believe AKC will emerge stronger having weathered these challenges.

You deserve to know the beliefs that would guide me as a director so let me share them. AKC exists for dogs and those who cherish their companionship. The AKC must be financially strong to serve the Sport, dogs and their owners. And AKC registration is more than a piece of paper. It is a membership and a community of 5,000 clubs offering services, advice, and support to the pet-owning public. Dogs are simply better off if AKC touches their lives. AKC must be the first thought when people think of dogs.

While AKC's focus is purebred dogs, The American Kennel Club must be the champion of all dogs and their owners. I believe we must never let our spirited debate become a wedge animal rights extremists use to conquer us. Most importantly, I believe The American Kennel Club must be responsive in an ever changing world.

Fellow Delegates, time is quickly running out. We cannot continue to stand by as AKC struggles. Aggressive, well thought out action is required. We must turn the registration declines around. We simply will not survive

as a boutique registry. We must embrace all dog owners who share our compassion for dogs and develop a comprehensive legislative strategy which is proactive rather than reactive. We must continue to develop the AKC brand and aggressively use our brand to further our goals. Finally, we must not fear change, rather, embrace the opportunity it affords. I will work collaboratively with Board, Delegates, and Staff to provide strong and visionary leadership. I will strive to create understanding between Delegates and Clubs alike in the direction of AKC. I firmly believe our best days are ahead.

AKC is a complex \$72 million business. Service as an AKC Director requires not only understanding our conditions, but also the depth and complexity of the challenges that confront us and, just as in the corporate world, must have the skills and senior management to lead at challenging times. I have this background and ask you to consider my broad and varied experience when you cast your vote.

Jamie and I have served purebred dogs for over 35 years as breeders, owner-handlers and club leadership at the local and national level. During that time I have developed a reputation as an accessible, reasonable person who cuts through politics and gets things done. This is what I will bring to the Board and why I ask for your vote. Together we will assure a strong, vibrant American Kennel Club fighting for our sport and, most importantly, our dogs.

The Chair introduced Dr. Fred C. Bock II, representing Key City Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Thank you, Dennis. First, I want to thank all those Delegates who voted for me last March, and I hope I can continue to earn your support and maybe a few more votes in this coming month.

As I prepared for this election, I became very aware of how complex and diverse the task is to manage The American Kennel Club. Dennis, I want to thank you and your professional Staff; and, Ron, I want to thank you and the rest of the Board of Directors for the skills and the commitment that you have brought to the AKC.

We are all aware of the challenges facing the AKC. That presentation by Jim, Dennis and Ron at our September meeting described

them vividly and got our attention. Clearly the choices we will make in the next few years will be critical to our survival. Change has become a popular mantra this year. We cannot improve or even survive without changing and evolving. Yet we must remember that change alone is not necessarily good.

We have an opportunity and a need to transform the AKC into a viable force for dogs in the 21st century. We adopted the motto, "We're more than champion dogs. We are the dog's champion." I haven't come to you with a blueprint of how to make that transformation. Even if I had, time wouldn't permit this description.

What I will do is bring you the following principles: we need to know and agree on what our business really is; we need to set priorities based on that business; we need to improve our customer service; we need to improve our public visibility; we need to support our clubs and need to utilize the many skills and talents of our Delegates and their Clubs.

If you will elect me to the AKC Board of Directors, I promise I will devote full time to serve in the AKC. I will be a good and accessible listener. I will seriously consider all options for change regardless of my own personal opinion. I will respect the traditions and values of our sport and a balance to the sport's need to survive.

Finally, when I thought about running, several members said to me, "Why?" Well, here's my answer. During the past three years I've watched my now 13-year old granddaughter start Junior Showmanship with one of our American Eskimo Dog. As she grew, she moved to one of our Newfoundlanders. This past year she got her own dog of her choice, which she is now training and showing herself. Yes, he hunts. I want to help make sure that the AKC thrives and survives so that my granddaughter's granddaughter will have the same opportunities that she has.

Thank you.

The Chair introduced Judith V. Daniels, representing Mt. Baker Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Mr. President, and fellow Delegates, good morning. During elementary school I developed a keen interest in sci-

ence fiction. It occurred to me that the stories I read about the future had no dogs in them. My father explained to me that lifestyles changed. People lived in high density buildings where there was no room for parks or open spaces and government had become much more restrictive. He said if I wanted to have my dog when I grew up, I might just have to do something about it! The past 40 years I devoted much of my time to the sport and the betterment of AKC. I want to help secure the future of our dogs and the rights of everyone to own and breed them responsibly. From my Christmas puppy in 1967 I received a breed not recognized by AKC to meeting my husband, Bill, and working with him to form our Parent Club, going through Miscellaneous Class, gaining recognition, breeding and exhibiting many Champions and handling the first Champion and the first All-Breed Best in Show winner of the breed, then becoming a Delegate in 1981, serving on many committees including the Chair of the first Perspectives Committee and the committee that established our Delegate Standing committee, and becoming a judge, to being a Director, then Executive Vice president and President – my dedication and qualifications speak for themselves. From the ground floor to the apex, my focus has always been on the continuous advancement and improvement of The American Kennel Club. AKC is not only the dog's champion, but a champion in her own right and in competition with other organizations who would presume to be in our league. We're not only the best. We're the only one deserving of the title Champion.

There's a saying that, if you're not the lead dog, the view never changes. That's another reason why I ask for one of your four votes. It's time to assert our rightful position. Let's be positive and service oriented and let the animal rights activists chase after us for a change. We need an extensive and focused public relations campaign that reaches out to all participants in our events, to all clubs, members or not, to all dog owners, purebred or not, with service and respect. This will bring us revitalized and unlimited support from both the fancy and general public.

I am also going to ask each of you to pick up one of these [AKC political decal] in the lobby to put on your car or wherever. This is

one of the best things we can do.

I am finally asking for one of your four votes because you have my guarantee that, serving as your Director, I will not answer to any one person. I am not a yes man, never have I ever been, nor will I ever ignore your opinions. In fact, I seek them. If I disagree, it will always be with respect and without rancor. I am prepared to work with the Board and Staff to move AKC forward to provide and improve services and find solutions to our economic and legislative issues. I pledge the next four years of my life with gusto, and with your support it will be an honor to serve you. Thank you.

The Chair called on James Crowley to read a statement submitted by Carl E. Gomes representing the Pacific Boston Terrier Club, who was unable to attend.

Mr. Crowley (for Carl E. Gomes):

I am unable to address you personally at this Forum due to the fact that there is a family situation which demands my attention. I will, however, reach out to all the Delegates and present my position on every relevant issue confronting The American Kennel Club prior to the elections in March 2009. The AKC is faced with very serious problems which threaten our very existence. Our number one priority must be the immediate halt in the decline of registrations. This can be addressed by moving vigorously in the field of public relations. Dog ownership in the American household has increased to the point of almost 45 percent. This should stir us to pursue all avenues, which would identify us as the only registry which provides the total package.

Anti dog legislation, the proliferation of dog registries, association with pet shops, strengthening the public's perception of the Canine Health Foundation and Companion Animal Recovery are some of the many areas which we must develop in order to maintain visibility and attention. We can no longer imagine the dog enthusiasts will come to us. We must seek them out. At the moment it would appear that cities in almost every state are enacting very strong anti dog laws, which would over a period of time severely cripple the well structured breeding programs of our dedicated breeders. This is one subject which we as Delegates should

truly immerse ourselves and fight at every level. These are the core issues which must be at the forefront. There can be no retreat.

The Chair introduced Alan Kalter, representing the American Bullmastiff Association, who spoke as follows:

When the Nominating Committee slate came out, many of you read my name and said, "Who's that guy?" Not good for the ego, but completely understandable. So who am I? What do I know? How can I help the AKC?

I bring a unique combination of experience in the worlds of purebred dogs, business, and marketing that is necessary for the AKC right now. As an active breeder and exhibitor of Bullmastiffs for 40 years, producing 140 champions, I understand the issues confronting breeders, puppy buyers, and event participants.

As Treasurer of the Detroit Kennel Club and the individual responsible for marketing our shows, I understand the issues confronting show-giving clubs.

As a Delegate from the American Bullmastiff Association, I understand the issues confronting breeds at risk from unfair legislation. As an original Board member of the AKC PAC, I understand the importance of AKC's involvement in legislative issues. As the marketer who designed the communication plan for the Morris Animal Foundation, including the successful Canine Cancer Campaign, I understand the importance of improving canine health.

While these credentials validate my passion for dogs and this sport, it's my day job that sets me apart. I am the CEO and owner of multi-billion-dollar ad agency working with brands like Coca Cola, Shell, and Amazon and have spent the last 40 years helping successful brands become even more successful and help brands that have lost their way find it again. Brands like Mazda, who ten years ago was on the verge of bankruptcy and today profitably enjoys more than double their previous market share.

My experience turning around brands is urgently needed on the Board today. I know there are three crucial tenets for success. One, if nothing changes, then nothing changes. While we must stay true to our core beliefs, we must embrace new things. And the new motto "We're more than champion

dogs. We're the dog's champion" sums up exactly where I think our brand must go. We must regain control of the conversation about purebred dogs and the AKC.

Every day we are under attack by a variety of sources. We can't continue to let our detractors and enemies define us. No brand has ever been successful by being defensive. Many people think we should spend a lot more money on advertising. I don't, but we can employ exciting, new, nontraditional strategies to engage people and inspire them to change the conversation. Our *Marley & Me* work is a good example. We must unite and ignite the fancy. Every great brand has to have a core of supporters. We already have that. You're passionate, resourceful, competitive people who know how to win. That competitiveness has to be harnessed to fight our foes and win our friends. It's time to unleash the power of the AKC. I can help.

The Chair introduced John P. Nielsen, representing the English Setter Association of America, who spoke as follows:

My kindergarten teacher wrote, "Johnny Peter plays well with others, but he has an independent streak."

This is still true today except for the "Johnny Peter" part, of course. I don't get along to go along, or just to curry favor. I play and work well with others. I listen, the hallmark of any good leader. A leader must listen, consider other points of view, and then lead.

AKC's very future is at risk. Now, more than ever, we need leaders who will listen to the Board members, the AKC Staff, the Delegates, the fancy, and then creatively lead. I am no superman. You see no cape, no "S" on my chest. No single person has all the good ideas. Success will only come from all of us, not us versus them, but us.

My model for AKC governance, the Board must lead with Staff's support and direction, but not interference from the Board. The Delegates are liaison to the fancy who are a great, but underutilized, resource. The fancy needs to be more actively involved.

I see our current major issues as declining registrations, anti dog legislation, and public relations. And, to me, these problems are interrelated and require solutions that create numbers, numbers of dogs including mixed-breeds and including individual AKC memberships to give us the critical mass, the

clout, if you will, to influence legislation and attract the providers of ancillary products and services necessary for us to remain viable and sound.

My singular guiding principle, my only goal, is to preserve a healthy, viable, strong AKC that will provide the next generation and the generations to follow with the same benefits, the same environment, and the same experience that we enjoy today. I have a history of conceiving, designing, and implementing creative, workable solutions in both business and dog organizations with vision and passion.

In conclusion, I am a great believer in Noah's law, which states that you get rewarded, not for predicting rain, but rather for building arks. I have done this in the past and will in the future with your help. I ask for your support so that together we may build arks. Thank you.

The Chair introduced Dr. Robert D. Smith, representing the Memphis Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Thank you, Dennis. I think I'll change my name to Adams.

First, let me say how nice it is to be back among you, renewing my friendships with a lot of you and meeting a lot of you who have joined the Delegate body since I left. It's good to be back. I want to thank the Nominating Committee for adding me to their list of four nominees to run for the Board.

I'd like to share with you some of the reasons that I am running for the Board and some of the assets that I will bring to the Board if elected. First of these is experience with fresh ideas. If that sounds like a contradiction in terms, let me explain. Having been selected to the Board first in 1997 and re-elected in 1998, I have the experience in this transition year to bring to the Board my experience from that service. At the same time I have been absent from the Board for seven years, and I have, in effect, recharged my batteries. I've developed a lot of new ideas and those I'd like to share with the Board.

Secondly, I bring a business background. I come from an entrepreneurial family. My father, my mother, and two of my brothers all started and ran their own businesses very successfully. I started and managed two statewide business assistance programs, first

in Mississippi and then in Virginia, to provide management and technical assistance to small businesses in those two states. Management and technical assistance goes to a lot of different varieties, but let me say that if AKC were a for profit organization, it would be considered a small business since it has fewer than 500 employees.

Finally, as an active multi-group judge, I have the opportunity to travel throughout the United States judging for clubs around the area; and I listen when I go out there. People come to me and they share their cares and concerns about AKC and its policies and so forth. They did when I was on the Board before; and they will again, I am sure. So I represent not just one area of the country, but, in effect, the entire country. You were kind enough to elect me twice before to the Board, and I ask you to do so one more time.

The Chair informed the Delegates of the passing of Marshall Simonds on October 1. Pete, as he was known, was the Delegate for the Midwest Field Trial Club since 1992. Prior to that he was the Delegate for the Mississippi Retriever Club from 1974 to 1983.

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

- Sally A. Allen, Carmel, IN, Central Indiana Kennel Club
- Garry Clausing, Kodak, TN, East Tennessee Retriever Club
- Margaret A. Head, Springport, MI, Jaxon Kennel Club
- Kayla L. Kurucz, San Jose, CA, California Airedale Terrier Club
- Sandra Olsen, Duvall, WA, Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore
- Marjorie Underwood, Cincinnati, OH, Clermont County Kennel Club

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

- Sally A. Allen, Carmel, IN, Central Indiana Kennel Club
- Garry Clausing, Kodak, TN, East Tennessee Retriever Club
- Dennis E. Daigle, Milton, FL, Pensacola Dog Fanciers Association
- Robette G. Johns, Oaks Hills, CA, California Collie Clan
- Kayla L. Kurucz, San Jose, CA, California

- Airedale Terrier Club
- Marilyn Mayfield, Camarillo, CA, Old English Sheepdog Club of America
- Judith Tighe, Hoffman, NC, American Britany Club
- Marjorie Underwood, Cincinnati, OH, Clermont County Kennel Club
- Sharon Weston, Grants Pass, OR, Southern Oregon Kennel Club

The minutes of the September 9, 2008 were approved as amended by Patricia Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America. Ms. Laurans amended how her address in the September minutes, during New Business, was reported to read as follows:

The Chair recognized Patricia Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, who spoke as follows:

I wish that we had been provided with more information regarding the Petland issue. If we had, I think that the reaction might have been different. I still do not believe that we have been provided with information as to whether there is a contract, whether there will be registration done by the employees in Petlands, and whether Petland is the only pet chain store that you are interesting in targeting. I am still not ready to take back all of my reservations, and I hope that we will hear more in terms of how and if you are going to pursue this at any cost. The President's response to me was: "Pat, it is not at any cost. We are not going to go away from our care and conditions or any of our policies. Nothing will be lessened or lowered. There are no contracts and there is no exclusivity to any other group or chain."

The following club was approved as a member club:

- Kennesaw Kennel Club.

Ron Menaker, AKC Board Chairman spoke as follows:

Good morning. I hope you all enjoyed this weekend's canine extravaganza as much as I did. I want to thank The Kennel Club of Beverly Hills, the Los Encinos Kennel Club and the Long Beach Kennel Club for making us feel so welcome.

Please be sure to pick up a small holiday gift as well as a show guide as you drop off your badges after today's meeting.

Next month when we ring in the New Year, we will also kick off the celebration of our 125th Anniversary.

We will mark not only our growth over the last century-and-a-quarter but celebrate the wonderful experiences, friendships and traditions that the sport of purebred dogs has given generations of American dog lovers. In 1884, AKC began its all-breed purebred dog registry with just 9 breeds. As of January 1, 2009 the AKC will recognize 161 breeds. When you add the 60 plus breeds in our Foundation Stock Service, AKC actively promotes more than 200 breeds in the U.S. today.

Our first office in 1887 in the Wall Street area consisted of nothing more than a 15 by 20 foot room with a desk, a few chairs and a single file cabinet. Today, we have two locations – our headquarters in Manhattan and Operations Center in Raleigh with nearly 400 employees to handle our daily business. At our biennial Open House in New York this February, we will include a special 125-year timeline exhibit from the AKC archives.

The *AKC Gazette*, which began continuous publication in 1889, has certainly chronicled our growth. So has *The Complete Dog Book*, which still reigns as the most widely published dog book with more than 2 million copies in print, since 1929. To add to this published record of AKC and the sport, we are planning an updated sourcebook to be released in the fall of 2009. This book will be a revised edition of the first sourcebook published in 1984 to celebrate our centennial. As a "club of clubs" our growth has been explosive. From a handful of founding clubs, we now boast more than 600 member clubs and their Delegates who voluntarily contribute to the governance of the AKC.

In 1926, AKC conducted its first dog show in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It took another 58 years until we held our next – The AKC Centennial Show in 1984 in Philadelphia – and since the turn of the century we have held the annual national championship event that you attended this weekend.

A year from now in December 2009, as a fitting tribute to AKC's 125th Anniversary, the ninth installment of the AKC / Eukanuba National Championship will waive its invita-

tional format and offer classes at the breed level along with championship points. Already national and regional breed clubs are planning to hold their specialty shows and supported entries with us in Long Beach, on Dec. 12th and 13th. This special event will be joined once again by the Bred-by-Exhibitor competition, Eukanuba World Challenge, AKC National Obedience Invitational and the AKC Agility Invitational. Finally, to help us and our clubs mark this banner year and promote our iconic brand to the public we have created a special 125th year commemorative AKC logo. We encourage AKC clubs to use this in conjunction with their club logo wherever possible throughout 2009. The logo can be found on the AKC web site under the "Clubs" tab. We encourage all clubs to help us celebrate AKC's 125th year – it's a unique and significant accomplishment that underscores our commitment to dogs.

Thank you again for an enjoyable and successful weekend. I look forward to seeing you back here one year from now when we throw a birthday party that is not to be missed! And, my best wishes to you and your family for a happy and safe holiday season.

The Chair gave the President's report as follows:

This morning I will share with you ideas that are in different stages of development from within our internal pipeline. Some of these initiatives are conceptual and others recently implemented. In every case we want you to be familiar with these programs and share them with your members. Your input is welcome, so please call me.

To begin with, I will discuss the Future Program. Conceptual in nature, and still in the research stages, this is an idea with two primary goals. The concept was shared at the August Board Meeting and with the Coordinating Committee in October. My idea is to develop an initiative to improve breeding programs and maintain access to quality breeding stock for you, our core constituency, for generations to come. How many of us have dreamed of breeding to Shirkhan, Ceiling Zero, Dictator or the Brat. The first priority of the Future Program is the collection of frozen semen for the breeding of outstanding dogs. The second priority is to generate significant revenue for AKC and has four ele-

ments 1. fully subsidize all program expenses; 2. fund an endowment to ensure its continuation; 3. be significantly profitable to AKC; 4. provide any residual income to benefit existing programs – for example: CHF, Museum, the Humane Fund and legislative initiatives. The program will benefit our entire fancy for generations and is a worthy reason why it should be supported. Financing will be similar to other sports organizations. It will be through the establishment of an annual activity fee for each dog exhibited, set at approximately \$25.00, the cost of a single entry. Without drilling down too far, envisioned is a committee made up of breeders of the year, parent club representatives and one board and staff member charged with establishing criteria for the selection of participants. However any person or club within the AKC family is welcome to recommend dogs or bitches based upon pedigree or progeny for this volunteer program. The committee will have the ability to financially compensate participants, no one partaking in the program will bear any costs. Another part of the blueprint is to collect for 10 years from multiple quality sires before any breeding begins through this program.

Over the past weekend AKC Meet the Breeds was simply great, thanks to the combined efforts of our Parent Clubs, their local members and staff. We have been working on an opportunity to take this positive educational outreach on the road as an independent program to further spread the word about AKC, our events, Demand AKC papers and Responsible Dog Ownership, the first standalone event to be in New York in 2009. Staff is researching moving the program around the country. We will feature Obedience, Agility and other educational demos. The anchor sponsor is the AKC Pet Healthcare Plan, and even in these challenging economic times our Marketing Department has generated additional interest. Staff will plan and execute the entire program including adding new elements and developing a Parent Club Thank You Package. The media plan includes a radio satellite tour, extensive social networking and outdoor advertising.

The next program I will discuss is a new approach to Economic Impact. We have been using this brochure's good information

for many years. It analyzes the effects of a 3-show conformation cluster within a community. The basic elements included: meals, lodging, gas, and supplies. Staff performed a major enhancement of this study as AKC represents much more than 5 data points. This new research presents greater leverage with elected officials, communities and venues. We play a key role in the sport and the world of pets and must be capable of demonstrating that we are an economic driver on the local, state and national level. The new study includes a broader perspective of our influence based on dozens of additional line items overlaid on a nationwide basis. When called into play from both a national study as well as segmented by state, the aggregate of these disciplines highlights our influence. While we will not broadcast the findings, this data will be pulled off the shelf whenever needed to support our clubs and our own positions because economic arguments have been helpful in the past, today's climate can only increase the need for this point of view. This represents AKC expenditures as audited by Ernst & Young in our 2007 Annual Report – Clubs expenses and revenues are highlighted. This revised information is all clubs as opposed to the previous study which was conformation based. Exhibitors spending are segmented and again reflect all events. Owners expenses fall into 32 categories. This slide represents 9 of the 32. This is the related expenses. Lastly, breeder expenditures.

As demonstrated, we enhanced the scope of the report to reinforce AKC's influence. In addition, to strengthen this position, we have segmented the findings by state. When needed we are ready!

AKC STAR is a new program developed by Mary Burch in response to CGC evaluator requests to address the need for early training to get puppies off to a good start. It is another educational outreach program to all dog owners featuring Responsible Dog Ownership. STAR will be offered during the puppy's developmental months and precedes CGC. One goal of the program is for new owners to begin with STAR, then CGC and advance to Obedience training. Like CGC, STAR is open to all purebred and mixes, however unlike CGC this educational program requires owners to participate in a training course of at least 6 weeks



as opposed to taking a one-time test. Classes will be taught by CGC evaluators. The lessons include: basic health care, house-breaking, behavioral issues, lead training and simple commands.

At the completion of the course puppies and their owners will take a test and when passing they will earn, among other items, a STAR medal, frameable certificate and *AKC New Puppy Handbook*. Researched with CGC evaluators, then piloted in California, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Utah and Texas. The results were analyzed and the launch was just 3 weeks ago; already, over 2,500 evaluators have signed up to administer the program.

Within the world of licensing, in order to remain successful we must keep changing. Staff is tasked with finding new ideas and relationships to stay ahead of the curve and remain relevant in a constantly evolving and highly competitive marketplace. This required us to create various lines in order to be meaningful: treats; toys; an outdoor series; green planet line; puppy program; Juniors; and travel products. Our marketing staff performs in-depth research to expand AKC presence and we are proud to share with you the fact these AKC branded items are now in over 9,000 stores, virtually every major chain in the nation, bringing our message to the American public and reaching out to children, who are the next generation of dog owners. As you see, our visibility in stores has grown; our first challenge was simply to get on the shelf; since then we have advanced to in-store displays and end caps. We have used this opportunity to reach out to the public as well as create products for our core constituency. In terms of building brand awareness through licensing, we recently benefited with a new AKC and *Marley & Me* product line that has resulted in a celebrity PSA being produced which Daisy will share with you later.

As you can see AKC products can be found in almost every corner of the world.

Last month we created and distributed a new communications tool called *In Session*, AKC's Congressional Newsletter. The newsletter will be sent to all members of Congress and their staff bi-monthly and features news and information about the American Kennel Club and its affiliated clubs, as well as information about our public education pro-

grams, charitable donations, and other grass roots initiatives that benefit all dogs, their owners and communities across the nation.

It highlights our government relations programs and the vast array of services we offer on the local, state and federal level. Members of Congress will be encouraged to contact AKC on all dog-related issues of concern and all aspects of canine legislation. If you wish to receive a copy or add the name of any legislator, please call Lisa Peterson.

These are six ideas from our internal pipeline; please contact me about any or all of them.

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

Total revenues for the first eleven months of 2008 were \$61 million, which were just 1% lower than the prior year. Total operating expenses of \$58.5 million during the period were less than 1% above 2007. This produced an eleven month operating surplus of \$2.7 million, which was approximately \$1 million less than last year.

The market value of our investments depreciated by \$17 million or 28% during this eleven month period. This was due to an extremely difficult stock market environment. In contrast, the markets performed favorably last year during this same period which resulted in an investment gain of \$5.1 million.

The net deficit for the first eleven months of 2008 was \$14.4 million. This contrasted to a net surplus of \$8.8 million in 2007.

There was a vote on a proposed amendment to Chapter 17, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The amendment was proposed by the AKC Board and supported by the Dog Show Superintendents Association. This change will enable the Board to bill Superintendents on a monthly basis for events. The proposal was adopted.

The Chair explained that there were three Beagle proposals, but that the vote for two of the amendments would be postponed because the Delegate of the National Beagle Club learned that the Parent Club has reversed their position of support, as did the Beagle Advisory Committee and the AKC

Board. As Delegates were advised by AKC of the Parent Club support, these two votes will be postponed until we receive the rationale and the facts behind the change in their position.

There was a vote on Chapter 9, New Section 11, of Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two Couple Pack Hunting Tests. The amendment was recommended by Staff and creates a Championship for gundog brace Beagles.

The amendment was approved.

The Chair called on Daisy Okas, who provided an update on our recent cooperation with a number of feature films. Ms. Okas spoke as follows:

Hello. Many of you are aware that a number of years ago we started working with Disney to include inserts in their DVDs. There have been some new developments with several dog related films and I wanted to give you a comprehensive update. As I said, we started working with Disney in 2006. We began with an insert on the Bearded Collie and the Siberian Husky in two DVDs in their canine related films: *Shaggy Dog* and *Eight Below*. We followed up with inserts on *Underdog* and *Air Buddies* and the anniversary release of *101 Dalmatians* that was out this March. We include an educational message about the breed and refer people to the American Kennel Club.

One thing I would note is that I wish that Disney did this out of the goodness of their heart, but they're actually marketing their films. We do have a barter arrangement whereby we promote the film through advertisements in our publications and online. It is always a negotiation, and so that's something to remember.

We were able to expand the relationship with 20th Century Fox and their film *Firehouse Dog* which featured the Irish terrier. We did a DVD insert, but we also were able to do a public service announcement which was distributed online primarily because of the tight time frame that we had. I'm going to play that for you now.

One of the reasons that we wanted to work very closely with 20th Century Fox on *Firehouse Dog*, was because we knew a year later they had *Marley & Me* coming out. For those of you who have been living under a rock,

it's one of the most popular dog books ever. It spent 76 weeks on the Bestseller List and is coming out on Christmas Day as a major motion picture with Jennifer Aniston and Owen Wilson. We began working with 20th Century Fox over a year ago to collaborate and were able to expand the relationship; and, as I said, with the Christmas Day release and a wonderful positive story that's aimed at people of all ages, we think this will be a home run.

John Grogan is seen here. He's the author. He's starring in our public service announcement that was shot over the summer. We're also doing a print ad which I know was sent to you on the Delegates List. If for some reason you weren't advised, you can go to [akc.org/Marley](http://akc.org/Marley) to view all the PSAs. You can download the PSAs and view all three links of TV PSAs. We have a 60, 30, and 15. I'm going to play the 30 second for you now. The PSAs have been distributed to thousands of outlets, including all the national cable Fox channels and the hundreds of local affiliates. So hopefully you can see this soon on Fox News Channel and other Fox-owned stations.

Dennis mentioned this earlier; another wonderful thing about this relationship is that we were able to expand it into licensing. The licensing has been a key part of our relationship, and we now have *Marley & Me*/AKC branded product at Walmart. Hopefully you'll see it in stores. If you look closely, you'll see some of these products in the film too; and this is a picture of the canine star of *Marley & Me* with his AKC honking mallard. We're continuing to also work with Disney, and their latest canine related release is *Bolt*, which is an animated film about a canine star who gets lost. Therefore, we thought the tie in would be most appropriate for Companion Animal Recovery. They did a hand-out at all the screenings. We were able to include a Public Service Announcement for CAR on the reverse side of the DVD that will come out in the spring. There will, again, be an insert from Companion Animal Recovery.

Lastly we're now working with producer of *Hachiko*, starring Richard Gere. This is a famous story about an Akita. It's a real true life, iconic story in Japan. It's going to be a real heart warmer when it debuts here in America.

We were able to so far obtain a credit line at the end of the film that reads, "Although beloved by many as a family pet, Akitas are recommended for dedicated and experienced dog owners. To learn more about the breed, please visit the American Kennel Club."

We worked with the Parent Club to make sure that they were on board with this. We don't know exactly what else we'll be doing with them, but we are working closely with the producers. So far we're very pleased to have this credit line on the film.

So, in sum, we hope to continue to expand these relationships with movie studios and use them to educate the public about our breeds and foster further awareness of the AKC. That's a wrap.

John Lyons, AKC's Chief Operating Officer announced the fourth quarter AKC Achievement Awards and introduced Sheila Goffe, the new Director of the AKC Government Relations Department:

The fourth quarter Community Achievement Awards solely honor AKC clubs and federations holding exceptional AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day events. Each of the honorees will receive an AKC Certificate of Recognition, and the AKC will donate \$1,000 to each club or federation. 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: Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club, Delegate: J. Milton Howard; Greenville Kennel Club, Delegate: Linda Ayres Turner Knorr; The Trap Falls Kennel Club, Delegate: Christopher L. Sweetwood. Honorable Mentions: Obedience Training Club of Chugiak; Peninsula Dog Fanciers Club, Delegate: Joanne Jaytanie Duncan.

On another note, I am pleased to introduce Sheila Goffe as the new Director of the AKC Government Relations Department. Formerly Manager of Public Education, Sheila will also continue to have oversight of the Public Education Department. Sheila joined the AKC in 2006 as Breed Columns Editor and also wrote frequent feature articles for the *GAZETTE*. Before coming to AKC, she was employed as Deputy Director of Editorial Product Development for the *Congressional*

*Quarterly*, Inc., in Washington, D.C. Previous experience included work for the Economist Newsgroup as Deputy Editor, Economist Intelligence Unit Online, and for the International Executive Service Corps as Senior Evaluations Analyst and Regional Program Analyst.

Sheila has completed Ph.D. coursework and research in American Politics and Public Policy. She earned a Master of Philosophy in American Politics and also an MA in International Political Economy and Development at Fordham University. She was an adjunct Lecturer in Political Science and Comparative Politics at SUNY/Stony Brook and a Fulbright Scholar, Sri Lanka, in Economic Development. She earned her BA in Political Science at Fairfield University. Currently Sheila owns six Siberian Huskies and is an active member of the Siberian Husky Club of America, the Chesapeake Siberian Club and the Connecticut Valley Siberian Husky Club. She participates in conformation, performance, and companion events. And all of her adult dogs have completed working pack dog titles from the Siberian Husky Club of America. Her rescue dog has an ILP/PAL number and completed his rally novice title. That experience inspired her to come up with the new PAL name for the former ILP program.

The Chair announced that the Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 10, 2009, at the Sheraton Newark Hotel. The March meeting will be the annual election of Directors for the Class of 2013.

During New Business, the following Delegates spoke:

Sherry Wallace, Delegate for the Akita Club of America, thanked Daisy Okas for all the work that she's put in on the *Hachiko* movie and the work she has done for her club.

Carol Williamson, Delegate for the Houston Kennel Club and Editor of *Perspectives*, invited the Board of Directors candidates to submit their photos and articles for the next issue of *Perspectives*.

Kerstin Thell Ottmar, Delegate for the Providence County Kennel Club expressed appreciation to the AKC and Eukanuba for the herding and carting demonstration at the

National Championship, with special thanks to AKC Staff, Carol Delsman and Mary Burch.

Barbara Wicklund, Delegate for the Basset Hound Club of America and member of the Perspectives Committee, requested that anyone wanting to submit something for the next issue of *Perspectives*, should submit their material no later than their January 5th deadline.

Nancy Perrell, Delegate for the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, spoke about the Arizona Canine Experience in November, which provided hunting and herding demos and herding instinct tests, in addition to the usual focus on obedience, rally and agility. Ms. Perrell encouraged everybody who has the space to include these things with their own Canine Experience.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

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

## DELEGATES FORUM

### SYNOPSIS OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2008 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.

### MEETING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

The December 2008 Forum consisted of questions directed to candidates for the AKC Board of Directors who are to be elected in March 2009. The candidates fielded questions on topics including:

- the inclusion of mixed-breed dogs in Companion Events; their opinion of term limits; ideas on what AKC can do to be the ultimate go-to organization for anything regarding dogs, including media; what AKC can do to increase Registration; and their stand on mixed-breed dogs competing against purebred dogs in Companion Events.