DELEGATES FORUM

SYNOPSIS OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2011

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 2011 Forum consisted of questions directed to candidates for the AKC Board of Directors who are to be elected in March 2012. The candidates fielded questions on topics including but not limited to: talents they would bring to the Board; their opinion of staff liaisons to Delegate Committees; their criteria for selecting a new Board Chairman; how they would combat anti-dog legislation; how they felt about AKC having a presence in New York; and how they would meet their legal fiduciary obligations to the organization while remaining responsive to their fellow Delegates.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

DECEMBER 16, 2011

DENNIS B. SPRUNG, President

Present 299

Abilene Kennel Club—Neil A. Bates
Affenpinscher Club of America—Chad Howard
Afghan Hound Club of America—Ms. Constance Burtles
Airedale Terrier Club of America—Aleta L. Moore
Akita Club of America—Sherry E. Wallis
Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary M. MacCollum
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—Ms. Janina K. Laurin
American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—Robert Urban
American Bloodhound Club—Mary L. Okzowski
American Brittany Club, Inc.—Judith Tighe
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—Alan Kalter
American Chesapeake Club, Inc.—Dyane Baldwin
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—Harold Miller
American Maltese Association, Inc.—Mr. Richard W. Glenn
American Manchester Terrier Club—Robertta Berman
American Pointer Club, Inc.—Mrs. Karen R. Spey
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—Dr. Geno Sisneros
American Rottweiler Club—Mr. Peter G. Piazz
American Sealyham Terrier Club—Kenneth W. Mader
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—Majorie Tuff
American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—Mrs. Sally L. Vilas
American Tibetan Mastiff Association—Martha Feltenstein
American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association—Dr. Lisa Boyer
Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America—Karen Sen
Anderson Kennel Club—Phillip D. Sample
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Ms. Patricia A. Sample
Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary A. Broedel
Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—Panela J. Arwood
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—Jamie Mulvey
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Walkin
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—Gail A. LaBerge
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—Bette D. Williams
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—Joyce Rowland
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Kim Occhiuti
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Nina Schaefer
Baltimore County Kennel Club—Lucy C. Campbell-Gracie
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—Mr. Jon Curby
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—John A. Studebaker
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—Gloria Marshall
Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—Kathy Coxwell
Bedlington Terrier Club of America—Mrs. Marjorie M. Hanson
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—Barbara Swisher
Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—Carole Wilson
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—Sara Karl
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—George Sikes
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—Martha Griffin
Border Collie Society of America—Ms. Carol Clark
Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—Barbara O’Neill
Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Kathleen M. Kelly
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—Ruth A. Williams
Bull Terrier Club of America—Dr. Dale R. Schuur
Bulldog Club of America—Robert L. Newcomb
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.
Cairn Terrier Club of America—Pam Davis
California Collie Clan, Inc.—Roderick G. Johns
Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—Mr. Wayne F. Harmon
Canaan Dog Club of America—Panela S. Rosman
Canalo Del Oro Kennel Club—Dr. Sophia Kuzniatski
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.—Janice Ashby
Catract Kennel Club—Whitney Coombs
Catonsville Kennel Club—Beverly A. Drake
Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.—Julian Prager
Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally Allen
Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—Clare K. Steidel
Chaparral Kennel Club, Inc.—Pam Goldman
Charlestown Kennel Club—Sylvia Arrowood
Chattanooga Kennel Club—David Gütrup
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—Marge B. Calltharp
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—Nick Pisas
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—Mrs. Ginny Atkinson
Cincinnati Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Patricia H. Haines
Clarksville Kennel Club—Robert A. Schnoll
Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—Dr. Stephen Lawrence
Clearwater Kennel Club—Daniel T. Stolz
Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—Marjorie Underwood
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—Mrs. Maureen R. Setter
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Judy Hiler
Collie Club of America, Inc.—Mr. Harold W. Sundstrom
Colorado Kennel Club—Mrs. Louise Leone
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—Sidney L. Marx
Columbia Missouri Kennel Club—Robert Brown
Columbus Terrier Association of Maryland—Norma J. Ryan
Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—Barry D. Cavanna
Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—Michael Houchard
Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc.—Shirley J. Ray
Cudahy Kennel Club—Don H. Adams
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—Larry Sorenson
Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—James W. Smith
Dandie Dimmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Karen Dorn
Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—Barbara L. Spanluck
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Man
Dayton Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Groeschel
Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—Marilyn A. Green, D.C.
Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—Andrew G. Mills
Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—Dr. A. D. Butherus
Des Moines Obedience Training Club—Lee Slorah
Devon Dog Show Association, Inc.—Meg Weitz
Doberman Pinscher Club of America—Mrs. Naomi R. Shorr
Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—Mrs. Pati L. Strand
Dog Owners’ Training Club of Maryland—Kathrynann Sarvina
Durham Kennel Club Inc.—Linda C. Wozniak
Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—Mrs. Joan Tabor
Elm City Kennel Club—Dr. Gregory J. Paveza
English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Barbara A. Penny
English Setter Association of America, Inc.—Mr. John P. Nicklen
English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois—David H. Hopkiss
Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Terrie Breen
Field Spaniel Society of America—Katherine Sullivan
Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Margaret B. Pough
Finnish Spitz Club of America—Kim Raleigh
Forbush Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Almira B. Dallas
Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—Charles Arnold
Fort Worth Kennel Club—Mr. Harry G. Ottmann
Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—Connie S. Clapp
German Shepherd Dog Club of America—Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia
German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Patricia W. Laurus
Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—Kimberly Demchak
Glen Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Bonnie Lapham
Golden Retriever Club of America—Ellen Hardin
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.—Barbara Shaw
Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club—Patricia B. Staub
Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc.—Virginia McEvoy O’Connell
Greater Munroeboro Kennel Club, Inc.—Margaret DiCorleto
Greater Naples Dog Club—Steven D. Gladstone
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—Linda LaFrance
Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—Marlene Steinberg
Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—Mary Jo Rasmussen
Greenville Kennel Club—Linda A. Knorr
Greenwich Kennel Club—Margaret K. Curtis
Greyhound Club of America—Melanie S. Steele
Harrier Club of America—Kevin Shupenia
Harrissburg Kennel Club, Inc.—Cindy Miller
Hathboro Dog Club, Inc.—Mr. Robert D. Black
Havanese Club of America—Jane F. Ruthford
Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—Patricia M. Cruz
Hockamook 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
Ibizaan Hound Club of the United States—Luane V. Williams
Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Rita J. Biddle
International Kennel Club of Chicago, Inc.—Susan Olsen
Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—Karolyne McAteer
Irish Wolfhound Club of America—Evelyn M. Van Uden
Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally McNamara
Jefferson County Kennel Club of Missouri—Cledith Wakefield
Kanadasaga Kennel Club—Mrs. Beverly M. Nosigha
Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John D. Sawicki
Kennebec Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—Thomas Powers
Kennebec Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—Margaret Doster
Kennebec Kennel Club of Riverside—Sylvia A. Thomas
Kennesaw Kennel Club—James E. Gibson
Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Virginia Van Doren
Ladies’ Dog Club, Inc.—Kathi Brown
Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Diana Skibinski
Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club—Bruce Walsh
Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Creca C. Closson
Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—Carolyn M. Vack
Land O’Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Jan Croft
Langley Kennel Club—Ms. Diane E. Franch
Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Bryant C. Freeman
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert N. LaBerge
Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—Sue Goldberg
Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—David M. Powers
Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—Judy R. Melear
Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Sandra B. Barker
Manatee Kennel Club—Pat Edgington
Manitowoc County Kennel Club, Inc.—Romana Arnold
Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. J. C. Garvin
Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—Dr. William R. Newman
Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.
Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Jeanette Nagler
Mid-Hudson Kennel Association, Inc.—Gayle Bontecou
Middleburg Kennel Club—Shelley C. Roos
Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—Goellee Simonds
Miniature Pincher Club of America, Inc.—Sandee White
Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—Ralph Hogancamp
Mississippi Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Blackie H. Nygood
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—Gretchen Bernardi
Mohawk Valley Kennel Club—Sandra Haber
Mount Bachelor Kennel Club—Lynette Blue
Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—Mrs. Ruth W. Crumb
Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Rebecca S. Stanewich
Nashville Kennel Club—James Efron
National Beagle Club—Eddie Dzurak
National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson
National Shiba Club of America—Maggi Strouse
New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—Virginia Rowland
Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Mary W. Price
Newnan Kennel Club—Willie Crawford
Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Diane E. Taylor
Norfolk Terrier Club—Marjorie B. McNern
North Shore Kennel Club—Richard F. Colletti
Norwich Terrier Club of America—Betty McDonnell
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—Marie A. Waterstraat
Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—Ms. Patricia C. Scully
Orange Empire Dog Club, Inc.—Burton J. Yamada
Orlando Dog Training Club—Mary L. Jensen, Ph.D.
Otterhound Club of America—Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.
Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—Mr. Link Newcomb
Papillon Club of America, Inc.—Miss Arlene A. Czech
Pasco Florida Kennel Club—Patricia J. Lombardi
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Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.— Dennis J. Gallant
Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America— Anne Gallant, Ph.D.
Pharaoh Hound Club of America—Dominic P. Carota
Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.— Larry Wilson
Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.— Joachim N. Blutereich
Plainfield Kennel Club— John McCullagh
Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado— William E. Ellis
Pocono Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.— Sandra Krieger
Poodle Club of America, Inc.— Mary Ellen Fishler
Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc. — Robert A. Amen
Portland Kennel Club, Inc.— Mrs. Joan Savage
Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.— Mrs. Janis C. Watts
Progressive Dog Club— William H. Blair
Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.— Frances Stephens
Rampo Kennel Club— Mrs. Rose J. Radel
Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.— Gerard Bauder
Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.— Michael J. Feeding
Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.— Jan M. Ritchie
Rio Grande Kennel Club— Joxi Burr
Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club— Ronald H. Menaker
Rubber City Kennel Club— Cathy Gaidos
Sagehen’s Retriever Club— Katharine B. Simonds
Sahuar State Kennel Club— Rita L. Mather
Saluki Club of America— Monica H. Stoner
Sammanish Kennel Club— Dr. Robert C.
Golster, M.D.
Samoyed Club of America, Inc.— Mr. John L. Ronald
San Gabriel Valley Kennel Club— Anthony Vasquez
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. Libes
Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia— Kay Alred
Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.— Heather Smith
Scottish Terrier Club of America— Helen A. Prince
Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.— Sandra Frei
Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.— Sharyn Y. Hutchens
Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County— Susan L. Hamill
Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.— Ms. Donna Beckman
Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego— Nancy Dandrea
Silver State Kennel Club— Daniele Ledoux-Starzyk
Sioux Empire Kennel Club, Inc.— William Burggraf
Sioux Valley Kennel Club, Inc.— Jean Evanno
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.— William J. Feeny
Skokie Valley Kennel Club, Inc.— Pat Grossman
Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.— Gloria Shaver
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America— John Mandeville
South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.— Mrs. Linda B. Willson
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.— Linda C. Flynn
South Windsor Kennel Club— Margarette (Peggy) Wampold
Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club— Ricky Blackman
Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.— John V. Ioia
Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.— Lee Arnold
Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay— Glenda Stephenson
Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.— Dr. Thomas M. Davies
St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc.— Deborah J. Wilkins
St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association— Dr. Gerry Meisels
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America— Jenny Merritt
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America— Holly S. Stump
Standard Schnauzer Club of America— Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser
Steel City Kennel Club, Inc.— Miss Susan M. Napady
Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.— Mr. Robert Eisele
Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.— Marcy L. Zlegler
Susaque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.— Thomas D. Parrotti
Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.— Mrs. Florence Duggan
Tampa Bay Kennel Club— Mary Manning-Stolz
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club— Catherine Bell
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. Cadalo, Jr.
Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.— James S. Corbett
Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.— Patricia C. Sarles
United States Australian Shepherd Association— Leon B. Goetz
United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.— Mr. Carl C. Ashley, III
United States Lakeland Terrier Club— Alfred J. Ferruggiaro
Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club— J. M. Haderer
Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club, Inc.— Sharon Sakson
Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.— Mrs. Carol Fisher
Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association— Mr. William F. Dumas
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.— Lynn Worth-Smith
Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.— Suzanne Gray
Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.— Mary A. Eschweiler
Weimaraner Club of America— Judy Colan
Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.— Donald Ong
West Highland White Terrier Club of America— Thomas Barrie
Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association— Torie Steele
Westminster Kennel Club— Harvey M. Wooding
Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.— Colleen McDaniel
Wichita Kennel Club, Inc.— Treva Faires
Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.— Frederick R. Vogel
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association— Mrs. Karen Mays
Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Inc.— Fred T. Kampo
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.— Rosann Sexton

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
Delegates Meeting

December 16, 2011

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

The Chair introduced the persons seated with him on the dais: Chairman, Ronald Menaker; Vice-Chair Dr. Thomas Davies; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Jim Crowley, Executive Secretary; and Lisa Gerlach, Court Reporter.

The Executive Secretary read the report on the Nominating Committee and the report on additional nominations as follows:

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

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as a candidate for the vacancy on the Board of Directors for the Class of 2016, to be filled at the next annual meeting on March 13, 2012: Patricia M. Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club, James Efron, Nashville Kennel Club, John L. Ronald, Samoyed Club of America, Robert A. Schroll, Clarksville Kennel Club, and Larry Sorensen, Dachshund Club of America I have been notified by James Efron that because of personal commitments he will not be able to devote the necessary time to the Board and has therefore withdrawn his nomination. Candidates spoke in alphabetical order and no questions from the floor were entertained.

Patricia M. Cruz, representing the Heart of the Plains Kennel Club, spoke as follows:

Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Delegates. Good morning. For over 40 years, I have had the good fortune to be deeply involved in many aspects of this sport we all love so much from breeder to owner-handler to AKC Rep to AKC judge to dog writer. While I don’t know all of you, our shared commitment to our dogs brings us together with common bond. For that reason, this isn’t a speech, but more like a little straight talk among friends.

Today the American Kennel Club, our sport, our clubs and our breeders, are under intense pressure. The challenges will not be solved by simply talking about the problems. We know them all too well. They will be solved by creating innovative solutions and energizing people around them. I can help do both. I have a unique combination of hands on experience, specialized expertise and a proven track record; plus a motivating focus in my life — “You make a difference by getting things done.”

What has to get done starting now? Three things, each one dependent on the other, each one attainable right now and each one I have the know how to help get done.

First, we must be more innovative in selling our sport, our clubs and our purebred dogs in general. As a former sales manager for a radio station in the New York market, I know how to sell with the best of them. I created promotions and motivated a sales force. I drove listenership, advertising, and revenues up. I know our world and I know how to sell. Second, we must mobilize large groups of people to stand with us for our sport and in our legislative efforts. As the former civilian union president in one of the east’s largest police departments and the elected representative of over 10,000 county wide employees, I know how to mobilize people and get behind a program.

Third, we must better communicate amongst ourselves and with the public. As a writer about the sport of dogs for four New York newspapers and a Board member of the Dog Writers’ Association of America, I know how to create communication that yields understanding and motivation.

Forty years ago, I recognized the potential impact that a large group of dedicated, but unconnected fanciers could have on our sport. Along with a few other people, I helped found the Owner Handlers Association. I am extremely proud of its growth, commitment to education and the encouragement of juniors, the future of our sport. My role in establishing OHA is a good example of my life’s motivating focus — “You make a difference by getting things done.”

Today we have serious problems and we need serious people to solve them. I have the know how to make a difference in the AKC. I am deeply committed to making that difference. With your support, I’m ready to get things done. Thank you very much.

William J. Feeney, representing the Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, spoke as follows:

My fellow Delegates, my name, again, is Bill Feeney. I’m from the Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club. I’d like to start this morning by acknowledging the many terrific things the AKC does for our world. Spend a little time on the AKC website, read the annual reports, and attend the thousands of AKC events every year, and we all can appreciate the hard work the organization does. Sometimes, things can be better.

We know that since 1997 registrations have been declining and the loss of income is taking its toll on the AKC. Economic conditions are difficult right now. Even the political and financial leaders in the world’s capitals continue to be challenged by stubborn economic conditions. But sometimes, as I said, things can be different and things can be better.

To succeed in our challenges, the AKC leadership and we, ourselves, need to be open to new ways of doing things and new ways of approaching things. In other words, we all need to think a little differently.

I stated when answering questions earlier that I’d like to see AKC registration be more exclusive by demanding higher quality in exchange for registrations—telling the world that not every dog is eligible for AKC registration. This presents a win win situation for the public, breeders, and, most importantly, the AKC.

You know, this may at first appear counterintuitive, that if you make registrations exclusive the AKC won’t make as much income. However, if the AKC demands higher quality in exchange for registration, then demand is going to be higher. People will want a dog with AKC registration because it is the best indication of parentage, health and quality. They are going to stand in line to get one just like people do for Apple products.

In 1997, Apple was teetering on the brink of existence with stagnant sales and $1 billion in losses. By demanding excellence, Apple products have since been in high demand, and today Apple rivals Exxon as the world’s most valuable company. Apple provides a lesson for the AKC.

Another thing I’d like the AKC to consider is individual, nonvoting associate membership in the AKC. This would be a source of additional income, and also political influence to help fight legislation that threatens our interests. I’d also like the Board of Directors to take a new interest in the fair administration of discipline, so those who do and those who want to participate in our sport will feel confident that the AKC is a dependable ally.
The AKC is a unique organization. It’s a business for sure, but its survival is dependent on a varied constituency: Breeders, exhibitors, fanciers, kennel clubs, parent clubs, judges, to name a few. Indeed, these constituencies depend on the AKC as well. The AKC must give a true ear to its constituents’ concerns and to the greatest extent possible include constituents in its decisions. Yes, ultimately decisions are made by the AKC, but those decisions will be more successful if the AKC and its constituencies work together.

For those of you who know me, you know I don’t go around patting myself on the back, but this is an election. I ask you to indulge me in reading a few sentences from an article that was written about me long after my presidency of the Golden Retriever Club of America: “Every organization needs a visionary, someone who has a notion that things can be better and that problems can be solved by taking positive action. But lucky is the organization when that visionary has the ability to define the problem precisely and do the detail work necessary to lead people in the right direction. These are the people who begin a tide of action that make a true difference.”

Ladies and gentlemen, I’d like an opportunity to make a true difference here at the AKC, and I respectfully ask for your vote. Thank you very much.

Thomas Powers, representing the Kennel Club of Beverly Hills, spoke as follows:

Good morning. Thank you, Mr. President. Good morning, fellow Delegates.

I was born in a whelping box, but I was born very close. When I came home from the hospital as a wee child, I was greeted by my father’s collie. As a kid, I had a beagle from the hospital and as a 4th generation purebred dog person, I love dogs. I love this sport and AKC. This is my name a few. Indeed, these constituencies depend on the AKC as well.

Most importantly, 70 to 80 percent of my weekends have been spent either at a dog show, showing at a dog show, judging a dog show or producing a dog show. I’ve literally spent my entire life in this business. That’s not why you want me to be a Delegate though. The reason I should be a Delegate has to do with my professional background. I practiced law for 35 years. Never been indicted or went to jail — a successful career. In addition to that, I’ve had quite a lot of business experience. I’ve run a number of businesses where I was the principal, but I’ve counseled both as an attorney and as a consultant in a number of businesses, many of whom were in financial straits. We haven’t saved all of them, but we have saved quite a number of them. That experience, I think, is very important.

When I come to make a decision or make a vote on the Board, I take my lawyer training and I try to emotionally detach myself and give a reasoned judgment that’s best for the organization. Yes, I have a very deep emotional commitment to this. What I try to bring to this Board is reasoned, sober, detached judgment. Our problems that we all talked about all morning are very difficult and very hard to solve, but I think we can do it.

When it first came up when I first was asked about this nomination, I talked it over with my wife. She said, “Do you want to be the guy who presides over the demise of AKC?” I said, “No, I’m not going to be that guy.” She said, “Why not?” I said, “Because there’s several hundred people in this room who, working together, are not going to let that happen.” I think that’s the key to the future. We have to do things that allow this corporation to survive for the next 125 years. And I’ll do my best to do that for you. Times up, so, remember, vote for Tom. Thank you.

Mr. John L. Ronald, representing the Samoyed Club of America, spoke as follows: I’ve been up here before so you’ve seen my credentials in Finance, Judging, as a Delegate and as a 4th generation purebred dog person. I love dogs. I love this sport and AKC. This is an important election. We’re losing our Board’s top management and most experienced member. AKC is servicing its customers with a reduced Staff level at a time when we are trying to attract more registrations and entries. Because of the challenges facing AKC, whoever we elect needs to be able to join the Board and contribute immediately. In my 24 years as a Delegate and a judge, I’ve come to know a great many of you — including the current Board members. We’ve worked together for decades. I know what they’re striving to accomplish and share their desire to improve AKC. Essentially, while dog ownership and the pet industry have been growing in the last decade, AKC hasn’t benefitted from this growth. There are new customers out there, and we need to increase programs, marketing and PR to reach them. We need innovative thinking that also preserves AKC’s traditions. I’ve shown that kind of thinking through my motion to create the Delegate Committees, serving as Perspective’s Editor for 6 years, my work with local specialty and all-breed clubs, and efforts on committees such as Future Nature of the Delegate Body, Parent Clubs, All Breed Clubs and the Coordinating Committee. Speaking as a Delegate, when I cast my vote in this election, I’ll look for candidates who will have a short learning curve once they join the Board; especially in finance, marketing and customer retention skills. I want my vote to elect someone who’s been successful in the sport and has deep roots with AKC. Someone who’s still active in the grass roots dog show community. Someone who will keep your club’s and customer’s needs in the forefront, because that’s where our revenue comes from — our customers. So, as a Delegate, when I vote, obviously I’ll be voting for myself because I meet these important criteria. I hope you agree with me how important this election is and will cast your vote to bring my skills to the Board as well. Thank you.

(Appause)

Robert A. Schroll, representing the Clarksville Kennel Club, spoke as follows:

Good morning, everyone. Thank you for allowing me to address you.

For those of you who do not know me, I’m Robert Schroll and I’m the Delegate for the Clarksville Kennel Club in Clarksville, Tennessee. For nearly the last 40 years, I have been breeder/owner/handler of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. In fact, I was instrumental in getting the breed recognized by the American
Kennel Club and now the breed places among the most popular. As I say, I represent a small kennel club in Tennessee, but still consider myself a Yankee, as do most Southerners. Unless you were born there, you can never truly be a Southerner.

It was in Connecticut, while I was working at Ted Young's farm, that I was first introduced to the sport of purebred dogs. It was at Ted Young's farm that I met many of the fancy's true greats and, sadly, many of those are gone now. This presents me and you with a dilemma.

In the early 70s, the AKC was in its heyday. It was basically the only game in town. Now there's so many registries and so many new breeds almost one a month and I'm too familiar with the problems this presents, as Cavaliers did not come in willingly, but were dragged in kicking and screaming every step of the way.

As far as my experience goes, I have worked with the Staff for years through my all breed club and through the Cavalier club for over 30 years, holding every position except treasurer, in my all breed club, including 15 years of show chair and being its first and only Delegate, then getting my breed recognized, as I said, writing the standard, the bylaws, filming the video and so on. I have been a Delegate for 12 years with 10 spent on the Dog Show Rules Committee, being elected three times by you who I thank.

So what separates me from the others seeking a seat on the Board? I believe that it is with my experience, combined with my representing a small club and military community with transient membership struggling to get by, I am what is missing in the Boardroom I am very typical of the majority of you as Delegates and there is no one like that at the table at present.

So that is what I bring my experience in the sport with great population, which is affected by every single decision the Board makes, every nickel it spends, be it in registration, entry fees or dwindling memberships. With your help, I would like to be the voice of that small club on the Board, trying to stay afloat while I breed and show my own dogs.

Remaining on the Board reminding the Board how its decisions affect clubs like mine and yours and keeping the American Kennel Club with a premier registry in the world. We're doing a good job and it would be my honor to keep it moving into the future. Thank you.

Larry Sorenson, representing the Dachshund Club of America, spoke as follows:

My name is Larry Sorenson and I'm asking for your vote. I love dogs and our sport. I have 50 years' experience in conformation, obedience, field trials, Earthdog, CGC and professional handling. I've served as president of the Dachshund Club of America for five years and I'm currently an AKC judge.

Following my 30 year Navy career, I served over 10 years as Director of Public Education and Club Education for AKC. It was a wonderful experience. It gave me the opportunity to work closely with hundreds of dog owners, breeders, exhibitors and handlers, the people who make up the backbone of our sport. I learned a lot.

Now I want to give back to an organization that gave me so much. I have a deep respect for AKC's traditions and I want the opportunity to share my ideas, leadership, experience and help AKC face a challenging future.

AKC is at a crossroads. The decisions made during this class of Board members will determine whether or not we remain a successful, strong, respected brand. In the last 15 years, we have seen our sport erode and a sharp decline in revenue, while other organizations have taken our rightful place in the public's heart, mind and pocketbook.

We can turn this around, but we must act soon and with determination. First, we cannot appease the animal rights activists who come at us and put us on the defense. They will not listen to facts and statistics. We must find our passion, expertise and love of dogs. We must protect and reclaim our right to own and breed dogs.

Second we must re imagine our direction as an organization, while carefully examining our core values and mission. Every organization gains from a periodic evaluation. Ours will too.

Third, we must increase revenues and revenue sources. We cannot ignore the millions of America's dogs, while not purebred, are an important part of the family. These individuals are not aware of AKC as the premier dog association and the many programs we have to offer. I want AKC to be known as the go to organization, promoting the joys and responsibility of dog ownership.

Finally, we must be more relevant to the individuals and the clubs who made us who we are. We must ask clubs hundreds of clubs and thousands of members who toil at the local level how can the AKC be more valuable to you and then listen to the best of their ideas.

If elected, my 50 years of experience and dedication to the sport will guide my decisions. I will be fair and impartial in my voting. I pledge that, if I am elected, that I will work hard to ensure the best days of the AKC are still to come. Let's put fun back in the sport of dogs.

Lynn Worth Smith, representing the Vizsla Club of America, spoke as follows:

Good Morning. I am the Delegate for the Vizsla Club of America and have served in this capacity since 1993. I have a long history of involvement in Performance Events, am an AKC field trial and hunting test judge and have served as secretary of the Delegates Field Trial & Hunting Test Committee for over a decade — as well as on the editorial Staff of “Perspectives”.

The interests of the Board of Directors should reflect AKC’s major activities. Presently there is no Board member that represents Performance Events.

AKC’s Core Values include “We uphold high standards for the administration and operation of AKC and We recognize the critical importance of our clubs and volunteers.” I believe our clubs and volunteers represent a great source of knowledge. Working within the vision and priorities articulated by the Board, within the administrative practicalities that are best understood by the Staff in charge of making things happen, I believe that the AKC in collaboration with our clubs and volunteers can assure that AKC will thrive for another 125 years.

My priorities are honest and open communication with AKC’s customers and Delegates, keeping AKC financially sound, assuring the health of purebred dogs and working to encourage younger people to become involved in AKC activities. I feel the future growth of the AKC lies in Companion and
The Chair reported on the passing of two Delegates. Virginia Grefe died on November 13th. She was the Delegate for the Alaskan Malamute Club of America since June of 1987. Joyce Klamut died on November 8th. She was the Delegate for the Buckeye Beagle Club since November of 1994.

The Executive Secretary read the names of Delegates seated since the last meeting:
- Dr. Lisa Boyer of Loomis, California, to represent American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association
- Juxi Burr, Albuquerque, New Mexico, to represent Rio Grande Kennel Club
- Kimberley Demchak, Mayer, Arizona, to represent Giant Schnauzer Club of America
- Margaret Doster, Hamburg, New York, to represent Kennel Club of Buffalo
- Jacqueline Fogel, West Bend, Wisconsin, to represent Kettle Moraine Kennel Club
- Raymond P Harrington, Venitia, Pennsylvania, to represent South Hills Kennel Club
- Anne Midgarden, DVM, Wapakoneta, Ohio, to represent Lima Kennel Club
- Stephen Owens, Cumberland, Rhode Island, to represent Providence County Kennel Club
- Shirley Ray, Corpus Christi, Texas, to represent Corpus Christi Kennel Club

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting since approval, were introduced from the floor:
- Dr. Lisa Boyer of Loomis, California, to represent American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association
- Juxi Burr, Albuquerque, New Mexico, to represent Rio Grande Kennel Club
- Dominic Carotta, Selkirk, New York, to represent Pharaoh Hound Club of America
- Kimberly Demchak, Mayer, Arizona, to represent Giant Schnauzer Club of America
- Margaret Doster, Hamburg, New York, to represent Kennel Club of Buffalo
- Shirley Ray, Corpus Christi, Texas, to represent Corpus Christi Kennel Club
- Karen Sen, Springfield, Oregon to represent Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America

The minutes of the September 13, 2011 Delegates meeting were published on the online Gazette in October. The complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on the AKC website. The minutes were approved as published.

AKC Board Chair Mr. Menaker, gave his report as follows:
Good morning. It is a pleasure to be with you in Florida once again, as we begin to set the stage for the 11th AKC Eukanuba National Championship. I would like to begin by expressing how much we appreciate your being here, to represent your clubs and to express the incredible series of events that will be unfolding here this weekend.

In 2011 we saw many exciting developments in our sports and in our organization’s educational programs. Many devoted dog fanciers got their start in the obedience ring, and so it is fitting to begin a summation of the year’s highlights by acknowledging a special milestone: In 2011, AKC Obedience celebrated its 75th anniversary. As one of our foundation sports, Obedience remains today what it was created to be — a proud demonstration of our dogs’ instinctual capabilities and talents as companions, and the embodiment of the human–canine bond.

Our cherished traditions in Conformation saw an infusion of new enhancements in 2011. In April of this year we introduced the Grand Championship Achievement Levels to spotlight our highest achievers in the conformation ring. Over two thousand dogs have earned bronze, silver, gold and platinum Grand Championships to date.

We also conceived the AKC Owner Handlers Series, a competition specifically designed to celebrate the joys of showing one’s own dog. The series will comprise competitions at several dog shows across the country and will culminate with an award for the year’s Best Owner/Handler. We feel this is an exciting way to recognize the hobby exhibitor and inspire more people to become involved in our sport.

In unwavering support of our breeders, who remain the backbone of our Registry and the sport of purebred dogs, AKC continued to provide enhanced services through our Breeder of Merit program. Now with almost 7,000 breeders participating in this important program, we are delighted to see growing numbers of breeders joining us in our quest to ensure the growth and integrity of our Registry.

In the world of AKC Agility, we introduced two new titles, the “Time to Beat” titling class and the Preferred Agility Champion title. By creating ongoing enhancements to Agility, we have seen the sport rise to new heights. In 2011 AKC logged its one millionth agility entry.

Of course quantity cannot be outdone by quality. I am proud to say that our AKC agility team representing the USA won many accolades including a gold medal at the Agility World Championships in France this year.

It has been said by many a Performance fancier that there is nothing quite like the thrill of witnessing a dog do what it was originally bred to do. Naturally, most of our performance activities are designed for specific breeds, with function and instinct in mind.

But in 2011, the AKC Performance Department gave all dogs and their owners an
delegates’ quarterly meeting

“equal opportunity” program with the new Coursing Ability Test. This introductory lure coursing event is fun, healthy activity open to all breeds and offers three new titles. Adding another link in the chain of the human–canine bond, AKC brought our new Therapy Dog program to fruition in 2011. So far more than 1600 dogs have achieved our new therapy dog title which proudly recognizes those dogs who bring comfort and love to so many people in need.

AKC clubs did an incredible job of spreading our message about the joys of owning a purebred dog and the importance of responsible ownership. Together with our parent clubs, AKC welcomed over 40,000 people to the Javits Center for AKC Meet the Breeds. Sponsored by Pet Partners, the event was a record-breaking success, thanks to our hardworking clubs and Staff. Dennis will tell us more about this terrific program later in the meeting.

Clubs remained hard at work educating the public year round, with a terrific showing in September with our largest set of Responsible Dog Ownership Days to date. More than 600 RDO Day events were celebrated locally and a record-breaking number of Canine Good Citizen tests were a key part of the program. We are so grateful to our clubs for all your hard work and support.

Volunteering is certainly a year-round pursuit in the dog world, and so many hours will be logged here in Orlando. On behalf of AKC, thank all of you, your clubs and your members for coming forward to steward, represent your breeds at the Meet the Breeds booths, and take on numerous important roles at the AKC Eukanuba National Championship. To all our volunteers who will be with us this weekend – your participation is truly appreciated.

We are thrilled to be in our new location, the Orange County Convention Center – along with the Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay, the Brevard Kennel Club and the Central Florida Kennel Club – as we bring an unparalleled dog experience to life this weekend with the 11th annual AKC Eukanuba National Championship. With a record-breaking entry of 4,975 dogs to be exhibited in Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Junior Showmanship, and the Eukanuba World Challenge, this AKC flagship event truly has something for every dog lover to enjoy.

I am particularly pleased to make note of the Show’s popular Bred by Exhibitor class. Now more than ever, breeders come to the AKC Eukanuba National Championship to exhibit their own dogs in the ultimate testament to the art and science of responsible breeding. This year we have 1,328 dogs – 35% of our entry – that will be proudly shown by the individuals who bred them.

I hope you will enjoy yourselves in Orlando as much as I will. Please remind your members and friends that this year’s Show will be broadcast on ABC during Superbowl Weekend, on February 4th. I wish you all a healthy, happy holiday season. Here’s to another year of great shows, quality dogs and wonderful friends.

AKC President, Dennis Sprung gave his report as follows:

Picking up from where we left off at our last meeting, we received dozens of requests from Delegates for a DVD of my presentation regarding the American Kennel Clubs numerous accomplishments following 9/11. Staff heard you and we had one made. To provide this positive communication to each member club, Susan and I donated the funds to make copies for everyone. So please avail yourself of one after the meeting and share it with your club.

Over the next two days, you will witness the creativity and expertise of 176 parent clubs working as a team with Staff to stage Meet the Breeds, Orlando style. We appreciate each and every volunteer and the expert management of Gina DiNardo and Michael Canalizo at both venues. For those of you who missed last month’s Meet the Breeds at the Javits Center, I’ll share a brief description. We planned, we communicated our responsible ownership messages consistently on Good Day New York, News New Jersey, New York 1, CBS, Fox & Friends, Connecticut News and Martha Stewart.

And then we waited. One can summarize the results using either of two well known quotes “If you build it, they will come” or “Location, location, location.” Indeed they came. They kept coming and they continued arriving for two days without stop.

Parent Clubs offered a broad scope of educational opportunities. Our presenting sponsor, PetPartners, providing pet care plans, spearheaded the more than 100 vendor booths and 15 additional sponsors. AKC’s Government Relations Department welcomed some of the 110 elected officials serving as honorary chairs along with their staff members and families.

Hundreds of Girl Scouts enjoyed the dogs while earning an AKC Merit badge. Two days of ongoing demonstrations, included Earthdog, Obedience, Agility, US Customs and Border Protection, United States Police Canine Association, the AKC’s Humane Fund ACE Awards and the Best Booth.

Tens of thousands of dog lovers of all sizes and shapes were educated in numerous ways about the American Kennel Club, AKC CAR, The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation and a bit about cats as well. Once again, the Board and the Staff thanks all volunteers, Parent Clubs and their very special dogs.

Over the past several months, Board and Staff have worked collaboratively on research relating to conformation events, entries and the moratorium that was in place. Despite the labor intensiveness of this work, there was a substantial amount of learning as a result of the thorough manner in which the project was carried out. To share the findings with you, I will ask the individuals who led the staff efforts, John, Charles and Robin, to take over.

AKC Chief Operating Officer John Lyons spoke as follows:

Thank you, Dennis, and good morning everyone.

As you know, there’s been some concern among the fancy about the size of entries at our shows. This has, in turn, led to the question: Do we simply have too many Conformation dog shows?

When we started to look at this question, here’s what we knew. Although some of our clubs are experiencing higher entries and some were low some were up and some were down when you considered all shows in the aggregate across the country, there was no question that there was a decline in the
average entries per show.

Also, we continued to received input from our exhibitors that they were having trouble finding majors in shows. But it is a complex picture.

We have different shows in different geographic regions. Some stand alone, some within clusters, some back to back, specialties, group shows and a range of sizes in our All Breed shows. Some, out of necessity, are operating out of their traditional territory. Some have been with us over 100 years. Others just started recently, but are already valued by the fancy.

Clearly, some research was needed to better understand a complicated situation for which we knew that there would be no simple solution, because a “one size fits all” response was never going to work. Of course, simply eliminating the shows would not serve the best interest of so many of our clubs that depend on their first or second show for their club’s economic survival. Nor would the elimination of that show necessarily result in a migration of an entry from one show to another, especially when that entry was based on the convenience of the original show’s location.

So at the February Board meeting, the Staff requested and the Board approved a moratorium on the approval of new licensed clubs and additional show applications. This provided Staff with the time to drill down and look at this issue to determine the facts and to recommend workable solutions that, going forward, would improve the situation without making matters worse by implementing a change that contained unintended negative consequences. During the following months, a number of data points were analyzed and Staff’s conclusions were shared with the Board.

I would also like to point out that we were pursuing a parallel course regarding entry questions. Obviously an increase in entries in general has always been one of our goals, and Staff, working with the cooperation of the Board, had already begun to introduce new initiatives to help our clubs and enhance the dog show experience.

Some examples the Grand Champion Title, the four to six month puppy class, the Open Show Concept and the owner/handler Series. All of these initiatives have now been implemented or will go live in the coming year.

But specific to the question of too many shows, Charlie and I will now talk about some interesting learning that came out of research and helped to form our decisions. Following that, Robin Stansell will talk about the recommendations for change that were brought to the Board, which, by the way, led to a lifting of the moratorium at the November Board meeting.

Charlie, what do you have for us?

Chief Information Officer Charles Kneifel spoke as follows:

Preliminary data was presented to the Board in May of 2011 and the Board came back with a series of questions. They wanted us to mine the database to look at what’s happened in the past to help us understand how to prepare for the future. Specific questions that were asked do exhibitors move to other events when a club changes their date or ceases holding events altogether? How do events more than 200 miles away impact a club’s entry? How do specialty events impact entries both standalone specialties, designated specialties and conflicting specialties where the breed is not allowed to compete in the nearby all breed show? How do these effects vary by where you are in the country? How did we analyze this? We went through a systematic approach, harvesting the data in our databases, to look at events that had changed their dates, changed their cluster, ceased holding events, changed their sites, added specialties or group clubs as part of their cluster, removed specialties or group clubs, had other clubs change to their weekend. We looked at those both on a national and a regional trend.

So we looked at events just outside the 200 mile excluded zone, 400 to 500, up to 750 miles, and then compared those to national trends on the same weekend across all breed clubs. We sliced and diced our way through the data. We spent many hours educating the Board in the May, July and August Board meeting.

We created maps to help visualize how things work. We looked at entry trends across multiple events, multiple weekends, with and without all the different add ons. We looked at stickiness of the exhibitors to a club when the club changed its show date. When a club changed its show date, where did the exhibitors go?

80 percent of the exhibitors are within 200 miles of the event. We saw that the median distance traveled to the event was less than 200 miles. That distance was lower in the Northeast than it was out in Utah or North Dakota or other places where are fewer clubs.

What did we learn? As we’ve heard before, location is important. All dog shows are local.

We looked at events that are increasing year to year and found that accessibility and quality of the site were very important.

What did we learn about competing events that are held on the same weekend?

Everybody had assumed, if you had a new show that was only 200, 300, or 400 miles away, it would attract exhibitors away from the established shows. We found that competing events are not as important as originally thought. A new event can occur, but it takes several years for a new event to take hold and that’s another takeaway we kept coming back to.

New events do have an impact, but it’s not a migration of exhibitors to the new event.

Our research found that clubs that stopped holding events or changed their dates did not have a significant effect on nearby clubs. If I had an event that was in competition with you and I ceased holding that event, the exhibitors at my event did not migrate to your event.

What did we learn about specialties?

Specialties are very important for supporting entries at all breed events. Both designated specialties and specialties held in conjunction with an all breed event (and also now with concurrent specialties) are great ways to improve the overall entries at an all breed show.

Conflicting specialties those that block the entry of that breed at nearby all-breed shows, have a negative impact on the all breed entries, so there is data that shows that those dogs who competed on Saturday at the specialty are going to be at the all breed show on Sunday.

What about exhibitors? Exhibitors stick to a club and have a preferred region. I prefer to stay in my region. I’ll go 200 miles, 250 miles to a show, but I’m going to be constrained by geography and access to interstates.

Can entries grow? We looked at events that
have had growth in their entries over multiple years. Events that had increases were those that had good sites, had good partnerships with local specialty clubs or group clubs and anecdotally were exhibitor friendly sites and clubs.

What other event elements help events grow? Events that do not change their dates on a regular basis have much more stable trends in their entries than those that change their date or site. If you change your site or change your date, you have an impact on your entries for at least three years.

At this point, I’m ready to turn it over to Robin, but I’m going to be clicking for him. So if there are any problems with the slides being out of sync, it’s my fault.

Vice President Show Events Robin Stansell spoke as follows:

Thank you, Charley. Are there too many dog shows? The answer is: It depends. In densely populated areas, there are too many shows, while other areas are underserved. There’s no simple solution to this question.

The Board established a moratorium on the licensing of new clubs in order to avoid new shows contributing to the problem and for staff to collect data from the past events to analyze the problem.

The first limitation requires four open show weekends within the division. Why do we do that? Because when there are fewer than four open weekends, there are sufficient shows to satisfy the needs of the exhibitors. Divisions without open weekends have no flexibility to change dates or temporary changes, such as a loss of venue or any other interruption to their normal show schedule. The 300 mile restriction will reduce the opportunity for competing events even across division boundaries.

New all breed clubs are encouraged to invite specialties or group clubs to join their cluster. Why? Because specialties add entries to all breed shows. By clustering with existing show weekends, group shows do not block available all-breed show dates.

Group clubs were approved with limitations as well. Why? Group clubs serve the needs of a specific group within a geographic area. Group clubs can increase entries for clusters; and, again, they won’t block the date for all breed shows if held with existing shows or clusters.

Specialty clubs were also approved with limitations. Specialty clubs serve the need for specific breeds, generate interest in that specific breed, and, again, they’re probably one of the best ways for an all breed show to increase entries. And by clustering with an all breed show, it’s not a competing event.

Certainly a specialty can coexist, as in the case of a national specialty, or, if they own the date first, the all breed club has to exclude that breed. With new clubs, we’re not going to permit that. New clubs will have to be in conjunction with other shows.

The recently approved concurrent specialties present additional opportunities for all breed shows to cooperate with the specialties and both will increase their entries.

As John mentioned, difficulty in locating majors is one reason for complaints. We must first understand the divisions. Divisions are a grouping of adjacent states that share the same schedule. However, there are exceptions.

Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico are comprised of single states because of their geographic location.

The schedule of points is based on the previous year’s entry in each division. Because of this, the schedule of points lags behind what’s actually happening. So when entries are decreasing, your schedule of points is based on up until last year the previous three year average. So it was always a little higher than it should’ve been since the entries were decreasing.

Previously the computations included a three year average and, in 2010, the Board changed to a one year consideration period. That makes the entries of the requirements spike up and down more quickly. But at a time of decreasing entries, it makes it a better opportunity to gain those majors.

Previous computations excluded only national specialties. This was changed to exclude all parent club specialties. Even designated specialties by the parent club won’t be included in that computation.

And, finally, local all breed shows held three days prior the AKC National Champion Show, such as the past three days, are also excluded because it provides undue entry in that particular division. Finally, the divisions were realigned based on the data collected in order to minimize the difference between entries in the states within each division. This allows a more equitable opportunity for majors within each division.

You’ll see that Division 13, we stretched that as far as we could to include New Mexico with the other low states. We’re calling that a contiguous state, even although it’s only touching the corner.

Event operations and judging operations worked together to develop the Grand Championship Program that’s generated $3 million of revenue for clubs because of increases of entry in the Best of Breed competition. The Grand Champion Program also provides an opportunity for a broad variety of champions to continue to exhibit.

This includes veterans as well as exhibitors that only show locally.

The bronze, silver and platinum achievement medals Ron mentioned were introduced to recognize dogs that continue to be competitive beyond achieving the Grand Championship level. We’d like you to visit the AKC booth this weekend to see charm bracelet replicas of these medals that are now being offered for sale at a reasonable price, I might add.

Events introduced the four to six month beginner puppy competition increase entries, attract new exhibitors, socialize puppies with introduction to AKC Conformation games. On average, clubs that offered this special attraction enjoyed a five percent increase in entries of these puppies. Many of these were first time exhibitors and potential new club members.

The Open Show is an upgrade from the currently approved Sanctioned Match and is more receptive to exhibitors, FSS and miscellaneous breeds. An electronic invitation to new owners was sent from AKC informing them of the educational training opportunities in both the four to six month puppy and the open show. It should be noted that no champions or professional handlers are permitted in these events. It’s truly targeting the new exhibitors. Both of these special attractions are approved to become AKC sanctioned events in July 2012 and to offer a beginner’s title. That’s the Certificate of Merit that’s currently being offered to competitors in the miscellaneous class.

Charley will have an electronic tool to work with clubs to submit results online in order
Mr. Sprung introduced Marketing and Communications Director, Sharon Sharo who spoke as follows:

Thank you, Dennis. I’m very excited to be here today to present to you and give you an update on the Breeder of Merit program. As John Lyons knows, since I joined the marketing department in January, I kept coming up with proposals and ideas that would bring me to a national show and I finally got to come, so I’m very excited because I’ve never attended one. I’m really excited about this opportunity.

As Dennis mentioned, I work with Lisa Gonzalez. My main area of responsibility is in marketing efforts for the fancy. I’ve done a lot of learning since I joined the AKC. I wanted to take a moment to share a story with you. It happened on the way to the show. I believe in my heart that dogs create a special connection between people and other animals and just with everything about them. As I was waiting in the area to get before I got on Board, I noticed a young man who was part of our military sitting by himself. So I sat beside him and we started talking. After we commiserated about (inaudible) on Southwest, he started telling me about himself.

He was young. He was just getting done with his training. He was headed home for the first time for the holidays headed back to Arizona. He was really excited to get back. He started to tell me about when he gets done with his furlough that he’ll be going to Afghanistan. I said, “Oh, gosh, that must be very scary for you.” I could tell he was kind of nervous about it, of course. He told me he was a paratrooper. He said, “You know, I’m scared and I’m nervous to do this, but the one thing that makes me feel safe is my dog.” Here he’s a paratrooper. He has a military dog that’s his responsibility that he takes into battle with him. He said that makes him feel safe. It kind of really touched me.

Also, when I got it didn’t end there either. When I got to the lobby of the hotel I used to travel about 75 percent of the time in my old job. Never have I traveled and gone into a lobby of hotel where just this energy and the dogs were everywhere these gorgeous dogs every breed. People were really engaged with each other. People that even weren’t involved with the dog show were talking and walking up to dogs. And just this energy was unbelievable. It was kind of addicting. I think that’s the special thing about dogs that really impact all of us. That’s why I’m really excited to be part of the marketing team with this.

I want to just take a minute and share with you. My first AKC purebred dog was an Airedale. How many of you have ever had an Airedale in your life? They’re fantastic dogs. I have to say that I went into owning an Airedale I was pretty naive about the process. Let me tell you. The Airedales are very true to their breed, I learned very quickly. But I was very fortunate in finding an AKC breeder who I bought my puppy off of and they educated my husband and I on what an Airedale is all about, how to successfully raise an Airedale in a household without destroying everything. They’re just huge personalities and we learned that very quickly and made it very successful. The breeder very much partnered with us on making sure that it was a successful transition into our family. It was a wonderful, wonderful experience.

Now I have a new best friend, who is an AKC registered greyhound, a retired racer. She too is very true to her breed. I found out that you can’t raise your voice to a greyhound. They’re very sensitive. We don’t do that. She’s a wonderful member of our family. I just have to tell you a quick story. We moved into a new house about four years ago. I noticed our neighbors they have these little white Fox Terriers. Every time they came out, the terriers had those lampshade things on their heads. I thought, “Oh, my gosh, they have some skin disorder.” This went on for a couple years that I noticed it.

So, finally, we were over at their house and I said, “I feel really bad about their skin disorder. That must be hard to handle.” They said they make them wear those because they were afraid they would go through the fence and my greyhound would chase them. This went on for two years and we had no clue. They ended up taking them off after that. I didn’t know they thought my dog was a threat.

I didn’t want to bring pictures of my family, but I have a red headed nine year old too at the house.

My purpose is to bring you up to speed on what’s happening and how the program has evolved since last October. As you remember I think Lisa talked about that this program was developed because AKC wanted to figure
out how we can recognize the leaders in the dog community, as well the distinguished, accomplished dog breeders. So we wanted to figure out how to acknowledge them. So this is really a program that recognizes the special individuals.

How many in the audience are breeders? Wow. That’s unbelievable. That’s great. I saw a lot of hands.

I could not have walked into a better position when I joined the AKC because in fact, I felt as a marketing person, I felt like I won the lottery. This idea was already developed by Staff Mari Beth O’Neill, (inaudible) David Roberts Charlie played a big role John Lyons supported this program. It was really their brainchild. I was able to come in and help with the marketing efforts to kind of ramp up the volume on the program.

I actually note here that this refers to the program as the heart of the AKC. So all the individuals and participants in the program, that’s how we like to think of them that they’re the heart of the AKC.

In fact, we’ve done market research. And the breeders and dog owners they have actually verbalized they said, “This program, as you describe it, I would look to those individuals in this program as the core the folks who are really the heart of AKC.” So they really played that back to us.

Just to give you the sense of the caliber of this program the Board members, the Delegates, Breeder of the Year recipients and nominees, National Championships across all the events, conformation, performance and companion events over 500 plus individuals in it are licensed officers are the officers of licensed clubs. We have nationally recognized medical experts, breeders, judges and handlers as part of the program. So we are in a very honored group as far as that.

Since we started the program last October, the enrollment has been significant. As you can see, we’re up to over 7,100 participants in the program. This has resulted in a 21 percent increase in dog registrations. So this core group has really led the way and provided leadership as it relates to dog registrations.

Why is that important? Because this increases support for events such as this, canine legislation, health research and search and rescue and a multitude of other things that the registration dollars support.

I just want to highlight some of the benefits of the program. Do you see the pin in the corner there? This is in addition to some personalized service. We have a special services team headed by David Roberts and Mari Beth O’Neill, who provide personal support to Breeders of Merit. They call in on a special number. They can also email and be provided special support.

We also have customized web banners for them for breeders to use on their websites. You get a Certificate of Distinction with your designation as a Breeder of Merit. You also have all of the Breeder of Merit designation as part of its showcased on your registrations and certificates and dog applications.

Also, there’s a free online breeder classifieds, and you can see the designation as circled there. The Breeders of Merit who have dogs that are advertised in the classifieds, they go kind of to the top of the list within that breed. So that’s really a nice benefit as well.

Also, a $20 credit every month for reports on My AKC. The special services group can help anyone who’s a Breeder of Merit to use those credits.

The Inner Circle is a newsletter that’s just dedicated to the Breeders of Merit in the program. And so we wanted to provide a way to recognize the Breeders of Merit and get everyone kind of familiar with everyone in the group. There’s some special parts of the newsletter I want to highlight. One is the Breeder’s Notebook. This is really some tips and advice that are coming from the 2011 Breeder of the Year honorees. It’s a series that happens every month covering a variety of topics. It’s been very well received. You can see all the individuals. I think you know all the individuals who are the nominees for this year.

We also provide additional breeder recognition. We sent out a request for folks to submit pictures of their dogs and puppies. Within like an hour, we had over 200 pictures. The pictures were fantastic. It was just wonderful. Even, as you can see in the banner of The Inner Circle, we use pictures that people send to us of their dogs and litters. We change it every month. We can kind of highlight some of those pictures. We have a puppy gallery. We’ve had that a number of times in the newsletters.

We also have a series of special interviews, exclusive interviews with some really highly recognized breeders. We also want to recognize breeders as well in In the Ring With. We do an interview with In the Ring With. You can see a number of individuals we have highlighted so far.

We also have appreciation gifts. Now we have an exclusive Breeder of Merit stationery set that is available. And the new puppy folders, which haven’t quite launched yet, but I wanted to show it to you. It should be out in the next month. It highlights to your puppy buyers that you’re a Breeder of Merit. The one thing that I think is more exciting there’s a letter on the inside to the puppy buyer saying, “This puppy was bred by a Breeder of Merit.” Here’s why that’s important. It really highlights the distinguished credibility of the breeder. It highlights that so the puppy buyer understands what that means.

And we have special announcements that come out regarding events or other offers. And I want to give a sneak preview of what you’re going to see in the show. This is the first time that a Breeder of Merit has a presence at the show. We have a booth, and I’ll be at the booth, along with (inaudible.) You’ll see these displays around and we’ll have posters of all the different events across the show. So come to the table and see us. We’ll be taking applications. There’s also a raffle for all Breeders of Merit. You can fill out a survey. Of course, we want information. And then you’ll enter a raffle. You can get some Breeder of Merit items.

And this you’ll see in the show ring. We really want to make this visible, so we’ll be in the show ring with Breeder of Merit pins. We wanted to make sure there was a presence in the Breeder Best in Show.

We also are handing out banners or pennants. These are like 11 by 17. They’re fairly large. We wanted breeders to be able to distinguish themselves within the groomers, parades or whatever. So we’re handing these out at the booth for Breeders of Merit who are participating in the show.

And club outreach this is a really important thing that’s coming up starting in January. First off, understanding that there’s over 500 plus officers that are Breeders of Merit in the clubs. We know that clubs have the most accomplished breeders in the sport. We wanted to kind of acknowledge some more of
some of the presentations is not necessarily new to you – the good use of information. Going out in the marketplace, gathering data, and then utilizing that information to further the AKC’s cause. We saw that in John’s presentation, Robin’s presentation, and Sharon’s presentation — how we are using what we’re learning from every one of our customers and also from our potential customers. We did some research with a group we really haven’t spent much time talking to. We wanted to learn and hear from them and understand how the AKC fits into their lives. That group is basically our puppy buyers who do not exhibit. We wanted to talk to the general public who own purebred dogs to understand how they feel about the American Kennel Club.

It was a fascinating piece of research. We learned a lot and it’s helping us understand how to activate that potential customer base to generate some additional revenue. Here’s some good news: they have an incredible amount of respect for the American Kennel Club. They really do. They think we are experts in our field. The opportunity is this: while they think we are experts, they’re not too sure we’re very relevant to their lives. We’re good at what we do – putting on dog events. But they say – “That’s very nice, but I don’t participate in any of your events. I just love my dog.”

We did some further research and found that there are things that we can provide for them that they’re going to love and they will actually support financially. Things like training for one.

Getting a little closer to that customer, we wanted to understand how we can resonate just a little better with them and go from not just respect, but go to being liked by these people — even though do not currently participate in our events.

As we pursued that, we learned that there’s one thing happening between Americans and dogs today that I’m sure is of no surprise to anybody in this room – people love to rescue dogs and they honor the people who rescue dogs. To them, it’s one of the most noble of things you can do.

There’s a little bit of disconnect here because, when we talk to them about the American Kennel Club – “oh, you’re about purebred dogs, you’re about breeders, right? You are about dog shows, right?” That was it. Nobody knew that we’ve ever rescued a dog. The general dog-owning public believes HSUS rescues dogs, but they don’t think we rescue dogs. But they don’t and we do. Here’s an interesting fact. Because of the good work of all of our parent clubs, we are actually – as the American Kennel Club through our parent clubs – the largest rescue network in America and nobody knows that. So we’re going to start telling everyone.

Lee and I had a conversation in the boardroom about this. We can’t spend any money, but we want to do something. We decided to create a PSA public service announcement, which you basically get aired on radio for free. Then what we had to do was get it produced for free. So we made a little pact. I said that I would write the commercial and all we had to do then was find a great voice. Fortunately, our resident radio voice expert is right here. So Lee, tell them what we did.

Mr. Arnold: Alan had the message. We needed a voice. But we needed a voice that was recognizable, that was highly identifiable. On television, when you have sports people that are the spokesperson, you see the face, you hear the voice, you see it. On radio, you have to know immediately who that voice is.

So when AI and I discussed the project, the first thing that came to my mind my background is country music basically my whole career with artists, managers, publicists and songwriters I said, “Who would be the perfect person who can be identified to the entire world, whose name is instantly recognizable and his voice is also instantly recognizable?” The first thing that popped in my mind was Willie Nelson.

So I called Willie’s manager, who’s also a good friend, and I said, “I have a very interesting proposition for Willie. When can we get together?” He said, “It’s funny you called, because I was going to call you today. You’re on my list.” He said, “Willie is being honored with a big industry lifetime achievement award in Nashville in two weeks. We would love for you to say a few words about Willie when he’s presented the award.” He said, “You’ll have the great opportunity to sit at his table and pitch your idea.” I said, “Okay.”

So we went, we had the dinner, I talked to...
Willie about our rescue program, what we had in mind, how he would be perfect for this. I said, “Can I lean on you to do it?” He said, “Lee, I’m in.”

So fast forward a couple months ago, we sat in his bus, we recorded a 60 second PSA spot for the American Kennel Club.

(The audio played as follows:)

Hi, this is Willie Nelson. These days we all know people all around us that are having some hard times losing a job, losing a home. And we hear about how many have to move just to look for work, certain to lose their home. For many, they’re also losing a beloved family member, a pet, their dog. These dogs don’t understand what’s happening to them. Fortunately, there are wonderful people who do the people and rescue clubs of the American Kennel Club, the largest network of rescue groups and volunteers throughout America. And they rescue all kind of dogs, not just purebreds. These are good people, and the AKC finds forever homes for all kinds of breeds and it gives people one less thing to worry about, knowing that their pets are going to a caring home. It’s a little piece of mind that goes a long way for dog lovers.

To find out more, go to www.akc.org/rescue-groups

No matter how hard times get, remember how good dogs make us feel. They love us rich or poor. Let’s return that love by making sure they have a place to stay forever. This is Willie Nelson. Thank you, AKC.

Mr. Arnold: There’s more. Let me finish. Since I had him on the bus, I said, “Wait a minute. There’s another great message we have at The American Kennel Club. What about the American Kennel Club’s Canine Health Foundation, the wonderful work we do in research.” Willie and I had a conversation about that. I said, “Willie, are you up for it?” He says, “Yeah. That’s incredible. Let’s do it.”

(The audio played as follows:)

Hi. This is Willie Nelson. Do you want your dog to live a long, healthy life? Together we can make that happen. Over 4 million dogs are diagnosed with cancer each year. Through groundbreaking research, The AKC Canine Health Foundation is finding ways to prevent, treat and cure canine diseases like cancer, epilepsy and heart and eye disease. This is Willie Nelson. For more information, visit the AKC Canine Health Foundation website at www.akcchf.org.

Mr. Arnold: The cost is zero. The result, I think, is priceless. By the way, stay tuned. There’s more to come. Thank you.

The Delegates considered the proposed amendment to Chapter 7, Section 1 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which would eliminate the prohibition of a person connected with dog food, dog remedy or kennel supply companies in the capacity of solicitor or salesman, from becoming an AKC judge.

The proposal was read at the September 2011 meeting. It was published in two issues of the Gazette. The proposed amendment was brought forward by the Colorado Springs Kennel Club and was not approved by the Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Sidney Marx, Delegate for the Colorado Springs Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Good morning, Delegates, and Happy Holidays. Since I first brought this proposal on behalf of the Colorado Springs Kennel Club, I have received many emails and phone calls in support of it, understanding that this is an archaic rule that needs to be changed.

However, there seems to be a need to simplify it. And for that reason, I want to amend my proposal. All I want to do is take out the words “connected with” and change it to “employed by.” Our goal in this is very simply that we feel that those good breeders and exhibitors who may have a retail booth at a show, who may sell some dog food retail, should be allowed the same opportunity to apply to judge as everybody else. We just want to eliminate that problem.

So at this point, all I want to do is change “connected with” to “employed by.”

Mr. Sprung: What we have now is a proposed amendment that would be within the scope. We want to retain the current sentence changing the words “connected with” to “employed by.” Is there a second? (Response in the positive.)

The amendment to the proposed amendment was adopted.

The Delegates voted on the original amendment as amended, which now had the words “employed by” added.

There were not two thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was not adopted.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, new sixth paragraph, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows which would create a new three point major for the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch at one national speciality each year, provided the number of dogs competing in the Reserve Winners sex qualifies for a five point major, specified by the AKC Breed Parent Club.

This amendment was brought forward by the Progressive Dog Club and the AKC Board of Directors has not made a recommendation. It will be published in two issue of AKC Gazette and voted on at the March 2012 meeting.

Editor’s note: The proposed amendment, which actually requires that there be at least twice the number required for a five-point major follows:

R U L E S  A P P L Y I N G  T O  D O G  S H O W S

C H A P T E R  1 6,  S E C T I O N  1

N E W  S I X T H  P A R A G R A P H

Section 1. At one National Specialty each year, specified by the AKC Breed Parent Specialty Club at the time the event application is submitted to AKC, the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch will be awarded a three-point major, provided that the number of dogs competing in the regular classes of the reserve Winner’s sex totals at least twice the number required for a five point major, in the region in which the event is held.

There were no questions on the proposed amendment.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 1, Section 3, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Shows Defined which would remove Section 3, with all references to shows restricted to previously placed dogs and puppies, with remaining sections renumbered to reflect this deletion.

This amendment was brought forward by the
Delegates’ Quarterly Meeting

Dog Show Rules Committee and is approved by the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on at the March 2012 meeting. There were no questions on the proposed amendment.

The Executive Secretary gave an overview on the amendments pertaining to the Group Realignment as follows:

The effect of the amendments will be to increase the number of variety groups at an all breed show from seven to eleven. The changes include splitting the Sporting Group into two groups, the Hound Group into two groups, and the Working Group into three groups. The full list of the proposed groups are included on the worksheet previously distributed and is on the Portal. You will be asked to vote on increasing the number of groups as well as the name of these groups. The actual assignment of breed groups will be made by the AKC Board, considering the recommendations of the Realignment Committee and all pertinent input from the breed Parent Clubs.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 6, Section 3, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Premium Lists and Closing Entries, which would remove all references to seven groups and eliminate a specific number. This amendment was brought forward by the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on at the March 2012 meeting.

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

I think I know the answer, but I would like the answer in the record. I’d like a clarification because all of these amendments regarding realignment have come from the Realignment Committee. Our bylaws do not allow an ad hoc committee to bring forth an amendment, only a standing committee. I presume this is really a Board proposal. Could we have clarification on that?

Mr. Crowley: Correct. That was my misstatement. The Realignment Committee was a Board appointed committee that made the recommendations to the Board. It was actually the Board that adopted the proposed recommendations to the changes, so it’s from the Board of Directors.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 1, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Dog Show Classifications, which would increase the number of groups from seven to eleven. This amendment is made by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on at the March 2012 meeting.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 15 20, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Dog Show Classifications, which would remove all references to seven groups and eliminate a specific number. The Delegates must still approve any increase in the number of groups listed in Chapter 3, Section 1, so that all of the references to a number are unnecessary. This amendment was made by the Board of Directors and will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on at the March 2012 meeting.

The Chair recognized Gretchen Bernardi, Delegate for the Mississippi Valley Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

This is a request, not a question. As a result of discussions held at the Parent Club Committee meeting, we understand the role and responsibility of the Board to assign the breeds to a group. We request that the breeds assigned to each group, which would be approved by the Board, be made public to all of us so we can contact our clubs to be able to do a more knowledgeable vote at the time of the March meeting. Thank you.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 2 of the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline Registrable Breeds by Group, which would increase the number of groups from seven to eleven. This amendment was adopted by the Board of Directors and will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on at the March 2012 meeting.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 9, new Section 8 of the Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two Couple Pack Hunting Tests Entry Requirements and Eligibility, which would describe the requirements to earn a Grand Field Champion title and provide an explanation that no new title certificate will be issued unless ordered by the owner.

This amendment was brought forward by the Beagle Field Trial Advisory Committee and is adopted by the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on it at the March 2012 meeting.

John Lyons announced the fourth quarter AKC Community Achievement Awards and a Walter Bebout Award for Excellence in Canine Legislation, and spoke as follows:

The fourth quarter Community Achievement Awards 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 on the AKC website.

The special fourth quarter RDO day honorees are: Savannah Kennel Club, Concho Kennel Club and Council Bluffs Kennel Club, with honorable mentions for Northeastern Indiana Kennel Club, Trapp Falls Kennel Club and Collie Club of Maine.

Please join me in congratulating these honorees. We are pleased to announce that the recipient of this quarter’s Walter Bebout Memorial Award for Leadership in Canine Legislation. The Bebout Award recognizes federations and organizations that have demonstrated leadership in preserving the rights of responsible dog owners and breeders in their community. Winners receive a $1,000 check to help offset the costs associated with their legislative efforts.

This quarter’s Walter Bebout Award for Excellence in Canine Legislation goes to the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs. Please join me in congratulating this federation. The President reported that the annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, at the Sheraton Newark Airport Hotel. The March meeting will be the annual election of the Directors for the Class of 2016. We will be emailing hotel information and also placing it on the Delegates Portal.
The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

David Hopkins, Delegate for the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois, spoke on behalf of the Coordinating Committee, confirming to the Delegate body that the formal letters from The Bylaws Committee and the Coordinating Committee calling for amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rule to reinstate liaisons had been given to Ron Menaker. Unless an agreed-upon resolution is achieved, it will be resolved by the vote of the Delegate body at a future meeting.

He indicated that all other committee chairs joined him in feeling that the door is wide open to explore whether we can deal with this impasse and achieve an agreed upon result.

Carl Ashby, Delegate for the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, spoke as follows: I’m speaking today on behalf of the PAC Committee and also the Legislative Support Fund.

I want to talk about one thing I ran across in our local paper, interestingly called Your Business. It is our business because we had a picture of a billboard out in Los Angeles that’s been put up by the ASPCA talking about “adopt, don’t shop.” Of course, it talks about what they define as puppy mills, but they’re really saying “Don’t ever buy a puppy. Adopt a puppy.”

We also heard today a lot about what AKC’s Public Relations; is doing. There’s also another group that’s supporting their efforts in a very tangible way that you can help. Aside from the fact that you work very diligently in your local clubs, you also have the opportunity to financially support us. There’s two different ways.

Number one, of course, is the PAC. The AKC PAC is not large. The important part is it’s going to take a lot of money to make a real difference here. $500 well spent gets you a lot of access, particularly at the state level. All the members of your club have the opportunity to consider a PAC when considering your year end giving.

I hope you’ll take that message back. I hope you independently will decide to support our PAC. All our Board of Directors and our key Staff have all stepped up and I hope you will consider stepping up before the end of the year. Sheila will be here tomorrow. Be sure to stop by Government relations and do that. But that’s not all. The Canine Legislative Support Fund, which is an adjunct, anyone can give to. That means your clubs can give to it. That’s important, because all the clubs, depending upon the club, do have assets and maybe (unaudible) simply don’t have available to donate.

So how would that money be used? Facilitation and training. Many of the things that were talked about today are a direct result of your generosity in the past of the Canine Legislative Support Fund. I hope you also consider supporting that. I especially hope your club will as an entity because it can. The club can’t give to PAC. The club can give to Canine Legislative Support Fund.

But what’s in it for you? Oh, the raffle the Westminster raffle is $25. You get there and we’ll take care of you wonderfully through the generosity of a lot of donors. You get nights in a hotel, you get tickets, you get a box. You’re set. So I do hope you’ll do that. Five for $100, one for $25, two for $50. You do the math. This is a great opportunity to support the Legislative Support Fund and have the opportunity. There’s 1,000 of them, so you have a one in 1,000 chance. You buy five, you have a much better chance. You buy 100 you’ve got a one in ten chance.

So we really are asking you all for support on behalf of the Canine Legislative Support Fund. We will be available today and tomorrow. Thanks for your past support. We appreciate it.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for the information on those good causes.

Dr. Robert Brown, Delegate for the Great Pyrenees Club of America, spoke as follows. The Board of Directors of the Great Pyrenees Club of America has asked me to record this club’s board’s very staunch opposition to the new concept of Parent Clubs paying for reports of the awards that dogs receive in their breed. With the AKC’s stated objective to advance the study, breeding, exhibiting, running and maintenance of purebred dogs, it would seem that they are at odds with their mission statement and objectives when they force Parent Clubs to pay for that information. The Parent Clubs need this information to help fulfill their own mission statement. Transferring data from one type of database to another that’s already in use, it would seem that this would fall in the business practices of AKC and should not need to be passed on to the Parent Clubs. The concept also would appear, at least on first blush, to maybe be hastily thought out. I don’t believe that you can look at all of the parent clubs and say one size fits all. Thank you.

Sharyn Y. Hutchens, Delegate for the Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, spoke as follows:

I just got lucky because somebody else took a lot of what I was going to say about the AKC PAC. I was talking to a source who shall remain nameless at AKC, who told me the PAC was established several years ago and the results have been fairly abysmal. We have not been supporting it. The animal rights community supports candidates with hundreds of thousands of dollars. We had about 35,000 last year to distribute and that is pathetic.

Our club had a Christmas party a few weeks ago. We talked about it and we collected five bucks from every single person there. If every person in every club in this country would contribute $5, we would have $750,000 and that makes a difference.

In this envelope, I have $295 from our club members that were people who weren’t there, but some people donated $10 to cover for them. I’d like to challenge every club in this country to come up with $5 a member. The club can’t donate, but the members can. You can cover for those members that never show up. I am told that you’ll get a certificate if your club reaches 100 percent and that donors get bumper stickers.

Peter Piusz, Delegate for American Rottweiler Club, spoke in favor of allowing the major for Reserve Winners at National Specialties with the entity of more than twice the five points required.

Marge Calltharp, Delegate for the Chinese Shar Pei Club of America, spoke at length on the club’s desire to remain in the Non-Sporting group.

Dr. Davies: As Mr. Crowley indicated in his
initial comments on this topic, the Board of Directors will be handling that particular aspect of the change should it come to pass. I think it’s very nice that you shared it with us. Would you please make sure that Mr. Crowley has that information?

Gloria Marshall, Delegate for the Bayshore Companion Dog Club, wanted to publicly say how much she appreciated having the opportunity to bring the DVD back to her club so she can show them what she had been telling them about the great job the AKC does.

Sherry Wallis, Delegate for the Akita Club of America, spoke against the additional registration fee for co-owners, particularly for Breeders of Merit who use it to mentor new people in their breed.

Blackie Nygood, Delegate for the Mispillion Kennel Club, indicated there have been a lot of requests, particularly from older people to have a hard copy of Perspectives for which they will pay. She also asked if there will be another printed Delegate Directory.

Carol Williamson, Delegate for the Houston Kennel Club also referenced requests from people for Perspectives to be provided in a printed form.

Since the publication has been distributed at this point, they have become aware of some other issues that they are investigating and she would be studying the research and there would then be further discussion. She asked that those needing a printed copy to please try to contact her following the meeting.

She reported that Sylvia Thomas would be coordinating the next issue. Her email address is in the last issue of Perspectives. She told the Delegates that if they had trouble downloading that issue, they could contact her or Sylvia directly.

Glenda Stephenson, Delegate from Space Coast Kennel Club, thanked AKC for making them a part of the AKC Eukanuba National Championship Weekend.

Ms. Laurans thanked Ron Menaker for paying attention and Paula Spector for getting on the job, and providing buses for a continuous loop between hotels and the show.

Cledith Wakefield, Delegate for the Jefferson County Kennel Club of Missouri, wanted to make note that the City of St. Louis and its Missouri region lost a wonderful dog person in September, esteemed judge, longtime Poodle and Miniature Pinscher judge, Bob Stern, who judged the Toy Group. They lost him from their Gateway cluster and it will be a big miss for them. She said he would be sorely missed by the fancy and indicated that cards or letters to his wife Alice would be appreciated.

(The meeting concluded at 12:55 p.m.)

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

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Sheraton Newark Airport Hotel on Tuesday, March 12, 2012, beginning at 9:00 am.

Membership Application

Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Delegates Credentials

Bo N. Bengston, Ojai, CA, American Whippet Club
Sally A. Birgal, Kempton, PA, Berks County Kennel Club
Anne H. Boves, Duxbury, MA, Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America
Ann Mariah Cook, Jefferson, NH, Siberian Husky Club of America
Daniel R. Cunningham, Minoa, NY, Onondaga Kennel Association
Deidre E. Gannon, Oaklyn, NJ, German Pinscher Club of America
Homer Russell Hastings III, Westfield, PA, Elmar Kennel Club
Charles D. Kerfoot, Vinton, VA, Roanoke Kennel Club
Bonnie Lane, Comack, NY, Riverhead Kennel Club
Ann Letts, Staten Island, NY, Grand River Kennel Club
Patricia Peel, Lennon, MI, Alaskan Malamute Club of America
JD Rowell, Highland Park, TX, Trinity Valley Kennel Club
Gary Sarvinas, Catonsville, MD, Maryland Kennel Club
Lynn W. Schmitt, Aptos, CA, Monterey Bay Dog Training Club

Notice

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual’s suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Mrs. Zee Dasilva (Choctaw, OK)
Mrs. Patti Maca (Wildwood, MO)

Notice

Mrs. Sabrina Novarra (Rochester, WA) Action was taken by Gig Harbor Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its September 25, 2011 event. Specifically, Mrs. Novarra was charged with inappropriate public criticism of a judge, not disruptive, but demonstrating a lack of sportsmanship. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report, found it in order and set the penalty at a one month event suspension and a $200 fine, effective November 2, 2011. (Tibetan Mastiff)

Notice

Mr. Garry Town (Lacona, NY) Action was taken by the Basset Hound Club of America for conduct in connection with its October 4, 2011 event. Mr. Towne was charged with neglect at or in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report, found it to be in order and set the penalty at a three month event suspension and a $500 fine, effective October 4, 2011. (Basset Hound)

Notice

Mrs. Dawn Towne (Lacona, NY) Action was taken by the Basset Hound Club of America for conduct in connection with its October 4, 2011 event. Mrs. Towne was charged with neglect at or in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report, found it to be in order and set the penalty at a three month event suspension and a $500 fine, effective October 4, 2011. (Basset Hound)

Notice

Mr. Robert Portnoy (Atlanta, GA) Action was taken by the Newman Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its October 23, 2011 event. Mr. Portnoy was charged with abusive or foul language/verbal altercation. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the report and set the penalty at a reprimand and $100 fine. (Golden Retriever)

Notice

Mrs. Kim Leblanc (Ontario, Canada) Action
was taken by the Siberian Husky Club of America for conduct in connection with its October 25, 2011 event. Mrs. Leblanc was charged with disregard of published club regulations. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the report and set the penalty at a reprimand and $100 fine. (Siberian Husky)

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, (New Sixth Paragraph), of the Rules Applying to Dog Show, to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 16

SECTION 1, (new sixth paragraph).

At one National Specialty each year, specified by the AKC Breed Parent Specialty Club at the time the event application is submitted to AKC, the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch will be awarded a three-point major, provided that the number of dogs competing in the regular classes of the reserve Winner’s sex totals at least twice the number required for a five point major, in the region in which the event is held.

In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld, shall not be included.

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendment to Chapter 1, Section 3, (deleted) of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Dog Shows Defined, to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 1

SECTION 3.

A member or licensed all-breed club may apply to The American Kennel Club for approval to hold a show at which championship points may be awarded with entries restricted to puppies that are eligible for entry in the regular puppy class and dogs that have been placed first, second or third in a regular class at a show at which championship points were awarded, provided the club submitting such an application has held at least one show annually for at least ten years immediately prior to the year in which application for a show so restricted is made, and further
provided that there shall not have been less than 900 dogs entered in its show (or in one of its shows if the club holds more than one show a year) in the year preceding the year in which application is made for its first show with entries so restricted.

When an application for this type of restricted entry show has been approved by The American Kennel Club the only dogs eligible for entry shall be puppies that are eligible for entry in the regular puppy class and those dogs that have been placed first, second or third in a regular class at a show at which championship points were awarded held not less than sixty days prior to the first day of the show at which entries will be so restricted.

However, a club making application to hold a show restricted to entries of dogs as specified above may further restrict entries by excluding all puppies or all puppies six months and under nine months and/or by excluding dogs that have placed third or dogs that have placed second and third, provided the extent of these further restrictions is specified on the application.

Any club whose application has been approved to hold a show with restricted entries as described in this section shall indicate the extent of the restrictions in its premium list.

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendments to Chapter 6, Section 3, of the Rules Applying to Dog Show - Premium Lists and Closing of Entries, Chapter 7, Section 13 & 19, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Judges, to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 7
SECTION 13. The maximum number of conformation entries assigned in the breed judging to any judge, in one day, shall never exceed 175 except that a judge of a specialty show may be assigned a maximum of 200 entries. If the specialty is held as part of an all-breed show, the increased limit will only apply if the judge is not assigned any other breed, a Group or Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.

If a show-giving club so elects, it may place a limit of its own choosing lower than any of the limits provided for in the rule notifying The American Kennel Club of its intention at the time the judging panel is submitted for approval. This limit will then govern the need for additional judges if, when the entries for the show have closed, any judge on the panel has drawn more dogs than the limit set by the club.

When the entries have closed, if the entry under any judge exceeds the above limits, the Event Committee must select some other judge or judges to whom sufficient breeds can be assigned, to bring the total assignment of every judge within and as close as possible to the limit without removing provisional breeds listed in the judge’s contract without the judge’s agreement. The removal of any breeds is to be discussed with the assigned judge. If a judge is assigned four or fewer breeds, the assignment shall be reduced first by reassigning to other judge sufficient classes from one breed to eliminate the overload, with any non-regular classes in that breed being the first removed. The same procedure shall then be followed for as many breeds as necessary until the overload is eliminated. This will apply whether or not the breed in question involves varieties.

Notice must be sent to the owner of each dog affected by such a change in judges at least five days before the opening of the show, and the owner has the right to withdraw his entry and have his entry fee refunded provided notification of his withdrawal is received no later than one half-hour prior to the start of any regular conformation judging at the show, by the Superintendent or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries.

SECTION 19. Only one judge shall officiate in each Group Class and only one judge shall select the Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.

The Board of Directors suggests that whenever possible the Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show be determined by one who has not already judged any breed or group class of said show.

Except in hardship cases, when an exception may be approved for a specific show, a judge will not be approved to judge a breed and, at the same show, the Variety Group of which the breed is a part and Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendments to Chapter 3, Section 1, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications, to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 3
SECTION 1
The following breeds and/or varieties of breeds, divided by groups, shall be all the breeds and/or varieties of breeds for which regular classes of The American Kennel Club may be provided at any show held under American Kennel Club rules. The Board of Directors may either add to, transfer from one group to another, or delete from said list of breeds and/or varieties of breeds, whenever in its opinion registrations of such breed and/or variety of breed in the Stud Book justify such action.

GROUP 1: SPORTING – POINTERS AND SETTERS

GROUP 2: SPORTING – RETRIEVERS AND SPANIELS

GROUP 3: SCENT HOUNDS

GROUP 4: SIGHT HOUNDS
GROUP 5: WORKING - UTILITY

GROUP 6: WORKING - MOLOSSER

GROUP 7: WORKING – SPITZ

GROUP 8: TERRIERS

GROUP 9: TOY

GROUP 10: NON-SPORTING

GROUP 11: HERDING

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendments to Chapter 3, Sections 15 – 20 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications; to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting

Chapter 15

SECTION 15. A club or association holding a show may give group classes not divided by sex, such groups to be arranged in same order and to comprise the same breeds and recognized varieties of breeds as herein before set forth in Chapter 3, Section 1. All dogs designated by their respective breed judges as Best of Breed or Best of Variety shall be entitled “Best Brace in Show.” No entry fee shall be charged but the group winners must compete.

SECTION 16. A club giving group classes must also give a Best in Show, the winner to be entitled “Best Dog in Show.” No entry fee shall be charged but the group winners must compete.

SECTION 17. A club or association holding a show, if it gives brace classes in the several breeds and recognized varieties of breeds, may also give brace group classes, not divided by sex; such groups to be arranged in the same order and to comprise the same breeds and recognized varieties of breeds as herein before set forth in Chapter 3, Section 1. All braces of dogs designated by their respective breed judges as Best of Breed or Best of Variety as the case may be at shows at which these brace group classes shall be given, shall be eligible to compete in the brace group classes to which they belong according to this grouping. All entries for these brace group classes shall be made after the judging of the regular classes of The American Kennel Club has been finished and no entry fee shall be charged. In the event that the owner of a brace of dogs designated Best of Breed or Best of Variety shall not exhibit the team of dogs in the group class to which it is eligible, no other team of dogs of the same breed or variety of breed shall be allowed to compete.

Effective January 1, 2005. A team is defined as four dogs of the same recognized breed or variety that are similar in appearance, performing in unison, and presented by a maximum of four handlers. All dogs competing in team competition must have at least one common owner.

SECTION 20. If a club or association holding a show shall give these group classes, it must also give a “Best Team in Show” in which the teams of dogs winning the first prizes in the group classes must compete, but for which no entry fee shall be charged. The winner shall be entitled “The Best Team in Show.”

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendment to Chapter 2 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Registrable Breeds by Group; to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting

CHAPTER 2

The following breeds divided by groups shall be all the breeds now recognized by The American Kennel Club as being distinct breeds of purebred dogs eligible for registration in the Stud Book of The American Kennel Club.
GROUP 1: SPORTING – POINTERS AND SETTERS

GROUP 2: SPORTING - RETRIEVERS AND SPANIELS

GROUP 3: SCENT HOUNDS

GROUP 4: SIGHT HOUNDS

GROUP 5: WORKING - UTILITY

GROUP 6: WORKING - MOLOSSER

GROUP 7: WORKING – SPITZ

GROUP 8: TERRIERS

GROUP 9: TOY

GROUP 10: NON-SPORTING

GROUP 11: HERDING

The Board of Directors has approved the following amendment to Chapter 9, New Section 8, Grand Field Champion Title (GFC) of the Proposed Amendment to Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two-Couple Pack Hunting Tests – Entry Requirements and Eligibility; to be voted on at the March 13, 2012, Delegates Meeting.

CHAPTER 9
NEW SECTION 8. Grand Field Champion Title (GFC). To be eligible to earn points toward a Grand Field Champion title a dog must have previously been recorded an AKC Field Champion.

To be recorded a Grand Field Champion, a hound must win two first places and 90 points in classes with not less than six starters at AKC selected trials. A list of the selected trials can be found on the AKC website at www.akc.org/to be determined. The GFC title is a prefix title that will appear in addition to the Field Champion title.

Upon completion of the GFC requirements, the title will be affixed to the dog’s record. The owner will be notified but no title certificate will be issued unless ordered by the owner. The cost of the title certificate will be determined by the AKC Board of Directors.

Note: If a dog earns its Field Championship title at one of the selected trials, the points in excess those needed to earn the FC title will not count toward the GFC title.

The total number of wins and points necessary for a Beagle to be recorded a Grand Field champion shall be periodically reviewed and possibly revised by the AKC Board of Directors.

JUDGES
As a result of the October 2010 Board Meeting, publication notice in the Gazette was combined into one notice, therefore the judging approval process continues to include an opportunity for the fancy to respond to each provisional judge.

Letters concerning judges and provisional judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received by AKC concerning their qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and JS judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges’ record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations at (919) 816-3593 or email, judgingops@akc.org.

Provisional Judges
The following persons have been approved on a Provisional basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. They may now accept assignments and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

New Breed Judges
Mrs. Sandy Weaver Carman (94535) GA
(770) 310-6932
golffindogs@att.net
Siberian Huskies

Ms. Marla J. Doheny (94509) CT
(203) 415-4193
valhalafcrs@yahoo.com
Flat Coated Retrievers, JS

Mr. Jason Edward Huff (93869) KY
(812) 454-4953
jason@ mysticpug.com
Pugs, JS-Limited

Mrs. Louise Leone (94619) CO
(303) 663-8440
rightlyso@msn.com
Norfolk Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

Mrs. Charlene G. Rutar (94495) IN
(765) 534-3002
whiteriver@verizon.net
German Shorthaired Pointers

Ms. Christiane J. Scarpino (94443) MA
(978) 827-6704
whalom@verizon.net
Boston Terriers, JS

Approved Breed Judges
Mrs. Leah Bertagnolli (82939) UT
(801) 540-5985
lwndkat@aol.com
Irish Setters, English Springer Spaniels
Their Provisional Judging assignments are:

Mr. James A. Fehring (90519) OK
(918) 366-1096
jimfehring@olg.net
Brittany, English Springer Spaniels, JS

Mr. Patrick Garcia Jr. (34211) CA
(760) 749-5382
torridon@att.net
Afghan Hounds, Borzois, Irish Wolfhounds, Whippets

Ms. E. Susan Godek (6796) AZ
(480) 614-5768
figodek@hotmail.com
Balance of Working Group (Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Mrs. Judi Hallbeck (82517) MN
(763) 631-2121
judihallbeck@yahoo.com
Kerry Blue Terriers, Skye Terriers

Ms. Nancy Olson Handgraaf (91720) WA
(360) 686-3079
handgraaf@centurylink.net
Pembroke Welsh Corgis, JS-Limited

Mrs. Janet Jackson (59587) CA
(760) 345-4151
steppehounds@cox.net
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Italian Greyhounds, Manchester Terriers, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers)

Mrs. Leah D. Lange (44516) PA
(724) 327-4770
dogbargl@windstream.net
Akitas, Boxers, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

Mr. Dennis McCoy (17219) NC
(919) 362-9799
doggiepro@aol.com
Balance of Terrier Group (American Staffordshire Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Russell Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers)

Mrs. Murrel Purkisier (7496) TX
(210) 497-0759
murrel@me.com
Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mr. Lawrence (Larry) J. Sinclair (7419) WA
(509) 922-8173
ljsinclair@msn.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Petit Basset Griffons Vendeens, Plotts, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds), Boston Terriers, French Bulldogs

Mr. Jon Titus Steele (55162) MI
(989) 642-5093
jonauroral@gmail.com
Basenjis, Beagles, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Petit Basset Griffons Vendeens, Scottish Deerhounds

Mrs. Carolyn Taylor (17376) IL
(217) 262-3266
jbrwk1@prairienet.net
Airedale Terriers, Border Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Mrs. Lisa Warren (6013) PA
(610) 285-6425
lwdox@ptd.net
Balance of Sporting Group (German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels), Bichons Frises, Bulldogs, Shih Tzu

Dr. Carol White-Moser (7344) TX
(903) 567-4470
carolwm555@gmail.com
Beagles, Ibuan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Petit Basset Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets

Mrs. Melanie D. Williams (6705) FL
(352) 324-2165
sheltiejudge@atmail.com
Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Poodles, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers

Mrs. Sally Yancey (17981) NC
(336) 282-5733
scyancey@aol.com
Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Mr. Howard M. Yost (4215) NC
(336) 722-0717
lhyost@triad.rr.com
Havanese, Japanese Chin, Papillons, Yorkshire Terriers

Junior Showmanship Judges

Mrs. Michelle Alameda-Wilkinson (94463) CA
(916) 206-8782
kellydogs@yahoo.com
JS

Mrs. Sarah Hemphill-Taylor (94941) CO
(720) 240-8642
dlh224@yahoo.com
JS

Mrs. Carol J. Rice (94503) FL
(318) 393-3779
ricecarol@aol.com
JS

Mr. Warren T. Rice (94505) FL
(318) 218-3165
ricecarol@aol.com
JS

Mr. Bruce E. Shirky (57889) TX
(210) 633-2430
bshirky@texaskachina.com
JS-Limited

Provisional Assignments Completed

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments in the breeds listed, and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.

New Breed Judges

Ms. Vicki E. Allenbrand (91374) GA
(770) 822-2832
blackjackdogs@earthlink.net
Bullmastiffs

Mrs. Elizabeth J. Arthur (91416) TX
(817) 431-2835
stargzr@verizon.net
Scottish Deerhounds, Whippets

Ms. Linda Bednarz (90763) OH
(740) 815-1948
linda@tullamorelabs.com
Labrador Retrievers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Ms. Elizabeth Bowron (90454) SC
(843) 559-4755
fortune1b@ mindspring.com
Labrador Retrievers

Ms. Delores Burkholder (5359) IL
(815) 624-7357
dcburkholder9@msn.com
Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Italian Greyhounds, Japanese Chin, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Poodles, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers), JS

Mr. Patrick D. Glover (81564) ME
(207) 584-2196
greywoode@msn.com
Border Terriers

Mr. Lawrence J. (Larry) Kaplan (91400) NY
(631) 581-0566
lkplan91400@gmail.com
Akita

Mr. Jim Owens (92926) NC
(919) 649-9035
drydog5dogs@gmail.com
Rottweilers

Ms. Carole Lee Richards (91784) NJ
(856) 854-6363
zarasweimariners@yahoo.com
Vizslas, Weimariners

Approved Breed Judges

Mrs. Karin B. Ash (5601) FL
(386) 624-6663
kashe@fflrr.com
Poodles
Ms. Deborah Barrett (53586) AL
(205) 733-8367
dbearet@gmail.com
Chinese Shar-Pei, French Bulldogs

Ms. Kathy L. Belkow (18970) CA
(808) 792-2122
bischows@imaginetchows.net
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli), Afghan Hounds, Basenjis, Borzois, Dachshunds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis, Whippets

Ms. Carol S. Brown (31144) PA
(717) 866-0220
carol_s_brown@msn.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Ms. Janet Cohen (90134) NJ
(609) 566-3217
newfire219@aol.com
Bull mastiffs, Cane Corsos

Mrs. Catherine O. Cooper (18399) VA
(276) 340-4636
cocoooper@siteestar.net
Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherds, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Saint Bernards, Standard Schnauzers

Ms. Paula Dempsey (68629) WA
(253) 219-9359
oakleystrs@aol.com
Irish Setters

Dr. Kenneth A. Doeg (2798) CT
(860) 429-6113
kdoeg6131@earthlink.net
Shetland Sheepdogs

Ms. Ann M. Dunn (77105) MA
(508) 864-0416
adriadobes@aol.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Great Danes

Mr. Robert D. Ennis (5915) NY
(716) 947-9975
remnis1@roadrunner.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Shiba Inu, Xoloitzcuintli)

Mr. Don L. Evans (5916) MD
(202) 441-0297
scattorney@msn.com
Airedale Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bull Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mr. Robert R. Frost (5376) IN
(808) 384-0160
frostalukis@aol.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Lhasa Apso, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli)

Ms. Janice S. Gallagher (64738) TX
(210) 494-6498
janstoreyhd@at.net
Pugs

Ms. Nancy J. Gallant (25394) MI
(269) 979-2074
nancygallant@aol.com
Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, English Setters, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Weimaraners

Mr. Steven D. Gladstone (5207) PA
(570) 350-2299
sdg@cvccorg.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Basenjis, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Greyhounds, Harriers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Plott, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Mrs. Honey Anne Glendinning (6773)
315-943-4131
honeyanne@fantail-englishsetters.com
Cane Corsos, Leonbergers

Mrs. Debra Gschwender (18252) MI
(248) 240-2325
dlgswender@gmail.com
Balance of Herding Group (Australian Cattle Dogs, Beaucerons, Border Collies, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapplhund, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Pyrenean Shepherds, Swedish Vallhounds)

Mr. Steven Herman (6305) FL
(352) 521-4388
sherman@wearethehope.org

Ms. Theresa L. Handt (7547) CT
(203) 270-6851
fdohum@aol.com
American Foxhounds, Basenji, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, English Foxhounds, Otterhounds, Petit Bassets Griffon Vendeens, Whippets

Ms. Anna N. Kennedy (6619) CA
(312) 368-9069
ann@clariscourt.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Manchester Terriers, Silky Terriers), Bulldogs, French Bulldogs

Ms. Eileen C. MacLennan (31493) VA
(703) 751-3597
maclenn1@comcast.net
Tibetan Spaniels

Mrs. Florence A. Males (5461) CA
(925) 392-3875
weebhi@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (English Toy Spaniels), Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli), Australian Terriers

Mrs. Carla M. Mathies (7602) WA
(253) 691-4882
carlamathies@msn.com
Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Vizgas, Weimaraners

Mr. Malcolm E. Moore (23275) AL
(334) 312-3900
arpnsit@charter.net
Balance of Toy Group (English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chin, Manchester Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers), Bichon Frises, Boston Terriers, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Mr. Garry K. Newton (6673) TX
(281) 341-8223
solar@2prodigy.net
Golden Retrievers, Weimaraners, Great Danes

Mr. Charles L. Olvis (5724) VA
(703) 330-5755
sunup1001@gmail.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises, Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apso, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli)

Ms. Barbara J. O’Neill (15459) WA
(206) 439-7543
sheyash@comcast.net
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Otterhounds, Petit Bassets Griffon Vendeens, Plott, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Dr. Judith A. Newton (6634) TX
(281) 341-8223
solar@2prodigy.net
Golden Retrievers, Weimaraners, Great Danes

Mr. Charles L. Olvis (5724) VA
(703) 330-5755
sunup1001@gmail.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises, Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apso, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli)

Ms. Barbara J. O’Neill (15459) WA
(206) 439-7543
sheyash@comcast.net
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Otterhounds, Petit Bassets Griffon Vendeens, Plott, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Dr. Robert Place (48116) NM
(505) 771-8344
minorplace2@gmail.com
Whippets

Col. Joe B. Purkiser (1800) TX
(210) 497-0759
jpurk@me.com
Norwegian Lundehunds, Xoloitzcuintli
 secretary’s page

Mrs. Jacqueline M. Rayner (19275) NJ  
(609) 587-2586  
jaken5995@aol.com  
Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Giant Schnauzers, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, St. Bernards, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

Mr. Eric J. Ringle (6564) FL  
(954) 717-4133  
ringle@msn.com  
Brittany’s, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners

Mr. Barry L. Roland (5813) GA  
(404) 241-1504  
excalibursaints@earthlink.net  
Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Portuguese Water Dogs

Dr. Kevin T. Shimel (80431) NJ  
(201) 653-0885  
kevdcatdoc@aol.com  
Salukis

Ms. Karen A. Shivers (26119) TX  
(903) 491-6572  
stonefox@1starnet.com  
Shetland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Lawrence J. (Janet) Sinclair (7418) WA  
(509) 922-8173  
lj_sinclair@msn.com  
American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels

Ms. Dorothy B. Taylor (6231) NH  
(603) 883-2634  
dorothybtaylor@myfairpoint.net  
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese, Pugs

Mr. Lawrence C. Terricone (4908) NJ  
(908) 766-7139  
lcterricone@verizon.net  
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, Pugs, American Eskimo Dogs, Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Lhasa Apso, Shiba Inu

Ms. Denise Van Driesen (68029) PA  
(610) 847-5344  
dvandrie@fast.net  
Bulldogs

Mrs. Judith Voran (21971) AZ  
(928) 476-3972  
byoran@gmail.com  
Akita, Great Danes, Rottweilers, Samoyeds

Mrs. Sandra Walker (5115) MA  
(978) 562-2554  
pettimari@yahoo.com  
Balance of Toy Group (English Toy Spaniels, Italian Greyhounds, Pomeranians, Toy Fox Terriers)

Ms. Susan Willumsen (52119) NH  
(603) 642-5893  
willcare@comcast.net  
Golden Retrievers

Junior Showmanship Judge  
Miss Kellye Lynne St. John (63412) MA  
(781) 779-6263  
kellyestjohn22@gmail.com

Best In Show  
The following persons, having successfully completed the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they are approved, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Mr. John F. Booth (6914) TX  
(210) 487-0805  
bboboxer@aol.com

Mr. Bernard L. (Ben) Helfrich (22608) PA  
(215) 680-4564  
bgalantry@comcast.net

Emeritus Judges  
Mrs. Betty Ann Griffin  
Mrs. Barbara Ridgway

Deceased Judge  
Mr. Robert Naun  
Miss Nancy Pollock

Provisional Obedience/Rally/Tracking Judges  
The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.

Stephanie Crawford (66279) NY  
607-775-1996  
sacvlf@aol.com  
Variable Surface Tracking

Kelly Dygert (48016) AK  
907-488-8314  
rhaven@alaska.net  
Tracking Dog Excellent

Thomas Igiel (18999) NY  
716-773-6404  
Thomiigel@prodigy.net  
Obedience – Utility

Loretta Lazzara (90526) IL  
630-762-1772  
driftwoodsheltys@aol.com  
Rally – All

Richard Lewis (18253) WA  
509-697-6032  
rchileieu@jelltel.net  
Obedience – Utility

Charles Marcantonio (90224) NJ  
856-665-0415  
insurect@aol.com  
Obedience – Open

Dawn Martin (22672) PA  
570-992-7888  
westie@ptd.net  
Tracking Dog

Provisional Obedience/Rally/Tracking Judges Completed  
The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.

Ken Barna (66579) OH  
440-834-8351  
Churyhnds@aaahawk.com  
Tracking Dog Excellent

William Craig (81590) MA  
413-743-1579  
hawkdogud@gmail.com  
Obedience – Novice

Barbara Doering (32285) PA  
215-328-9311  
barb.rott@verizon.net  
Obedience – Utility

Sandy Forneris (18255) IA  
515-986-3938  
grimes312@mchsi.com  
Obedience – Utility

Nancy Grimm (42091) AZ  
520-241-3170  
grimmmy@greydayz.com  
Obedience – Open

Bethany Lange (92183) MI  
517-651-6437  
lowertrvs@gmail.com  
Tracking Dog

Charles Marcantonio (90224) NJ  
856-665-0415  
insurect@aol.com  
Obedience – Novice

Sue Mills (27459) OR  
541-913-3541  
tervs@clipper.net  
Rally – All

Barbara Selton (90892) MN  
952-893-1493  
BAW4305@aol.com  
Obedience – Novice

Marty Siegrist (90916) MI  
517-881-9078  
orcnelf@voyager.net  
Tracking Dog

Application for Breed-Specific Registered Name Prefix  
The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club. Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary:
BLUMYST – Silky Terriers – Maureen D. White
ORLEANS – Miniature Schnauzers – Darlene T. Petch
UYAK – Alaskan Malamutes – Harold B. Schwartzapfel & Paula Honigman
KARIBA-PRIDE – Rhodesian Ridgebacks – Yolande LaFrance-Martinez & Dennis Martinez
CREGHOLLOW – Smooth Fox Terriers – Richard W. Metts & H. Creg Kelly
STARRING – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Jennifer Flowers Foster
SNOWSHOE – Tibetan Terriers – Joyce Killinger
CHARNWOOD – French Bulldogs – Dr. Sarah B. Lagan & Marjorie W. Lagan
BRESA – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Teresa R. Bresset
DZATA – Rhodesian Ridgebacks – Michelle E. Cavanaugh
BETVET – Poodles – Dr. Betsy R. Oesch
RUSSIAN BEARS – Black Russian Terriers – Helene M. Haldi
BONNY BLUE – Old English Sheepdogs – Sonja K. Pianka
SUGAR-N-SPICE – Australian Cattle Dogs – Rochelle A. & Todd L. Gribler
ROYAL HEARTS – Pembroke Welsh Corgis – Linda Wenger
UNDER MNT – Doberman Pinschers – Danielle M. Pauve
CA-MAJESTIC – Bernese Mountain Dogs – Linda Wenger

Registered Name Prefixes Granted
The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:
NORTH HAWK – Tibetan Mastiffs – Efrain Torres & Susan Abrams
SWEETBRIAR – Spinoni Italiani – Dana & Daniel Graff
BAR-LAR – Shih Tzu – Barbara Ann & Larry Ewer
KIZMAR – Vizslas – Kathy A. Rust
PSCOT – Scottish Terriers – Judy & Phil DiGirolamo
CREEKW OOD – Collies – Virginia Reed-Mehr & Robin B. Reed
DORRATZ – Vizslas – Doris M. Ratzlaff & Donna M. DeFilippis
EMMOOR – Yorkshire Terriers – James J. Hupp & Bret E. Walker
WINDYHILL – Havanese – Julie Souza
BLACKAMOOR – Labrador Retrievers – H. Price & Sherry S. Jessup
BLISSFUL – St. Bernards – Tricia A. Kenworthy
SILVERVEIL – Boxers – Catherine L. Harber