

**Annual Meeting Of The Delegates
of
The American Kennel Club
March 13, 2007**

Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 406

Abilene Kennel Club—*Neil A. Bates*
Affenpinscher Club of America—*Chad Howard*
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*
Airedale Terrier Club of America—*Aletta L. Moore*
Akita Club of America—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Virginia P. Grefe*
Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dennis J. Gallant*
American Belgian Malinois Club—*Ms. Nancy L. Bennett*
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—*Ms. Janina K. Laurin*
American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—*Cheryl Speed*
American Bloodhound Club—*Mary L. Olszewski*
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—*Patte Klecan*
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—*John D. Gammon*
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—*Simon M. Dickerson*
American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold Miller*
American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—*Mr. Edmund R. Sledzik*
American Maltese Association, Inc.—*Mr. Richard W. Glenn*
American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—*Don Farley, II*
American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen R. Spey*
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—*Darrell Baker*
American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*
American Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth W. Mader*
American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—*Ms. Betty E. Blair*
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Shaw*
American Whippet Club, Inc.—*Ms. Donna D. Lynch*
Anderson Kennel Club—*Phillip D. Sample*
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Antelope Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Daniels*
Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara A. Finch*
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Mulvey*
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia M. Mayhall*
Augusta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sara Martin*
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kay Joiner*
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Kathryn A. Hamilton*
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Kim Occhiuti*
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Nina Schaefer*
Baltimore County Kennel Club—*Mrs. Lucy Campbell-Gracie*
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Jon Curby*
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Barbara Wicklund*
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. John A. Studebaker*

Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—*Robin Sayko*
Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Susan F. Glatzer*
Beaumont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl E. Holder*
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Chris Gaburri*
Bedlington Terrier Club of America—*Mrs. Marjorie M. Hanson*
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Barbara Swisher*
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Denise Dean*
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*George Sikes*
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Griffin*
Blennerhassett Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Gloria C. Cochran*
Border Collie Society of America—*Claudia Frank*
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Ruth A. Naun*
Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen Staudt-Cartabona*
Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathleen M. Kelly*
Briard Club of America, Inc.—*Tommy Millner*
Bronx County Kennel Club—*Ms. Alexa Samarotto*
Brookhaven Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marie A. Fiore*
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—*Sam H. McDonald*
Bulldog Club of America—*Bob Newcomb*
Bulldog Club of New England, Inc.—*Francesca J. Castaneda*
Bulldog Club of Philadelphia—*Mrs. Lynn E. Smith*
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*
Butler County Kennel Club, Inc.—*John W. Towns, Jr.*
California Airedale Terrier Club—*Carole Bullwinkle-Foucrault*
Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—*Mr. Wayne F. Harmon*
Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*
Cape Cod Kennel Club, Inc.—*Helyne E. Medeiros*
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Eugenia B. Bishop*
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*
Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*
Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc.—*J Richard Seelbach*
Central Beagle Club—*David S. Bagaley*
Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane J. Albers*
Central New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane D. Almy*
Central Ohio Kennel Club—*Roberta K. Brady*
Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club—*Eibhlin Glennon*
Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Claire K. Steidel*
Charleston Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*
Charlottesville-Albemarle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Peggy B. Kessler*
Chattanooga Kennel Club—*David Gilstrap*
Cheshire Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. James G. Phinizy*
Chester Valley Kennel Club—*Dr. Samuel M. Peacock, Jr.*
Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Rey Burgos*
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Ginny Atkinson*
Cincinnati Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Patricia H. Haines*
Clackamas Kennel Club—*Steven E. Nielsen*

Clarksville Kennel Club—*Robert A. Schroll*
Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*
Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lee Davidson*
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Maureen R. Setter*
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Ricky Blackman*
Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Harold W. Sundstrom*
Colorado Kennel Club—*Louise Leone*
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Mrs. Andre B. Schoen*
Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—*Norma J. Ryan*
Concord Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Mary Casella*
Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*
Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joan Urban*
Cudahy Kennel Club—*Don H. Adams*
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Charles A. Baris*
Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Carleton H. Musson*
Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Barbara L. Mann*
Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merlyn A. Green, D.C.*
Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*
Des Moines Kennel Club, Inc.—*John D. Hughes*
Des Moines Obedience Training Club—*Lee Slorah*
Detroit Kennel Club—*Mr. Erik Bergishagen*
Devon Dog Show Association, Inc.—*John C. Sheahan, III*
Doberman Pinscher Club of America—*Jeffrey P. Helsdon*
Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*
Dog Owner's Training Club of Maryland—*Kathryn Sarvinas*
Duluth Kennel Club—*Hon. David C. Merriam*
Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Linda C. Wozniak*
East Tennessee Retriever Club—*Catherine Bell*
Eastern Dog Club—*Charles J. Foley*
Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Tabor*
Empire Beagle Club, Inc.—*Christopher Keenan*
English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Jesse A. Pfeiffer, Jr.*
English Setter Association of America, Inc.—*Mr. John P. Nielsen*
English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, Inc.—*Mrs. Alice E. Berd*
English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois—*David H. Hopkins*
English Toy Spaniel Club of America—*Vanessa N. Weber*
Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*
Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Arlene R. Harris*
Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Margaret B. Pough*
Finnish Spitz Club of America—*Kim Raleigh*
First Company Governor's Foot Guard Athletic Association—*Lt. Col. John L. O'Connell*
First Dog Training Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Marilyn Traurig*
Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Almira B. Dallas*
Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—*Charles Arnold*
Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Mr. Harry G. Ottmann*
Fox River Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marcy G. Bankus*

- French Bulldog Club of America—*Mrs. Ann M. Hubbard*
- Furniture City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merry J. Millner*
- Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kathleen Nuzenski*
- Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Connie S. Clapp*
- Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Barbash*
- German Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia*
- German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—*Mr. Kenneth A. Marden*
- German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia W. Laurans*
- Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—*Robin Greenslade*
- Gig Harbor Kennel Club—*Richard L. Byrd*
- Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Bonnie Lapham*
- Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carole Richards*
- Golden Retriever Club of America—*Mr. Howard Falberg*
- Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*
- Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Robert M. Brown*
- Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc—*Ms. Karen J. Burgess*
- Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*David Keene*
- Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia McEvoy O'Connell*
- Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—*Chantal M. Andrew*
- Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—*Marlene Steinberg*
- Greater St. Louis Training Club, Inc.—*Jane V. (Candy) Slay*
- Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Clifford A. Dahl*
- Greenwich Kennel Club—*Dr. Stephen Blau*
- Greyhound Club of America—*Melanie Steele*
- Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cynthia A. Miller*
- Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert D. Black*
- Havanese Club of America—*Jane F. Ruthford*
- Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—*Patricia M. Cruz*
- Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*
- Hollywood Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*Jan Wolf*
- Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Leonard Abraham*
- Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Carol A. Williamson*
- Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dick Blair*
- Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gwen McCullagh*
- Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc.—*David A. Helming*
- Ibizan Hound Club of the United States—*Luane V. Williams*
- Idaho Capital City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Wyoma Clouss*
- Illinois Capitol Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Cookson*
- Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rita J. Biddle*
- Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Constance B. Vanacore*
- Irish Terrier Club of America—*Peggy E. Gill*
- Irish Wolfhound Club of America—*Eugenia Hunter*
- Japanese Chin Club of America—*Vincent Adams*
- Jefferson County Kennel Club of Missouri—*Cledith Wakefield*
- K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—*Mrs. Pam Goldman*
- Kachina Kennel Club—*Mrs. Marilyn R. Vinson*
- Kalamazoo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cindy Cooke*
- Kanadasaga Kennel Club—*Mrs. Beverly M. Nosiglia*
- Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John D. Sawicki*
- Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, Inc.—*Mrs. Gwen Wexler*
- Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—*Polly Fleming*
- Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—*Carole Plesur*
- Kennel Club of Pasadena—*Jarratt Brunson*
- Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Inc.—*Charles H. Schaefer*
- Kennel Club of Riverside—*Sylvia Thomas*
- Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—*Paulann Phelan*
- Key City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Fred C. Bock, II*
- Kuvasz Club of America—*R K. Barnes*
- Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia Van Doren*
- Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia T. Rowland*
- Ladies' Kennel Association of America—*Ruth Winston*
- Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frank Majocha*
- Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club—*Sylvia Meisels*
- Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Crecia C. Closson*
- Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cynthia L. Garman*
- Land O' Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan Croft*
- Langley Kennel Club—*Ms. Dianne E. Franck*
- Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Bryant C. Freeman*
- Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert LaBerge*
- Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Richard H. Krasley*
- Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sue Goldberg*
- Lexington Kennel Club Inc—*Anne Kemp*
- Lima Kennel Club—*Ellen Fetter*
- Long Island Kennel Club—*Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.*
- Louisiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Luis F. Sosa*
- Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Judy R. Melear*
- Macon Kennel Club—*Nell Stumpff*
- Mad River Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Betty J. Miller*
- Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Sandra B. Barker*
- Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. J. C. Garvin*
- Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. William R. Newman*
- McKinley Kennel Club—*Herman H. Tietjen*
- Medina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Pat Dresser*
- Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—*John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.*
- Michiana Kennel Club—*Mrs. Susan Jackson*
- Middle Tennessee Amateur Retriever Club—*John Russell*
- Middlesex County Kennel Club—*Robert A. Procter, Jr.*
- Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—*Giselle Simonds*
- Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—*Thomas W. Baldwin*
- Mispillion Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Blackie H. Nygood*
- Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Gretchen Bernardi*
- Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—*Robert H. McKowen*
- Mohawk Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Sandra Haber*
- Monmouth County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Helmi Konderock*
- Montgomery County Kennel Club—*Ms. Ida E. Weinstock*
- Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*James M. Burns*
- Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—*Mrs. Ruth W. Crumb*
- Mountain States Dog Training Club, Inc.—*John D. Landis*
- Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Rebecca S. Stanevich*
- Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Judith V. Daniels*
- Muncie Kennel Club, Inc.—*Philip Gray*
- Nashville Kennel Club—*James Efron*
- Nassau Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Margaret Uminsky*
- National Beagle Club—*Eddie Dziuk*
- National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson*
- Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Viola Burgos*
- Nebraska Kennel Club—*Marvin Crawford*
- New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Liz Sullivan*
- New England Old English Sheepdog Club—*Mrs. Jane C. Ogg*
- New Jersey Beagle Club, Inc.—*Louis Schmitt*
- Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Mary W. Price*
- Newnan Kennel Club—*Willie Crawford*
- Newton Kennel Club—*Catherine H. Murch*
- Nisqually Kennel Club—*R. H. Hachtel*
- North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F. Coletti*
- Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club, Inc.—*Billie Ponton*
- Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc.—*Sherry Falk*
- Norwich and Norfolk Terrier Club—*Marjorie McTeran*
- Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—*Marile A. Waterstraat*
- Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia C. Scully*
- Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—*James M. Ashton*
- Okaloosa Kennel Club—*Mrs. Gayle G. Stillwell*
- Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.—*Robert Nazak*
- Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Hugh Jordan*
- Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Harvey A. Mueller*
- Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy F. Murray*
- Orange Empire Dog Club, Inc.—*Burton J. Yamada*
- Orlando Dog Training Club—*Rodney L. Russell*
- Otterhound Club of America—*Mark J. Hawley*
- Ox Ridge Kennel Club—*Jack P. De Witt*
- Ozark Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mark A. Chambers*
- Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club—*Mr. Carl E. Gomes*
- Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—*Link Newcomb*
- Panhandle Kennel Club of Texas, Inc.—*Mrs. Geraldine M. Shastid*
- Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—*Mary Strom*
- Pasco Florida Kennel Club—*Patricia J. Lombardi*
- Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Judy A. Hart*
- Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marieann Gladstone*
- Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Jean Anderson*
- Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America—*Anne Gallant, Ph.D.*

- Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Mr. Gary A. Reed*
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Christine Allen*
 Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joachim Blutreich*
 Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Margaret Vohr*
 Plainfield Kennel Club—*John McCullagh*
 Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—*Charles McWilliams*
 Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Scott Olund*
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Robert A. Amen*
 Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*James Primer*
 Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Savage*
 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Arends*
 Progressive Dog Club—*William H. Blair*
 Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kerstin T. Ottmar*
 Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Michelle R. Anderson*
 Puli Club of America, Inc.—*Barbara Edwards*
 Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—*Florence R. Laicher*
 Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne M. Rappaport*
 Ramapo Kennel Club—*Mrs. Rose J. Radel*
 Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*
 Reno Kennel Club—*Mr. Steven D. Gladstone*
 Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gerard Baudet*
 Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.—*Mr. George D. Sexton*
 Richland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Shirley L. Boyer*
 Richland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Donald B. Harris*
 Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Jan M. Ritchie*
 Rio Grande Kennel Club—*Mr. William H. Green*
 Riverhead Kennel Club, Inc.—*Catherine D. Farrell*
 Roanoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jill Wright*
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Ronald H. Menaker*
 Rockingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Janice S. Gardner*
 Rockland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Justin*
 Saccarappa Obedience Club, Inc.—*Stephanie Ilka*
 Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—*Mrs. Barbara Furbush*
 Sammamish Kennel Club—*Robert Gloster*
 Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
 San Gabriel Valley Kennel Club—*Ralph S. Roberts*
 Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Tom Brown*
 Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—*Abbe R. Shaw*
 Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*James R. Dok*
 Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laurence J. Libeu*
 Saratoga New York Kennel Club—*Jessica Eggleston*
 Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—*Betty J. Patrick*
 Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.—*Sally Poole*
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*John McNabney*
 Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Nancy Perrell*
 Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Lynne M. Myall*
 Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*
 Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Donna Beckman*
 Silky Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Kriss Griffin*
 Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego—*Nancy Dandrea*
 Silver State Kennel Club—*Michael J. Connell*
 Sioux Empire Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Burggraaf*
 Sioux Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jean Evanoff*
 Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—*William J. Feeney*
 Skokie Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Corinne J. Kehoe*
 Skye Terrier Club of America—*Mr. Walter F. Goodman*
 Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—*Cindy Vogels*
 Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Billie McFadden*
 South County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Marietta Kahla*
 South Hills Kennel Club—*Mrs. Kathleen R. Parks*
 South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Linda B. Willson*
 South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*
 South Texas Obedience Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Gerry Dalakian*
 South Windsor Kennel Club—*Margarette (Peggy) Wampold*
 Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club—*Medora Harper*
 Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*Dr. John V. Ioia*
 Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lee Arnold*
 Spinone Club of America—*James Channon*
 Spokane Kennel Club—*Tina Truesdale*
 Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*
 St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—*Linda Baker*
 St. Joseph Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas W. Carneal*
 St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—*Dr. Gerry Meisels*
 Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—*Ms. Ann Lettiss*
 Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*I. L. Brisbin, Ph.D.*
 Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Paullet De Long*
 Superstition Kennel Club, Inc.—*G Philip (PHIL) Booker*
 Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Parrotti*
 Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Florence Dugan*
 Sussex Spaniel Club of America—*Mr. John R. Lewis, Jr.*
 Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda H. Penney*
 Talbot Kennel Club—*Ms. Barbara J. Paul*
 Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Manning*
 Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Karen Clausing*
 Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomson P. Stanfield*
 Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Steve Schmidt*
 Tibetan Spaniel Club of America—*Mr. Herbert H. Rosen*
 Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Carole A. Miller*
 Tidewater Kennel Club of Virginia, Inc.—*Jane Brumley*
 Tonawanda Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Hossler*
 Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—*John Shoemaker*
 Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laura Wells*
 Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joseph Martyn*
 Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*
 Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*
 Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joan Confort*
 United States Australian Shepherd Association—*Leon Goetz*
 United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*
 United States Lakeland Terrier Club—*Alfred J. Ferruggiaro*
 Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club—*J. M. Haderer*
 Vacationland Dog Club, Inc.—*Iris K. Frankel*
 Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
 Vancouver Kennel Club—*Robert F. Damberg*
 Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—*Mr. William F. Dumas*
 Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Lynn Worth*
 Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.—*Suzanne Gray*
 Walla Walla Kennel Club—*Mr. Rod Strand*
 Wampanoag Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Naida L. Parker*
 Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Mr. Donald Rennick*
 Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Anita A. Lustenberger*
 Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy C. Russell*
 Weimaraner Club of America—*Ms. Judy Colan*
 Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Donald Ong*
 Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Peter J. See*
 West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Carolyn M. Gardner*
 West Volusia Kennel Club—*Ferdinand Reinlieb*
 Westbury Kennel Association, Inc.—*Carmen Armstrong*
 Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. William A. Russett*
 Westminster Kennel Club—*William F. Stifel*
 Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc—*Clare L. Lincoln*
 Wichita Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mildred L. Dold*
 Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Candace Mogavero*
 Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frederick R. Vogel*
 Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*
 Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Inc.—*Fred T. Kampo*
 Women's Field Trial Club—*Judy Rasmuson*
 Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Jan Marshall*
 Yakima Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Richard Lewis*
 Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia D. Reynolds*

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Delegates Meeting March 13, 2007

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair.

Mr. Sprung: Good morning, Delegates. The meeting will come to order.

If there is any Delegate present who has not signed the attendance sheet, please be sure to sign it, as this is the official record of attendance.

If a Delegate makes an amendment to the Bylaws or Rules to be voted upon, please provide a written copy to the Executive Secretary. It is most important that the Chair have the specific wording, as this will greatly enhance our ability to project the precise words to be considered on the screens.

The Chair would like to introduce the persons seated with me on the dais. On my immediate left is Chairman Ron Menaker. To his left is Vice Chairman David Merriam. On my right is Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian. To her right is Jim Crowley, Executive Secretary. And to Mr. Crowley's right is Todd DeSimone, the Court Reporter.

Today is the annual election of Directors. To best use our time, and to keep our luncheon commitment, we will start with the candidate speeches.

The Executive Secretary will now read the report of the Nominating Committee and the report on additional nominations.

Mr. Crowley: Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, the Nominating Committee: Chair Ann Wallin, Atlantic Kennel Club; Eddie Dziuk, National Beagle Club; Carl E. Gomes, Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club; Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki, Akita Club of America; and Thomas L. Millner, Briard Club of America. Appointed by the Board of Directors on August 7, 2006, 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, 2007. There are three vacancies to be filled today for the class of 2011.

Class of 2011. Dr. Patricia H. Haines, representing the Cincinnati Kennel Club.

Judy A. Hart, representing the Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America.

Cindy Vogels, representing the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America.

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as candidates for vacancies on the Board of Directors to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 13, 2007 in addition to those nominated by the Nominating Committee.

Class of 2011. Dr. Carmen Battaglia, representing the German Shepherd Dog Club of America.

Kenneth A. Marden, representing the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America.

Patti L. Strand, representing the Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon.

Mr. Sprung: The Bylaws provide that no nominations may be made from the floor. Nominations, therefore, closed on January 31, 2007.

In accordance with the Delegate Standing Rule, each candidate is allowed three minutes to address the Delegates. Ron Rella will indicate to the candidates when their three minutes have expired. Candidates will speak in alphabetical order and no questions from the floor will be entertained.

The Chair will now introduce the candidates for the class of 2011 in alphabetical order.

The first candidate is Dr. Carmen Battaglia representing the German Shepherd Dog Club of America.

Mr. Battaglia: Good morning. When I was growing up, my grandfather gave me a dog and I took her everywhere with me. We were the best of friends. This was the beginning of my long and meaningful relationship with dogs. Throughout my career, first at Emory University, and later, as a Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Education during the Kennedy administration, I continued to own and breed dogs. Over the year, dogs and education have become my passion, along with my wife and my children. During the past 30 years I've learned how to become a better breeder and how to help others. The skills I developed at Emory University and later as a Regional Administrator have become a large part of my professional life.

Education has always been my interest. When I first joined the Board, I was asked to chair the Committee for the Future. Out of that committee came the DNA program we have today. Later I was asked to develop a paper on the future study book for a Board retreat. That paper focused on ideas gathered from the vet schools, the OFA, the genome scientists, and our breeders.

As the chairman of the Planning and Operations Committee we took steps to support AKC operations by recommending updates to our computer system and our state-of-the-art web site. We also took steps to improve the positive identification requirements for imported dogs. We sim-

plified the process that established new kennel names for our breeders and we strengthened our relationship with other registries.

Most of what we do is in the background. It is the less visible part of the AKC but it is the necessary and essential work that supports the goals and objectives of the AKC.

Today we have new challenges. Let me mention just a few. One, we need to strengthen the infrastructure of our Legislative Department by building on our network of clubs so we can better respond to anti-dog issues and breed-specific legislation.

Two, our educational efforts need to be expanded to embrace new programs for the novice, the breeder and our judges.

Three, we need to establish a digital library that makes printed materials, scientific reports, and other articles available well after they have been published in our magazines and newsletters.

As I look back at my time on the Board, I can say I gave it my best. I am an educator. That's who I am. My life has been dedicated to helping people and those interested in breeding better dogs.

In football terms, this is the end of the third quarter. Now let me finish the game. Vote for me. My name is Carmen Battaglia.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Carmen.

The second candidate is Dr. Patricia H. Haines, representing the Cincinnati Kennel Club.

Dr. Haines: Thank you, Dennis. Good morning everyone.

Our AKC today is being forced to evolve in the wake of many challenges. We must deal with both fundamental issues and complex problems as we seek ways to secure the future of our Kennel Club and our sport. We are faced with pressures from within and without as we strive for our financial security and increased public respect and recognition.

As we struggle finding the right path for our future we must never lose sight of our central reason for being here, our dogs, their events, our clubs. As dedicated fanciers we understand and gladly accept our obligations and responsibilities to our dogs. We know these responsibilities go beyond provision of the basic necessities of food, water and shelter. We do all to improve our dogs' health, to extend their lives and to ensure their place as valued members in society. We work to safeguard our breeds for future generations by striving to be responsible breeders and responsible sellers.

We serve as volunteers for our local clubs, we sponsor AKC events, and we promote the value of our special purebreds. We support community activities that support responsible dog ownership and we offer guidance and support to all dog owners. We do all we can to promote, to protect and to secure the future of all dogs through our support for our breeds and their events.

Each of us is concerned about our AKC's place in the future. All of us share this passion and everyone in this room represents club members throughout the country who are equally passionate. We speak with a voice that has similar goals and desires when it comes to our dogs.

We are the best single voice for dogs. That is not to say our voice may not have different variations. People approach issues differently, with varying opinions based on their backgrounds and experiences. To foster improved leadership it is imperative the Board members need to bring individual and unique voices to the table. My voice is as a professional member of the veterinarian community. I interact with leaders in veterinarian medicine and I encourage responsible relationships with veterinary professionals as essential to AKC's future. As a practicing veterinarian I'm able to bring the voice and understanding and compassion of the pet owner to the Board room, and as a long-time breeder/owner/exhibitor I bring that voice and passion to the sport.

In the end, we must serve as one voice for dogs, our sport, and our AKC. That voice must not be extremist, but it must be a voice of reason. That single voice must not be self-promoting. That single voice must be spoken with dignity backed up by unquestioned ethics, integrity and professionalism.

I thank the Delegates and all of your club members for all you do for AKC and our sport. With our unified voice we will find answers that ensure the positive future of our sport and our dogs. I ask that you allow me to continue to carry your voice to the Board and I pledge to work with you, for you, and only for the betterment of our AKC and our dogs. Thank you.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Patty.

The third candidate is Judy A. Hart, representing the Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America.

Ms. Hart: Good morning. I'm honored to be selected by the Nominating Committee to run for a position on the AKC Board of Directors. Like all of you, I'm here because I have a deep love of purebred dogs, a great passion for the sport, a lifelong respect for the American Kennel Club, and the determination to do everything I possibly can to ensure that all three endure.

We need to select our leadership for their broad experience and knowledge of our sport and traditions as well as for their unrestricted vision for the future. They must plot a safe course while watching the horizon for unexpected hazards. They must inspire our skilled staff to implement the details and keep us moving forward on that course. And they absolutely must communicate to ensure that the dedicated members of our community choose to go with us so that we can meet the challenges of the future together.

Business decisions must be made not only for their financial soundness but in keeping with our core values, as our principles are what set us apart from all others. Our dedication to the dogs and the sport form the very foundation on which we strive to be the dogs' champion. I can think of no other not-for-profit organization that is comprised of so many committed individuals who put the love of the dog above all else. Often what we do, we do without fanfare. We must learn to get our message out that AKC dogs and their breeders, their events and their programs, are second to none.

I'm a breeder with a 37-year bloodline that I treasure and protect, an owner and a handler in the show ring, a trainer in other venues such as obedience, tracking and herding, and I'm very proud that my Oscar is one of only three dual champions in the history of my breed. I'm a club member heavily involved with running a large Parent Club and our many events, as well as interacting with the public on behalf of my breed and the sport. My diverse involvement has stretched over decades and continues at the same level today. I'm still walking the walk.

I want to champion the American Kennel Club and all it means to us. I have no other agendas, no other organizational involvement, and no other allegiances that could sway my judgment or vote. I come from the ranks of the huge majority in our sport who willingly shoulder the responsibilities of breeding their dogs with the utmost integrity, rescuing those dogs whose breeders failed them, educating the public and the legislators, mentoring newcomers and putting on all the events that we enjoy. We owe this vast majority the

same loyalty that we expect from them because they prove every day that it is really all about the dogs and it is because of them that I ask for your vote. Thank you.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Judy.

The fourth candidate is Kenneth A. Marden, representing the German Short-haired Pointer Club of America.

Mr. Marden: Every candidate has an obligation I think when we are talking to our Delegate body to tell them three things: First of all what they've done that was really significantly contributing to this sport of purebred dogs, what experience they bring that is going to help in the management or the decision-making process of the AKC Board, and also what we see as the critical challenges facing the sport of purebred dogs. Those of you who have known me over the years know that "I," "I," "I" is really against my nature, but hey, folks, I'm in a tough fight for your vote and I'm just about to "I" the heck out of you.

During my stint as the AKC President, I personally convinced the Board to establish the Performance Events Department and following that I personally hired as vice president, Bob McKowen and directed him to get us into Herding, Agility, Lure Coursing and Earthdog, as AKC events. Today these sports represent a significant portion of our licensed events.

I established the Legislative Department which continues to support our clubs and the fancy contesting anti-dog ordinances. My personal interviews with the editor of the *New York Times* and the *Miami Herald* resulted in some great editorials extolling the "legislate by deed, not by breed" concept. I'm convinced that a more hands-on policy with legislators and with the media is the only way we can fight the incredible number of anti-dog ordinances coming around the country.

I am the only candidate who has really had a vast experience in managing and participating in Performance and Companion events, that's field trials, that's hunting tests, obedience, and lure coursing. As I've done in the past, I will continue to assist the Board with my expertise in these areas.

My advertising and marketing background tells me we need a change in our communications strategy. We just have to target that huge number of people who are buying the dog for the first time and never intend to breed or to show it.

AKC is at the crossroads. We have to make the decision do we want to revert to a small, elite organization with no political clout or do we want to continue to progress toward being the world's most active, most knowledgeable, and politically astute champion of the purebred dog. The results of this election will tell you the truth. You know where I stand.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ken.

The fifth candidate is Patti L. Strand, representing the Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon.

Ms. Strand: Thank you, Dennis, and good morning everyone.

We are all connected. We are all here today because our lives were changed by a dog. Mine changed 38 years ago when Rod and I were still in college and got our first Dalmatian. Since then we've had a wonderful time in dogs, in the sport, showing our dogs, working in our kennel clubs, developing a bloodline, and becoming AKC judges.

We love the dogs and we cherish the many friends we have met along the way. In the late 1980s, though, I started noticing something I didn't like and that was anti-dog legislation and negative portrayals of purebred dogs in the media, and I became involved. I became a volunteer lobbyist and then a Delegate and then finally an AKC Board member. It is important to understand that many of the challenges we face today were already starting decades before anyone in this room was involved, or was a Delegate. But to the great credit of AKC over the last several years we have effectively been addressing these challenges one at a time and we are now positioned, very well positioned, to meet the future.

During my years on the AKC Board we have completely modernized our computers and web site. We instituted a revolutionary care and conditions policy that enabled us for the first time in our history to remove the kennels from the AKC that were winding up on *20/20* and *60 Minutes*. We increased funding for canine health, defeated hundreds, maybe thousands of anti-dog and anti-dog breeder measures, and we created a first-rate communications division that now includes public relations, marketing and advertising professionals, something that is very important to me.

Isn't it great that for the first time in our 123-year history we have a communications division that is able to carry our message, able to deliver our message to the public.

Now one of our biggest challenges is agreeing on what that message should be and in order to do that we need to agree on what the AKC is and what it should be, a challenge, because the reality is about 80 percent of our registrations come from people outside the sport of dogs. Having a difference of opinion about how to deal with this issue is healthy. As the old saying goes, if two minds are in complete agreement, then one of them is unnecessary.

I truly believe that all of our views are essential to the health of the American Kennel Club but I also believe that our current challenges do not stem from fundamental disagreements about the AKC but, rather, from poor communication because we are not all looking at the same information.

As we improve our internal communication procedures, and we are taking baby steps now with the mixed breed initiative, and we begin to share information with you and seek your input before we act, I have faith that we can become an even stronger organization than we've ever been. To me, the establishment of good internal communications is our most urgent task. So this is my priority and that is why I decided to run again and that is why I ask for your vote today. Thank you.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Patti.

The sixth candidate is Cindy Vogels representing the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America.

Ms. Vogels: Mr. President, Mr. Chairman, fellow Delegates, I have a wonderful role model, my mother. Many of you out there know her. You know the cute little gray-haired lady running around the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier ring, Grandma Wheaten. She instilled in me a great love of our sport. She also encouraged me to be independent, fair-minded, and, above all, honest.

I seek an AKC Board position because I honestly believe that I can help this organization move forward by helping to bring all of us together.

I have no personal agenda, no ax to grind. I pride myself on being fair and unbiased. I can listen to all sides of an issue and seek common-sense solutions to problems.

We must broadcast the strengths of AKC. We need to make the public aware of the good work the Canine Health

Foundation does, not just for dogs, but also the impact that our research has on human medicine as well. Performance events are wildly popular so let's take these strengths and use them to make the public demand an AKC dog.

We all know how we are being attacked, by for-profit registries, anti-dog laws, animal rights groups. But we can overcome all of that if we are united as champions of purebred dogs. On the Board I'll bring new and creative approaches to build a better network of dog lovers across the country who will rally around our causes.

I can do this because of the contacts I've made over 39 years of breeding, showing, judging, and working on behalf of purebred dogs all across this great nation. In Rockville Centre, New York where I grew up, showing Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers; in Providence, Rhode Island after college, obedience training; In Denver, Colorado where I live with David, my husband of almost 30 years, and where I'm a member of two all-breed clubs, serving as secretary and show chair for one and in Temple, Texas, where I made lifelong friends driving hundreds of miles every weekend campaigning my first special.

I've bred well over 100 champions and have shown many breeds of dogs coast to coast. I serve on the boards of both the AKC Canine Health Foundation and Take the Lead. My articles appear regularly in the *AKC GAZETTE* and other dog publications.

On the Board, I'll use my management know-how as co-owner of a publishing company to develop innovative ways of communicating so that your ideas and those of the fancy are responded to.

Dedication, know-how, common sense, I'll be your champion on the Board. And if you have any doubts, just ask Grandma Wheaten. Thank you very much.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Cindy.

Delegates are reminded that elections in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order, require a majority to elect. There are three vacancies to be elected today. If more than three candidates receive a majority vote, the three receiving the highest number of votes are elected. But if less than three candidates receive a majority vote, the candidates receiving the majority vote are elected and all other candidates

remain on the ballot for the necessary repeat balloting. Vote for no more than three. Only one vote per candidate will be counted. A totally blank ballot is not counted towards the majority. A ballot with more than three votes is invalid but does count towards the majority. In order to facilitate the tabulation of ballots, we ask that you only fold your ballot in half.

After the results of each ballot are reported, the Chair will give ample time and opportunity for any candidate who wishes to withdraw. A representative of Ernst & Young, our accounting firm, will oversee the tellers who will conduct the election and count the ballots. All candidates have been offered the opportunity to observe the election procedures. After it appears that everyone present has voted, the Chair will inquire as to whether everyone who wishes to vote has done so, and the polls will then be declared closed.

A second ballot, if necessary, will be cast just before we proceed to lunch.

Delegates are reminded that there are eight polling stations in the back of the room. Please line up by your last name and give the teller your name and your club's name.

The staff will now distribute the ballot and the polls are open.

(voting)

Mr. Sprung: Delegates, is there anyone who wishes to vote who has not done so?

The Chair declares the polls are closed.

New Delegates have been requested to submit individual photographs for publication in the *AKC GAZETTE*. Any Delegate who wishes to do so and has not, please see the photographer during recess or following adjournment.

The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the names of Delegates seated since the last meeting.

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

Diane Angeli, Dallas, TX, to represent San Mateo Kennel Club. William H. Blair, Greenwich, CT, to represent Progressive Dog Club

Jean Evanoff, Manakin Sabot, VA, to represent Sioux Valley Kennel Club

Eibhlin Glennon, Antioch, IL, to represent Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club

Jeffrey P. Helsdon, Gig Harbor, WA, to represent Doberman Pinscher Club of America

Alan Kalter, Ann Arbor, MI, to represent American Bullmastiff Association

Fred T. Kampo, Oshkosh, WI, to represent Wisconsin Amateur Retriever Trial Club

Patricia J. Lombardi, Brooksville, FL, to represent Pasco Florida Kennel Club

Marjorie McTernan, Punta Gorda, FL, to represent Norwich and Norfolk Terrier Club

LuAnn Moore, Shreveport, LA, to represent Shreveport Kennel Club

Rodney Russell, Orlando, FL, to represent Orlando Dog Training Club

Jane Ruthford, Maple Valley, WA, to represent Havanese Club of America

Norma J. Ryan, Bel Air, MD, to represent Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland

Cheryl D. Speed, Tampa, FL, to represent American Black and Tan Coonhound Club

Mary Strom, Carlton, OR, to represent Parson Russell Terrier Association of America

Zoila (Tina) Truesdale, Seekonk, MA, to represent Spokane Kennel Club

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

Jean Evanoff, Manakin Sabot, VA, Sioux Valley Kennel Club

Eibhlin Glennon, Antioch, IL, Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club

Wayne F. Harmon, Minneapolis, IN, Cambridge Minnesota, Kennel Club

Jeffrey P. Helsdon, Gig Harbor, WA, Doberman Pinscher Club of America

Alan Kalter, Ann Arbor, MI, American Bullmastiff Association

Fred T. Kampo, Oshkosh, WI, Wisconsin Amateur Retriever Trial Club

Patricia J. Lombardi, Brooksville, FL, Pasco Florida Kennel Club

Marjorie McTernan, Punta Gorda, FL, Norwich and Norfolk Terrier Club

Rodney Russell, Orlando, FL, Orlando Dog Training Club

Jane Ruthford, Maple Valley, WA, Havanese Club of America

Norma J. Ryan, Bel Air, MD, Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland

Cheryl D. Speed, Tampa, FL, American Black and Tan Coonhound Club

Mary Strom, Carlton, OR, Parson Russell Terrier Association of America

Zoila (Tina) Truesdale, Seekonk, MA, Spokane Kennel Club

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

The minutes of the December 5, 2006 Delegates Meeting were published in the January *AKC GAZETTE* and they were mailed to each Delegate. If there are no corrections, the minutes will stand approved as published.

Hearing no corrections, the minutes stand approved.

The next item is on the approval of new member clubs. The following clubs have been approved by the Board of Directors and will be voted on at this meeting:

Canada Del Oro Kennel Club

Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts

Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California.

In accordance with the Bylaws, a written ballot shall be required if requested in writing by at least five Delegates, made to the Executive Secretary of the American Kennel Club, seven days prior to the start of the meeting at which such election is scheduled.

The Chair has been advised that no such request has been made to the Executive Secretary. We will therefore proceed with the vote. An affirmative vote of four-fifths of all Delegates is required to elect.

The Chair recognized Steven Gladstone, Delegate for the Reno Kennel Club who spoke as follows:

As I discussed in a couple of the meetings yesterday, I am very concerned about the election to membership of group clubs. I will correct a statement that I made in that we have indeed elected two group clubs, one of which has their new Delegate seated today. I had intended to ask for a division of the vote. However, I have been prevailed upon to suggest that it is inappropriate to not elect a club that is eligible for membership. So I am not going to ask for that division.

However, I am going to say to the Delegates that in my opinion we have a significant problem in the organization of the Delegate body and the governance of the AKC with respect to who is and is not eligible for membership and how we structure our meetings and how we structure the representation of people throughout the sport, not only within our conformation, field trial and obedience areas, who are the only clubs that are eligible for membership.

So while I will not ask for a division of the question today, I will raise to bring you my concerns about the future of the organization of the governance of the Kennel Club. I hope that we will use this opportunity to begin a conversation about how we need to go forward to properly govern our entire constituency and all of our sports. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

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

Steve, I'm very glad you are not going to ask for the division today. And yes, I think it is well within the purview and responsibility of the Delegate body and Board to think about the future of the AKC in terms of the forms of representation, in terms of appropriate representation that represents our sport and all of our clubs. And I would like to add to what Steve has said, that I think that since there are a number of clubs, whether they be all-breed clubs, obedience clubs, group clubs, who have worked for five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten years in order to fulfill the requirements when they were told by the AKC that once you have fulfilled them you will be eligible, that if we go into this discussion that we keep in mind that maybe it isn't opportune, appropriate, or fair to change the rules of the game as people are about to complete what they have in good faith begun. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. The question is on the election of the Canada Del Oro Kennel Club as a member of the American Kennel Club. Those in favor, please raise your hand.

Thank you. Those opposed, please raise your hand. Thank you.

There are four-fifths in the affirmative. The Chair declares that the Canada Del Oro Kennel Club has been duly elected a member of the American Kennel Club.

The question is on the election of the Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts as a member of the AKC. Those in favor, please raise your hand. Thank you. Those opposed, please raise your hand. Thank you.

There are four-fifths in the affirmative. The Chair declares that the Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts has been duly elected a member of AKC.

The question is on the election of the Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California as a member of the American Kennel Club. Those in favor, please raise your hand. Thank you. Those opposed, please raise your hand. Thank you.

There are four-fifths in the affirmative and the Chair declares that the Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California has been elected a member of the American Kennel Club.

The Chair calls on Ron Menaker for the Chairman's report.

Mr. Menaker: Good morning. The American Kennel Club is the only purebred dog registry which mandates both registration as well as care and condition, quality control standards, enforced through ongoing, rigorous inspections of AKC breeders.

New for 1991 the AKC's Compliance Department came into its own, going beyond the complaint-based systems of investigations to mandatory inspection for certain AKC breeders. Financial resources were allocated toward the creation of a dedicated, proactive inspections team. In the late 1990s we became the first and only registry to **enforce** a care and conditions policy by establishing protocols in our inspections program regarding the safety and welfare of the dogs and their environment. Today we have 14 field staff traveling across the country to conduct inspections.

In 2006 we conducted approximately 4,800 inspections nationwide in an effort to ensure adherence to our care and conditions, accurate record-keeping, and dog identification policies. We truly embody our tag line, "We are more than champion dogs, we are the dogs' champions."

The Board recently adopted enhancements to our inspection protocols which I strongly believe will continue to strengthen overall compliance for AKC breeders using our registry. The AKC spent more than \$5.7 million in 2006 to ensure the accuracy of its registry and the care and conditions of dogs raised by AKC breeders. New guidelines that are being implemented by the Compliance Department include:

- for the first time ever, breeders who register four to six litters annually with AKC will be randomly selected for inspection.

- As an added incentive for AKC breeders currently inspected who register 7 to 24 litters annually we will waive one 18-month inspection cycle for those who pass two consecutive AKC inspections. After the waiver they will be placed back on an 18-month inspection schedule.

We will continue with our current protocol of annual inspections of all breeders who register 25 or more litters, inspection of pet shops and distributors and conducting complaint-based inspections.

One of the new provisions includes inspections of breeders who register four to six litters per year. Formerly our emphasis was only on those breeding seven or more litters. Now breeders in the four to six litter category will be randomly selected for inspection.

We have found some among this group who only register a few litters in order to maintain AKC breeding stock but not enough litters to trigger an inspection. The new protocol will further strengthen our standard practice of inspecting mainly breeders who register from 7 to 24 litters per year. If these breeders are found to be in compliance for two consecutive inspections, then the AKC would defer inspection for the next inspection cycle. One of the goals of this change is to reallocate resources toward other areas of needed inspections while rewarding those breeders who consistently comply with AKC rules. This new inspection protocol was based upon data reflecting current registration demographics and compliance results. These statistics will be reviewed annually and resources will be adjusted, if necessary.

We continue to work diligently in areas where we have not changed Compliance protocol. For example, we still inspect breeders with 25 or more registered litters annually as well as pet shops and distributors that sell AKC puppies, and we inspect customers based upon signed written complaints with substantial documentation sent to the AKC.

One important aspect of our Compliance protocol includes our DNA program. DNA testing is utilized during inspections for verification of parentage and positive dog identification. The AKC's Frequently Used Sire Program, which requires AKC DNA profiling for every sire producing seven or more litters in a lifetime, or more than three litters in one calendar year, also aids in our compliance efforts to protect the integrity of the AKC registry.

Indeed, we are very proud of our compliance standards and continue to seek ways to use our resources to strengthen AKC's dedication in this area. Our com-

mitment to compliance protocol is tantamount to our commitment to purebred dogs. By focusing on education and cooperation as well as rewarding those breeders who adhere to AKC policies, we help to preserve the integrity of our registry and we improve the overall standard of dog breeding. Thank you.

(applause)

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

Last month we released our annual registration statistics, starting with an exclusive announcement on *The Today Show*.

Within a week, after appearances on Fox News, AOL, Martha Stewart Radio and *Saturday Night Live*, this successful PR campaign reached more than 50 million people. By week's end our top ten breeds made the "By the Numbers" feature in the *New York Times* "Week in Review." The fascination with lists, numbers and statistics is part of human nature.

I'd like to continue on that theme and provide AKC information by the numbers as it relates to our organization in 2006 as a club of clubs, as an ultimate resource for dog owners and from a business point of view.

Currently, there are 406 employees proudly dedicated to our traditions, including two new positions; Project Manager for Disaster Preparedness and an Archivist.

We had outstanding numbers at last month's open house, greeting more than 1,500 fanciers, among them some of the 61 new Delegates seated in 2006.

More than half of those new club representatives met with staff and Board members at the New Delegate Orientation last September, which management has made into an annual program.

We added two toll-free telephone numbers, one line exclusively for Delegates directly to my office and one for Event Cancellation notification.

128 new sanctioned clubs were welcomed. To date we are 597 member clubs strong with 3,900 additional licensed clubs. Staff introduced the AKC Sportsmanship Award for all member clubs.

Exhibitors and judges were offered a variety of educational tools made available nationwide.

Conformation had five seminars for show chairpersons, two new judges, and six continuing judges education seminars, and eight junior showmanship clinics.

Darrell Hayes and his staff met with the three national judges organizations to discuss opportunities for judges' education.

In Companion events, Curt Curtis' staff held 22 Obedience seminars, 20 rally, six tracking and an impressive 92 in agility for the new FAST class. We are researching the fundamentals of introducing an international obedience competition to create and foster interest in this long-standing sport.

In Bill Speck's Performance area, there were 21 Retriever Hunting Tests, ten Pointing Breed, and nine Spaniel Hunting Test seminars, as well as 19 covering Beagles, Herding, Lure Coursing and Earthdog.

Two coonhound seminars were presented by Steve Fielder's staff.

Ron Rella's Breeders' Department increased the Breeders' Symposia from three to six forums in cooperation with the Canine Health Foundation.

Our departments processed a total of 20,039 sanctioned events with nearly 3.1 million entries in titling events. This is an increase of 11 percent in events, primarily based on growth in Coonhound, Rally and Agility. We experienced double-digit growth, both in entries and events in Lure Coursing, Variable Surface Tracking, and Rally, and triple-digit growth in Coonhounds.

Robin Stansell and his staff met with the Dog Show Superintendents Association to find ways of working together to better our sport.

Reporting the facts to you, all numbers don't always improve, as we have seen in our overall registration statistics since 1992, but based on the Board's strategic plan we have begun to put the brakes on the downturn in litter registrations, experiencing a 1.7 percent decline from 2006 to 2005. We are working on the implementation of the Board's strategic plan tactics for individual registrations to follow.

In December our online litter registration reached an all-time high of 60 percent and online dog registrations reached 25 percent.

To continue all of the quality programs and to introduce new ones, our proactive marketing efforts have helped offset lower registration revenue. This includes AKC-licensed products available at over 4,700 retailers country-wide, including Costco, Home Depot, Wal-Mart and PetSmart, all of which brought ongoing alternative revenues.

We have also realized continued financial health through corporate sponsorships, beyond our relationship with P&G

Pet Care for the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship and dog.com, which offers e-certificates to breeders and new registrants.

A sponsorship agreement with Bayer for the AKC Canine Good Citizen Program was executed. An increase resulted in more than 33,000 dogs taking the test. Petco is now offering CGC testing in their stores.

I'm delighted to announce publicly for the first time that Bayer Healthcare, Animal Health Division, has agreed to sponsor the AKC Veterinary Outreach and Veterinary Network Program.

Two summer intern positions received corporate sponsorship, one from the AKC credit card provider, JPMorgan Chase, and one from Nestle Purina.

New York's Responsible Dog Ownership Day was sponsored by Pup-Peroni. Oster has become the sponsor of the AKC Registered Handlers Program, which offers the Junior Showmanship clinics where over 375 young fanciers participated.

In the Junior Showmanship arena, Mari-Beth O'Neill reports that the AKC Junior e-newsletter goes to 11,300 subscribers, more than double last year's circulation.

While we build our alternative resources we continue to successfully manage all aspects of our expenses company-wide.

AKC remains one of the most authoritative sources for endemic and non-endemic organizations to ask about dog owners' habits. I am pleased to announce that we have just concluded research for the AKC 21st Century Dog Owners Study and will be offering this wealth of information to those interested in the attitudes, behavior and consumer habits of dog owners. It will also serve as a public relations and marketing tool to present data about dog owners from a positive and documented approach.

On February 24th, we hosted the inaugural AKC Educational Match at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds where more than 200 novice exhibitors experienced a sanctioned match.

During the morning, education programs showcased the spectrum of fun and competitive dog activities that we offer. Topics included grooming, handling for both children and adults, finding and joining a local dog club and preparing to take the CGC test. Demonstrations of Obedience, Rally and Agility were ongoing. A similar match is planned for the New York area. Staff is researching the feasibility of a national rollout, which is part of

our Event Operations' initiative to make dog shows more attractive for new exhibitors.

Dog owners are the main beneficiary for all that AKC does, none more important than our own core constituency. Last year alone, Tom Sharp's Compliance Department completed approximately 4,800 inspections and is the subject of the current Chairman's Report.

Helping us educate the public about responsible dog ownership is Your AKC, the complementary e-newsletter which now goes to more than 875,000 dog owners every single month. This audience joins the 1.6 million unique users that visit our web site monthly.

Charlie Kneifel's ISD Department reaches out to our core constituency and others interested in dogs. In order to ensure the continued availability and security of AKC's data and services, I am pleased to announce that just last month the ISD Department successfully completed a test of its emergency plan by fully restoring the AKC's data center services at a testing facility in Philadelphia.

Once owners register their dogs with us, they are taking advantage of the Pet Healthcare Insurance offer which realized a growth of 33 percent for new enrollees.

Through our advertising and public relations efforts, AKC has reached approximately 785 million people. Adding to our branding initiatives were 11 televised AKC dog events.

But at the foundation of whatever you do with your dog is the right to own and make decisions for your dog. Our Canine Legislation Department had one of its busiest years ever. Staff monitored more than 650 Federal, State and Municipal bills and ordinances and helped oppose breed-specific legislation in more than 80 cities and counties. On the positive side, AKC opposition led to 69 percent of local governments rejecting such legislation in favor of more generic dangerous-dog ordinances.

As you can see by the numbers, the AKC staff continues to move forward building a stronger community of clubs, fanciers and dog owners for your future.

My gratitude to Chairman Ron Menaker, Vice Chairman David Merriam, and each Board member for their leadership, and to John Lyons and all of the staff for their accomplishments.

I will conclude by thanking each and every Delegate for your many efforts over the past year on behalf of the sport in countless ways, and to those of you that volunteered their services at the most recent AKC/Eukanuba National Championship...(PowerPoint presentation)

(applause)

The Chair calls on Jim Stevens, our CFO, for the annual financial report.

Mr. Stevens: Good morning. Well, now that Dennis has dazzled you with numbers, what is a finance guy going to talk about? I'll give it my best shot.

I have a few things to share with you today that you will find of interest. Two years ago at this time I had the distinct pleasure of standing up here before you to talk about the fact that we established a new record financial result for the AKC in 2004. Last year I had the pleasure of informing you that 2005 was the second-best year in AKC's financial history. Today, we will review the results for 2006, which overall were very good.

So if you look at the three years put together, one might conclude that maybe we are doing something right. At any rate, each of you should have received a copy of the 2006 audited financials. Consistent with prior years these financial results combine the AKC and AKC Companion Animal Recovery, commonly known as CAR. Generally accepted accounting principles require us to report our numbers in this fashion, so all the numbers that we will be reviewing with you today are the audited numbers which are AKC and CAR consolidated.

Let's begin by taking a look at what our revenues and expenses look like. If we compare 2006 to the previous year, you will see that total revenues were slightly higher. Total expenses were up by about 6 percent. This produced an operating surplus of \$3.2 million for the year, which was down from \$7 million the previous year. I would like to point out that these amounts exclude our investments. This is purely looking at the results of our operations.

Once we include investments, the picture changes dramatically. Our record investment gains of \$7.2 million in 2006 were almost double those of the prior year. This led to a net surplus of over \$10 million, which was just 2 percent behind the previous year.

While the bottom line for 2006 was excellent overall, you should be aware as to how the numbers comprising these results compare to the previous two years. I would like to point out to you that this is perhaps the most important slide I have to share with you today in terms of the information it contains.

In 2004 and 2005 our operating surplus (which appears here in blue) comprised two-thirds of our bottom line, while investments (which shows up here in yellow), contributed one-third of this amount. Frankly, this mix seemed reasonable for us. However, in 2006, this relationship became inverted whereby operations generated one-third of our net surplus while investments were responsible for the other two-thirds. This makes a huge difference.

We have been very fortunate to have the advantage of our investments making a significant contribution to our bottom line over the past three years. It has really been great. Nevertheless, we need to be cautious in not becoming overly reliant on our investments as a continuing major source of income, given the uncertainties in the stock market. Clearly if you look back just a few weeks ago, with the market dropping 400 points in one day, this makes it abundantly clear to all of us.

Let's now take a look at how 2006 revenues shaped up. In comparing our revenues for 2006 versus 2005, I would like to review some of the more significant changes with you.

Registration revenues overall dropped by \$2.3 million, and we will come back in a minute and review some further details on that. Fortunately, we were able to mitigate this decline with increases in other areas. Royalty and sponsorship revenues rose by \$1.3 million, primarily due to the success of our licensing programs and pet insurance. Recording and event fees were over a half a million dollars higher compared to the previous year, which was the result of increased entries in both agility and rally.

On the other hand, CAR's enrollment fees declined by over \$1 million as a consequence of not having a microchip affiliation. This situation has recently been addressed with CAR's introduction of a new chip. You should have already received some materials regarding this.

Here is an overview of the trend of registrations over the past five years. This reflects registrations as a percent of AKC's total revenues. Five years ago, registrations represented 62 percent of AKC's total revenues. However, as of the end of

last year, this number has now declined to only 51 percent.

If we next compare 2006 versus 2005, in terms of the number of registrations completed, you will see that dogs were down 5½ percent last year compared to the previous year and litters were down almost 2 percent.

If we then take a look at the longer-term trend of dog registrations over the last 15 years, unfortunately you will see here we remain in somewhat of a freefall. We are hopeful that steps being taken as part of implementing our strategic plan will gradually apply the brakes to this downward trend.

Here is what the trend looks like for litters over the same 15-year period. Although it is not a pretty picture, this decline has not been as dramatic as it has been for dogs.

On a more positive note, we are pleased to share with you that purchases of pedigree combination packages as part of dog registrations continue to be quite successful. Registrants opting for the gold or silver registration package have averaged over 40 percent for the past two years. This illustrates how registrants are taking advantage of value propositions we have to offer with registrations.

Let's next take a look at our expenses. Since payroll and benefits is our largest expense, we thought it would be useful to review how last year's expense compared to prior years. You can see here that this expense peaked at over \$33 million back in 2003. We subsequently initiated a number of major changes to our employee benefit plans which have generated significant cost savings. Employee benefits expense appears as green in this graph and you will see that, as a result of these changes, plus payroll reductions over 2004 and 2005, these expenses have been considerably lower.

This is really just one example of management tightening our belts in terms of exercising greater control over our costs. In 2006, payroll expense increased primarily due to higher pension and post-retirement expenses. This was a result of changes in our actuarial assumptions. I would like to note that fortunately these are non-cash expenses dictated by the accounting requirements and computed by our actuary. Doesn't that sound really exciting?

For your information, we currently have 406 employees. Beyond payroll,

some of our other expenses rose in 2006 for a number of reasons. Increases in professional and service fees rose as a result of a variety of services we used last year. These included consulting on disaster recovery and real estate matters, various legal fees, and off-site data storage. In addition, certain other expenses increased such as travel due to the generally higher prices associated with traveling last year. I'm sure all of you experienced that as well. The expense for Directors and Delegates rose due to the fact that we had five Delegate meetings in 2006, compared to the usual four. The higher expense in public education related primarily to the valuation of contributed air time we received for public service announcements.

We continue to look for opportunities to increase our operating efficiencies and reduce costs. Some of you may recall from one of the meetings last year where we noted that Dennis and I walk around the office turning out lights in conference rooms not being used. Well, it is something we continue to do. It is really a force of habit and, frankly, we really do this stuff. We do get some sense of satisfaction out of doing it. On the other hand, when I'm at home turning out lights, members of my family don't feel quite the same way. Oh well.

If we now shift gears, let's take a look at our balance sheet for 2006. It is clear that our financial position has strengthened considerably in 2006. Total assets increased by over \$11 million or 11 percent from the previous year, while our total liabilities rose by only 3 percent. That was certainly good news.

Consequently, our total net assets; which is comparable to shareholders' equity in a public company, increased appreciably by \$10 million to almost \$87 million at the end of 2006. This amount was a new all-time high for the organization.

The clearest indicator of how our financial condition has improved over the past five years is best illustrated by the dramatic increase in the value of our investments. Back in 2002 we had investments of about \$17 million which, frankly, wasn't all that bad. This amount has more than quadrupled over the past four years to over \$71 million at the end of 2006. We are very fortunate to be in this position today.

To illustrate how these investments have changed AKC's financial landscape, here is an overview of the income generat-

ed by our investments over the past five years. As you can clearly see, during the last four years, investments have made a very large contribution to our bottom line. This has been extremely beneficial in enhancing our financial status. However, I must again stress that we cannot presume this continued success in the future. The current turmoil in the stock markets clearly demonstrates this can never be taken for granted.

In reviewing how our investments specifically performed for last year, here is a comparison of what our portfolio returned versus some of the major stock market indices. The green bar on the left shows that we made almost 13 percent on our portfolio. Frankly, we were pretty pleased with that performance, given the rollercoaster ride in the markets last year.

It is also worth noting that our financial success over the past few years has allowed us to fully fund an operating reserve of \$32 million as recommended by our external auditors. In addition, we have been able to make some meaningful progress by providing funding for an endowment fund. \$14 million has been earmarked for this purpose as of the end of last year. As you may recall, the Board approved the establishment of this endowment fund so that investment returns on its assets would be available to meet AKC's operating expenses, while its principal is reserved for designated purposes and to meet unforeseen contingencies.

Article VII of AKC's Bylaws requires that reimbursed expenses incurred by Board members in conducting AKC business are to be reported to the Delegates annually. During 2006, Directors who attended Board and Committee meetings or functions in support of AKC business were reimbursed \$309,061 for travel and related costs.

In conclusion, again, we are pleased that 2006 overall was a financial success. As we move forward, management remains focused on sustaining our existing revenue base. We also continue to make every effort to control costs and seek opportunities to improve operating efficiencies. All of this is truly essential in order to facilitate our organization's future financial viability. Thank you.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Jim.

The Chair now calls on the Chair of the Tellers Committee, Michael Leone, of

Ernst & Young, to read the results of the balloting for the class of 2011.

Mr. Leone: Good morning. The total ballots were 401. The total number of votes to be elected were 202. The result of the ballots are as follows:

Dr. Carmen Battaglia, 177

Dr. Patricia Haines, 214

Judy A. Hart, 151

Kenneth A. Marden 207

Patti L. Strand, 233

and Cindy Vogels, 152 votes.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: The Chair declares that Dr. Patricia H. Haines, Kenneth A. Marden, and Patti L. Strand have been duly elected as members of the class of 2011. As there is no further balloting necessary, we will now continue with the rest of the meeting.

(applause)

I've just been advised of something more. It is time to break for lunch.

(Luncheon recess)

Mr. Sprung: I would like to ask Chairman Ron Menaker to address the Delegate body.

Mr. Menaker: Just a quick statement. Is Carmen here?

He is not here so let me just read something into the record, if I could. On behalf of the American Kennel Club Board, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Carmen Battaglia for his 13 years of service to AKC and the sport as a Board member.

As Chairman of the Board's Committee for the Future, Carmen was instrumental in the initiation of our current DNA program. As president of AKC's subsidiary, AKC CAR since 1996, he saw the expansion of that organization's mission beyond uniting distraught owners with their beloved pets to include support of canine search and rescue and disaster relief. This enabled AKC, through their subsidiary, to become directly involved in those efforts for the first time demonstrating that we do care and that we are truly the dogs' champion.

Carmen, I know that your fellow Board members and the AKC staff and the Delegates appreciate your contributions and are proud to have served with you. Will you join me in thanking Carmen for his

service to the AKC Board.

(standing ovation)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ron.

Before proceeding to voting on the proposed amendments, let's review the process to help all Delegates consider the amendments.

AKC staff will project the proposed amendments that Delegates are being asked to consider on the screens. The proposed amendment will be typed and shown on the screens.

If an amendment is adopted, the screens will reflect the proposal as amended. If an amendment is not adopted, the screens will project the originally proposed amendment. Delegates continue the consideration of the proposed amendment as thus amended or not amended.

The Chair intends to take a standing vote as a two-thirds vote is required to adopt. If necessary, the Chair will take an additional counted vote.

Today's first vote is on the proposed amendment to Article VIII, Board of Directors Nominating Committee - Timeline of AKC's Charter and Bylaws. The proposed amendment was requested by the Delegates Bylaws Committee. With this revision, the Nominating Committee will still be selected at the August Board meeting but would now be published in the September issue of the *AKC GAZETTE* as opposed to the October issue. The Nominating Committee would now be required to make its report no later than October 15th rather than the current December 1st. All petitions would be required to be submitted by November 15th. This would enable Delegates to get meaningful input from the candidates at the December/January Delegate meeting to take back to their clubs before the March election.

The proposal was read to you at the December 2006 meeting and it has been published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE*. It appears on the blue worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption. If adopted, it would be effective immediately and thus be followed for the March 2008 meeting.

Is there any discussion?

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

Since this amendment comes from the Bylaws Committee, I would like to speak for that committee and urge all of you to support this amendment. Although we have really improved the process by which we can get information about our candidates, I think all of us agree that it would be very helpful to be able to have that information in time to take back to our clubs rather than having the little speeches and voting immediately.

I think we would also like to have our information unfiltered, directly from the candidates, and I can't help but think those candidates would like the opportunity to speak to you directly. I would like to see this amendment pass so that we could say please, questions from the floor. I hope you will approve this amendment.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized John Ronald, Delegate for the Samoyed Club of America, who spoke as follows:

With all due respect to Gretchen, I have nothing but respect for her and if the system were broke I would say let's fix it. But I always kind of fall back to if it isn't broke, let's not fix it.

We just went through one ballot. We had a lot of candidates. We sorted them out. We had adequate time to hear what they had to say and we voted accordingly. My point being that this extends the election period and, you know, we go ahead and we vote in March for something that starts in October. I think we have real business to attend to without being sidelined by election politicking for an even longer period of time. I think it is unnecessary. The system is not broke. Let's not fix it.

The Chair recognized Judith Daniels, Delegate for the Mount Baker Kennel Club, who spoke as follows.

With all due respect to my colleague, John Ronald, we feel the system has been broken and is broken because many of you do not have the time to go to your clubs, particularly Parent Clubs who don't meet every week or every month. You need the information.

As far as our Bylaws Committee was concerned, we felt that one of the most important things we can do in the representation of our clubs and their members and the sport is to give adequate time to understand the direction each of the can-

didates would like to take this corporation. Therefore, we need this time.

With respect to elongating the election process, several of us were talking yesterday about how it really isn't going to elongate it because many of us have heard about who is going to be running next year and who is going to be running two years from now. The election process is a year-round process whether we would like to believe it or not. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Carl Ashby III, Delegate for the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, who spoke as follows:

As someone who has participated in the process, I think this is a needed change. It gives an opportunity to those of us who are lesser-known especially to get our ideas out to the clubs, not in letters, not in memos, none of those things. I don't think that will change much. I think it is the same interval for that type of thing. I think what will happen is it will give Delegates an opportunity to know the candidates earlier in the process which will then allow you to go back with real firsthand impressions to your clubs.

The way it is today, often good things come out of the caucus. But the truth is many of us come here already set on what we have been instructed to do. I looked at the timing of the letters this year. Many of them came out when we didn't even have an opportunity to review those with your club because the meetings had already been held.

But I really do urge you as someone who has been part of the process to seriously consider adopting this motion. It is not a matter of whether it is broke, it is more a matter of how we could make things better.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Naida Parker, Delegate for the Wampanoag Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

My question is a combination of this bylaw change and the bylaw change changing the number of signatures required to self-nominate. If the cutoff is going to be before the December Delegates meeting and the number of signatures is going to be raised from 20 to 50, is the combination of this going to make it more cumbersome and difficult for self-nominating people to get their name on

the ballot?

Mr. Crowley: I would say no. The majority of the Board nomination petitions are coming in by fax now. People are just circulating faxes and getting the signatures in. That would still be the case. It should not make it any more difficult or easy to get signatures because of the timeline. It really has no impact on getting the 20 signatures or the 50 signatures, whatever the case might be. So they are really two separate and unrelated amendments.

Mr. Gladstone: Hold on to your hats. I thoroughly and completely agree with Judy. I believe this timeline extension gives us an opportunity to have more discourse with the candidates, to understand what their issues are and to have a better opportunity to go back to your clubs with that information. I don't believe that it extends the election period because I believe, like Judy does, it is a year-round process.

With respect to the number of petitions, number of signatures necessary, as someone who also has been through that process, it took all of about three hours to get 20 signatures. It might have taken four hours to get 50 signatures. So I'm not sure that it is really relevant in today's situation where Jim accepts those petitions by fax. It is not the situation we had years and years ago. So I'm not sure that that is necessarily relevant. So I would support this amendment.

Mr. Sprung: The question is on Article VIII, Board of Directors Nominating Committee - Timeline, of AKC's Charter and Bylaws.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

There are two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment is adopted.

The second vote is on the proposed amendment to Article VIII, Board of Directors Nominating Committee - Petition of AKC's Charter and Bylaws. The proposed amendment was requested by the Delegates Bylaws Committee. The amendment would require all petitioners to have 50 signatures rather than 20. The reasoning is that if a Delegate cannot obtain 50 signatures, then he or she would have no real chance to get the 200 plus votes needed for election. If adopted, it

would be effective immediately and thus be followed for the March 2008 election.

The proposal was read to you at the last Delegates meeting. It has been published in two issues of the Gazette and is on the green worksheet before you. The Board recommends its approval. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

The question is on Article VIII, Board of Directors Nominating Committee - Petition of AKC's Charter and Bylaws.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

There are two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment is adopted.

The next vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 4, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The proposed amendment was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. The amendment would formally define the 6 to 9 and 9 to 12 month puppy classes.

The proposal was read at the December 2006 meeting. It has been published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and is on the tan worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 3, Section 4, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: There are two-thirds in the affirmative. The amendment is adopted.

The next vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 4, Section 3, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Approval of Judges' Panels and Premium Lists. The proposed amendment was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. The amendment would remove an obsolete reference to a non-existent sample.

The proposal was read at the December 2006 meeting and published in the last two issues of the Gazette. It is on the gray worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. A two-thirds vote is required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 4, Section 3, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Approval of Judges' Panels and Premium Lists.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

There are two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment is adopted.

The next vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 6, Section 4, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Premium Lists and Closing Entries. The proposed amendment was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to clarify the rule prohibiting a Best of Breed at designated specialties in breeds which have varieties.

The proposal was read in December. It has been published in two issues of the Gazette and appears on the lilac worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 6, Section 4, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Premium Lists and Closing Entries.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

There are two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment is adopted.

The next vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 9, Section 5, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Superintendents and Show Secretaries. The proposed amendment was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. The amendment would relieve an impractical requirement for clubs that have an off-site show veterinarian.

The proposal was read in December and published in the last two issues of the *GAZETTE*. It appears on the canary worksheet. The Board recommends its approval and a two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 9, Section 5, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Superintendents and Show Secretaries.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

There are two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment is adopted.

The final vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 10, Paragraph 2, of AKC's Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds, Beagle Field Trial Rules and Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Dachshunds. The proposed amendment was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. This modification would facilitate a field trial secretary's ability to retain entry information with their club's records while allowing faster submission of trial reports to the AKC.

The proposal was read to the Delegates at the December 2006 meeting. It has been published in the last two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and is on the pink worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

The Chair recognized Barbara Wicklund, Delegate for the Basset Hound Club of America, who spoke as follows:

I would also like to have an amendment to the rules change and, if it is seconded, I would like to speak to it. I do have a copy.

My club's proposal is to reword this. The goal is to eliminate Basset Hounds from the new requirement. It would read the full report of the trial shall be sent to the American Kennel Club by the Dachshund and Beagle clubs in time to be received by them no later than seven days after the closing date of the trial. Basset Hound clubs shall send entry forms within the same time frame. The final sentence would be changed to the Dachshund or Beagle club or association, etc., again, eliminating Basset Hounds.

Mr. Crowley: Barbara, it is probably easier, since you are talking about three different rule books, just to divide the question and vote on the Beagles and Dachshunds and separately vote on Basset Hounds.

Ms. Wicklund: I will do it any way you recommend.

Mr. Crowley: The cleanest way, since they are three separate rule books, would be to divide the question.

Ms. Wicklund: If I get a second, I will explain it.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second to the motion?

A Delegate: Second.

Ms. Wicklund: The reason our club is opposed to it, as I told several people before, we knew nothing about this. We had no input on this before it was introduced at the December meeting. Our field trial secretaries of course are all volunteers. Currently the AKC, as I've been told, maintains these records for 30 days and then destroys them because of lack of storage space. I don't know why they can't be scanned into your computer, but that's your business. We feel it is a burden on our volunteer field trial secretaries to ask them to retain records for a full year. Our clubs generally run two trials a year and that is a lot of paperwork to be keeping by a volunteer. We heard a talk yesterday by the AKC archivist who encouraged clubs to send our historical records to her rather than have volunteers maintaining them. And we have the same issue with the field trial records. We think the AKC should be maintaining them. Since you don't need them after 30 days, why do we have to keep them for 12 months?

Mr. Sprung: We have a motion and a second to divide the question. If passed, the first vote will be for Beagles and Dachshunds, then we will have a second vote with Basset Hounds.

Ms. Wicklund: That is fine. We certainly don't want to tell the Beagles and Dachshunds how to run their matters.

Mr. Sprung: We have a motion and a second, now we have to vote on dividing the question, which is a majority vote.

The Chair recognized Gwen McCullagh, Delegate for the Huntington Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Can I ask a question that I think is relevant to whether we were talking on the original item or now?

Mr. Sprung: Is your question about dividing the question?

Ms. McCullagh: Yes, I guess it is. My question is many more breeds than just these three have field trials. Is there a uniform or is there a plan to be a uniform system within AKC for dealing with all of the reporting for all of the field trials? I'm harkening back to John's comment about

greater efficiency, and I have no problem with whether we separate Beagles or Dachshunds, but it seems to me the more you fragment with different processes for different trials the less efficient it becomes. So I just wondered if there is an overall umbrella system in place now. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Bill Speck, could you address that, please?

Mr. Speck: Currently, the Pointing breeds, they were the first breeds to be able to retain their entry forms. Now we came up with this. For us to change this across the whole board, it would be quite a process and would take quite a bit of time because we are dealing with 13 venues in just the Performance events.

Now, what we are looking at, this is basically what we consider to be a house-keeping item. When a field trial secretary or an event secretary is required to send in the forms, that takes time, it costs the club a little money. We keep it for 30 days and then they are destroyed. This is a tool to make it easier on the event giving side and actually cost them less money in the long run.

Mr. Sprung: We have the question on dividing between the first vote being for Beagles and Dachshunds. Then there will be a second vote for Basset Hounds. Right now is a vote on whether to divide the question and majority rules.

All those in favor of dividing the question, please raise your hand. Thank you.

All those opposed. Thank you.

It has passed. We are going to divide the question.

The first is on the original motion applicable to only Beagles and Dachshunds.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: There were two-thirds in the affirmative. The amendment has passed.

We are now taking the second vote which is applicable only to Basset Hounds.

Are there any comments?

Mr. Gladstone: I thought the purpose was to allow an amendment to the section now with respect to Basset Hounds.

Mr. Sprung: The vote was to separate the question.

Mr. Gladstone: I thought that Mrs. Wicklund's amendment is now applicable to the proposal for Basset Hounds.

Mr. Sprung: Yes, we can take any amendment now or discussion on Basset Hounds.

Mr. Crowley: Steve, if this is defeated that would accomplish her purpose as the Basset rule book would not change and they would still be sending in their entry forms. By dividing the question it accomplished her goal of not having it apply to Bassets. So if this is defeated, Ms. Wicklund's goal will be achieved.

Mr. Sprung: Exactly, which is what Barbara was trying to achieve.

The Chair recognized Cindy Cooke, Delegate for the Kalamazoo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Ms. Cooke: I'm lost in the maze of Roberts' Rules. I would like to know why if AKC doesn't have to keep the entry forms longer than 30 days, why does the club have to keep them for longer than 30 days? If that would change, then they could be the same across the board. I think the Basset Hound people's primary objection seems to be keeping them for a year. In the interests of having the same rule across the board, why not let them throw them away after 30 days?

Mr. Sprung: Is that a motion?

Ms. Cooke: If there is a good reason for it, that is fine. But I will make the motion.

Mr. Crowley: That would be outside of the scope of this amendment. That would have to be proposed as a new amendment which would have to go through the normal reading and publication procedure.

Ms. Cooke: Okay. I propose to amend this to say a club or association holding a license for member club trial shall retain the entry forms for at least 30 days.

Mr. Crowley: That, again, could be a new amendment. There is a time certain

in the amendment now. You can't raise or lower without prior notice and submitting a new amendment.

Ms. Cooke: Okay.

Ms. Wicklund: I was going to say we would remove our objection if the retention period were reduced to 30 days. But if we can't do that, then my proposed amendment stands. As I understand it, if we vote "No" then we are voting to take this requirement off the Basset Hounds.

Mr. Crowley: The rule will stay just as it is at the present time.

Mr. Sprung: That is exactly right. It would stay as it is presently in the rule book.

The Chair recognized John McCullagh, Delegate for the Plainfield Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

We make great fanfare about the importance of the Parent Clubs in the activities of AKC. What Barbara is proposing has come from the Basset Hound Parent Club and expresses the wishes of her membership. I support whatever Barbara wants.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Eugenia Bishop, Delegate for the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, who spoke as follows:

I would like to answer a question of the individual who spoke in front of me. As the secretary for several years of our herding trials, I have kept all the paperwork. I have eight years worth of herding trials and I have kept all the backup. I got an inquiry more than two years after one of our trials and if I had thrown that paperwork out that person would have lost a championship. I feel these records should be kept where they are accessible, I don't care who keeps them, but there is a need to keep them.

Mr. Sprung: The question is on the addition to the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds.

All those in favor, please stand. Thank you.

All those opposed, please stand. Thank you.

There are not two-thirds in the affirmative. The amendment is not adopted. So there is no change to the rule affecting Basset Hounds.

The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 5, Section 6 of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Ribbons, Prizes and Trophies.

Mr. Crowley: The proposed amendment is to Chapter 5, Section 6 of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Ribbons, Prizes, and Trophies. This amendment would resolve a conflict between Chapter 5, Section 6 and Chapter 6, Section 8. The full text is on the salmon worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The proposed revision was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the June 2007 meeting.

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

The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 7, Section 16, of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Mr. Crowley: The proposed amendment is to Chapter 7, Section 16 of the AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This amendment would provide clarification of the judge's authority to excuse for any cause. For example, conflict of interest (such as a relative, coworker, business partner, etc.) The full text is on the cream worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The proposed revision was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the June 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Is there any discussion on this proposed amendment?

The Chair calls on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Chapter 12, Section 6 of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Mr. Crowley: The proposed amendment is to Chapter 12, Section 6 of the AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The amendment would resolve a conflict between Chapter 12, Section 6, and Chapter 6, Section 8. The full text is on the turquoise worksheet that was sent to all Delegates. The proposed revision was requested by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the June 2007 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Is there any discussion on

the proposed amendment?

The Chair now calls on John Lyons who has two items of interest to report.

Mr. Lyons: Good afternoon, everyone. First of all, as a follow-up to our announcement in December, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to our new director of performance events and officially welcome him to our team. His name is Doug Lundgren.

Secondly, there are five major parts to the Board's strategic plan. One of those sections concerns itself with the sport, specifically promoting its growth and increasing its quality. Today we would like to report out to you and keep you informed about one of our latest initiatives.

Three weeks ago Robin Stansell and his committee in a collaborative effort with several North Carolina kennel clubs conducted the AKC's first educational match with the emphasis on education. More than just a match, the event is targeted at the newcomer in a way that welcomes them to the AKC world and shows them how to get started on a very practical level. It is our hope that this concept will spread and be picked up as a project by our kennel clubs across the country. By doing so, we can increase the number of new exhibitors, get them off on the right foot, with the right message, and also provide a reservoir of prospective new talent for our clubs.

Now I would like to bring Robin up to describe the event in more detail for you.

Mr. Stansell: Good afternoon. We talked about this as a super match, or any number of names, before we've gotten established. This first prototype was to set a template and demonstrate the feasibility of having such a match. AKC realizes there are not many weekends available to hold matches. We also know that those weekend matches were instrumental in our education in learning the sport of dogs. Unfortunately, that opportunity doesn't readily exist these days. Evening matches are great for current exhibitors to train their puppies, but few new exhibitors will even know that they exist.

The new AKC educational match permits clubs to cluster together to provide a day of training new exhibitors and a match to perfect their skills. The goals of the educational match are to offer new owners the opportunity to explore AKC events and to meet the local clubs. They provide education and practice for poten-

tial exhibitors. They present an opportunity for clubs to gain new members. It is an opportunity for mentors to meet with exhibitors and have individual dialogue as to their individual needs. It provides an opportunity for multiple clubs to meet their compliance requirements for matches or educational programs.

When possible, I would suggest that you hold these educational events prior to the closing date for a local cluster. Another tactic would include providing seminars led by local training, handling and grooming experts. The experts could be either professional or from the clubs. You might also partner with a regional superintendent and provide an information table. This allows the superintendent an opportunity to answer questions, to sign up new exhibitors to their mailing list so they are aware of upcoming shows, and to accept entries for the events that are going to be closing soon after this event.

It should feature an AKC area table or booth to provide information for new exhibitors, and educate the general public about AKC services and programs. I would suggest you provide an attractive entry fee for the conformation and junior showmanship match and the obedience and rally run-throughs. You can recruit club volunteers to welcome, mentor, and educate new exhibitors. You should use judges that are welcoming and helpful for the new exhibitors.

The goal of the AKC educational match is to replace or augment the independent matches previously offered by individual clubs. At this prototype match we had an educational forum in the morning. We offered mini seminars and hands-on demonstrations relating to grooming, handling, and overviews and explanations of dog shows for beginners. We held handling classes for adults and juniors. The match also gave new exhibitors an opportunity to find and join local clubs, prepare for the CGC test, and see demonstrations of all the companion events.

During the afternoon we held a Sanctioned B match, obedience run-throughs and rally run-throughs. We also conducted CGC tests all day. Eighteen people satisfactorily completed CGC evaluations that day. The superintendent's table was open all day.

AKC communicated this concept with over 2,700 e-mails to owners (within a 100-mile radius of Raleigh) of newly registered dogs that have never previously

exhibited. We advertised in two local newspapers. With a little work we found all the online community calendars that provided free event listings. AKC posted media alerts, a press release and information fliers on the AKC web site. Here are some examples of the fliers and advertisements on the AKC web site promoting this match.

There was absolutely no question this was an AKC event! We had greeters to provide direction and a well-organized registration table to meet the exhibitors. Club tables, a few vendors, and the AKC booth surrounded the ring. We sorted the grooming areas by Group. The greeters directed the participants to their respective groups so they could communicate with someone more experienced in their own or a similar breed.

Event participants came from as far away as 130 miles. You can see the colored pins to demonstrate the geographical appeal. The companion event run-throughs and the demonstrations excited a lot of new interest.

13 local all-breed and specialty clubs participated in this prototype match. Each participating club is credited for meeting this year's requirements to hold future dog shows. There were 299 total entries (some were double entries) including 196 conformation entries. 32 percent of the entries were new exhibitors without previous experience. There were 56 obedience entries with 23 percent being new participants. There were 47 rally entries with 32 percent being new participants. And, again, 18 CGC certificates were awarded.

83 new exhibitors participated in this educational match. These new exhibitors generated 149 entries for the upcoming Raleigh cluster that closed last Wednesday. I believe 149 entries as a result of this match would be a significant boost to any cluster. Anyone would be pleased to have an additional 150 entries.

This event matched new exhibitors with experienced club members, groomers and trainers. And it provided an opportunity for AKC to track the future of the new exhibitors. In previous meetings I've discussed new exhibitors that frequently show six times or less. We are going to track the people who exhibited at this match to determine if they continue and to give more encouragement. Perhaps we can refresh some interest in the sport.

Here are a few pictures of conformation. You might recognize a couple of these judges. The companion events were extremely popular with 103 entries in obedience and rally. The enthusiastic participation of the staff who presented the seminars was contagious. The participating

clubs were enthusiastic. The handling class was exceptional. This new opportunity projected an enthusiasm that I've not recently seen.

Now, how can you hold a similar match in your area? You need to organize a cluster of clubs for logistics, advertising and staffing. You need to schedule the event to coincide with local show closings. You need to partner with local grooming and training businesses and with local clubs.

What will AKC do? We plan to provide information about AKC with publications and a booth. We will send e-mails to the owners of newly registered dogs around your territory. We will provide signage. The benefits include an opportunity for clubs to gain new members, additional entries for your shows, and educating the general public about AKC's programs and events. It satisfies match compliance and may also satisfy educational requirements in other areas such as CGC tests.

I'm encouraged by the success of this match and I look forward to seeing your clubs increase your entries and attract new members. I will be available until 3:30 to answer any questions. Thank you.

(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Robin.

The Chair now calls on Larry Sorenson, Director of Club and Public Education, to announce the first quarter Community Achievement Awards.

Mr. Sorenson: Good afternoon. I am pleased to announce the first quarter AKC 2007 Community Achievement Awards. These awards are given to clubs and AKC federations and their members who have made outstanding contribution to public education or canine legislation activities. The honorees receive a certificate of recognition. The AKC donates \$1,000 to each honoree's federation or club. Details of the honorees' accomplishments are published in the *AKC GAZETTE* and on the web site.

The first quarter honorees are: Northern Neck Kennel Club; Andrew D'Amrose, Elm City Kennel Club, Delegate - Joan Casperson; Janet DiNitto, Central New York Kennel Club, Delegate - Diane Demma Almy.

Let's congratulate these clubs.
(applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Larry.

For your information, the Monday, June 11, 2007 Delegates Meeting will be held in Las Vegas at Harrah's Las Vegas Hotel. In the next few weeks our Confer-

ence and Travel Department will be sending you information.

The Chair reminds the Board to meet at the conclusion of this meeting in room 506 on the fifth floor.

New Delegates, once again, you are reminded if you would like to be photographed, a photographer is waiting outside should you choose to do that after adjournment.

Delegates are reminded to leave their badges and to pick up your copy of the 2006 Annual Report at the registration desk as you leave.

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

The Chair recognized Rose Radel, Delegate for the Ramapo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman and fellow Delegates, first I would like to express special thanks to the Board and the staff for the wonderful AKC Open House that was held. I think that it was highly successful and I enjoyed it tremendously.

Also, I would like to say that the Barkfest was equally successful and just delightful and I would encourage anyone to attend this benefit brunch next year if it is held. I loved the dog treats on every tray that the caterers passed around and the fact that the dogs were there.

My club celebrates its 50th anniversary next year. We were pleased to receive exceptional historical data from your archivist. It is surprising how much information is available in the AKC Club Relations files and also at the library. And I don't know how many people here are aware, but I certainly was not aware that the catalog for the library is on a link to the AKC web site and also that they have key word and power search and browsing capability. I wonder how many people know this, because I certainly didn't. And also that the library even has books in 16 languages on our canines.

Would it be possible for this valuable resource to be given a future article in the *AKC GAZETTE* or even have a video produced that could be loaned to clubs so that they can use it as a program and that we can inform members that this is available?

Also, I would like to express thanks for the attractive Outstanding Sportsmanship medallion. Ramapo Kennel Club missed the Gaines awards medallions that they had for good sportsmanship years ago and so we instituted our own good sportsman-

ship award within the club. My question is, and by the way, the new AKC medalion will make a lovely companion piece to and certainly a very dignified piece to the award the club already gives, but I'm just wondering is it at all possible that we could get medallions, we did this I think eight years ago, we had eight recipients, and I'm wondering if we can purchase medallions for those who have already received the good sportsmanship award in our club, and there may be other clubs that have done this as well? I've asked Ron Rella to look into this and I think it would be very, very nice and a very meaningful thing to do if we could secure the AKC medallions for those recipients. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for the comments, Rose. We will work on your suggestions as far as the library is concerned and we will accommodate you and your club members' requests.

The Chair recognized Barbara Mann, Delegate from the Dayton Dog Training Club, who spoke as follows:

I realize that the issue of the role of mixed breed dogs in the AKC is a very difficult one for many of the Delegates. I think over the course of the past couple of days in talking to people and going to committee meetings, I've come to understand and to appreciate the point of view of those of you who are strongly opposed to any role of mixed breeds in AKC competition. You are, after all, impassioned breeders and dedicated advocates of purebred dogs and the AKC has been the organization that has been your public voice in this passion.

To add mixed breeds to the, excuse me, mix, sounds like heresy. For those of you who have this perspective, I would like to ask you for a few minutes to listen to and try to understand my own point of view which differs from yours and perhaps to look at this issue with a fresh eye. I would like to do that by telling you some of my own history with the AKC.

Although I am a dedicated AKC Delegate and work hard to serve my club well, in some important ways I am not one of you but am much more like a member of the general public. I am not a breeder of dogs, purebred or otherwise. Years ago I was a backyard breeder of one AKC litter of Airedale Terriers and then I came to my senses and decided to leave breeding to those who had time, energy, interest and, yes, money to do it right. I admire

and appreciate those of you who do.

I have owned several AKC registered dogs from wonderful kennels. I don't show dogs in breed competition. At one time I thought I would be interested in doing that. My breed is the Airedale Terrier. That's the breed I'm in love with. And I was totally daunted by the amount of work involved in keeping the Airedale appearance up.

So how in the world did I end up here as an AKC Delegate? It all started out with my pet dog. He had happened to be an AKC registered Airedale, but he very easily could have been a mixed breed dog from the pound, because I didn't know any difference. I just happened to be in touch with a breeder who bred nice dogs and I ended up with a dog from her.

His behavior at six months of age was, I don't know how exactly shall I say this, dreadful. I knew nothing about how to change it. I made one of the best decisions in my life when I signed up for a beginning obedience class at the Dayton Dog Training Club which just happens to be an AKC member club. I didn't know that when I signed up and I frankly didn't care. It didn't matter to me because I didn't know why that was important.

While I was working my way through beginners class, I not only learned how to teach my Barney better manners, which was a job in itself, I also saw club members like Dave Mauer working with their competition obedience dogs and I fell in love, well, with Dave Mauer too, but also with the sport, with the sport of obedience competition. I wanted to do that too because it looked like fun.

So here I am. I think I'm an asset to my club. Besides being an AKC Delegate and, by the way, paying my own way to most of the meetings, I have served on the board, including a couple of terms as president. I have been obedience trial secretary several times and trial chair at least once. I teach obedience classes and work for the club in doing trials and tracking tests. But I started out as a member of the general public. I didn't become a supporter of the AKC because of my passion for purebred dogs, but for dogs in general.

I currently tell people that I own one and a half Airedale Terriers, both of which are rescue dogs. One of them is clearly a full blooded Airedale of unsung parentage. The other is not. They are neutered. I work with both of them. I would like to be able to honestly compete in AKC Companion events with both of them because they are my beloved companion dogs and I am proud of them.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. On that topic, I would like to urge all Delegates to please complete the survey that is ongoing until March 31st. As of this morning 250 Delegates have completed the survey and there are a total of 19,260 responses.

The Chair recognized, Steve Schmidt, Delegate for Texas Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I wanted to make a comment about an item I saw in the Board of Directors meeting in January of this year, namely the statistics that were brought forward that shows that the registration of puppies that are bred by Delegates is only slightly better than the general public, namely 48 percent for the general public and 64 percent for the Delegate body.

I was really kind of stunned when I saw these numbers because we have a lot of discussions and talk about how we could improve registration in our body and it seems like the Delegate body is missing an opportunity for themselves to have the one item that they have absolute control over, namely registering the puppies that they personally produce. I would say they are really kind of derelict in duty in not registering all puppies.

When we espouse all of the attributes that a person gains by having registration of a dog in the American Kennel Club, how can we do any less than register every single puppy that we produce? I know the economic impact would be minimal but I think it has a symbolic impact that is significant and I think that we should be using that symbolic impact to effect people in our all-breed clubs, parent clubs and everywhere else. I think this is an opportunity either to lead, follow, or get out of the way.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Lehr Brisbin, Delegate for Staffordshire Terrier Club of America, who spoke as follows:

As you might expect, I want to bring you an update from the wars against breed-specific legislation. But first, if I may take a note of personal privilege, I would like to mention the passing since the last Delegates meeting of one of the dearest and best friends I've ever had in my life, Mr. Jim Dearing. Those of us who knew Jim, you of course saw his memoriam in the *GAZETTE*, I don't need to tell you about all his accomplishments for purebred dogs.

A number of his friends gathered for a memorial service in Raleigh the first week

of January, we felt very much like a number of you people in this room who knew Jim and were with us there in spirit.

Secondly, with regard to the ongoing battles on legislation, first, as you probably know, the Toledo, Ohio, case has now been decided in our favor on appeal. I will bring you up to date on that in just a minute. Suffice to say, the very same team of expert witnesses and tacticians who did the Toledo case are now going into the state of Colorado to contest, and papers have been filed as plaintiffs against the breed-specific law in Denver. This is a terrible law and people's dogs are being picked up and killed because of what some animal control officer thinks they look like. We say that can't stand.

Next, I want to report that yesterday I got a call from Louisville, Kentucky. There has been a lawyer specializing in constitutional law hired. Papers will be filed against the Louisville dog restriction ordinance on Friday. We will be going into court – that is an insidious law because they took out the breed-specific part. Now we are fighting all breeds on the front of mandatory or onerous spay and neuter requirements. Our backs are going to be to the wall and I and the other expert witnesses need data. So if any of you or any of you and your club know animal behavior people or veterinarians who can give us case histories of when dogs were neutered and what the outcome was, whether or not it cured the aggression problem and what your feeling is about this, we certainly could use it.

Finally, I am pleased to report that coming back to Toledo, Ohio, on April 7th through 11th, the Ohio State Supreme Court is going to hear oral arguments from our attorneys on the appeal of that Toledo case. It has been agreed that regardless of who wins there at the Ohio State Supreme Court the loser will send this appeal on to the United States Supreme Court. I would like to believe that not if, but when the U.S. Supreme Court agrees to hear and decides this case in our favor, ladies and gentlemen, the entire United States will be free of breed-specific legislation forever.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Polly Fleming, Delegate for Kennel Club of Beverly Hills, who spoke as follows:

I want to speak on the mixed breed list-

ings subject. Our club and I are very much against it. However, I have a suggestion that we do have an exhibitors exhibition only, noncompetitive class, open to all AKC dogs and to all non-registered dogs. I believe that would help entries. They would not be listed. You could maybe have an EX 1 and EX 2 and so on and list their addresses in the back. I know we need the money.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for that suggestion.

The Chair recognized Nancy Fisk, Delegate for Hockamock Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I just wanted to say that it was extremely gratifying for our recent Ad Hoc Legislative Committee that has now worked to inform the legislative caucus with the backing of the AKC Board. Thank you very much. It was incredibly gratifying to see that room filled to standing room capacity Monday morning at 7:30 after the time change. Believe me, we do appreciate all of the attendance and we look forward to the next meeting and hopefully the progress will be ongoing.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Nancy.

Hearing no further business, the meeting stands adjourned.

The meeting adjourned.

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