

DELEGATES QUARTERLY MEETING SEPTEMBER 2006

Quarterly Meeting Of The Delegates of The American Kennel Club September 12, 2006

- Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 346
- Abilene Kennel Club—*Neil A. Bates*
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*
Airedale Terrier Club of America—*Aletta L. Moore*
Akita Club of America—*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 Bloodhound Club—*Mary L. Olszewski*
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—*Patte Klecan*
American Boxer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Stephanie Abraham*
American Brittany Club, Inc.—*Karen Stout*
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Mrs. Helma N. Weeks*
American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*
American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—*Mr. Edmund R. Sledzik*
American Maltese Association, Inc.—*Mr. Richard W. Glenn*
American Manchester Terrier Club—*Mrs. Phyllis J. Andreasen*
American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—*Don Farley, II*
American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Karen R. Spey*
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 Water Spaniel Club—*Beth Lagimoniere*
Anderson Kennel Club—*Phillip D. Sample*
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Antelope Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*William Daniels*
Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara A. Finch*
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Kim Occhiuti*
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Nina Schaefer*
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Barbara Wicklund*
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. John A. Studebaker*
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—*Wayne Boyd*
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—*Robin Sayko*
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*
Berks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frank S. Piehl*
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Denise Dean*
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Griffin*
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*
Bronx County Kennel Club—*Ms. Alexa Samarotto*
Brookhaven Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marie A. Fiore*
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—*Sam H. McDonald*
Bull Terrier Club of America—*Louis Wellons*
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 Collie Clan, Inc.—*Mrs. Evelyn Honig*
Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Eugenia B. Bishop*
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*
Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*
Catonsville Kennel Club—*Judith A. Porter*
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*
Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Claire K. Steidel*
Charleston Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*
Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Rey Burgos*
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nick Piasias*
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Ginny Atkinson*
Cincinnati Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Patricia H. Haines*
Clarksville Kennel Club—*Robert A. Schroll*
Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Maureen R. Setter*
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Ricky Blackman*
Colorado Kennel Club—*Louise Leone*
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Mrs. Andre B. Schoen*
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*
Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*James W. Smith*
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*
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*
Elm City Kennel Club—*Joan Caspersen*
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*
Erie Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Peggy Helming*
Evansville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kay Collins*
Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*
Field Spaniel Society of America—*Sharon Deputy*
Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Margaret B. Pough*
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*
Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc.—*Kurt Anderson*
Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Almira B. Dallas*
Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Mr. Harry G. Ottmann*
Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynda Kenney*
French Bulldog Club of America—*Mrs. Ann M. Hubbard*
Furniture City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merry J. Millner*
Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kathleen Nuzenski*
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*

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- Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*David Keene*
Greater Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Ronald H. Menaker*
Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia M. O'Connell*
Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—*Marlene Steinberg*
Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Clifford A. Dahl*
Greenville Kennel Club—*Linda A. Knorr*
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*
Hawaiian Kennel Club—*Norman B. Kenney*
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*
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 Water Spaniel Club of America—*Susan Tapp*
Irish Wolfhound Club of America—*Eugenia Hunter*
Italian Greyhound Club of America, Inc.—*Sondra Katz*
James River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mallory C. Driskill*
K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—*Mrs. Pam Goldman*
Kalamazoo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cindy Cooke*
Kanasasaga 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 Buffalo, Inc.—*Carole Plesur*
Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—*Mrs. Florence L. Prawl*
Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton*
Kennel Club of Pasadena—*Jarratt Brunson*
Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Inc.—*Charles H. Schaefer*
Kennel Club of Riverside—*Sylvia Thomas*
Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—*Paulann Phelan*
Key City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Fred C. Bock, II*
Kuvasz Club of America—*R. K. Barnes*
Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.—*Mr. A. N. Sills*
Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia Van Doren*
Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Ms. Virginia T. Rowland*
Ladies' Kennel Association of America—*Ruth Winston*
Lake Champlain Retriever Club—*Betsy Bernhard*
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*
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert LaBerge*
Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sue Goldberg*
Lima Kennel Club—*Ellen Fetter*
Long Island Kennel Club—*Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.*
Longshore-Southport Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan L. Fisher*
Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—*David M. Powers*
Macon Kennel Club—*Nell Stumpff*
Mad River Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Betty J. Miller*
Manitowoc County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Romana Arnold*
Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. J. C. Garvin*
Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. William R. Newman*
McKinley Kennel Club—*Herman H. Tietjen*
Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—*John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.*
Mid-Hudson Kennel Association, Inc.—*Gayle Bon-tecou*
Middleburg Kennel Club—*Dianne Ring*
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. McK-owen*
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*
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*
New England Beagle Club, Inc.—*Mr. Mario S. Palumbo*
New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Liz Sullivan*
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*
Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane F. Taylor*
Nisqually Kennel Club—*R. H. Hachtel*
North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F. Coletti*
Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club, Inc.—*Billie Ponton*
Oakland Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Lynette J. Saltzman*
Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia C. Scully*
Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—*James M. Ashton*
Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.—*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*
Otterhound Club of America—*Mark J. Hawley*
Ox Ridge Kennel Club—*Jack P. De Witt*
Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club—*Mr. Carl E. Gomes*
Papillon Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Arlene A. Czech*
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—*Maria Sacco*
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Judy A. Hart*
Peninsula Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Joanne Jay-tanie-Duncan*
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*
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*
Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kerstin T. Ottmar*
Puli Club of America, Inc.—*Barbara Edwards*
Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—*Florence R. Laicher*
Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne M. Rappaport*
Queensboro Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Linda M. Laccchia*
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*

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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*
Rockingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Janice S. Gardner*
Rockland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Justin*
Saluki Club of America—*Joseph P. Pendry*
Sammamish Kennel Club—*Robert Gloster*
Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
San Francisco Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Stanley S. Saltzman*
San Gabriel Valley Kennel Club—*Ralph S. Roberts*
Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*James R. Dok*
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*
Silver Bay Kennel Club of San Diego—*Nancy Dandrea*
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*
Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gloria Shaver*
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—*Cindy Vogels*
South Hills Kennel Club—*Mrs. Kathleen R. Parks*
South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Linda B. Willson*
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*
South 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. Iola*
Spinone Club of America—*James Channon*
Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*
St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—*Linda Baker*
St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—*Dr. Gerry Meisels*
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—*Ms. Ann Lettis*
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*I. L. Brisbin, Ph.D.*
Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Kathy A.*

Donovan
Staten Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Bernard E. McGivern, Jr.*
Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Paullet De Long*
Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Parrotti*
Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Florence Duggan*
Sussex Spaniel Club of America—*Mr. John R. Lewis, Jr.*
Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda H. Penney*
Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Manning*
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Karen Clausing*
Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thom 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*
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*
Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Joan E. McFadden*
Upper Suncoast Dog Training Club—*William H. Blair*
Vacationland Dog Club, Inc.—*Iris K. Frankel*
Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—*Mr. William F. Dumas*
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Lynn Worth*
Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.—*Suzanne Gray*
Walkkill Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cecil Mann*
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 Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Peter J. See*
West Volusia Kennel Club—*Ferdinand Reinlieb*
Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*
Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. William A. Russett*
Westminster Kennel Club—*William F. Stifel*
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*
Women's Field Trial Club—*Judy Rasmuson*
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Jan Marshall*
Worcester County Kennel Club—*John H. Honig*
Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia D. Reynolds*

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair.

Mr. Sprung: Delegates, please take your seats. The meeting will come to order. We would like to thank 14 clubs for their hospitality last evening at the Delegates Reception. This team included the following clubs: Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club; Gloucester County Kennel Club; K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ; Monmouth County Kennel Club; Newton Kennel Club; Plainfield Kennel Club; Ramapo Kennel Club; Somerset Hills Kennel Club; South Jersey Kennel Club; Sussex Hills Kennel Club; Tuxedo Park Kennel Club; Twin Brooks Kennel Club; Union County Kennel Club; and Westminster Kennel Club.

If there is any Delegate present who has not signed the attendance record, please be sure to do so before adjournment, as this is the official record of attendance.

The Chair would like to introduce the persons seated with me on the dais. On my immediate left is the Chairman, Ron Menaker. To his left is the Vice Chair, David Merriam. On my right is Doris Abate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian. To her right is Jim Crowley, the Executive Secretary, and to Mr. Crowley's right is Mark Schaffer, the court reporter.

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

We will soon vote for the Delegate Standing Committees. Delegates may use the ballots that were sent to you. If you need a ballot, members of the AKC staff have them for you.

Remember that in marking your ballots, if you vote for more than the maximum number permitted for a committee, the ballot will be invalid. When you have marked your ballots, I will ask you to please go to the back of the room to the eight polling stations and provide your last name and your club's name to the teller.

As has been our practice in the past, the tabulation of ballots will be overseen by the accounting firm of Ernst & Young. When you have voted, please return to your seats so that we may resume the meeting. Results of the

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election to the Standing Committees will be announced during the meeting.

Also, at an appropriate point in the meeting, we will break for lunch. Our staff is passing out ballots, and the Chair now calls for a vote of the Standing Committees.

(Voting)

Mr. Sprung: Are there any Delegates wishing to cast a ballot who have not yet had an opportunity to do so? If all Delegates who wish to vote have done so, the Chair declares the polls closed and the tellers may retire to count the ballots.

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

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

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

Robert A. Amen, Stamford, Connecticut, to represent the Port Chester Obedience Training Club

Betsy Bernhard, Stowe, Vermont, to represent Lake Champlain Retriever Club

Michael J. Connell, Las Vegas, Nevada, to represent Silver State Kennel Club

Catherine Diener Farrell, Westhampton, New York, to represent Riverhead Kennel Club

Karen Justin, Westtown, New York, to represent Rockland County Kennel Club

Louise Leone, Franktown, Colorado, to represent Colorado Kennel Club

Sam Houston McDonald, Chester Springs, Pennsylvania, to represent Bryn Mawr Kennel Club

Joseph A. Martyn, Manahawkin, New Jersey, to represent Trenton Kennel Club

Janis Lowy Mullin, Highland Park, Illinois, to represent Chicago Bulldog Club

Carol Myers, Jacksonville, Florida, to represent Jacksonville Dog Fanciers Association

Lieutenant Colonel John L. O'Connell, West Simsbury, Connecticut, to represent First Company Governor's Foot Guard Athletic Association

Niklas G. Piasias, Corvallis, Oregon, to represent Chintimini Kennel Club

Lynette Saltzman, Westport, Connecticut, to represent Oakland Dog Training Club

Nance Olson Skoglund, Mahtomedi, Minnesota, to represent Gordon Setter Club of America

Lee J. Slorah, Norwalk, Iowa, to represent Des Moines Obedience Training Club

Marilyn R. Vinson, Glendale, Arizona, to represent Kachina Kennel Club.

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

Leonard G. Abraham, Belchertown, Massachusetts, Holyoke Kennel Club

Robert A. Amen, Stamford, Connecticut, Port Chester Obedience Training Club

Patricia M. Cruz, Coram, NY, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club

Barbara Edwards, Brighton, Colorado, Puli Club of America

Catherine Diener Farrell, Westhampton New York, Riverhead Kennel Club

Karen Justin, Westtown, New York, Rockland County Kennel Club

Louise Leone, Franktown, Colorado, Colorado Kennel Club

Sam Houston MacDonald, Chester Springs, Pennsylvania, Bryn Mawr Kennel Club

Joseph Martyn, Manahawkin, NJ, Trenton Kennel Club

Lieutenant Colonel John L. O'Connell, West Simsbury, Connecticut, First Company Governor's Foot Guard Athletic Association

Nicklas G. Piasias, Corvallis, Oregon, Chintimini Kennel Club

Nance Olson Skoglund, Mahtomedi, Minnesota, Gordon Setter Club of America

Lee J. Slorah, Norwalk, Iowa, Des Moines Obedience Training Club

Margaret M. Uminsky, Levittown, New York, Nassau Dog Training Club

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, and a sincere welcome to all of our new Delegates. On Sunday, the AKC management team hosted the Orientation for new Delegates. We would like to thank the 32 attendees and the Board of

Directors. It was very successful, and we believe well received.

I also want to thank Dan Smyth, Chairman of the Delegates Advocacy and Advancement Committee, for his participation and advice to the new Delegates.

The minutes of the June 13th, 2006 meeting were published in the *AKC GAZETTE* and they were mailed to each Delegate. If there are no corrections, the minutes will stand approved as published. Hearing no correction, the minutes stand approved.

The next item is 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:

Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland; Havanese Club of America; Orlando Dog Training Club; Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club.

In accordance with the Bylaws, a written ballot shall be recorded if requested in writing by at least five Delegates, mailed to the Executive Secretary of the American Kennel Club seven days prior to the meeting at which such election is scheduled. The Chair has been advised by the Executive Secretary that no such request has been received. Therefore, we will proceed with the vote. An affirmative vote of four fifths of all Delegates in attendance is required.

The question is on the election of the Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland 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 Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland has been duly elected a member of the American Kennel Club.

The question is on the election of the Havanese Club of America as an AKC member 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 the Havanese Club of America a duly elected member of AKC.

The question is on the election of the Orlando Dog Training Club as an AKC member club. Those in favor, please raise your hand. Thank you.

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Those opposed, please raise your hand. Thank you.

There are four-fifths in the affirmative and the Chair declares that the Orlando Dog Training Club is duly elected an AKC member club.

The question is on the election of the Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club as a member of the American Kennel Club. All those in favor, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed, please raise your hand. Thank you.

There were four-fifths in the affirmative and the Chair declares the Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club a duly elected member of the American Kennel Club.

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

Mr. Menaker: Good morning. For more than 122 years, AKC has been the premier organization supporting purebred dogs. The fancier relies upon a registry of integrity, and the logistical support behind our more than 18,500 events annually.

The pet owner exhibits the pride of owning an AKC-registered dog and the knowledge of their special dog's lineage. What both fancier and pet owner share is a love of their special dog and the responsibility that goes with ownership. Registration, like membership, has its privileges and responsibilities. Educated fanciers know the unique benefits of AKC registration. For the pet owner as well, these benefits include the option of 60 days of complimentary pet insurance, veterinary network certificates, dog.com coupons, the AKC New Puppy Handbook and knowing that registration dollars fund canine health research, public education and fighting for the rights of responsible breeders and dog owners.

AKC's message is clear: Registration dollars promote responsible dog ownership. On September 17th, the American Kennel Club celebrates Responsible Dog Ownership Day, and once again more than 350 clubs and organizations nationwide are joining us by holding celebratory events that educate the public and local communities. As part of this year's celebration, we bring our message to life with the AKC Responsible Dog Owner "Pet Promise," which includes a "top 10" list of responsibilities for dog ownership.

You have a unique opportunity to promote the responsible dog owner-

ship message. I urge you to take advantage of your expertise and the resources AKC offers in conjunction with RDO Day. I also urge you as a Delegate to support RDO Day. A handout which you will receive at the conclusion of the meeting will give you specific suggestions.

As part of this public education initiative, I invite you to attend one of the RDO events in your area of the country. With teamwork, the AKC and the Fancy can make the greatest impact on the lives of dogs by making it a priority for those who care for them.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ron. The Chair calls on Jim Stevens, Chief Financial Officer, for the financial report.

Mr. Stevens: Good morning. Overall, our financial results to date so far this year have looked pretty good. Here's an overview of what our current numbers from operations look like for the first eight months of this year compared to the same period last year.

Total revenues were slightly above last year, while total expenses were up a modest two and a half percent compared to 2005. This produced an operating profit of \$3.2 million, versus \$3.9 million last year. Therefore, on an operating basis, we are 17 percent behind last year's results. The fact that this number is declining is something we'd like to improve upon. Please recognize that these numbers exclude the impact of our investments.

This picture changes considerably when we include our investments. Our portfolio has produced unrealized gains of almost two and a half million dollars for the first eight months of this year. This was 36 percent better than the previous year. Consequently, our bottom line reflects a net surplus of \$5.7 million, which is just marginally below last year.

Before we get into the details of our financial results, we are pleased to report that more registrations continue to be completed on line. The percentage of litters which are being registered on line has now increased to 50 percent as of the end of last month. This compares to 41 percent at the same time last year.

On-line dog registrations have also increased significantly. Recently they reached an all-time high of 20 percent,

and this number is 50 percent greater than the highest level of usage last year. We are certainly very pleased with these developments.

However, the trend with registration revenues continues to be disappointing. The number of litter registrations for the first eight months of this year is down one percent compared to the previous year. As many of you may recall from the June Delegates meeting, we reviewed with you how dog registrations have been in a downward spiral since 1992. Unfortunately, this trend still persists in 2006. Dog registrations for the first eight months of this year have declined by almost six percent from 2005, which is not good.

You might ask the question, what is AKC doing about this? The answer is that there is no quick fix or silver bullet to solve this problem. This is something which AKC's management team and Board have struggled with since 1992. What we can tell you today is that the strategic business plan which was approved by the Board last year has identified various registration initiatives. We do not expect that any of these initiatives will have an immediate impact. In fact, it will probably take up to five years for the combination of all these initiatives to produce meaningful results.

One of the principle strategies of the plan is to increase registrations by addressing the needs of all customer groups. We are creating programs which will reach all dog owners, breeders and fanciers. We recognize that in order to be successful, we must reach all of these groups.

Here are some of the registration initiatives which are currently underway. Earlier today, Keith Frazier talked about our outreach to veterinarians. This is one of the key audiences we need to reach in order to positively impact AKC registrations. Programs like Vet Net allow us to reach vets, but also offer tangible benefits to dog owners and breeders.

During the past few months we have introduced other incentives, including a simplified full litter registration process for breeders and various discount coupons for litter registrations. Dog owners are receiving incentives such as the previously described Vet Net program and dog.com coupons.

We also are working on some additional initiatives. Fully communicating

the benefits of AKC registration is best done before the buyer takes their new pet home. Therefore, AKC is embarking on a strategic relationship with Petland that involves educating their employees about the benefits of AKC registration and providing their customers with materials about registering with us.

As you know, AKC registered dogs have always been sold in pet stores. This program we are designing will encourage the store to differentiate AKC registration from the myriad of other for-profit registries. What sets our registry apart from others is our comprehensive inspection and quality control programs.

Working with pet stores will widen the pool of AKC registered dogs and provide the opportunity to improve the lives of dogs, educate owners, and enhance their pet ownership experience via AKC programs and services.

Another aspect of our strategic plan involves placing ads in publications which reach a broad range of people in the pet industry. These ads drive home a message specifically designed for this group, that AKC registration is unique and preferred by pet owners. These ads are intended to distinguish AKC from the other registries and highlight our longevity, high standards and overall value.

We will keep you updated on these new initiatives as we continue to work on these in the future, so that we reach dog owners in ways we never have before. As a result, many dog owners will be introduced to the benefits which our organization has to offer. We are confident that the impact of these efforts will assist in reversing the downward trend in registrations. As you know, registration revenues are critical in providing the necessary funding for most of AKC's programs.

Shifting gears back to our financial results, here's an overview of the composition of our year-to-date operating expenses for this year versus the previous two years.

As you see illustrated in this graph, I'm sure you will agree that management has been very effective in controlling expenses over the past three years. Year-to-date operating expenses for the year are \$41.4 million, and this was only two and a half percent higher than 2005. Payroll and benefits expense, which appears as gold on this

graph, continue to represent half of our total expenses. This expense is 4.7 percent higher than last year, primarily due to increased headcount. The total of all other expenses are essentially in line with last year.

At the last Delegates meeting, we also reported to you some financial data concerning events. We noted that this area lost approximately ten million dollars in 2005. This year there have been 8,500 events to date, which was up 12 and a half percent from 2005. The total number of entries in events so far this year has been 1.8 million, which is two and a half percent above last year.

Based on how the current year is shaping up, we would anticipate that this year's loss from events will be comparable to last year. This leaves a great deal to be desired, given the continued erosion in our registration revenues.

One good piece of news is that as previously noted, our investments continue to turbo charge our bottom line. Again, these investments generate a gain of two and a half million dollars for the first eight months of the year. We have been very fortunate that this amount has continued to increase each year, as illustrated here. Our year-to-date return on investments through the end of last month was 4.8 percent, which frankly was a pretty decent return considering the roller coaster ride in the stock market over the last few months.

Nevertheless, despite these favorable returns, we should never take this for granted. The turbulence in the stock market over the past few months clearly demonstrate this.

As you may recall, at our last meeting David Merriam talked about the fact that there was a need to establish an endowment fund reserve. The Board deemed this to be fiscally prudent in order to solidify AKC's financial future. We are pleased to report that the current balance in this reserve as of the end of last month was seven million dollars.

In conclusion, I'd like to remind you again that the strategic planning initiatives regarding registrations don't offer a quick fix. We are only in the first few months of what is anticipated to be a five-year plan. While we are pleased with our overall 2006 financial results to date, we recognize that there is

always room for improvement.

Thank you.
(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Jim.

Next on the agenda is the President's report.

It is impossible to ignore that five years ago almost to the day, on September 11th, 2001, many of us were gathered here in this very ballroom, when terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and a great tragedy befell our nation. On that day amidst uncertainty, anxiety loomed and emotions ran high as we watched events unfold just across the river.

I would like us to pause for a moment of silence for those brave souls and innocent civilians who lost their lives on 9/11.

(A moment of silence is observed.)

Mr. Sprung: As I look back on that day with many thoughts, one feeling emerges about the composure and compassion of the Delegate body. Immediately faced with personal and national adversity, I was seated with you and watched as we all pulled together as a community to offer assistance, whether it was to console one another, make sure loved ones in New York City were secure, reach out to your family and your dogs, or days later help a stranded Delegate return home.

Born out of the Twin Towers tragedy, the compassion continued with your support of our DOGNY fund-raising project to help search and rescue dogs nationwide for generations to come.

Two weeks ago we marked the first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and the unparalleled devastation of the natural disaster that followed in the Gulf region for both man and his best friend. Again, I witnessed the caring, the giving and the unselfish behavior of Delegates, fanciers and club members when a crisis needed attention and action. Unprecedented donations of all kinds and volunteers willing to help those in need became the common and immediate response.

Despite such unexpected turbulent events in our world, I want to praise all of you on your strength, your dedication and your character when it matters most. We not only share our strong loving bond with our dogs, but with all humanity. I am truly proud to be part

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of such a caring community – what we simply call “the fancy.”

Thank you.
(Applause)

Before proceeding to voting on the proposed amendments, let’s review the process for Delegates to consider these amendments. AKC staff will project proposed amendments that Delegates are being asked to consider on the screens. Any proposed amendment will be typed and shown on those 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 for each motion that requires a two-thirds vote. If needed, the Chair will take an additional counted vote.

The first vote is on the proposed amendment to Article VI, Section 5 of the AKC Charter and Bylaws. The amendment is proposed by the Board of Directors. The amendment would prohibit those Delegates with a significant interest in organizations that are in competition with AKC from becoming or remaining part of AKC’s governing body.

The proposal was read to you at the June, 2006 meeting and it has been published in the last two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE*. It appears in front of you on the cream worksheet. The Board recommends its approval, and a two-thirds affirmative vote will be required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

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

Ms. Parker: If I could ask a question so that I don’t have to say a lot if it doesn’t apply. The Wampanoag Kennel Club is concerned that this rule prohibits AKC judges from judging in UKC events if they are licensed under the AKC. Is that correct?

Mr. Sprung: That is not correct. This proposal is only relative to becoming a Delegate or remaining a Delegate.

Ms. Parker: Then I can assure them that this doesn’t apply and I don’t have

to say anything else. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Sue Goldberg, Delegate for the Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: This may just come under housekeeping, but at the end of the of the first sentence, would it not be more prudent to say “in competition with AKC or in conflict with its objectives” rather than “with its objects”?

Mr. Crowley: It was just that wording was used to be consistent with the Bylaws. Article III of the Bylaws lists the “objects” of the American Kennel Club.

Ms. Goldberg: And “objectives” might not be a better choice?

Mr. Crowley: I don’t think we list objectives, per se, anywhere. We do list “objects,” “specific objects.”

Ms. Goldberg: Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Joseph Pendry, Delegate for the Saluki Club of America who spoke as follows: Our Board has asked me to make the following statement on this:

The Board believes that it is counterproductive to the AKC to make people choose, and to do so diminishes AKC. Right now, AKC is the big game in town. AKC needs to use its status to protect purebred dog ownership, responsible purebred hobby breeding and encourage the ancillary Sports that purebred owners find thrilling and fulfilling for themselves and their pets, such as utility, work dog trials, lure coursing, etc.

Instead of closing ranks, AKC needs to create a vision for the Sport to exist 50 years from now. Part of this is creating new types of participation, partnerships with new organizations, instead of exclusion or exclusivity. Plus a very honest assessment of AKC’s relationship with HSUS and other AR organizations. It’s not what AKC is doing now.

Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

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

As I said at the meeting yesterday, I’m the person that this might have applied to most in the past. My club’s concern is about the breadth of the language. Their problem is “deemed to be in conflict with its objects.” We are one of the 200 clubs, for example, that signed letters opposing PAWS, and we were concerned that that little conflict with AKC might make us fall under this rule. So what we agreed is that someone who owns, works, is employed by in the legal meaning of that term, is a director of or holds an office in a dog registry or dog event giving organization, period, that limitation we could accept. But as it’s written now, they felt it would be too hard for the clubs to figure out what was included with “conflict with its objects.”

Mr. Sprung: David Merriam will address this.

Mr. Merriam: It’s the problem with laundry lists or trying to list things in our Bylaws and what have you. And the reason why that phrase, is in there, is that it’s impossible to list all of the criteria which might and ought to disqualify a person from another organization to be part of our inner body. And so that’s why that broad phrase is there. Cindy, I think what is important is that the final decision as to whether or not a person represents or is part of an organization that is contrary to our objects, that final decision doesn’t rest with the Board. It rests with you people; and any proposed Delegate that’s presented first to the Board, can be approved by the Board. Or if it’s not approved by the Board, if the offering club wants that Delegate candidacy to go further and be presented to this body, it is. And so it will be up to you people to decide whether or not that person is from an organization whose objects are contrary to the interests of AKC. And I think that’s the best answer. It’s up to the best judgment of this body right here to make that determination.

Ms. Cooke: It makes it very hard for the clubs, though. If they are going to pick their Delegate and their Delegate, say, belongs to a hunting organization that’s had a dispute with AKC or, I

mean there's so many possibilities.

ASCA is another organization. Almost all the Australian Shepherd people that came to AKC maintain their ties to ASCA. It's a traditional organization for them. It's going to penalize the people who hang onto their old traditions while going forward with the new. So as long as it's that broad, our club can't support it either.

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

I'm very happy that I can agree with the Board on an issue. And as I was standing here, hearing David say exactly what I was going to say, I was even more delighted that I could agree with David. But someone here to my right said no, that's not true. And that is true.

And an example of that I believe – someone who did request that their club bring it back to the Board is in this room, is with the Delegate body now. I believe that we have to protect our family, our home, our support and our American Kennel Club. Even more so because there have been more and more registries and organizations who compete with us. And maybe it's not that they don't wish us well, but it's their business and it affects their funds or what it is they can accomplish.

And I agree that sometimes there are times in everyone's life where you have to make choices. And I believe that this is one time where we as a Delegate body need to support this concept and know that, yes, in fact, there is a safety valve whereby a club can ask for review and it comes to the Delegate body for a vote. I urge you to support this. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

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

I'm a little bit troubled by the wording "dog event giving organization," which could include the Parent club for a not-yet recognized breed which is running club shows, and I know that there are a number of us in this room who as Delegates were involved in starting clubs for new breeds and held office, and certainly could be included under this type of wording.

Mr. Crowley: If it's not an AKC approved breed, holding events for that breed would not be in competition with the American Kennel Club, since we don't offer shows for that breed. Non recognized breeds would not be an issue.

Ms. Wicklund: It just says "dog event giving—"

Mr. Crowley: In competition with the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Merriam: It's the whole phrase.

The chair recognized Edmund Sledzik, Delegate for the American Lhasa Apso Club, who spoke as follows:

I listened to David, and David has some good points, so I'm sitting here trying to make a decision. But what bothers me in this particular thing is: How many people have we ever had sit here that have been from other organizations? One. Not when you were a member of the organization?

Ms. Cooke: No, I worked there.

Mr. Sledzik: So we have had one problem here. The reason why we have the problem is because they are trying to fix what happened to you, which was one person. Don't we all want to think about something? We don't want to be on the Iraq problem to get excited about something going on here? If it isn't broken, why do you want to fix it? We don't have this problem.

And the second reason why I thought what David said was good, David told us that we make this decision; so if we did have somebody that we knew was in this situation, we the Delegates have a right to vote him down or vote him up. I want to keep that. I don't want to give that away. And David was rightly saying that I still have it.

Don't misunderstand what I'm saying, David. Okay? But I think that that's the way to go. If somebody doesn't like that guy from the UKC who might be a Delegate here one of these days and he can't judge any more and he can't write in our magazine because he's from that "you know what," the first one I said is: "You know what" what?

You raise a question that none of us even think about and now we are looking in that direction. Are we in trouble? Do you know something we don't know? Are there going to be 100 people standing in line from these organizations taking us over? Especially if we were going to vote them up or down. In other words, they've got to get through us. In other words, don't vote for something that isn't broken.

(Applause.)

The Chair recognized Vanessa Weber, Delegate for the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, who spoke as follows:

I am one of the few people that this affects perhaps on a slight basis, but it's a different wrinkle. I am a member and have been very active in a single breed registry that is not the breed that I represent here in the Delegate body, and I've been very involved with that registry for many years. And in the past, not currently fortunately, I have been the president of one of their regional clubs.

So if this goes into effect, I have been informed by the Board that as long as I do not become an officer again of the other club, that I can continue being a member and Delegate of the English Toy Spaniel Club of America, because in that situation there will be no conflict.

What concerns me is given David Merriam's comments, I am even more confused now than I was before as to who has the say, or any say, as to what my involvement might be. Since this whole thing began, I've been concerned that it will or could lend itself to a witch-hunt mentality.

And I just want to be sure that for myself or anybody else who happens to have a second breed, in my case I have several breeds, all of which except for Cavaliers are AKC registered, and I've been very involved in many different breeds over the years. I just want to be sure that there are some safeguards in place so that people don't need to feel ashamed, embarrassed, or in any way compromised by having dual allegiances of any sort under these circumstances. I just want to be sure that people are fair.

And that is what really concerns me the most about this. I have considered suggesting that the wording be changed to exclude single breeds or

single breed registries, because the situation is so minor. But I really think that we need to ask some larger questions about the way this entire process goes.

And I would like some more clarification as to who responds and who is in charge, whether it's the Parent club – what rights the Parent clubs have to ask their Delegates to serve when there's the entire Delegate body that makes these decisions, or at what point the Board gets involved in this stuff. I'm still very confused about it.

Mr. Sprung: This is not a Parent club issue. This is an issue for every member club, and all of the Delegates make the final decision.

Ms. Weber: As a whole vote of the body?

Mr. Sprung: As a vote of the body, correct.

Ms. Weber: All right.

The Chair recognized Thomson Stanfield, Delegate for the Terry-All Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Our club has a problem with the part that says "deemed to be in competition with AKC." I disagree with David in the fact that it doesn't say who "deems." That could be you, that could be the Board, that could be me. We feel that that needs to be defined. If it is the Delegate body as you have stated, then it needs to say that.

Mr. Crowley: Are you proposing a specific amendment to that?

Mr. Stanfield: No, Jim, I'm not. I'm just trying to point out. I was the one that was on Pat's right that said I don't think so.

Mr. Sprung: Mr. Merriam wishes to respond.

Mr. Merriam: I can understand the desire to have exact specificity. But if you look up at the other categories, you don't have exact specificity in those either. And the same procedure applies with this last proposed provision as would apply to the other ones; and that if the Board when it first considers an application for a Delegate makes a determination that a person falls within one of those disqualifica-

tion things and doesn't approve it, and the proffering club requests that it go forward to the Delegates, it's then up to the good judgment of the Delegates to make that final decision.

So it's just the same, the procedure is just the same, with the proposed amendment clause, provision, as with the previous ones. And it is up to this group to make the final decision if the Board does not previously approve the Delegate.

I hope that's clear.

The Chair recognized James Smith, Delegate for the Dalmatian Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Having been involved in the AKC management when we had to deal with individuals who we felt their position was in conflict with the American Kennel Club, not organizations, but individuals who wanted to be Delegates, who were adamantly opposed to American Kennel Club policies, procedures and operations, it seems to me that if we are going to protect ourselves, and I am fully in favor of that, that we need to expand this to include individuals, whether they be members of an organization or not, whose position is in direct conflict with the objects of the American Kennel Club.

I'm not making that proposal, I'm suggesting we go back and add that to it.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Dr. Gerry Meisels, Delegate for the St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association, who spoke as follows:

I would like to comment on the notion that we need to unite against a common foe. As we discussed yesterday in the caucus, there is a big issue for all of us who love the Sport and who love purebred dogs. But that is not the same as we are talking about here. It is an external common enemy and we need to do the best we can to work together and build alliances with as many organizations as we can.

However, we also live in the real world. And the real world is that we are in fact in competition with other organizations that happen to have the same interests as we do. If you think that is not the case, then look at our statistics on registrations. Dogs are still getting registered; they are just getting

registered elsewhere, not with the AKC.

Therefore, some kind of a rule or motion like this one is appropriate in some form. The issue that I hear has to do with whether or not we trust the Board and we trust ourselves to make the right decisions. And so I would suggest that we have elected the Board. There is a mechanism involved in which we can appeal a wrong recommendation by the Board, and therefore I think we should proceed and take action on this, on this motion.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Don Adams, Delegate from the Cudahy Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

It all boils down to me as to what the meaning of "significant interest" is and who makes that determination. It's pretty easy to determine; it's pretty much an up or down: Professional handler, that's pretty easy to understand; trainer of dogs, that's pretty easy to understand. I'm under the impression that no professional handler would be approved, nor could a Parent club, or any club for that matter, send that Delegate forward.

If that is not the case, I am surprised. It seems to me that those items are pretty clear. When we talk about a significant interest, what David indicates is that the Delegate body would be the final arbiter of what we deem to be significant. That seems to be a change. I welcome it. Therefore, in the case of a small registry of a particular outcrop breed would be deemed to be significant if that particular individual were brought forward. A larger, more obvious, competitive interest might be disapproved by the Delegate body, but the Delegate body would be the final arbiter. If that is, in fact, what the policy is going to be, I don't see how any of us sitting here could vote against ourselves as making that determination and, therefore, I approve it.

But what I'm concerned about is that five years from now, ten years from now, we forget who decides what "significant" is. Given those assurances, I think most of the people in this body would approve this amendment. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. And I reiterate: It is the full Delegate body in

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attendance at the respective meeting that would make the decision.

The Chair recognized William Green, Delegate for the Rio Grande Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I don't have my Bylaws in front of me, so you will forgive me if this proves to be an ignorant question. This provision would cover who may become or remain a Delegate. Should the Board use this provision to remove or declare ineligible a sitting Delegate, would that action by the Board also be subject to appellate review by the Delegate body? Thank you.

Mr. Menaker: It is today as well.

Mr. Green: Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Did you hear the answer?

Mr. Green: Was that affirmative?

Mr. Merriam: Yes, the answer is yes. To remove any Delegate requires your action.

Mr. Green: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Joachim Blutreich, Delegate from the Piedmont Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

My club was upset about the specific wording, "but not be limited to" on the last phrase of the – "significant interest would include but not be limited to." You will notice that the others, one through D, do not have such a general statement.

As the thing stands now, my club has instructed me to vote against this. However, if the last phrase is amended to just omit the words "but not be limited to" and the comma after, then the club has no difficulty with this proposal. The feeling is that as long as we are specific, it is easy to approve or disapprove something. And if in the future the Board thinks that another couple of conditions should be added, we can always decide at that time whether those additional conditions are acceptable or not. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Is that an amendment, sir?

Mr. Blutreich: Yes, it is.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second?

Ms. Goldeberg: Second.

Mr. Sprung: So seconded. Jim, could you restate the amendment?

Mr. Crowley: Yes, it would say "a significant interest would include," just take out the words "but not be limited to," as is now on the screen, listing specific prohibitions.

Mr. Sprung: Is there discussion on this amendment?

The Chair recognized Cynthia Garman, Delegate for the Lancaster Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

My liking for this entire proposition is based on my concerns that there are some small clubs that animal rights groups could basically take over. I don't think – I'll use "animal rights groups" so we are not naming someone who will come slap me upside the head. But suppose that they have taken over the Boondocks Kennel Club. Boondocks has been a member club since 1934 and they wish to send a Delegate.

Right now, if they are the national director of Animal Rights Group, this would cover it – or, no – without this language, this would cover it. Right now without this overall amendment, we would have no hook to hang our hat on to keep Boondocks' Delegate coming forward and becoming a part of the Delegate body. And we all know how much information we get as Delegates.

When we use the phrase "but not limited to," and obviously this was engineered with David's legal knowledge and a little bit of others', there is nothing to keep animal rights organizations from saying, "Okay, let's pick Joe. He's not on our Board of Directors, he is not an officer, but he's our boy," and his only purpose in being sent to the Delegate body is to make him a Delegate in essence on behalf of Animal Rights Group that's taken over Podunk Kennel Club – Boondocks Kennel Club. Okay.

Anyhow, that is I think one of the ongoing concerns. We have the profit motive, but we also have the fact that a lot of the danger to the best interests of purebred dogs is coming from people

who have a very, very different idea of what the well-being of purebred dogs is.

So I would urge that this amendment, although well intended, be voted down.

Ms. Laurans: I think the amendment has some merit if your club does not know that there is the provision whereby the club can appeal the decision of the Board to the Delegate body, and the Delegate body has the final vote. I believe with a full understanding of that provision, which ensures the fact that the Delegate body does not deem the decision or action of the Board to be unfair or unfit, I think with that provision, we are safe; and, therefore, I also suggest that we defeat the amendment.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Ms. Cooke: Not on the amendment. One of the problems I see with this is that we have got the same language in this and the judge's policy. And so I'm concerned about how defining "significant interests" differently in one place than another may affect things.

Mr. Sprung: This is not relevant to the amendment.

Ms. Cooke: Yes; I'm just saying that with that change in the language, "significant interest" is being defined one way in the rule and a different way in the policy.

Mr. Sprung: This amendment has not yet been passed.

Ms. Cooke: No, I'm saying if it does pass, we will have "significant interest" defined in different ways.

The Chair recognized John Honig, Delegate for the Worcester County Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I apologize, but I have trouble understanding the whole thing for the following reason: Right now, a club can bring forward any Delegate that they wish. It goes to the Board, and the Board for any reason can refuse the Delegate. They have the right. I don't have to limit you to specific things. You have a right for any reason to turn the Delegate down. They have a right then to appeal it to all of you, the Delegate

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body. I don't see what we're doing. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Denise Dean, Delegate from the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, who spoke as follows:

One quick comment: I belong to an all-breed club that luckily is not a member club, because they have been taken over by a local humane society bunch of people and we have major, major problems. Luckily they can't send a Delegate because they are not a member club. Anyway, and I would like to call for the question.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second?

A Delegate: Second.

Mr. Sprung: The question is – we are taking a vote on stopping discussion. All those in favor of calling the question, raise your hands. Thank you.

Opposed? Thank you.

The discussion is over, we are now going to vote the motion to strike the wording "but not be limited to." This is a majority vote.

All those in favor of the amendment, please raise your hand? Thank you.

All those opposed? Thank you.

The amendment does not pass. We are back to the original amendment.

The Chair recognized Judith Daniels, Delegate from the Mt. Baker Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I would like to expand briefly on what John Honig, said because I absolutely agree with him. David is correct in the way a Delegate is proposed. The Board, if the Board accepts a Delegate's credentials, the Delegate is seated. If the Board does not accept a Delegate's credentials, the club can then appeal to the Delegate body and the Delegate body has the final word.

But I would like to pose a for-instance. If someone such as Joe what's-his-name from the club that no one recognizes applies to become a Delegate, if the Board knows he's an animal rights person, for instance, the Board can negate his credentials. If the Board does not know that, the Board would seat that Delegate. There is then no further consideration by the Delegate body.

Right now we have in place the procedure that exists. I cannot imagine that

someone as high profile as the people we may be trying to overtly identify with this amendment would not be recognized by our Board of Directors. So if they don't recognize one of these people, the person is seated. If they do recognize it, the person is not seated and then we have the recourse. I think this is unnecessarily redundant. We have a procedure in place. Thank you.

Mr. Menaker: Can I speak about this. I very rarely speak to amendments.

John, with all due respect, the answer to your question is: It's essential that we set out what the intent is, not just for the Delegates who are here today, but for the Delegates who will be here tomorrow. We need to set specific guidelines.

Think about the specific exclusions we have today. We specifically exclude dog show magazines, pet food employees, etc. If our Bylaws are to be general, why would we have that kind of specificity? The Board believes that the Delegate body should have that authority and responsibility. I have confidence in you. I hope you have confidence in yourself.

This is something we should be doing. Let's keep the sport alive, healthy and well. Let us not let anyone with conflicting interests infiltrate. Those of you who think we have little problems, remember that little problems turn into big problems. This amendment is sorely needed, and I think anybody that uses common sense is going to understand that the Board is not taking responsibility away from the Delegates. The Board is in fact giving the Delegates the responsibility to make the ultimate determination. But let's not sit around, as Judi says, two years from now and have people debating what this body intended to put in place. Let's make our intentions clear.

What I as Chairman recommend to you is that we set criteria so that 10 years from now, or 100 years from now, everyone will understand what we had in mind. Let's not leave it up to interpretation. I strongly urge you to support this amendment. I believe it is in the best interests of this organization.

Thank you very much.

The Chair recognized Dr. I. Lehr Brisbin, Delegate of the Staffordshire Terrier Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Over the 27 years that I've been a

Delegate, I think it should be obvious that my heart and soul is with the AKC. But if there is one thing that I am more concerned about than the fiscal welfare and competition of AKC, it's the Sport and the right to own dogs in this country. And if there's anything I worry about more than the AKC, it's the people who are coming and knocking at the door to get our breed and tell us that they have to be neutered or we cannot own them or we have to have them under restricted conditions.

When it came time to take a stand and go into court in Toledo, Ohio, the UKC was in court defending our dogs. The AKC was not. I had great hopes when I came back as a Delegate that we can re-discover the day back when Bill Stifel and Fred Miller sat down together with ADOA and formed the Canine Defense Fund, saying, "we've got to unite against a common enemy," Gerry Meisel's point. I see this as driving a wedge. And when we get the problem beat, the big problem before us now, then we can go back and worry about these kinds of things. But if I was a member of the Humane Society of the United States, I would be very pleased to see this kind of thing happening. It means that the major dog registry organizations are picking at each other. Maybe the time will come for that, but the time is not yet. Please let's hang together so we don't hang separately. Thank you.

Mr. Menaker: In fact, Lehr, the president of the HSUS hopes we don't pass this, so that any organization with objectives that are different than ours can indeed become Delegates.

And let's not fool ourselves: You don't want the president of HSUS and others to infiltrate this organization. Let's not bury our heads in the sand, Lehr. And you may have a specific issue with the UKC. We are not suggesting that we cannot work with the United Kennel Club. We are not suggesting that we cannot join forces and fight legislation together. We want that as well.

It's far better to be proactive than it is to be reactive. We don't need an attorney asking where in our Bylaws it states that someone with a significant interest in an organization deemed to be in competition with AKC may be excluded from AKC's Delegate body. It is very important that our Bylaws state clearly what our intentions were and that they

be as specific as possible.

Once again, I urge you to support this amendment because I believe it is good for the sport and good for this body. Let me clarify for the record: This amendment is not meant to suggest in any way that we not work with the UKC or for that matter any other organization on mutually agreeable concerns. It wasn't that long ago that I was accused of sitting down with HSUS on PAWS. I hope you know now that I'm a person who believes in inclusion, not exclusion, but I certainly don't want competitors voting on issues that are important to the AKC. I do not want somebody voting or sitting in this body who is a member of HSUS or a like organization.

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

I may be the only one here who has personal experience with this section of the Bylaws. I have to reiterate what Ron just said to you about the definitional criteria that's included in this. It lends support and credence to either a determination by your Board or ultimately a determination by this body to exclude someone. And it is the basis upon which there is something to point to when we end up in court saying: "They had no right to keep me out because I don't fit any of these criteria." That's what it's all about.

I will assure you in 1994, the Bylaws were amended to make certain that this Delegate body always has the last word on the election of a Delegate. In 1993, that was not the case. In 1993, the Board by inaction could keep the Delegates from voting on any proposed Delegate. The amendment, that was then referred to as the Gladstone amendment, requires that if the club which is sponsoring that Delegate wants to take an appeal, the Board cannot just let it sit in the Boardroom and die. So the final word is always up to this body.

But this language gives you the criteria to support whatever determination this body makes. So I join Ron in urging you to adopt this.

The Chair recognized Carl Holder, Delegate for the Beaumont Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I was going to speak to some of the same things that Steve did. There are many organizations now that are even

putting this language on their membership applications so that they'll have a legitimate stand when someone joins their organization that is divisive on the objects of the organization. And that's primarily the purpose of this.

And the Beaumont Kennel Club sees nothing wrong with this, because it's just the way things are going in today's society and it will help protect the American Kennel Club. And if someone does get by the Board and is seated and it's found out, then the Delegate body would have the right to remove that person. Isn't that correct?

Mr. Sprung: That's correct.

Mr. Merriam: Yes. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Norman Kenney, Delegate for the Hawaiian Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Can we call the question?

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second?

A Delegate: Second.

Mr. Sprung: The question is going to be voted on.

The question is on the proposed amendment to Article VI, Section 5 of the AKC Charter and Bylaws. Those in favor, please stand? Thank you. Be seated.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you. Be seated.

There are two thirds in the affirmative and the amendment is passed.

We will now break for lunch. Lunch will be served in the Terrace Room on this floor. We will resume at one o'clock. (The luncheon recess)

Mr. Sprung: Delegates, please take your seats.

The next item is the tellers' report. I now call on Michael Leone of Ernst & Young to read the tellers' report for the Delegate Standing Committees.

Mr. Leone: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm here to report the tellers' results:

For the All Breeds Clubs Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three year terms: Carl C. Ashby III, Dr. Fred C. Bock II, Charles J. Foley, and Andrew G. Mills.

For the Bylaws Committee, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms: Sylvia Arrowwood, Lynne Myall, and Diane Taylor.

Also for the Bylaws Committee, the following two candidates were elected for two-year terms: Steve Schmidt and Claire Steidel.

Also for the Bylaws Committee the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Sylvia Meisels.

For the Canine Health Committee, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms: Susan LaCroix Hamil, Melanie Steele and Cindy Vogels.

Also for the Canine Health Committee, the following candidate was elected for a two-year term: Arlene Czech.

For the Dog Show Rules Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three year terms: Neil Bates, Cynthia Miller, Charles Schaefer, and Robert Schroll.

For the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms: Kenneth Marden, A. Nelson Sills and Joan Tabor.

For the Perspectives Editorial Committee, the following six candidates were elected for two-year terms: Carl C. Ashby III, Crécia Closson, Medora Harper, Blackie Nygood, Carol Williamson and Lynn Worth.

Also for the Perspectives Editorial Committee, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Daniel Smyth, Esq.

Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: There is no election required for the following committees, and the Delegates nominated for these committees are seated. Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee; Herding, Earthdog, and Coursing Events Committee; Obedience, Tracking and Agility Committee and the Parent Clubs Committee.

The Executive Secretary will read the names of the Delegates who will serve

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on these committees.

Mr. Crowley: Delegates who self nominated and will serve on the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee are Dick Blair, Dr. I. Lehr Brisbin, Jr., Carol Plesur, Edmund R. Sledzik and Liz Sullivan.

Delegates who self nominated and will serve on the Herding, Earthdog, and Coursing Events Committee are: Don H. Adams, Carol Fisher, Claudia Frank, Maria Sacco.

Delegates who self nominated and will serve on the Delegate Obedience Tracking and Agility Committee are: James M. Ashton, Jack Cadalso, Virginia M. Mayhall, Maureen R. Setter, Barbara E. Swisher.

Delegates who self nominated and will serve on the Parent Clubs Committee are: Ricky Blackman, Patricia W. Laurans, Karen Mays, Peter Piusz, and Carl Trehus.

Mr. Sprung: The organizational meetings of the newly elected Standing Committees will take place immediately upon adjournment. The Coordinating Committee will hold its election at the December meeting. After adjournment, Committees will be meeting in the Atlantic/Burlington rooms on this floor and staff will be in the hallway to direct you.

We now go back to the balloting. The second vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 16, Section 4 of the "Rules Applying to Dog Shows: Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility." The proposed amendment was submitted by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and approved by your Board of Directors.

The amendment would clarify the requirements to become a Champion of Record. The proposal was read to you at the June 2006 meeting and has since been published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE*. It is on the blue worksheet.

The Board recommends its approval. A two thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption.

Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 16, Section 4 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

Those in favor, please stand? Thank you, be seated.

Those opposed, please stand? Thank you, be seated.

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

The third vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 8 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers: Making Application to Hold a Field Trial. The proposed amendment was submitted by the Retriever Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

The revision is intended to actually state the conflict of distance between trials, which is being reduced to 200 miles from 350 miles previously used. The intent is to reduce the entry size in the all-age stakes by providing trials of closer proximity.

The proposal was read to you at the June 2006 meeting, and has been published in two issues of the Gazette. It is on the yellow worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. The effective date, if adopted, is January 1, 2007.

A two thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption. Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 3, Section 8 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures For Retrievers.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

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

The fourth vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 14 Sections 9 and 10 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers: Rules for Retriever Trials. The proposed amendment was submitted by the Retriever Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

The revisions are to ensure the correct identification of the stakes involved. The proposal was read to you in June and published twice in the *AKC GAZETTE*. It is on the grey worksheet. The Board recommends its approval.

The effective date if it gets adopted will be January 1, 2007. A two thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption. Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 14, Sections 9 and 10 of the Field Trial Rules

and Standard Procedures for Retrievers.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

There is a two-thirds majority in the affirmative, and the amendment is adopted.

The fifth vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 14, Section 10 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers: Rules for Retriever Trials. The proposed amendment was submitted by the Retriever Advisory Committee and approved by your Board of Directors.

The revision is to encourage interested in hunting test competitors to enter and compete in licensed field trials. The proposal was read to you in June, 2006. It has been published twice in the *AKC GAZETTE* and is on the tan worksheet. The Board recommends its approval.

The effective date will be January 1, 2007. A two thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption. Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 14, Section 10 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures For Retrievers.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

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

The sixth vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 14, Section 11 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers: Rules for Retriever Trials. The proposed amendment was submitted by the Retriever Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

The revision is intended to provide authorization for an earlier start, and therefore additional time to complete the stake, and in certain circumstances, for the approving of a third all-age trial in a calendar year.

The proposal was read to you in June and published twice in the Gazette. It is on the cherry colored worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. The effective date will be January 1, 2007. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption. Is there any discussion?

The question is on Chapter 14, Section 11 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

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

The final vote is on the proposed amendment to Chapter 14, Section 18, of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers: Rules for Retriever Trials. The proposed amendment was submitted by the Retriever Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

The addition of Section 18 is to provide rules governing junior handlers. The proposal was read to you in June and twice published in the *AKC GAZETTE*. It is on the lilac worksheet. The Board recommends its approval. The effective date being January 1, 2007. A two-thirds affirmative vote will be required for adoption. Is there any discussion?

A Delegate: That's not what's on the screen, Dennis.

Mr. Sprung: Let's check.

It's in the packet. We don't have it on the screens right now. It's on the lilac worksheet. It is Chapter 14, Section 18.

Those in favor, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

Those opposed, please stand. Thank you, be seated.

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

The Chair now calls on David Roberts, Assistant Vice President, and Kristi Munchel of our Internal Consulting Group to give you an update of the Online Breeders Classifieds.

Mr. Roberts: As we said we would, Kristi and I would like to give you an update today on AKC's highly successful online breeder classified service. AKC implemented online breeder classifieds, which we call OBC, on October 28th, 2004. After the Delegates meeting in September of 2004 all breeders who registered a litter were sent a flyer about OBC and were invited to list their litters for free. This introductory offer was designed to

encourage use of the new system and to ensure that there were listings available for puppy buyers to search on the first day that the service was launched.

The flyers allowing breeders to list for free was discontinued once the service was introduced in late October of 2005. Since implementation, breeders have paid \$30 to list a litter for 60 days. Breeders are allowed to renew the listing once after this time has expired for an additional 60 days. All dogs listed are from AKC registered litters and are AKC registerable.

When the puppy buyers visit the OBC sites, they are exposed to a wealth of educational information, which we will go over in further detail later in this presentation.

First let's review what we are trying to accomplish by offering this service. At the September 2004 Delegates forum, staff presented an overview of the AKC online breeder classified service. In this presentation, staff stated that the primary goal of OBC was to increase the percentage of individual dogs registered from each litter, otherwise known as the blue slip return rate.

By establishing a relationship with the AKC at the beginning of the process when someone first starts looking for a puppy, we felt that the new dog owner would be more inclined to register the dog with us after they purchased the dog with our help.

In addition to the primary goal, staff identified three secondary goals. First, we thought OBC would be a great educational tool for the public, helping them find the right dog from a responsible breeder. AKC wanted to become a lifelong resource for the new dog owners, so this was also a very important consideration.

Second, OBC could help breeders find buyers for their AKC registerable puppies. Contrary to many web-based puppy websites, OBC strongly encourages personal contact between the puppy buyer and the breeder. The puppy buyer is encouraged to visit the home of the breeder, to see the dam and possibly the sire; to see the litter mates; and to ask all the appropriate questions.

A third goal of the online breeder classified service was to generate additional revenue. I'll turn it over to Kristi Munchel now, and she'll talk to you about whether or not the OBC is meeting its stated goals. Thank you.

Ms. Munchel: Thank you, David.

As David mentioned, the primary goal of OBC was to increase the blue slip return rate. As you can see from this chart, this goal has been accomplished. Litters listed in OBC have a higher blue slip return rate than litters not listed in OBC. The blue line on the graph represents litters not listed on OBC, and the orange line represents litters listed on OBC. The percentage on the left indicates the blue slip return rate by month. So for example, the blue slip return rate for all litters listed on OBC in December of 2004 was 49 percent, while the blue slip return rate for all litters not listed on OBC in December 2004 was 42 percent, a seven percent difference.

The average blue slip return rate for the period shown for OBC litters was 3.6 percent higher per month than for non-OBC litters. This is particularly significant given the average litter size for OBC litters is 6.6 puppies, while the average litter size for non-OBC litters is 4.7.

You will notice that the blue slip return rate for both OBC and non-OBC litters is highest in 2004 and early 2005. This is as expected, because dog owners continue to individually register dogs for up to two years after litters are registered. For this reason, the last month included in this analysis is January of 2006.

As David mentioned, staff believes this increase has occurred because puppy buyers who utilize OBC to find a breeder are then much more likely to return to AKC to register those puppies.

Another goal of AKC OBC is to help puppy buyers select the right breed for their lifestyle, and to find a local breeder with available AKC registerable puppies. Through August, 2006, the OBC website has received more than 3.1 million searches. This is significant from a public education standpoint, because when puppy buyers visit the OBC site, they are exposed to a wealth of information, including links to the Parent club, Parent club breeder referral contacts, breed rescue groups, local AKC clubs, the breed standards, tips about purchasing a puppy, and much more.

OBC encourages the puppy buyer to first visit the AKC Parent club website, to research the various breeds, to visit

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the home of the breeder, to ask the breeder appropriate questions, to obtain a bill of sale, and to obtain AKC registration papers. In addition to the educational links, breeders who list on OBC have the opportunity to provide additional information about their breeding practices to potential puppy buyers via the breeder profile.

Since its inception, more than 50 percent of all listings have had a completed breeder profile.

Another secondary goal of OBC is to help AKC breeders place their AKC registerable puppies. This graph represents the number of AKC litters listed each month. You will notice that the number of OBC listings per month has grown gradually over time, peaking at 1,602 in May, 2006. The average number of listings per month is more than 1200 listings. This represents three percent of all AKC litters. Through August 2006, there have been almost 30,000 listings. The consistent use of OBC and the large number of listings makes it clear it is a valuable resource for breeders.

Finally, the last secondary goal of OBC is to generate additional revenues. Through August, 2006, the sale of OBC listings has resulted in a profitable return. The program is structured so that the cost to AKC to administer the service is minimal.

In September of 2005, staff surveyed breeders who had listed a litter on AKC's OBC website. The purchase of the survey was to determine what type of breeder was using OBC and ways to improve the service. 1,427 breeders completed the survey, all of whom had purchased at least one OBC listing.

Based on the survey results, many OBC users are exhibitors and club members; 39 percent being exhibitors, 34 percent being club members. 57 percent often use the newspaper to advertise their litters or puppies, making OBC a very viable alternative.

Sporting group breeds and toy breeds are the most often listed on the service. We also asked some questions about the level of satisfaction with the service. The results: OBC users are satisfied. They are likely to purchase another listing, and they are satisfied with how easy it is to sign up for a listing, and they found the price to be very reasonable. They would recommend OBC to a friend.

We also asked the survey takers for

suggestions to improve OBC. They recommended adding a freeform text box to the listing where they could provide additional information about the sire, the dam and the puppies in the litter. They expressed interest in providing pictures of the puppy and the litter as well as the sire and the dam. Additionally, they would like listings to provide color, sex and markings for each puppy. And lastly, it would be a nice feature to allow people searching for a puppy to request an e-mail when a particular breed became available in their area.

Overall, the survey results were very positive. Staff is considering the suggestions made in the survey and will continue to collect feedback about the survey from the breeders using it as well as from Delegates and fanciers.

At this time I'll turn the presentation back over to David to talk to you about the enhancements that have been made to OBC since it was launched two years ago.

Mr. Roberts: Thank you.

Based on feedback that we have received from Delegates, club members and breeders, the AKC has made several enhancements to the service since it was launched. First of all, the breeder profile questions have been changed. We have split the Parent club, specialty club membership into two separate questions. Secondly, we are asking that if the breeder checks that they have performed the health screens that are recommend by the Parent club, that the sire and dam should have these health tests recorded.

The Parent club membership lists are now provided to the AKC staff so when a breeder indicates that they are a member of a Parent club, this is verified at the AKC. We have a direct link to OFA. Potential puppy buyers can easily go to the OFA web site for more detailed information about the dog, which has an OFA or an OFEL number recorded for them. Chic information is also available here.

We have implemented an automated check for USDA license. Breeders who purchase a listing are checked against the USDA list of breeders. The listing is removed if the breeder is USDA licensed.

We have implemented puppy landing pages. These landing pages have

been created for the top ten AKC registered breeds. When a potential puppy buyer is on a popular search engine such as Google or Yahoo, and enters a term such as "lab puppy" or "lab breeder," one of the top search results will be our Labrador Retriever landing page.

The goal of the puppy landing pages is to increase the likelihood that AKC's online breeder classifieds will show as an option when potential puppy buyers are searching the internet.

In conclusion, the information which has been presented to you today clearly shows that the AKC's online breeder classified service has been a success and has met its primary and secondary goals. The return rate for blue slips is 3.6 percent higher for litters listed in OBC, and the OBC site has received over 3.1 million searches, allowing us to share our expertise and to serve the public.

The service has received almost 30,000 listings to help breeders find buyers for their puppies, and it has resulted in alternative revenues.

Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, David and Kristi.

The Chair now calls on Norma Rosado-Blake, who is the AKC archivist, to give you an update on our Archives Department.

Ms. Rosado-Blake: Good afternoon. I want to first thank the Board of Directors and AKC management, particularly Dennis Sprung, for giving me this opportunity to address the Delegates. Thank you.

Delegates, I can't express how excited I am about being here. This is my first Delegates meeting, so it's been an interesting experience. And how thrilled I am about joining the AKC family. I only have about five minutes to discuss a couple of things, so first I want to update you on the AKC archives and also I want to start a dialogue about the importance of preserving club records.

What you are seeing right now are currently in the AKC archives. They include photographs, magazines, reports, breed standards and other valuable items. They tell a story about how the AKC, clubs and breed stan-

dards have evolved since the late 19th century. It tells how our relationship with purebred dogs has evolved over time to include a broader scope of issues such as health and genetics. And it tells how purebred dogs have become an increasingly bigger part of our lives, such as search and rescue dogs and therapy dogs, which bring joy and happiness to those they touch.

So there are many stories that need to be told and this is where you, the club, comes in. As you know, I sent out an introduction letter along with a records survey that was forwarded to all member clubs and Parent clubs in early June. I received approximately a 20 percent response rate, which given the time frame is a pretty good start. Right now I'm in the process of drafting a letter to solicit club records and accession collections into the archives.

Now, I know there's been a lot of trepidation about this; but I want to reassure everyone that this is a voluntary effort and will benefit your club. First, it will create a comprehensive, unique, national repository dedicated to the purebred dog. Besides the Dog Museum in St. Louis, there are no other institutions like this.

Second, it would secure club records by minimizing exposure to perils such as fire, flood and transfer from member to member. These are issues that were revealed through my discussions with club members and the records survey. But these issues are preventable.

Finally, another benefit is: Club records will be saved for posterity, for future generations to learn and grow. For those who do decide to forward their collection, your club may set restrictions on any part of the collection, and continue to have full access to the collection. With proper notification, you may have copies of some, if not all, of the items contained in the collection, and you are welcome to visit the AKC archives as many times as you wish.

So if these conditions and these benefits aren't enough to convince you, then let me share a collection that was recently processed. The Bull Terrier Club of America collection was given to the archives several years ago, but it hadn't been processed. Since I knew it was relatively complete, I asked our summer intern to process the collection.

And the result of finding aid, which

outlines several parts, including the collections size, provenance, arrangement, club historical information and biographical information and also an inventory of the collection. And each collection that is accessioned by the archives will have a finding and drafted and placed on the website.

Now, this particular collection has several noteworthy items, including minutes from 1947 to the present; their first publication of the Record in 1972; flyers from regional BTCAs, and a publication appropriately entitled "Bull Terriers of Today" published by the BCTA in 1951.

There are certainly more items in this collection, but I hope this gives you a good sense of what a finished product looks like.

Additionally, I hope reviewing this small bit of the collection will galvanize support for the archives and, more importantly, I hope this has inspired you to consider the AKC archives as the future home of your club records.

For those not inspired or not convinced, I want to leave you with this last note: I often hear people speak about the archives as containing just old stuff, boxes and papers and documents and items that have really no bearing on their own lives. But I believe otherwise. I think it is so much more than that. It brings to life the cyclical and linear history which retells a story. It is a story about us. It is a story about them. It's about history. It's about standards and showmanship and teamwork. It's about the hunt and the show. It's about great joy and great sorrow. It's about dedication and hard work. It's about family and ultimately about culture and the lives that have passed before us, but endure for future generations.

Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you very much, Norma.

The Chair now calls on John Lyons, our Chief Operating Officer, to present Delegate medallions.

Mr. Lyons: Thank you, Dennis. Good afternoon, everyone. This is the eighth time that AKC has had the privilege to present Delegate medallions. The medallion is in recognition of meritorious and long-term contributions to the Sport. Each individual has served

in this body for at least 25, years and they join 53 previously honored Delegates.

This medallion program recognizes our core constituency and allows a grateful American Kennel Club the opportunity to honor their own. Please hold your applause while the following Delegates come forward:

Dr. Robert M. Brown, representing the Great Pyrenees Club of America; Janice Sparhawk Gardner, from the Rockingham County Kennel Club; Evelyn Honig representing the California Collie Clan; Patricia W. Laurans of the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America; David C. Merriam of the Duluth Kennel Club; Ruth Ann Naun, representing the Border Terrier Club of America; James G. Phinzy of the Cheshire Kennel Club; and Marshall Simonds, representing the Midwest Field Trial Club.

Now, if you will join me congratulating the honorees.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, John.

I would like to now call on Jim Crowley to honor four of our member clubs.

Mr. Crowley: I would now like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Chow Chow Club, the Erie Kennel Club, the Mississippi Valley Kennel Club and the Westchester Kennel Club, which are celebrating 100 years of membership in the American Kennel Club this year. The Chairman will present each club with a plaque to commemorate this occasion.

If the Delegates for those clubs are present, please come to the front of the room.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: The Chair now calls on Noreen Baxter, our Vice President of Communications, to announce the third quarter AKC Community Achievement Awards.

Ms. Baxter: The AKC Community Achievement Awards are given to clubs and AKC federations and their members who have made outstanding contributions to public education or canine education activities. Each honoree receives an AKC Certificate of Recognition, and the AKC donates \$1,000 to each honoree's club or feder-

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ation. Details about the honorees' accomplishments are published in the *AKC GAZETTE* and featured on the AKC website.

The third quarter honorees are Cheryl Costello, Wilmington Kennel Club, Delegate: Candace Mongavero; Pamela Duke and Carol Linger, Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc., Delegate: Laurence J. Libeu; and Tampa Bay Kennel Club, Delegate Mary Manning.

Please join me in congratulating the honorees.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Noreen.

Jim Crowley will share with you the standing policy that has been in effect for Delegate committees since inception.

Mr. Crowley: There's been some question about the filling of vacancies on Delegate committees, and I did get an inquiry from the Parent Club Committee concerning this. I just wanted to share my reply so all the committees are operating under the same guidelines.

Section 6M of the Delegate Standing Rule on Committees provides that, "Vacancies on a Committee shall be filled until the next Committee election by a vote of the Committee." This section does not stipulate that the vacancies must be filled at the next Committee meeting or any specific subsequent Committee meeting. As no deadline is given, the Committee may fill the vacancy after one or two meetings or even leave the vacancy until the next Committee election.

This, again, would apply to all Delegate committees per the standing rule.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Jim.

The next item is a report on the appointments to the Nominating Committee. At the August meeting, the Board of Directors selected the following Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for the class of 2011. Chair, Ann Wallin, Atlanta 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.

The two alternates are: Ruth W. Crumb, Mount Vernon Dog Training Club, and William A. Russett, Western Reserve Kennel Club.

I will now ask Ann Wallin, Chair of the Nominating Committee to come up, or you can speak from wherever you like.

Ms. Wallin: Good afternoon. Dennis just read the names of the members of the Committee. If they're here, I would like them to just stand up for a quick moment so that people can recognize them. If the members and the alternates would please just stand for a moment if you are in the audience.

Eddie Dziuk is here, Bill Russett, Carl Gomes, Ruth Crumb and Sophia Kaluzniacki. Thank you very much.

Tommy was with us earlier but unfortunately had to leave for a business trip this morning and could not be with us today.

I just want to let you know that the Committee has met and has formulated our procedure of how our Committee is going to operate this year. I'm going to briefly tell you that today; but this is also going to be posted on the website at the Delegate portal, so that you will have easy access to how you can contact the Committee members, and the dates I'm going to give you will also be outlined there.

We have come up with a procedure that our Committee will follow. We have developed a questionnaire that we are going to request that all Delegates who wish to be considered will fill out and return to us by November the first. That will be available by the end of this week. We can submit that to you electronically or via regular mail by hard copy as well.

Any member of the Committee can receive an inquiry or submission of nominees to be considered. I will be the contact person who will then send out all of the questionnaires, and also all the questionnaires will be returned to me and then they will also be distributed for all the Committee members.

Our submission must be turned in to Mr. Jim Crowley by November the 30th; but again we are asking for all submissions to be returned to us by November the first; then we will be physically meeting to review all of those questionnaires and make our recommendations.

If you do have any questions regarding this, please see me or any of the Committee members and, again, you will be able to find an easy access to

communicate with us all via the website on the Delegate portal. Thank you very much.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ann.

I'd like to follow up on a concern that was raised at the June Delegates meeting regarding the validity of the breed of some ILP dogs. I would like to report that the Special Services Department has looked into the matter. As a result, we received two complaints in July. One of the dogs was approved at an ILP live event, where AKC staff with expertise in this reviewed the dog in person. We feel confident that the dog is a representative of that breed.

The other complaint was reviewed at an AKC Conformation event this past weekend. And we are awaiting a field report on the outcome of that review. We have no record of any other complaints received by staff on ILP dogs in the previous six years.

Now I would like to introduce Charley Kneifel, our Chief Information Officer, who will share an analysis that was given to the Board of Directors in August 2006. This analysis looks at Conformation participation trends over the last years. Robin Stansell, the Vice President of Event Operations, will then update you on strategic planning initiatives to increase participation in the Sport and to make dog shows more attractive to new exhibitors.

Mr. Kneifel: Thank you, Dennis.

Hello, Delegates. Today I'm going to tell you a little bit about the analysis we did and what it shows and why it's important to consider it in light of the declining registration trends.

The question is: How many dogs are competing in Conformation events; how do we understand what that is or characterize that set of dogs. How do we look at the dogs competing in all types of Conformation shows; all breed, limited breed, specialty and parent specialties, to determine the number of distinct dogs who are competing in these Conformation events across all types of events and all superintendents. We are not looking at just a small set of the dogs for one superintendent or a small set of the dogs from one type of competition type alone.

Unfortunately, over the last six years from 2000 through 2005, we have seen

a systematic drop, about a half a percent a year, or 750 dogs, in the annual number of distinct or unique dogs who compete in Conformation shows. It's fallen from a high of 156,500 in 2000 down to 151,900 in 2005.

The question is: What can we do to understand this data, to better figure out the next steps, and what dogs are being exhibited and what dogs are not being exhibited, especially in light of the fact that overall entries are up.

Now, remember, that a dog can enter 20 shows, 30 shows or 50 shows; so the number of entries reflects overall participation, but not the number of distinct dogs competing in those events.

The first thing we did was to use some standard scientific methods for using distributions to look at the "who are the dogs that are competing and how many shows are they competing in." A histogram is used to identify the number of dogs who entered a particular number of shows in a year, whether that be one show, two shows, five shows or 50 shows. Count each dog in that distribution one time, and then calculate the number of shows that that one dog entered.

We looked at the trend for dogs competing in one and only one show in a year. We have seen an annual decrease of 550 dogs who compete in one and only one show. That's two thirds of the amount of the overall decline is dogs who compete in one and only one show. I'll say that again. One and only one show.

What does the distribution look like as we increase the number of shows – or number of entries we are going to look at? This graph looks at the data from one to 25 shows; and as you can see, as I started to look beyond about five or six shows, the trend is very similar in terms of competition and the number of shows entered for the last six years, 2000 through 2005. But there is a big difference in the number of dogs who entered one show or the number of dogs who entered two, three, four, five or six shows.

If we combine all the data that we have and look at the cumulative change, where that's the average change over a multi year period, and plot that out against the number of shows and accumulate the total change in entries, we see a large decrease in dogs who are entered in six or less

shows. Then we see an increase in dogs who are entering into seven or more shows.

This to me is significant, because I believe that the dogs who are entered in one, two, three, four shows are the people who have an opportunity for the first time as they purchased an AKC registered dog to participate in those events; while the group who represent the beyond seven or more shows are the fanciers, you, who are competing in more and more shows every year.

In summary, we see an increase in the number of dogs who compete in seven or more shows. We see a consistent decrease in the number of dogs competing in one and only one show, 550 per year, or 2.7 percent per year in a six year period. And a decrease overall in the number of dogs that compete in one to six shows.

What can we look at to analyze this, what does it correlate with, what else do we know? Well, we know there has been a significant decrease of five percent-plus per year for that 2000 to 2005 period for the number of dogs registered. And the question is: Is the overall decrease in the numbers of dogs who are entered in one, two, three, four, five or six shows correlated with that decrease overall?

The blue line here shows the average decrease in registered dogs per year for the last six years. The red line is a fit of data that we made that said, well, let's assume that the dogs who are not entering one to five shows or one to six shows are directly related or directly correlated to the dogs who are not being registered. And the purple line shows the increase in dogs participating due to dogs competing in seven or more shows.

If we combine the two sets of data, we can directly match the fall-off in Conformation show participation by a combination of assuming that the number of dogs participating in six or less shows is directly correlated with the reduction in the number of registered dogs every year, as well as an offsetting increase in dogs participating in seven or more shows.

And overall, the number of entries have been increasing on an annual basis - once we account for Hurricane Katrina related cancellations in 2005.

I'm going to now turn the microphone over to Robin Stansell, who is

going to talk about some of the other initiatives that the AKC are working on that are coming out of strategic planning to address this.

Mr. Stansell: Thank you, Charley.

Today I'd like to talk about a couple of initiatives that we've taken. You have heard several initiatives concerning registrations. I'm going to talk about initiatives to increase participation in dog shows.

In fact, a new exhibitor coming to an all-breed show doesn't always find a friendly environment. They may have problems in the parking lot, in the unloading area; and the grooming area's particular unfriendly for somebody setting up their single crate.

It's very difficult to find rings. The steward may not be extremely helpful, and unfortunately every judge doesn't welcome a new exhibitor who is inexperienced into the ring. We'd like to address some of these issues with some of the following initiatives.

First of all, we often find specialty clubs to be more attractive to new exhibitors. People are more welcomed in their own breed. Specialties are normally smaller shows, and we have already implemented a couple of things to make these specialties more attractive. First, we have permitted specialty clubs to travel further to hold specialties. We have permitted these specialty clubs to cluster together holding two events in a single day, as long as they are smaller than 100 entries. We are trying to support specialties as they are often more attractive to new exhibitors.

Specialty clubs currently don't have to comply with some of the initiatives that all-breed clubs comply with to hold shows the next year. It's our intent to ask specialty clubs to have similar requirements as all-breed clubs, such as holding independent matches, and other outreach programs to introduce people to their breed. These might include judge's education and such things as participating in "Meet the Breeds" programs.

Some all-breed clubs are holdings new exhibitor briefings. These are particularly helpful, in that they introduce the new exhibitor to club members, to superintendents, to field staff, help them find a spot in the grooming area, help them find their ring and to better understand exactly how the day is

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going to work for them. We found this very successful at the all-breed clubs holding these briefings.

Independent matches:

Evening matches have frequently become a practice ground for people within the Sport. Independent matches within the community are more attractive to new exhibitors. They are how most of us started showing dogs but I think we lost that opportunity with evening matches following all-breed events.

Some of the other initiatives include public education. We should recognize clubs that have good active public education programs or provide AKC registered handler workshops for juniors and adult handlers. We have had a few of these across the country and they have been extremely popular. Again, Meet the Breeds programs have been very good with outreach and attracting new exhibitors.

Recognize clubs that provide AKC Show Chair Seminars or Show Committee Seminars that help educate new clubs, new club officers, and new club show committees to hold better and more comfortable events.

We are considering some new rule changes. One in particular would make it easier to change an entry the day of show, should you make an error and find yourself ineligible to exhibit. That frequently occurs with new exhibitors and foreign exhibitors. That's one of the rule changes we are looking at, and other rule changes are proposed for clarity.

We are considering adding classes for amateur or owner handlers to recognize people that aren't as adept at handling as some of the professional handlers that are frequently winning. Additionally ranking systems that encourage owner handlers or breeder handlers to exhibit beyond the class competition as special are being considered. We would like to recognize those exhibitors and encourage more participation.

Some of the other ideas:

Frequently the stewards, judges and professional handlers aren't the friendliest people at the event. We'd like to get those respective professional organizations to take part in welcoming and helping educate new exhibitors.

Additionally, we'd certainly like to have Delegate input on any of these or other initiatives that might be helpful.

The next steps:

Rule changes will be taken to the Dog Show Rules Committee, recommendations will be taken to the Board and efforts to promote grass roots efforts at the local club level will be encouraged. We would like to ask for your support in that effort.

Thank you very much.
(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Earlier in the meeting, Jim Stevens mentioned our Petland registration initiative. The Chair calls on John Lyons, our Chief Operating Officer, to provide you with some more information on this project.

Mr. Lyons: This is some more background information for you on this initiative to hopefully clear up some of the misunderstandings.

During strategic planning, the Board looked at registration trends in depth. The Board considered all facets of registration. The registration portion of the Board's strategic plan outlines three main strategies.

The first strategy: Increase the return rate of individual dog applications by increasing the value of registration. The second strategy: Increase litter registration by improving AKC's relationship with breeders. And the third strategy: Develop constructive dialogues with pet shops and distributors.

Registration tactics focus on increasing registration by addressing the needs of all customer groups. Dog owners, the fancy, breeders and the commercial channel. This focus stems from a belief that purebred dogs are best served by AKC, and breeding programs are better when AKC is involved than when we are not.

An article in the June Perspectives submitted by Jim Crowley provided details on many of the registration related tactics we have implemented to stop the decline and reverse the trend in dog and litter registrations. The article specifically highlighted tactics related to the commercial sector, including: Continued dialogue with distributors and pet retailers to consider ways to encourage high standards and promote AKC registration.

During the strategic planning process, the Board considered and prioritized these tactics. The Board receives regular communication as tactics are implemented in addition to

quarterly updates on the overall strategic plan timeline.

The Board considered the tactic of working with pet shops and distributors to promote AKC registration at each strategic planning workshop from April through the final approval of the strategic plan in October of 2005. They then prioritized this as a high priority tactic, and instructed staff to begin discussions.

The Board reviewed the details of a potential agreement with Petland at the April and July, 2006 meetings. At the Board's direction, staff moved forward to develop an agreement with Petland.

So what does this agreement mean, and what is the purpose behind it? The agreement establishes a means to promote AKC registration. The purpose is simply to encourage the AKC registration of AKC registrable dogs, that is, puppies that have come out of AKC registered litters. Today, many of these AKC registrable dogs are registered with other registries or not at all.

Educating Petland associates about the value and importance of AKC registration will highlight the differences between AKC and the for-profit listing services. As Petland associates prepare to send a puppy home with a new owner, they will highlight the value and importance of registration. If the new owner decides to register, Petland will facilitate the process by providing data necessary for registration to the AKC: Litter registration number, color, sex, marking, microchip number and the name and address of the new owner. In addition, the new owner will pay for AKC registration in the store.

The new owner will complete the registration process by submitting the name of their new puppy on line or via paper. Just to clarify, as a result of this project, AKC is not providing discounted registrations to pet retailers. From this agreement, AKC benefits by being able to reach more new dog owners. Petland sees a real value in the programs and services AKC has to offer to dog owners: Event participation, and programs like canine good citizen, the Canine Health Foundation, companion animal recovery and pet insurance. These programs are a real value to new puppy owners.

This agreement is one tactic in a suite of initiatives aimed at increasing registrations. For breeders, we have distributed litter registration coupons;

issued litter coupons to bred-by medalion winners; implemented the full litter registration, a process that includes an average 28 percent discount on the litter registration and a 20 percent discount on the dog registration, as well as discounts on packages.

For dog owners, we have introduced dog.com certificates and veterinary network certificates. As you know, much of 2005 was spent on developing the strategic plan. As part of the development process, the Delegate body received regular briefings. In January, 2005, briefings in Tampa outlined some of the major trends in registrations, including the growing number of for-profit listing services.

A presentation and subsequent mailing in June 2005 detailed the goals and strategies, including dialogue with distributors and pet retailers. The Chairman's final report on the strategic plan, mailed in the fall of 2005, again summarized the goals and strategies of the plan.

We are less than a year into our five year strategic plan, but have already accomplished much. As we have begun implementing the plan, we have continued to provide briefings to the Delegate body. Jim Crowley's article in the June Perspectives gave you a midyear update on our progress. We will provide a year-end update at the December Delegates meeting.

In addition, as new initiatives are launched, you will receive announcements. Thank you.

Ms. Laurans: Mr. President?

Mr. Sprung: Yes.

Ms. Laurans: Do you wish to have questions and comments regarding this presentation now or later?

Mr. Sprung: Under new business.

Ms. Laurans: You want to wait after that? Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: We will wait for new business.

Ms. Laurans: We'll be glad to deal with it now, while John can give some answers, or you can -

Mr. Sprung: We'll do it under new business.

Ms. Laurans: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: For your information, the Tuesday December 5, 2006 meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Long Beach. If you have not already done so, we urge you to make your hotel reservations now. Due to the popularity of the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, the busy travel season and the overwhelming demand for hotel rooms in Long Beach, an early cancellation policy will be in effect for the downtown hotels. If for some reason you are not able to keep any part of your hotel reservation, please bear in mind you must make all cancellations by six p.m. California time on October 26th to avoid a nonrefundable charge of one night room and tax.

Once again, our photographer is outside waiting to take your photographs, should you choose to do that after adjournment.

Delegates are also reminded to leave their badges at the desk.

New business?

Ms. Laurans: Before I blast off, I'd like to say thank you for acknowledging 25 years of service for all of us. And John, I'm glad you are walking to the podium and you are a brave man.

The indication was given that we were going to help Petland with communication and education. The original question as to whether we had an agreement with Petland was asked by someone in the audience at the Parent Club Committee. Unfortunately, John was not present. We were told that we would be given a presentation and I am appreciative of the presentation.

One of the questions that I asked was: Is Petland going to be registering the AKC dogs that they sell there? And John, I believe you told me no.

Mr. Lyons: That's true. There is going to be an exchange of data that will allow us to issue the registration.

Ms. Laurans: And how will that data be exchanged? In the same way on-line registrations are done?

Mr. Lyons: Basically, yes.

Ms. Laurans: Yes, okay. So that's semantics. I would like to call attention

to every single Parent clubs' that I know of code of ethics that says we will not sell to pet stores. I would like to call attention to the fact that, from my humble belief, we are selling our birthright for a few shekels.

I would like to call attention that this is a club of clubs and that we are your constituency. We are the groups that are asked to help out with medallions, to work at shows, to educate the public, to make our clubs and our events more friendly so we can help increase registration on a volunteer basis.

I would like to make note of the fact, and pardon me, I feel we are prostituting some of our values, I feel we are going against what I believe most of the members and member clubs would want to see happen, and I feel that we should have at least had some sort of way to give you our thoughts before contracts were signed, sealed and delivered.

You said, and I supported the fact, that we don't want to let the enemy in. I question the fact right now if the enemy is already here. Thank you.

Ms. Cooke: I promise you, I'm going to be short. I'm not going to address this, because I don't have time. I have two things I need to ask. One: is the term significant interest in a competing registry been interpreted by the Judge's Department to include independent contractors. And my concern is - and there is an AKC judge who is an independent contractor who has done some work for UKC, and has received a letter saying that this person is no longer eligible to judge.

If that is the interpretation, then I need to go back and tell my club that I too am no longer eligible, assuming that the words will be interpreted the same way on both sides of the house. So I need an interpretation on that. You don't have to give it this minute, but that's the first thing.

Mr. Sprung: We will get you that interpretation, absolutely.

Ms. Cooke: Thanks. The second thing is in the August minutes, you said the Breeders Recognition Program was essentially dead for lack of interest, and my question is: Who was not interested in a Breeder Recognition Program?

Mr. Sprung: Ron Rella, would you

please address that.

Mr. Rella: Sure. Every step of the way when we were talking about the Breeders Recognition Program, we came to the Fancy. We came to the Fancy initially for the very first input. We spoke to Delegates, we spoke to Breeders, we spoke to staff with dog background. And everything that was said was very, very positive. There was something for everyone in the program.

And you have to remember that the concept for the Breeders Recognition Program is all very positive. So there was really nothing to dislike. But once we started putting the program together, we were getting feedback rather than input. And the feedback was that the program and all the positive things that were coming from it were great for other people. And the more we spoke to the Fancy, the more we were told there were people interested in joining to help us out, to get it started. But there wasn't a great need. And that's where we are finding a lack of fancier support, with the need.

Ms. Cooke: Fair enough. Thank you.

Ms. Laurans: Can we get back to have comments on what I was just talking about and that was getting distracted, so we can keep things in context? And if people have other things that they would like to talk about, would you back off and let us talk about this Petland agreement first.

Mr. Lyons: I just want to respond. I appreciate how you feel. My thought on that is that these puppies are going to be sold through pet shops anyway. We are not stopping that. The only difference now is they are not registered with us and we don't have – by not being inclusive with them, we don't have an opportunity to positively influence their behavior regarding conditions and so forth.

Ms. Laurans: John, education, communication, materials, that's wonderful. The day that we start seeing them being registered online from the pet shop, where the AKC banners are up in the pet shops, to me that is the Good Housekeeping's Seal of Approval in a pet shop, and that goes against everything I have ever known or been taught by the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Gladstone: With all respect, Pat, we have been taking their money for 75 years and cashing their checks.

Mr. Sprung: One person at a time will be recognized.

The Chair recognized Carl Gomes, Delegate for the Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club, who spoke as follows: Mr. Chairman, fellow Delegates, my name is Carl Gomes, from the Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club. Earlier this year, we were given copies of the 2005 annual report of the Canine Health Foundation. I read with great interest the entire report and zeroed in on one particular article under the headline, "Global Involvement." The article stated that the Animal Health Trust of the United Kingdom had identified a mutation causing heritage for cataracts in Staffordshire Bull Terriers. And they also thought that this same mutation had caused juvenile heritage cataracts in Boston Terriers. Through a generous donation from the Canine Health Foundation and an extensive DNA sample from Dr. Catherine Graves, the noted equine and canine researcher from the University of Kentucky, the Animal Health Trust was able to complete the program. Through this collaborative effort, they have now perfected and completed the task of doing a DNA test for juvenile hereditary cataracts in Boston Terriers.

However, the test can only be performed in England for a princely sum of \$120. Since this in my opinion was a collaborative effort, I would like to know what steps are being taken to have this test performed in the United States of America by Dr. Graves or any such individual, possibly her, at the University of Kentucky, and why we haven't done so at this particular time?

Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Carl, I will ask the Canine Health Foundation to look into that and provide an answer to the Delegates.

Mr. Gomes: Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: You're welcome.

The Chair recognized Judy Hart, Delegate from Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, who spoke as follows:

The good news is when I'm angry, I tend not to become articulate like Pat does but think in sound bites; so that might lead you to think I will be a very short with this. The bad news is, my flight doesn't leave until seven p.m. I have spent over 35 years involved with purebred dogs and this Sport - 100 percent with the American Kennel Club. And don't think that I'm upset and my voice is shaking because I'm sad or not used to public speaking or something. I am truly angry.

Today I have stopped being a life-long, dyed-in-the-wool, nobody-else supporter of the American Kennel Club, and when I get home and start getting calls from the constituents in my club, I am going to become an apologist for the American Kennel Club. And that upsets me very, very badly.

I am not so naive that I think that Petland is a charitable organization. I may be wrong, but I don't believe they're a charitable organization. I would like to know in this contract that apparently we have already signed – we have been told what's in it for the AKC; what's in it for Petland? The AKC stamp of approval on puppies sold through pet shops? Could we have a little expansion on what was in the contract that makes this so desirable to Petland that they will train all of their employees and do all of this accepting of registration and do all of these wonderful things for these AKC puppies? What's in it for Petland?

Mr. Sprung: David Merriam is going to address that question.

Mr. Merriam: I will respond to both your comments and Pat's comments. In 1981, 96 percent of the income of AKC was registration money. That money did not come only from the Fanciers or the Sport. That money came from all the dogs registered with AKC, which means it was the backyard breeders, and it was the commercial breeders.

In 1981, when we were living off of that money to fund our Sport, we did not feel we were prostitutes to the commercial breeders.

If we want to live in the real world, and we have learned it since the institution of the FUS and the departure of large parts of the commercial breeders; if we want to live in that world, then

we have to understand that if we want AKC dogs registered, we have to address that segment.

Now, I'm with you in terms of saying I don't particularly like the commercial breeding of dogs. It's not the way I raised dogs. It's not the way I sold my dogs. If I were to apply my own personal standards to the American Kennel Club, as to what dogs we would register, we would probably reduce our registry to three or four-hundred thousand dogs at most.

We would then radically change the way AKC operates. We can reduce the services. We can reduce all of the things that AKC does in an expansive way for what we believe is in the best interests of the Sport of purebred dogs, and we can place upon the participants of our Sport the entire costs of our Sport. That would be an alternative. We would retract in size and in influence. We would truly be elitist. But we'd be elitists who were supporting ourselves.

But let me tell you that the cost of that would be very substantial. And if we had an up-down vote on that and if you wanted to say we are willing to pay \$75 entry fees, we're willing to assess \$5,000 or \$10,000 a year membership dues on member clubs, we could do that, and we could do it all within ourselves. But I suggest to you that that is not the direction that most of the Delegates wish to go and most of our clubs wish to go.

As to the question as to what's in the contract? I'm not privy to the contract. I'm not.

Ms. Laurans: May we hear from someone who is?

Mr. Merriam: I will only tell you that just as the contract with Eukanuba for the production of the show was confidential, this contract is confidential. I know many of you would like to have the entire inner workings of the business operations of AKC laid out to this group. In the business world of today that's not possible. All we can tell you is that from AKC's standpoint, they are given no breaks.

These people, the pet shops, the commercial breeders of 20 years ago, could do exactly the same thing that Petland is doing today. They can sell AKC puppies, they can advertise that these are AKC puppies, and they can

assist, in any way they wish for the sale and registration of AKC puppies. And they used to do that.

What has changed is that we have competitors, and these competitors now are in the pet stores. They're in the commercial channels. And they say, "Okay, it costs \$15 to register a puppy, XYZ Registry will do it for \$12, and we'll kickback three dollars to the pet shop." That's the competition we're in.

And don't believe that it hasn't had an effect on our registration. Every meeting, Jim Stevens relates the decline of our registration. If we are going to address this in a serious, honest and a realistic way, we have got to address that segment of the registration. That is the commercial. And that's simply the answer.

If you want to tell the Board and your fellow clubs that we are willing to go inward, support ourselves, pay the price, then that's a direction you can go, but I think if we go that direction, the American Kennel Club will not exist 100 years from today.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, David.

The Chair recognized Ruth Ann Naun, Delegate for the Border Terrier Club of America, who spoke as follows:

The longer I stand here, the more I think I'll probably add too many things in and get the whole issue confused. I don't want to do that.

First of all, I have to say that when I started 25 years ago, it was Dr. Ruth Ann Naun, and it is still Dr. Ruth Ann Naun; but it's got nothing to do with dogs, so I don't use that and I'm not a physician, so I can't help you in the room. But truthfully I was at the Parent Club Committee meeting yesterday. I try to read most of the things that are mailed to us. And what I thought we were going to hear about Petland was that there was going to be a product endorsement exchange between the products that the American Kennel Club now wishes to market with labeling and the AKC. And in John Lyon's response to us here today, I felt largely that we were being told – very nicely, John – that we knew about this, that we have been updated about this. And truthfully I don't think so. But I also feel that we're, as Delegates and as members of a club of clubs, we had

today a Nominating Committee named who are accepting open nominations to the AKC Board until the end of October. And I think probably just as the Field Trial Board's recommendations, when they recommend something, come through this group, with almost unanimous acceptance all the time – granted we don't know, most of us, a lot about field trials, but we also, most of us, have a lot of confidence in the Field Trial Advisory Board that what they're doing for the Sport of field trials; and that they have the best interests of that Sport in their mind when they are doing it.

Now, I know that the AKC is an organization with a bottom line, and issues that have to be considered in terms of the bottom line. I do not accept, although, Lord, I'm not a person to be on the AKC Board, so what am I doing here standing here spouting off? It's a lot of work, it takes a lot of skill. And you have to have a choice of decision about where you want the AKC to go if you are going to be on the Board.

I think the Board must know that there are an awful lot of member clubs that do not see this direction as what we would wish us to explore as ways in which we can go forward in this century to maintain a place for purebred dogs where you don't have to be apologetic about the product that you are helping families to have in their homes. And there's got to be a better way than marketing through places that take dogs that come from what we now call high volume breeders. Thank you for your time.

Mr. Gladstone: In 1993 the AKC adopted care and condition policies for those high volume breeders, what we called puppy mills then. When we did that, we demanded that those high volume breeders meet our standards for the care and conditions that they gave to the dogs in their kennels.

Last year we had 4500 inspections of those breeders. What we have got to understand is that there is a different marketplace today than there was in 1993. When we accept those AKC breeders' dollars for their registrations, and when they have complied with our care and condition requirements, they are indeed putting into the marketplace an AKC dog, that is a different dog than a dog being put into the mar-

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ketplace by someone who has either refused to meet our standards or has abandoned the AKC to a competitor.

No one suggests that the members or the Parent clubs should change their code of ethics or argue that they should be selling dogs differently. The American Kennel Club, however, has survived and subsidized our activities on the income from commercially bred dogs since the 1950s. To suggest that those breeders who meet our standards, who suffered through our inspections or tolerate our inspections or are pleased for our inspections, they are delivering a better product, that dog, that puppy, than those breeders who have failed our inspections, abandoned our registry, and refused to deal with us.

It's not a message that I want to deliver to you. I know it's not a message that you want to hear. But the fact is if you call high volume breeders that meet AKC standards "high volume breeders," and you call every other commercial breeder who refuses or can't meet AKC standards "puppy mills," we have got to accept the fact, we are taking their money; and, yes, Judy, we are endorsing them with our papers. We are telling the world these people meet AKC standards.

Now, you may not like that, but the fact is that we have lived off of that for the last 60 years.

Ms. Laurans: Steve –

Mr. Sprung: Excuse me. Delegate, please wait. You have spoken on this. Let him finish and then I have to call on the others who haven't spoken on this topic.

Ms. Laurans: Okay. Then I want to go back and ask Steve about the number of inspections -

Mr. Sprung: You can. You will able to.

Mr. Gladstone: I will let Tom Sharp give you the actual numbers of inspections. My understanding is approximately 4,500.

Ms. Laurans: Of every dog -

Mr. Gladstone: We don't inspect every dog any more than the IRS audits every return.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Delegate. Please be courteous to each speaker.

The Chair recognized Howard Falberg, Delegate for the Golden Retriever Club of America, who spoke as follows:

I understand why this approach is being explored. I have a question and then a comment. First off: I live in areas where there's Petco, where there is Pet Smart, and the emphasis there is on food and, assorted products. I don't live where they have, what do they call it? Petland? Is that primarily a smaller operation that is filled with puppies that they sell? So that's my first question.

Mr. Sprung: Let's answer that question first.

Mr. Lyons: Howard, basically they sell everything that you will see in Pet Smart, but in addition they sell puppies. There are 120 of them nationwide.

Mr. Falberg: Okay. I have some major concerns with this approach. First of all, I was very impressed with Robin Stansell's presentation, because it consisted of positive things that we are trying to do to improve participation in our Sport. And I don't think anybody here argued with and certainly approved of what Robin and his group are trying to do.

This is a horse or a dog of a different color. Because what we are really dealing with here is: We are getting away from the approach that this organization has had for over 100 years, where we support the breeding of purebred dogs by responsible breeders. I mean the day and age of kennels where people had literally a hundred or more dogs, it's over with. It's a private practice. I was very interested in our treasurer's report because it was not a bad report. And combined with what Robin was talking about, hopefully it's going to improve, you know, the kind of registrations that we get.

I am scared stiff that that what we are doing now with this proposal reminds me of the Biblical phrase about selling your birthright for a bowl full of rotten porridge. And I don't think that we should be doing that.

And that being the case, I would make a motion that the Delegate body

requests that the AKC rescind all possibilities of a contract involving the registration of dogs through the Petland organization.

A Delegate: I'll second the motion.

Mr. Sprung: The motion is under the authority of the Board. Therefore, what you suggest should be a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

A Delegate: Will you consider a straw vote on that recommendation?

Mr. Holder: What I think he meant was to make a motion to recommend to the Board to rescind the contract with Petland. Is that correct?

Mr. Falberg: Yes.

Mr. Sprung: We will open a discussion on a non-binding standing straw ballot. Is there discussion on it?

A Delegate: I Call the question.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second on that?

A Delegate: Yes.

Mr. Sprung: Any discussion? We are going to vote on calling the question. Jim, could you read back so everybody is clear.

Mr. Crowley: Yes, there was a motion that the Delegate body to make a recommendation to the Board that the Petland contract be rescinded. The question was called. Now the vote is whether or not to call the question and vote on the main motion.

Mr. Sprung: This requires a two-thirds majority. All those in favor please raise your hand. Hands down, thank you.

All those opposed, please raise your hand. Thank you.

The discussion is over. We are now going to vote on the question.

Mr. Crowley: The vote is on a Delegate recommendation to the Board that they consider rescinding the Petland contract. So we are voting on that motion, which is a recommendation to the Board.

Mrs. Daniels: Point of order. Ques-

tion, please. I believe the motion was not to consider rescinding. The motion was to rescind. The Board could consider rescinding and say we considered it with no action.

Mr. Sprung: Let's repeat the wording so everybody is clear.

Mr. Crowley: It is a recommendation to the Board that they rescind the Petland contract, which is a non-binding recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Sprung: All those in favor, please raise your hand. Hands down, thank you.

All those opposed, please raise your hand. Hands down, thank you.

The motion passes.

The Chair recognized John Studebaker, Delegate for the Battle Creek Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I'm sure you are all multi-tasking people, so you can jump back to Carl's question that was really about the Canine Health Foundation and its participation in the funding of the DNA project that discovered a marker for these – I believe for the juvenile cataracts in his breed.

I'll comment since I have been on the Board of Directors of the Canine Health Foundation now ten years and I'm a past president. I see also a past president here of my friend Howard Falberg from California, so he can comment as well if I don't cover everything.

The Canine Health Foundation, first of all, Carl, has open meetings and you are welcome to attend any of them. We have these meetings ahead of our regular meetings of the American Kennel Club. That was this past Sunday and the coming meeting in December will be Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.

So any of you and all of you are welcome to come and attend. If you come at nine o'clock, we open up, have breakfast. Let us know if you are all going to be there, because we won't have enough food for the whole bunch but we will have enough food for ten or twelve of you.

Now, to address the question about the funding of research projects. We have at any one time 120 or 130 research proposals in process and being funded. These have discovered over 15 different markers for various

genetic diseases in all of our – in a number of our breeds.

Each one of these projects and proposals was backed with a contract. In almost all cases, these contracts were with a university, and that university then developed the marker, or identified the marker. In almost all these cases, there are also these markers and procedures for these – what amounts to an analysis, is patented. And that university then has the right to either put that patent into the public on a royalty basis or to perform it itself.

In a number of the universities, Cornell is an example, Michigan State, if I had the list in front of me, I could disclose it more specifically. In almost all instances, they retain the right to process those cases themselves. They also set the fees. You said \$130, was it, Carl?

Mr. Gomes: \$120.

Mr. Studebaker: Actually, that is less than quite a few of these procedures that are being done. In some cases, I know it is more than that. We have no control over that. You know, they own the patent.

Mr. Gomes: In some cases it was over \$300.

Mr. Studebaker: They can do it. They don't have to do it at all, for that matter. That is a matter of the commercial way that that particular university or institution handles it. If you have further questions on this, any of you, Carl, come to our meetings and I'll be glad to discuss it in detail.

The Chair recognized Karen Arends, Delegate for the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, who spoke as follows:

There have been some nice attempts to kind of sidetrack this, but people don't seem to be sidetracked. In Texas, we are very lucky to have very few pet stores that sell dogs and cats. Petland is one of the few. And I've been to their openings and saw very, very docile animals that it's not possible they are like this normally with everybody that's there poking them. And these dogs, I don't know how many they lose. I heard 20 percent before they get there. And then people that don't know how to care for them and then

go to quite often any home, quite often inappropriate. And so we have lost a lot of the dogs.

How many of them that you have all seen in pet stores would you swear are purebred dogs? You know this is kind of iffy. And these came from breeders who obviously don't care where they're placed. They don't have to follow up. Why do they care if they're purebred dogs? They are getting the same money by saying they are. And if they aren't interested enough to back them up, what makes us think they're interested enough to be honest with us?

These same dogs are then taken care of by people that know nothing about the breeds, individual placements. Then we have all seen them with health problems in our rescue programs, and then you have the nice family that came to buy a fish, that when they get tired of it they salute and flush. These same people may see this darling puppy and buy it that day. What are the chances of that dog having a happy long life with this family?

And so these other people said they are planning to be apologetic. I think that AKC should be ashamed. This is beyond awful. And most of the things, as others have said, I've been able to back, but I can't even pretend with this one. And I think the Board should look really hard and strong and maybe if this isn't the way the real world is, we should go in another direction. Thank you.

Also, are these dogs all placed on limited registrations or are they put out on full registrations?

The Chair recognized William Green, Delegate for the Rio Grande Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

This issue was touched upon yesterday at the caucus so I'll try to be brief. In Albuquerque, New Mexico, the city council recently enacted what is known as the HEART ordinance, HEART standing for Humane and Ethical Animal Regulation and Treatment. Many who have read this ordinance see it as one of the most onerous, most dangerous pieces of spay-neuter, anti breeding legislation to come along in a long time. To highlight just a few of its more objectionable provisions, a household would be limited to no more than six intact animals, not more than four of which can be dogs. In order to own

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any intact animal, one would have to pay an annual fee, permit fee, of \$150 per intact animal. There would be a limitation on the number of litters: One per intact animal per year. Well, I guess the dogs are going to have litters, too, but that's beside the point.

There are provisions in the ordinance that trivializes animal cruelty. For example, one could be convicted of animal cruelty for not giving their dog food or water in the right kind of pan or bowl, or not providing their dog with the right kind of toy. Rio Grande Kennel Club and other organizations in the Albuquerque area have blocked this ordinance since it was first proposed. We tried working with the sponsor, we tried working with city councilors, we went to the city council, testified against the ordinance two to one; but politics being what they are, it did pass. The mayor did sign it. Interestingly, when the mayor signed it, he acknowledged that most of it is unenforceable. But that he intended to enforce the spay/neuter and anti breeding provisions of it.

The ordinance was promoted on a heavily anti purebred platform. Contrary to the protestations of the sponsor, it's got animal rights fingerprints all over it. Having exhausted our efforts in the legislative and executive arenas, we have resorted to the judicial. We have filed suit against the City of Albuquerque, Rio Grande Kennel Club and eight individual plaintiffs. That presents a problem: As the attorneys among us will attest, lawyers don't work for nothing. And we have had some financial support. Frankly, we need more if we are going to be successful.

And this is not just an issue for Albuquerque. If we win in Albuquerque, we are going to be facing this battle in other places, other times. If we lose in Albuquerque, that's going to give the opposition a victory that will help them in their future efforts. And unfortunately, we are fighting at a time and place of the enemies' choosing. Albuquerque was targeted. I'm here to blatantly solicit contributions, and I would ask that anybody who wishes to donate make checks payable to Rio Grande Kennel Club.

With the Chair's permission, I would like to give an address where those could be mailed to?

Mr. Sprung: Absolutely.

Mr. Green: Rio Grande Kennel Club, PO Box 25672, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-5672. And with permission, I will also be posting this information within the next few days on the Delegates list. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. Also I would like to suggest that our Legislative Department and Legal Department communicate with you.

Mr. Green: Okay. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Lee Slorah, Delegate from the Des Moines Obedience Training Club, who spoke as follows:

Recently my club sent a letter/petition to the AKC Board of Directors. They have also asked me to convey the content of that letter for the Delegates to consider. For the purposes of the reporter, I have a copy here which I will provide. You needn't try to get me verbatim.

"AKC Board of Directors: We the undersigned members of the Des Moines Obedience Training Club are a very diverse well-rounded and educated group of people. We would expect no less from our obedience and tracking judges. We strongly oppose the "Judges Conflict of Interest Policy" as passed by the AKC Board of Directors. This policy does not strengthen the AKC's position as the premier registry for purebred dogs. Furthermore, we believe that member clubs should have been notified of potential action on this issue prior to the policy being enacted.

"While it may be that the actual number of AKC registered dogs initially declined due to another registry, participating in companion and performance events with another registry can only help to drive desire to compete more often in the Sport, no matter how many registries there are. Therefore, we would ask that at the very least, obedience, rally and tracking judges be exempted from this policy entirely. Cross venue training and judging can only help to improve our numbers within the companion and performance venues.

Respectfully, the members of the Des Moines Obedience Training Club."

Thank you for your kind attention.

Mr. Sprung: As the previous Board minutes stated, that policy is going to be discussed again in October, next month's Board meeting.

The Chair recognized Sylvia Meisels, Delegate for the Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Yes, I would like to address the subject of the agreement with Petland again, please. Frankly, I find it offensive personally, as I'm sure many of you do, who are breeders and have been registering dogs all your life with the AKC. I always thought of this as a – sorry, if you don't like the elitist idea; but an elitist registry, something to be especially proud of. And now having puppies coming out of pet shops in this manner, what do I have left to convince me AKC registration means anything more to me than any other registry? Why shouldn't I go over to another registry?

Mr. Sprung: You say "now," we have been doing it for many, many years?

Mrs. Meisels: But you haven't been doing this through pet shops like this, having them send the registrations in.

Mr. Sprung: Correct, the blue slips were given to the customer.

Mrs. Meisels: I have spent 25 years of my life having purebred dogs registered with the AKC. I have special dogs that have come from the bred-by class very successfully. I think I have done the utmost I can to prove that I have good dogs, AKC dogs, that I thought meant something. Now I would like to ask something: Is it possible that you could consider your contract with them requiring them to have limited registrations only on those puppies that are sold that way?

Mr. Sprung: It's certainly possible to bring that topic up.

Mrs. Meisels: Could you consider that, please?

Mr. Sprung: We will consider all suggestions seriously. Absolutely.

Mrs. Meisels: I would like to make the recommendation to the Board that

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they please consider putting limited registration on all those puppies sold that way.

A Delegate: Is that a motion?

Ms. Meisels: That is a motion.

Mr. Sprung: We can't answer for all other people. In other words, the pet buying public will make that final decision.

Ms. Meisels: But the breeder makes that decision when their papers go out.

Mr. Sprung: That's not what I meant. What I said is the person who is going to purchase a puppy, whether it's from a breeder or from a pet store, or anywhere else, that's the person who makes the final decision.

Mrs. Meisels: No.

Mr. Sprung: That's the person who makes the final decision whether or not they will purchase that puppy.

Mrs. Meisels: Whether they purchase that puppy or not is not the issue. The issue is: Can they get a full registration on a puppy in that manner?

Mr. Sprung: That's the choice of the breeder.

Mr. Merriam: It's not the store.

Mrs. Meisels: In this case, there is no breeder. It is Petland that is transferring the dog.

Mr. Sprung: No, that's not the case. There is a breeder of every litter. Petland is not a breeder of puppies.

Mrs. Meisels: Is it not true that when the dog transfers hands, the ownership goes over to the person whose hands it comes to? Petland owns those dogs at the time it sold to the public.

Mr. Sprung: It is only the breeder who can choose whether a registration is limited or not. And it is only the breeder that can lift that requirement.

Mrs. Meisels: Well, perhaps that rule should be changed, sir?

Mr. Sprung: Perhaps. That's up to

the Delegate body. But then what you are suggesting is: Every owner of a dog, once it is transferred, could place a dog on limited or lift a limited registration?

Mrs. Meisels: Exactly.

Mr. Sprung: So when I sell a special to somebody because I'm no longer going to exhibit it, that dog could become limited. Is that what you are suggesting?

Mrs. Meisels: Yes, sir, I'm suggesting that Petland sell only limited dogs.

Mr. Sprung: To be clear, you are suggesting we take the right of placing limited away from the breeder, and give it to anybody who owns a dog and is transferring a dog?

Mrs. Meisels: I'm suggesting, since you won't show us the contract and agreement with these people in the first place –

Mr. Sprung: That's true.

Mrs. Meisels: And in the second place, you have demeaned the dogs that we sell by selling them this way through the pet shop and registering with AKC, all of them are going to be registered so that they could be bred and placed in more puppy mills and in more pet shops. What is to happen to the purebred dog?

Mr. Sprung: These dogs – let's take it one step back, if we may. These dogs are AKC registrable.

Mrs. Meisels: Absolutely.

Mr. Sprung: So the question is: Should there be a mechanism for them to be registered as AKC puppies, or would we prefer that those AKC puppies are registered elsewhere?

Mrs. Meisels: That was not my question.

Mr. Sprung: But those are the facts of the matter. They will either not be registered with anybody, or registered elsewhere and possibly bred.

AKC will not register a litter with AKC limited registration. However, all 23 of our competitors will register those litters. We do not have the ability

to stop the registering of litters from limited dogs and bitches, except in our own domain.

Mrs. Meisels: Yes. But I suggest that perhaps then if you can't have the Petland put limited registration on them, have Petland acquire the puppies from people who only sell them to them as limited registration.

Mr. Sprung: That's a possibility as well.

Mrs. Meisels: I mean, obviously this is large commercial breeders they are buying them from, and if they require that the large commercial breeders send only limited puppies to them, then that's all they can sell.

Mr. Sprung: That would be correct.

Mrs. Meisels: There is a way around it.

Mr. Sprung: That's a possibility.

Mrs. Meisels: Anyway, can we get a motion to the effect that I'd like the Board to consider this, please?

Mr. Sprung: Absolutely.

Mrs. Meisels: I make such a motion, please, that the Board consider having Petland buy only from breeders who will put limited registration on their puppies.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second? There is no second.

Mrs. Meisels: Thank you for your time.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Janice Gardner, Delegate for the Rockingham County Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Hello. I'm going to give you all a short and I would assume rather welcome break from the heaviness of the conversation we are having right now. I just need to make a couple of announcements.

First of all, I want to welcome the new members to the Perspectives Committee. We had a real election for Perspectives this year; it is the first that

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has happened in about ten years, and I am very grateful for everyone who ran.

There is an error in the current issue that specifies that Kitty Steidel is going to be the coordinator of the December issue. That is not so. She is no longer on the Committee, and Dr. Gerry Meisels has kindly agreed to take over that one issue. And since he is standing right behind me, I am going to let him give you his e-mail number so that you will know how to contact him. In the meantime, I heard about a dozen times today that nobody can reach me via e-mail, so I'm going to give you my e-mail address: Aren't you all lucky? My e-mail is sparhawk@surf.net

And I'll turn the mic over to Dr. Meisels.

Dr. Meisels: I have been asked to let you know that Kitty Steidel resigned from the Perspectives Board, rather than disappearing or vanishing. She is still here. But she resigned from it. My e-mail address is gmeisels@rapidsys.com

I'm also obviously the director, so you can just always look me up.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Mrs. Daniels: Thank you, Mr. President.

Perception is reality. How many times have we all heard that? And there have been times when decisions have been made sometimes in the Delegate body, sometimes by staff, sometimes by Board, where we come away thinking we have got some egg on our face. I think right now we all feel like we have just been hit with a 12-egg omelet. And what I would like to say is a very brief analogy, if you will, to what has happened today. Before lunch, we passed a Bylaws amendment that allow us protection from legal lawsuits when we keep the enemy out of the body. And I can agree with that reason for that Bylaws amendment. Then after dessert, we find out with a spokesperson from the podium that because we have competitors and because we need more money, and believe me, I understand the need for ancillary lines of income – we were researching them tremendously when I was on staff and we started one of the big ones then. But now because we need the money, we have been told we are going to go to bed with the pet shops, with the enemies, and to me

that is indeed prostituting our ethic.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The chair recognized Betty Jo Patrick, Delegate for the Schipperke Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Earlier today we reviewed and voted on, actually discussed the Article VI, Section 5, of the AKC Bylaws on Delegate Eligibility. And I'm going to read quickly. It says, "No person is eligible to become or remain a Delegate if he or she, Section B, is engaged in trade or traffic in dogs which is engaged in – which includes commercial breeders or brokers of dogs for resale."

Now, I have a real problem with one rule for us and another rule for you. And I don't mean to be rude, but I do the rescue for the State of Arizona. And I am the one that gets the dogs and I am the one that tries to find the homes and I am the one that pays for the MPS 3B tests at 80 bucks apiece. And I'm going to say: Petland is not going to take them back when they don't work out. They come to me. And they're a mess. And I am angry; very, very, very angry.

The Chair recognized Kathrynne Sarvinas, Delegate from the Dog Owner's Training Club of Maryland, who spoke as follows:

I can understand your reasoning behind getting these puppies registered. However, as someone has been thrown out of Doctor's Pet Shops more times than I care to count for questioning the Parentage of a Boxer puppy that I happen to see there that looks more like a Beagle, is there any way that we can ensure that the dogs that they are registering are, in fact, what they are supposed to be?

Mr. Sprung: They are part of the inspection process. The inspectors are there. They do DNA tests, they check the papers, etc., as they do in the kennels that these puppies came from.

Ms. Goldberg: I'm sure I speak for much of the Delegate body in that we sympathize and recognize that the AKC has to find alternate sources of revenue. What you are hearing here is that this is obviously not the one we would choose. I'm throwing this out without previous thought. It occurred

to me when Howard Falberg was talking about the Pet Smarts and the Petcos across the nation, those pets supply facilities that do not sell puppies; could the staff not develop some sort of a program, similar to ILP, with paperwork that could be handed out to every person buying a bag of dog food, inviting them to register their dog is some ILP-like registry that's part of AKC, and telling them what fun it would be to compete in the various events that we offer and giving them a reduced fee and some sort of incentive that would be inclusive. Perhaps it would inspire them to make their next dog a purebred dog. It would not be supporting the puppy mills or high volume breeders, call them what you will; but it would be including more people, showing them the advantages of registration, show them the joys of being part of this fancy, and perhaps encouraging them to buy from a reputable breeder next time around?

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for your suggestion, I will advise you that such research is already underway.

Mr. Stanfield: The Terry-All Kennel Club is concerned about the conflict of interest and feels that the –

Mr. Sprung: Excuse me.

Mr. Stanfield: the conflict of interest policy shouldn't -

Mr. Sprung: Excuse me, sir. Is this about conflict of interest for judges or the conflict of interest for Delegates? Which are you referring to?

Mr. Stanfield: For judges.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. I wanted everybody to be able to follow your thought.

Mr. Stanfield: "And according to Article 20, under the amendments to Bylaws and Rules, Terry-All Kennel Club would like to propose the following amendment to Section 1, Chapter 7 of AKC's Rules Applying to Dog Shows:

Whereas the AKC Board of Directors by voting in their policy in May the eighth and ninth, 2006 meeting placed certain restrictions on its judges and in that process changed the rule, thereby usurping the power of the

AKC Delegate body, since Article 9 of the AKC's Charter and Bylaws grants the Delegates the sole power to make rules, and;

Whereas the policy on judge's restrictions proposed by the AKC staff and provided by the AKC Board was not in accordance with the AKC's Charter and Bylaws, and therefore the implementation date should be postponed until such time as the Delegate body confirms the proposed restriction on judges; and whereas the Delegate body should be given the opportunity to agree with the AKC Board of Directors' proposal thereby asserting the sole power granted to them;

Whereas the Delegate body in all likelihood would not desire to enter into a Conflict with the AKC Board, but rather want to ensure that the AKC's Board's policy concerning judge's restrictions be addressed in strict accordance with the AKC Charters and Bylaws which directs the Board of Directors to comply with all provisions of the AKC Charter and Bylaws;

Therefore, be it resolved, to change the rules, in Section 1 of Chapter 7 under the title "Judges," of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows be amended by the following..."

And that would be the entire verbiage exactly as described in that May meeting after the first – the second paragraph which says, "Show dogs for others not be approved until such as engaged in such activity" include the entire sections as passed by the Board of Directors."

And submitted by Thom Stanfield, Terry-All Kennel Club. We feel like this is a Delegate duty and we would like to see the Delegates get a vote on it.

Mr. Sprung: Do we have a copy of that?

Mr. Crowley: Yes, we do.

Mr. Stanfield: It has been presented to both Jim and the Board.

The Chair recognized Margarette Wampold, Delegate for the South Windsor Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

My kennel club does public education, big events almost every month. Wherever we go, we take signs that say

"Buy a purebred dog from a reputable breeder." We had an incident a few weeks ago when we did Dog Days in the Park in South Windsor. This lovely lady came by with her dog, and she wanted one just like it, to breed to. And she informed me it was a Siberian Husky. I thought it was a Malamute; and she told me no, she bought it at a pet store and she had AKC papers. We happened to have a licensed judge that judges the whole working group, and I said "Ed, come over and tell me what this is?"

And he looked at me like I was an idiot, not recognizing a Malamute and he said, "Peggy, that's a Malamute."

Well, that woman has AKC papers saying she has a Siberian Husky. So they are not supervising what they're buying and she believes she has a Siberian Husky with AKC papers.

So I'm opposed to anything where AKC is giving papers to dogs in puppy stores or whatever you want to call it, commercial breeders, because we have worked through the years trying to promote buying a purebred dog from a reputable breeder, and if they have an AKC dog, then they know what they've got. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized John McNabney, Delegate for the Scottish Terrier Club of America, who spoke as follows:

As some of you know, I have a habit of speaking before I think, so I found myself in a situation on an e-mail list defending breeders and defending the AKC against some people who were very active in rescue and were blaming the AKC and breeders for all their problems. And the subject turned to puppy mills and whether or not puppy mills were approved to sell AKC puppies. And I brought up the fact that there was a Care and Standards Commission that the AKC enforced on all commercial breeding operations. And they came back and said yes, that may be; but there are many breeding operations out there that are selling AKC puppies that don't come anywhere near meeting any kind of reasonable care and conditions standards. I said, if you would tell me the names and the addresses of these locations, I would refer them to the AKC and see to it that the issue is addressed.

Mr. Sprung: Please give it to us.

Mr. McNabney: I need to know who to send those to.

Mr. Sprung: Send it to Tom Sharp. He will talk to you right after the meeting. Please send it to us.

Mr. McNabney: Very good. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Mr. Brisbin: I guess I am resigned that my breed and other breed gene pools have taken a hit here, and there is not much I can do about it at this point; that the dogs that we are breeding and putting out there are going to be diluted in a population sense by now more genes from high volume breeders, and apparently there is not much we can do about that. What I would like to know is: Is there a chance, and I think some of the people who put this contract in may now be wishing that there was a way to minimize this. And let me suggest, and I don't think it would bother Petland, that every puppy that gets registered through this program with Petland get sent an invitation to spay and neuter and to maybe even rebate something to them if they will spay and neuter so that their dogs won't be out there competing with ours. And the final issue in my mind is: Can you at least tell us how long this contract is valid for? Is there an expiration date on it?

Mr. Sprung: Yes, there's an expiration date. Every contract has a termination clause, so our attorneys have us prepared for any eventuality.

Mr. Brisbin: But you can't tell us now how long the contract is?

Mr. Sprung: I don't have the contract in front of me.

Mr. Brisbin: Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: All AKC contracts, as I said, have a termination clause.

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

I regret that we voted to suggest to rescind a contract that we knew nothing about. But our passions were so high and our feelings were so high we did that, and now we still don't know anything about this contract. And I still hope that some time in the future we can learn exactly what Petland is getting out of this deal. Because there are a lot of concerns for it, and I worry about: We do require chain of ownership, a paper trail that follows our dogs. And, you know, at one point we quickly got rid of the idea of allowing Doctor Pet stores to print our supplementary transfers, and I fear that we're going back in that same direction, and I hope that's not the case. But I wanted to speak to you about something else.

Mr. Sprung: First of all, if I may interrupt. The passion is appreciated.

Ms. Bernardi: Good. Earlier in the day in the financial statement we talked about the ten million dollar deficit in event expenses. And I feel like we breeders and exhibitors and judges have taken a hit, because it's as though we drain the American Kennel Club, instead of contributing to it. And I'd like to remind you that a few weeks ago, six, seven weeks ago a French bulldog was sold at auction, where else, in Missouri, for \$12,500, a male French Bulldog.

Now, you have to know that no – I think it went to a commercial breeder in Oklahoma or Kansas, I'm not positive. But the point I'd like to make is: We never saw – I know a little bit about the commercial breeding in Missouri, and we never saw French Bulldogs in the commercial establishments until they started to win groups. So we contribute every day when we go to a dog show and take our good dogs and exhibit them and win with them on television. We contribute to the profit of those dogs. And so I don't think we should always feel like we're the drain on the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Sprung: Gretchen, we're not trying to make the point that that ten million dollar loss or cost or however one wishes to define it – is negative, from a fault point of view. We are simply trying to inform the Delegate body that this is the financial story addressing events across the board. Not saying: This is the financial story, the cost of doing business is minus ten million dollars and it's someone's fault. That is not the intention.

The intention is strictly to make sure the Delegate body is aware of the cost of holding those events. And certainly not to say we shouldn't be holding those events or there is anything wrong with holding them. That's part of our core constituency, and that matters. But we feel an obligation to give you the entire financial picture.

Ms. Bernardi: I appreciate that. Could I ask one more question?

Mr. Sprung: Of course.

Ms. Bernardi: David, this is to you. If you could go back in time now knowing what you know now, would you rescind the Frequently Used Sire Program?

Mr. Merriam: No.

Ms. Bernardi: Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Ms. Laurans: Okay. I've been accused of stirring things up. But I think we need to remember: We are all still part of something we love. And what we love is the American Kennel Club. I've had people come up to me and say, can we do a no confidence vote, can we do this. I still have confidence in this Board of Directors. What I have concern with is maybe they don't really understand where we are coming from.

There may be, whether it be the Internal Consulting Group or the people that put the strategic plan together, what our bottom line, gut level is with, as the little old lady who is eating the hamburger said, "I'm sick and tired of this and I don't want to take it any more."

But it doesn't mean that we don't still need to work together for an organization and a Sport that we care

about. But I think we have expressed a bottom line here, and I hope that there will be some interest to listen to it. And I know you may not be able to rescind it now, or you may. I don't know. But this is just a gut level thing of something that happened that is untenable for some of us that we didn't know was coming down, and probably you didn't know how intensely or passionately we felt about it.

So I think it's time for us to work together to get that point. Whether it means that there is some people who feel that way, who have input to internal consulting, or to you, or that you come to us a bit more, I think it needs to happen. And I would also like to see more money, if we are going to be doing this, given to our Inspections Department and that it targeted to the pet stores.

Mr. Lyons: Pat, I really appreciate your comments. But I do take exception to one thing, as I have in our personal discussions. The ICG, the Internal Consulting Group and the staff and the management of this organization work at the direction of the Board. They do not work independently.

Ms. Laurans: John, we understand that totally; and that was why when the question came up at the Parent Club meeting, the individual from the audience asked that the question be asked at the Board. We do understand totally that the staff works very hard, that we have a wonderful caring and committed staff.

They work at the behest of the Board and I think the Board tries to do what they feel is in the best interests of us and our Sport. But we have gotten a little off track.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Margaret Pough, Delegate for the Finger Lakes Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

This is my infectious disease alert or update. Please do not believe every panicked e-mail about canine influenza. It is out there. Please do not believe in every panicked e-mail of the new parvo. There ain't no such thing.

There are infectious diseases. They do circulate at shows. Our dogs are stressed. Canine brucellosis is out there. Every single rescue dog you take

in you should have tested for canine brucellosis. And neutered.

But as far as these infectious diseases, consult with your vet, use common sense, wash hands frequently and do not take ill dogs to any event, Boarding kennel, party day, dog show, whatever have you. Use your brains.

Ms. Parker: I'm very pleased to be able to go back to my kennel club and report that the Board will be discussing in October the question of conflict of interest for judges.

Mr. Sprung: That is correct.

Ms. Parker: Several of our members have come from the UKC through the miscellaneous class, the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, the Toy Fox Terrier. They were very concerned about the ability of judges to cross judge, and they would respectfully request that you reconsider that position and allow judges to participate in both UKC and AKC events. They feel it will enhance both and not detract from either.

The thing that I will be very concerned about bringing back to my membership: I'm going to have to take a big gulp when I tell them that their AKC registration for their dogs, that they breed in their homes and try so hard to sell to people as quality puppies is going to have no more meaning now than what they get at Pet Smart.

Mr. Menaker: You know, I'm emotional, too. And I know Pat's emotional as is Judi. We hear you and we will address the issues you raise and come back with a solution.

Your Board does have responsibilities and one of those is fiduciary responsibilities, but let's not walk out of here tonight suggesting that this staff or anybody else has come up with something that we haven't been doing for the past 122 years. Indeed we have been registering AKC eligible puppies from Petland, and every other company selling AKC registrable puppies. We have been registering those puppies and we have collected millions of dollars.

This is not a new phenomenon. What is happening is: As the registrations are going down, and many of you are screaming about why this is, our registrations have been pirated by other organizations. That means, and

I've explained this to Gretchen this morning, that these pet shops take an AKC registrable puppy and convert it to another registry.

We need to decide whether we are going to stop registering puppies that come from these puppy brokers or Pet Shops and the like. I say "stop," because, yes, Gretchen, we have been registering puppies from pet shops. That's not new. While I certainly don't endorse brokers or pet shops selling puppies, it is a fact of life and the numbers continue to grow.

What I'm saying is there are several options. One is to make a conscious decision to no longer register "all" AKC puppies. By the way, some of them make their way to pet shops from all types of Breeders. That's one alternative.

To tell you the truth, Judi, I would almost prefer to raise the registrations and the event fees and be able to say, "Effective next month, we are no longer going to register those puppies." However, not only would we lose those registrations, but we would lose a large number of potential constituents and that would impact our ability to influence legislation and over time, our numbers might simply make us just one of 23 registries. So that's Option Number 1.

Option number 2 is we continue to register any AKC puppy – as we have been doing in the past. And please don't make it sound like we haven't, because the data shows we have been doing so on a large scale. However, in this option, we make no attempt to stop the pirating of those AKC registrable puppies and we allow our registry and registration dollars to simply decline.

The third option was the option that the staff was trying to present – and blame the Board; don't blame the staff. I understand you can un-elect us. But believe me, we put our heart and soul into this sport as much as I believe you all do. Our intention was not to support or to endorse Pet Shops, but rather to stop the conversion of our AKC puppies.

The fact of the matter is that pet shop AKC puppies were being registered when Judi Daniels was a director and when she was president, right, Judi? We have always been registering those puppies.

Now they are getting pirated and

they are ending up in other registries and they are no longer part of our AKC. The people who own them may never have an opportunity to be part of the AKC family. If bred, they are no longer part of our care and conditions. What we have learned is that competing registries are paying bounties to convert AKC registration papers to ACA papers or the like.

And all we simply did, with this recommendation from the staff, and which the Board approved 12 to 1, was to attempt to prevent this trend from continuing.

You have communicated to this Board today that you do not want us to pursue this route. Indeed, we will come up with other ways to pursue revenue shortfalls. One way is to raise fees in order that we make up for the shortfall that occurs when registrations decline.

There's no simplistic answer. We are all emotional. But the fact of the matter is there are many components to this whole issue, and there needs to be a way of dealing with it. One lady asks if they are all limited registrations?

Well, the question you have to ask yourself is, did the breeders make them limited registrations? As far as I'm concerned, they ought to all be limited registrations. So the real question is: As the registrations continue to decline and as AKC puppies are converted to other registries, we have to make a decision as to whether or not we want to try to go after them, or whether or not we want to try to turn away from them and look for other sources of revenue. That's what it boils down to.

This initiative was not to endorse or support those people or the conditions that most of us are opposed to. It was never done for that purpose. It was taken because in the past we were registering those puppies, and they accounted for a large number of our registration numbers.

In any event, I can assure you the Board has received your message. We will reconvene on that subject and you will hear back from us. I assure you, it was not a decision taken lightly, nor was there any intent to do harm to the ethics and values that most of us believe in. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Carl Hølder, Delegate for the Beaumont Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Do we still have a quorum present?

Mr. Sprung: I would say we do. Barely.

Mr. Holder: I move to adjourn.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second?

A Delegate: Second.

Mr. Sprung: This is a majority vote. We are going to ask you to please stand.

All those wishing to adjourn, please stand. Thank you.

All those opposed?

The ayes have it.

The meeting is adjourned.

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