DELEGATES’ QUARTERLY MEETING

SYNOPSIS OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2012 DELEGATES FORUM

The Delegates Forum is an informal meeting of Delegates that provides an opportunity for open discussion and the expression of ideas. No official business is transacted, a quorum is not required and no attendance record is kept.

Meeting the Board of Directors Candidates

The December 2012 Forum consisted of questions directed to candidates for the AKC Board of Directors who are to be elected in March 2013. The candidates fielded questions on topics including but not limited to: their breeding experience; gaining public support and recognition of the advisability of electing the entire AKC Board once every four years; ways of gaining public support and recognition of AKC; challenges facing AKC; and how they intend to actually implement their ideas if elected.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF
THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Quarterly Meeting Of The Delegates of
The American Kennel Club December 14, 2012

Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 277

Affenpinscher Club of America—Letisha Wrubel
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Constance Butherus
Airedale Terrier Club of America—Aletta L. Moore
Akita Club of America—Sherry E. Wallis
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—Patricia A. Peel
American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—Robert Urban
American Bloodhound Club—Mary L. Olszewski
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—Patte Klecan
American Boxer Club, Inc.—Bruce E. Voran
American Brittany Club, Inc.—Judith Tighe
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—Alan Kalter
American Chesapeake Club, Inc.—Dyane Baldwin
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—Marilyn E. Currey
American Fox Terrier Club—Connie Clark
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—Harold Miller
American Maltese Association, Inc.—John R. Barnes
American Pointer Club, Inc.—Mrs. Karen R. Spey
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—Dr. Geno Sisneros
American Sealyham Terrier Club—Kenneth W. Mader
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—Julie Viroseck
American Tibetan Mastiff Association—Martha Felkerstein
American Whippet Club, Inc.—Bo Bengston
American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association—Dr. Lisa Boyer
Anderson Kennel Club—Philip D. Sample
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Ms. Patricia A. Sample
Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc.—Anne R. Palmer
Antelope Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—William Daniels
Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—Pamela J. Arwood
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Wallin
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—Gay A. LaBerge
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—Bette D. Williams
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—William I. Christensen
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—Katie Campbell
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—Sandra J. Launey
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—Wayne Boyd
Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—Kathy Coxwell
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—Phyllis Belcastro
Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—Carole A. Wilson
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—Sara Karl
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—George Sikes
Boca Raton Dog Club Inc.—Diane Wagner
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Ruth A. Naun
Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—Barbara O’Neill
Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Kathleen M. Kelly
Briard Club of America, Inc.—Michael Gibson

Bull Terrier Club of America—Rebecca Poole
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.
Cairn Terrier Club of America—Pam Davis
California Collie Clan, Inc.—Robette G. Johns
Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—Mr. Wayne F. Harmon
Canaan Dog Club of America—Pamela S. Rosman
Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Vivian A. Moran
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—Jamie Ashby
Carroll County Kennel Club of New Hampshire, Inc.—Cheryl Snedaker-Sims
Cattoctin Kennel Club—Whitney Combs
Catonsville Kennel Club—Beverly A. Drake
Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally Allen
Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—Claire K. Sterdel
Chaparral Kennel Club, Inc.—Pam Goldman
Charleston Kennel Club—Sylvia Arrowwood
Chattanooga Kennel Club—David Gilstrap
Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—Kenneth Saenz
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—Marge B. Caltharp
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—Nick Pisia
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—Frank Holloway
Clarksville Kennel Club—Robert A. Schroll
Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—Dr. Stephen Lawrence
Clementon County Kennel Club, Inc.—Margorie Underwood
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—Mrs. Maureen R. Setter
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Judy Hiller
Colorado Kennel Club—Mrs. Louise Leone
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—Sidney L. Marx
Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—Norma J. Ryan
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—Larry Sorenson
Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—Dr. Charles Garvan
Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Karen Dorn
Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—Barbara L. Mann
Dayton Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Groeschel
Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—Merlyn Arleen, D.C.
Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—Andrew G. Mills
DelValle Dog Club of Livermore—Sandra Olsen
Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—Dr. A. D. Batherus
Des Moines Kennel Club, Inc.—John D. Hughes
Des Moines Obedience Training Club—Lee Solorah
Durham Kennel Club Inc.—Linda C. Wozniak
East Tennessee Retriever Club—Garry Clasing
Elm City Kennel Club—Dr. Gregory J. Pavez
English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Barbara A. Penny
English Setter Association of America, Inc.—Mr. John P. Nielsen
English Springer Spaniel Club of Michigan, Inc.—Barbara J. Gates
English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois—David H. Hopkins
Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Terrie Breen
Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—Cathleen Rubens
Field Spaniel Society of America—Katherine Sullivan
Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Margaret B. Pough
Finnish Spitz Club of America—Cindy Stanseff
Foynth Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Almira B. Dallas
Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—Charles Arnold
French Bulldog Club of America—Mrs. Ann M. Hubbard
Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—Connie S. Clapp
German Shepherd Dog Club of America—Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—Mr. Kenneth A. Marden
German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Patricia W. Laurans
Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—Kimberly Demchak
Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Bonnie Lapham
Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—Nance O. Skoglund
Great Dane Club of America, Inc.—Thomas Sandenz
Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc.—Dr. Robert M. Brown
Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc.—Ms. Karen J. Burgess
Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara Shaw
Greater Murfreesboro Kennel Club, Inc.—Margaret DiCorleto
Greater Naples Dog Club—Steven D. Gladstone
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—Linda L. LaFrance
Greenwold Kennel Club—Linda A. Knott
Greenville Kennel Club—Margaret K. Curtis
Greyhound Club of America—Melanie S. Steele
Harrissburg Kennel Club, Inc.—Cindy Miller
Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—Mr. Robert D. Black
Havanese Club of America—Jane F. Rutherford
Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—Patricia M. Cruz
Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—Nancy Fisk
Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Dick Blair
Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—Gwen McCullagh
Irish Terrier Club of America—Douglas L. Rapport
Italian Greyhound Club of America, Inc.—Carole Plesar
Japanese Chin Club of America—Carla J. Ryan
Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally McNamara
Kachina Kennel Club—Larry E. Hansen, Jr.
Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John D. Sawicki
Kenna1l Club of Beverly Hills—Thomas Powers
Kenna1l Club of Buffalo, Inc.—Margaret Doster
Kenna1l Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton
Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—Jacquelyn J. Fogel
Kuvasz Club of America—Constance D. Townsend
Ladies’ Dog Club, Inc.—Kathi Brown
Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Drana Skibinski
Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Cecelia C. Closson
Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—Carolyn M. Vack
Land O’Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Jan Croft
Langley Kennel Club—Ms. Dianne E. Franck
Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Bryant C. Freeman
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert N. LaBerge
Leonberger Club of America—Don James
Lewison-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—David M. Powers
Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—Sue Goldberg
Louisiana Kennel Club, Inc.—Luis F. Sosa
Manitowoc County Kennel Club, Inc.—Romana Arnold
Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—Lynn Garvin
Maryland Kennel Club—Gary Sarvinas
Massif Club of America, Inc.—Dr. William R. Newman
Memphis Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Robert D. Smith
Mensoma Kennel Club, Inc.—John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.
Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—Giselle Simonds
Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—Ralph Hogancamp
Mississippi State Kennel Club—Roxanne Hilman
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—Gretchen Bernardi
Montgomery County Kennel Club—Ms. Ida E. Weinstock
Mount Bachelor Kennel Club—Lynette Blue
Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—Mrs. Ruth W. Crumb
Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Rebecca S. Staniech
Mr. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Judith V. Daniels
Nashville Kennel Club—James Efrin
National Beagle Club—Eddie Dzuk
National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson
National Shiba Club of America—Maggie Strouse
Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—Viola Burgos
New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—Virginia Rowland
Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Mary W. Price
Newnan Kennel Club—Willie Crawford
Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Diane F. Taylor
North Shore Kennel Club—Richard F. Coletti
Norwich Terrier Club of America—Betty McDonnell
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—Marie A. Waterstraat
Oakland County Kennel Club, Inc.—Michael Soave
Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—Ms. Patricia C. Scully
Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—James M. Ashton
Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—Christiana Gaburri
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Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—Harvey A. Mueller
Orlando Dog Training Club—Mary L. Jensen, Ph.D.
Otterhound Club of America—Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.
Ozark Kennel Club, Inc.—Mark A. Chambers
Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—Link Newcomb
Papillon Club of America, Inc.—Miss Arlene A. Czech
Pasco Florida Kennel Club—Patricia J. Lombardi
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Anne Bowes
Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert W. Gilmour
Pharaoh Hound Club of America—Dominic P. Carota
Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—Larry Wilson
Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—Joachim N. Blutreich
Plainfield Kennel Club—John McCulldagh
Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—William E. Ellis
Poodle Club of America, Inc.—Mary Ellen Fishler
Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Robert A. Amen
Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—James Primmer
Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Joan Savage
Progressive Dog Club—William H. Blair
Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—Michelle R. Anderson
Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—Florence R. Laicher
Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—Frances Stephens
Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—Jan M. Ritchie
Rio Grande Kennel Club—Juxi Burr
Rockingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Janice S. Gardner
Rubber City Kennel Club—Cathy Gaidos
Sahuarita State Kennel Club—Rita L. Mather
Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—Abbe R. Shaw
Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—Audrey Sutton
Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—Laurence J. Libeu
Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Andrew I. Kalmanash
Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—Betty Jo Patrick
Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.—Heather Smith
Scottish Terrier Club of America—Helen A. Prince
Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—Nancy Perrell
Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Frei
Shenandoh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Sharyn Y. Hutchens
Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—Susan L. Hamil
Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—Ann M. Cook
Silky Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Tarianne Gallegos
Silver State Kennel Club—Daniele Ledoux-Starzyk
Sioux Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Jean Evanoff
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—William J. Freeney
Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—Gloria Shaver
South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Linda B. Wilson
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Linda C. Flynn
South Windsor Kennel Club—Margarette (Peggy) Wampold
Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—John K. Ioia
Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—Lee Arnold
Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Thomas M. Davies
St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—Kit A. Bostrom
St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Deborah J. Wilkins
St. Joseph Kennel Club, Inc.—Dale Hunsburger
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—Holly E. Sheltry
Standard Schnauzer Club of America—Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser
Steel City Kennel Club, Inc.—Miss Susan M. Napady
Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Robert Eisele
Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—Marcy L. Zingler
Superstition Kennel Club, Inc.—Roger Arbuthnot
Talbot Kennel Club—Panels Helmer
Tampa Bay Kennel Club—Mary Manning-Stolz
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—Catherine Bell
Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—Steve Schmidt
Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Stacey La Forge
Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert E. Bostrom
Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—John Shoemaker
Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—Christopher L. Sweetwood
Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—John J. Cadalso, Jr.
Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—James S. Corbett
Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—Patricia C. Sartes
United States Australian Shepherd Association—Leon B. Goetz
United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III
United States Lakeland Terrier Club—Alfred J. Ferruggiario
Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club, Inc.—Sharon Sakson
Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Carol Fisher
Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—Mr. William F. Dumas
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—Lynn Worth-Smith
Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—James W. Smith
Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary A. Eschweiler
Weimaraner Club of America—Judy Colon
Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Richard Rohrbacher
West Highland White Terrier Club of America—Thomas H. Barrie
West Volusia Kennel Club—H. G. Geoffrey
Westminster Kennel Club—Harvey M. Wooding
Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.—Colleen McDaniel
Wichita Kennel Club, Inc.—Treva Faires
Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Frederick R. Vogel
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—Mrs. Karen Mays
Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Inc.—Fred T. Kampo
Women’s Field Trial Club—Judy Rasmussen
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—Rosann Sexton
The Chair introduced the persons seated with him on the dais: Alan Kalter, the Chairman; Dr. Robert Smith, the Vice Chairman; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Jim Crowley, the Executive Secretary; and Nancy Wingo, the court reporter.

Mr. Sprung introduced a guest who was the author, director, producer, writer, film maker, et cetera of a video about her dog, Zephyr. Her name is Diana Chan and she is an assistant to one of AKC's registered handlers, Tuny Claflin, and she is a Junior.

Ms. Chan spoke as follows:

Good morning, everyone. My name is Diana Chan, and applying to college has been part of the process of my senior year of high school. There is a university in California, Chapman University, and as a perspective film major, I had an assignment to create an under two minute video essay about myself without including myself in the video. So that was quite a challenge. I did a lot of thinking and I finally put together this video about my best friend

(Video is shown)

(Standing ovation)

The Executive Secretary read the report of the Nominating Committee as follows: Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, the Nominating Committee, Gretchen Bernardi, Chair, Mississippi Valley Kennel Club; Karolynne McAteer, Irish Setter Club of America; Patricia A. Sample, Anderson Obedience Training Club; Patti L. Strand, Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon; Meg Weitz, Devon Dog Show Association, appointed by the Board of Directors at its July 2012 meeting, has nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 12, 2013. There are four vacancies for the Class of 2017.

Class of 2017, Carl C. Ashby, III; United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club; Alan Kaler; American Bullmastiff Association; Gail LaBerge, Atlanta Obedience Club; Harvey M. Wooding, Westminster Kennel Club.

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as candidates for the vacancies on the Board of Directors for the Class of 2017 to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 12, 2013: Lee Arnold, Southern Colorado Kennel Club; Judith V. Daniels, Mt. Baker Kennel Club; and Dr. Thomas Davies, Springfield Kennel Club.

The candidates for the class of 2017 spoke in alphabetical order. No questions from the floor were permitted.

Lee Arnold spoke as follows:

Thank you, Mr. President, and good morning fellow Delegates.

As someone who's entire professional career has been in broadcasting, I'm well aware that communications is the heart of the matter. I know it's not what you say but it's how you say it. We need to drive home our message. We need to educate the public and all the great things that AKC does for dogs.

Last year, I was able to secure Willie Nelson for a PSA, highlighting our Parent Club Rescue Programs. This year, I've enlisted another celebrity who we'll hear from later in the meeting. Over the next 12 months, I will have others participating as well.

Another one of my passions is the health and welfare of our dogs. In the past, I've chaired the Chinese Shar Pei Charitable Trust and I'm pleased to say I led the fundraising efforts, which resulted in a quarter of a million dollars being raised for health and welfare purposes for our breed.

I've served on the AKC Canine Health Foundation Board for the past 15 years; the last two being its Chair, during which time the CHF funded $3 million in research grants and another quarter of a million dollars for our ACORN Grants. I personally produced and voiced the first 30 minute video telling the CHF story. I've given countless presentations to AKC clubs, many at the National Specialties and hosted the Parent Club Health Conference for the past 12 years. I hope all of you had an opportunity to listen to the CHF podcast, in which I have conducted in depth interviews with assert scientists, clinicians who are recipients of our CHF grants.

I am thrilled that at this Delegates Meeting today, Bylaw amendments will be introduced recognizing canine health as part of AKC's Mission Statement.

Today, more than ever, we must raise the bar on the communications and we must be vigorous in our support of the health and welfare of our beloved dogs.

I'm energized and I'm excited to continue to represent you on the Board and I hope you will provide me with that opportunity to do so. I promise you I will not disappoint you in helping to move the AKC forward.

Thank you for your support. And my best wishes to you and yours for a wonderful holiday and a very happy and healthy new year. Thank you.

Carl C. Ashby, III, spoke as follows:

Good Morning Fellow Delegates!

The last four years have been challenging for AKC and the Board but we can point to many accomplishments. I have had an impact on many of those, especially Conformation Events and Information Technology. Working with Tom Davies and staff we have made significant progress including the new Competition Management System, stabilization of Conformation entries, and the Owner Handler Series to name just a few.

As Chair of the AKC PAC and with your help this year alone we raised a record $91,000 - money we have put to work to protect our right to breed and own dogs.

As a member of the AKC CAR Board I have been part of leading CAR from a loss in 2009 to a significant profit this year while contributing over $750,000 annually to AKC's operating budget.

Looking forward I see a future filled with opportunity. I envision an American Kennel Club that is caring in tone, entrepreneurial in spirit, customer driven, and whose brand is recognized as the advocate for dogs in America; an AKC that creates new income sources beyond litters, registrations, and fees to aggressively protect dogs, continue our good works, and provide the services our customers expect; an AKC that is the "voice of dogs in America" - the group who actively advocates for dogs placing
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their welfare as a top priority; an AKC that protects the right to breed dogs to assure the availability of healthy, purebred puppies and actively supports those breeders who “do it right”; an AKC that recognizes and reacts to the changes in demographics, attitudes, and life styles adapting to the needs and expectations of new generations of dog owners; an AKC that offers events second to none and enhances those events through continued innovation and partnerships; and finally, an AKC that embraces the fact it is a “volunteer driven” organization. Our 5000 Clubs provide a voice no other organization can rival. You and our Clubs are truly the voice of dogs in America and you are the face of the American Kennel Club. Over the next 2 months I will address these opportunities in more detail and hope to engage each of you in a conversation about our future. I promise to serve with the same energy, accessibility, and passion I have in the past seeking consensus where ever possible. I will be untrusting in sharing the message of the American Kennel Club and putting my skills and experience to good use in achieving our goals. My objective as a Director has been to make a difference and I believe I have. I am honored the Nominating Committee agreed and recommended me to you for a second term. Our future is filled with opportunities. By listening to one another and working as one we can chart a course that will be brighter than our past. Let’s take this journey together. I ask for your vote in March!

Judith V. Daniels spoke as follows: Thank you, Dennis. And good morning. Many of us have known each other for a long time, but if we haven’t met, I’m Judi Daniels and I hope to meet you soon. I first joined the AKC Delegate body in 1981, and I’ve been immersed in AKC clubs and activities ever since then. That’s 31 years. I’m here because I love dogs, and always have. I am proud to be a dog person. Growing up, I had a Fox Terrier, a Scottie and a Boxer (AKC registered, by the way), and my fondest childhood memories are of times spent with dogs. There was never a doubt that when I grew up I’d have dogs of my own. So in the late 60s, when I finally got the chance, I bought my first Staffordshire Bull Terrier. My husband and I helped form the breed club and our goal was to get our breed recognized and accepted into the Miscellaneous Class, and eventually, full recognition. Although popular in England and known for its gentleness to children, in this country, we learned very quickly that we had to fight just to keep our breed. We found ourselves embroiled in canine legislation immediately…and that influenced my decision 31 years ago to become a Delegate. A lot has changed at AKC during my time here, and I’m honored to have been a part of those changes: as a Delegate helping to establish our newsletter Perspectives, as an AKC Board member helping to establish the Delegate Standing Committees and later chairing one of those committees and also being able to vote to establish the AKC Canine Health Foundation; and as AKC president, being able to support major expansion and improvements in our performance events, welcoming Agility to the AKC family and being able to appoint the first vice president for canine legislation. Mostly, what my 31 years have taught me is that AKC, truly, is the last best hope for our dogs…but it’s in trouble.

I’m running for the Board because I care about AKC, am worried about its future and I want to help turn things around. I’m concerned because more dogs were being registered with AKC in the late 60s, when I got my first Staffy Bull, than are being registered with AKC today. And I’m concerned because many Americans don’t even know who we are, while groups that do nothing to help dogs have more legislative clout and get far better media coverage than us. I see this situation as a threat to our very existence that must be dealt with effectively. That’s why I decided to run, to make this my priority. As we’ve learned with bully breeds, we can easily loose what we’re not willing to fight for. I’m willing to fight for our dogs, and I ask for your support and your vote. Thank you.

Dr. Thomas Davies spoke as follows: Good morning. Business as usual is not an option. We have arrived at a point in our history that demands change. We must innovate in order to survive and prosper. I think it was Ross Perot who said, “Whoever tries the most stuff wins.” It has been and will continue to require casting aside some of our traditions. I dislike this as much as any of us. I would love to return to the AKC of the 1960s, when I first began my involvement. That, however, isn’t possible, nor will it ever be. We must adapt ourselves and our organization to today’s environment. I believe I have demonstrated my ability to think outside the nine dots. Many of the recent innovations we have instituted were, at least in some small part, my ideas. Some were initially met with skepticism but have become successful parts of our sport. Some were embraced from the outset and some not so much. Wayne Gretzky said, “You miss 100% of the shots you never take.” Everything we try will not necessarily be a resounding success, but I’m not afraid to fail. Einstein said “If you’ve never failed, you’ve never done anything”. We can’t fear to try anything that may have potential for us.

If we look at our organization as a sandwich, the Board of Directors has an interesting spot. It is the bologna between two slices of bread. The Delegate body on one side, and the AKC staff on the other. Perhaps that wasn’t the best analogy, but you get the drift. I believe I understand the position and responsibilities of a director. I respect the Delegate body… after all, I have been part of us for 40 years… and I respect the AKC staff.

If you give me a place on the Board of Directors, I will seek to put a new item on every new board meeting agenda. I will ask us to ask ourselves, “What’s the dumbest thing we’ve done lately?” And then try to fix it. To paraphrase an old adage, there may be some snow on the roof…at least a little bit, but I swear to you, there’s a hell of a fire in my furnace for our organization and for our sport. I ask for your support in March. I won’t disappoint. Thank you for listening.

Maggie Stro殊 handed me a piece of paper just as I stepped up here. She said, “Let’s change our name from American Kennel Club to America’s Kennel Club.” What a good idea. This is my vision and my plan. You will
hear about my past and stuff that I have done in subsequent communications. In conclusion, I would like to thank Albert Einstein, Ross Perot, Wayne Gretzky, Tom Peters, and my mom, who made the best bologna sandwiches ever.

Alan Kalter spoke as follows: Four years ago, when the Nominating Committee slate was announced, many of you saw my name and wondered, "Who's that guy?" This year when the Nominating Committee slate was announced, I don't think I suffered that same lack of recognition. Knowing my name is just the beginning. I want you to know me. And the best way to get to know me is to get to know what I believe, I believe our breeders are at the core of everything we do. They preserve their breeds for future generations and strive to approve their breed's health and well being. We must unequivocally protect their rights to responsibly own and breed their dogs. We must help them in their normal endeavor and we must work to change the public image of our breeders. I believe the sustainability of our 5,000 clubs is critically important to our future. Our clubs represent a grassroots outreach, not just for their events but also for their community involvement. Every club and every club member is the face of the AKC (inaudible). This Army of volunteers provides participation, education and communication in their communities on all matters affecting dogs. We must continue to work to help build their membership, assure venue availability, build entries and support their local efforts and public outreach and legislation.

I believe we have a dual objective to increasing participation in events and increasing the duration of that participation. To accomplish both, we introduced a number of initiatives. Three years ago, I presented the Grand Champion Program to the Delegate body. It was specifically created to give people a goal for continuing competition beyond the Champion title. It has succeeded in increasing entries and retaining interest in the sport. This year, we introduced Four to Six Beginner Puppy, My Dog Can Do That, the Owner Handlers Series, Coursing Ability Tests, Open Stakes and more. Next year, there must be even more. I believe we have the best judges in the world. But it takes longer to get three groups than it does to become a veterinarian. That is neither rational nor beneficial and it must be addressed next year. I believe you can stem the loss in registration, but we can no longer depend on them for our financial future. Instead, we must build on the success in generating alternative revenues and commit to increasing them significantly. I believe there is enormous opportunity for the AKC to create relationships with everyone who has a dog, based on what is important to them. Whatever a dog owners interest, the AKC must provide the expertise, experiences and example of how best to enjoy and care for those dogs that are so important to each of us in our lives. I believe innovation and communication to change our destiny. I believe we have expertise in both. But most importantly, I believe in the future of the American Kennel Club. Thank you.

Gail LaBerge spoke as follows: Good morning. The AKC of the future will look far different than that of 10 or even 15 years ago. While continuing to be the champion of purebred dogs, we must look at what our place will be in tomorrow’s society and develop new programs that will allow us to survive and grow. While developing new programs and enhancing current programs, we should increase our focus on programs for young people, to encourage them to become involved in all AKC events. In particular, I believe we should expand our veterinary outreach program to include pre veterinary students. We should emphasize what a great sport AKC has to offer the young people and families of today. One of the most serious challenges facing AKC and those who breed, show, and work their dogs is the radical agenda being put forth by the animal rights groups. As a registered lobbyist representing a nonprofit canine organization, I have the ability to communicate and work with a wide range of individuals representing organizations with a variety of viewpoints. I work closely with Georgia State, federal and local officials and their staffs on all types of animal legislation, but particularly on canine legislation. I understand how to build a coalition with those who represent other animal groups, such as our hunters and our farmers. In addition, as chairman of the legislative committees of both of my Parent Clubs, I work with our members across the nation on all legislation affecting Canines.

I believe the AKC Board can be enhanced by a member who has the ability to analyze, write and promote legislation to the benefit of those in the dog fancy. And who understands how to successfully oppose legislation that is harmful to those who breed, show, work and just plain enjoy owning dogs. As a lobbyist who works in canine legislation every day and who lobbies on the issues affecting those in the sport of purebred dogs, I believe I can bring those skills to the AKC Board.

As a member of both of our Parent Clubs, two all breed clubs, a local specialty club, a group Club and an obedience club, I have served and I am still serving, in numerous positions, both as an officer and a committee chair. My husband and I breed Cardigan Welsh Corgis and Standard Wirehaired Dachshunds. We’re active in Conformation, Obedience, Field Trials, Earthdog and Tracking. Our dogs are owner handled in all the AKC events in which they participate. I am an AKC Earthdog Judge. I understand the challenges facing our clubs, and I understand the challenges facing Companion and Performance events, as well as those facing the Conformation community.

I believe I have the ability to make a meaningful contribution to the AKC Board for all of us involved in the Sport of Dogs. I am committed to seeing AKC survive and grow and look forward to an opportunity to serve on the AKC Board. Thank you.

Harvey Wooding spoke as follows: Thanks, Dennis. Good morning. Eastman Kodak was founded in 1889, just five years after AKC was formed. It was a company whose products have become synonymous with photography. In 1975, it invented the core technology used in digital cameras, but it was slow to enter the field. They overlooked its value. In 1976, Kodak held an incredible 90 percent market share of film sales in the U.S. In January of this year, it filed for
Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection. Let me tell you another story. Established in 1976, Apple's 2012 revenues will top $156 billion as it markets a huge range of consumer products. It has thrived by developing new solutions, by understanding its customer and by being willing to change and take risk. Without its innovative approach, just like other high tech wonders, it would be just another Kodak. So where are you asking am I headed with all this? Well, we can be Kodak, a company which had the key to its future in hand and failed to recognize it. Or we can be Apple, a company that uses change as a strategy for success and is never far away from its next great leap forward.

I've heard a statement over and over again in our various meetings, and it worries me. It goes like this: If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Kodak used that approach. Turns out it was broke after all. For a long time, it wasn't broke at AKC. In terms of our brand recognition, we go to the head of the class, just like Kodak and Apple. But during the recent past, registrations have plummeted. Our adversaries are constantly on the attack. The average dog show owner feels that AKC provides no value. And guess what? Dog shows aren't fun anymore. I think we need to look very, very carefully at what works and what doesn't. Let's not be content with the appearance that it ain't broke. We need to be willing to break it, make it better, more efficient, more responsive to our customers' needs. We need to be willing to change. Dick Blair recently quoted a rule of nature on the Delegate's L list: Adapt or die. I agree. So let's be Apple, not Kodak.

In 2001, I was managing $1.2 billion division of a two plus billion dollar company. But I was frustrated. I had to develop a 2002 business plan to fit an outdated and fatally flawed business model and I knew the plan would fail. Rather than accept failure, I decided to change. I resigned, left the company and started my own business. So I know a little about change.

Change is not always comfortable, and change for change's sake is worthless. However, used properly, change is an incredible strategic weapon. I would like to help AKC through the continuing transformation that it must pursue in order to re establish itself, without rival, as the advocate for the dog. The world is not standing still and we can't either. I hope you will support me and that goal. I'm looking forward to the challenge.

The Chair reported on the passing of Edmund R. Sledzik on October 8th. He was the Delegate for the American Lhasa Apso Club since March of 1983. The Executive Secretary read the names of the Delegates seated since the last meeting:

Rogers Arbuthnot, to represent Superstition Kennel Club
Jeffrey David Ball, to represent Ramapo Kennel Club
John Barnes, to represent American Maltese Association
Tarianne Gallegos, to represent Silky Terrier Club of America
Barbara Jane Gates, to represent English Springer Spaniel Club of Michigan
Richard Rohrbacher, to represent Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America
Carla Jo Ryan, to represent Japanese Chin Club of America
Kenneth Saenz, to represent Chihuahua Club of America
Zane Smith, to represent Hawaiian Kennel Club
Michael Sousa, to represent Oakland County Kennel Club
Cindy Stansell, to represent Finnish Spitz Club of America
Connie Townsend, to represent Kuvasz Club of America
Letisha Wubbel, to represent Affenpinscher Club of America

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

Roger Arbuthnot, to represent Superstition Kennel Club
Jeffrey David Ball, to represent Ramapo Kennel Club
John Barnes, to represent American Maltese Association
 Roxanne M Hilsman, to represent Mississippi Kennel Club
Tarianne Gallegos, to represent Silky Terrier Club of America
Barbara Jane Gates, to represent English Springer Spaniel Club of Michigan
Anne Palmer, to represent Ann Arbor Kennel Club
Richard Rohrbacher, to represent Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

The Minutes of the September 11, 2012, Delegates meeting were published in the October 2012 online AKC Gazette. The complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on the AKC's website.

The Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club was elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.

The Chairman gave his report as follows: Thank you, Dennis, and good morning fellow Delegates.

Eleven years ago, Ron Menaker, Dennis Sprung and the good folks at Eukanuba created the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship and made celebrating our breeders an integral part of that event. In 2003, they added the Best Bred By Exhibitor competition. And every year since then, many of our sport's top breeders compete in the Best Bred By Exhibitor competition.

In fact, 30 percent of the more than 4,000 dogs entered in conformation this weekend are entered in the Bred By Exhibitor competition. And they aren't here just to compete; they take the time to educate the public about their breed at the AKC Meet the Breeds over the of course of the weekend.

In addition, the Breeder of the Year Award recognizes one prominent AKC breeder from each group who has made a big impact on a specific breed. At the end of the presentation Sunday night honoring those seven breeders, one will be chosen as 2012 AKC Breeder of the Year.

Certainly, this emphasis on the role of breeders is a clear statement: There is no doubt that the American Kennel Club respects and supports our breeders. That commitment will grow even stronger next year. I have been working with Dennis, AKC Staff and the Parent
We have powerful communication resources with our newly reimagined website, our database of millions of people, our robust Facebook and Twitter following, and our professional and passionate public relations team, led by Lisa Peterson, herself a proud AKC Breeder of Merit. We will utilize those resources to reach out to the public consistently, frequently and convincingly about the true essence of our responsible and dedicated breeders. But that is only part of the job. We need your support to take the message into your communities, where the voters are who can impact our future. You are the force that brings together, and then unleashes, the true power of the American Kennel Club. Our breeders represent everything we are now today and everything we will be tomorrow. This weekend we will celebrate them and know that our destiny is in good hands.

The President gave his report as follows: In 2004, we had the good fortune to hire a new Chief Operating Officer who assumed my former position in the Raleigh Operations Center, John Lyons, with 29 years of business experience and decades of dog knowledge, including his presidency of the Dalmatian Club of America. He was a judge for 20 years, a Delegate and show chairman of the Monticello Kennel Club for a quarter of a century.

While I knew him from shows in the tri-state area, naturally, I had little firsthand information about his work experience outside of our world. As I began observing his management skills, it became obvious to everyone we had the right person for the job. More importantly, John brought a work ethic and a passion which allowed him to implement his “dog person” expertise. In our positions, 24/7 is the norm. There was never a time over an eight year period in his capacity as COO that he wasn’t available or willing to face a situation at any hour of the day or night. When one approaches retirement, I have learned they normally coast through the last few months of their career. In his own way, John broke that mold. His dedication and performance, plus a fabulous sense of humor has never waned. It has rather intensified to benefit our organization. That is a special and lasting gift that he has bestowed upon the American Kennel Club and, personally, I am grateful to call him my friend. I cannot thank you, enough, John, for giving back to the sport as masterfully as you have done.

We wish John and Kristin the very best as he retires and she resumes her successful career as a professional handler. John.

(Appause)

The Chair called on Daphna Straus, Assistant Vice President of Business Development, for an update on the AKC Humane Fund.

Ms. Straus spoke as follows: Hi, everybody. Thank you for affording me the time to give you a short update about the AKC Humane Fund. I should say that initially this presentation was intended to be strictly about the AKC Humane Fund, but due to last month’s devastating super storm, Sandy, we felt you would appreciate an update about the new “Sandy Fund” as well.

Let me start with the AKC Humane Fund itself. In November of 2007, Dennis recommended, and the Board of Directors approved the concept, of a new not for profit organization which officially became known as the AKC Humane Fund, Inc. The organization filed for 501 (c)(3) status, which the IRS granted on January 29, 2008. Donations to the Fund were tax deductible from that point on.

The Humane Fund began communicating its mission, which focuses on responsible ownership education and began building a portfolio of grant programs and scholarships. All of these programs are in effect today and are described in our two major fundraising appeals, which are sent in the spring and the commencement of the holiday season.

We currently limit our mailings to these two seasons, but also send customized letters and grant requests throughout the year. An ongoing goal is not to compete with AKC’s fundraising efforts or with AKC’s other affiliates.

The AKC Humane Fund functions as an independent organization, and its leadership consists of a streamlined board. Dennis Sprung is the Chairman and
President and Peter Farnsworth is the Treasurer. Gina DiNardo is Director and I am Secretary. There are no employees of the fund. We researched how to manage this affiliate effectively without any full time employees, and have been successful with a small and efficient team. It is important to note that the AKC Humane Fund pays for its fundraising expenses and is a totally self sustaining organization. It does not rely on a single cent from AKC. We have also taken on costs such as the Awards for Canine Excellence, which you know as the ACE Awards.

The mission of AKC Humane Fund is to promote responsible pet ownership and celebrate the human animal bond through education, outreach and grant making. I’d like to fill you in about some of our activities relating to grants. In spite of the fact that we’re not a foundation, the AKC Humane Fund has disbursed over $200,000 in grants, awards and programming to date. The fund’s Breed Rescue Grants provide funding for Parent Clubs and not for profit designees to cover their expenses pertaining to rescue. We encourage all Parent Clubs to apply for this funding.

This effort is important not only because we want to support Parent Clubs in every way possible, but also because the public and the media do not know enough about the true role of AKC, our clubs and the AKC Humane Fund when it comes to rescue.

Also, notably, we provide grants to women’s shelters that accept victims of domestic violence and their pets, because research has shown that victims of domestic violence often will remain with their abuser because they fear for the safety of a pet that would have to be left behind.

One recipient of our grant recently told us that through our support their shelter was able to provide 2,312 nights of safety to 59 pets in their on site kennel. This initiative has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the fancy and the public.

The Fund created a new scholarship program called the AKC Humane Fund Sir John Spurling Scholarships Celebrating the Human Canine Bond. This program awards five scholarships per year, totaling $10,000 annually, payable as tuition assistance to institutions where students are enrolled in courses of study focusing on the care of pets. By helping to make education in these fields attainable for more students, we hope the result will be better educated owners and an improvement in the lives of pets in the long run.

These scholarships join the George Ward Scholarship program which benefits handlers in training who assist AKC registered handlers.

To date, the AKC Humane Fund has raised more than $1 million in cash, with the largest concentration of donations, 54%, coming from individuals. This category includes the public, Canine Partners enrollees, judges, Delegates and other constituents. Thirty eight percent of donations come from clubs and eight percent come from corporations. In addition to contributions of cash, the Fund has also received donations of assets such as fine art and rare books. Our holiday drive, coupled with our Sandy Fund relief efforts, has been a great success.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge all the clubs, individuals and other supporters who were so generous in donating to the Sandy Fund. The Sandy Fund is a sub Fund of the AKC Humane Fund that was begun with a $10,000 donation from the Westminster Kennel Club. The Sandy Fund is supporting organizations that are actively involved in hurricane relief. The Sandy Fund will also be able to support relief; for future disasters.

As a point of distinction, the AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund still supports professional and volunteer canine search and rescue organizations through the United States, which was established with the DOGNY fundraising success. To be clear, CAR helps lost dogs and the Sandy Fund helps people with their dogs.

The AKC worked together with Jason Taylor of Eukanuba and the New York Yankees to help pet owners affected in the region by arranging the donation of 44 tons of dog and cat food to be delivered to Yankee Stadium to assist in relief efforts. Thus far, the Sandy Fund has raised more than $90,000 from clubs, individuals and organizations. All organizations that have applied for Sandy Fund assistance have been awarded or recommended for a grant.

In spite of the difficult economic times, we have seen that people very much want to support what we do. To all of our donors in this room thank you again.

For those who have been to the AKC headquarters in New York recently, you may know that the Fund has a Founding Members Wall with over 350 donated plaques. Each one represents a donation of $1,000, $2,500, $5,000 or more. The Fund is also the beneficiary of three annual events. The Barkfest at Bonhams occurs every February, the Sunday before Westminster, as a preview and charity fundraiser for the venerable auction house’s annual sale of sporting art.

The February Theater Benefit treats dog lovers to an evening of Broadway entertainment while supporting our cause. This event is chaired by Ron Menaker and is totally underwritten by Sir John Spurling of Pet Partners, the AKC’s pet insurance sponsor, And, as many of you know, the fancy pays tribute to the memory of Michael Sauve with the terrific benefit that took place just last night the Michael J. Sauve Memorial Benefit, organized by Peggy Hauck.

I hope you will be able to join us at some, if not all, of these terrific events each year. While still a young organization, the AKC Humane Fund has been able to accomplish quite a lot of good.

I would like to remind the Parent Club Delegates to advise their Parent Club Presidents to consider applying for our Breed Rescue grant. And those clubs who are actively involved in relief efforts, please visit the AKC Humane Fund website to apply for a grant from the Sandy Fund. That web address is www.akchumanefund.org/grants.

Since its inception, the AKC Humane Fund has carefully grown into an effective public charity with a conservative and efficient approach for fundraising. In addition to achieving its exempt purposes; to educate the public about responsible pet ownership, the Fund strives to help other not for profits serve dogs as well. Chief among these is the American Kennel Club, as was planned, and all without the AKC’s carrying a
The support we have received has been extremely gratifying and proves just how much the public and the fancy care about responsible ownership and the human animal bond.

Thank you again for all your support.

(Applause)

The Chair called on Lee Arnold, AKC Board member and the Chairman of the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation to address the body concerning the Humane Fund.

Mr. Arnold spoke as follows: I need some help from our Chairman, Alan, please. Alan and I collaborated last year with the idea. He came up with the concept for the rescue program for all Parent Clubs. He said we needed a new voice. And the voice, as you know, is Willie Nelson. This year we decided to do something else. Alan, please explain.

Mr. Kalter: I’m sure you heard about the AKC Humane Fund’s donation to shelters where women can take their pets so they can leave abusive situations without leaving their pets behind. 70 percent of the time, when the pet is left behind, the pet is either killed or maimed as the abuser takes it out on the dog or the cat. We were funding shelters that would allow the pet to enter that shelter along with the woman or the family. And I thought we should communicate that as a way to generate some additional funding so we could grow that program even more. It’s another demonstration of the important work that the American Kennel Club does for people and their pets that the world should know about to help people think a little differently about the American Kennel Club. After I wrote the script, Lee took it from there.

Mr. Arnold: Then the answer is who do you get to voice it? Who will make it believable? Who will they relate to, the audience it’s supposed to be given to? Well, in the first instance it was Willie Nelson.

And in the second, when I heard and read Alan’s script, I said there’s only one person that can really do this and do it justice with passion, believability and emotion. She’s also a dog owner and a good friend of mine and she agreed to do it. The problem was getting her into the studio to do it. She’s been on Christmas tour and nonstop since the first of the year on other tours.

I don’t know if you ever heard the song called Don’t It Make My Brown Eyes Blue? Well, I’m always interested in the stories behind the songs. It comes with being a disc jockey, I guess. That song was written by a gentleman called Richard Lee, and he happened to own a Siberian Husky. And the inspiration for the song came when Crystal Gayle came to his house one day, and she had never seen a Siberian Husky before. And she asked, “What is that?” “That’s a Siberian Husky.” “What an unusual, beautiful dog,” she said. “But why is one eye brown and one eye blue?” And he just looked at her and went into the other room. And a half hour later, the song was written.

Crystal agreed to do this spot and I think it’s going to be very important for AKC, and the impact will be great for us when it’s heard on, hopefully, 15,000 radio stations. Here’s Crystal Gayle.

Ms. Gayle (via audio): Finding the courage to leave an abusive situation is tough. Having to leave behind a beloved pet, that’s even tougher. But thanks to the American Kennel Club Humane Fund, abused women can save themselves and their pet.

This is Crystal Gayle. Nearly half of battered women with pets delay entering a shelter because of an animal left behind. They worry about their abuser hurting the pet. In an effort to end domestic violence and keep pets safe, the AKC Humane Fund is giving grants to women’s shelters that will take in pets. Contribute to the AKC Humane Fund and help these special shelters for abused women. Sometimes their pet is their only friend. Please be a friend, too. Give to the AKC Humane Fund. Visit AKChumanefund.org and help throw a little life into the darkness.

(Applause)

The Chair called on the Assistant Vice President Gina DiNardo to present a report to the Delegates on the Meet the Breeds outreach.

Ms. DiNardo spoke as follows: Good morning.

This October 20th and 21st, AKC Meet the Breeds returned to New York City for a fourth year at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center. Presented by Pet Partners Healthcare Plan, AKC’s Pet Healthcare provider, the event welcomed over 35,000 dog lovers to the Javits Center. Along with our presenting sponsor, more than 100 vendor booths and 18 supporting sponsors participated in this family fun event that offers what we like to call edutainment. 163 AKC dog breeds and 51 TICA Cat Breeds were featured in 160,000 sq. ft. of space. Parent Clubs offered a broad scope of educational opportunities at their lavishly decorated booths which were constantly packed with eager spectators who could not wait to get up close to “Meet” their breeds.

Tens of thousands of dog lovers of all sizes and shapes were educated in numerous ways about the American Kennel Club, AKC CAR, The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, and the AKC Humane Fund. There were equal opportunities presented by The International Cat Association for the cat lovers in the group.

The event showcased two days of ongoing demonstrations, including Earthdog, Obedience, Agility, US Customs And Border Protection, United States Police Canine Association, the AKC’s Humane Fund ACE Awards. The Best Booth Award which was sponsored by Show Site Magazine was awarded to The Norfolk Terrier Club of America. AKC Meet the Breeds is one of our largest public outreach opportunities of the year. Thanks to the communication department’s Jessica Rice and Lisa Peterson, and also to Christina Carey, our advertising and PR campaign reached over 630 million media impressions. That is the equivalent of 7,648 sold-out Giants Games or 98 days of being mentioned on the TODAY Show.

Meet the Breeds and our responsible ownership messages were covered by more than 50 media outlets. Print and online outlets included, The New York Times, AOL & the Associated Press.

Pre-event television appearances were made by AKC spokespersons Lisa Peterson and myself on Fox News, Good Day New York, Fox & Friends, New York One, and CBS News2, achieving more than 12 Million Broadcast Impressions.
delegates’ quarterly meeting

Through Social media we reached nearly 4 million on Facebook, Twitter and the AKC Meet the Breeds blog – the equivalent of 200 sold out concerts at Madison Square Garden.

A highlight of our prevent publicity included the participation in the 68th Annual Columbus Day Parade. AKC staff and dog owners marched down Fifth Avenue with canine representatives of the Italian breeds including the Spinone Italiano the Neapolitan Mastiff and the Lagotto Romagnolo. The parade attracts nearly one million spectators, and was televised live on WABC-TV, New York's #1 television station.

During the telecast Meet the Breeds marchers and their dogs received some positive commentary from the broadcasters about AKC and Meet the Breeds. Live streaming coverage of the parade was also aired on 7online.

Independent consultants report our total public relations effort for Meet the Breeds as a media value of $4.7 million dollars to AKC. AKC’s Government Relations Department welcomed more than 100 federal, state, and local lawmakers from the tri-state area, including three United States Senators who signed on to be Honorary Chairs. In serving as Honorary Chairs, these lawmakers demonstrated their support for AKC responsible pet ownership.

Many signed the AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Pet Promise, posted the promise on their social media pages and web sites, and forwarded it to their constituents to ask them to join in promoting responsible pet ownership in their communities. AKC Government Relations staff was on hand to provide tours and public policy materials about canine legislation issues and the positive economic impact of purebred dog ownership.

Area AKC federations also attended to meet the lawmakers and to educate the public about the importance of community involvement and working together to support and protect responsible dog ownership and breeding. More than 1,000 children completed AKC’s Meet the Breeds bingo card which was a fun way to share responsible pet ownership messaging with our youngest spectators. Each child who completed the game received a free goody bag with prizes.

Hundreds of Girl Scouts with their troop leaders enjoyed the event while earning their Girl Scout Responsible Pet Ownership patch.

Every year I am humbled by the dedication and enthusiasm of our amazing parent club volunteers. These events do not happen without our breed experts. Every year volunteers go out of their way to make a trip to the Javits Center to help us educate the Public and our lawmakers about the value of AKC, the importance of responsible dog ownership and the joys and predictability of purebred dog ownership.

On behalf of the American Kennel Club staff, I extend our thanks to each and every volunteer who has helped to make our Meet the Breeds event in NY and the one this weekend at the National Championship a great success. We hope you can find time to visit your parent club booth this weekend.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung spoke as follows: Thank you to all the volunteers that make Meet the Breeds the success that it is and to Gina DiNardo and Michael Canalizo for executing this positive public relations and educational program.

The Board of Directors elected Daryl Hendricks as Chief Operating Officer, effective January 6, 2013. Daryl brings a broad business management background with extensive experience, managing large teams in operational settings and handling budgetary responsibilities. He comes from the Iron Mountain Corporation, an information management services company, where he most recently served as senior vice president, He and his wife Michelle own English Cocker Spaniels. Daryl, please stand up. Welcome.

(Applause)

During my career at AKC, I have been fortunate to be able to establish ways of recognizing individuals in our Sport, such as the Medallion Program for delegates, judges, show chairs and breeders, the Lifetime Achievement Awards in Performance, Companion and Conformation events, and the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. I initiated these programs because of a belief that we have an obligation to honor our own.

In 2008, we added staff to the list of recipients. As many of you are aware, at a cluster last month in North Carolina, a professional handler had a heart attack while exhibiting. Various people were attending to him. One individual called 911 and provided accurate information until the medics arrived.

I began receiving calls, e-mails and texts that day and for many days thereafter. The person on the phone with 911 has been credited with helping to save the handler’s life. The following was contained in one of the e-mails to me:

“All too often, we hear of things our employees do wrong and I wanted to let you know about someone who does right. We are lucky to have her at the AKC and the sport is lucky to have her as a field rep.”

The next sentence sums everything up. “She is a great ambassador for the AKC.” Signed, Ronald H. Menaker.

So I replied: “Ron, thanks. You’re right. I sent her an e-mail "thank you" and received a lovely reply. Since that day, I have been contemplating what more to do. Your note inspires me to stop thinking about it and do something, and I will.”

Well I am delighted to keep my word to our former Chairman of the Board, and on behalf of a grateful American Kennel Club, Mary Dukes, we are honored to call you a colleague, friend and a true hero. Mary.

(Applause and madallion presented.)

Ms. Dukes spoke as follows: I’m totally unprepared for this. But I said to Dennis, I was just doing my job. I mean, that’s how I see it. We’re there. The job of the AKC field rep is to assist everybody at the dog show. We’re the conduit between the Fancy that’s out there and the office. We let them know in the office what’s happening out there, and, conversely, we let the exhibitors and fancy know what’s happening in the office. And a big part of our job is to just be of assistance to anyone there who needs us.

And, unfortunately, that day, we had an incident, and I just happened to be the first one that got on the call to the 911 dispatch. Fortunately, Bert is doing well. As many of you know, Bert Halsey was the handler in our area that collapsed in the ring, had a cardiac event, and is still
The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Article IV, Sections 1 and 3, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Crowley spoke as follows: This amendment would add an object which AKC has, in effect, espoused for decades with support of canine health research areas. This amendment was brought forth by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and is approved by the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the on line AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2013 meeting.

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

I heartily need to urge our Delegates to vote for this. I'm sure it's obvious, but it came from the Bylaws Committee. We're proud to say it came under the chairmanship of Judi Daniels. We urge you to vote for this, please.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Article IV, Sections 1 and 3, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Crowley spoke as follows: This amendment would expand the eligibility requirements for AKC membership to permit licensed Agility Clubs that meet the criteria to apply to become AKC member Clubs. This amendment was brought forward by the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the on line AKC Gazette, and will be asked to vote on it at the March 2013 meeting.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Article XVIII, Section 1, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club Meetings and Quorum.

Mr. Crowley spoke as follows: This amendment to Article XVIII, Section 1, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club Meetings and Quorum, would reduce the number of yearly Delegate meetings from four to three, and suggests that two meetings be expanded from two days to three days, in order to enable increased attendance at the various Delegate Committee meetings.

This amendment was brought forward by the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee. It is brought forward now with no AKC Board recommendation. It will be published in two issues of the on line AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2013 meeting.

The Chair recognized Jim Dok, Delegate for the Gig Harbor Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Yesterday, at our regularly scheduled DAC committee meeting, the committee adopted a proviso which will affect or have an effect on this very specific amendment. I'll share this with you. Should the amendment brought forward by the DAC Committee be approved and accepted by the Delegate Body on the regularly scheduled meeting, March 12, 2013, the amendment stipulated changes will be remain in effect for two years. Where upon, continuance of the reduction of number of meetings shall stand for reaffirmation by the Delegate Body. A simple majority vote will be required for continuation. That's the proviso.

Just as a point of reference tim ing wise, if this amendment is approved by two thirds of the majority, the first year that the amendment will be effective will be 2015. So in 2017, if we all agreed that this was not a good idea and we need to revert back to what we had before, the simple majority will prevail.

Ms. Bernardi: I am now speaking as the chairman of the Bylaws Committee. We discussed this thoroughly yesterday. Of course, we did not know about this proviso. But I don't think it changes the basic philosophy of the amendment. We unanimously opposed this amendment because we think we need more communication, not less, and that we feel this would lessen the communication, not only among the Delegates but from the Board to the Delegates and back to our clubs. So we oppose this amendment.

The Chair recognized Sherry Wallis, Delegate for the Akita Club of America, who spoke as follows:

Can I ask a question about the previous proposed amendment?

Mr. Sprung: Why don't we finish this one and then we'll go right back to that one, if that's all right.

Ms. Wallis: Okay.

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

I am speaking as Chairman of the Parent Clubs Committee. When this was brought forth for discussion to the Committee, I would say six to eight months ago, the Parent Clubs Committee spent a great deal of time talking about it. At that point in time, the Parent Clubs Committee unanimously decided that they would not support this amendment.

At our meeting yesterday, one of the members brought forth the motion that we reaffirm that we do not support this amendment, and we reaffirmed it unanimously. The Parent Club Committee does not support this amendment.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for that update. Since there seems to be no other comments on this item, we will go back to the first proposed amendment. Go ahead, please.

Ms. Wallis: Thank you. How many licensed Agility Clubs do we have?
delegates’ quarterly meeting

Mr. Sprung: We have approximately 80.

Mr. Crowley: There are about 80 licensed Agility Clubs. Don’t forget, the bulk of the agility events are held by All Breed, Obedience, and Specialty Clubs. But there are 80 strictly licensed Agility Clubs, which would be subject to the same time criteria, number of events criteria, as any other club. So it would be staggered. It wouldn’t be 80 clubs eligible the first year.

Mr. Sprung: I believe the number would be 55.

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

Since you allowed someone to go back to one of the previous proposals being read, could we go back to the first one for a comment?

Mr. Sprung: Certainly.

Ms. Naun: I don’t know who to ask the question of before we vote on this.

Mr. Sprung: If it’s easy, ask me. If it’s difficult, ask Jim.

Ms. Naun: Personally, I’m quite confused by the placement of the new addition in the first motion that was read. And, personally, as I understand the objective of the American Kennel Club, I would prefer that, one that we consider the question as to whether or not that might be one of the very first mentioned objectives of the American Kennel Club. That’s all.

Mr. Sprung: That could be proposed as an amendment to the amendment at the next meeting before the vote.

The Chair recognized Rebecca Stanevich, Delegate for the Mountaineer Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

In order to talk to my Club about the agility thing, I need to ask a question about territory. One of the discussions yesterday made me think about something I hadn’t thought about before. Hopefully, I can explain this because I think I’m confusing myself. But I have, as an All Breed Club, a territory that somebody cannot come into to offer a show.

Can they come into that territory another AKC licensed club can they come into our territory to provide classes?

Mr. Crowley: You mean to hold a trial or

Ms. Stanevich: No. Just to provide classes, like agility classes or obedience classes. Can another AKC Club come from 100 miles down into our town and offer obedience classes? Or is my territory protected in that way as well?

Mr. Crowley: As an All Breed Club, your territory would be protected from any other All Breed Club coming in and holding an event. But it would not prevent us from approving an Obedience Club, or Agility Club or an Earth Dog Club or a club holding other types of events, even though your club may hold some of those same types of events. So it’s by type of club. You’re an All Breed Club, your territory is protected from other All Breed Clubs coming in, but not from other Specialty Clubs, any other Obedience Clubs, Agility Clubs.

Ms. Stanevich: Right. So I think my question was, can an All Breed Club come in and offer Agility classes in my area? But the ultimate answer is going to be an Agility Club could be licensed in our area or could be

Mr. Crowley: Correct. But if another All Breed Club is going to hold any event in your area, it would have to be with your club’s permission.

The Chair called on Peter Farnsworth, the CFO, to give the current financial report.

Mr. Farnsworth gave the Financial Report. A summary follows:

For the month of November, total revenues of $4.5 million were $100,000 below budget. Total monthly operating expenses of $4.3 million were $300,000 below budget. This resulted in an operating profit of $200,000 for the month.

For the Year to Date, total revenues of $51.9 million through November 2012 were $1.8 million below budget. Total year to date operating expenses of $49.7 million were $2.7 million below budget. This resulted in an operating profit of $2.2 million for the 11 months year to date.

Our investments, year to date, are up $6.6 million versus last year when we had a $1.7 million loss at this point in the year. We recognize these year to date gains could change at any time.

Investments: We have varied investments, but non-profits only hold investments for a purpose, which is to support obligations they already have and for emergencies. There are no “idle” or unsupported investments in our portfolio, in that they are there to support

1. Unfunded pension liabilities
2. Unfunded future medical and related benefit liabilities
3. Operating reserves as set by the Board.

The Chair introduced AKC Board member Carl Ashby to give an update on the AKC PAC.

Mr. Ashby spoke as follows: Good afternoon. And I know I’m between you and dinner, so we’re going to move very quickly. What I want to do today is just give you a very brief wrap up on how successful you have made the Presidents Challenge. Just to recall, the whole notion was for us to engage all our clubs in supporting that challenge. The Presidents Challenge was made in June and today I will give you a wrap up of what we accomplished. Over $91,000… an incredible amount of money. More money than we have ever raised. (Applause)

And it’s still coming in. I get an e mail almost once a day from Sheila on another donation. And this weekend, I’ve also heard of additional ones. The PAC total is $38,848. That’s a substantial amount of money and I will share how it was used in just a moment. The Canine Legislative Support Fund accepted $52,000. Those of you that were at the Legislative Caucus this morning learned about how that money is being put to work as well.

The number of candidates receiving awards were 80. $46,000 was awarded. The total raised for the PAC was $42,000 and we donated $46,000. That is the purpose of the PAC to put resources together to work on behalf of the dogs.
Seventy percent of the candidates we supported won, which is an excellent percentage.

25 states benefited from the PAC. 1 in 2 states received AKC PAC support. These donations are a direct result of your recommendations so you see this money benefiting your state directly. Be sure you bring candidates to the attention of Government Relations. They, in turn, will vet the candidate and propose the candidate to the PAC Board. The PAC Board moves fast in order to get money into the hands of candidates when it is most needed.

I thought this chart just tells the whole story about how you got the PAC behind the PAC this year. We started the AKC PAC in 2007 in Long Beach. Many of us wrote checks at that meeting. Then we've gone up and down in our support. The Presidents Challenge focused the needs and benefits of the AKC PAC and $42,000 has been earned on behalf of dogs.

So what's going to happen next? We expect a very active legislative activity. As you know, any time you have an odd year, you also have a lot of legislative activity with new sessions being called to order. Government Relations anticipates being extremely busy. I know you're going to be busy in your communities and all the other Clubs are as well.

We'd like for the Clubs, as they go through their budgeting, to consider the Canine Legislative Support Fund, along with all their other worthy donations. Clubs can donate and its much appreciated.

Club members are asked to renew their commitment to the PAC. We're not going to kick off the official drive until the beginning of the third quarter -- actually at the September meeting. The reason is the anticipated high level of legislative activity. You're going to be involved in it as well as Government Relations. We want to stay focused to make sure we have an effective presence in state legislatures. Although the official Presidents Challenge will be in the Fall any donation given in 2014 by an individual, associate your name with your Club and you and your Club will get credit when the official challenge kicks off. Don't hold back simply because of the timing of the campaign. Likewise any donations to the Canine Legislative Support Fund will be credited to your Club.

Again, we can't thank you all enough for what you did. It's been extremely gratifying. And enjoy the rest of the weekend. Thank you.

(Applause)

The Chair reported that the Annual Meeting will be held on March 12, 2013, at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel. The March meeting will be the annual election of officers for the Class of 2017.

The following exchange took place during New Business:

Ms. Bernardi: First of all, I wanted to say that at the last meeting I asked you, I pleaded with you, to bring back our field reps. You've heard us and you're starting to do that. I want to say thank you to the AKC for doing that for us.

Secondly, I was going to ask a question of our candidates, but we ran out of time. And I just wanted to say that I don't think I've ever seen seven such good candidates for the Board. I think we should all be grateful that those people have put themselves forward in what cannot be an easy task. So I hope we all appreciate that.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

The Chair recognized Nancy Perrell, Delegate for the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, who spoke as follows:

My Club brought this up at the Board meeting. Talking antiquated things, as member clubs, we only pay $25 a year, and we think it should be raised to at least $100.

Mr. Sprung: That's fee is from the 1930's, correct, Jim?

Mr. Crowley: Yes.

Mr. Sprung: Since the 1930's. We'll be happy to address that.

Ms. Laurans: I asked this request of Paula [Spector] earlier in the week and then Michael Canalizo Will there be any transportation to the events, as there was last year, for the Delegates or other people from this hotel?

Mr. Sprung: Paula is shaking her head yes.

Ms. Laurans: What will be the schedule?

Mr. Sprung: There are flyers out front on the registration desk. Thank you.

The Chair recognized Sue Goldberg, Delegate for the Lewiston Auburn Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

The very deserving award that was given to Mary Dukes earlier serves as a segue into a very important issue. I brought this up at the caucus yesterday. For those of you there, I apologize for the repetition. Those of you who weren't there, it's an important message for you to bring back to your clubs.

As you all know, there is a disaster and emergency plan that's required to be part of the application for every event that's being held. I'm proud to say that came from our Dog Show Rules Committee. The idea was to serve as a requirement for clubs to sit down and think about what they would do in the event of whatever emergency might arise.

We found that through an issue that happened recently in a dog show that there is a gap that needs to be closed. And this is very important. At a recent show, a spectator felt ill and passed out. Someone ran to get help. There were EMTs on site. This is a large show in a convention hall with many different halls, different rooms. The person ran to the club desk. There were four club members behind that desk, including one senior member who had been a member of that club for 20 plus years. No one knew how to get in touch with the EMTs that were on site. No one had a phone number. They didn't have a walkie talkie. This person ran over to the superintendent, and same result. They were stared at with this blank stare and nobody knew how to get in touch with the EMTs.

There was a veterinarian at the show that was there and volunteered to go over and help this spectator until the EMTs arrived. Finally, someone located them. But they went down the wrong aisle this was a bench show because they could not find where to go.

So here's the last mile that we need to put in place for our disaster and
emergency plans. And that is that there need to be signs posted at the club desk, at the superintendent's desk, anywhere else you think it might be appropriate, under the tents, near the grooming area and so forth, the gist of which would be: There are EMTs on site. In the event of an emergency, call, and then either a phone number or some way to get a walkie talkie to these people. You need to think about how we can contact these EMTs. The other thing that needs to be happening is if there is no EMT on site, to say, there are no EMTs on site. In the event of an emergency call 911.

The last thing that needs to be done is that the EMTs need a copy of the show layout. These are not dog people. They don't know their way around a dog show. And as we all know, in the event of an emergency, seconds count. So the holiday message that you all have a happy Holiday and a New Year and take this back to your clubs and close that very important gap. Thank you.

(Applause)

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

I am speaking on behalf of an Airedale Rescue organization, Starting Over Airedale Rescue, otherwise known as SOAR.

Several weeks ago, I posted on the Delegate L-list, asking people who would be willing to join my e mail list to punch a button once a day and vote for my group to get an award from Pet Finders. I'm happy to report that lots of people did. I want to thank you very much, because this contest ends on Sunday. And if all goes like it looks like it's going to go, the organization is going to get $1,000 and I really appreciate it. Thank you.

(Applause)

The Chair recognized Jeffrey Ball, Delegate for the Ramapo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

I am also the president of the New Jersey Federation of Dog Clubs. I would like to thank all the clubs and individuals that reached out to assist in what occurred [Hurricane Sandy], not just in our state but several states. But I especially would like to extend a thank you to the AKC Humane Fund. When I reached out to the AKC, I didn't get all the response that I would have liked to. But the one group was the AKC Humane Fund that really reached out and worked at assisting both us, as people on the ground, as well as several of our clubs. I mean, it's an on going issue. It will be there are people in this room that can speak to this even better than I can. Right now, it's new to me. I hate to say I'm dealing with it. There are other states who have dealt with such disasters or even worse disasters in the past.

So I just wanted to extend a thank you and a special thank you to the AKC Humane Fund, which really reached out and worked with us. I really wish we had the opportunity to jump in and work with the politicians and do more public relations on the things that do occur here, because we do not we talked about changing, going in different directions. Well one thing we missed out on is educating the public at the time on what we're doing, where we are. And that's one thing that I hope we move towards. But thank you for everything everyone has done.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Hearing no further business. The meeting stands adjourned.

(Thereupon, the meeting concluded at 12:42 p.m.)

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