DELEGATES FORUM

SYNOPSIS OF THE JUNE 12, 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.

MAKING THE SUPER DOG

AKC Board member, Dr. Carmen Battaglia, gave a presentation on breeding dogs with traits and aptitude suitable for military and police service. He covered all aspects of this from evaluating pedigrees and maintaining careful records, to stimulating, socializing and evaluating the puppies.

WORKING AND SERVICE DOGS

Dr. Cindy Otto, spoke about the University of Pennsylvania’s Veterinary School Working Dog Center, of which she is the Director, including its work in education research. Its mission is to serve as a research consortium, to educate, and to implement and validate findings, to develop a detection dog breeding program, and to optimize the selection, breeding, performance, and well-being of working dogs.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DELEGATES

OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

JUNE 12, 2012

Dennis B. Sprung, President

PRESENT 243

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
Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary M. MacCollum
American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—Robert Urban
American Bloodhound Club—Mary L. Olzewske
American Brittany Club, Inc.—Judith Tighe
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—
Alan Kalter
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—Carol Williams
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—
Marilyn E. Currey
American Chinese Crested Club of America—
Dr. Geno Sinersos
American Rottweiler Club—Mr. Peter G. Pusz
American Sealyham Terrier Club—
Kenneth W. Mader
American Shib Tzu Club, Inc.—Mrs. Sally L. Vilas
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—Julie Virostek
American Whippet Club, Inc.—Bo Bengtson
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.—Pamela J. Arwood
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—Jaimie Mulvey
Ashtabula Kennel Club—Kathleen Kinney
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Wallin
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—Gail A. LaBerge
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—Bette D. Williams
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—
William L. Christensen
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Nina Schaeter
Baltimore County Kennel Club—Lucy C. Campbell-Gracie
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—Katie Campbell
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—John A. Studebaker
Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Gerald H Yarbrough
Black Russian Terrier Club of America—
Susan Shinor
Border Collie Society of America—Ms.
Carol Clark
Briard Club of America, Inc.—Michael Gibson
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—Ruth A. Williams
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
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.—Vivian A. Moran
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—Jaimie Ashby
Catoctin Kennel Club—Whitney Coombs
Catonsville Kennel Club—Beverly A. Drake
Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.—Julian Prager
Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally Allen
Central Ohio Kennel Club—David W. Galloway
Charleston Kennel Club—Sylvia Arrowood
Chattanooga Kennel Club—David Gilstrap
Cheshire Kennel Club, Inc.—G. Robert Stevens
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—
Marge B. Calltharp
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—Nick Piasas
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—Frank Holloway
Clarksville Kennel Club—Robert A. Schroll
Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—Dr. Stephen Lawrence
Clearwater Kennel Club—Daniel T. Stolz
Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—
Marjorie Underwood
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—
Mrs. Maureen R. Setter
Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—
Judy Hiller
Collie Club of America, Inc.—Mr. Harold W. Sundstrom
Columbia Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara B. Shives
Columbia Missouri Kennel Club—
Robert Brown
Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—
Michael Houchard
County-Wide Dog Training Club, Inc.—
John D. French
delegates’ quarterly meeting

Cudahy Kennel Club—Don H. Adams
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—Larry Sorensen
Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—Dr. Charles Garvin
Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Karen Dorn
Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—Barbara L. Mann
Del Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—Merlyn A. Green, D.C.
Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—Andrew G. Mills
Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—Dr. A. D. Butherus
Detroit Kennel Club—Mr. Erik Bergshagen
Devon Dog Show Association, Inc.—Meg Weitz
Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—Mrs. Patti L. Strand
Durham Kennel Club Inc.—Linda C. Wozniak
Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—Mrs. Joan Tabor
Elm City Kennel Club—Gregory J. Paveza
English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Barbara A. Penny
English Setter Association of America, Inc.—Mr. John P. Nielsen
English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois—David H. Hopkins
Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—Cathleen Rubens
Field Spaniel Society of America—Katherine Sullivan
Forsth Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Almira B. Dallas
Fort Worth Kennel Club—Mr. Harry G. Ottmann
French Bulldog Club of America—Mrs. Ann M. Hubbard
Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc.—Cathy De La Garza
Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—Connie S. Clapp
German Pinscher Club of America—Deidre E. Gannon
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
Gig Harbor Kennel Club—James R. Dok
Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Bonnie Lapham
Great Dane Club of America, Inc.—Thomas Sandenaw
Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc.—Ms. Karen J. Burgess
Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara Shaw
Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club—Patricia B. Staub
Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc.—Virginia M. O’Connell
Greater Murfreesboro Kennel Club, Inc.—Margaret DiCorleto
Greater Naples Dog Club—Steven D. Gladstone
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc.—Linda LaFrance
Greater St. Louis Training Club, Inc.—Jane V. (Candye) Sly
Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—Mary Jo Rasmussen
Greenville Kennel Club—Linda A. Knorr
Greenwich Kennel Club—Margaret K. Curtis
Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—Cindy Miller
Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—Mr. Robert D. Black
Havanese Club of America—Jane F. Ruthford
Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—Patricia M. Cruz
Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—Nancy Fisk
Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Carol A. Williamson
Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Dick Blair
Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—Gwen McCullagh
Ibiza Hound Club of the United States—Luane V. Williams
Illinois Capitol Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann L. Cookson
Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Rita J. Biddle
Italian Greyhound Club of America, Inc.—Carole Plesur
Jaxon Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally McNamara
K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—Dave Morgan
Keeshond Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John D. Sawicki
Kennel Club of Beverly Hills—Thomas Powers
Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc.—Margaret Doster
Kennel Club of Niagara Falls—Esther J. Cassatt
Kennel Club of Riverside—Sylvia A. Thomas
Kennesaw Kennel Club—James F. Gibson
Komondor Club of America, Inc.—Michael Harman
Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.—Mr. A. N. Sills
Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Virginia Van Doren
Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—Carolyn M. Vack
Land ‘O Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Jan Croft
Langley Kennel Club—Ms. Dianne E. Francik
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert N. LaBerge
Leonberger Club of America—Don James
Lewiston–Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—Sue Goldberg
Lima Kennel Club—Dr. Anne Midgarden
Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—Lynn Garvin
Maryland Kennel Club—Gary Sarvitas
Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—Dr. William R. Newman
Memphis Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Robert D. Smith
Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.
Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Jeannette Nieder
Middleburg Kennel Club—Shelley C. Roos
Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—Ralph Hogancamp
Mispillion Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Blackie H. Nygood
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—Gretchen Bernardi
Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—Robert H. McKown
Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—Mrs. Ruth W. Crumb
Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Rebecca S. Stanieich
Mr. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Judith V. Daniels
Nashville Kennel Club—James Eifron
National Beagle Club—Eddie Dzialk
National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson
delegates’ quarterly meeting

National Shiba Club of America—Maggi Strouse
Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—Viola Burgos
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
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—Marile A. Waterstraat
Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—Ms. Patricia C. Scully
Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—James M. Ashton
Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.—Martha Nazak
Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—Felice Jarrod
Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—Daniel R. Cunningham
Otterhound Club of America—Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—Gary Koeppe1
Pekingese Club of America—Joseph B. Franklin
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Anne Boves
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. Bluteich
Plainfield Kennel Club—John McCullagh
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
Progressive Dog Club—William H. Blair
Ramapo Kennel Club—Mrs. Rose J. Radel
Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—Gerard Baudet
Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—Jan M. Ritchie
Rubber City Kennel Club—Cathy Gaidos
Sagehen’s Retriever Club—Katharine B. Simonds
Sammanish Kennel Club—Dr. Robert C. Gloster, M.D.
Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John L. Ronald
Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—Audrey Sutton
Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—Laurence J. Libeu
Saratoga New York Kennel Club—Wanda H. Allen
Savee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia—Kay Allred
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
Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Sharwyn Y. Hutchens
Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—Susan L. Hamil
Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—Ann M. Cook
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—William J. Feneely
Skokie Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Pat Grossmann
South County Kennel Club, Inc.—Grafin Ginger M. Leewenburg
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Linda C. Flynn
South Windsor Kennel Club—Margarette (Peggy) Wampold
Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club—Ricky Blackman
Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—John V. Ioya
Southern Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—Lee Arnold
Spinone Club of America—Karen Luckey
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. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—Dr. Gerry Meisels
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—Jenny Merritt
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—Holly S. Stump
Standard Schnauzer Club of America—Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser
Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Robert Eisele
Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—Marcy L. Zingler
Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary Manning-Stolz
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—Catherine Bell
Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—Steve Schmidt
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. Cadabo, Jr.
Tuatuln Kennel Club, Inc.—James S. Corbett
Tucson Kennel Club—Pat Jacobs
United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III
United States Lakeland Terrier Club—Alfred J. Ferruggiario
Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club—J. M. Haderer
Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Carol Fisher
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—Lynn Worth-Smith
Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—James W. Smith
Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Peter J. See
West Highland White Terrier Club of America—Thomas H. Barrie
West Volusia Kennel Club—H. G. Geofrey
Westminster Kennel Club—Harvey M. Wooding
Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.—Colleen McDaniel
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—Mrs. Karen Mays
Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Inc.—Fred T. Kampo
Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The Chair introduced the persons seated with him on the dais: Chairman, Alan Kalter; Vice-Chairman, Dr. Robert Smith; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; James Crowley, Executive Secretary, and Arthur Frannicola, the Court Reporter.

The Chair informed the Delegates of the passing of two Delegates. Robert Proctor, Delegate for the Middlesex County Kennel Club since September of 1996 died on March 26th.

Rey Burgos, Delegate for the Chihuahua Club of America since 1995, died on April 10th.

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

Katie Campbell, to represent Basenji Club of America
William Christensen, to represent Australian Terrier Club
Marilyn Currey, to represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America
Dr. J. Charles Garvin, to represent Dalmatian Club of America
Lynn Garvin, to represent Marion Ohio Kennel Club
Robert Gilmour, to represent Penn Treaty Kennel Club
Don James, to represent Leonberger Club of America
Frank Holloway, to represent Chow Chow Club
Graafin Ginger Leeuwenburg, to represent South County Kennel Club
Vivian Moran, to represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America
Rebecca Poole, to represent Bulter Terrier Club of America
Kathleen Rubens, to represent Fayetteville Kennel Club
James W. Smith, Washington State Obedience Training Club

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

Katie Campbell, to represent Basenji Club of America
Dominic Carota, to represent Pharaoh Hound Club of America
William Christensen, to represent Australian Terrier Club
Daniel R. Cunningham, to represent Onondaga Kennel Association
Marilyn Currey, to represent the American Chinese Crested Club
Dr. J. Charles Garvin, to represent Dalmatian Club of America
Lynn Garvin, to represent Marion Ohio Kennel Club
Robert Gilmour, to represent Penn Treaty Kennel Club
Don James, to represent Leonberger Club of America
Frank Holloway, to represent Chow Chow Club
Graafin Ginger Leeuwenburg, to represent South County Kennel Club
Vivian Moran, to represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America
Rebecca Poole, to represent Bulter Terrier Club of America
Kathleen Rubens, to represent Fayetteville Kennel Club
James W. Smith, Washington State Obedience Training Club

The minutes of the March 2012 Delegates meeting were published in the April 2012 online AKC Gazette and a complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. The minutes were approved as published.

AKC Board Chairman Alan Kalter, gave his report as follows:

Good morning, fellow Delegates. Outside the Johnson County Courthouse in Warrensburg, Missouri, stands a statue dedicated to a Foxhound named “Old Drum”. It commemorates a famous trial held there in 1870. “Old Drum” was shot and killed when he wandered onto a neighboring farm. His owner's only recourse was to sue the neighbor. A young attorney, George Vest, who later became a United States Senator, was retained by the owner. Senator Vest's closing argument at the trial was just 400 words, eloquently in support of the value of the dog and included this thought: “The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his dog. He is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens.” Shortly after he spoke, the jury found for his client and awarded the maximum allowable damages of $50, which then was a lot of money back in 1870. In addition, Vest's speech established the phrase “man’s best friend is his dog.” We all know firsthand the devotion that Vest spoke about. It is a large part which makes us ardent supporters of our dogs. But today there are forces at work who do not look at dogs the way we do. And there are those who think breeding should be controlled to the point of extinction.

I believe the greatest characteristic we possess is our unyielding dedication to the preservation of each of our unique breeds. It is through a combination of our responsible breeders committing to a never-ending quest to produce dogs true to type and healthy in body, mind and spirit, coupled with all of you personally committing to always do what is best for the dogs, that have allowed people associated with the American Kennel Club to claim the mantle of the dog’s defender from Senator Vest for the last 128 years.

When we come together like this, we always have much to discuss--some about our sport, some about our business and some about our governance. All of those are good and valid topics that require discussion that will only serve to strengthen our organization. I believe there is no unsolvable problem if we face it wisely, creatively and courageously. But we know that our calling is much more than the job of simply overseeing our business. It is, most importantly, the responsibility we each embrace to, for the dogs. By recognizing that we can together establish a beachhead of cooperation to create new initiatives that grow ownership of purebred dogs, grow our ranks and participants and supporters and grow our voice in all things pertinent to the preservation of our breeds. We must act quickly and with great purposes to accomplish all of that and we must start right now.

While we are faced with many challenges, none is more immediate than
the proposed federal regulation of our responsible Fancy breeders. Undoubtedly you have heard about the proposed rule changes to the Animal Welfare Act which regulates the selling of puppies in the United States. Currently, our Fancy breeders - like you and I - are exempt, but the new regulations will treat each of us like a large-scale business. What does that mean for you? Breeders who maintain more than four females biologically capable of having puppies and who sell a puppy to just one person at a distance, no matter what their age, when they sell a puppy to one person at a distance, even if that's a stud back puppy, will now be rated as commercial breeders under USDA regulations. Think of the impact that would have to the preservation of our low number breeds. Our AKC Government Relations team met with the USDA on our behalf to get clarification of the language in the proposed rule that we will use to shape our comments. We have critical issues that must be addressed by the USDA before they act. There are strong forces supporting these onerous regulations, making it more imperative that we create not a new balance of power, but a new understanding that the public wants the breed of dog they want and those dedicated AKC fancy breeders must be afforded the protection to not only survive, but prosper. Without our Fancy breeders, there will only be a matter of time before our breeds that have been preserved for hundreds of years will become extinct. While that may be perceived as an unintended consequence of overzealous regulation, I believe it is a quite intended consequence sought by the groups that challenge dog ownership every day.

Because we are the AKC, the USDA will pay careful attention to our comments. But we can maximize their attention through our individual support. Each of you can help achieve that. We have the opportunity now to unite our forces and clearly communicate the single positive message for change. We have created a petition in support of the comments on the proposed regulations. We will be submitting to the USDA, and place it on the AKC website. I ask that all of you join in and sign the petition and then I ask that each of you circulate the link to every person you can think of to rally support for the most necessary outcome we have. As Ronald Reagan said, you and I have a rendezvous with destiny, I believe it will be the one we make and not the one some others make for us. The most important single characteristic that defines a great organization is the desire to succeed that overcomes all obstacles. I know we have that desire. To those who believe we cannot come together and accomplish that, I say: "You don't know us".

To those who doubt our voice, I say: "You will hear us".

To those who love dogs as much as the jurors in Old Drum's case, I say: "You must join us." Thank you.

The Chair thank Mr. Kalter and spoke as follows:

For your convenience we have created a dedicated landing page so that you can access the online petition at akc.org. Just go to the AKC website homepage and click on the link: Sign the 'Join With the AKC to Protect Responsible Small Breeders' petition. In addition, we have just sent all Delegates an email with this link. For those of you with smart phones or tablets you have the ability to sign the petition right now, during lunch or on your way home. Don't forget to pass along the email to others as Alan has suggested. You can share the petition via Facebook, Twitter, blog or email from the petition signature page as well. We also have a one-page fact sheet on how-to sign the online petition available at the AKC booth for your convenience. To show you just how easy this is, Gina DiNardo will now take you through the quick process live to sign the online petition:"

Ms. DiNardo spoke as follows: We are on the AKC home page. All you do is type into the top AKC.org/petition. That will take you to the page that is created for the “protect responsible small breeder’s” petition. Click on “sign here now”, which will take you to the website where the petition is located. Click on “sign the petition”, and then you just fill in a couple of brief fields. Bill Adams will sign up right now. He is filling in his name, email address, city or town, state, zip code. We suggest that you do click the signature display box so your name will be publicly listed as opposed to being listed as anonymous. You have the opportunity to fill in a short comment. Then you have to scroll down to the verification code, type that in and click “sign”, and you have signed the petition.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. If you take anything away from the meeting, this is the takeaway. Please communicate it to your club members and to your friends, not just in the Fancy, but to all dog lovers, to protect their rights.

AKC President, Dennis Sprung, gave his report as follows:

I am delighted to share some positive news with you. First a re-introduction to Connie Pearcy, our new Chief Information Officer originally hired as a consultant and then joining our staff as a programmer/analyst. She enjoyed several promotions including Principal Software Engineer, Managing Network Engineer and finally Assistant Vice-President. Connie was with us from 1998 through 2007 and will begin again next week on June 18th. At the same time we thank Charley Kneifel and Tracey Tessier for their numerous contributions to our organizations and wish them well in their new endeavors.

Secondly, the Business Development Department under the management of Daphna Straus executed a contract just two weeks ago to publish the next edition of The Complete Dog Book with BowTie Press. Yesterday, Board members Bill Feeney and Tom Powers provided initial information to the Parent Clubs Committee. They invited every club to participate in this project as we enter the development stage. Soon our staff will communicate with each Parent Club’s President, Corresponding Secretary and Delegate, welcoming contributions of texts as well as images of your respective breed as we move forward together on this initiative. The first edition was published in 1929 by G.H. Watt entitled Pure-Bred Dogs. Our next book will be the 21st edition. The project is being managed in-house by Gina DiNardo and Mara Bovsun.

At this time we would like to thank ten Parent Clubs for sharing their expertise and cooperation on the recent and upcoming publication of the Family Companion Series of Breed books. Also, an AKC S.T.A.R. puppy book is in the
pipeline following the footsteps of Citizen Canine, the best-selling and award-winning training book authored by Dr. Mary Burch. From the world of events, last week I received finalized statistics for January through April of this year from Bobby Birdsong and Alan Slay. They advised me that with the completion of records for the month of April this is the only time in AKC’s history that entries have exceeded one million in the first four months of any year. I noticed that 12 of 13 event types had an increase and I will highlight this information for you sport by sport. In the all-breed arena, entries are up 12,600 plus. Group clubs have an increase of 446, and specialties 226. In Obedience, there was a giant leap, almost 6700 additional entries, plus 16%. Field trials are up 930. Hunting tests gained over 2700, better than 18%. Coonhounds is the only area where there is a decrease being 1500. Herding increased almost 25%, 777. Lure coursing gained over 82%, more than 2,800. Agility, which always has a 10 to 15% increase, is up by 13 and a half % with more than 44,000 additional entries in four months. Earthdog grew by 15%, 233 entries, and tracking by 173, 22%. Lastly, Rally has increased by almost 1900. Looking at the aggregate of these numbers, in the first four months of 2011 we reached 967,769 entries. In that same period this year, we have achieved more than one million, 1,040,096, an overall increase of 72,327 entries, a growth of seven and a half %. Considering the challenging economy and high gasoline prices, this is positive news for all of our clubs and for AKC. The Board and management believe these broad-based gains are attributable to the enhancements we have made to various events. Thank you.

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

We’re pleased to report that 2012’s operating results to date are an improvement from the previous two years. Our total revenues for the first five months of this year were $710,000 higher than last year. Event fee revenues were greater than 2011. The number of events increased 6.6% so far this year, compared to last year. The number of entries was 7½ % greater than 2011. Our registration revenues have increased by over $400,000 as a result of higher dog registration fees. We’re also pleased that revenues from sponsorships and royalties increased by $372,000 and $207,000, respectively. Our total expenses were marginally higher by $76,000. We’re continuing to make a strategic investment in marketing. In addition, we’re legally obligated to make quarterly contributions to the pension plan. We weren’t required to do this last year. The painful cost reductions we absorbed in 2011 have essentially offset these incremental expenses this year. When you put all this together, our operations produced a surplus of over $900,000 for the first 5 months of this year. The market value of our investments increased by $2 million. This was a 3.7% return for the first five months. This year’s rate of return has outperformed the composite benchmark for our portfolio.

There was a vote on the proposed amendment to Chapter 11, Section 6, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which would allow superintendents and show secretaries using AKC entry verification to correct entries as appropriate. It was published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette. The proposed amendment was brought forward by AKC staff and approved by the AKC Board. There were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted, effective immediately.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 2, Section 3, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which would require clubs that hold a show in their territory at least once each two consecutive calendar years shall have the sole show privilege in the city, town or district, which has been assigned to it as its show territory in order to maintain exclusive privilege in the territory. This amendment was brought forward by the Suffolk County Kennel Club. While the AKC agrees in principal with the removal of territorial exclusivity if a club did not have an event in that territory for two consecutive years, the AKC Board disagreed with enabling a club to come back years later and establish exclusivity with the ability to expel clubs that had in the interim established shows at sites at that territory. The club was contacted about modifying its amendment. The club declined and required that it go forward with a reading at this meeting. It will be published in two issues in the online AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the September 2012 meeting.

The AKC Board proposes that when it is considered for a vote in September that it be amended so that the last sentence in the proposal is removed. The removal of the sentence would not preclude a club from returning to its original territory, provided no other club has been holding shows in that territory during its absence. If another club has held a show in that territory, it would be considered open, with no one club being given exclusivity. Any club, which met AKC requirements would be considered for approval to hold a show there. If approved this rule would take effect immediately and would be implemented prospectively. Any club would therefore have over two full years to re-establish exclusive show privileges in its territory.

The Chair recognized Robert Eisele, Delegate for the Suffolk County Kennel Club who spoke as follows:

Originally, the Board proposed to Suffolk County Kennel Club that the last sentence totally be removed. Their train of thought is probably more in line with what we are interested in. What I will be proposing at the next meeting is an amendment to the motion that reads to the effect that if there has been a club in that territory having a show for five consecutive years, and if the first club comes back and has a show and reestablishes exclusivity, that the two clubs are then considered concurrent in that territory.

The Chair asked that when once finalized, that it be sent to the Executive Secretary.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 5,
Sections 6 through 8, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Ribbons, Prizes and Trophies, which would create consistency with Chapter 6 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. It was brought forward by the Dog Show Rules Committee and is approved by the AKC Board. It will be published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the September, 2012 meeting.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, a new sixth paragraph, to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which would create a new three point major for the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch at one National Specialty each year, specified by the AKC Parent Club, provided there are twice the number required for a five point major in the winner’s sex. This amendment was brought forward by the Progressive Dog Club. The AKC Board has not made a recommendation. It will be published in two issues of the online AKC Gazette, and you will be asked to vote on it in September, 2012 meeting.

The Chair recognized Peter Piusz, Delegate the American Rottweiler Club who spoke as follows:
Speaking for the Parent Clubs Committee, I would like to point out that all Parent Clubs have the option of opting out of this. Also the materials placed on the seats this morning were prepared by the Committee. Additional material will be distributed as we get closer to September.

An unidentified Delegate spoke as follows: Would you happen to know how many breeds that are entered that exceed twice the number required?

Mr. Crowley spoke as follows: We don’t have any statistics, but I’m sure it is the overwhelming majority of the National Specialties in each breed.

The Chair recognized Constance Butherus, Delegate for the Afghan Hound Club of America, who spoke as follows:
A survey was done by a Delegate and is in the published information.

Approximately 67% would qualify.

Mr. Sprung: I appreciate that information.

The Chair recognized Dr. William Newman, Delegate for the Mastiff Club of America who spoke as follows:
Last week I had the pleasure of judging the Nationals. The entry was pretty good, 444 entries. I had over 300 Mastiffs to judge. I cut my classes to 10 to 15. I can tell you those classes had so many great dogs, that everyone in the class should have a major. I can tell you I think it’s a great idea. You can opt in, or opt out. I think it’s a great idea.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for your comments.

The Executive Secretary read a list of vacancies for the Delegate Committees that are to be filled in September as follows:
All-Breed Clubs Committee: Four, three-year terms.
Bylaw Committee: Three, three-year terms and one, two-year term.
Canine Health Committee: Three, three-year terms.
Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee: Four, three-year terms.
Dog Show Rules Committee: Four, three-year terms.
Field Trial and Hunting Test Event Committee: Three, three-year terms and one, two-year term.
Hunting, Earthdog, and Coursing Events Committee: Three, three-year terms, one two-year term, and one one-year term.
Obedience Tracking and Agility Committee: Four, three-year terms.
Parent Clubs Committee: Four, three-year terms.
Perspectives Editorial Staff: Six, two-year terms and one, one-year term.

The Chair advised the Delegates as follows: All Delegates will be emailed self-nomination forms by the end of this month. It is to be returned by Friday, July 20. Questions on the procedures to be followed should also be addressed to the Executive Secretary. Delegates may only self-nominate for one committee, except that a member of the Perspectives Editorial Staff may also serve on another Standing Committee.

In August, Delegates will be emailed the nominees for each committee and their qualification statements. At the September meeting, following the election of committees, meeting space will be provided for each committee to elect their chairs and secretaries, if they desire.

For your information, the September 2012 Delegates meeting will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel, formerly the Sheraton, on Tuesday, September 11th. We will be emailing and placing hotel information on the Delegate Portal after our block of rooms becomes available.

Also, the December Delegates meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida. The meeting will be held at the Rosen Centre Hotel on Friday, December 14, 2012. A block of rooms have been reserved for Delegates’ use. To reserve, please call the hotel and use the special code that was sent to you. This information is already on the Delegates Portal for your convenience.

The Chair called on AKC Board member, Carl Ashby, to speak about the PAC.

Mr. Ashby spoke as follows: Good Morning. Fellow Delegates, today I speak to you as Chairman of the AKC Political Action Committee (PAC) which also has oversight responsibility for the Canine Legislative Support Fund (CLSF). In March Jim Stevens shared that our Club Members contributed a “nickel” each to the AKC PAC in 2011—a very small amount when one considers the challenges we face.

Since its formation 6 years ago the AKC PAC has made a real difference using it meager resources, but for sustainable, across the country impact, we must have more resources. Today we are introducing the “Club Presidents Challenge” which we hope will increase considerably the impact of the both the PAC and the CLSF in our efforts to fight over reaching legislation and the threats to dog breeding and ownership in the United States.

The rights of responsible dog owners are under attack. State legislatures across the country continue to introduce bills (facilitated by HSUS and other animal rights extremists) that seek to infringe on
financially support candidates who will protect their rights. It combines 100% of their contributions with those of others to offer strong financial support of dog-friendly candidates in critical races. Federal Elections Committee rules prohibit the AKC – or AKC clubs – from making direct contributions to candidates. As experts on canine legislation, we have the resources to learn which candidates support our interests, and which don’t.

AKC pays all the costs of administering this program. This includes all overhead – office space, staff time, legal fees, reporting, and so on. This means that, no matter what you choose to give, 100 percent of your contributions to the AKC PAC are used to directly support the candidacy of leaders who share our commitment to reasonable laws that protect your rights and promote responsible dog ownership and breeding.

The more legislators there are who support our values, the more assured you can be that your rights will be protected. It’s that simple! Although you cannot earmark funds for specific candidates, as a contributor, you can recommend legislators to the AKC Government Relations Department whom you believe deserve AKC PAC support.

And where else can you make a contribution where you know 100% is going to the actual cause? Federal elections law heavily regulates who can and cannot give money to political campaigns. Just as federal elections law prohibits AKC from making direct campaign contributions to political candidates, it also limits who can give to the AKC PAC. Eligible contributors include the individual members of AKC clubs and AKC employees.

The AKC PAC, however, is not the only focus of the Club Presidents Challenge. There is a second part to the challenge. Clubs may donate to the Canine Legislative Support Fund. All money contributed to Canine Legislation Support Fund helps to defray AKC’s costs in supporting legislation, securing formal representation in Congress and statehouses, and educating legislators and the public about responsible and fair policies for dog breeding and ownership. For example, it played a significant role in helping AKC lead the effort in defeating California’s statewide mandatory spay/neuter bill in 2007-2008. It also under wrote the cost of the State Federation meeting in Raleigh during the spring where many states and Clubs were represented. It can provide training access at the state and local level to make sure you have the best chance of being successful in working with legislators, etc. With significant threats on the horizon, there is no question that the CLSF will play a leading role in our future.

Mr. Ashby called on Alan Kalter to present a video.

Mr. Kalter spoke as follows: Thank you. My wife and I live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, which is home to the University of Michigan. It’s a rather idyllic and charming community. In fact, we who live there refer to it as seven square miles surrounded by reality. The reality that surrounds us today is being driven by the HSUS. They have installed the State Director in our state and that Director has been incredibly active in the past couple of years. We have been faced with a number of bills that are taking around to our state legislature. We have been fortunate that we have been able to withstand the onslaught of them, everything from a rather onerous puppy Lemon Law to certain regulations of breeding kennels; meaning, Fancy breeding kennels caught up with all the others that should be regulated. There are some like yours and mine that can be inspected by the AKC, inspected by the county, licensed; but we don’t need the help of our local Humane Society to come in and inspect us, which is what HSUS is pushing for. And they spend an inordinate amount of money electing officials. One example, in the 2008 election they targeted one congressman who was running in Michigan. They wanted to get him elected because they believed he would be a strong supporter of their initiatives, their anti-breeder initiative, and they were supportive, they gave him in support $300,000 and he got elected. He has been an ardent supporter of HSUS anti-breeder regulations in Washington. So now comes, what are we going to do? Some of you might remember a few years ago I produced a video that I would hope would capture
the emotional sense of what we were up against and what we might do and I would like to show you that now. (Video played.)

Mr. Kalter: Our destiny really is in our hands and I have every faith that we will take that and run with it. I believe that the President's challenge is one that will help us create a voice in every legislative arena we need to create that voice in, and I know you will support it. For those who feel so moved at the moment that you would like to make a donation, Sheila will help you.

With that, I thank you all.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for sharing that with us, Alan.

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

The Chair recognized John Ioia, Delegate for the Southern Adirondack Dog Club who spoke as follows: Two issues that deal with that. The question is if they sponsor a fundraiser can they write a club check?

Mr. Ashby: To answer the question I really need to go back and talk about the PAC and the CLSF. If the money is being designated for the PAC it has to be from club members, which means a club can write a check for it. For example, if you have your club dues either check off or chose to donate 50 percent of your dues collection to the PAC you would list just the dues payers and that would suffice and that would work. If however you want to do a fundraiser like at a show, for example, and raise money that's going to be from non-members. The club can still write the check, but that money is going to go to the Canine Legislative Support Fund.

So you have two options; a club option as a general rule sort of a check off on your dues notice, or a donation of a portion of your dues, which is what we hope clubs will start to consider, especially those where the dues are inconsequential to their income stream.

Mr. Ioia: Does it matter which pocket it goes into?

Mr. Ashby: It does matter. Well, it's two different uses. The PAC donates directly to candidates. We hope to get enough dollars and we hope people will apply for these grants so they go back more. We have a broad cross section across the United States right now, but not like we'd like to have just because of assets. The Canine Legislative Support Fund is a different pot used in some of the different ways that I talked about. Advocacy is one way, training is another, other conferences, things like that. Sheila could give you more direct information. So it does matter. But PAC dollars have to come through membership.

Mr. Ioia: The second point was, Alan, for us to make presentations to our clubs. Is there a way that we could download, upload, or whatever the jargon is, that video? It's available to us?

Mr. Kalter: There are a number of copyright issues with that video. The video can be shown at a meeting as long as there's some representative who brings the video and takes the video back. So we can't legally distribute the video, but we have to find a way to make it available as long as we get it back.

Dr. Ioia: And how do we do that?

Mr. Kalter: Talk to Sheila.

The Chair recognized Cathy De La Garza, Delegate for the Galveston County Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Mr. Kalter: With all due respect, this wonderful video was shown at the legislative conference. Why can't you make another one? I'm willing, my club is willing, to put that in 150,000 homes through Comcast, but if we don't have the product and if it's a copyright infringement for me to go and make my own what good is that doing us?

Mr. Kalter: I produced it to be shown at meetings. It was never intended to be distributed electronically on YouTube or on television. I could not show a video like that because that would mean having to go out and shoot original footage and produce original music. So the cost of producing this was rather reasonable. Ask any of the many attorneys in this room –

Ms. De La Garza: Sir, I don't mean to interrupt, but I understand the issues. I'm not an attorney, but why can't we make another one that we can distribute? Everybody in this room understands what's going on. I'm willing to put something like that on big screen TVs and put it in one of the biggest clusters in the country. We get thousands of people that come through the door. Mom and pops who don't show dogs. That is the market we need. And it's not doing us any good to agree there's a problem, we need a product.

Mr. Kalter: Well, I'm sure we can produce a product that could be put on television, or show it at a dog show or a pet expo or have you. I'm sure we can produce something like that at a very reasonable cost.

Ms. De La Garza: Why not on TV? If my club is willing to pay the several thousand dollars to put it on Comcast and if we're paying for it, why not?

Mr. Kalter: Yes. Okay.

Ms. De La Garza: And just have a little bar at the bottom saying these are your local kennel clubs, Brazoria County Kennel Club, Houston Kennel Club, Galveston County Kennel Club, Cypress Creek Kennel Club. Why not?

Mr. Kalter: We will look into that.
Susan Sholar, Delegate for the Black Russian Terrier Club of America, spoke about getting Family Dog into medical facilities and doctors’ waiting rooms.

Carol Williamson, Delegate for the Houston Kennel Club, spoke about submitting articles for the next issue of Perspectives, which will be coordinated by Dan Smyth. She also encouraged anyone interested in being on the Perspectives Editorial staff to see any of the current committee members.

There was no further business to come before the Delegate body. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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