DELEGATES’ ANNUAL MEETING

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES
OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
JUNE 9, 2014

Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 276

Affenpinscher Club of America—Letisha Wübb
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Constance Buthers
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 Belgian Malinois Club—Carol J. Shields
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—Ms. Janina K. Laurin
American Bloodhound Club—Mary L. Olszewski
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—Patte Klemcan
American Brittany Club, Inc.—Judith Tighe
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—Alan Kalter
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—Marilyn E. Currey
American Fox Terrier Club—Connie Clark
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—Harold Miller
American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—Don Hanson
American Manchester Terrier Club—Roberta Berman
American Pointer Club, Inc.—Karen R. Spey
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—Dr. Geno Sineros
American Rottweiler Club—Mr. Peter G. Piusz
American Sealyham Terrier Club—Kenneth W. Mader
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—Margorie Tuff
Anderson Kennel Club—Phillip D. Sample
Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Ms. Patricia A. Sample
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Wallin
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—Gail A. LaBerge
Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—Bette D. Williams
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—Joyce Rowland
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—William L. Christensen
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Nina Schaefer
Basenji Club of America, Inc.—Katie Campbell
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—Sandra J. Launey
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—Wayne Boyd
Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—Gloria Marshall
Bedlington Terrier Club of America—Diane Pearson
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—Barbara Swisher
Blennerhassett Kennel Club, Inc.—John McCullagh
Border Collie Society of America—Ms. Carol Clark
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
Bronx County Kennel Club—Ms. Alexa Samarotto
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—Victoria Glickstein
Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—Helma Weeks
Bull Terrier Club of America—Rebecca Poole
Bulldog Club of America—Robert L. Newcomb
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.
Cairn Terrier Club of America—Pam Davis
California Collie Clan, Inc.—Robette G. Johns
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.—Jaimie Ashby
Catoticin Kennel Club—Whitney Coombs
Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.—Julian Prager
Charleston Kennel Club—Sylvia Arnowood
Chattanooga Kennel Club—David Gilstrap
Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—Kenneth Saenz
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—Marge B. Callatharp
Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—Dr. Stephen Lawrence
Clearwater Kennel Club—Daniel T. Stolz
Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—Mrs. Maureen R. Setter
Collie Club of America, Inc.—Mr. Harold W. Sundstrom
Colorado Kennel Club—Mrs. Louise Leone
Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—Norma J. Ryan
Connecticut River Working Group Association—Fred G. Ferris
Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—Michael Houchard
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—Larry Sorenson
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
Dayton Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Groeschel
Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—Andrew G. Mills
Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—Dr. A. D. Buthers
Detroit Kennel Club—Andrea Glassford
Devon Dog Show Association, Inc.—Meg Wetz
Doberman Pinscher Club of America—Janet Van Wormer
Dog Owners Training Club of Maryland—Kathrynn S. Sarvitas
Durham Kennel Club Inc.—Linda C. Woźniak
Eastern Dog Club—Mr. Theodore C. Hollander, Jr.
Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—Jeffrey Drogan
Elm City Kennel Club—Dr. Gregory J. Paveza
Elmira Kennel Club, Inc.—Homer R. Hastings, III
English Setter Association of America, Inc.—Mr. John P. Nielsen
English Springer Spaniel Club of Michigan, Inc.—Barbara J. Gates
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English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, Inc.—Susanne Burgess
English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois—David H. Hopkins
Erie Kennel Club, Inc.—Peggy Helming
Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Terrie Breen
Finnish Spitz Club of America—Mrs. Cindy Stansell
Forsyth 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.—Mrs. Cindy Collins
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
Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America—Bruce H. Sussman
Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Bonnie Lapham
Golden Retriever Club of America—Ellen Hardin
Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—Nance O. Skoglund
Grand River Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Lettis
Great Dane Club of America, Inc.—Dale S. Tarbox
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
Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—Marlene Steinberg
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
Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc.—Jane Wilkinson
Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Carol A. Williamson
Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Dick Blair
Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—Gwen McCullagh
Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara A. Penny
Ibizan Hound Club of the United States—Luane V. Williams
Illinois Valley Kennel Club of Peoria, Inc.—Dr. John F. Davidson
Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Rita J. Biddle
Irish Water Spaniel Club of America—Jack McDaniel
Irish Wolfhound Club of America—Eugenia Hunter
Italian Greyhound Club of America, Inc.—Carole Plesur
K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—Dave Morgan
Kanadasaga Kennel Club—Mrs. Beverly M. Nosigla
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. Casatt
Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton
Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Inc.—Charles H. Schaefer
Kennel Club of Riverside—Sylvia A. Thomas
Kennesaw Kennel Club—James F. Gibson
Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—Jacquelyn J. Fogel
Komondor Club of America, Inc.—Michael Harman
Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Virginia Van Doren
Ladies’ Dog Club, Inc.—Kathi Brown
Ladies’ Kennel Association of America—Ruth Winston
Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Diana Skibinski
Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Cecilia C. Closki
Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—Carolyn M. Vack
Land O’Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—Jan Croft
Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.—Deborah Ashlock
Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert N. LaBerge
Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Dominic P. DiBalsi
Leonberger Club of America—Don James
Lewisville-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—Sue Goldberg
Long Island Kennel Club—Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.
Los Encinos Kennel Club, Inc.—David M. Powers
Maryland Kennel Club—Gary Sarvins
Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—Rebecca Campbell
Merriam Kennel Club, Inc.—Jeannette Nieder
Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—Ralph Hogancamp
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—Gretchen Bernardi
Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—Robert H. McKown
Mommouth County Kennel Club, Inc.—Harold E. Perry
Montgomery County Kennel Club—Ms. Ida E. Wernstock
Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—Ruth Crumb
Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary Yoders
National Beagle Club—Eddie Dziuk
National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Catherine B. Nelson
National Shiba Club of America—Maggie Strouse
Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—Viola Burgos
Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—David Helming
Newnan Kennel Club—Willie Crawford
Newton Kennel Club—Catherine H. Murch
Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Diane E. Taylor
Nisqually Kennel Club—R. H. Hachtel
Norfolk Terrier Club—Robert Lachman
North Shore Kennel Club—Richard F. Coletti
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Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club—Stephen Skolnik
Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club, Inc.—Billie Ponton
Norwich Terrier Club of America—Betty McDonnell
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—Ms. Marie A. Waterstraat
Oakland Dog Training Club, Inc.—Lynette J. Saltzman
Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—James M. Ashton
Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—Felice Jarrold
Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—Betty M. Winthers
Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—Daniel R. Cunningham
Orange Empire Dog Club, Inc.—Burton J. Yamada
Otterhound Club of America—Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.
Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—Link Newcomb
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—Gary Koeppel
Pasco Florida Kennel Club—Helen Ingber
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Anne Boves
Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—Dennis J. Gallant
Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—Larry Wilson
Plainfield Kennel Club—Amy Kiell-Green
Pocono Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Krieger
Poodle Club of America, Inc.—Mary Ellen Fishler
Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Robert A. Amen
Progressive Dog Club—William H. Blair
Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—Richard E. Grant
Queensboro Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Linda M. Lacchia
Ramapo Kennel Club—Jeffrey D. Bull
Richmond Dog fanciers Club, Inc.—Jan M. Ritchie
Rockingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Janice S. Gardner
Rubber City Kennel Club—Cathy Gaidos
Sahuar State Kennel Club—Rita L. Mather
Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—Mrs. Barbara Furbusch
Sammanish Kennel Club—Dr. Robert C. Gloster, M.D.
Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John L. Ronald
San Francisco Dog Training Club, Inc.—Stanley S. Saltzman
Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—Laurence J. Libeu
Saratoga New York Kennel Club—Wanda H. Allen
Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Andrew J. Kalmanash
Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia—Darlene Kelley
Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—Betty Jo Patrick
Scottish Terrier Club of America—Helen A. Prince
Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Frei
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. Feeney
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—Robert Bergman
South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Linda B. Willson
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Linda C. Flynn
South Windsor Kennel Club—Margarette (Peggy) Wampold
Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club—Ricky Adams
Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club—Marilyn R. Vinson
Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—John V. Ioa
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 E. Sheltry
Staten Island Kennel Club, Inc.—Marianne Megna
Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Robert Eisele
Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—Marcy L. Zingler
Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc.—Laura Trainer
Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Florence Duggan
Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—Marylyn DeGregorio
Tampa Bay Kennel Club—Mary Manning-Stolz
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—Judy Hart
Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Stacey La Forge
Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert E. Bostrom
Town and Country Kennel Club, Inc.—Toni Doake
Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—John Shoemaker
Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—Christopher L. Sweetwood
Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—Joseph Martyn
Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—John J. Cadalso, Jr.
Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—James S. Corbett
Tucson Kennel Club—Dian Albright
Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—Patricia C. Sarles
United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III
United States Lakeland Terrier Club—Alfred J. Ferruggiara
Upper Suncoast Dog Training Club—Josephine De Menna
Vacationland Dog Club, Inc.—Mrs. Joan Tabor
Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Carol Fisher
Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—Mr. William F. Dumas
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—Lynn Worth-Smith
Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.—Virginia Rowland
Wallkill Kennel Club, Inc.—Rose M. Robischon
Wampanoag Kennel Club, Inc.—Ms. Naida L. Parker
Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—James W. Smith
Wesley Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Richard Rohrbacher
Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Eriege Seacci
West Highland White Terrier Club of America—Thomas H. Barrie
Westchester Kennel Club—Ronald W. Readmond
Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Yuhasz
Westminster Kennel Club—Harvey M. Wooding
Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.—Colleen McDaniel
Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Frederick R. Vogel
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—Mrs. Karen Mays
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—Rosann Sexton
Worcester County Kennel Club—Debra A. Hokkanen
Mountaineer Kennel Club

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting since approval, were introduced from the floor: Deborah Ashlock, to represent Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club
Cindy Collins, to represent Genesee County Kennel Club
Andrea Glassford, to represent Detroit Kennel Club
Dale Suzanne Tarbox, to represent Great Dane Club of America
Joan Urban, to represent, Corpus Christi Kennel Club
Mary C. Yoders, to represent, Mountaineer Kennel Club

The minutes of the March 2014 Delegates meeting were published in the April 2014 online AKC GAZETTE. The complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC’s Website. There were no corrections, and the minutes were approved as published.

The Greater Sierra Vista Kennel Club was duly elected a member of the American Kennel Club.

The Chair called on Alan Kalter for the Chairman’s report. Mr. Kalter spoke as follows:
If you’re anything like my wife and I, it all started the day you brought that one dog into your life. For us, it was Caesar – our first Bullmastiff. Since there was no Internet back then, we found him through the classifieds in our local paper. He was a great dog, just not a great Bullmastiff. But that didn’t matter to us. We loved him – and lost him much too early. But in that short time, he made us fall in love with the Bullmastiff breed. We researched the breed and breeders, learned about conformation events, attended dog shows, and began to collect that array of breed paraphernalia that somehow invades every corner of your home. I imagine many of you are wearing your breed on you somewhere right now – pins or jewelry or clothing or even, I would wager, some have a tattoo. In short, we, like you, became fans of a breed and fans of our sports.

I like being called a fan, don’t you? I like what it stands for, even though some people believe the idea of “fans” came from “fanatics” – a usually pejorative word. Actually, The Dickson Baseball Dictionary cites William Henry Nugent’s work asserting that “fan” was derived from “the fancy,” a term from England referring to the enthusiasts of a specific hobby or sport – like dog shows. The word came into common usage in America in 1889, just five years after the launch of the American Kennel Club. Coincidence? I think not.

It is an accepted fact in sports that your fans can have a demonstrable impact on performance. In football, which allows 11 players on the field, the assemblage of fans in the stadium is collectively referred to as the “12th man.” A researcher from Harvard University discovered that the home team achieved a tenth of a point advantage for every 10,000 fans in the stadium.

Imagine the advantage we could have for purebred dogs, for breeders, and for our sport with a much larger active fan base. We have already begun to do just that with Facebook.

There are lots of numbers associated with Facebook, but the most important are those that identify your true fan base. There is a simple equation that does that: the number of “people talking about likes” which is called “engagement.” According to experts, an acceptable engagement rate, or true fans, is in the range of one to two percent.

Two baseball teams with very strong fan bases are the New York Yankees and the New York Mets. The Yankees have an engagement rate of 4% and the Mets have 6%. Both are doing better than acceptable in growing their fan base. Apple, one of the world’s strongest and best-liked brands, is at 1.4%. HSUS is at 1.6% and ASPCA is at 4%.

The AKC’s engagement rate – the measurement of true fans – is an astounding 30%! The actual number of true fans is 535,000 – higher than any of those I just mentioned by a multiple. In fact, we have 16 times more true fans than HSUS.

You cannot manufacture a fan base. You cannot buy a fan base. You create it by telling stories about the many things that happen in our world, throughout the day, throughout the years. Sometimes it is
about winning, but mostly it is about unique, emotional experiences that can only happen when dogs and people come together. Those stories are best when told by fans – people like you. As Napoleon said, “Ten people who speak make more noise than ten thousand who are silent.”

At the Delegates Forum today, Chris Walker presented an informative guide to utilizing social media to help your clubs. It will be posted on AKC.org. I’ll reiterate the conclusion of the presentation: We need you to talk – promote yourselves, promote your dogs and education about responsible dog ownership. Be proud of the love and service you have given the sport over the years and nurture new people into the sport.

In short, spread the truth. There are people and organizations that don’t want the truth about the AKC to be known. Hate may attack it and ignorance may ridicule it, but in the end, the truth is irrefutable. While yawns, laughter, and germ are infectious, the most powerful infectious thing is spreading the truth. As true fans, we will stay strong, stand up for dogs, and speak out for our values.

And we won’t stop until every critic becomes a fan.

(Appause)

Mr. Kalter: Now I would like Michael Canalizo to join me up here.

How are you, Michael? For those of you who attended the caucus yesterday I just wanted everyone to see what Michael looks like today, and opposed to when he was 16. You have a few more years on you now. And I have something else to talk about.

WHEREAS, Michael has been a respected member of the Sport for over half a century, showing his first dog in nineteen hundred and sixty-one; and,

WHEREAS, he was a successful breeder, handler, judge, club officer and show chairman, before joining the AKC field staff in two thousand and five, and becoming the Director AKC Events Management in two thousand and seven, overseeing the success and growth of the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, and AKC Meet the Breeds; and,

WHEREAS, on Thursday, May twenty-ninth, two thousand and fourteen, this mild-mannered AKC employee showed what he was really made of; and

WHEREAS, on that morning, Michael joined tens of thousands of other Long Island Rail Road commuters, making their way into Manhattan, in this case at the crowded Syosset, New York station; and,

WHEREAS, while waiting for the approaching train, he noticed a fellow commuter falling off the platform onto the tracks, and while hundreds of others stood by, not knowing what to do or not wanting to put themselves in danger, Michael and only two others acted; and,

WHEREAS, one other commuter ran to the end of the platform to flag down the oncoming commuter train, Michael and one other person jumped on the tracks several feet below the platform, just a few feet from the electrified third rail; and,

WHEREAS, they somehow lifted the incoherent victim, who they later learned was deaf, onto the platform before pulling themselves up as the slowed train pulled into the station; and,

WHEREAS, hundreds of others froze in a crisis, Michael’s only instinct was to act, heedless of the danger to himself; and,

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved, that the Board and staff of the American Kennel Club, who have always appreciated his knowledge, work-ethic, and cool demeanor in a crisis, unanimously agree that in any situation there is no one they would rather have their back.

Thank you.

(Appause)

Mr. Sprung gave the President’s report as follows:

I would like to spend a few moments to honor one of our own. Less than a month ago, on May 12th, a gallant fight was lost. Our dear friend Dr. William "Bill" Randolph Newman passed away at home in Bedford, Pennsylvania

Dr. Bill was born in Rosedale, New York, on June 16, 1931. His professional accomplishments prove a long history of dedication to his community in Bedford. He was director of radiology at both Sacred Heart and Bedford Memorial Hospitals, having risen to Chief of Staff at Sacred Heart. A true public servant, our friend Bill was elected President of two county medical societies and was ultimately elected twice as the Mayor of the Borough of Bedford. Those of us who knew him well realize he was always the “Mayor”.... but this confirmed it at the ballot box. Bill was a great supporter of the arts and knew the public deserved greater access to them. Late last year he initiated and arranged the largest ever off-site exhibition of the AKC’s art collection at the Pennsylvania’s Governor’s residence in Harrisburg.

The good doctor’s efforts on behalf of dogs had no boundaries. In commitment to our business, he was a board member for eight years, Vice Chairman and also Chaired the Appeals Committee. In his busy world there was always time to volunteer including serving on the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation Board, Chaired the Delegate Canine Health Committee and Chaired AKC’s PAC.

His successes in the sport are almost too numerous to mention, not least of which include exhibiting the top-winning English Foxhound and Alaskan Malamute. But none gave him that special twinkle in his eye more than his love affair with Mastiffs, having bred a special twinkle in his eye; and,

WHEREAS, Michael’s only instinct was to act, heedless of the danger to himself; and,

WHEREAS, on that morning, Michael joined tens of thousands of other Long Island Rail Road commuters, making their way into Manhattan, in this case at the crowded Syosset, New York station; and,

WHEREAS, while waiting for the approaching train, he noticed a fellow commuter falling off the platform onto the tracks, and while hundreds of others stood by, not knowing what to do or not wanting to put themselves in danger, Michael and only two others acted; and,

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Thank you.

(Appause)
remember him, one of our own. Echoing the words of Alan that day, I know you will all join me in saying, "We thank you, Dr. Bill." And we will miss you, too." Thank you.

The Chair called on Peter Farnsworth, who gave the financial report. A summary follows:

AKC’s Revenues for the four months ended April 2014 were approximately $19.7 million, while Operating Expenses during this same time period were $17.3 million, resulting in Operating Income of $2.4 million for four months. In line with the markets, our investments returns were overall unremarkable, but generated a gain of $400 thousand for the first four months of this year. Both the Operating Results and the Balance Sheet remain healthy.

The CFO introduced Doug Ljungren, Vice President of Sports and Events who spoke as follows:

This is the 20th Anniversary of AKC Agility. To commemorate two decades in this sport it's my pleasure to give you a short presentation regarding its history, some of its milestones, and some of the lessons learned. In the early years, agility started as an entertainment event at Crufts. It was so positively received that in 1980 the Kennel Club in England adopted agility as a sport. The first event in the United States was held in 1986 by the United States Dog Agility Association. AKC's involvement with agility started in 1993.

Agility was in the Performance Events Department. As a sidelight, the person who was in charge of that department organized the Agility Advisory Committee without seeking the approval of the Board of Directors. He took some money from other areas in his budget and formed the advisory committee. This was the start of AKC Agility. AKC's first event was held in 1994. I assume he sought approval from the Board before we had our first event. It was held in Houston, Texas, in August. There was one class with three levels of difficulty. The sport continued to evolve. In 1996 AKC held its first agility nationals, which were in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Also in 1996, AKC sent its first agility team to the FCI World Championship. Here’s a picture of that team in their red, white and blue proudly representing the United States and AKC at that event.

Over the 20 years, three additional classes have been added: The preferred class has been added, which allows a little lower jump height and a little longer time period to complete the course in order to accommodate all different breeds and different handlers. In 1999 the title that's probably most associated with agility was added, and that was the MACH. And, quite cleverly, it was named MACH. You have to earn 750 speed points as one of the criteria to earn your MACH. The speed of sound is 767 miles an hour. This was also the first title where AKC put a number behind it. This provides an incentive to stay engaged with the sport and have your accomplishments recognized. This graph shows the growth of agility over the last 20 years. There are nine agility organizations in the United States. From a business point of view that means we have competition, and we have to stay on our game. Thus far we have done that. We have grown every year, and it's the second AKC sport to exceed 1 million entries a year. What are the factors that have led to this success? What have we learned? Agility is successful because it's fun for dogs and owners. Owners and their dogs can achieve success as they progress and develop in the sport. It has graduated levels. Its titling system recognizes ongoing accomplishments. It's a sport that's open to all breeds, including Canine Partners. It's a very healthy activity since you have to run around the course. Not a tremendous exertion, but it's healthy. It's a very friendly sport. The staff has kept the sport fresh by introducing new classes every five or six years. To sum it up, I think you can say "if you make it fun, they will come!" These are some pictures of our 2014 National Championship which is held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. It was the largest agility event that's ever been held in North America. We had 1,650 dogs competing over four days to determine the champions. The picture on the top are the winners from the preferred class, the bottom are the regular classes. And I should point out the lady on the left-hand side of the picture is our director of agility, Carrie DeYoung, who does a great job of staying in front of this rapidly growing sport. To show you some of the action I'd like to show a video clip from that event. This was posted on the AKC YouTube channel. (Video shown) (Applause)

Mr. Ljungren: While Bob is coming forward I would like to read to you in part the resolution that Bob will receive. "The Board and the staff of the American Kennel Club wish to commemorate the 20th anniversary of agility and honor Robert H. McKowen. Bob joined the staff as the AKC Vice President of Performance Events in February 1988. He retired in April 1997. During that time he was totally devoted to expanding the opportunities for dog owners to participate in AKC events. His legacy includes the launch of AKC lure coursing, herding and earth dog events. All significant performance events for breeds. However, the contribution which has the greatest impact on AKC and the sport of dogs was the addition of agility. It is only fitting that he be officially recognized at the same time we celebrate the 20th anniversary of his sport." (Standing Ovation)

There was a vote on the proposed amendment to Chapter 14, New Section, of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers. The Qualified All-Age 2, or QA2, is a new title that can be earned in Retriever Field Trials. The
delegates’ annual meeting

QA2 title is meant to acknowledge an intermediate level of achievement in order to encourage participants to remain in the sport and their club. The amendment was adopted.

There was a vote on the proposed amendment to ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5, of The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. The Bylaw Committee withdrew the second portion of the amendment which deals with cruelty convictions, which is already covered under AKC policy. There was a motion to divide the question on ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5, of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club. This motion failed. The proposed amendment did not receive an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the Delegates, and was therefore not adopted.

The Executive Secretary read the vacancies on Delegate committees that are to be filled at the September Delegate meeting:
- All-Breed Clubs Committee: Three, three-year terms.
- Bylaws Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Canine Health Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Companion Events Committee: Three, three-year terms.
- Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee: Three, three-year terms and one, two-year term.
- Dog Show Rules Committee: Three, three-year terms.
- Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Herding, Earthdog, and Coursing Events Committee: Four, three-year terms.
- Parent Clubs Committee: Three, three-year terms.
- Perspectives Editorial Staff: Six, two-year terms, and three, one-year terms.

The Chair called on Alan Slay, Director of Events Programs, to provide an update on the progress made on the processing of applications and panels. Mr. Slay spoke as follows:

The Chair informed the Delegates that the September 2014 Delegates meeting will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Newark Airport Hotel on Monday September 8th, and that the December meeting will be in Orlando at the Rosen Centre Hotel on Friday, December 12th.

The following discussion took place during New Business: Ms. Bernardi thanked the Bylaws Subcommittee and the Committee as well as all the Delegates who thought hard about the proposed amendment. She indicated that the Committee’s intent is to get more Delegate input so that it can re-work the amendment with the intention of bringing it back again.

Carl Ashby, Delegate of the United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, spoke as follows: I am speaking today on behalf of the AKC PAC. I want to give you a really brief report. We have about $11,500 in the President’s Challenge. We knew we were running behind and so we did a little bit of investigation, and realized we had a breakdown with the emails notifying you and the follow-up emails. Consequently we are going to extend the drive. As I asked those of you who were in the Legislative Caucus this morning, I am now asking all of you for a renewed push on your part by encouraging your club members to make donations. Gail did a very good job this morning at the caucus explaining exactly how effective the PAC can be influencing legislation in matters that are important to all of us as dog owners and citizens in our community. And so please watch your emails. We think we have those problems corrected, and we’re asking for a little bit of an extra push. It is

Carol Williamson, Delegate for the Houston Kennel Club and Editor of Perspectives newsletter, asked the Delegate to get their articles for Perspectives to her or Gino Sisneros by June 15th.

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club, expressed dissatisfaction with the Newark site for Delegate meetings. She requested that other locations be considered for future meetings.

Sanda Launey, Delegate for the Basset Hound Club of America, advocated the use of ramps for Junior Showmanship.

Kenneth Mader, Delegate for the American Sealyham Terrier Club, suggested there be a donation portal on the American Kennel Club website.
Naida Parker, Delegate for the Wampanoag Kennel Club, spoke about the future of the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in view of Proctor & Gamble selling the Eukanuba and Iams lines to Mars, Pedigree and Royal Canine.

Glenda Stevenson, Delegate for Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay, spoke about the Reserve Junior Award. She indicated that the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee disagreed with the AKC staff, and preferred to do a Reserved Junior much like Winners Dog and Bitch and Reserve Winners Dog and Bitch.

Jeffrey Drogin, Delegate for the Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, spoke about a proposal in front of the New York City Council that all dogs to be sold within the City of New York, from in New York or outside of New York, would have to be neutered before they could be brought into New York City. He believed that the AKC must up their efforts with lobbyists in places like New York City.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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