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* Links to AKC Parent Clubs appear following Secretary’s Pages *

### BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

- **Sporting and Working**: January, April, July, and October
- **Hound and Terrier**: February, May, August, and November
- **Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding**: March, June, September, and December
The 10th anniversary of AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Days was a resounding success! A record number of participants helped us celebrate at local events around the country, at our Flagship event in Raleigh and on social media. RDO Day events were held in every state, for a total of 650 around the country. Thank you to the AKC clubs that continue to support this educational program every year. Many clubs also achieved impressive media coverage in their local papers and on TV, including the Heartland Dog Club of Florida and the Klamath Dog Fanciers. The Cape Cod Kennel Club even got the community involved by contacting their local selectmen, who declared the weekend the club held its event as “Responsible Dog Ownership Weekend” in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Finally, Ann Stucky from the Northeastern Indiana Kennel Club sums up the feedback we’ve received from many clubs—”It was our sixth year for this event and our biggest yet. We had over 35 participating dog groups and had more than 750 people attend! Almost 100 dogs were microchipped. A beautiful day for a wonderful community event!”

The AKC Flagship event was the most successful ever. Sixty-three dogs took the Canine Good Citizen® test and hundreds of dogs went through the My Dog Can Do That! agility and rally attraction and the “mini” My Dog Can Do That! in the kids’ area. Nearly 4,000 locals attended with their dogs. Thanks to AKC Canine Partners Manager Penny Leigh and her committee for a great job coordinating the event this year.

We also celebrated Virtual RDO Days on Facebook and Twitter. Visitors who signed the AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Pet Promise could pick up a cover photo or badge for their Facebook page.

After receiving thousands of likes and comments, we’re still reading through all of the “Acts of Responsible Dog Ownership” that visitors shared with us. Some of our favorites included “I updated all my dogs’ chips with AKC CAR!,” and “I’m teaching a puppy-obedience class tonight, helping others to become responsible dog owners.” Make sure you’ve liked us on Facebook to take part next year.

To learn more about AKC RDO Days or to get an early jump on the 2013 program, visit akc.org/rdod.

Sincerely,

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO

We’d love to hear from you about what you think about our organization and our staff. Please contact us at feedback@akc.org. We’re listening.
LIBEREC, CZECH REPUBLIC—Winning the Large Dog Team Jumping competition over 33 other teams from around the world, the AKC/USA Agility World Team brought home a gold medal from the 2012 FCI Agility World Championship, run October 4 to 7 in the Czech Republic.

“Congratulations to our Large Dog team,” AKC Agility Director Carrie DeYoung says. “It was wonderful to see them on the podium as our national anthem played.”

The AKC/USA Team sent 12 competitors to Liberec, comprising small-, medium-, and large-dog teams. The small-dog team took a bronze medal in the Jumping category. Daisy Peel and Border Collie Solar finished seventh in Large Dog Individual Agility, on their way to a combined Large Dog placement of fifth in the world.

Over the event weekend, AKC/USA team members completed 36 runs in the team and individual competitions. This was the largest championship to date, with 38 nations represented.

“Our team members really enjoyed their experience in the Czech Republic and should be proud of the way their dedication and effort paid off in competition,” DeYoung says.

“We also thank our many sponsors, supporters, and the AKC Agility community for their support, which plays a huge role in the World Team’s success.”

WORLD TEAM SPONSORS

The AKC has announced the names of the 2012 AKC Lifetime Achievement Award recipients. The three winners will be honored in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in December.

The awards honor individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the sport of purebred dogs on a national level. The recipients were selected by votes cast by AKC member clubs for nominees in the categories of Conformation, Companion Events, and Performance.

**Conformation**

*Patricia Craig Trotter*

Trotter’s Vin-Melca Norwegian Elkhound breeding program has produced the breed’s top sire and dam, and the top winners in Elkhound history. Vin-Melca Elkhounds have won 10 Hound Group firsts at Westminster, all owner-handed.

Ch. Vin-Melca’s Vagabond was top dog, all breeds, for 1970. He was the first amateur-handled dog to achieve that ranking. Trotter placed 10 dogs in the top 10, all breeds, while working as a full-time teacher.

Trotter’s honors include the Gaines Girl Show Dog Fancier of the Year (1952); Winkie Awards, including Breeder and Owner-Handler of the Year (several times); AKC Hound Group Breeder of the Year (2004); induction into the Quaker Oats (now ProPlan) Hall of Fame; two Fido Awards (Dog Woman of the Year and Dog Writer of the Year); and the Dog Writers Association of America’s Maxwell Medallion, for her GAZETTE “Better Breeding” column.

Trotter judged the 2009 Westminster Hound Group and will judge Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show at this year’s AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

**Performance Events**

*Jean Dieder, DVM*

Dieder has been competing at dog shows, obedience trials, and tracking tests for 40 years. Her Hathor Farm wirehaired Dachshunds have earned 12 Field Championships (11 of them Dual) and over 50 Absolute Winner awards, including three national-specialty trial wins. She has had three dogs ranked in the DCA annual top-20 awards—one, with over 1,000 points, is among the top-10 lifetime point earners.

Dieder started in AKC Earthdog at its inception. Her dogs have earned over 300 qualifying scores, including 160 Master tests. She has held over 80 tests at her home, Hathor Farm on Whidbey Island, Washington. A founding officer of the Puget Sound Earthdog Club and longtime president of the Cascade Dachshund Club, she is credited for gaining Cascade’s licensing status for Dachshund field trials and earthdog tests.

Dieder has been a field-trial judge for 12 years and an earthdog judge for 16 years.

**Companion Events**

*Sharon Redmer*

For over 30 years, Redmer has pursued two passions: being the very best AKC judge she can be, and breeding beautiful Belgian Tervuren with the character to compete in every venue.

Redmer began training with the Ann Arbor Dog Training Club in 1970. Her first Tervuren was a multi-High-in-Trial UDT. More than 150 of her StarBright Tervs have earned conformation champions and Grand Champions, OTCHs, MACHs, HTCHs, and CTs along with obedience, agility, herding, and tracking titles, group and specialty wins, Highs in Trial, and perfect 200 scores.

While judging 50 AKC shows a year, Redmer still finds time to mentor new obedience judges. Exhibitors in her ring find a judge with a welcoming smile and encouragement. “Kindness is never wasted,” Redmer likes to say.

Redmer is an honorary life member of the Ann Arbor Dog Training Club and the Ann Arbor Kennel Club. She has been American Belgian Tervuren Club president and AKC delegate.
The AKC Humane Fund has announced the winners of its 13th Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE). The awards honor dogs that have made significant contributions in the categories of Exemplary Companion Dog, Law Enforcement, Search and Rescue, Service, and Therapy.

ACE dogs and owners receive $1,000 and an engraved sterling-silver medallion to be presented at December’s AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in Orlando, Florida.

**Exemplary Companion**

**Joy** (Akita), owners Priscilla and Terry Sharpe, Klamath Falls, Oregon

The Sharpes had no idea their fluffy new Akita puppy would reveal a mysterious life-saving ability that modern science still can’t fully explain.

At 7 months old, Joy began reacting oddly to Terry. Terry visited a doctor and returned home with terrible news: advanced prostate cancer. Shortly after Terry underwent successful radiation treatment, Joy’s behavior returned to normal. Months later Joy again began alerting, this time on Priscilla. Priscilla went straight to the doctor, and yes, Joy had again alerted on an otherwise undetected cancer. The cancerous polyps on Priscilla’s colon were successfully removed.

**Law Enforcement**

**Kirby** (German Shepherd Dog), handler Detective Christine Kelliher, Bensalem Township (Pennsylvania) Police Department

Kirby, the “Narc with a Bark,” has spent the last six years assigned to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration’s task force in Philadelphia. Kelliher and Kirby are the frontline defense against huge quantities of illegal drugs entering the tri-state area of eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, and Delaware. These world-class drug-busters have rung up an astounding record: Kirby’s nose has led Kelliher to over $70,000,000 in drugs and drug-tainted cash.

**Search and Rescue**

**Keahi** (Belgian Tervuren), owner-handler Kristi Smith of Peoria, Arizona

Certified in air-scent, avalanche, cadaver, evidence, and human-remains searches, the in-demand Terv has answered the call in nine states and Canada. She and Smith conduct approximately 43 searches a year, logging between 91 and 126 work days—a strenuous pace for any search team. Smith and Keahi have found lost children and wandering seniors, led investigators to the bodies of murder victims and those who have drowned (including one find 170 feet under water), and recovered key evidence in criminal investigations.

**Service**

**Pilot** (Kuvasz), owner Ann Scott Arnold of Frankfort, Michigan

Ann Scott Arnold sustained neck and shoulder injuries that have rendered her incapable of lifting or carrying anything weighing much more than five pounds, and she suffers from chronic pain and dizziness. Pilot, one of the few known service dogs of his breed, enhances Arnold’s life by performing many tasks as her “mobility assistance dog.” He can carry a 15-pound load in his backpack. He pulls a shopping cart full of groceries and can drag a hundred pounds of gardening supplies on a plastic sled. He even pulls the laundry up the basement stairs in a duffel bag. And Pilot is a steady companion who can be leaned on, literally, when Arnold feels dizzy.

**Therapy**

**Benny** (Rottweiler), owner Kelly Skiptunas of Wrightsville, Pennsylvania

Skiptunas and Benny make regular therapy visits to hospitals and schools, and the READ-certified Benny is a great favorite of the children who participate in “read to a dog” programs at local libraries. Along the way he’s appeared at community-education events, appeared on public TV as a goodwill ambassador for his breed, and for his tireless service has won several awards. These include being twice honored by the American Rottweiler Club, the breed’s AKC parent club.

A remarkable record, to be sure, but even more remarkable considering Benny is five years removed from a debilitating battle with osteosarcoma and must wear a brace on his weakened leg.
China’s KC Eligible for AKC Registration, Events

The AKC has established full reciprocity with the National General Kennel Club (NGKC) in China. NGKC-registered dogs are now eligible for AKC registration and can compete in AKC events.

At the September meeting of the AKC board of directors, NGKC President Kevin Wang received official notice that his organization would join the roster of foreign registries with pedigrees accepted for AKC registration, a week before the September 15 National General Kennel Club National Dog Show in Beijing.

“Congratulations and best wishes to the NGKC on achieving American Kennel Club recognition,” AKC President Dennis Sprung said. “Your ongoing work for the well-being of dogs in China is appreciated. We thank NGKC for its continuing work to benefit dogs, breeders, exhibitors, judges, and owners.”

NGKC uses the AKC Global Services program to provide state-of-the-art registrations and show processing. Registration includes DNA proof of parentage and microchip identification of dogs exhibited at NGKC shows.

Owner-Handler News

ORLANDO, FLORIDA—The first AKC National Owner-Handler Series end-of-year competition will be held in conjunction with the 2013 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.

The competition will be open to the top owner-handled dogs from two qualifying periods. Dogs that finish ranked in the top 10 (plus ties) for their breed for the 2012 or 2013 qualifying years will be invited to compete in the competition.

The AKC created the AKC National Owner-Handler Series as a pilot program in January to celebrate the dedication and enthusiasm of owner-handler exhibitors. “We’re very pleased with the support the program has gotten since it was opened to every All-Breed club this spring,” AKC Director of Event Operations Bobby Birdsong says.

“Since the series has existed for less than a full year, we’ve scheduled the year-end event for December 2013 to allow exhibitors extra chances for competition and time to qualify.”

The qualifying period for the 2012 qualifying year is January 1, 2012, through October 10, 2012. The qualifying period for the 2013 qualifying year will be October 11, 2012, through October 9, 2013.

Rankings are compiled based on the AKC Owner-Handler Series point schedule for Best of Breed, Group, and Best in Show placements. The rankings are available at akc.org. Once the results from the 2012 qualifying year have been processed, the AKC will recognize the top 2012 dogs on a new web page.

Dog Ciao!

NEW YORK—Joining the New York area’s Italian-American community in their annual celebration of ethnic pride, AKC staff and club members marched with Italian dog breeds in the Columbus Day Parade on October 8. The Cane Corso, Cineco dell’Etna, Neapolitan Mastiff, and Spinone Italiano were among the breeds to make the march up Fifth Avenue.

A Raleigh Big Day

RALEIGH, N.C.—The AKC held its ninth annual AKC Responsible Dog Ownership (RDO) Day flagship event at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds on September 22. It was one of hundreds of AKC RDO Days held by AKC clubs and allied organization across the country during September. (See more on RDO Days in this issue’s “President’s Letter.”)

RDO Day was sponsored by Cosequin, Motel 6, The Hartford, and TimberTech.
We often refer to the early- to mid-20th century as the heyday of large-scale show kennels. Few fanciers took the phrase “large-scale” as literally as Great Britain’s Gordon Stewart. The fabulously wealthy automotive and aviation industrialist established the world’s largest Great Dane kennel at his sprawling Send Manor estate in Surrey, at its peak the home of 500 strapping specimens of the friendly giants.
Mrs. Forsyth on her years as a top professional handler: “I was always very aware of the dog’s quality. I said ‘Thank you, ma’am’ or ‘Thank you, sir’ to the judge, and sometimes I felt like saying, ‘Yes, I agree with you.’ I only got paid to show them well, I didn’t necessarily have to like them.”
Brittanys

AKC Titles

A KC titles appear in front of our dogs’ registered names as testament to their achievements in both the field and the show ring. At first glance, titles give us bragging rights and confirm that other people aside from ourselves believe our dogs are outstanding.

At second glance, however, titles serve a more important purpose than providing bragging rights. Titles create competition. As breeders and owners, we dream about winning and putting titles on our dogs. It is the competition for titles that moves our breed forward. It is the dream of winning that motivates us to work harder and challenges us to learn through doing. It is the reason we invest so much time and money in young dogs and trust feelings deep down in our guts. Many of these dogs fail, and often we find homes for those dogs that are unknown.

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As hard as it is to go through, this constant evaluating and weeding-out process makes our breed better.

Titles serve another important purpose. They are windows into a dog’s potential as a producer and help us make better breeding decisions. If we plan to breed a field trial litter, we look to sires who have earned the title of Field Champion or Amateur Field Champion because these dogs have proven themselves in the field. The competitive sport of field trialing began in 1874 to determine the best dogs for breeding. Dogs were judged on their natural abilities and pointing instinct. These traits are inherited, and while trainers can add polish, bird dogs are born and not made. In the show ring, dogs are judged on how well they meet the breed standard. If we plan to breed a show litter, we look at sires who have earned the title of Champion, since these qualities are also inherited. Dogs who do well at these high levels have additional qualities that make them successful, including intelligence, trainability, and good temperaments that go beyond what is typical of most household pets.

And if we decide to purchase a new pup, titles in his pedigree reveal a lot about the pup’s potential. If we are looking for a field trial prospect, we look for at least one parent with a Field Champion or Amateur Field Champion title in the pedigree. Show prospects should have at least one parent with a Champion title in their pedigrees. We have learned that winning dogs come from winning parents, and rarely from dogs that are unknown.

An old field-trialer once said, “Field trialing is an addiction cured only by death.” Those of us who are addicted to competitive dog sports know that it is the competition for titles that keeps us coming back. It is the belief that the next dog will be the great dog that brings home the coveted title and proves we knew what we were doing all along. And if the next dog does not make it, there will be another litter and...
another dog to pin our dreams on. Because titles create competition, we continue to dream—and as we dream, we improve our breed. —Martha Greenlee, greenlee@touchwa.net; American Brittany Club website: clubs.akc.org/brit/

Points

Our guest columnist this month is Pointer breeder Megan Johnston Lane.

A Class in Trouble: The Decline of the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class

As a breeder, it’s understood that winning from the Bred-by-Exhibitor class is a very prestigious win—or is it? Over time, not only has the prestige diminished, but also has the quality that was once seen in the class. The original purpose of the class was to allow breeders to showcase their very best breeding stock. It is also a class for breeders to show judges where the future of the breed is heading. However, in many breeds, the quality in the Bred-by-Exhibitor class is lacking.

I believe that the class should only showcase a breeder’s very best dogs. It is not a class that should be entered only to save a few dollars (many clubs offer a discount for Bred-by-Exhibitor). Instead, this is a class that allows breeders to show judges what they feel is an excellent specimen of the breed.

Unfortunately, not every dog bred deserves to be shown in this class. It is understandable that all breeders have to start somewhere. There may be times when a breeder produces a litter that doesn’t turn out a quality puppy. Part of being a responsible and reputable breeder is being able to recognize that not all dogs need to be sold to show homes and shown towards their championship. Not all dogs you breed and keep should be shown in the Bred-by-Exhibitor class, but it should always be a goal.

This is also a class that new and provisional judges often look at for guidance. They look to breeders for help in understanding a particular breed, and the easiest place to look is in the Bred-by-Exhibitor classes. If the quality of dogs is diminishing in this class, then over time the judges’ perceived vision of that breed is also diminishing.

I often hear people complain, “The newer judges are just not as good as the old ones.” Instead of solely blaming the judges, breeders need to take more responsibility for what they are presenting to judges as great dogs.

It is our job as breeders to be selective when choosing entries for the Bred-by-Exhibitor class. Not only do our choices affect us, but they also affect judges, fellow breeders, and other breed enthusiasts. —M.J.L.

Thank you, Megan, for this informative column. Please visit the American Pointer Club website at americpointerclub.org for information on our wonderful breed.

Your suggestions and comments are welcome. —Helyne E. Medeiros, seasydehm@aol.com; American Pointer Club website: americpointerclub.org

German Shorthaired Pointers

Senility Sets in Slowly ...

Until those tiny, razor-sharp puppy teeth bring you back to the real world. What were we thinking? The beguiling, wiggly bundle with big feet and soulful eyes should have come with a caution like the signal flag at the beach warning swimmers that a shark or sharks had been spotted. But no, it was the cute antics and soft pink tongue darting out to lick our hands and wash our faces that melted our hearts.

With only adult dogs, we had become complacent—they were trained, knew all of the commands, and had the routine down pat. We understood the breed and could explain in detail to someone else the ins and outs of owning a Shorthair puppy.

What we didn’t take into consideration was our age and lifestyle. Yes, we wanted to get a younger dog to take quail hunting. Yes, we (apparently) thought we were still in our thirties and possessing the quick reflexes and stamina required to work a pup into the household routine and the field.

Somewhere between what we thought and reality was the recurring question, When did we lose our minds and decide to get a 10-week-old pup?

Lying in wait like a barracuda in a reef, she made the 1,200-mile trek home like a perfect angel. She was good, really good—too good, with only a small noise to let us know when she needed to go to the bathroom or was hungry. She was quiet, very attentive, and quite willing to please—all attributes that make a good gundog. Like moths drawn to a flame, we each patted ourselves on the back that we had done really well with this one.

Once home, she settled into a routine, and as she explored her new surroundings she became more bold, not a bad attribute for a gundog. Then the reality set in about the “age difference”—not hers, but ours. We required more downtime to recharge our batteries. Reflexes that were once quick were now in a time warp. The synapse between our brain and our muscle-reflexes was all but nonexistent when matched with that of a 14-week-old puppy.

Then she found her voice, with a vocabulary to match, and she used it with relish at every opportunity. There was mouthing off like we haven’t heard since the early 1990s when we had teens living at home.

Did I mention her teeth? Ah yes, the senility again ... there is nothing in the house and yard that she has not had in her mouth or tested with her teeth. Well, that was before we put up expenses and baby gates—which she quickly scaled with ease. My husband recommended we use the taller ex-pen; in response I explained that would mean she just has farther to fall once she reaches the top.

With the two of us against the one of her, a balance has been struck as to the amount of exercise necessary to slow her down and the number of Band-
Breed Columns

Aids needed in the event of a reflex-timing miss. Currently she has more “strikes”—and we have considered buying stock in the band-aid market for the foreseeable future.

We’ve discussed that maybe we should consider getting another dog close to her age, but we decided we’re not that senile yet.—Patte Titus, chexsix@mac.com; German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America website: gspca.org

German Wirehaired Pointers

What If …

What if the dog world were a place where everyone shared their failures openly? If a breeder had something undesirable crop up in a litter—a birth defect, a health problem, a funky color or marking, or something else unusual—they would let all of the other breeders know. Then everyone involved in the breed could look at what was produced and try to determine why it showed up in this particular litter, and they could work on how to avoid having something like this crop up again. What if we knew, for example, that the particular problem crops up when descendents from dog “A” are bred to dogs from line “B,” but not when bred to dogs from line “C”? If such information was shared openly, breeders could work collaboratively to address incidence of certain health conditions, color problems, and other serious issues.

Sadly, in the dog world the exact opposite tends to be true. When a breeder has something funky, unusual, or detrimental occur in a litter, often instead of sharing the information they hide it. They may tell their closest friends, their mentor, or others they trust, but the majority of other breeders will never hear of it, except maybe as a rumor later when the issue pops up again in a different breeder’s litter. At that time someone will say, “I think this happened in so-and-so’s litter.” But no one will know for sure. And because breeders aren’t aware of the issue, they may do breedings that repeat the bad “nick.” This continues until the problem becomes widespread and a majority of breeders have the problem occurring in their litters. Only then do enough people come forward and openly share information to try and “fix” the problem.

Why aren’t we open about things in the beginning? Why hide something just because it isn’t common? Sadly, the reason is because the breeder who is open and honest about their problem won’t be thanked for their honesty. Instead they will be attacked and criticized for their “mistake”—and they will be blamed, as though they somehow knew that this problem would occur and knowingly and deliberately produced the problem! Other breeders will sit back with 20–20 vision and rant and rave about how irresponsible it was to do the breeding. Some might even say it is the breeder’s own fault that they are being attacked, because they should have hidden the problem and not been honest about it. What?

I know breeders who had had serious health problems occur with a breeding and who were honest and up-front about the issue, and I admire them for their bravery. It takes considerable courage to come forward with an unusual problem knowing that you may be blamed and attacked, and more than likely you and your dogs will become outcasts from the breed. But, I honestly can’t blame those who hide such information. After witnessing firsthand how nasty some breeders can be when something unusual occurs in a litter, I wouldn’t blame anyone for not being open. In such an environment, breeders will never be able to manage hereditary issues that occur in the breed, and the problem will become so common that a majority of the breeders have it in their lines. And that is the real problem!

This is my last GWP breed column. I have really enjoyed the experience, but it is time for someone with fresh new ideas and a different perspective.—Jodi Quesnell; ikewregwp@ymail.com; German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America: gwpca.com

Curly-Coated Retrievers

Field Fun

Recently there was a field training and testing event held in Tennessee for our Curly-Coated Retrievers. Sarah Shull was in charge of these four full days of activities that took place at Bear Country Retriever training grounds and were hosted by Sherie, Clint, and Billy Catledge. This event was very significant to me, as I realized how far we have come in the past 30 years regarding fieldwork for Curleys.

When I acquired my first Curly in the late 1970s, there was probably only a handful of Curleys in the United States who actually hunted. Entries in field events at that time were unheard of. Of course, now there are far more field activities for the dogs to enter but, also, there are quite a few more Curleys who take part in them. I recall that at one of our working certificate tests at our national specialty in the 1980s, there were four Curleys entered. Compare that to the many now entered. Also, the Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America has added an upland working certificate, allowing Curleys to participate in an activity at which they excel.

Over the four days there were sessions for beginners and pups; activities for more experienced dogs; a practice mock WC/X/Q testing situation, on both land and water; and a full day of the three levels of actual working certificate tests that our CCRCA offers. Problems were addressed and solved, all accomplished in a very positive way.

One of the most interesting setups took place the second day. A “boogie man” course had been set up by Sarah to acquaint any dogs who were starting the hunt-test routine with rather scary situations they might encounter. All dogs could walk through this, and it was a wonderful idea, I thought. So often, I have seen some dogs in testing situations that have not encountered decoys before—some are large and moving and scare the dogs. Also, on
winds, the holding blind may have flapping material, and dogs need to be used to that. Sarah thought of many potential frightening situations, and they were all experienced by the dogs participating.

Over the four days, Sarah states that there was some great progression by all the dogs and handlers. Thirty-four Curles, eight Flat-Coated Retrievers, three Labradors, and one German Shorthaired Pointer worked in different activities and thoroughly enjoyed it all.

—Ann Shinkle, annshinkle@aol.com; Curly Coated Retriever Club of America website: cccra.org

**Flat-Coated Retrievers**

Re-homing the Adult Flat-Coat PART TWO

When arriving at the new home, the rescue Flat-Coat should first be taken out into the backyard and encouraged to relieve himself in a preferred area. Flat-Coats are very clean dogs, but they can become confused in a strange household, especially when upset and excited.

Next, take the Flat-Coat for a walk through the house on a leash. Let him investigate, but also let him know what the house rules are. Keep him closely supervised and in the same room you are in unless confining him to a crate or another room—and then stay close by at first to be sure he is not upset by the separation.

The dog’s diet should not be changed for at least two weeks, and the schedule for meals and exercise should remain as close as possible to what the dog was familiar with in the former household.

Introduce the Flat-Coat to other family dogs in a neutral area, one at a time, then in a large, fenced area—again, one at a time. Even social dogs have to work out dominance issues, and family dogs can be possessive of resources as well as of favorite family members. (Expect to have to supervise the behavior and relationships of the new dog for at least three months. A new dog can begin with the submission of a “visitor” and by three months want to assert dominance.)

Always leave the dog calmly and pleasantly, with a radio playing, soft lighting, bedding, water, toys, and a treat. Always return to him calmly and pleasantly by going to him and putting the collar and lead on before taking him out of a confined area. This calm return, preferably by one adult alone, helps to prevent separation anxiety.

If the dog becomes very upset at being confined, be sure you are confining in the same way the former owners did. If you have no information about this, experiment to see what he might be used to. A foster home should realize, however, that leaving the dog in the company of other dogs does not prepare him for being left alone.

The Flat-Coat should not be left outdoors unsupervised for the first month. They have a strong homing instinct, and if a Flat-Coat left alone can get out of a yard during the first month, he or she will attempt to return to the former home, regardless of distance. Flat-Coats are very agile and usually require a five- or six-foot fence if they are eventually left outside alone. They are also very intelligent and curious and can find other ways out of a yard if they have the time to investigate.

If there are children in the household, they should be supervised with the new dog for the first three months unless they are teenagers, assuming the role of primary caretaker. Children under 8 years of age should be supervised even longer. This is to be sure that rules for both the pet and the children are being followed. —Sally Terroux, sjterroux@aol.com; Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America website: fcsrains.org

**Labrador Retrievers**

Labs and Kids, Part Three: It’s Great to Be Eight

Children are generally recognized to be capable of a more mature relationship once they reach the age of about 8 years. Eight-year-olds are allowed to participate with their dogs in 4-H events. At 9 years, children are eligible for the AKC’s Junior Showmanship program. The ASPCA recognizes that kids from the age of 9 and up are good candidates for attending obedience classes with their dog, as well as potentially being ready for competition in different venues.

This age milestone is generally the result of emotional and physical growth that makes children in this age group more effective as trainers and more reliable as caretakers than younger children. The ASPCA proposes specifically that children around 8 years old are more capable of understanding thoughts and feelings from the dog’s perspective. This age group also behaves in a more predictable way that is not as likely to make dogs uneasy. They are also generally large enough to have an “adult like” presence, if not the physical strength to control a large animal.

While many training organizations are reluctant to include children in their classes, it has been my experience that children at this age are often better students than adults. They are used to learning in school and aren’t as likely as adults to have to “unlearn” old habits. When young people are motivated, they are capable of applying themselves and improving their training techniques. Adults who can’t focus on their dogs long enough to be effective trainers rarely improve.

Family dogs who might have been accustomed to tolerating the child as a peer may need to undergo a reset of their perspective as the child asserts leadership through training. In our household it has been interesting to watch the “old salts” tutor my daughter (age 9) in her role as handler in classic obedience, agility, and fieldwork. They clearly find her much more interesting now that she has a more active place in their lives. The young dogs, which have never known her as anything but a leader, are even more receptive and are keenly interested in what she wants to teach them. These observations have reinforced for me the motivation so
many families have to start with a puppy, especially once the children in the family reach the magical age of 8.

The recognized benefits of raising children with pets continue to grow. Pet ownership is attributed to enhancing everything from allergen tolerance to making kids smarter. In my opinion, the largest benefit comes from the opportunity to practice nurturing skills. Social individuals naturally want to reciprocate when they are nurtured. A child might not be able to care the adults in their lives much, but the family Labrador will always soak up any kindness it is offered.

With their high desire to please, low aggression, and tolerant attitude, Labrador Retrievers continue to be the favored dog for families with children. A survey conducted by Petplace.com asked 450 owners of Labrador Retrievers if they felt the Labrador was a good breed for families with children. Ninety-nine percent of the respondents agreed—the highest percentage of endorsement of any of the other breeds surveyed.

While Labrador Retrievers might be good for kids, it is important to remember that children are good for Labradors, too. Clubs should make support for junior participation a priority. The most progressive clubs will seek to recruit the next generation of fanciers from beyond those affiliated through their parents. Fresh hobbyists could be nurtured through support of 4-H or scout programs, local trainers, or obedience clubs. Outreach and making experts available for demonstrations, consultation, or judging are ways to encourage new members and build long-term support for the breed we love. —Lee Foote; Labrador Retriever Club website: thelabradorclub.com

**Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers**

Size Matters

The Toller is the smallest of the six retriever breeds. Regarding size, the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) breed standard says the following:

**Size:** Height at the withers—males, 18–21 inches. The ideal is 19 inches. Females should be 17–20 inches. The ideal is 18 inches. Bone is medium. Weight is in proportion to height and bone of the dog. The dog’s length should be slightly longer than height, in a ratio of 10 to 9, but should not give the impression of a long back.

There is room for some variation here, but a Toller should not be as big as his retriever brethren, nor should he be too small. Males generally are more substantial than females, but there are a variety of sizes within the standard for both males and females.

Sometimes a dog’s coat can give a false impression of size. Recently, at a Toller gathering a “wet dog” conformation fun match was held after a field test. This match, while informal, provided a good opportunity for people to see the structure under the coat. Some Tollers appear to be larger than they really are because they carry substantial coat, and some appear smaller because they don’t carry as much coat as others.

The ideal height for the Toller is 19 inches for males and 18 inches for females, but in reality there is a three-inch range of acceptable size listed in the standard, and this means judges can see a variety of sizes in the ring—all representative of the standard. Size should be considered as a part of the overall package. It should be taken into consideration along with gait, coat, structure, and so on.

If you really take a look at the Toller standard, a theme that stands out is moderation.

Following are some passages from the standard that demonstrate this:

“This medium sized, powerful, compact, balanced dog”. “Bone is medium”; “The stop is moderate”; “neck is strongly muscled and well set on, of medium length”; and “a water-repellent double coat of medium length.”

Moderation is mentioned over and over. This means that Tollers should not be too big, nor should they be too small—they should be somewhere in the middle, moderate, not overly one thing or another.—Phyllis L. McDonald, tollerphyllis@comcast.net; Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) website: nsdtrc-usa.org

### English Setters

This month we have a delightful guest column from Cynthia Hinkley, founder and president of Bright Spot Therapy Dogs, Inc. Over the past 20 years, five of Cynthia’s English Setters have been certified as therapy dogs, and together they have made over 30,000 visits in assisted living facilities, hospitals, psychiatric units, Alzheimer’s units, hospices, and elementary schools. Cynthia explains why English Setters are the perfect breed to serve as therapy dogs.

#### Doing What Comes Naturally: English Setters as Therapy Dogs

All dogs are wonderful, but not all dogs make good therapy dogs. A good therapy dog starts with the right temperament—without it, go no further. A therapy dog must feel at ease interacting with all types of people, in a variety of settings.

Clearly, some breeds were bred to be reserved with strangers or to protect their person, their home, or territory and may not be forthcoming with others. This most certainly is not the case with English Setters. As a breed, they are extremely adaptable, both to new people and new environments.

Most of my English came to me as older dogs, having spent time on the show circuit with their breeders. They immediately shifted gears to life here with us on the farm and breezed through their evaluations to become certified therapy dogs.

In 1992, when our family got our first English Setter, I saw immediately something extra special in her. In the words of the English Setter standard, she was gentle, affectionate, and friendly, without shyness, fear, or viciousness. This was a dog—and ultimately the breed—that I would spend my future with.
making visits as certified therapy dogs, bringing comfort and companionship to humans in both healthcare and educational settings.

Not only do these dogs possess a sweet, soft, soulful personality, but they can also be super friendly—almost clownish—making them suitable for work with patients in healthcare settings and with children in educational programs.

The first thing about an English Setter that catches a person’s eye is their striking physical appearance. Young and old alike are in awe of the breed’s beautiful silky fur and spotted coat. This promotes all manner of conversation, a hallmark of therapy-dog visiting.

The breed’s mid-size stature is helpful in promoting movement among rehab and wheelchair bound patients. Standing beside a seated patient, an English Setter is just the right height for the patient to move his hand along the full length of the dog—head to ears, along the back, and right down to the feathered tail.

The English Setter is light enough to lie on a patient’s bed. My male, who weighs 64 pounds, appears weightless as he lifts himself up on the bed of a hospice patient and lies full-length alongside the patient’s body—his head placed gently on her chest.

English Setters possess a patience unlike any I have witnessed in other breeds. They are perfectly calm and relaxed as they soothe and comfort those in need.

A good therapy dog enjoys his work. The English Setter constantly offers companionship and caring to his owner on the home front and is equally content in doing the same with others. —C.H.

Thanks to Cynthia for a great insight into English Setters and how they are so good at bringing comfort and joy to us humans. Cynthia welcomes your questions about therapy dog training, certification, and visiting opportunities. She can be reached at hinkleycj@gmail.com. —Jill Warren, Esthete.es@comcast.net; English Setter Association of America website: esaa.com

Gordon Setters
A Breeder’s Concern: Herpes Virus

This is the second in our series on breeding and whelping, based on interviews with and information drawn from articles provided by Autumn Davidson, DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVIM, VMTH SAC, of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis.

We hear about herpes adversely affecting breeding and puppy viability. What is herpes, and how does it present breeding problems?

Herpes is a virus. There is no antibiotic treatment for it, but antiviral therapy can be tried. Bitches without prior exposure lack antibodies and are at the greatest risk for acquiring herpes during late pregnancy and passing it along to puppies. If a bitch is exposed during the last three weeks of pregnancy, she can either abort the litter or give birth to infected puppies that die in the first weeks of life; the dam’s immune system did not have time to make antibodies to the virus. Puppies cannot get immune protection from colostrum or across the placenta in time to protect them.

How is the herpes virus transmitted?

Respiratory and/or genital secretions are means of transmission. If a dog actively shedding the virus touches noses with the bitch or sneezes, the virus can be transmitted in the vapor. Herpes can also be carried briefly on clothing or other inanimate objects that can infect the bitch when she sniffs them. Adult dogs will usually not manifest any outward signs of illness. Upper respiratory signs like sneezing have been reported. Puppies are exposed as they pass down the birth canal. They can also be exposed through birthing fluids and/or respiratory secretions from the dam.

How does a breeder know when a puppy is affected?

Signs to watch for in puppies include anorexia, poor weight gain, trouble breathing, abdominal pain, coordination that is lacking, diarrhea, serous or hemorrhagic nasal discharge, and red spots on the gums. Puppies usually die from the disease quickly—within days of birth or exposure. If a necropsy is performed, characteristic red spots on the kidneys may be present, but this can occur with other diseases as well. Microscopic histopathology, virus isolation, or PCR testing is necessary to confirm the presence of herpes.

Because herpes can cause neonatal puppy death or failure to thrive, it is sometimes called “fading puppy syndrome.” Once herpes was confirmed, often mortality among littermates was 100 percent, making this a devastating problem for breeders and pet owners as well as veterinarians.

Is there any treatment that can be tried?

Some experimental treatments have been successful, such as giving oral antiviral medications (such as acyclovir). Aggressive supportive care is necessary to help puppies with the virus. Keeping them dry and warm (body temperature above 100 degrees), in a clean environment, properly fed, and free of environmental stresses enhances survival rates. But even these heroic measures can fail.

Prevention of the disease in unexposed pregnant bitches is difficult. The bitch must be isolated for three weeks prior to whelping and three weeks post-whelp to ensure the virus does not infect neonates in this critical periparturient period.

It is best to test a bitch by a simple blood test for the presence of herpes antibodies before she is bred. Most bitches who have been to dog events have been exposed so are immune (have antibodies). Post infection, bitches are immune and should not have problems with subsequent litters. A vaccine may be available in Europe but not in the U.S.; it is pending FDA clearances and is not advised.

Keeping the unexposed bitch away from other dogs during late pregnancy and the first three weeks post-whelping and eliminating stresses for the puppies are the best ways to minimize
BREED COLUMNS

Sporting

Irish Red and White Setters

Happy 15th Birthday, IRWSA! 1997–2012

Happy Birthday to The Irish Red and White Setter Association of America. You’ve come a long way, baby! During the last 15 years the club’s membership has grown, and many of the newer members do not know much about its beginning, so I thought this was a good opportunity for some interesting history, with a little trip down memory lane.

First, I’d like to introduce you to the club’s founding members, five couples from across the country with a dream, passion, and a single goal—to obtain AKC recognition for the IRWS: R.J. and Patsy Wallace-Jones, from Brea, California; Ed and Nelva King, from Princeton, Missouri; Ray and Pat Lathrop, from Northridge, California; Charles and Lynn Petterson, from Omaha, Nebraska; and I and my late husband, Wayne Robinson, from Mason, New Hampshire.

In the beginning the Jones’s and the Lathrop’s primary breed was Dalmatians. They co-owned two imported IRWS, Ardbraccan Enigma and Sureayne Genesis. The Kings owned import Meudon Classic and Prince’s Chimacra. The Pettersons had Gordon Setters and one IRWS, Char Lar’s Gilhooey. We had Irish Setters and import Elaphill Freesia.

During the second quarter of 1997, known fanciers of the breed were invited to become charter members, and this was followed by a membership drive. Charter members were Robert and Marilyn Brachak; Douglas Gilmore, Jr.; Eibhlin Glennon; Anna Jones; Sharon Pickell; and Mitchell Roslin.

The founding members drew up several documents, first being the by-laws and constitution, than a breed standard, code of ethics, standing rules and regulations, and a set of short- and long-term goals, to be followed by incorporation.

All business was done by e-mail, which to say was a challenge in itself. We started a website, and the first newsletter was published in the spring of 1997. In July of 1997, Alan and Ann Gormely were invited to be Honorary Members.

Needless to say, the groundwork had been laid, and the road to a long and at times difficult journey had begun. In 2005 the Association became the breed’s AKC national parent club, and full AKC recognition for the breed was obtained in 2009.

During the first few years so much was accomplished that it would be impossible to include all of it in this column. In 2002 and 2007 the Association published two Pictorials that include a wealth of information on the growth and accomplishment of the IRWS Association of America, Inc., along with many photos and pedigrees of past IRWS. If you are interested in purchasing one or both, contact Kathy Pellerito at kpirwsa@msn.com or 732-920-9079.

We know what has been accomplished in the past, but as we move forward into the future, it is vital for the present leadership and members to always remember that as a parent club our job is to be the guardian of the IRWS by ensuring that the breed remains pure, and sound in mind and body, and to keep members and breed fanciers informed as to any threats that could be detrimental to the breed, whatever they may be. One last thing: Always remember that the IRWS is first and foremost a hunting dog!

As we celebrate this special event, my wish is for continued growth and success for the Association and our wonderful breed. —Lee Robinson, robilee6@myfairpoint.net; Irish Red and White Setter Association website: irishredwhitesetterassociation.com

Boykin Spaniels

Boykin Spaniel History (conclusion)

During the early 1940s, when most able-bodied young men were at war and bullets were manufactured for the war effort and not for sportsmen, the Boykin Spaniel population began to dwindle, with most breeding being done by the Boykin family for their own use as hunting dogs.

In the 1960s some scattered articles appeared in magazines and the 1956 edition of Davis’s Modern Dog Encyclopedia described the Boykin as a “great retriever.” The Boykin was also described in the 1964 edition of Griffen’s The Hunting Dogs of America. Despite these scattered appearances, the Boykin was virtually unknown to the general public.

Then, in 1974, a young freelance writer in South Carolina named Mike Creel became fascinated with the little spaniel, and an article authored by him appeared in the September–October issue of South Carolina Wildlife magazine, with a photo of a Boykin on the cover.

In his article, Creel pointed out the fact that there was no organized group advocating for the breed and basically no accurate records being kept by breeders, and there was no standard by which to breed. However, publication of the article also brought about such a demand for the Boykin that it was obvious something had to be done to save the breed.

Spearheading a concerned group that included many of Whit Boykin’s descendants was the veterinarian Dr. Peter McKoy. Where earlier attempts to organize a group had failed, in McKoy they had an expert in the field...
of animal genetics, and his pleas to save the Boykin finally resulted in the formation of The Boykin Spaniel Society—and from there the development of a registry to keep track of the breed.

Once a breed standard was established, the registration of “foundation stock” began, and when it closed on August 1, 1980, there were 667 Boykins registered. (Creeel and Kelley: South Carolina’s Dog: The Boykin Spaniel, revised edition.)

In 1982, the Carolina Boykin Spaniel Retriever Club formed, encouraging Boykin owners to participate in sanctioned field tests of the National Hunting Retriever Club, an affiliate of the UKC, thereby training and testing the Boykin Spaniel’s natural instincts and hunting abilities.

In the early 1990s, The Boykin Spaniel Club and Breeder’s Association of America was formed; in 2005 it was named the parent club for the Boykin. The BSCBA received approval to enter the Boykin into the AKC’s Foundation Stock Service in 1997.

In January 2008, the Boykin was admitted to the Miscellaneous class, and on December 30, 2010, the breed received full acceptance by the AKC to compete in all eligible events. In February 2011, 16 Boykin Spaniels competed for the first time at the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club dog show in New York City.

A short history, but one that I hope has increased awareness of the origins of this amazing little brown dog (we call them our “LBDs”). The Boykin is a most versatile breed, whether stealing the show on the hunt or stealing your heart in the home. —Carole Thomas, carolesboykins@gmail.com; Boykin Spaniel Club and Breeders Association of America website: theboykinspanielclub.com

**Clumber Spaniels**

For the Neophyte Judge

First of all, in almost all the literature the Clumber is described as a “head breed.” In the head resides that noble, aristocratic expression making our breed so distinctive.

In the old days when our standard assigned points for each part, the head accounted for 20 out of 100 points, equal only by the body—or even some times head 20 points, body 15!

A very tight lower eye-rim is not desirable, and a black nose is unthinkable and indicative that the dog is not purebred. Pendulous eyebrows are one of the glories of the Clumber, especially the male, and snappiness of the muzzle is certainly undesirable. To be penalized are an insignificant stop, a short body, flat ribs, and a gay tail, as well as an exhibit high on leg.

The old hunting manuals explain that a Clumber with long legs is apt to head off too quickly and flush his game out of shot. Thus our traditional ideal silhouette is of a long, low dog (but in no way of Basset proportions!). Some of the old descriptions even go so far as to preach “little or no daylight under the dog”—complete nonsense! Straight stifles are a common problem, and judges should make Clumber people more aware of this.

Many of the early standards penalize evident dewlap. Why, no one seems to know, since this has always been a characteristic of the breed. It appears the only reason is that in later editions of Stonehenge’s famous book Dogs of the British Isles (first published in 1867), the illustration used was (incredibly) that of a distinctly very settery so-called Clumber named Bruce. The breed’s present standard (2001) very clearly states “presence of dewlap not to be faulted.”

The topline is of course to be level, but to this should be added a slight rise over the croup. Lemon markings about the head and ears were long much preferred, and some well-known writers even called for Clumbers with orange markings to be disqualified. The basis for this ridiculous “color prejudice” was never explained. Today some of our most illustrious winners have orange or even mahogany markings. Naturally, the fewer (if any) markings on the body proper, the better. The Clumber has always been a white breed. How many times have I appreciated this when out in the field and darkness descends—my Clumbers are so easily visible against the green.

As for gaiting, wouldn’t it be wonderful if more judges had the courage to throw out of their ring a handler stringing up a dog whose forelegs barely touched the ground?

If in the present standard the description of the undocked tail appears vague, there is a reason for this. I was one of the committee of five to update the standard in 2000. At that time, especially, there were undocked Swedish imports coming into the United States. We all agreed it would be unfair to penalize these dogs in any way. The problem, however, was that all five of us, longtime Clumber people, had no experience with the undocked tail. Naturally we obtained photos, but to little avail. Now you know.

After well over 40 years in the breed, if I had to describe briefly my ideal Clumber, it would be one that tends not too much to the English Setter type, nor to the Saint Bernard type, but somewhere in between—in other words, all Clumber.

In conclusion, a highly respected judge began our national-specialty after-dinner talk with the following quote:

“There are only two professions where one can be wrong half the time and still get paid: weather forecasters, and dog-show judges.”

Reminder: “I care not for a man’s religion whose dog and cat are not the better for it.” —Abraham Lincoln

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D., bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com; Clumber Spaniel Club of America website: clumbers.org

**Cocker Spaniels**

Angel on My Shoulder

Legendary, irreplaceable Cocker Spaniel breeder Alice F. Swiderski passed away on June 6 of this year. Alice’s Rexpointe line of parti-color
Cockers, founded in the mid-1950s, continues to have worldwide importance.

With a background in showing horses, Alice moved into show dogs when she and her husband, the late Edward Swiderski, purchased a kennel in Troy, Michigan. Alice went her own direction, as she always did, ardently studying cattle genetics; developing theories for producing consistent quality in parti-color Cockers. She knew what she liked, and she believed, “You can’t get there if you don’t know where you’re going.”

The black and white Ch. Maribeau’s My Lil’ Dutch Treat was her foundation, which gave rise to the “Dutch” names that graced many of the notable dogs, such as Ch. Rexpointe Frostee Dutchman, Ch. Rexpointe Flying Dutchman, Ch. Rexpointe Dutchmaster, and a special girl, Ch. Rexpointe Dutch Kiss. A foundation male was Ch. Rexpointe Captain Holiday. Other keystones were the top-producing females Noel and Rachael.

Alice’s keen observation and testing of breeding theories established a line that could be recognized in show rings on sight, without reference to a catalog. Throughout the 50 years I was so privileged to know Alice (having acquired my first champion Cocker from her as a 6-month-old puppy, in 1962, the red and white Ch. Rexpointe Holiday Flair), she was long on wisdom and practicality, and generous in sharing her observations and explaining her theories and standards. Unconcerned with short-term winning, Alice instead focused on consistently producing quality that could be relied upon to produce quality into the next generations. She was serious in her approach. No fan of cliques in dogs, Alice would use a dog she needed, no matter who owned him.

For anyone who appreciated Cocker Spaniels, visiting Alice’s place was like being in heaven on earth; all you wanted to do was absorb the atmosphere and do your best to remember all you saw and all she said.

Alice was ahead of her time in embracing genetic studies and evaluating what was produced in her “line.” She knew (and provided examples) that sometimes dogs in a family exhibited the same behaviors and that these behaviors could not have been learned; she understood the power of inheritance.

Yet she respected Mother Nature, saying that it is difficult to outguess her. You can study and plan; even so, the end result may prove better than you expected or be a disappointment. Alice did test breedings of her breeding stock early on, in order to discover factors she needed to know if she was going to continue with those dogs in her program. She was uncompromising in her views and values, dedicated to her chosen pursuit. She prepared newcomers for the harsh realities of the hobby. She said that if you could not survive walking into the kennel one morning and finding one of your best dogs dead, you should not be in the hobby.

If a move in your breeding program was not productive, then regroup and try something else. Alice liked as much certainty in outcomes as she could get. She told me the biggest challenge in her program was finding an outcross dog to use; either the dog was not up to her standards but the pedigree was acceptable, or the dog was beautiful but had questionable animals in its pedigree. Once you found and used the outcrossed dog, you needed the passage of time to evaluate any negative characteristics you inadvertently added by employing the outcross.

Always in touch with Alice and her program, I would ask her with excitement when I learned she was about to breed one of her top producing females, “Alice who are you going to breed her to?”

I knew she intently studied and planned a breeding, but Alice, with a smile and acknowledging the power of chance and the unknown, always replied, “Whoever the little angel on my shoulder tells me to.” —Kristi L. Tukua; American Spaniel Club website: asc-cockerspaniel.org

English Cocker Spaniels
The Multitasking English Cocker

A current buzzword in the human world is multitasking, meaning literally to perform multiple tasks at one time. Although a relatively new concept with regard to people, our English Cockers have been multitasking throughout their history, as pets, sporting dogs, and show dogs. Today there are even more venues available for our dogs—conformation, multiple performance events and levels, and working trials are just a few.

Several ECS breeders and owners were invited to share their thoughts on pursuing multiple venues for the benefit of those who want to expand their horizons. The dogs of these breeders and owners have earned so many titles that listing them here would exceed the space allotment for the entire article, but they include Best in Specialty wins, national-specialty Best in Sweepstakes wins, MACH, GCh., CDs, OAPs, SHD’s, HITs, and much more.

So why pursue various titles with the same dog? Laura Davidson does so in order to continue working and enjoying her dogs, saying, “Their show careers are such short parts of their lives, and I like to keep them busy and active.”

Gaylen Boutet agrees: “I love to show the versatility of our wonderful breed. With a really nice dog, a championship comes relatively easily, and the dog has a lot of years left—what better way to spend time together than learning a new skill?”

Amy Kluth of Carefree ECS, breeder of the first third-generation MACH English Cockers, believes, “There is no greater satisfaction in my opinion than a dog who has titles on both ends of her name. We have a beautiful and talented breed. My goal as a breeder is to show that ECS can have beauty, brains, and bird sense!”

How do you choose that future multitasking puppy? After learning how
English Springer Spaniels

Your Holiday Shopping—Everything You Need to Start Now

Do you love everything about surprising your Springer friends with memorable gifts? Or does the ordeal of holiday-gift searching make you want to say bad things about the commercialism of the holidays? Perhaps you like shopping but always end up feeling guilty when you overspend the holiday budget?

Gather your laptop or iPad. Assemble your credit and debit cards with the highest available limits. Call all your dogs and take them outside for a pre-shopping-marathon wee- wee in order to give yourself an hour or two of uninterrupted shopping time. Settle into your most comfortable chair and ask yourself, What do Springer friends want?

We all know the best gift must have a Springer on it. Breed obsession is key. Most of us will squeal with delight over any shirt, dish, figurine, rug, or jewelry item—and only if—it has a likeness of a Springer somewhere on it.

Therefore, our overriding challenge is to find gifts adorned with Springers. Our secondary goal is to stay within our budget and to not feel overwhelmed with remorse for spending more than our budget can support.

Shopper’s guilt can be avoided completely if you do your shopping at Springer rescue sites. Visit the following rescue stores, marketplaces, and boutiques, and you will be delighted and amazed.

• English Springer Spaniel Breeders’ Affiliated Re-homing Collaborative essbarc.org/barcshopping.html

Springer gift recipients will never forget the day you give them a dazzling stained glass window hanging created with your choice of a lovely black or liver Springer head study.

• English Springer Spaniel Club of America website: ecsa.org

Artist, breeder, handler, and great friend of rescue Rob Sataloe has created an endearingly whimsical T-shirt design with a Springer holding a sign that says, “Give what you can, when you can, as often as you can!” ESRA’s store also sells a unique and hypnotic metal art spinning sphere with a standing Springer at its center. This unusual gift will be a wonderful surprise for holiday gift recipients.

• New England English Springer Spaniel Rescue essrescue.org/store.php

You must not miss NEESSR’s appealing garden flags. I will admit to ordering two; one of an adorable Springer pup wearing a flower- covered hat, and one with an hilarious and apt Springer-themed rendering of the iconic painting American Gothic. NEESSR’s unique gifts also include original Springer art note cards, holiday greeting cards, and a touching “Rainbow Bridge” sympathy card featuring Springers.

• Mid-Atlantic English Springer Spaniel Rescue maessr.org/marketplace/index.php

With more than 250 items for sale, MAESSR Marketplace’s Victoria Phillips has stocked the store with Springer earrings, pins, pendants, clothing, toys, and anything you can want for a Springer lover. Unusual items like cocktail and martini glasses, gorgeous tote bags, and fine-art prints make gift shopping easy. Holiday-themed gifts include festive sparkling Christmas-tree earrings with gold standing Springer charms, hand-carved and -painted Springer tree ornaments, door signs, and greeting cards.

• English Springer Rescue America, Inc. springerrescue.org/shop/index.html

ESRA’s distinctive and beautiful head-study logo is offered on many clothing items, from T-shirts to fine cotton embroidered polo shirts.

• Also, our ESSFTA store has three...
**Field Spaniels**

**And the Winners Are …**

At the Field Spaniel Society of America 2012 national specialty in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, we announced our 2011 award winners. Congratulations, one and all!

Top Breeder (all titles): Peter Archer, with 30 titles (co-bred 11 titles with Kay Klein, and four titles with Kay Klein and Meg Colwill).

Top Breeder (champions): Linda Blaser and Gerald Mitzenheim, with seven champions.

Top Sire (all titles): 12 titles and (champions)—seven champions, Ch. Nautica’s Crimson Tide, RN, owner Danielle Brewer.

Top Dam (all titles): 12 titles (two-way tie), Ch. Winfarthing’s Morgana and Ch. Capriole’s Believe It or Not, both owned by Peter Archer.

Top Dam (champions): four champions, Ch. Winfarthing’s Morgana.

Top Obedience Dog: Ch. Blackbriar’s Absolutely Fabulous, CD, RE, owner Carla Bunkelman.

Top Showdog (group and breed): GCh. Tamarack’s Race You to Calico (bitch), owners Sue Thornhill and Becki Herschy.

Top Junior Showmanship: Rachel Ertle. (Rachel was also ranked Top Junior all-breed for 2011.)

Top Agility Dog: Ch./MACH Calico’s Undercover Agent, RN, AXP, AJP, NF, owner Daphne Stover.

Hall of Fame inductees for 2011: Calico’s Flying High, VCD2, UD, AXJ, AXJ, owner Margo Milde; and GCh. Winfarthing Pride & Prejudice, RN, SH, WD, owners Sonya Haskell, Jeff Zachow, and Grace Kofron.

From the “better late than never” department, since our specialty was held in May this year, we were unable to share the winners with Gazette readers sooner. Since everyone likes to see their dog’s name in print, especially where significant wins are concerned, please bear with me!

- Best Puppy in Sweeps: Calico’s Gambler’s Risk
- Best of Opposite Sex Puppy in Sweeps: Sandscape Pardon Me Boys
- Best in Veteran Sweeps: GCh. Winfarthing Pride & Prejudice SH, RN, WD
- Best of Opposite Sex in Veteran Sweeps: Ch. Kaleidoscope’s Rising Sun
- Winners Dog/Best Puppy: Calico’s Gambler’s Risk
- Reserve Winners Dog/Best 12–18 Months: Game Creeks Harrington & Richardson
- Winners Bitch/Best of Winners/Best Bred-by: Sandscape Pardon Me Boys
- Reserve Winners Bitch: Winfarthing’s Marquise
- Best of Breed/Best Veteran: Ch. Capriole’s Normandy Commander, CD, RA
- Best of Opposite Sex: GCh. Nautica’s Game On, RN
- Select: Ch. Nautica’s Ladies Knight, RA, and Ch. Capriole’s Imogen, MX, MXJ (from the Veterans class)

**Irish Water Spaniels**

Today’s Versatile IWS

In 1990, the IWSCA had just a few ways to recognize versatility in Irish Water Spaniels. At the time, the number of different venues that an IWS could title in was limited to conformation, obedience, tracking, and field. Field included AKC Retriever Field Trials and AKC Retriever Hunt Tests, so that made only five venues for the breed to title in.

The club’s Board of Directors at the time thought it was important to strive for honoring IWS who could meet the breed’s conformation standard, demonstrate trainability by achieving an obedience title, and show that the dog pos-
sessed the needed understanding to do what it was bred to do: find and retrieve birds.

So, early in the 1990s, the IWSCA board approved a parent-club award called the AKC All-Around. This is awarded to an IWS earning at least one AKC title each in conformation, obedience, and retriever hunt tests. In the 20 or so years that this award has been available, 109 IWS have been so honored.

Since that time the AKC has introduced agility titles in 1994, and rally became a titling event in 2004. Just last year the AKC opened Spaniel Hunt Tests to IWS, and we already have a Master Hunter Upland and numerous JHU and SHU titles. Today there are a total of 11 venues where an IWS can now obtain an AKC title, with more to come.

Irish Water Spaniels can work in many other venues as well, in addition to the original ones. They are therapy dogs and freestyle dogs. The AKC now offers a Versatility Certificate, which recognizes dogs with obedience, tracking, and agility titles, and the breed has achieved there as well. Outside of the AKC there are also several working IWS service dogs, as well as successful flyball, dock-diving, and hunting dogs.

The IWS as a breed is able to participate in all these venues for two very notable reasons. First, they are not an “extreme” breed from a conformation perspective. The standard wants a moderate and balanced dog of medium size. A proper IWS should be an athlete who can swim strongly, if not excessively fast; run with speed and grace; and be strong enough to both carry large birds and still have the ability to navigate tough terrain. And the IWS should be a hardy dog who can withstand harsh conditions, including some very cold-water swims.

Secondly, IWS are also wonderful as companion-minded dogs. In fact, their temperament enables the breed to be very versatile and capable of excelling in most venues. They love to work with their people, and it shows in their performance. They may not offer the ultimate precision, but they will always bring enthusiasm and certain inventiveness to the task at hand. All they ask in return is a fair and sharing owner—preferably one with a sense of humor and very little ego.

Today’s IWS can be found in Best in Show lineups, achieving OTCH, MACH, PACH, and CT titles and competing in the Master National. And many, many more IWS can be found as companions of owners who often find themselves just standing there grinning as their beloved IWS creates yet another amusing story for them to share with friends and family. — Colleen McDaniel, colleen@aocb.com;
Irish Water Spaniel Club of America website: iwsca.webs.com

**Sussex Spaniels**

**Sussex Really Aren’t Like Other Dogs**

I know many, if not all, breeders claim this about their chosen breed. However, Sussex Spaniels truly are so different.

For instance, I recently read an article where the author stated that he had never known of a healthy dog who would starve itself to death. I have known such dogs, and they were Sussex.

The kennel owner told me that one night after being taken out for the nighttime walk she went into her run, took a small drink of water, sat down, turned her face to the wall and died. The kennel owner told me that she did everything to revive her but she was gone. At peace, I guess, finally. She was only 4 years old, and the vet offered to do an autopsy—there was nothing wrong with that dog. She committed suicide because she was so sad.

Years later I had a brother and sister Sussex who had lived together their whole lives. They loved each other. When they were 15, the male died. The sister never ate another bite. Two days later she was gone—with him again, forever.

Sussex never forget. If you hit a Sussex he may forgive you, but he will never forget that you did it. He will be forever fearful of your hand (or newspaper or whatever other object you may have used) and there will be a look in his eyes that tells you so. Training a Sussex is simple: praise, practice, perseverance, and gentleness. Sussex have two ways of dealing with rough behavior, they will bite, or they will collapse on the ground and refuse to move. Shrieking is also a possibility. You must be firm but gentle and consistent.

If you are in the show ring and your Sussex turns upside down, use a happy voice and a treat and try to get him up and moving again. A good judge will give you a minute to get him up. Remember, jerk him around or get angry, and he will never forget it—he will never like the show ring, and he will miss out on what could have been a promising show career.

I am very happy to say that I am getting fewer complaints on judging this year. It seems that finally judges are actually reading the standard! And
BREED COLUMNs

Welsh Springer Spaniels
The Small World of a Rare Breed

This kind of thing only happens in a rare breed.

One recent evening I was in the waiting room at my vet’s office. My young bitch, Mamie, was next to me—looking around the room like she owned the place. (Come to think of it, with all the money I spend in there, we might actually own a chair or two!)

A woman said, “Is that a Welsh Springer?”

As any Welshie owner will tell you, it is rare for a stranger to correctly guess our breed. A little startled, I smiled and nodded. She said she was waiting to pick up her Welshie after minor surgery.

I asked who bred her dog. She thought for a moment, “Umm, a woman on Kent Island . . .”

“Oh yes,” I said, “that would be my friend Rita! How old is your dog?”

“Six years old,” she replied.

“So, he’s a Ruby puppy!” I enthused.

“Ruby is a lovely bi . . . uh, girl. She was a big winner in the show ring in her time.” (I instinctively steered away from referring to Ruby as a “bitch.”)

The woman stared at me. “Let me get this straight: You know my dog’s mother?”

I launched into a recap of Ruby’s show career and how long I have known her owners, her breeder Rhonda, her handler Howard, and so on.

“Do you know your dog’s brother, Taxi?” I asked.

“No really,” she replied.

“Well, Taxi and my dog Chester were contemporaries in the show ring. They used to battle it out for Winners Dog at the shows every weekend. He’s a nice boy.”

Now this woman was really perplexed. “You know my dog’s brother?”

“Of course!” I replied.

“How did you get interested in Welsh Springers?” I asked.

She explained to me that she worked at a private school here in Annapolis, and a woman she worked with had two Welshies. “That would be my friend Clay,” I replied.

“Err, yes. Clay knew that Rita was having a litter and put me in touch with her. There was also a lady in Centreville, but she didn’t have any puppies.”

“Yes, that would be our friend Beth. My first Welsh Springer came from Beth. In fact, Rita’s first Welsh came from Beth. He was a big winner named Reggie!”

Mercifully, she stopped me before I could launch into a dissertation on Reggie’s career in the show ring.

“Gracious!” she said. “Do you people all know one another?”

I replied that, considering how few Welsh Springers are whelped in the United States every year, we pretty much do all know one another.

By this time, her dog was brought to the waiting room. “I can see his resemblance to Ruby,” I said. “He has a similar head and that same sweet expression.”

“Uh huh,” she replied. “Well, it was . . . interesting . . . meeting you.”

I imagined her at home that night, saying to her husband, “I met a woman who knows our dog’s mother, and brother, if you can believe that!”

It occurred to me that this kind of thing never happened to me when I owned an American Cocker. This kind of thing only happens in a rare breed.

—Wendy J. Jordan, wendy.jordan@cap-strategygroup.com; Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America website: wssca.com

Vizslas
Vizsla Teenagers

He’s a happy, well-socialized Vizsla puppy from a careful breeder, with a dynamite pedigree. He comes when called, greets strangers enthusiastically, eats his meals with gusto, demonstrates his pointing instinct, and is housebroken in record time. He earns his first show points from the 6-to-9-month puppy class.

Then, just about the time you’re thinking you’ve done a truly splendid job of raising this puppy, he turns up his nose at his food . . . lifts his leg on your piano . . . turns a deaf ear when you call him . . . barks at every new sight or sound . . . and jumps when he sees a shadow. If he’s feeling particularly cheeky, he may experiment with a growl or snap to see if it will get him what he wants. He trades his beautiful trot for pacing in the show ring, or he tries to climb inside your shirt when the judge approaches to examine him.

Adolescence has hit. Even if you’ve successfully raised a number of Vizslas, it can take you by surprise, especially when you’ve had a few years to forget what this period is like. Our lovely puppies go through strange growth spurts, and sometimes they seem to forget how their legs work. Hormones are kicking in, and if you remember your own teenage years, you can empathize. Odd things can happen with their immune systems: I’ve seen adolescent dogs have mysterious allergic episodes or infections that never recur in adulthood.

For many dogs, an adolescent “fear period” causes their owners some difficult moments, when the dog acts terrified of ordinary things that never bothered him before. Because the Vizsla is a relatively sensitive breed, this fearfulness may be more noticeable than in tougher-minded breeds.

Fortunately, there are tried and true ways to help your dog get through this time successfully. Plenty of exercise helps a lot, and it’s good for the owner, too. Consistent leadership and training are especially important for canine teenagers, and this is an excellent time to work on basic obedience. Most Vizslas enjoy training, and it helps build the dog’s confidence while improving his manners.

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No matter how well we’ve socialized our puppies, they need additional socialization in adolescence. Positive experiences with a variety of people, places and things will help them grow into confident adults. Experiences that elicit a fearful response need to be handled carefully. Babying a dog in these situations can unintentionally reinforce fearful behavior; on the other hand, forcing a dog to remain in a situation that terrifies him can lead to long-term problems. The best approach is to be calm and matter-of-fact and avoid making a big deal out of these episodes.

Vizslas often come into rescue during adolescence, when behavior that seemed cute in a small puppy becomes intolerable as the untrained pup grows to adult size. Sometimes an owner decides to get rid of the young dog that he has made gun-shy with an ill-planned introduction to the 12-gauge. When a rowdy teenager comes into rescue, the change of environment may increase the dog’s anxiety and stress. Fortunately, consistency and calm leadership nearly always lead to dramatic improvement in behavior and personality.

Two useful resources are Surviving Your Dog’s Adolescence, by Carol Lea Benjamin, and Versatile Vizsla, by Marion Coffman. These books offer solid advice for dealing with our half-grown wildlings.

And remember: This too shall pass.
—Beth Nash, nash@pro-us.net; Vizsla Club of America website: vauweb.org

Weimaraners
Rally—A Bridge to Obedience?

Recently I was at a performance event and overheard an exchange between two accomplished obedience competitors. They were in total agreement that the sport of rally was a terrible waste of time. In their opinion, rally was nothing more than a “giveaway” title, requiring little skill on the part of the dog or handler.

Their conversation got me wondering about how rally fits into the whole scheme of AKC dog training activities. Is it a waste of time, or does rally provide for a need in the dog community? Are the required skills worthy of a titled, competitive activity? Let’s look at how the AKC defines rally for clues about its goals.

The AKC website describes rally as “the new dog sport that is taking the nation by storm, a successful stepping-stone from the AKC Canine Good Citizen® program to the world of obedience or agility. Rally offers both the dogs and handlers an experience that is fun and energizing. Rally was designed with the traditional pet owner in mind, but it can still be very challenging for those who enjoy higher levels of competition.”

It sounds as if rally is part of a methodical, step-by-step progression of dog training.

What about the statement that rally “is taking the nation by storm”? There may be some hyperbole in this choice of words, but there’s hard evidence that rally indeed accounts for a huge number of entries. The AKC’s statistics reveal almost 65,000 rally entries in 2011.

The AKC says rally “can still be very challenging for those who enjoy higher levels of competition,” and in fact at the Advanced and Excellent levels can approach the precision of obedience competition.

What a well-thought-out strategy: Introduce dog owners to the Canine Good Citizen test, progress to rally, and finally take the step to obedience. The AKC should receive kudos for providing incrementally more demanding venues for dog training. It’s like the old saying, “You must crawl before you can walk, and walk before you can run.”

From personal experience, I’ve seen people in the rally ring who would have been frightened away from competition if their debut had to be in obedience. Rally, however, is less formal and therefore less intimidating. Titling at the Rally Novice level, while not necessarily a “piece of cake,” seems to be an attainable goal for the average dog owner. We know that success builds confidence, so if people can train for rally, they just might be able to make the leap to the more exacting requirements of obedience competition.

To make the transition from rally to obedience even more seamless, in mid-2012 the AKC added the optional titling Obedience class of Beginner Novice. This class is a popular bridge between the worlds of rally and obedience. To continue this trend of providing incrementally more challenging classes, in July 2013 more new optional titling classes will be available: the Pre-Novice class, Pre-Open class, and Pre-Utility class.

So, how do Weimaraner owners feel about rally? Has it helped you train your dog for other activities? Do you see rally as a worthwhile canine activity? Do you feel the sport is beneficial to our breed? I’d like to share your opinions on rally in a future column. Let me know about your experiences. You can e-mail me at ymar_column@yahoo.com. —Carole Lee Richards, ymar_column@yahoo.com; Weimaraner Club of America website: weimaranerclubofamerica.org

Wirehaired Pointing Griffons
Inaugural Korthals Cup, October 26–28

Korthals is a name I have evoked in many of my previous columns, for it is the last name of the Dutch founder of our breed, Eduard K. Korthals. He was an avid hunter whose ultimate quest was to create the ideal multipurpose hunting dog that could find, point, and retrieve game under all sorts of cover. In his honor annual field competitions have taken place in Europe and Canada.

After many years of discussion and planning, the American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association will sponsor its first annual Korthals Cup competition, in conjunction with the 2012 national specialty in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on October 26–28, during the Sioux Empire Kennel Club all-breed...
show. Conformation judges as well as hunt-test judges are encouraged to attend this premiere event, which will showcase the very finest Griffons in North America in both the conformation ring and the field.

The original Korthals Cup, or *Poule Korthals*, as it is known in France, was first celebrated on September 15, 1908, in the town of Sully, France. At this inaugural French contest, two adults and eight young Griffons competed in the event.

The French Griffon Club marked its centennial running of this national field specialty in 2008. Several AWPGA members attended this historic event to experience the competition first-hand. Canadian Griffonniers have sponsored a similar Poule Korthals for many years in Quebec.

The American version of the Korthals Cup has been many years in the making and will likely evolve in the future. For its inaugural year, the Korthals Cup will be open only to the highest-titled Griffons in the field. Entries are limited to those Griffons with an AKC title of Master Hunter, CKC titles of Field Dog Excellent or Field Trial Champion, NSTRA Champion, or those Griffons with NAVHDA awards of UT or VC.

The chance to see outstanding field performances by Griffons of this caliber is unprecedented in the United States. This would be an excellent opportunity for conformation judges to see our breed at work and to witness our breed functioning as it was meant to function at the very highest level.

Just as the first French competition grew from the original 10 dogs to include Griffons from all over Europe with nine fields of simultaneous competition today, the AWPGA hopes this event will grow in the future to include many more Griffons in various stages of their hunting development.

In addition to the Korthals Cup competition, there are many other excellent learning opportunities happening at the national. Judges’ education will be conducted immediately after Best in Show on Friday, October 26, in the Sioux Empire Kennel Club building.

For this year’s best chance to see the most competitive Griffons in conformation and the field, don’t miss this unique opportunity! For more information on the inaugural Korthals Cup and other AWPGA national specialty events, contact AWPGA national specialty chair Kay Farris at kfarris23@knology.net or 605-251-1019, or check out the AWPGA website, under “Events.”—Ann Allen; amsallen@aol.com

**Akitas**

**Saving Our Seniors**

Since I currently have several senior Akitas, it occurred to me how special they are as they age and how much I enjoy our “oldies.” As with any aging animal, they may have unique needs or adjustments with advancing age, but they are truly as vibrant as ever, with loads of personality, infinite patience for our “mere human” ineptness, and fully developed and infamous Akita intelligence!

This brought me to thinking about those that are faced with the possibility of not being able to keep their senior Akita. The world and its current economic condition have caused a shift in owner surrender of aging Akitas at what should be a secure and relaxing time in their lives. What do families do if they can’t afford to care for their aging Akita and are facing the horrifying possibility of surrendering the dog because their budget stretched to its limit? Maybe they simply need some advice on how to take care of their aging Akita and his special needs?

This was the problem facing the wonderful volunteers at Akita Rescue of Western New York (ARWNY) as the economy shifted and calls started escalating about aging Akitas requiring rescue. ARWNY asked how they could help, and with a proactive response, they created Save Our Seniors (SOS). To put it bluntly, this program is genius!

In part, the mission statement at SOS reads, “We believe that every senior Akita should be able to live out its life in the home they have occupied all their lives. They should not have to die alone and frightened in a shelter or at the hands of strangers.”

SOS helps with the special needs of seniors, such as emergency veterinarian costs, special foods, supplements or medications, and even orthopedic needs for those families who cannot afford to do these things for their family “fur member” due to today’s economic uncertainty and who might, otherwise, face the possibility of surrendering their beloved and faithful senior Akita.

This program offers advice for the aging pet owner and follow-up support to ensure that things are well and the aging Akita’s needs are met. After all, these Akitas have given their families their unconditional love and companionship for their whole lives—they deserve to stay home during their final years, cared for in familiar surroundings and by those they know!

ARWNY and SOS deserve the applause and support of the entire Akita community. Since the program is nationwide, you can help by talking to your veterinarian and those in the pet industry in your area, asking them to get involved.

Please visit the SOS website at akita-sos.com and read their entire mission statement, support their fund-raisers and events, and consider contacting SOS to see how you can help keep these senior Akitas in their homes.

Then, scratch your senior Akita’s tummy and cherish their time with you, knowing you’ve helped another
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs
Zoë, Therapy Dog

A natolian Shepherd Dogs are magnificent, noble and powerful, large-breed dogs who possess many fine attributes. They are loyal and courageous and have been bred for centuries to think independently while guarding their flocks of sheep in Turkey.

Here, in the United States, Anatolians fill many capacities, guarding all manner of small farm animals and serving as family companions to, and guards for, their owners while sharing affection and humor with their special people.

Enter “Zoë,” an Anatolian unto herself.

As a young puppy, Zoë was intense, imperious and independent. She was aloof, demanding, and defiant, and even at a young age, Zoë lacked any sense of humor.

Zoë’s optimistic owner enrolled her in puppy classes, following that up with traditional obedience training. This was a real challenge, since Zoë was often disdainful of her owner’s goals and requirements during her classes.

Nevertheless, after a year Zoë’s owner felt confident enough with her progress to take the AKC Canine Good Citizen test. Zoë passed the test except for when she was required to approach another dog, at which point she growled and snarled—twice.

It was back to school for Zoë, once a week, for three more years, during which time the bond between Zoë and her owner became stronger as her progress continued.

A second try at the Canine Good Citizen test was successful, and she was registered through Therapy Dogs International, Inc.

However frequently one visited, meeting Zoë at home in her own territory was always a humbling experience. A cursory glance, a quick sniff, and then one was summarily dismissed.

Not so at the hospital that Zoë and her owner began to visit weekly. In her new role as a therapy dog, Zoë’s obedience training and extensive socialization as a puppy became invaluable. Zoë and her owner would stop and chat with staff, volunteers, and visitors on their way to visit patients. By now, Zoë weighed 120 pounds, yet she nimbly made her way through a lobby full of people, up flights of stairs, and past gurneys, wheelchairs, and walkers. She was always curious but comfortable.

In the patients’ rooms, Zoë maneuvered herself around equipment, in and out of tight spaces, and backward and forward with ease. Zoë always approached the patients calmly and quietly, her big soulful eyes taking in each new situation, her demeanor relaxed. Zoë stood by the patients’ beds and allowed them to pet her.

When the meeting was concluded, she would walk to the window and rest her large paws on the sill to enjoy the view from the higher floors. Sometimes she would just lie quietly on the floor, always facing the door, while her owner spoke with a patient. Then they would head for the elevator, which became a signal to Zoë that it was time for a break or that her work was done.

For many months, Zoë and her owner visited the hospital, giving of themselves to patients, staff and visitors.

And so it was that Zoë, a seemingly intractable Anatolian puppy, through the love and patience of her owner, matured into Zoë, Therapy Dog Par Excellence.

Zoë was owned and loved by Ken and Eileen Whitson of Carmel, California.

Many versatile Anatolians now successfully provide valuable service as therapy dogs in the United States. —Karen Sen; senflower@g.com; Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America website: asdca.org

Bernese Mountain Dogs
Tribute to Barbara Packard, Pioneer in the Collection of Information on Bernese

Barbara Packard, of Los Altos Hills, California, who pioneered the collection of information on Bernese Mountain dogs and open disclosure of hereditary disease in the breed, passed away on June 7, at age 91. Martin, her husband of 69 years, survives her.

The Packards were founding members of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America in 1968. Their first Berner, Lucki V Chorrchertofh, imported from Switzerland in 1964, became the breed’s fifth CD, sixth champion, and third certified with normal hips by the Orthopedic Foundation of America (OFA).

In the early club years, Lucki traveled the U.S. with the Packards to meet fellow Berner owners and collect vital statistics and OFA numbers of their dogs. Trips to Switzerland provided opportunities to talk with breeders and gain knowledge of genetic health issues in Berners.

Knowing the BMDCA would be the catalyst to represent and protect the breed, Barbara was eager to pursue AKC recognition. Energetically, she organized in 1972 the first fun match in San Francisco, titled “Bernerfest.” For years, it became an annual tradition. She formed a Bay Area square-dancing team of Berners and partners in Swiss costume that for over a decade wowed audiences with musical routines incorporating obedience exercises. Carting demonstrations showcased the breed’s heritage.

Barbara’s data collection increased awareness that there were a host of genetic diseases affecting the breed, ranging from hip dysplasia to cancer. With keen foresight, the Packards promoted computerized records. Barbara, trained as a medical technician, and Martin, a Ph.D. physicist who worked years before with the Stanford University team whose discoveries led to magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), concentrated on data collection with open disclosure. For years, they set up computers at national specialties to gather data. The road was paved to establish the Berner-Garde Foundation, incorporated in 1995, to reduce genetic disease in Bernese
Black Russian Terriers

Enjoy Your Black Russian!

When I write about Black Russians, I have often put emphasis on obedience training and socialization, and rightfully so. I just hope that I have not made it all work and no play. Some people really enjoy going to obedience class with their dogs, while others view it as work or just another task that has to be done. Training must be enjoyable for you and your dog! If not, ask yourself why you are not having fun in class, and see if there is something you can do to change it. Or maybe you need to find a different teacher. A good teacher will keep the class interesting, safe, and educational for both two- and four-legged students.

Once you complete beginner-level training and socialization, you can work your way into the advanced levels of obedience, which can be very rewarding for you and your Black Russian. Maybe you would also like to go on to therapy work or agility, which will require a well-trained dog. Black Russians love to work with you, and they are very quick to learn. They can get bored with repetition, however, so the lessons must be fun and progressive.

Dog shows can be a great place to test your new skills and enjoy the day with other people and their dogs. The AKC offers competition in all levels of obedience, where you can earn titles on your dog. Black Russians can also be taught to pull carts and compete in weight-pull classes, but for these activities make sure you have a well-conditioned, sound dog and proper-fitting gear.

You will find that all the training and socializing you do with your BRT will make it possible to take him just about anywhere. Taking walks in parks or on a busy street is much more enjoyable with a well-trained dog. Our dogs attract many admirers who want to meet and touch them, and we often cannot go more than a few blocks without being stopped. All Black Russians are protective, so without socializing them this would not be possible. Most of all, they need to know you are in charge at all times.

Another way to enjoy your Black Russian is to get involved with the breed’s parent or regional club. The clubs have yearly events and can always use a helping hand such as volunteering on a committee or working at a show. Most members are longtime owners of the breed, and by meeting and talking with them you can gain more knowledge and understanding of the Black Russian.

How about taking a vacation with your Black Russian? There are many hotels that will accept dogs. You can go for a hike in the mountains, walk on the beach (but not in the heat of the day, in full sun), or a swim in a lake or pool—or maybe you just want to stay at home and watch TV with your dog next to you!

Most of all, have fun with your BRT and make the most of your time, as he or she is a wonderful, loving family member. I personally cherish and feel grateful for every moment spent with my Black Russians. —Mary Curtis, bklediamondmc@yahoo.com; Black Russian Terrier Club of America website: brtca.org

Boxers

ABC F Health Survey 2012

The American Boxer Club Health Foundation has sponsored a comprehensive health survey for the breed. It is current and ongoing, but to date 900 Boxers have been profiled throughout their lives by their owners. Of those recorded, 56 percent were bitches and 44 percent were males; of these, 67.5 percent were spayed and 32.5 percent neutered. The survey encompassed 86 pages of data and was mostly conducted online.

Initial revelations have been interesting—with some results as expected, some not. The earliest dog profiled was born in 1953, and the most recent dog who has already died was whelped in 2010. Average age of death of dogs in

Mountain Dogs. Berner-Garde is committed to an open database concept where information concerning dogs, both affected and unaffected, with genetic diseases is available.

Berner-Garde Open Database—Better Than Ever

Through the efforts of Gary Galunas, Berner-Garde trustee and director of information technology, major improvements have resulted in Berner-Garde Version 4.0. It is the world’s most accurate and comprehensive compilation of information on Berners. Over many years, tracing back to the Packards, data came from voluntary submissions by owners and gleaned from public data resources, including OFA. As of June 2012, statistics included 84,176 dogs and 28,793 litters, with 52 volunteers involved in its operation.

Access the database at bernergarde.org. Select a search item from the menu, such as “Dogs,” and give a Berner’s name. Tabs on the individual Dog Detail Display include “Certs/Tests,” which lists available results; “Relatives” displays close relatives, with results for hips, elbows, eyes, heart, von Willebrand’s Disease (vWD) and Degenerative Myelopathy (DM); and the “Pedigree” tab offers four styles of printable pedigrees, including photos if available. The far-right tab gives the coefficient of inbreeding (COI) for dogs born after 1975. “Reports” on the main menu reveal 12 tools, including “Trial Pedigrees.” If desired, pedigree results will calculate a proposed litter’s COI.

Explore the easily navigated database to discover a phenomenal collection of information.

Berner-Garde enables giant strides in fulfilling the hopes of Berner owners and that of Barbara Packard in her 1973 promise on Lucki’s death to improve the health and longevity of his kind. —Julia Crawford, curvemede@dwm.com; Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America website: bmdca.org
the survey was 8.5 years—meaning that many dogs lived longer, and others expired younger.

Almost 80 percent of our respondents’ Boxers were either carriers or at risk for degenerative myelopathy. The recently developed DNA test for this disease is being embraced by the fancy, and more and more testing will hopefully allow us to breed away from it in just a few generations. Approximately 50 percent of respondents tested their dogs for thyroid abnormalities; 12 percent of those tested were hyperthyroid. Thirty-three percent of surveyed dogs were tested for hip dysplasia. Of those, eight percent did not pass OFA requirements, while 60 percent were OFA Good, 18 percent Fair, and 13.5 percent Excellent.

According to the survey, the majority of Boxers died of heart disease or cancers in various forms—with cancer the prevalent cause of death. Ninety percent of respondents had their dogs checked for heart murmurs by a board-certified cardiologist. Seventy-six percent of those with a murmur followed up with a color-flow Doppler. Heart disease was notable for SAS (subaortic stenosis), 4.4 percent, and ARVC (arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy), 7.8 percent. Of owners responding, 49.6 percent had never Holtered their Boxer—but the Holter monitor was not in common usage when many of the dogs in the survey were profiled.

Of course, not all the Boxers afflicted actually died of their heart disease, as treatments allowed them to live long enough to succumb to the number-one killer in our breed: cancer. The most prevalent cancer was mast cell (7.3 percent), followed by lymphosarcoma (6 percent), hemangiosarcoma (4.8 percent), and brain (4.1 percent). Judy Voran, a member of the ABCF Board, had a noteworthy observation: “If you look at the age at the time of death correlated with the cause of death, cancer seems to be the most prevalent cause—as also most likely in the case with humans. Our dogs share our household environments—and the greater environments around us. People smoke, use pesticides, and so on.

“So while we target heart disease and DM (degenerative myelopathy), cancer remains the greatest single killer, in my opinion—and one of the hardest to address.”

The American Boxer Club remains the largest single breed contributor to the AKC Canine Health Foundation. To date, we have raised just under $650,000 and sponsored or co-sponsored 55 scientific grants designed to study Boxer-related health issues. With matching grants from the AKC/CHF, that amounts to almost $1,300,000.

Under consideration at the present time are research proposals for a therapeutic approach to degenerative myelopathy (with implications for human research), a genetic study of renal dysplasia, and a project relating to genetic modifiers for ARVC.

It is clear that Boxer breeders and the American Boxer Club and its foundation are committed in a very meaningful way to solving the health issues that confound us. The Health Survey will continue to record data into the foreseeable future.—Stephanie Abraham, landmarks.properties@snet.net; American Boxer Club website: americanboxerclub.org/

Bullmastiffs
Bullmastiff at a Glance
The American Bullmastiff

Association has asked judges to help keep our breed true to type and recently added a “flash card” to our judges’ education material.

The card, titled “Bullmastiff at a Glance,” is intended to highlight for judges what the ABA considers to be the essence of the breed, as well as the important deviations that have become the “drag of the breed.” This card simplifies and condenses our Illustrated Standard in hopes that judges will carry this with them to their assignments to review and refresh their minds with prior to judging. Illustrations of the head, the dog in motion, and the breed’s silhouette are included on the card.

We asked judges to focus on the important breed characteristics that we have listed and ask that they heavily weigh the predominant faults that have become prevalent in the breed.

Essential breed characteristics:
Nearly square/body compact
Back level
Slight arch over loin
Powerful/substantial
Moderate matching angles
Reach and drive indicate maximum use of dog’s moderate angulation
Ribs well sprung
Head cube on a cube
Fearless and confident

Heavily weigh these deviations:
Long back/long loin (“Long is wrong”)
Short legs
Overly aggressive/seriously timid
Cow hocks/splayed feet
Overly aggressive/seriously timid

Showmanship should not override breed correctness.

These key points try to emphasize specific breed characteristics critical to identifying correct breed type in the Bullmastiff. Since generic dogs are often rewarded in the show ring for their flash, level bite, color, or side gait (ignoring or misunderstanding the typey Bullmastiff), the committee wants to bring a “breeder’s eye” to the ring and clarify the most important characteristics in identifying the most correct type.

A nearly square silhouette every bit depicts breed type, as do the square head and muzzle. The phrase “cube on a cube” should characterize the correct silhouette as well as the proper proportions of the head and muzzle.

A Bullmastiff should move with powerful, deliberate side gait and clean down and back, with adequate reach and drive. “Tremendous reach and
BREED COLUMNs

Working

drive” is not indicated, with the dog’s moderate angles. Down, back, and side gait should be evaluated equally, as there is no emphasis on side gait.

We see far too many “sunfish-like” bodies. Although not barrel-ribbed, the Bullmastiff should have well-sprung ribs.

Bullmastiffs should be confident and should never shy away from an approach with a tucked tail. This behavior could be temporary but should not be rewarded that day in the show ring. Although they are upstanding dogs, Bullmastiffs should be well-controlled and not behave aggressively toward other dogs in the ring, and never toward people.

There is no color preference in judging the Bullmastiff, but healthy, clear coats with adequate black pigmentation on the muzzle and well-defined mask and dark ears are preferred.

Dogs should be well boned, powerful, and substantial—as should bitches, however taking their feminine characteristics in consideration.

Our judges’ education committee has added new materials to the program, including a new PowerPoint presentation and other educational tools. I urge any judge, whether approved, provisional, or just interested, to come to our 2012 national specialty October 8–13 in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.—Helene Nietsch, Helene.nietsch@ge.com; American Bullmastiff Association website: bullmastiff.us/index.php

Doberman Pinschers
Differences Between the AKC and FCI Standards

Cherie Homes and I judged the 39th annual Brazilian Doberman National. Brazil uses the breed’s FCI standard, so I had the opportunity to review it. The big differences between the AKC and FCI standard include disqualification for any missing tooth, and blue and fawn Dobermans are not allowed.

FCI standard disqualifications (in quotes) include:

“Pronounced reversal of sexual impressions. Yellow eyes (bird of prey eye); wall eye. White spots; pronounced long and wavy hair; pronounced thin coat or large bald patches. Males 26.8–28.3 inches; females 24.8–26.8 inches. Dogs which deviate more than two centimetres over or under the standard.”

They also describe a long list of faults.

AKC standard: Front angulation is described as 45-degree shoulder and 90-degree front angle. FCI: “Shoulders—The angle to the horizontal is approximately 50 degrees; Upper arm—The angle to the shoulder blade is approximately 105 to 110 degrees.” They do not mention balance front to rear, or relative lengths of upper arm to shoulder blade, or upper thigh to lower thigh.

They want an almost square dog, particularly in males. “The length of the body measured from the sternum to the ischium shall not be more than five percent longer than the height from the withers to the ground in males, and 10 percent in females.” We describe a Doberman as square.

The FCI description of the withers: “Withers—Shall be pronounced, in height and length, especially in males and thereby determine the slope of the topline rising from the croup to the withers.” In the United States, we say withers are pronounced and form the highest point of the body; I envision the FCI describing a more severe slope to the topline. Efficient movement has the topline parallel to the ground. I envision the Doberman with a slight slope from withers to croup to enable him to work all day.

Other differences include: The FCI standard describes the tail as “high set.” We describe our tail as a continuation of the spine, and only slightly off the horizontal.

The FCI standard does not allow undercoat.

We have no description of behavior. I like this addition: “Behaviour and temperament: The disposition of the Doberman is friendly and calm; very devoted to the family, it loves children. Medium temperament and medium sharpness (alertness) is desired. A medium threshold of irritation is required, with a good contact to the owner. The Doberman enjoys working and shall have good working ability, courage, and hardness. The particular values of self confidence and intrepidness are required, and also adaptability and attention to fit the social environment.”

Other things we don’t describe: “The pigment of the gum to be dark; on blue and brown dogs a corresponding lighter shade. Eyelids shall be covered with hair. Baldness around the rim of the eye is highly undesirable. … Knee—The knee joint is strong and is formed by the upper and lower thigh as well as the knee-cap. The knee angulation is approximately 130 degrees. Hock joint—The lower thigh bone is joined to the metatarsal at the hock joint (angle about 140 degrees). The patern or metatarsus bones seen from the side are only slightly sloping—maximum 10 degrees.”

Weight—Males 88–99 pounds, bitches 70.4–77 pounds.

“The ear, which is set high, is carried erect and cropped to a length in proportion to the head. In a country where cropping is not permitted, the uncropped ear is equally recognized. (Medium size preferred, and with the front edge lying close to the cheeks.) Tail—It is high set and docked short, whereby approximately two tail vertebrae remain visible. In countries where docking is legally not permitted, the tail may remain natural.”

The FCI standard has many inclusions that I agree with, but some areas that significantly differ from our perception of the breed. Vive la différence! —Faye Strauss; sherluckmm@msn.com; Doberman Pinscher Club of America website: dPCA.org

German Pinschers
Breed Traits and Conformation

The German Pinscher Club of America’s 10th national specialty since AKC recognition will take place on October 20, as part of the Harvest Moon Classic in Pleasanton, California.

In anticipation of the 2012 national specialty, it is a good time to consider
some of the personality and behavioral traits that make showing a German Pinscher fun and challenging.

The German Pinscher is not a small Doberman. They are not inclined to strike a statuesque pose and stay put for extended periods of time. The German Pinscher has too much enthusiasm for life to stand still for long, and it shows in the breed’s ring demeanor. This is a high-energy breed who is alert and highly attuned to his surroundings.

While some might think that the breed is easily distracted, owners and handlers know that it is the natural curiosity of German Pinschers that often gets the better of their show training. Some dogs will take this to new heights when they leap into the air, perform dances of joy, and even, occasionally, roll over on the ground. Then there are those who consider the hands-on examination to be an opportunity for a good massage and try climbing the judge’s lap.

German Pinschers are examined on the ground. Except in the case of an emergency, the German Pinscher is not to be examined on a table or a ramp.

Even though there has been some discussion about allowing German Pinschers to be examined on a ramp, the club has not chosen to move in that direction. The Working-breed judges have who have been asked their opinion over the years have been opposed to the idea. However, the size of the German Pinscher in relation to that of the judge does make examining the bite more difficult, which is why many exhibitors prefer to show the bite themselves.

Not all German Pinschers are pleased to have their bites examined by the judge, as it can be uncomfortable. The breed standard calls for full dexterity. While most dogs do not mind having their lips parted or even having the judge run a finger over their teeth, many do not like the “Doberman” approach of prying apart their jaws and opening their entire mouth. Most German Pinschers stand about knee level to a judge. Therefore, the judge only opens the mouth wide, he or she needs to tilt the dog’s head back and maneuver it from side to side in order to see all the teeth. This is just too much manipulation for many dogs. Therefore, it works much better if the judge examines the dog first and leaves the mouth for last or lets the handler show the teeth.

Showing the German Pinscher is further complicated by the number of imported dogs who are still being brought into America, especially those that come in at an older age. Many of these dogs have been shown in other countries and are not used to the degree of physical examination that is performed here. There is a great deal of retraining that is required before these dogs are completely comfortable in the AKC show ring. Many of these dogs will lean into their handlers or simply move about more than most other dogs in the ring. —Deidre E. Gannon, Esq.; chovori@aol.com; German Pinscher Club of America website; german-pinscher.com

Great Pyrenees
The Art and Science of Breeding Better Pyrenees

The Great Pyrenees Club of America’s national specialty is over for this year. As usual, it was a great event. There are many reasons to attend a national dog show, but the most important one for breeders is the opportunity to see the current state of the breed and to look for potential sources of stud dogs and new puppies to be raised for show and breeding.

How does the experienced breeder choose which dogs to consider to pursue as part of her own breeding program? Well, the really skilled breeders do not look at a win record as the major deciding factor. It is the pedigree and how the individual dog “fits” with her breeding program that really counts.

First the breeder evaluates her own dogs as objectively as possible, asking questions such as What are the outstanding characteristics that I really want to keep in the next generation? and Where are areas that are less desirable and need improving?

Then the breeder looks at the pedigrees of the dogs she plans to breed in the future. (And not just the immediate litter; this is long-term planning.) Have these dogs been line-bred? Inbred? Outcrossed? Any book about breeding will give careful definitions for each of these terms; that isn’t what is important here. The issue is really about how often the same ancestors appear in those pedigrees—both within them and across them.

The advantage to breeding closely related dogs is that by doing so you get a lot of homozygous gene pairs.

What does that mean? OK, here is a quick, very basic genetics lesson: Characteristics that you see when you look at the dog all come from a complex of interactions of gene pairs, where one half of each pair is from the dam and the other is from the sire. Some of these genes are recessive and hide, while others are dominant and don’t hide. There may be more than two possibilities at any spot on the chromosomes, but each individual only gets two of them. Most of the time, these pairs interact with other genes to create the final dog we see.

When you do a lot of close breeding, the gene pool is limited. This means that with repetition, you get pairs consisting of two identical genes—what geneticists call homozygous pairs. Sometimes this is a very good thing, and sometimes it is not. It depends on what the genes are controlling. But when you do this kind of breeding, you will get great consistency. Since there are limited genes to pick from, the result will be the same over and over again.

At the opposite extreme is a pedigree where very few or no ancestors are repeated. This results in a more diverse gene pool and many heterozygous gene pairs. These are pairs where the two genes are different. That will result in a wider variety of combinations and much less consistency. It will also allow the production of litters with new
showing our dogs at the rare-breed shows. During these cross-country trips she would tell me about her family and how proud she was of all of her children and their many accomplishments. She was especially proud that they all graduated from college, most with advanced degrees. It was also on these trips that I learned what a “lead foot” she had! Once when she was pulled for speeding, I thought she was going to talk the cop out of the speeding ticket (for going more than 15 m.p.h. over the limit), until she also tried to convince him that she really did not need to wear her seatbelt. She could be very persuasive.

Robbie never set small goals. When we came into the computer age, she decided that she was going to play every game of FreeCell. She got me started on those too, and when I couldn’t win one, she would talk me through it step by step. (I’m not sure how far she got through those, but it was much farther than I did.)

Robbie loved her dogs—and I think even more importantly, she loved the people she met through those dogs. In all of the time that I knew her, I never heard her say a disparaging word against another breeder. She had a great sense of humor and a very positive outlook on life.

The SeaVaRidge dogs have been extremely influential in shaping the GSMD into the wonderful dogs we have today.

Even more significantly, I think that Robbie was very influential in shaping the people she introduced to this breed into being better people.

Whenever I find myself getting discouraged or thinking I am getting too old or “this is too hard,” I always think of Robbie. I think of all she accomplished during her “retirement” years and am inspired once again.

I want to be just like Robbie when I grow up! —Cathy Cooper; shedtreeGSMD@embarqmail.com; Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America website: gsmdca.org

Komondorok
The Dangers of Collars

Years ago our Komondors routinely wore the “fur saver” choke collars very popular in our breed. These collars have elongated (thus fewer) links, smooth edges, and do minimal cord damage.

One afternoon my husband Alan and I were relaxing on the deck when our Komondor, Eos, began to display what I first thought was a seizure. I immediately grabbed a hold of her to control the spasms. It took me several seconds to realize what was really going on: The dangling end of the choke collar had slipped between the deck boards, and she was choking herself. Thank goodness we were both there. I held her tight against the flooring, and Alan got a pry bar to pull up the board so we could release the collar.

It was incredibly scary for Eos and us. Needless to say, all choke collars were removed from the dogs. I had mentioned this to my veterinarian, and I was told in that single practice several dogs died every year from choke-collar accidents. We continue to use them now, but only when the dogs are at one end of a lead and we’re at the other.

Recently I heard the incredibly devastating news that a friend’s 5-month-old show-prospect puppy (not a Komondor) had accidently died while playing with their other dog in the yard. It appears the two were wrestling and the older dog had gotten his lower jaw stuck on the puppy’s buckle collar. It was too late to revive the puppy when he was found.

We have a dilemma: Go “naked” and risk the dog not having identification or something to grab onto, cords not withstanding, or leave regular buckle collars on and accept the risks? Your dog’s risk increase depending on the following: how often they are in a crate with collar on; whether they wrestle with other dogs; is there anything in the yard a collar could get caught on—branches, fencing, decks? Your dog’s environment probably poses some risks. If your dog can’t go “naked,” what are...
It’s important to use all the resources at one’s disposal in evaluating puppies. I use the Puppy Aptitude Test (PAT) described in the Monks of New Skete book, The Art of Raising a Puppy. Wendy Volhard has one online, and others do too.

At 49 days, the puppies are in a specific mental development stage that can be tapped to give us a glimpse of the adult dog’s temperament and personality. The testing is quite easy, you’ll need a few helpers, but they needn’t be highly experienced dog people. Additionally, you’ll need to take the puppies to a place unfamiliar to them.

The results of these tests will help you know which pups are suited for families with young children, which might be obedience candidates, and which belong in a genuine livestock guardian role on a ranch. Though training and socialization can help any dog do his best in any situation, placing the right dog in the right environment makes life so much nicer for everyone, especially the dog.

At 8 weeks you need help from dog associates who are more dog savvy. It’s also great to have someone from another breed help with the conformation evaluations. They can’t tell you anything about type, and the pup has to embody the essence of the breed before it’s worth keeping in the gene pool, but these friends won’t be swayed by the face, eyes, or tail-set you’ve fallen for, nor the subconscious “this one reminds me of . . .” trickery.

The Puppy Puzzle, by Pat Hastings, provides invaluable tips on choosing the keepers. The book teaches you how to find the worthy candidates; the shoulder assemblies, the rears, the solid toplines, and overall shape of the dog. One critical thing she teaches is that the true shape of a dog is evident in the space under it. Kuvasz are to be “a rectangle, slightly deviated from the square.” So if you are looking at a puppy who has a long rectangle of air space under him, that is a dog who will be too long. Then you look closer. Is the issue a long loin, or a bad front that sets the forelegs too far forward?

All the pieces have to come together, and of course no puppy will be perfect. One will have a better shoulder than the other, but the second has a better head or tail. You then try to put emphasis on what is weakest in your breeding program when choosing who to keep in your program. —Beth Lenoski, BAP, RN, ElsoKuvasz@gmail.com; Kuvasz Club of America website: kuvasz.com

Leonbergers

In Memory of Waltraut Zieher: Devoted to Leonberger Health

The Leonberger Club of America lost one of its founders and staunchest crusaders for health recently, ironically to the same disease that she spent so many years fighting in our dogs—cancer.

Waltraut Zieher’s first glimpse of the breed that would become her life’s passion was as a little girl on the back of her father’s motorbike, flying through the German countryside. As she watched those long-ago Leos romping in a field, a lifelong devotion began to stir inside the young girl that would span 73 years, two continents, 22 litters of her own, and the friendship and love of countless Leonbergers and friends.

Waltraut came with her family to the United States and brought with her a Leonberger from Germany, Bea v. Wassersturm. After meeting by chance a few other Leonberger enthusiasts, Waltraut became one of the eight founders of the Leonberger Club of America in 1985.

In 1987, Waltraut and her Leonbergers Banjo and Ali Baba became the first Leonberger Therapy Team, working with mentally and physically challenged individuals in New Mexico and later in Lubbock, Texas. Waltraut, Banjo, and Ali forged a dynasty of therapy Leos that spans many generations and continues today, with some of the most decorated therapy Leos tracing their lineage back to Waltraut and her original two.
Health had always been a chief interest of Waltraut, and by 1990, Waltraut and her veterinarian daughter, Ute, had recognized that as the breed numbers increased, so would genetic problems. So began Waltraut's crusade to work tirelessly to improve the health and knowledge base of the breed around the world.

Under Waltraut’s guidance, a professional health survey was initiated by the LCA’s Health Education and Research Committee, and the results were published in the club newsletter.

When several Leonbergers across the country were diagnosed with Addison’s disease, Waltraut was part of a team that without benefit of the Internet, contacted every owner and traced the carriers back to a handful of dogs. These efforts, and the ethical cooperation of the Leonberger community, virtually eliminated this disease. It was a start, but Waltraut was not ready to rest.

In 2000, Waltraut founded the Leonberger Health Foundation, a separate entity that raises funds for research and works closely with veterinary studies across the country to improve the health of the Leonberger and provide breeders the knowledge to make sound breeding choices. The LH F hosts speakers and blood draws at our national specialty, and is an integral part of the Leonberger community in the United States. With Addison’s disease virtually eliminated, the LH F now focuses primarily on osteosarcoma, hemangiosarcoma, and Leonberger polyneuropathy. Waltraut served as president of the LH F until 2009, when she stepped down to an advisory role.

Amid all her work for Leonberger Health, Waltraut was also a highly respected Leonberger breeder, whelping 22 litters under the von Stutensee kennel name.

Waltraut’s work on behalf of Leonbergers in the United States gained recognition around the world, and she was the recipient of numerous awards and commendations from Leonberger clubs in Europe and elsewhere. The inscription on the Millennium Award from the Club Italiano del Leonberger says it most succinctly: “For giving the right importance to the breed health problems and setting an example for all the other clubs in the world.”

The passing of Waltraut Zieher is great loss to the Leonberger Club of America and to the worldwide Leonberger community. Her vision, passion, and commitment to the health of our breed will be carried on through the work of the Leonberger Health Foundation, but her sunny smile, no-nonsense attitude, and caring heart are now but a memory for many of us who knew her well. Waltraut was a dear friend, and I know she was no doubt welcomed by a thousand dancing Leos, with her beloved von Stutensee dogs that preceded her performing the Dance of Joy with the wildest abandon.

Rest well, dear Wal. I am so privileged to have served this breed with you, learned from your wisdom, and shared your friendship.

Donations to the LH F in memory of Waltraut Zieher may be made here: leohealth.org/donate-now.html. —Astrid Robitaille, astridrobi@gmail.com; Leonberger Club of America website: leonbergerclubofamerica.com

**Mastiffs**

The Mastiff Is a Working Dog

Over the past months I have given you my perspective of the “dog world” as I have come to know it over the past 30 years, and it is obvious that all my efforts and experiences have revolved around conformation. I did have one brief try with obedience, but that was short and sweet and also long gone.

When we judge the Mastiff in conformation, we do have our standard to guide us, and as I mentioned in my last column, the presentation and even the confidence shown by the person handling the lead has an impact as to who places where.

I just recently read a section in one of the breed publications where they asked questions of some of the more involved people in our breed, and one question asked what these individuals would like to see judges give more attention to.

The responders all stressed in one form or another that they would like to see more attention focused on the Mastiff’s ability to move. This makes so much sense. The Mastiff is a working dog—a very large working dog, and therefore he should give the impression that he would be able to leave the ring and perform the tasks he was bred to do. A well-conditioned, strong, muscular, and powerful Mastiff who is able to reach and drive with authority is a sight that will make anyone stop and admire.

The majority of those involved in the Mastiff world are focused on conformation and the titles that are earned there. Obedience is second, although not nearly as well attended as it should be. The Mastiff is very capable of doing whatever is asked by his owner, as long as it is clear that you are not just wasting his time.

The Mastiff Club does have a group of members very much interested in keeping the Mastiff as a working dog. The MCOA Working Dog committee has a set of criteria that have been developed to allow the Mastiffs to earn recognition as working dogs at various levels. Information on this can be found on the MCOA website, mcoamastiff.com.

I was hoping to delve into the details of what is required to reach the various levels of achievement in our Working Dog program, and to give credit to those who have Mastiffs with various levels of achievement.

There won’t be room in this column for that, so I will cut this short with an appeal to someone in the Mastiff Club involved in the Working Dog program to step up and write the next few columns and explain what is involved in the program, and just what has allowed them the success they enjoy. —Charles Cuthbert,
True to their working heritage, Newfoundland dogs originally helped their human partners not only at sea as ship dogs and canine lifeguards, but also when Newfoundland’s famed cod fishermen brought their boats into dock loaded with the day’s catch.

Putting their great size and strength to work, Newfoundland dogs eagerly stepped onto shore and into harness to pull carts full of fish to market. Many found winter work hauling firewood from the forest, and some reportedly delivered milk from house to house, completely unassisted.

Even today, Newf lovers enjoy fostering this innate carting ability in our dogs. To encourage training and proficiency in draft work, the Newfoundland Club of America sponsors official draft tests, hosted by regional clubs throughout the country each spring and fall.

Draft aficionados love working side by side with their dogs as they cart, guiding the way with verbal and/or hand signals. The more intrepid trainers pair qualified draft dogs into teams. Throw 250 or so combined pounds of Newfy power into the job, and you can haul almost anything!

NCA-sanctioned draft tests begin with basic control and then proceed to a maneuvering course where dog and handler must prove their harnessing and communication abilities. A seasoned dog’s dexterity in following directions (paws, fronts, backs, inside, outside, around...) is an ongoing test of ability.

Next comes the freight haul, a mile-long path full of ups and downs, turns and twists, plus some sort of “intriguing distraction” ranging from yappy puppies to guys grilling burgers to kids crunching potato chips.

Although the maneuvering course calls for an empty cart, the freight haul rules require the dog to pull a 25- 50-pound load, 50 pounds for teams. All exercises must be completed off leash and without touching the dog. Stewards walk along fore and aft to help corral any entrant that decides to veer off course.

Newfs that pass this rigorous assessment earn the coveted Draft Dog or Team Draft Dog title and can proudly append the letters DD or TDD to their names. But as always, the real reward comes in the bonding between human and Newfy duos who train and practice together to achieve the seamless partnership enjoyed by working teams. —Sandra Millers Younger, sandayounger@gmail.com; Newfoundland Club of America website: ncacanewfs.org

## Portuguese Water Dogs

Guest columnist Kari Lavalli shares with us information about another venue for our breed, who already are very active in conformation shows, obedience, water work, agility, tracking, search-and-rescue, rally, therapy, and just being a family pet.

### Nose Work—Having Fun With Your Portie

We all know that our dogs have a phenomenal sense of smell, which they display when searching for prey, tracking human footpaths, doing search-and-rescue functions, or detecting contraband and chemicals used in bomb-making. Now, however, one can mentally stimulate their pet by engaging in the relatively new sport of K9 Nose Work (sanctioned by Canines and Noses, Inc.).

Nose work is based on methods for canine contraband detection but is modified so that the search item is one of three specific oils: birch, anise, or clove. Training typically starts with teaching the dog to hunt for a food item within closed boxes and rewarding when they locate the correct box. The dog learns that boxes can be large or small, up on things (chairs, desks, tables, car bumpers or wheel wells), or under things, or in things (bags, pipes, concrete blocks). Once they understand the hunt, food is paired with odor (oil on Q-tips) and then food is gradually faded as the reward value is transferred more and more to the oil odor. One can then use one odor to pair with a new odor, or return to food paired with the new odor to train search behavior for anise and clove. Throughout, dogs are always rewarded by hand with food beside the odor location to teach them to not only target the odor as closely as possible, but also to stay on the odor.

Before competing, dogs must demonstrate that they can detect the target odor by passing an Odor Recognition Test (ORT). There are three levels of competition, each consisting of four elements (containers, interior rooms, exterior area, vehicles) that must be passed with no more than three handling faults. As one progresses to higher levels of competition, food or toy distractors may be added into the search area, multiple odors may be used separately or in combination, and odors may not be directly accessible so the dog needs to learn a signaling distinct behavior that indicates odor location (sit, barking, paw up, lip-smacking, head turn, and so on). The titles that can be earned are NW1, NW2, NW3, and NW3-Elite.

Because the dog works on leash without other dogs present and walks throughout the search area, this venue is perfect for young to very old dogs, as well as handicapped, reactive, or environmentally sensitive dogs. It builds confidence and is just plain fun. —K.L.

Thank you, Kari, for sharing this information with us. Currently, 13 Portuguese Water Dogs have earned NW1 titles, and 2 have earned NW2 titles. There are no NW3 Porties—yet.

—Carole Prangley-McIvor, mcivore_car ole@yahoo.com; Portuguese Water Dog Club of America website: pwdca.org

## Rottweilers

Our guest columnist this month is Jill Kessler Miller, longtime Rottweiler fancier, rescuer, and radio personality.

### The Rottweiler’s Markings

There is one aspect of judging...
between AKC and European–style shows that merits discussion, and that is regarding sooty markings, also called muddy markings, versus clearly defined markings.

The breed’s FCI standard simply says: “Colours: Black with clearly defined markings of a rich tan on the cheeks, muzzle, throat, chest and legs, as well as over both eyes and under the base of the tails.”

The AKC standard is more elaborate: “Always black with rust to mahogany markings. The demarcation between black and rust is to be clearly defined. The markings should be located as follows: a spot over each eye; on cheeks; as a strip around each side of muzzle; but not on the bridge of the nose; on throat; triangular mark on both side of prosternum; on forelegs from carpus downward to the toes; on inside of rear legs showing down the front of the stifte and broadening out to front of rear legs from hocks to toes, but not completely eliminating black from rear of pasterns, under tail; black penciling on toes. The undercoat is gray, tan or black. Quantity and location of rust markings is important and should not exceed ten percent of body color.”

Currently, in our show ring are excessively large markings, insufficient in color depth. Instead of a triangle on each side of the prosternum, there is one large, continuous marking from side to side; markings on the forelegs are coming up the back of the leg, often connecting to the chest markings under the elbow; the markings of the rear legs are coming up, completely up the hocks through the stifte, sometimes connecting with the belly hair. The depth of color is not rust or mahogany, but shades of dull tan to dark straw.

These markings, while clearly defined, are both unacceptable as far as color and size, as they do not meet the criteria of size or color. Yet many exhibitors incorrectly believe these are preferable to muddy or sooty markings.

As someone schooled by European and ADRK judges, muddy/sooty markings are a far less serious fault than light and large. In fact, as a point of reference, muddy/sooty markings often go V (Excellent), whereas light and/or large markings cannot be rated over SG (Very Good) in a European-style show.

Why is that? Because color is a genetic trait that must be attended to every generation. If you’ll notice, sooty markings are always dark, of a rich, deep mahogany. It’s easier to clean up demarcation than to bring up color. Large markings are always lighter—a double whammy in a breeding program. Bringing size down and color up takes several generations, and even when you think you’ve overcome it, it’ll show up in a pup or two.

When thinking of the Rottweiler, remember to think “stealthy”—dark eyes, dark mouth, and small to medium-sized, rich mahogany markings on a black base coat, allowing the dog to perform surveillance without being detected. Our dogs are not supposed to be too bright or noticeable because of the color of their markings. Rottweilers are rugged working dogs of the people, not peacocks flashing about town!—J.K.M.

Thank you, Jill. —Gwen Chaney, gachaney2@aol.com; American Rottweiler Club website: amrottclub.org

Saint Bernards
Remember When

A few months back, I was sitting ringside with some friends waiting to go into the ring. In the puppy class was a man trying to show his puppy. He had a flat collar on the pup, with a six-foot lead. The pup was clean and groomed well, except that the hair between the toes had been combed so that it was sticking straight up. The gentleman was not trying to stack his pup but was just standing there, obviously very proud of his dog.

When the judge tried to go over the dog, the puppy squirmed and wiggled all over the place. Then it was time to move around the ring. Off they went—the man between the judge and the dog.

I have to admit here and now that my friends and I were laughing. How could someone come to show their dog and not have any idea of what to do?

Then it flashed in my head: Remember when you were new and didn’t know what to do, and how nervous you were?

As soon as the man came out of the ring, I went over and asked if I could give him a little help. I asked if he had another collar and lead, and he said no, so I got an extra set from my show bag and showed him how to put it on.

I told him he always needed to keep his dog on his left so that the dog would be between the judge and himself. Right then he was called back into the ring. He had a friend sitting with him, and I explained to his friend that they needed to trim all of the hair that was sticking up between the puppy’s toes because it gave the appearance that the front legs were down in the pasterns, when they really were not. I stood with the friend for a few minutes to explain to him what was going on.

His friend said that the breeder had asked the man to enter the puppy but had not given any advice on what to do, even though the breeder was there.

It was time for me to go in the ring so I had to leave, but I was happy to see another breeder go over to offer more help.

The following day the man came back, and the hair was trimmed and a new collar and lead were on the pup. I made a point of going over and talking to the gentleman to see if he had any questions. I suggested that he find some handling classes to give the puppy and himself some practice. He said he’d think about it but wasn’t sure if he would, because although he was grateful to the people who helped him, he felt that his breeder just wanted him to enter so that there would be competition for the dog the breeder was showing.

I hope the man does come back and show. If not, how sad that an exhibitor was lost. We need new blood in our sport.

Please, remember when you were
Expression is a combination of eyes, ears, and mouth. The ears should be erect when alert.

Under “Disposition,” it says, intelligent, gentle, loyal, adaptable, alert, full of action, eager to serve, friendly but conservative. Not distrustful or shy, not overly aggressive.

Based on the above information, how can a judge put up a dog who is bored in the ring, a dog who is “showing” by pasting back his ears or holding his head down? Is this the expression depicted in the standard? I recently saw a judge who placed a dog whom I would describe as lethargic, with dull eyes; because of having chosen that dog in the past, the judge again placed him Best of Breed. The dog certainly did not depict the standard, but because he was a sound example of the breed structurally, the judge gave him the award.

Just because you have rendered a decision to award a dog in the past does not give a judge the opportunity to be lazy and not judge dogs that day. A judge’s primary duty is to judge the dogs as they appear that day. If a dog does not display the descriptions above, then it should not be used that day.

Preference should be shown to an alert, active dog with sparkling eyes. This does not necessarily mean that the dog is motionless staring at a piece of liver. I would rather see a dog active in the ring—perhaps playing catch with the bait, perhaps leaping with joy as he gets to the end of the line. A Sammy should have a bit of mischief in him, not standing with eyes closed, ears pasted back, and head hanging.

Judges, if you encounter a dog like this—even though he may have shown better on another day—you must judge him on the day presented and pass, because he is not displaying the proper expression or disposition described in the standard “on that day.”

This breed is more than just angles and structure.

Respectfully submitted.—Debby Jahnke; stardansams@yahoo.com;


**Tularemia-A Growing Problem for Dogs and People?**

A recent alert from our local dog club concerns the rise of Tularemia in dogs. Tularemia is found every state except Hawaii, and particularly in the Western and Midwestern U.S. Once a rare disease, it is on the rise in both dogs and humans.

First described in Japan in 1837, Tularemia’s name relates to a 1911 outbreak of plague-like illness in ground squirrels in Tulare County, California. Also known as “deerfly fever” or “rabbit fever,” it is caused by the bacterium *Francisella tularensis*, which has two strains. Type A, found primarily in North America, is more virulent; in humans, the mortality rate is five to 15 percent if untreated. Type B, the less virulent strain, has a more complex life cycle, more commonly isolated from aquatic animals and water-associated infections in North America and Eurasia.

*T. tularensis* is transmitted by fleas, deerflies (*Chrysops discalis*), mosquitoes, and four kinds of ticks: the Pacific Coast tick (*Dermacentor occidentalis*), the American dog tick (*D. variabilis*), the Rocky Mountain wood tick (*D. andersoni*), and the Lone Star tick (*Amblyomma americanum*).

The incubation period after a bite by an infected carrier is one to 14 days. Other means of spreading the infection include eating or handling infected animals, drinking or swimming in contaminated water, or inhaling aerosolized bacteria. Hunters should wear gloves while dressing game. Human-to-human transmission of Tularemia is rare.

Tularemia affects more than 250 species worldwide. Often seen in rabbits, cats, deer, and other wild and domestic animals, humans can be infected by flea or tick bites, by eating undercooked rabbit or wild game meat, or by direct contact with an infected animal or carcass through broken skin. Dogs and cats can be infected by carrier insect bites or by eating or carrying infected rabbits, birds, or rodents. Important: *T. tularensis* can exist in frozen rabbit or deer meat for over three years and for weeks at low temperatures in water, moist soil, hay, straw, or decaying animal carcasses; as few as five to 15 bacteria can produce the disease.

In dogs, symptoms include loss of appetite, listlessness, low fever, and sometimes jaundice. In severe cases, lymph nodes enlarge, and abscesses form in liver and spleen; death can occur rapidly.

Cats are more susceptible to Tularemia than dogs, having higher fevers; puppies and kittens are affected more severely than adults. Diagnosis is by blood tests, although antibodies may not develop immediately. Diagnosis is more often by necropsy, due to the animal expiring before Tularemia is suspected.

Humans usually develop lesions, or indolent ulcers, at bite sites, as well as enlarged lymph nodes. If bacteria are ingested either by eating undercooked game or from unwashed hands after handling an infected animal or carcass, further symptoms can include vomiting, diarrhea, and intestinal pain.

Dogs are more resistant to Tularemia than humans, who may die from severe forms of the disease.

There is no proven effective treatment for the disease in dogs, although streptomycin, gentamicin, tetracycline, and chloramphenicol have been used successfully at recommended dose levels; however, tetracycline and chloramphenicol have been associated with relapses in people.

A vaccine previously available to high-risk people such as laboratory personnel is under review for animals and humans. There is no home pet care for tularemia—diagnosed pets require veterinary care. Also, diagnosed animals should be handled carefully with gloves, because the infectious disease is transmitted easily to humans. Recovery confers long-lasting immunity.

— Suzanne T. Smith, STSpers@aol.com; Standard Schnauzer Club of America website: standardschnauzer.org

**Tibetan Mastiffs**

How to Get a Red Collar for Your Tibetan Mastiff

Many people new to the breed, have asked me how to get one of the famous Tibetan Red Collars for their dogs. Here is my answer for them:

When I first got involved with the breed, I was told about *kekhor*, those magnificent red yak’s hair collars without which no photo of a Tibetan Mastiff champion would be complete. I set about finding some for my own beauties, posthaste.

Eventually, I was able to purchase some from a friend who ran a Tibetan crafts shop.

They seemed remarkably expensive, and I asked how the collars were made. She told me that they were extremely hard to make, and that was why they were rare and expensive.

I knew that they were made of yak’s hair, but that didn’t explain the difficulty, so I asked how the collars got their red color, and she told me that
you had to use special yak hair “from special yak,” and you had to boil the hair for a long time. That was all I could get out of her.

I asked for more precise information: “How long do you boil the hair for the collars, Chodron la [not her real name]?”

“Oh, long time, Mary la, Long time.”

I had some friends in England who had been so interested in the same problem that they had brought yak hair back from Tibet, which they boiled for hours, days, weeks. They boiled the hair until it turned into glue. It never, however, turned red.

Now this struck all of us as curious, because there is a distinct red undertone in the black fur of some Tibetan Mastiffs, and it will also redden in the sun or when it fades. We thought this might happen with the yak’s hair, too, but this proved not to be true.

We spoke to other fanciers, and after several years of discussing this among ourselves we all concluded that boiling never turned the hair red. Neither did fading. Neither did boiling the hair in vinegar or in alcohol or in other solutions. We tried everything we could think of, and nothing turned the hair red.

So I went back to my friend and asked her again, “How did you say you make these collars? ‘Oh, Mary la, that is very hard work. Don’t ask me about those collars again, because my mother says she doesn’t want to make them anymore.’”

I explained that I understood this, but I also told her that there was something we didn’t know, because we couldn’t figure out how to get the red into the hair, (or anything else about the collars.) And she told me that working with the bristly yak hair is very hard on the hands. I explained that I had realized that, but we were still interested in learning how to do it. And she told me it was very hard. And I explained as politely as I could that I understood, but we still wanted to know.

So she said she would tell me. I sat down to listen, without fully understanding the difficulties occasioned by bilingual, cross-cultural communication, not to mention Tibetan notions of politeness. We went through the same process:

“Oh, very difficult, Mary la.”

“What is difficult?” I asked.

“Oh, you have to get special hair from special yak.”

That was interesting, and my ears pricked up. “What is so special about the yak?”

“Oh, you need special yak, and you only get a little special hair from each yak, and then you have to boil the hair for a long time until it turns red, and then you have to weave it into the cloth and cut it off, and then …”

I interrupted: “What is special about yak?”

“Oh, special yak, Mary la,” she said with reverence. “Special yak and special hair and you boil for long time, and then you weave the hair …”

I gave up and reported back. Every year or so I’d ask her again about the collars and how they were made, and every year we’d get the same information, which wasn’t very useful. And every year I’d try to get precise details, and she would tell me breathlessly that it was “special hair, special yak,” and hair must be boiled “long-time.”

My friends in England had exactly the same luck with their informants. Everyone we met who knew anything about the red collars got “pumped” for all the information we could get out of them, and it was always the same sort of thing. Special yak, special hair, very dangerous to get hair from yak (I can believe this), and then you take the hair and boil it for a long time and then you weave it onto a backing and then you trim it and voila! A red collar!

But this was still not much better than before.

Finally, after years and years of being mystified by the strange way that red collars came to be, which seemed to be shrouded in myth and legend, I decided I was really going to find out, this one last time. So I took a big pad of paper and a pen and walked into the Tibetan Shop and sat down with an air of determination, and told my friend that I was not going to leave until I knew more about this topic. She said, with some hurt in her voice, that she had told me this many times. I explained that I recognized this and greatly appreciated it, but we didn’t understand something, clearly, because we couldn’t do it, even if we got pure yak hair to work with.

So I took out the pad with a flourish and I told her to tell me everything from the beginning—everything!

And she looked troubled, but she said she would. And she began; “It very dangerous, Mary la. You have to get special yak.” I stopped her and demanded to know what made the yak special. And she said that not all yaks had the right kind of hair—”only special yak.” So I asked about this further, and it turned out that each collar is made from special hair—white hair (Ah, I think, we are getting somewhere), and this is only found on the tail of the yak, and only some yaks had the white tail hair. And moreover, each yak that did have the hair, only had a single white tail hair, or at most two, and getting the yaks to cooperate was not easy.

If you’ve ever worked with yaks, you know she was not kidding about this. And if it’s only one or two hairs per yak, you need a lot of yaks to make one collar. And I pictured the futility of running after snorting, fire breathing, yaks in the pasture, trying to get them to stand still long enough to get one single hair out of the tail. And nothing knows how to kick like a yak, so right off the bat, I began thinking that maybe I don’t want to go into the kekhor business, after all.

“OK, so you need to get enough white tail hairs—and then what?” I ask.

“Well, then, you have to boil the hair to make it red so you can weave the collar out of it.”

“If see,” I tell her, “but how long do you have to do this?”
“Oh,” she says, waving her arms to indicate how much trouble this is, “it takes long time, long time.” And at this point I interrupt and explain that she has told me this many times, but we cannot get yak hair red by boiling it.

“Oh, yes, you can, Mary la,” she informs me earnestly. “You have to do it long time.”

And I say with some frustration: “But Chodron la, we’ve boiled this hair for days, and it hasn’t turned red.”

She thinks for a minute, troubled, then she says to me with great definiteness: “Mary la, you keep asking me this, and I know this works—you have to boil the hair long time and then it turns red.”

I say, “but we’ve tried and it doesn’t work. Boiling hair in water doesn’t turn it red.”

And she looks troubled again, and declares, “Yes it does, Mary la, you just have to boil it long time …”

And then I see a look of incredulous horror come over her face, and she says, “You just have to boil the hair long time, Mary la, in the red dye.”

I tell you, I had to go outside into the cool air for a while to regain control of myself because I was laughing so hard and also crying out of frustration, and I came back in and I said “Ooohhh! You have to boil it”—and we both say together—“in the red dye!”

And that was the secret of the red collars, and I immediately e-mailed my friends in England and my TM buddies all over the world, and that solved the mystery after only 15 years from start to finish—seven years of regular questioning of that particular informant.

So that, in short, is how you get the red collars, and why they are so rare and expensive and no one really seems to want to make them for you. Now I think you see why. —Mary Fischer; meryt@att.net; American Tibetan Mastiff Association website: tibetanmastiff.org
DELEGATES FORUM

SYNOPSIS OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2012 DELEGATES FORUM

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

Social Media and Facebook for Clubs
AKC Vice President of Marketing Michael Ganey and AKC Communications Director Lisa Peterson presented an overview of the current social media landscape and how AKC clubs can take advantage of this new technology. Topics discussed included: what is social media, how does it work, and how to start the conversation, create community, and drive engagement among those your club wants to reach most. Why Facebook matters for AKC clubs was covered as well as the results of a survey to clubs. Five guidelines and best practices for clubs using Facebook were presented which would help to increase membership, drive spectator gate, and educate the public, among others. The complete Powerpoint presentation as well as a Facebook Tutorial for Clubs getting started is available on the Delegate Portal at akc.org.

Delegate Committees as of September 11, 2012

COORDINATING COMMITTEE:
Gretchen Bernardi – Mississippi Valley Kennel Club
Ruth W. Crumb, Secretary (Pro Tem) – Mount Vernon Dog Training Club
Susan LaCroix Hamil – Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County
David H. Hopkins, Chair (Pro Tem) – English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club of Illinois
Robert Neff LaBerge – Lawrenceville Kennel Club
Patricia W. Laurans – German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America
Cynthia A. Miller – Harrisburg Kennel Club
Daniel J. Smyth, Esq., – Burlington County Kennel Club
Ann Wallin – Atlanta Kennel Club

ALL-BREED:
ONE-YEAR TERM

Robert D. Black, Secretary – Hatboro Dog Club
Grecia C. Closson – Lakes Region Kennel Club
John L. Ronald – Samoyed Club of America
Ann Wallin, Chair – Atlanta Kennel Club

TWO-YEAR TERM

Nancy B. Fisk – Hockamock Kennel Club
Margarette (Peggy) L. Wampold – South Windsor Kennel Club
Carol A. Williamson – Houston Kennel Club

THREE-YEAR TERM

Margaret DiCorleto – Greater Murfreesboro Kennel Club
Margaret Doster – Kennel Club of Buffalo
Lawrence J. Libeu – Santa Maria Kennel Club
Cathleen Rubens – Fayetteville Kennel Club

BYLAWS:
ONE-YEAR TERM

Rita J. Biddle – Ingham County Kennel Club
Judith V. Daniels – Mt. Baker Kennel Club
Dr. John V. Ioia, M.D., Ph.D, Secretary – Southern Adirondack Dog Club
Nina Schaefer – Back Mountain Kennel Club

TWO-YEAR TERM

Gretchen Bernardi, Chair – Mississippi Valley Kennel Club
Harry G. Ottmann, Fort Worth Kennel Club
Pamela Stacey Rosman – Canaan Dog Club of America
Burton J. Yamada – Orange Empire Kennel Club

THREE-YEAR TERM

Sylvia Arrowwood – Charleston Kennel Club
Dr. Gregory J. Paveza – Elm City Kennel Club
Diane F. Taylor – Newtown Kennel Club

CANINE HEALTH:

ONE-YEAR TERM

Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki – Canada Del Oro Kennel Club
Dr. Harvey Morhrenweiser – Standard Schnauzer Club of America
Peter J. See – Welsh Terrier Club of America
John A. Studebaker – Battle Creek Kennel Club

TWO-YEAR TERM

Eddie Dziuk – National Beagle Club
James Efron – Nashville Beagle Club
Dr. Joellen Gregory – Otterhound Club of America
Margaret B. Pough – Finger Lakes Kennel Club

THREE-YEAR TERM

Susan LaCroix Hamil, Chair – Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County
Joan Savage – Portland Kennel Club
Sherry E. Wallis, Secretary

DELEGATE ADVOCACY AND ADVANCEMENT:

ONE-YEAR TERM

James R. Dok – Gig Harbor Kennel Club
Jane F. Ruthford, Secretary – Havanese Club of America
Daniel J. Smyth, Esq., Chair, Burlington County Kennel Club
Marcy L. Zingler – Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno

TWO-YEAR TERM

Catherine Bell – Tennessee Valley Kennel Club
Dr. Gerry Meisels – St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association
Marjorie A. Tuff – American Shetland Sheepdog Association

THREE-YEAR TERM

Dick Blair – Huntingtondon Valley Kennel Club
Whitney Coombs – Catoctin Kennel Club
Mary Lou Olszewski – American Bloodhound Club
Carole Plesur – Italian Greyhound Club of America

DELEGATES’ QUARTERLY MEETING
delegates’ quarterly meeting

DOG SHOW RULES:
ONE-YEAR TERM
Linda C. Flynn, Secretary – South Shore Kennel Club
Sue Goldberg – Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club
Nancy J. Perrell – Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association
David M. Powers – Los Encinos Kennel Club

TWO-YEAR TERM
Dr. Duane A. Butherus – Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club
Harold Miller – American Foxhound Club
Blackie H. Nygood – Mispillion Kennel Club

THREE-YEAR TERM
Cynthia A. Miller, Chair – Harrisburg Kennel Club
Charles H. Schaefer – Kennel Club of Philadelphia
Robert A. Schroll – Clarksville Kennel Club
John Shoemaker – Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California

FIELD TRIAL AND HUNTING TEST EVENTS:
ONE-YEAR TERM
David H. Hopkins, Chair – English Springer Spaniel Field Club of Illinois
Fred T. Kampo – Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club
A. Nelson Sills – Labrador Retriever Club
Lynn Worth-Smith, Secretary – Vizsla Club of America

TWO-YEAR TERM
James S. Corbett – Tualatin Kennel Club
Kenneth A. Marden – German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America
Robert H. McKowen – Mississippi Valley Retriever Club
Judith H. Tighe – American Brittany Club

THREE-YEAR TERM
Colleen McDaniel – Whidbey Island Kennel Club
Christopher L. Sweetwood – Trapp Falls Kennel Club
Joan S. Tabor – Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club

HERDING, EARTHDOG, AND COURSING EVENTS:
ONE-YEAR TERM
Thomas Barrie – West Highland White Terrier Club of America
Carol Clark – Border Collie Society of America
Bonnie Lapham, Secretary – Glens Falls Kennel Club
Nicklas G. Pisas – Chintimini Kennel Club

TWO-YEAR TERM
Don F. Adams – Cudahy Kennel Club
Gerard Baudet – Rhode Island Kennel Club
Dr. John S. Fitzpatrick – Mensora Kennel Club
Robert Neff LaBerge, Chair – Lawrenceville Kennel Club

THREE-YEAR TERM
Dominic Carota – Pharaoh Hound Club of America
Carol Fisher – Valley Forge Kennel Club
Gwen McCullagh – Huntingdon Kennel Club

OBEEDIENCE, TRACKING AND AGILITY:
ONE-YEAR TERM
Dr. Joyce Dandridge – Capital Dog Training Club of Washington D.C.
Barbara L. Mann – Dayton Dog Training Club
Patricia A. Sample – Anderson Obedience Training Club
Maureen R. Setter – Cleveland All-Breed Training Club

TWO-YEAR TERM
Ruth W. Crumb, Chair – Mount Vernon Dog Training Club
James J. Primmer – Portland Dog Obedience Club
Larry Wilson – Philadelphia Dog Obedience Club

THREE-YEAR TERM
James M. Ashton – Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island
John J. Cadalso, Jr. – Troy Kennel Club
Gail LaBerge, Secretary – Atlanta Obedience Club
Kathrynann N. Sarvinas – Dog Owners’ Training Club of Maryland

PARENT CLUBS:
ONE-YEAR TERM
Constance Butherus – Afghan Hound Club of America
Ruth Ann Naun – Border Terrier Club of America
John P. Nielsen – English Setter Association of America
Larry Sorenson – Dachshund Club of America

TWO-YEAR TERM
William Blair – Progressive Dog Club
Karen Burgess – Greater Clark County Kennel Club
Karen R. Spey – American Pointer Club

THREE-YEAR TERM
Patricia W. Laurans, Chair – German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America
Karen Mays, Secretary – Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association
Betty Jo Patrick – Schipperke Club of America
Peter G. Piusz – American Rottweiler Club

PERSPECTIVES EDITORIAL STAFF:
ONE-YEAR TERM
Sylvia Arrowwood – Charleston Kennel Club
Dick Blair – Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club
Patricia Reynolds – Yorkshire Terrier Club of America
Daniel J. Smyth, Esq., – Burlington County Kennel Club
Sherry E. Wallis – Basset Hound Club of America

TWO-YEAR TERM
Dr. Gerry Meisels – St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association
Dr. Geno Sisneros – American Pomeranian Club
Monica Henderson Stoner – Saluki Club of America
Sylvia Thomas, Secretary – Kennel Club of Riverside
Carol A. Williamson, Chair – Houston Kennel Club
Lynn Worth-Smith – Vizsla Club of America

AKC GAZETTE • 39 • OCTOBER 2012
delegates’ quarterly meeting


Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 367
Abilene Kennel Club—Neil A. Bates
Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—Ms. Constance Buthens
Airedale Terrier Club of America—Aletta L. Moore
Akitas Club of America—Sherry E. Walls
Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—Patricia A. Peel
American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—Nancy L. Bennett
American Black & Tan Coonhound Club, Inc.—Robert Urban
American Bouvier des Flandres Club, Inc.—Patte Klein
American Boxer Club, Inc.—Bruce E. Voin
American Brittany Club, Inc.—Judith Tighe
American Brussels Griffon Association—Mark Grigalunas
American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—Alan Kalter
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—Carol Williams
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—Marilyn E. Currey
American Fox Terrier Club—Connie Clark
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—Harold Miller
American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—Don Farley, II
American Pointer Club, Inc.—Mrs. Karen R. Spey
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—Dr. Geno Sisneros
American Rottweiler Club—Mr. Peter G. Piusz
American Sealyham Terrier Club—Kenneth W. Mader
American Shetland Sheepdog Association—Marjorie Tuff
American Shih Tzu Club, Inc.—Mrs. Sally L. Vilas
American Spaniel Club, Inc.—Julie Virostek
American Water Spaniel Club—Beth Lagomoniore
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. Anwood
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—Ann Wallin
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—Gail A. LaBerge
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—Joyce Rowland
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—William I. Christensen
Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Nina Schafer
Baltimore County Kennel Club—Lucy C. Campbell-Gracie
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
Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—Kathy Cowell
Beaumont Kennel Club, Inc.—Carl Holder
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—Phyllis Belcastro
Bedlington Terrier Club of America—Diane Pearson
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—Barbara Swisher
Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—Carole A. Wilson
Berk’s County Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally Bigl
Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—Sara Karl
Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. Gerald H. Yarbrough
Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—George Sikes
Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—Martha Griffin
Black Russian Terrier Club of America—Susan Sholar
Boca Raton Dog Club Inc.—Diane Wagner
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
Briard Club of America, Inc.—Michael Gibson
Bronx County Kennel Club—Ms. Alexa Samanotto
Brookhaven Kennel Club, Inc.—Marie A. Fiore
Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—Ruth A. Williams
Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—Helma Weeks
Bull Terrier Club of America—Rebecca Poole
Bulldog Club of America—Robert L. Newcomb
Bulldog Club of New England, Inc.—Francesca J. Castaneda
Bulldog Club of Philadelphia—Lynn E. Smith
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 E. Harmon
Canaan Dog Club of America—Pamela S. Rosman
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—Dr. Joyce A. Dumbridge
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Vivian A. Moran
Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—Jaimie Ashby
Catocrin Kennel Club—Whitney Coombs
Catonsville Kennel Club—Beverly A. Drake
Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc.—J Richard Seelbach
Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.—Julian Prager
Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—Sally Allen
Central New York Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Diane D. Abbey
Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—Claire K. Stoided
Chaparral Kennel Club, Inc.—Pan Goldman
Charleston Kennel Club—Sylvia Arwood
Chattanooga Kennel Club—David Gilstrap
Chester Valley Kennel Club—Dr. Samuel M. Peacock, Jr.
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—Margy B. Callitharp
Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—Nick Poes
Chow Chow Club, Inc.—Frank Holloway
Clackamas Kennel Club—Steven E. Nielsen
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
Chamber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—Judy Hiller
Collie Club of America, Inc.—Mr. Harold W. Sundstrom
Colorado Kennel Club—Mrs. Louise Leone
Colorado Springs Kennel Club—Sidney L. Marx
Columbia Kennel Club, Inc.—Barbara B. Shives
Columbia Missouri Kennel Club—Robert Brown
Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—Norma J. Ryan
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Memphis Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Robert D. Smith
Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.
Middleburg Kennel Club—Shelley C. Ross
Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—Giselle Simonds
Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—Sande White
Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—Ralph Hogancamp
Mispillion Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Blackie H. Nygond
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—Gretchen Bernardi
Mississippi Valley Retriever Club—Robert H. McKeown
Mohawk Valley Kennel Club—Sandra Haber
Monmouth County Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Helmi Konderock
Montgomery County Kennel Club—Ms. Ida E. Weinstock
Mount Vernon Dog Training Club—Mrs. Ruth W. Cunnob
Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Rebecca S. Stanovich
Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Judith V. Daniels
Nashville Kennel Club—James Efren
National Beagle Club—Eddie Dzikiu
National Shiba Club of America—Maggi Strouse
Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—Viola Bargs
New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—Virginia Rowland
Newman Kennel Club—Willie Grafford
Newton Kennel Club—Catherine H. Murch
Newtown Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Diane E. Taylor
Nisqually Kennel Club—R. H. Hachtel
North Shore Kennel Club—Richard E. Coletti
Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club, Inc.—Billie Ponton
Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc.—Margaret Mott
Norwich Terrier Club of America—Betty McDonnell
Nova Scotia Duck Toller Retriever Club (USA)—Marlene A. Waterstraat
Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Inc.—Ms. Patricia C. Saddy
Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island—James M. Ashton
Okaaloosa Kennel Club—Mrs. Gayle G. Stilwell
Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.—Martha Nazak
Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—Christiana Gabirri
Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—Felice Jarrod
Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—Daniel R. Cunningham
Otterhound Club of America—Joelle Gregory, D.V.M.
Ozark Kennel Club, Inc.—Mark A. Chambers
Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club—Mr. Carl E. Geses
Pacific Coast Bulldog Club, Inc.—Link Newcomb
Papillon Club of America, Inc.—Miss Arlene A. Czech
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—Gary Koeppel
Pasco Florida Kennel Club—Patricia J. Lombardi
Pekingese Club of America—Joseph B. Franklin
Penobscot Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—Mrs. Anne Boue
Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—Dennis J. Gallant
Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert W. Gilmour
Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America—Anne Gallant, Ph.D.
Pharaoh Hound Club of America—Dominic F. Carota
Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—Larry Wilson
Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Margaret Vohr
Plainfield Kennel Club—John McGallagh
Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—William E. Ellis
Pocono Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Krieger
Poodle Club of America, Inc.—Mary Ellen Fischer
Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—Robert A. Amos
Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—James Primmer
Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Joan Savage
Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—Brytt B. Haslinger
Progressive Dog Club—William H. Blair
Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—Florence R. Lachen
Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—Frances Stephens
Ramapo Kennel Club—Mrs. Rose J. Radel
Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.—Michael J. Tearing
Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—Jan M. Ritchie
Riverhead Kennel Club, Inc.—Bonnie Lane
Roanoke Kennel Club, Inc.—Charles Kerfoot
Rubber City Kennel Club—Cathy Gaidos
Sahuarlo State Kennel Club—Rita L. Mathur
Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—Mrs. Barbara Furhush
Saluki Club of America—Monica H. Stoner
Sammanish Kennel Club—Dr. Robert C. Glocster, M.D.
Sanoyed Club of America, Inc.—Mr. John L. Ronald
Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—Abbe R. Shaw
Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—Audrey Sutton
Santa Maria Kennel Club, Inc.—Laurence J. Libeu
Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia—Kay Allred
Schipperke Club of America, Inc.—Betty Jo Patrick
Scottish Terrier Club of America—Helen A. Prince
Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—Nancy Perrell
Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—Sandra Frci
Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Sharon Y. Hutchens
Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—Susan L. Hamil
Shreveport Kennel Club, Inc.—LaAnn Moore
Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—Ann M. Cook
Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club—William J. Feeney
Skokie Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—Pat Grossman
Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—Gloria Shaver
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—John Manderville
Somerset Hills Kennel Club—Billie McFadden
South Country Kennel Club, Inc.—Graffin Ginger M. Leewenburg
South Hills Kennel Club—Raymond P. Harrington
South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Linda B. Wilson
South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—Linda C. Flynn
South Texas Obedience Club, Inc.—Mrs. Gerry Dalakian
South Windsor Kennel Club—Margaretta (Peggy) Wamplold
Southwest Arkansas Kennel Club—Ricky Blackman
Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—John V. Ioia
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. Joseph Kennel Club, Inc.—Dale Hanshuget
St. Louis Collie Club, Inc.—Barbara L. Schwartz
St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—Dr. Gerry Meisels
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—Jenny Merritt
secretary’s page

Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—Holly E. Sheltry
Standard Schnauzer Club of America—Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser
Staten Island Kennel Club, Inc.—Dr. Bernard E. McGivern, Jr.
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
Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Florence Duggan
Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—Marilyn DeGregorio
Talbot Kennel Club—Pamela Helmer
Tampa Bay Kennel Club—Mary Manning-Stolz
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—Catherine Bell
Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—Kelly Yarish
Tibetan Spaniel Club of America—Mr. Herbert H. Rosen
Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Stacey La Forge
Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—Robert E. Bositom
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
Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—Patricia C. Sarles
Union County Kennel Club, Inc.—Carlotta Dennie
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. Ferruggiaro
Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club—J. M. Haderer
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 E. Dumas
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—Lynn Worth-Smith
Wampusoco Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Naida L. Parker
Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—James W. Smith
Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—Mrs. Anita A. Lustenberger
Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—Mary A. Escheville

Weimaraner Club of America—Judy Colan
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. Geoffrey
Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—Tonic Steele
Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—Mr. William A. Russett
Westminster Kennel Club—Harvey M. Wooding
Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc.—Colleen McDaniel
Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—Candace Mogavero
Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—Frederick R. Vogel
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—Mrs. Karen Mays
Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Inc.—Fred T. Kampo
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—Rosann Sexton
Worcester County Kennel Club—Debra A. Hokkanen
Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—Patricia D. Reynolds
Dennis B. Sprung called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

There was a vote for the Delegate Standing Committees.

The Chair introduced the people seated with him on the podium: Chairman, Alan Kalter; Vice Chairman, Dr. Robert Smith; Doris Abbate, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; James Crowley, Executive Secretary; and Mark Schaffer, the court reporter.

The Chair informed the Delegates of the passing of Susan Gray, Delegate of the Wachusett Kennel Club since 1989 and Barbara Wicklund, Delegate of the Basset Hound Club of America, serving since 1976.

The Executive Secretary read the names of Delegates seated since the last meeting:
- Roger M. Arbuthnot to represent Superstition Kennel Club
- John R. Barnes, to represent American Maltese Association
- Jeffrey David Bell, to represent Ramapo Kennel Club
- Tarianne Gallegos, to represent Silky Terrier Club of America
- Richard E. Grant, to represent Providence County Kennel Club
- Andrew I Kalmanash, to represent Saw Mill River Kennel Club
- Adele Keyfel, to represent Yakima Valley Kennel Club
- Richard Rohrbacher, to represent Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting since approval, were introduced from the floor:
- Susanne E. B. Burgess, to represent English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association
- Brit Boyle Hasslinger, to represent Portuguese Water Dog Club of America
- Pamela Helmer, to represent Cordova Kennel Club
- Sandra J. Launey, to represent Basset Hound Club of America
- Diane Pearson, to represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America
- Douglas Rapport, to represent, Irish Terrier Club of America
- Geraldine Werk, to represent Hollywood Dog Obedience Club

The minutes of the June 12, 2012 Delegates meeting were published in the online AKC Gazette, and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal. The minutes were approved as published.

Alan Kalter gave the Chairman's report as follows:
Thank you, Dennis.

Good morning, fellow Delegates. When we met in June, we spoke of the proposed new regulations to the Animal Welfare Act and the onerous impact it would have on AKC fancy breeders like you and I.

We were determined to act quickly and with great purpose to address this issue, and we did. The AKC government relations team developed comprehensive, compassionate and convincing comments requiring a rethink of the USDA proposal. Thousands of you took individual action and posted comments on the site. The comments were constructive, and I believe they will be reviewed with great thought from the USDA.

The petition we started that day advocating for the AKC position ignited the passionate support of over 70,000 followers, and we believe our voice will be strongly and undeniably heard.

The quest for equitable regulations will continue for some time. This was just the beginning of a long journey, one that we were prepared for and committed to for as far and as long as it takes.

Now, earlier this year, as I was traveling to New York for an AKC Board meeting and with these anti breeder actions on my mind, I was approached by a flight attendant as I was boarding the plane. She mentioned that she had noticed my AKC Breeder of Merit pin and asked if I was a dog breeder. I responded yes, and then steelied myself for what might come next.

Well, I was truly unprepared for her comment. She said, "Thank you, thank you." She went on to explain that a dog has always been an important part of her family's life, her children's lives and her grandchildren's lives; each a purebred dog, albeit several different breeds, and each acquired from a breeder.

She understood that the lifelong joy her dogs brought to her and her family was made possible by a breeder. She just wanted me to know that my role as a breeder was appreciated and worthwhile. It was good to be reminded of that.

Unfortunately, every day we are confronted by those who see a breeder very differently. Those who work law by law by restrictive law to take our rights away. Every day we fight to protect those rights from the onslaught of extremists who would see breeding restricted to the point of elimination.

The American Kennel Club believes in your rights as responsible owners and responsible breeders. We stand up for your rights whenever and wherever necessary. We will not stand by and let breeders be bullied into hiding. To ensure that will not happen we need more than a strong argument about what we are against. We need to be just as strong about what we are for. In September, we have the perfect opportunity to tell everyone about that. This month, hundreds of our clubs will participate in the tenth annual AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day, by hosting free community events reaching dog owners, potential pet owners, voters and legislators.

The AKC will host its flagship event in Raleigh on Saturday, September 22nd. We welcome AKC clubs, Canine Good Citizen evaluators, rescue groups, dog trainers, vet clinics and all other dog loving groups to join us in making this year the biggest month long event celebration yet. If you haven’t already, I urge you and your club to sign up for an event.

Last year more than 630 dog clubs and other organizations hosted events reaching millions of dog lovers and potential pet owners through extensive media coverage. Dog lovers also posted thousands of acts of responsible dog ownership on their Facebook and Twitter pages to help us celebrate virtual AKC RDO Days.

If you follow us on Facebook and Twitter to get the latest AKC RDO days and updates, you can participate in our virtual celebrations; and for those of you who have a Facebook page, or those who will now have one after you attended the
obedience and agility are some of the temperament, scent discrimination, and companion events. High drive, sound temperament, scent discrimination, obedience and agility are some of the characteristics of an outstanding SAR dog. Because of the large investment in training, it is desirable that these dogs enjoy a long, productive career. In this regard, purebred dogs are preferred as they have better known genetics and are more predictable for success. Purebreds comprise over 95% of the FEMA certified dogs.

In June we heard from Cindy Otto, Director of the PennVET Working Dog Center in Philadelphia. Today is their grand opening. In attendance are three 9-11 dogs. Each will be receiving their AKC Urban SAR dog title. With these titles, the AKC is memorializing the skills and service of SAR dogs. In our own way, we are saying “We will never forget.”

While we tend to think of our titles as honoring dogs, many activities are a team effort, with the other half of the team being the handler. This certainly is the case with SAR work. We are very fortunate to have such a team member in our Delegate body. At this time I would like to ask Becky Stanevich, Delegate for the Mountaineer KC, and her dog Juno to please step forward to receive the first AKC Urban SAR dog title. Becky and Juno are members of FEMA’s Ohio Task Force One. Congratulations Becky and Juno.

Ms. Stanevich spoke as follows:

Good morning. I really don’t like speaking, but this is such an important and special topic for me that I decided I’d speak. At any rate, what I’m going to try and cover this morning are three things very briefly: What is a FEMA task force and how does it work; what does it take to get a dog certified to work as a disaster dog; and to explain a little bit about what happens during a deployment.

Urban search and rescue involves the location, the rescue and extrication and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped in confined spaces. Structural collapse is the most frequent cause of entrapment, and collapses can be caused by earthquakes, hurricanes, dam failures, terrorist attacks, etcetera. A little bit of history: In the early ’80s, the Fairfax and Miami fire departments created elite search and rescue teams specifically trained for rescue operations in collapsed buildings. It hadn’t been done before that in this country.

In 1991, FEMA incorporated this concept and began funding USAR task forces. Today there are 28 task forces that provide round the clock operations, are self sufficient for approximately seven days, and are deployed at the request of state and local governments.

And I forgot to make one really important point, so I’m going to go backwards: Our dogs work what we call “naked.” They do not work with a collar or any booties or anything like that on them. I think this picture on the left hand side is pretty demonstrative about why we don’t use collars. This dog could have been, you know, trapped by that collar with the rebar and everything there. So it takes a lot more control for our dogs, but we feel they are a lot safer. Moving on to certification, FEMA and SUSAR, the State Urban Search and Rescue group, have very strong certification programs for the dogs, and that certification process starts with selecting a dog. And, of course, dogs can be almost any breed, but the purebred hunting, working and herding breeds are the most obvious choices. The most common breeds we see in the system are Labrador Retrievers, German Shepherd Dogs, Belgian Malinois, Border Collies and Golden Retrievers.

Regardless of the breed or the size, only a very small percentage of dogs have all the skills necessary to complete those tasks. And currently there are only about 250 dogs in the FEMA system in the entire country. They must have exceptionally high drive, have very stable temperament, be totally fearless, ultimately confident and have sold conformation that aids them in being excellent athletes. And they must have a driving desire to work.

I prefer to start with early training with my puppies. Some people will prefer to have a started dog, an 18 month old, 20 month old dog. But I like the early ones; I like to know what I’m exposing them to. So in this picture, Juno is walking over top of things; she’s stepping onto a tarp, which is going to move under her, be slippery, just have strange sensations. There are slippery things; even the leaves make noises and give her something to play in.
The picture on the right is really an important picture. She is just walking up a piece of plywood there, but look at her toes. Her toes are spread and she's made her feet very big, and this gives her a lot of traction on that board. When they're scared, their toenails come out and they have nothing to grip with.

They use those feet so much, that's another reason we don't like to put boots on our dogs unless they're injured, because they really need to use their feet when they're out there working. The first stage in the certification process is what we call the foundation skills assessment, and it's really looking at the foundation skills that we think are essential for a dog to work in the rubble. And in this test, the dog is close to the handler most of the time, so there's some support from the handler. The scent problems are very straightforward. And you can see here the five elements that the dogs are tested on. Let me just say that for me, this is like taking a dog to an obedience trial for novice heeling to utility scent discrimination; an agility trial, where the dog climbs a ladder and traverses a six foot dog walk; and a field trial, where the dog must find two victims in 15 minutes, and it's all done in one day. So our dogs have to have a lot of skills, and the skills have to be maintained at a high level.

The second step, and this is the deployable step, is called the certification evaluation. It consists of one element, which is the canine disaster search. And the dogs have two 20 minute search problems. They might be working on a wood pallet pile, as Juno is on the left hand side; or they might be working on concrete rubble, as Ben is on the right side. Ben has found his victim; he's got his nose right in the hole where the victim is.

In the certification evaluation, they will have one to six victims to find. The problems involve very complex scent problems and the distractions such as animal remains, food and human clothing are there to confuse the issue a little bit.

Doug wanted to know what this tail was. Well, I call this a "Springer flag," and I think if you've hunted behind a Springer in the field, you know it tells you that the dog is on a bird. In the rubble, it tells me that the dog is in victim scent, so it's really an important thing. And right now she is telling me we're kind of at the end of the certification part, and I better hurry up and tell you a little bit about the handler part.

Because we are a team. I've taken literally hundreds of hours of classroom and field training in topics such as structural collapse, confined spaces, hazardous materials, etc., so that I can assess the situations that we need to move into and search to make sure they're not too dangerous for me or for the dog. Our training is ongoing; we have topics that we have to recertify in; and the certification evaluation has to be done every three years.

A little bit about the role of the canine in a deployment. Canine teams are part of our search team. This is a picture from 9/11, actually; Pennsylvania Task Force One Canines.

Four canines are deployed in each deployment. There are two dogs that operate for 12 hours during the day, and two dogs that operate during the night. So this is the night shift, and you can see there is a dog handler, a search manager and a search technician and a dog. The two dogs and the two search teams will usually work in different sectors. If one dog finds a live scent, then the other dog will come over and confirm that is live human scent and that it's in the same area where the first dog is indicating.

During Hurricane Irene, Juno and I went to New Jersey and New York. They had devastating rains in New York, and that's where we ended up. We started off being pre positioned in New Jersey, where the hurricane's eye passed over us, but the devastation wasn't very great there. New Jersey was able to take care of it themselves without federal assistance, so we moved to New York where it was unexpected, where they didn't have the same resources New Jersey had. Moving a task force of 80 people and all of our equipment is a really impressive task. We have 15 to 18 vehicles, including an 18 wheeler. Remember we have to be ready to be self-sufficient for seven days. We've slept in hotels, Air Force hangars, dining halls and in our own tent city.

This tent city, I don't know how many buildings there were, it goes up in a matter of an hour. It's pretty impressive. Our mission in New York was to make sure that people isolated by impassable roads and bridges had food, water, medications and were safe. We also surveyed damage in the area. To do this, we were airlifted into these isolated areas. The dogs were included on the search teams in case there were structures that needed to be searched.

Now we'll move on to 9/11. A good friend from the Pennsylvania task force and her dog, Willow, deployed, and she's lent me a few of her slides.

Sometimes the dogs work. You can see maybe actually you can't see very well, but behind the big piece of yellow plywood or cardboard, there's a dog working back there.

And this is actually a fairly close to working distance. Our dogs oftentimes have to work long distances away from us.

And then the other picture, we have the two dog team getting ready to deploy. Sometimes the dogs help. They serve as therapy dogs, and they got a little bit of relaxation while the people around them were able to pet them and just relax a little bit.

And then sometimes they got help. You can see the dog on the left is being what we call "deconned", cleaned up after his shift. This is Logan. And on the right hand side, I'm not sure who the dog is, you can see Cindy Otto kind of in the middle right of your picture. She is rehydrating a dog. If you'll remember, she said dehydration is the most commonly seen health problem. This dog is getting fluids right now.

There is a lot of competition between task forces, because we all want to go out the door and we all can't go out the door at the same time, obviously. But there's also a lot of camaraderie. So one week after the towers fell, on the 18th, Pennsylvania welcomed Texas Task Force 1 in to take their place.

And we train together. This coming weekend, I'll be training with people in Indianapolis from all over the country. So we learn from each other; we work with each other; we have a great deal of respect for one another. It's a really good group of people.

Almost since I started this work, my husband asked me why we don't breed dogs specifically to search for people. The one reason that I'm standing up here talking, that I've said yes to Doug when he's asked me to do things, is that it's so
vitaly important to find dogs who can do this work. Having this title provides us with an invaluable tool to breed a better search dog.

When I first started this, I thought somebody asked me if I’d take to the AKC the concept of a title for urban search dogs. I thought, oh, sure; another title. It took me a little while to really understand what this title could do for dogs and for the search world in general. So I think in the long run, the AKC is contributing to the development of a better working dog, and dogs that can be used in scent discriminating jobs impacting national security.

Finally, I want to thank the AKC and especially Doug Ljungren for making these titles possible. Really it was just three months ago that Doug and I started working on this. And working with Doug and the other people in the AKC that have been invaluable in this project has shown me the real heart of the AKC. This project has never been about money, making money. You know, we hear that all the time: “Oh, that’s just the AKC trying to make money.” It’s never been about making money; it’s been about honoring these wonderful, wonderful dogs. I’m tearing up, I’m sorry. With the addition of this title and other up and coming titles, the AKC is moving forward. I can honestly say that the AKC is for everyone who loves their dogs. Thank you.

(Standing ovation)

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

I’d like to ask you to please stand for a moment of silence in memory of the tragedy that occurred during this Delegates meeting 11 years ago today. (A moment of silence is observed) A great deal has changed in all of our lives as a result of 9/11. I will repeat what was shared with you in the past since AKC’s family accomplished so much in this area, as we pulled together and not apart.

That morning, Ron Menaker and I were in the lobby of this very hotel when Blackie came up to us and said that a plane had hit the World Trade Center. We walked over to the deserted bar area, where an elderly gentleman was watching the news. When we approached he said to us, ”My son called last night; one of our planes is missing and they are coming to get us.” Within minutes, the next plane hit. We turned around but the gentleman was gone.

That day we were together as one. There were 284 Delegates in attendance, less than half; 137 of you, are still serving. Naturally the meeting bordered on chaotic. We hugged and reassured each other outwardly, but inside there was fear and anger. The screens will show you that there were very valid but opposing points of view. (Quotes from) Nina Schaefer, Blackie Ngyood, and Ruth Ann Naun.

After a discussion about the agenda and a vote for the Standing Committees, we adjourned and helped one another begin going home or finding safe haven for the night.

In reflecting on the 9/11 anniversary, the thought that always resonates with me is the type of very special people that make up our community. I recall how the DOGNY project came about, allowing the American Kennel Club to honor search and rescue dogs that helped in Pennsylvania, Washington and New York City, and will provide some behind the scenes facts. It was very much a shared success. Delegate Tom Davies, Springfield Kennel Club, was the very first sponsor, and many clubs followed. Fed Ex, IAMS, J.P. Morgan and Hartz became major corporate sponsors. Before too long, numerous other organizations heeded our call and we received help from many household names. It took until the following evening for me to arrive at home, where the Ladies Kennel Association was holding a meeting, so one could find me in the basement. CBS Radio began broadcasting a plea for the donation of a portable x ray machine for rescue dogs that were hurt searching through the rubble. My thought was: ”Dog people could do that.”

So I went up the stairs and asked the ladies to post an online request to purchase an x ray machine. About nine p.m. that night, a call came in and we were able to purchase everything that we needed from a salesman in West Virginia. Our next challenge was how to transport the x ray machine, numerous cartons of gloves, aprons and film, so another request went out to relay the equipment to Ground Zero. Dozens of our own caring people called throughout the evening, and by early morning the race was on: From West Virginia to Maryland to Pennsylvania, ending up in New Jersey with Afghan Hound breeders Bob and Angela Dimicola, who passed it on for the final delivery. Luckily, AKC had presented one of our very first ACE Awards to a member of the Canine Unit the year before at the Queensboro Kennel Club, thanks to the courtesy of Linda Lacchia and Rey and Viola Burgos. A call was made to Lieutenant Donadio, and he instructed us to have the equipment brought through the Lincoln Tunnel and to proceed down 11th Avenue until we were stopped.

Well, indeed we were stopped. But we were allowed to make one phone call. Within moments, we were surrounded by police and unmarked cars with sirens blasting and were escorted to the very street corner of Ground Zero amidst smoke that was still rising from the ashes. Just as the car was coming to a stop, the veterinarians from the Suffolk County SPCA, headed by Gerald Lauber, came running towards us and began assembling the x ray machine. We weren’t there long enough to see it in operation, as we were escorted out of Ground Zero. But I knew then and there that the American Kennel Club did the right thing.

It was the most emotional moment in my life. The streets were lined with tens of thousands of people waving flags and cheering us, but I knew better. They were cheering you, the American Kennel Club.

In the back of my mind, there was another thought. We could do a lot more. So the idea for DOGNY actually began just two days following 9/11, eventually raising over three and a half million dollars for search and rescue organizations throughout our nation, as we worked with fanciers, corporations and the public. In fact, it was with these funds that the AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund was begun.

Since that time, AKC CAR has made numerous significant grants nationwide. Interestingly, following 9/11, the government chose to keep secret the names of the organizations that came to help. But AKC staff did their research and identified over 90 amateur and professional groups that went to the
three cities with their dogs. Each organization was sent several thousand dollars as a thank you and as a way to defer their costs. After all, this could occur again where you live.

Looking back, the project almost didn’t happen. Daphna Strauss was hired as a consultant. Today she is our Assistant Vice President of Business Development. And she, along with our legal team, began working through the maze of red tape necessary for the City to give us contractual permission to have statues displayed on the streets to commemorate the very first anniversary of 9/11.

For some unknown reason, the newly elected Bloomberg administration, busily taking over for everybody’s hero, Mayor Rudy Giuliani, seemed to concentrate on things other than the American Kennel Club. Can you imagine? Almost two months into the project, it was time to call upon Co Chair Karen LeFrak, and tell her about my frustration. Actually, I spent a long time bitching. This project just may not go anywhere. Well, surprisingly, the very next morning I received a telephone call from the First Deputy Mayor: “The City is ready to sign.” After patting myself on the back about 100 times, I mean, this was like going best, I finally remembered to call Karen to tell her about this coincidental good news.

Silence. “Can you hear me?” More silence. “Okay. What happened?” After my call the previous day, Karen had walked over to Mayor Bloomberg’s townhouse and left him a note on the kitchen table.

We had to figure out how to transport 111 raw sculptures from the foundry to different artists’ studios throughout the city, and then have each one individually picked up and taken to another company to be mounted on bases. We reached out to fancier Honi Reisman, who arranged a call with Ken May, the Senior Vice President of Federal Express.

AKC was lucky again, perhaps because we were doing the right thing. He said, “We could do this,” but I missed his meaning, as my response was, “I know you could do it, but can we pay for it?” Ken’s answer was astounding. He said, “You will pay for nothing. Your company’s a hero. We’re just going to make it happen.” And they did, providing tens of thousands of dollars of free shipments and logistics.

I’ll also tell you about what was a guarded secret for quite a while with another member of our community. AKC received a call for help from the police department that of the approximately 300 dog teams that had come to the city, some of the dogs were injured and were being treated at a hospital, but the owners or their handlers were being charged. So I called a member of their Board of Directors to ask with whom I could speak. The response was, quote, “Dennis, I’ll make you a deal. I will pay for the care of every single dog if you will keep this a secret between the two of us.”

Well, that deal is long over, and the angel is Tony Sosnoff, another example of the quality people with whom each of us is blessed to share our passion. The cooperation amongst clubs, fanciers, corporate America and the media was extraordinary, growing into our largest public outreach up until that time. However, without passionate dog people, it would simply have been another good idea.

I’m going to stop my speech to walk you through something special. This sculpture is of a handsome German Shepherd in good coat, just like it should be. But there’s a lot of passion and emotion in this statue. The coat is made up of the name, age, city and state of every person in America who perished on that day. I am very, very proud to tell you that AKC’s Board of Directors instantly supported this public art exhibition and fundraiser. Rubenstein Associates, American’s premiere PR firm, required a formal presentation before agreeing to work on the project. Midway through the presentation, they proclaimed, “We’re in.” With their efforts, AKC benefited by a wide variety of media appearances.

Scultures bearing The American Kennel Club’s name that were displayed for the very first anniversary still remain in some places: St. Vincent’s Hospital, PACE University, the Fire Department Museum, Veteran’s Administration Hospital, Purina Farms, Station One of the Portland Fire Department and at AKC headquarters.

Statues were painted live on The Today Show during numerous segments, and the NASDAQ screens in Times Square featured our program. In Georgia, Governor Sonny Perdue unveiled a bronze DOGNY statue at the State Capitol building in Atlanta, with Delegates Ann Wallin, Karen and Asa Mays and Carmen Battaglia representing 32 clubs and organizations.

In Oklahoma, Onofrio and four of our All Breed clubs dedicated a statue near the site of the bombing of the federal building. A bronze version marks the entrance to the world headquarters of Hartz in New Jersey, and one welcomes visitors to our operations center in North Carolina.

AKC was made appealing to the public from a canine perspective and a human one. For shoppers and tourists, when Saks Fifth Avenue blackened all but two of their 34 windows for a two week period to commemorate the first anniversary, both of those windows facing St. Patrick’s Cathedral displayed only DOGNY dogs. Broadway buffs saw a pair of sculptures over three-month’s in the heart of Shubert Alley, where two and a half million people visit every week.

In the sports arena, we were fortunate that the three year wait for a special event at Yankee Stadium was handled in one week, and that organization offered DOGNY Day, at which 25,000 special edition pin striped “Help a Hero” toys were donated by Hartz. A statue purchased by breeder/exhibitor Amy Khiel Green bears the signatures of the entire Yankee team.

Major League Baseball, as well as the New York Mets organization and their owners, obedience enthusiasts Fred and Judy Wilpon, also sponsored statues. Plush dog mementos carrying AKC’s messaging appeared in over 12,000 stores nationwide.

Some will recall that the president of Hartz, Robert Devine, attended our meeting in this very room in September of 2002 as a guest of this Body, and presented a check for $775,000 to Ron Menaker. Hartz then donated an additional $500,000. Ron did a great deal as co Chair throughout the entire DOGNY project.

TFH published a commemorative book, and after the public art display, Sotheby’s Auction House donated their main gallery, along with the services of Vice Chairman Benjamin Doller as auctioneer. Famed columnist and
Dachshund fancier Liz Smith also donated her services as guest auctioneer and graced us with more publicity. This gives you a bit of a history about DOGNY and its accomplishments during a time of crisis in our nation, and the numerous reasons to be proud of yourselves, your clubs and the many special people in our community, as well as AKC CAR and the American Kennel Club.

Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Sprung introduced Peter Farnsworth, AKC’s new Chief Financial Officer, who joined AKC in July. He comes to us after an extensive financial career on Wall Street. He was CFO for the AmericaCares Foundation, which includes five diverse businesses, and served as the CFO of Amnesty International USA.

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

Total revenues of $4.6 million in the month of August 2012 were $250,000 below budget but $350,000 above 2011. Total monthly operating expenses of $4.7 million were $200,000 below budget but $200,000 above 2011. This resulted in an operating loss of $67,000 for the month. This was an improvement from last August’s monthly operating loss of $217,000. Our investments, Year-To-Date, are up $4.9 million but we recognize this could change at any time.

The first vote was on the proposed Amendment to Chapter 2, Section 3, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which would require clubs to hold shows in their territory in order to maintain exclusive privilege in their territory. The amendment was proposed by the Suffolk County Kennel Club. The AKC Board approved the first insertion, which would enable clubs to utilize a site in their territory after the club assigned that territory has not held a show in that territory for two consecutive years. The Board did not recommend approval of the proposed new last sentence, which would enable the original club to reestablish exclusivity and would only recommend approval on the proposal if it is deleted.

Robert Eisele, Delegate for the Suffolk County Kennel Club, spoke as follows:

On the presentation of this, it was pointed out to me the reason that the Board did not like the second sentence was the fact that a club could be out of a territory for a number of years, a second club could come in and have shows there for a number of years, and the first club could come back and actually kick them out. So we’ve come up with an amendment we’d like to add to this. I had sent it to Jim, so I think he can print it as I read it:

“Each member club or association, not a specialty club, which shall hold a show within their territory at least once in every 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.”

The paragraph that’s not being printed that I had sent was: “Failure to hold a show at least once in two consecutive years will result in that territory being open to other clubs wishing to hold a show in that territory without needing permission from another club assigned to that territory.”

What I’m basically doing there is defining that the area that has not had a show within a period of time is then considered open; and this paragraph refers back to that paragraph.

Clubs that have not held a show in their territory within two consecutive calendar years will be granted the exclusive privilege to their territory one year after the next date they hold a show in their territory. Any clubs that have held a show in an open territory will be granted concurrent privileges to that territory if ever the original club reestablishes exclusivity.

That was what was pointed out to me by the Board, that they were concerned that the second club would be adversely affected by a club coming back to their territory.

This motion really don’t change anything. It just encourages people to keep a local show. It doesn’t stop anybody from having a cluster and moving outside their territory, but it doesn’t stop somebody from going into that territory that’s been basically abandoned.

Following discussion, it was voted to refer the proposed amendment to the Dog Show Rules Committee.

The next vote was on the proposed amendment to Chapter 5, Section 6 through 8 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Ribbon, Prizes and Trophies, which would make all sections in this chapter consistent.

There were two thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted, effective immediately.

The final vote was on the proposed amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, a new sixth paragraph of 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 Parent Club, provided there are twice the number required for a five point major in the winner’s sex. The Parent Club would have the option of not providing this additional major.

There were two thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted, effective January 1, 2013.

The Chair called on John Lyons, who will retire in January of 2013, to provide an update about the process of selecting his successor.

Mr. Lyons: Good morning, everyone. In July, AKC launched a public search for a new Chief Operating Officer, using the same firm responsible for finding me nine years ago. Advertisements began appearing two months ago. This outreach included a posting on our web site and ads in all major dog publications, as well as in the online and print versions of the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times.

The initial round of cuts has been made and will be presented to the officers, and interviews will begin. The list of finalists will be vetted with the Board. Chairman Alan Kalter and Board members Dr. William Newman, Patricia Cruz and Robert Amen will then interview candidates. The President will make a recommendation to the Directors for election to the COO position, effective January 7th, 2013.

The target for the completion of this
process is within a few weeks from today, so that the successful candidate will be mentored by me for a couple of months before my retirement. This very measured approach will allow for a smooth transition.

Now let's switch gears and talk about our Delegates. We will now honor Delegates who have served for 25 years. This is the 14th time that AKC has had the privilege to present Delegate medallions. The medallion is in recognition of meritorious and long term contributions to the Sport. Each individual has served in this Body for 25 years, and they join 84 previously honored Delegates. This medallion program recognizes our core constituency, and it allows the grateful American Kennel Club the opportunity to honor our own. Will the following Delegates please come forward:

Gretchen Bernardi, the Mississippi Valley Kennel Club; Charles H. Schaefer, the Kennel Club of Philadelphia; Robert S. Jaggers, Jr., Kern County Kennel Club; and Howard W. Sundstrom, the Collie Club of America.

(Applause)

The Chair called on Jim Crowley to honor five member clubs.

Mr. Crowley: I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the American Foxhound Club; the Bulldog Club of Philadelphia; the Japanese Chin Club of America; Middlesex County Kennel Club; and the Pacific Coast Boston Terrier Club, which are celebrating 100 years of membership in the American Kennel Club. The Chairman will present each club with a plaque to commemorate this occasion. If the Delegates of these clubs are present, please come to the front of the room.

Thank you and congratulations. (Applause)

The Chair called on Jim Crowley to give a report on the Nominating Committee.

Mr. Crowley: The next item is the report of the Nominating Committee. At the July 2012 meeting, the Board of Directors selected the following Delegates to the Nominating Committee to select candidates for the class of 2017.

Gretchen Bernardi, Chair, Mississippi Valley Kennel Club; Karolyn McAtteer, Irish Setter Club of America; Patricia Sample, Anderson Obedience Training Club; Patti Strand, Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon; Meg Weitz, Devon Dog Show Association. Alternate: Dominic Carota, Pharaoh Hound Club of America.

Judith V. Daniels, Mount Baker Kennel Club, was also appointed by the Nominating Committee as an alternate. As per an email on July 24 to the Chair of the Committee, she resigned from this position.

The Chair called on Gretchen Bernardi to address the Delegates.

Ms. Bernardi: Before I say anything about that, could I just say that although being a Delegate for 25 years has been a great privilege, Becky Stanevich puts us all to shame. She is the real deal, and I’m humbled to have her among us.

(Appause)

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work since we were selected, and we’re privileged to have had an extra month to do our work and so we’ve taken advantage of that. We’ve reached out to everyone, and yesterday we conducted nine interviews, all afternoon, almost an hour each. It was very, very exciting to be able to do that, and we’re proud of our work. We know that people can still put their names into us. We’re meeting at the end of this month. The names, the final slate is due the 15th of October, and will be on time, and we’re going to have one more face to face meeting. But we also know that it is possible for Delegates to run from the floor and bypass the interview process. And we hope that all the Delegates are mindful of that when they cast their ballots. Thank you very much.

(Appause)

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

May I address the previous comments, please?

Mr. Sprung: Yes.

Ms. Daniels: Thank you. It was an honor to be named as an Alternate to the Nominating Committee. However, the note that I sent both to Gretchen and to Alan, our Chairman, stated that because a few Delegates had started talking to me about becoming a candidate, I wrote a very simple note requesting to be off the committee, because whether or not I should decide to become a candidate, I felt it would be a conflict and I did not want to be a conflict. Thank you very much.

The Chair called on Carl Ashby to give an update on the status of the Club President’s Challenge.

Mr. Ashby: In June we shared with you the Presidents Challenge. This annual fund drive will support the American Kennel Club Political Action Committee as well as the Canine Legislative Support Fund. Today, I plan to update you on the status of the Challenge, recognize some Clubs who have both and exceeded it and continue to ask for your support and we close out the 2012 Presidents Challenge.

As I have talked with you the last two days it’s has been gratifying to hear your response to the Challenge. If I could change the presentation shown today it would add thousands to the total of $54,000 in the last 3 months. Your support of the Challenge has been truly gratifying and I ask you continue to work with your as we move into fall, as our clubs are getting back into the swing of things, and we know that you will have the opportunity to talk and bring this before your clubs.

Now, I would like to share with you a couple of honor rolls. We are going to honor everyone that does this; we are going to be sure that everyone appears on the web site, and appears in our e letters and so forth, because we have had a tremendous broad based support that I am going to talk about in just a second. And then if you take a look at the folks who have donated a thousand dollars and up as of last week, and I apologize as always if a name has been left off, but as of early last week, this is what it was, and it’s just great results.

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Association; the Basenji Club of America; the Basset Hound Club of America; Greater Hickory Kennel Club; Marion Kennel Club; Penn Ridge Kennel Club; and the Siberian Husky Club of America. These have just gone way beyond what we asked in the challenge, and we couldn’t be more proud and pleased for their support. And then if you take a look at that 500 to a thousand dollars, and that’s the roll here, and I’ve just listed the clubs in this case; I won’t read those, but you can see we have broad based support. But what I think is more important is in the details of this. When this started, the first year of the PAC, we had 65 donors. It’s true we raised about $16,000, but only 65 eligible individuals, made that up. This time, though, just in the PAC side alone, which once the money is totally vetted you will have raised about $21,000. First, that’s a record and secondly it was done in just three months. On top of that, 892 different individuals participated in the PAC. We were able to spread the base of the giving pyramid, and that is so important. In any kind of fundraising, particularly nonprofit, the more participation you have, the more impact it’s going to have, and that’s certainly been the case during the Challenge. If you take a look at licensed and member clubs, it shows you the potential. There are 5,047 clubs that are either licensed or members of the American Kennel Club. We have had 100 of our member clubs participate, 16 percent, and I think that is an outstanding start; but I think it also shows you the potential we have. And just the folks in this room clearly represent just by numbers about two and a half times that number. So if you will carry that message back just in the member clubs alone of the Delegates that are present today, we can get another 150 clubs, member clubs, into the fold. And licensed clubs at 120 represents only two percent of the licensed clubs. I think that’s pretty remarkable, given the fact it’s the first significant outreach we have had to them and they don’t have the benefit of you. If we can continue to build that relationship, we are going to be able to do a whole lot – a whole lot more.

Let’s now consider the Canine Legislative Support Fund. This is the easier fund in the sense that clubs can actually write checks; and the clubs have done that, you have done that. And, thanks to you, we have raised 31,000 so far, $234 per club. This is an outstanding start to the Challenge. So, what’s next? Well, the 2012 Challenge is going to continue into Fall. If you haven’t already asked your club we are asking you remind your Club of how they can help. Finally, this is an ongoing process. The 2013 Presidents Challenge is right around the corner. What you can do to get ready for that is this: Discuss with your club about designating a portion of your dues in 2013 to the PAC. We know that a lot of your philanthropic activities had already been planned for 2012 but we ask you to plan for the Challenge in 2013. Most clubs collect their dues in the first quarter, and this is a great opportunity to get a head start on the 2013 Challenge. Thank you very much. (Applause)

The Chair recognized Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club, who spoke as follows: I just wanted to share with you an idea that I had about the PAC, and I’ll find out when I get home whether it worked or not. I challenged my club members that I would match their donations to the PAC up to a certain amount. Our quarterly meeting was last night. So I’m here and they’re there. But I had various plants put in to help see if this is going to work. So I’ll find out when I get back how we did. I’m hoping that we get over the goal. We’re going to try hard. I’m not going to tell you how much I’ve set that match up to.

The Chair recognized: Margaret Doster, Delegate for the Kennel Club of Buffalo, who spoke as follows: I’ve presented this information to my Kennel Club, and they continue to have concerns regarding their 501C3 status and how making donations to either of these funds would affect the club and our account.

Mr. Sprung: We will be able to get you answers on that so you go about it properly and legally.

Ms. Doster: Thank you.

The Chair announced that the December Delegate meeting will be held in Orlando in connection with the AKC Eukanuba National Championship, will be at the Rosen Centre Hotel on Friday, December the 14th.

The following subjects were discussed during New Business:

Sydney Marx, Delegate for the Colorado Springs Kennel Club, thanked the AKC and many individual Delegates for the concern and support they showed those of us in Colorado during those horrendous fires. “Almost from Day One, I received calls and e mails from Delegates such as Duane and Connie Butherus; clubs like the Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club and the Afghan Hound Club of America sent financial and emotional assistance. The AKC through AKC CAR donated $6,000 to three nonprofits caring for displaced pets. In addition, the Humane Society of Boulder received a grant of $5,000 to purchase supplies for their emergency trailers. The Colorado Veterinary Medical Foundation received a grant of $3,000 presented by the Colorado Kennel Club. Two search and rescue groups received $2,000 each. As we have seen in the past, when things get tough, we all come together. We applaud and thank you all.” (Applause)

John Nielsen, Delegate for the English Setter Association of America, asked whether AKC advertised in the Raleigh newspapers regarding the COO position. Mr. Sprung responded that he would find out.

Ms. Bernardi asked if AKC could find a way to bring back our field reps to our shows?

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for that, Gretchen, and we did have a discussion just this past weekend with Patty Proctor.
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about that very item.

The Chair recognized Lee Arnold, Delegate for Southern Colorado Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: Fellow Delegates, I would like to give you an update on the AKC CHF. This past Sunday, we had two meetings. The first meeting took place with our grants committee, which is an annual meeting, at which time they approve and recommend grants to the Board of Directors for their afternoon meeting. Last year they approved an aggregate sum for research for 1.3 million dollars. This year they approved 17 grants to the tune of 1.7 million dollars, an increase of $400,000 from last year.

I would like to extend my thanks, gratitude and appreciation to the entire Delegate Body, those of you from clubs, individuals, who have all made this possible, and hopefully there will be even more next year. Two more points I would like to make concerning the CHF. We have always had a wonderful program in place called the Heritage Society, in which people, while we are still here on this good Earth, have obligated a sum of money to be given to the Foundation upon their demise. We have revised that program a little bit to make it an annuity program that’s now called the Heritage Society Annuity Program, in which when you make that commitment, you will receive money during your lifetime. If you are interested, you can call Terry Warren, who is our CEO, at 888 682 9696 and she’ll give you further details.

Lastly, I would just like to mention every year there’s a very important award called the President’s Award, which is given for meritorious service to either an individual or an organization. This year, being Chair of the organization, I selected Jim Stevens to receive the President’s Award for his service. And if you will indulge me (Applause)

I had this letter prepared by our CEO, Terry Warren, to be sent with the award to Jim: “Dear Jim, Lee Arnold, Chair of the AKC Canine Health Foundation, has chosen to recognize you as the recipient of this year’s President’s Award. Lee was very excited to present this award to you as you certainly represent a person who has made an exceptional contribution to advancing canine health by the extraordinary time and commitment you dedicated to seeing the Foundation go forward with fiscal responsibility. We are grateful for your service to CHF. With your help and leadership, we were able to navigate through financial and personnel turmoil. As the Chair of the Audit & Finance Committee, you helped secure the Foundation’s financial integrity, allowing us to continue to grow through donations from individuals, foundations and corporations.

As a member of the Board of Directors, you have gone above and beyond your commitment to helping dogs live longer, healthier lives. Your leadership has helped pave the way for the future of CHF, ensuring the work we do will continue to benefit dogs now and in the future. We are grateful for your commitment and we thank you for the time you have given and wish you much good health and great times in your retirement.” Thank you all. (Applause)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for that positive information.

Carol Williamson, Delegate for the Houston Kennel Club, spoke as follows: Speaking on behalf of Perspectives, the deadline for articles for our next issue will be the 15th of the month. Send them to Monica Stoner or to any of our committee members who are listed in the front page of Perspectives. The other thing is in answer to Peggy Wampold’s talking about Perspectives last meeting, I polled the members. 65 responded to me. If you were one of the 65 who responded, I have your printed copies with me. Please see me at the end of the meeting. And we’re still working on things to see how they’ll come out. We’ll keep you posted. Thank you.

Joan Tabor, Delegate for the Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, asked about reinstating a printed Gazette.

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club, confirmed, as per Carol Williams, that the deadline for Perspectives Articles is the 15th of October.

She asked about AKC’s policy of responding to negative articles in the National Press. She felt that AKC should be ready to respond to any article about dogs that appears in any national newspaper.

Mr. Sprung: The fact is that many newspapers have a policy of not publishing responses to certain types of articles like Op Ed and opinion pieces. We do write to them regardless of their policy, and we call them, but we are not in a position to change their policy. Fortunately, in other circumstances they do publish our responses. It is something that we are prepared for and that we do. Your suggestions are good, and fortunately we are doing that.

Mr. Marx: I know he’ll be upset with me for acknowledging this, but I think I’ll do it anyway. I just wanted to let you know that the President of the Colorado Springs Kennel Club, who is also a former Breeder of the Year, Doug Johnson, opened both of his kennels to these displaced dogs and for no charge.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club, also asked about reinstating the printed Gazette.

Kim Johnson of KPMG read the Teller’s report for the Delegate Standing Committee.

Ms. Johnston: For the Bylaws Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three year terms: Margaret DiCorleto; Margaret Doster; Lawrence Libeu; Cathleen Rubens.

For the Bylaws Committee, the following three candidates were elected for three year terms: Sylvia Arrowood; Dr. Gregory J. Paveza; Diane E. Taylor. Also for the Bylaws Committee, the following candidate was elected for a two year term: Harry Ottmann. For the Canine Health Committee, the following three candidates were elected for three year terms: Susan LaCroix Hamil; Joan Savage; Sherry E. Wallis. For the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three year terms: Dick Blair; Whitney Coombs; Mary Lou Olszewski; Carole Plesur.
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For the Dog Show Rules Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three year terms: Cindy Miller; Charles Schaefer; Robert A. Schroll; Johnny Shoemaker.

For the Obedience, Tracking and Agility Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three year terms: James Ashton; Jack Cadalso; Gail LaBerge; Kathrynann Sarvinas.

For the Parents Club Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three year terms: Patricia W. Laurans; Karen Mays; Betty Jo Patrick and Peter Piusz.

Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: There is no election required for the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee and for the Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee, as well as the Perspectives Editorial Committee.

The Delegates nominated for these committees are seated.

The Executive Secretary will read the names of the Delegates who will serve on these Committees.

Mr. Crowley: Delegates who self nominated there to serve three three year terms and one one year term on the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee are: Colleen McDaniel; Christopher Sweetwood; Joan Tabor; Judith Tighe.

Delegates who self nominated and will serve three three year terms, two two year terms and one one year term on the Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee are: Don Adams; Dominic Carota; Carol Fisher; Gwen McCullagh; Dr. Nicklas Pisias.

Delegates who self nominated and will serve six two year terms on the Perspectives Editorial Committee are Dr. Gerry Meisels; Dr. Geno Sisneros; Monica Henderson Stoner; Sylvia Thomas; Carol Williamson and Lynn Worth Smith.

An additional member may be appointed for a one year term, as a seat remains open.

(The meeting is adjourned at 12:10 p.m.)

The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.
MISSION STATEMENT:
The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

Attention Delegates
Notice of Meeting
The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Rosen Center Hotel, Orlando, FL, on Friday December 14, 2012, immediately following the 8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Delegates Forum.

Delegates Credentials
John Barnes, Marietta, GA, American Maltese Association
Barbara Jane Gates, Utica, MI, English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association
Richard E. Grant, Foster, RI, Providence County Kennel Club
Richard Rohrbacher, Sparta, NJ, Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America
Carla Jo Ryan, Snow Camp, NC, Japanese Chin Club of America
Kenneth M. Saenz, Felton, PA, Chihuahua Club of America
Stephen J. Skolnik, Abingdon, MD, Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club
Zane Smith, Boerne, TX, Hawaiian Kennel Club
Cindy Stansell, Clayton, NC, Finnish Spitz Club of America
Constance D. Townsend, Farmington, MN, Kuvaz Club of America
Letisha Wubble, Mohnton, PA, Affenpinscher Club of America

Notice
As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individuals stand suspended from AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual’s suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

- Mike Vogel (Anchorage, AK)
- Mrs. Charlotte Comstock (Waterford, CT)
- Mrs. Kathleen Ermer (Merrill, WI)
- Ms. Kimberly Neal (Aguanga, CA)

Notice
Mr. Larry Stein (Mount Holly, NJ) Action was taken by the Penn Treaty Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its April 29, 2012, event. Mr. Larry Stein was charged with physical altercation in connection with an event and improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report and found it in order and set the penalty at a one month suspension from all AKC privileges and a $300 fine, and a five month suspension from AKC event privileges and a $300 fine, effective July 11, 2012.

(Multiple Breeds)

Notice
Mrs. Susan Ross (Pittsgrove, NJ) Action was taken by the Penn Treaty Kennel Club for conduct in connection with its April 29, 2012, event. Mrs. Susan Ross was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report, found it in order and set the penalty at a reprimand and $100 fine.

(Bearded Collie)

Notice
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Mrs. Sherri Francis (Sandy, OR) for signing an AKC document on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney form. (German Shepherd Dog)

Notice
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for six months and imposed a $500 fine, for refusing to make their dogs and records available for inspection when requested:

Effective August 13, 2012
Mrs. Dawn Fowler (Salem, IL) Multiple Breeds

Effective September 10, 2012
Mrs. Patricia Edwards (China Spring, TX) Multiple Breeds
Mrs. Mary Foster (Neosho, MO) Multiple Breeds

Notice
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for
five years and imposed a $1000 fine, for refusing to make their dogs and records available for inspection when requested:

Effective September 10, 2012
Mr. Randell White (Mize, MS)
Australian Cattle Dog
Mrs. Susan White (Mize, MS)
Australian Cattle Dog, Pomeranian

**Notice**

The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mrs. Colleen Fitzgerald (Duncanville, TX) from all AKC privileges for ten years and imposed a $2000 fine, effective September 10, 2012, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on her violation of the AKC’s Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy. (Multiple Breeds)

**Notice**

Reprimands and Fines

Notification of reprimands and/or fines imposed on clubs for late submission of applications, Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Sections 4 and 9.

Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc. ........$100.00
Sierra-Tuolumne Kennel Club (2 events x $150.00) .........................$300.00
Kennel Club of Salinas (2 events x $100.00) .......................................$200.00
Great Dane Club of Milwaukee, Inc. ........................................$180.00
Camino Real Siberian Husky Club ...$150.00
Simi Valley Kennel Club ..........$140.00
Memphis Toy Dog Club ............$170.00
Muncie Kennel Club (2 events x $120.00) .......................................$240.00
Anderson Kennel Club .............$130.00

**PROPOSED GERMAN SHORTHAIR POINTED STANDARD FOR COMMENT:**

In accordance with the Guidelines for Breed Standard Revisions this is being published to receive any comments prior to the balloting of the club membership. Any comments may be forwarded directly to:

Mari-Beth O’Neill
AVP Sport Services
mbo@akc.org

**GENERAL APPEARANCE**
The German Shorthaired Pointer is a versatile hunter, an all-purpose gun dog capable of high performance in field and water. The judgment of Shorthairs in the show ring reflects this basic characteristic. The overall picture which is created in the observer’s eye is that of an aristocratic, well balanced, symmetrical animal with conformation indicating power, endurance and agility and a look of intelligence and animation. The dog is neither unduly small nor conspicuously large. It gives the impression of medium size, but is like the proper hunter, “with a short back, but standing over plenty of ground.” Symmetry and field quality are most essential. A dog in hard and lean field condition is not to be penalized; however, overly fat or poorly muscled dogs are to be penalized. A dog well balanced in all points is preferable to one with outstanding good qualities and defects. Grace of outline, clean-cut head, sloping shoulders, deep chest, powerful back, strong quarters, good bone composition, adequate muscle, well carried tail and taut coat produce a look of nobility and indicate a heritage of purposefully conducted breeding. Further evidence of this heritage is movement which is balanced, alertly coordinated and without wasted motion.

**SIZE, PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE**

_Size — height of dogs, measured at the withers, 23 to 25 inches. Height of bitches, measured at the withers, 21 to 23 inches. Deviations of one inch above or below the described heights are to be severely penalized. Weight of dogs 55 to 70 pounds. Weight of bitches 45 to 60 pounds. Proportion—measuring from the forehead to the rearmost projection of the rump and from the withers to the ground, the Shorthair is permissibly either square or slightly longer than he is tall. Substance—thin and fine bones are by no means desirable in a dog which must possess strength and be able to work over any type of terrain. The main importance is not laid so much on the size of bone, but rather on the bone being in proper proportion to the body. Bone structure too heavy or too light is a fault. Tall and leggy dogs, dogs which are ponderous because of excess substance, doggy bitches, and bitchy dogs are to be faulted._

**HEAD**
The _head_ is clean-cut, is neither too light nor too heavy, and is in proper proportion to the body. The eyes are of medium size, full of intelligence and expression, good-humored and yet radiating energy, neither protruding nor sunken. The eye is almond shaped, not circular. The preferred color is dark brown. Light yellow eyes are not desirable and are a fault. Closely set eyes are to be faulted. China or wall eyes are to be disqualified. The _ears_ are broad and set fairly high, lie flat and never hang away from the head. Their placement is just above eye level. The ears when laid in front without being pulled should extend to the corner of the mouth. In the case of heavier dogs, the ears are correspondingly longer. Ears too long or fleshy are to be faulted. The _skull_ is reasonably broad, arched on the side and slightly round on top. Unlike the Pointer, the median line between the eyes at the forehead is not too deep and the occipital bone is not very conspicuous. The forehead rises gradually from nose to forehead. The rise is more strongly pronounced in the dog than in the bitch. The jaw is powerful and the muscles well developed. The line to the forehead rises gradually and never has a definite stop as that of the Pointer, but rather a stop-effect when viewed from the side, due to the position of the eyebrows. The _muzzle_ is sufficiently long to enable the dog to seize game properly and be able to carry it for a long time. A pointed muzzle is not desirable. The depth is in the right proportion to the length, both in the muzzle and in the skull proper. The length of the muzzle...
should equal the length of skull. A dish-shaped muzzle is a fault. A definite Pointer stop is a serious fault. Too many wrinkles in the forehead are a fault. The nose is brown on a dog that is solid liver or a combination of liver and white such as liver and white ticked, liver patched and white ticked, or liver roan the larger, and with nostrils well opened and broad. The nose is black on a dog solid liver or a combination of liver and white such as liver and white ticked, liver patched and white ticked, or liver roan the larger the better, and with nostrils well opened and broad. A spotted nose is not desirable. A flesh colored nose disqualifies. The chops fall away from the somewhat projecting nose. Lips are full and deep yet are never flyey. The teeth are strong and healthy. The molar intermesh properly. The bite is a true scissors bite. A perfect level bite is not desirable and must be penalized. Extreme overshot or undershot disqualifies.

NECK, TOPLINE, BODY
The neck is of proper length to permit the jaws reaching game to be retrieved, sloping downwards on beautifully curving lines. The nape is rather muscular, becoming gradually larger toward the shoulders. Moderate throatiness is permitted. The skin is close and tight. The chest in general gives the impression of depth rather than breadth; for all that, it is in correct proportion to the other parts of the body. The chest reaches down to the elbows, the ribs forming the thorax show a rib spring and are not flat or slab-sided; they are not perfectly round or barrel-shaped. The back ribs reach well down. The circumference of the thorax immediately behind the elbows is smaller than that of the thorax about a hand’s breadth behind elbows, so that the upper arm has room for movement. Tuck-up is apparent. The back is short, strong, and straight with a slight rise from the root of the tail to the withers. The loin is strong, is of moderate length, and is slightly arched. An excessively long, roached or swayed back must be penalized. The hips are broad with hip sockets wide apart and fall slightly toward the tail in a graceful curve. A steep croup is a fault. The tail is set high and firm, and must be docked, leaving approximately 40% of its length. The tail hangs down when the dog is quiet and is held horizontally when he is walking. The tail must never be curved over the back toward the head when the dog is moving. A tail curved or bent toward the head is to be severely penalized.

FOREQUARTERS
The shoulders are sloping, movable, and well covered with muscle. The shoulder blades lie flat and are well laid back nearing a 45 degree angle. The upper arm (the bones between the shoulder and elbow joint) is as long as possible, standing away somewhat from the trunk so that the straight and closely muscled legs, when viewed from the front, appear to be parallel. Elbows which stand away from the body or are too close result in toes turning inwards or outwards and must be faulted. Pasterns are strong, short and nearly vertical with a slight spring. Loose, short-bladed or straight shoulders must be faulted. Knuckling over is to be faulted. Dewclaws on the forelegs may be removed. The feet are compact, close-knit and round to spoon-shaped. The toes are sufficiently arched and heavily nailed. The pads are strong, hard and thick.

HINDQUARTERS
Thighs are strong and well muscled. Stifles are well bent. Hock joints are well angulated and strong with straight bone structure from hock to pad. Angulation of both stifle and hock joint is such as to achieve the optimal balance of drive and traction. Hocks turn neither in nor out. Cowhocked legs are a serious fault.

COAT
The hair is short and thick and feels tough to the hand; it is somewhat longer on the underside of the tail and the back edges of the haunches. The hair is softer, thinner and shorter on the ears and the head. Any dog with long hair in the body coat is to be severely penalized.

COLOR
The coat may be of solid liver or a combination of liver and white such as liver and white ticked, liver patched and white ticked, or liver roan. Or, the coat may be of solid black or a combination of black and white such as black and white ticked, black patched and white ticked, or liver roan. Or, the coat may be of solid liver or a combination of liver and white such as liver and white ticked, liver patched and white ticked, or liver roan. A dog with any area of red, orange, lemon or tan, or a dog solid white, will be disqualified.
changes are very important because they affect your judges’ record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations at (919) 816-3593 or email, judgingops@akc.org.

PERMIT JUDGES

The following persons have been approved on a Permit basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. They may now accept assignments and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Mr. James Dalton (95445) OH
(740) 353-8243
fabelhaft@roadrunner.com
Afghan Hounds, French Bulldogs

Mrs. Pam Davis (95305) PA
(610) 564-8401
davidspig@aol.com
Carin Terriers

Miss Margaret L. Doster (95343) NY
(716) 646-1694
xpertise_kennel@verizon.net
American Staffordshire Terriers

Mrs. Keven Birdwell (95045) CA
(925) 743-0880
rottenpug@aol.com
Pugs

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mr. Alan R. Arthur (65781) TX
(817) 431-2835
alan.r.arthur@verizon.net
Borzoi, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis

Ms. Rita A. Bell (6570) NY
(716) 337-3319
charida337@aol.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Basenjis, Beagles, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Greyhounds, Harriers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott, Portuguese Podengo Pequeno, Redbone Coonhounds, Scottish Deerhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Ms. JoAnne M. Buehler (22770) MD
(301) 590-9056
joanneb@his.com
American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Dachshunds, English Foxhounds, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons, Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds

Mr. Michael J. Dachel (6270) WI
(715) 214-6741
mdachel0476@charter.net
Balance of Sporting Group (Brittanys, Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Irish Red & White Setters, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinone Italiani, Vizlas, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons), Afghan Hounds

Mr. Don L. Evans (5916) MD
(301) 494-3647
secattorney@msn.com
Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

Dr. Robert K. Place (48116) NM
(505) 771-8344
minorplace2@gmail.com
Greyhounds, Scottish Deerhounds

Mr. Timothy S. Robbins (5365) TX
(281) 424-0373
robbsdale@aol.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Plott, Portuguese Podengo Pequeno, Redbone Coonhounds, Scottish Deerhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Mrs. Ann F. Yuhasz (5019) OH
(440) 564-5989
engsett@windstream.net
Balance of Herding Group (Australian Cattle Dogs, Beaucerons, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, German Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Pyrenean Shepherds, Swedish Vallhunds)

PERMIT ASSIGNMENTS COMPLETED

The following persons have completed their Permit Judging assignments in the breeds listed, and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Ms. Sally A. Birgl (94665) PA
(610) 756-3576
sbdelite@hotmail.com
Vizslas

Mrs. Jean A. Boyd (94716) MD
(301) 802-3708
jeanboyd@rivergroves.com
Bullmastiffs, Great Pyrenees

Mr. Wayne Boyd (94715) MD
(301) 802-3708
wboyd@warnerboyd.com
Bullmastiffs, Great Pyrenees

Ms. Dawn Danner (93357) OR
(503) 799-9461
sunsetdobe@aol.com
Doberman Pinschers

Ms. Graafin Ginger M. Leeuwenburg (92356) CT
(860) 944-0194
info@graafin.com
Norwegian Elkhounds

Mr. Jere Olson (93164) TX
(979) 530-6400
jereolson@aol.com
Cocker Spaniels, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Shih Tzu, Lhasa Apso

Ms. Yvonne Samuelson (93102) CA
(650) 440-9714
seahavenss@aol.com
Shetland Sheepdogs

Ms. Christiane J. Scarpino (94443) MA
(978) 827-6704
whalam@verizon.net
Boston Terriers

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mrs. Vicki L. Abbott (6644) TX
(972) 562-1200
theabbotts@abbottusa.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinone Italiani, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons)

Ms. Nancy S. Ambrurgey (42492) OH
(614) 264-7524
lopat@aol.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Mastiffs, Newfoundland, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards

Mr. Kurt D. Anderson (18749) CT
(203) 640-6460
anderson@snet.net
Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers
Mrs. Anne Savory Bolus (35486) TN
(423) 344-6125
dabolus@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, English Toy Spaniels, Havaneses, Japanese Chin, Maltese, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers), Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Keeshondens, Schipperkes, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Frances H. Colonna (5033) KS
(913) 547-0883
kanawha123@aol.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Plotts, Portuguese Podengo Pequeno, Redbone Coonhounds, Tree Walker Coonhounds)

Mrs. Jo Ann Colvin (7140) NY
(661) 269-1331
starzend@rglobal.net
Points, German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Judith V. Daniels (4160) CA
(315) 536-4050
calicocbr@verizon.net
Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Dr. John F. Davidson (25844) IL
(309) 251-7105
johnfd@hotmail.com
Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Papillons

Dr. Norbert Dee (31419) VA
(703) 777-6559
ndeedogs@gmail.com
Weimaraners

Mrs. Terry M. DePietro (4708) NJ
(732) 462-6816
jsunfarmskennel@gmail.com
Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. Bill R. W. Edwards (6636) CA
(818) 956-1170
btrain2@earthlink.net
Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Briards, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Mr. James A. Fehring (90519) OK
(918) 316-1096
jimfehring@olp.net
Brittanys, English Springer Spaniels

Ms. Amy Gau (90627) MN
(507) 843-5312
rosepoint@sleepyeyetel.net
Shetland Sheepdogs

Mr. David W. Haddock (18846) TN
(615) 345-0278
globalfone@aol.com
Bullmastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Mastiffs, Newfoundland, Rottweilers, Saint Bernard, Standard Schnauzers

Mrs. Patricia A. Hess (90983) MD
(301) 292-9337
hesshighbanks@juno.com
Pointers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Vizslas

Mrs. Anne Katona (4579) NV
(775) 376-8642
tyrellakbt@aol.com
Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Irish Hounds, Irish Woldhounds, Otterhounds, Petit Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Plotts, Redbone Coonhounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds, Bullmastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Portuguese Water Dogs, Rottweilers, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers, Australian Shepherds, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mr. David L. Kittredge (7016) NY
(858) 279-9718
orangie@rochester.rr.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises, Bulldogs, Chow Chows, French Bulldogs, Keeshondens, Lowchens, Norwegian Lundehunds, Poodles, Schipperkes, Xoloitzcuintli)

Ms. Mary Miller (1532) KY
(859) 272-6964
dahnn@yahoo.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Poodles, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli)

Mr. Coleman K. Nemerov (56264) MN
(763) 416-4170
akitas@comcast.net
Doberman Pinschers

Dr. Al Pertuit (6671) SC
(864) 654-5986
fyrewyrefw@ncvt.org
American Staffordshire Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Mr. Barry L. Roland (5813) GA
(404) 241-1504
excalibur@earthlink.net
Samoyeds

Mrs. Rita J. Rynder (7010) IN
(812) 402-5009
rjrynder@yahoo.com
Cane Corsos, Portuguese Water Dogs

Mr. Frank N. Summerside (5450) IA
(712) 546-4082
summers@lemarscomm.net
Pomeranians

Mrs. Jane E. Treiber (5791) WA
(360) 245-3481
jetreiber@centurytel.net
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Plotts, Portuguese Podengo Pequeno, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

BEST IN SHOW
The following person, having successfully completed the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they are approved, has been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Mr. Kenneth W. Clemons (6798) AZ
(928) 636-7938
snomel@commspeed.net

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGE
Mr. James Neal Barrett

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES
Mr. Paul (Pogo) A. Thomann
Mrs. Carol H. Willumsen

PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES
The following persons have been approved as a judge on a Provisional basis for the class/test indicated in accordance...
with the Provisional judging system. They may now accept assignments.

Ilene Morgan 80679 (VT)  
802-372-4232  
Islandlabs@aol.com  
Variable Surface Tracking

Carol Riback 38718 (NV)  
925-639-6267  
Criback@pobox.com  
Obedience – Open

**PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES COMPLETED**

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.

**Lynn Currie 72929 (NY)**  
631-499-1630  
AGLGSDBC@optonline.net  
Obedience - Novice

**Sandy Gould 92112 (IL)**  
815-741-9608  
Drsgould@aol.com  
Rally - All

**Ken Kincaid 91228 (FL)**  
407-405-3193  
Ken@kincaidps.com  
Obedience - Novice

**Dr. Pamela Regan 39716 (CA)**  
310-374-3573  
pcregan@earthlink.net  
Rally - All

**EMERITUS OBEDIENCE JUDGE**

Mrs. Karen S. Mills

**Application for Breed-Specific Registered Name Prefix**

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club. Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary:

**KISEKI** – Akitas – Linda M. Logan  
**TRES BEAU** – Chihuahuas – Valerie J. Brown  
**ALL-TIME** – English Springer Spaniels – Carol A. Hamilton  
**FOUR-T** – Bernese Mountain Dogs – Karen A. Thomas & Fred D. Thomas  
**COSTA BEL** – Cane Corso – Yvonne A. Aleman Quevedo  
**HEATHERWOOD** – Irish Setters – Sheila F. Smith

**TORRID ZONE** – Portuguese Water Dogs – Margaret Q. DeFore  
**FISHERCREEK** – Flat Coated Retrievers – Barry A. Harrison & Pauline Harrison  
**BLUE-CHIP** – Maltese – Soon-Mi Jung  
**BELALUNA** – French Bulldogs – Matthew L. Dover  
**CAMPICOVO** – French Bulldogs – Billy J. Covalucci  
**RUMMER RUN** – Boxers – Ann B. Anderson & Steven G. Anderson  
**D’TOLEDO** – Bulldogs – Lley Toledo & Alberto Toledo  
**REVELAIRE** – Scottish Terriers & Norfolk Terriers – Susan A. Schneider & Bonnie K. Schneider  
**EZ GOINS** – Dachshunds – Robbie Loyd  
**JURA BMD** – Bernese Mountain Dogs – Kim M. McIntyre  
**VOM HOGNADOTTIR** – Rottweilers & German Shepherd Dogs – Betty Burden  
**TRUPRIDE** – Labrador Retrievers – Erica M. Owen  
**WILDHORSE** – Australian Shepherds – Kay Edwards  
**BIG-CREEK** – Labrador Retrievers – David A. Oglesby & Teresa S. Oglesby  
**COUNTRY FOWL** - Labrador Retrievers – Kimberly M. Hood  
**JETCITY** – Manchester Terriers – Lisa M. Nonog  
**BIHAR** – Lowchens – Greg O. Strong & Margaret Cropsey  
**HOLLOWCREEK** – Beagles – Joy L. Secor

**Registered Name Prefixes Granted**

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

**SASSAFRAS** – Vizslas – Richard W. & Melina W. Black  
**TRILogy** – French Bulldogs – Susan Cooper  
**DEPHAL** – German Shepherd Dogs – Denise Black-Hollister  
**ROSE RIDGE** – Collies – Mary J. Smith  
**RON-DEL** – Yorkshire Terriers – Carol L. Lackey  
**PIKESPEAK** – Bloodhounds & Beagles – Elissa Befus  
**CANE RIVER** - Chihuahuas – Kristie Davis  
**ESSGERMANY** – English Springer Spaniels – Petra Neumueller  
**STONE HAVEN** – Labrador Retrievers – Dorothy Cavallo  
**XTREME** – Akitas – Hollis Zane

**SOUTHERN FARMS** – Golden Retrievers – Randy Watson  
**GRANITEHILL** – Labrador Retrievers – Susan M. Gardner  
**LUMINARY** – Poodles – Victoria L. Law  
**LAGNIAPPE** – Vizslas – Elizabeth Chandler & Glen Sauzier

**ESPIRITU** – Xoloitzcuintli – Traci L. Johnson & Lynda Hylton

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEPTEMBER 11 – 12, 2012**

The Board convened on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 2:49 p.m. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary. Copies of the July 2012 minutes were made available to all Directors. The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 9-10, 2012 meeting. Upon a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the July 2012 Board minutes were unanimously adopted.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previous Action items assigned to the Staff.

Events and Entries Update

Mr. Sprung reported that for the first seven months of 2012 aggregate Entries were up by 3.77% and Events were up by 1.36%, compared to the first seven months of the previous year.

**AKC Humane Fund**

Daphne Straus, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting. Staff gave an update on the AKC Humane Fund. To date the Fund has disbursed grants to Parent Clubs and their affiliated rescue groups, women’s shelters accepting dogs, and for educational scholarships.

**ISD Update**

Connie Pearcy, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting. Staff gave an update on the allocation of ISD costs to the various divisions to align revenue centers with the related costs.

**LEGAL REPORT**

Margaret Poindexter, General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. She presented a status report on pending litigation and other activities during the months of July and August, 2012.
MARKETING
Michael Ganey and Connie Pearcy, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 5:32 pm

Meeting reconvened on Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 8:00 am.

All Directors were present as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

FINANCIAL REPORT
Peter Farnsworth, AKC’s Chief Financial Officer, gave the financial report.

Total revenues of $4.6 million in the month of August 2012 were $250,000 below budget but $350,000 above 2011. Total monthly operating expenses of $4.7 million were $200,000 below budget but $200,000 above 2011. This resulted in an operating loss of $67,000 for the month. This was an improvement from last August’s monthly operating loss of $217,000. Our investments, Year-To-Date, are up $4.9 million but we recognize this could change at any time.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S REPORT
Agility Club Membership
The Board reviewed a proposal to amend ARTICLE IV, SECTION 1, and SECTION 3, of the AKC Bylaws to expand the eligibility requirements for AKC membership to permit licensed Agility clubs that meet the criteria, to apply to become AKC members. Following discussion, there was a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Dr. Smith, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to amend ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 1 and 3, of the AKC Bylaws as follows (changes underlined):

Section 1
All Clubs or Associations which have held at least three Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, Field Trials, or Agility Trials in consecutive years under rules of the AKC and all Specialty Clubs which have been or shall be formed for the improvement of any breed of purebred dogs shall be eligible to become members of the AKC.

Section 3
No Club or Association shall be eligible to be admitted to membership in the AKC unless its Constitution and Bylaws shall provide that among the objects for which said Club or Association has been formed are the holding of annual dog shows, annual obedience trials, or annual field trials, or annual agility trials, or that said Club or Association was formed for the protection or benefit of purebred dogs.

This will be read at the December Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the March Delegate meeting.

Member Club Admission Fee
ARTICLE V, SECTION 1, of the AKC Bylaws, provides for a one-time admission fee for new Member Clubs. The fee is to be determined by the Board subject to approval by the Delegates. Following discussion, there was a motion by Dr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Scully, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to raise the $250 admission fee to $1,500. The admission fee of $250 was established in 1925 and in today’s dollars would be over $3,500. This will be read at the December Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the March Delegate meeting. The effective date would be one year from the date of adoption.

Proposal to Reduce the Number of Delegate Meetings
The Board reviewed a proposal from the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee to reduce the number of yearly Delegate meetings from four to three per year. The proposal suggests that two of these meetings be expanded from two days to three days in order to enable increased attendance at the various Delegate committee meetings. AKC staff endorses this proposal. There was a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Cruz, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to send the proposed amendment to ARTICLE XVIII, SECTION 1 of the AKC Bylaws to the Delegates with no recommendation. The proposal reads as follows (changes underlined):

SECTION 1: The annual meeting of the AKC shall be the regular meeting held in April. There shall also be a regular meeting of the AKC in August. There shall be one regular meeting held in December or January announced at least two years in advance. The exact date, time and location of all meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Standing Delegate Committee meetings shall be scheduled on the two days immediately preceding each regular meeting in April and August and the day preceding the December or January meeting.

This will be read at the December Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the March Delegate meeting. If adopted, the effective date would be January 1, 2015.

Recognition of Registries in China
There was a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Smith, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to add the National General Kennel Club (China), to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration.

Proposed German Shorthaired Pointer Breed Standard Revision
The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the color section of the German Shorthaired Pointer breed standard as submitted by the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America (GSPCA). Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Ashby, it was VOTED (unanimously) that the proposed revisions will be published in the AKC Secretary’s Page for comment, provided the club accepted the changes recommended by the AKC Board.

Proposed Revision to the Komondor Breed Standard
The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the bite section of the Komondor breed standard as submitted by the Komondor Club of America. This will be considered further at the October 2012 meeting.

Yorkshire Terrier Breed Standard Revision
The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the color section of the Yorkshire Terrier breed standard as submitted by the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America. The Board had recommendations on further changes which will be communicated to the club.

Definition of a Purebred Dog
Based on a request from the Board, Staff discussed the term “Purebred” in relation to the American Kennel Club. The term “Purebred” is defined in The Glossary section of The Complete Dog
Book as: “A dog whose sire and dam belong to the same breed and are themselves of unmixed descent since recognition of the breed.” It was the sense of the Board that there was no need to expand this definition.

**New Breed for Foundation Stock Service® - American Leopard Hound**

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a petition for the American Leopard Hound to be accepted into the FSS program.

**New Breed for Foundation Stock Service® - Portuguese Sheepdog**

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a petition for the Portuguese Sheepdog to be accepted into the FSS program.

**Adding Coat Type to Registry**

Based on a request from the Board, Staff was directed to provide more details to explain its cost estimate for capturing Coat Type as part of the registration of a dog. Staff outlined the impact this change would have on IT, Support Services and Registration Services and estimates that the entire project will have a negative ROI of $230,000.

**Low Uric Acid Dalmatians**

Mr. Crowley reported on a request he had received from Dr. Robert Schaible, who was the owner of the original Dalmatian/Pointer backcross registered over thirty years ago. Dr. Schaible requested that AKC ease the criteria for the AKC registration of LUA Dalmatians to enable every living decedent of the original registered backcross to become AKC registered to make the gene responsible for normal concentration of uric acid more readily available to breeders around the world. The board of the Dalmatian Club of America, which developed the current registration procedures in cooperation with the AKC Staff, believes that it has worked well in introducing the LUA gene into the AKC gene pool. Over one hundred and twenty LUA Dalmatians and twenty litter with one or both of the parents belonging to a LUA Dalmatian have been registered. There was no motion to change the current criteria.

**Parent Clubs Excellence**

The Board considered a proposal from the Delegate Parent Club Committee for the establishment of a program to recognize Parent Clubs that excel in organization of representation of their breeds, including their protection, preservation and promotion as well as the objectives of The American Kennel Club. The proposal would be for an AKC award administered by the Parent Club Committee with AKC Board oversight. This will be considered further at the October 2012 meeting.

**CONSENT**

Following discussion, there was a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent Items.

**Delegates For Approval**

The following Delegates were approved:

Roger M. Arbuthnot, Mesa, AZ
To represent Superstition Kennel Club

John R. Barnes, Marietta, GA
To represent American Maltese Association

Jeffrey David Bell, Ridgewood, NJ
To represent Ramapo Kennel Club

Tarianne Gallegos, Albuquerque, NM
To represent Silky Terrier Club of America

Richard E. Grant, Foster, RI
To represent Providence County Kennel Club

Andrew I. Kalmash, Stamford, CT
To represent Saw Mill River Kennel Club

Adele Keyfet, Yakima, WA
To represent Yakima Valley Kennel Club

Richard Rohrbacher, Sparta, NJ
To represent Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

Michael Susne, Attica, MI
To represent Oakland County Kennel Club

Constance D. Townsend, Farmington, MN
To represent Kuvasz Club of America

Letisha Wubble, Mohnton, PA
To represent Affenpinscher Club of America

**Request for AKC Membership**

The following Club was approved for AKC Membership:
Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club
Rowan County, NC

**Retirement of Registered Kennel Name - “Brackenhollow”**

The Board VOTED to approve the request of the Golden Retriever Club of America to officially retire the kennel name “Brackenhollow” which was owned by the late Sheila Fowler Ward.

Resolution Vicki Lane Rees

The Board VOTED to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Vicki Lane Rees joined the staff of The American Kennel Club, upon being elected Assistant Vice President for Human Resources on June eighth, nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, serving in that capacity until August third, two thousand and twelve; and,

WHEREAS, as a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources, she was responsible for developing policies and directing Human Resources programs over the last fourteen years; and,

WHEREAS, her responsibilities included employment, compensation, benefits, training, and employee relations for nearly four hundred employees around the country; and,

WHEREAS, she oversaw a retirement plan and post-retirement benefits for over five hundred retirees; and,

WHEREAS, she was charged with ensuring that all American Kennel Club policies and activities were in full compliance with all federal, state and local laws; and,

WHEREAS her expertise and advice on Human Resource benefits, and employee relations matters were invaluable to the President and the Board as they addressed these issues; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this distinguished businesswoman, Human Resources professional, manager, leader, and friend;

Now therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club extend their most sincere best wishes for the
years ahead and their deep appreciation for his dedicated service to The American Kennel Club.

Resolution James T. Stevens

The Board VOTED to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, James T. Stevens joined the staff of The American Kennel Club, upon being elected Chief Financial Officer on April eighth, two thousand and two, serving in that capacity until July twenty-seventh, two thousand and twelve; and,

WHEREAS, he oversaw The American Kennel Club’s financial reporting, analysis and planning, and its relationship with lending institutions; working closely with the President and the Board’s Pension and Audit Committees; and,

WHEREAS, he managed the investments of The American Kennel Club’s pension plan, operating funds and reserves; and,

WHEREAS, he was responsible for The American Kennel Club’s Finance, Audit, and Control, and Human Resources Divisions; and,

WHEREAS, he served as the Secretary, Treasurer, and as a Board member of the AKC Companion Animal Recovery, the Treasurer and member of the AKC Political Action Committee Board, and as a Board member and Chairman of the Finance and Audit Committee of the AKC Canine Health Committee; and,

WHEREAS his financial acumen, innovative ideas, accessibility, and leadership by example, have served the American Kennel Club well as it faced many challenges over the past decade; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this distinguished leader, manager, financial expert, and friend,

Now therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club extend their most sincere best wishes for the years ahead and their deep appreciation for his dedicated service to The American Kennel Club.

Board Moratorium on the Licensing of Specialty Conformation Clubs

Following a motion by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Feeney, Ms. Scully, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Smith, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Powers, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Amen, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Newman; opposed: Dr. Garvin) to approve the addition of the following criteria to the policy regarding the licensing of specialty clubs which was adopted in July 2011:

A new specialty clubs which had attained Plan A level status on or before the July 12, 2011 Board meeting may continue to license status even if the club is within one hundred miles of another specialty club for the same breed.

This allows specialty clubs that were in process of becoming licensed, prior to the Board moratorium, the opportunity to complete the process and move to licensed status.

Judging Operations

Occupational Eligibility

The Board reviewed a staff recommendation to modify the policy restricting when a judge may present a seminar in conjunction with a judging assignment. This will be considered further at the October 2012 meeting.

Companion/Performance

Doug Ljungren, participated in this portion of the meeting, while Lisa Carroll, and Pam Manaton, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by video conference and Carrie de Young participated by teleconference.

Beagle Two Couple Pack – Changing the Running Order

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Beagle Advisory Committee to amend Chapter 10, Procedure 9. Beagle Hunting Test for Two Couple Pack, Section 1 of the Beagle Field Trial Rules to allow the handler of a dog running in multiple packs that are drawn to run back-to-back or simultaneously to request a change in the running order.

There was a motion by Mr. Amen, seconded by Mr. Powers, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following regulation change effective October 1, 2012.

Section 1. The running order of the packs in first series shall be determined by random draw. However the owner/handler may request a change in the running order if a particular hound is running in multiple packs simultaneously or back-to-back. The request must be made immediately at the conclusion of the drawing. The field trial committee will decide how best to make the change(s) with consideration to staying as close as possible to the original draw.

Herding Judges Seminar Requirement

Currently a herding judge is required to attend a seminar once every three years to maintain eligibility to judge. The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to change this requirement to attend a judge’s educational seminar, from attending a seminar once every three years to once every four years. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

Retriever Hunting Test – Retrieves Up To 150 Yards

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Retriever Hunting Test Advisory Committee to amend the Regulations For AKC Hunting Tests For Retrievers to increase the distance for retrieving in the Master level Retriever Hunting Test from 100 yards to “should not normally exceed 150 yards.” The Junior and Senior level test would remain unchanged. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

English Springer Spaniel Field Trials – Allowing Three Trials Per Year

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association to allow licensed clubs to hold up to three English Springer Spaniel Field Trials per calendar year. The current limit is two. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

Agility Clubs Allowed to Hold Twelve Events Per Year

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to allow clubs licensed for Agility to hold up to twelve events per calendar year. Currently, clubs licensed for Agility are limited to eight events per year. Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Amen, it was VOTED (affirmative: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Amen, Ms.
Cruz, Ms. Scully, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Smith, Mr. Arnold, Dr. Newman, Mr. Feeney; opposed: Mr. Ashby, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Powers) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the usual notice requirement.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (unanimously) to permit a club to hold up to twelve Agility Trials in a calendar year, effective January 1, 2013.

Obedience Graduate Classes-Only One Class

Staff advised the Board that without objection they will change the eligibility standard for the Obedience classes Graduate Novice and Graduate Open to allow a dog to remain in the current class after it has earned a title in these classes, for as long as the owner desires. The changes to the eligibility standards for the graduate classes will become effective January 1, 2013.

A “B” class for each of the Graduate levels, which was scheduled to begin in July of 2013 as part of the Board approved the Companion Events Business Plan will not be created.

CLUBS

Delegates for Publication

Barbara Jane Gates, Utica, MI
To represent English Springer Spaniel Club of America
No current Delegate

Carla Jo Ryan, Snow Camp, NC
To represent Japanese Chin Club of America
Currently represented by Suzanne Warfield

Zane Smith, Boerne, TX
To represent Hawaiian Kennel Club
No current Delegate

Clubs for Application

Greater Sierra Vista Kennel Club
Sierra Vista, AZ

Lassen Retriever Club
Anderson, CA

Great Lakes American Water Spaniel Club

Michael Liosis, AKC staff, participated in this portion of the meeting. The Board reviewed an appeal of the AKC’s accreditation of The Great Lakes American Water Spaniel Club which was submitted by The American Water Spaniel Club.

Staff indicated that the Great Lakes American Water Spaniel Club has met the usual AKC accreditation requirements. After discussion, the Board concurred with staff’s recommendation and accreditation of The Great Lakes American Water Spaniel Club will not be rescinded.

COMPLIANCE

Margaret Poindexter participated in this portion of the meeting, while Sheila Goffe and Jack Norton, AKC Staff, participated via video conference.

Request to Amend the Discipline Guidelines for Discrimination and Harassment

The Board reviewed a Staff request to expand the current AKC Discipline Guideline used to set the penalty for conduct classified as sexual harassment so that it encompasses inappropriate comments and/or conduct regarding an individual’s race, color, religion, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, age or gender. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

Opportunities for Proactive Government Relations Work

Staff presented its plans to link Government Relations (GR) proactive work on local and state bills with Compliance and Communications.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary’s Page.)

NEW BUSINESS

Judging Approval Process

Staff was directed to take a survey to evaluate the judging approval process and to report the results back to the Board.

It was VOTED to adjourn Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 1:00 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

______________________________
James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary
Parent Club Links

Sporting

American Water Spaniel
Boykin Spaniel
Brittany
Chesapeake Bay Retriever
Clumber Spaniel
Cocker Spaniel
Curly-Coated Retriever
English Cocker Spaniel
English Setter
English Springer Spaniel
Field Spaniel
Flat-Coated Retriever
German Shorthaired Pointer
German Wirehaired Pointer
Golden Retriever
Gordon Setter
Irish Red & White Setter
Irish Setter
Irish Water Spaniel
Labrador Retriever
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever
Pointer
Spinone Italiano
Sussex Spaniel
Vizsla
Weimaraner
Welsh Springer Spaniel
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon
Parent Club Links

Working

- Akita
- Alaskan Malamute
- Anatolian Shepherd Dog
- Bernese Mountain Dog
- Black Russian Terrier
- Boxer
- Bullmastiff
- Cane Corso
- Doberman Pinscher
- Dogue de Bordeaux
- German Pinscher
- Giant Schnauzer
- Great Dane
- Great Pyrenees
- Greater Swiss Mountain Dog
- Komondor
- Leonberger
- Kuvasz
- Mastiff
- Neapolitan Mastiff
- Newfoundland
- Portuguese Water Dog
- Rottweiler
- Saint Bernard
- Samoyed
- Siberian Husky
- Standard Schnauzer
- Tibetan Mastiff
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Parent Club Links

Non-Sporting

- American Eskimo Dog
- Bichon Frise
- Boston Terrier
- Bulldog
- Chinese Shar-Pei
- Chow Chow
- Dalmatian
- Finnish Spitz
- French Bulldog
- Keeshond
- Lhasa Apso
- Löwchen
- Norwegian Lundehund
- Poodle (Miniature)
- Schipperke
- Poodle (Standard)
- Shiba Inu
- Tibetan Spaniel
- Tibetan Terrier
- Xoloitzcuintli
The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here: [http://www.akc.org/handlers/](http://www.akc.org/handlers/)

To view the AKC Registered Handlers Membership list, click here: [www.akc.org/handlers/states/allstates.cfm](http://www.akc.org/handlers/states/allstates.cfm)