



# gazette

JULY 2023



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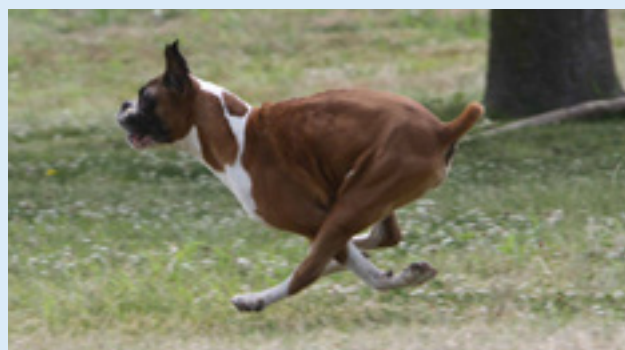
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January, April, July, and October issues	February, May, August, and November issues	March, June, September, and December issues

# THE 2022 PURINA® PRO PLAN®

RANK	DOG'S NAME OWNER(S) NAME(S)	BREED	DOGS DEFEATED	HANDLER(S)
<b>1</b>	<b>GCHP CH Fox Canyon's I Won The War At Goldshield CGCA CGCU TKN</b> <i>A Vorbeck/A Geremia/F Cashin/S Fox/M Fox/P Payson</i>	French Bulldog	90427	Perry Payson
<b>2</b>	<b>GCHP CH Crivitz Humphrey Bogart Von Diable</b> <i>A Shaffer/J Low/W Matthews/T Skinner</i>	Standard Schnauzer	60811	Tiffany Skinner
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<b>5</b>	<b>GCHP CH Gem-N-I River Of Unloved CGC</b> <i>R Waits</i>	German Shepherd Dog	53676	Lenny Brown
<b>6</b>	<b>GCHG CH Hi-Kel Terrydale Nanhall Mizzconceived</b> <i>M Woodbridge/K J Anthony/A Cukier</i>	Lakeland Terrier	53392	Ariel Cukier
<b>7</b>	<b>GCHP CH Sunlit's King Of Queens</b> <i>A Morrison Jones/T Richardson/J Souza-Bartlett</i>	Afghan Hound	51917	Alicia Morrison-Jones
<b>8</b>	<b>GCHG CH Goodspice Effe Money Stache</b> <i>M Good/F Bergeron/S Middlebrooks/E Bennett/L Spiegel</i>	Sealyham Terrier	48280	Margery Good
<b>9</b>	<b>GCHG CH Bluecrush Freedom And Whiskey!</b> <i>E Hart Hansen</i>	Kerry Blue Terrier	45639	Blake Hansen
<b>10</b>	<b>GCHS CH Poole's Ide Sargeant Sloane CD RN MX MXJ MXF</b> <i>S O'Reilly/G Siner</i>	Irish Water Spaniel	42272	Joanne Thibault
<b>11</b>	<b>GCHG CH Hallmark Jolei Out Of This World</b> <i>L Ehrich/D Ehrich/B Miller/S Carter</i>	Shih Tzu	38689	Luke Ehrich
<b>12</b>	<b>GCHP CH Kolmar's &amp; Los Feliz The Man Of Steel</b> <i>A Stevenson/N Brown/L Soars/G Brown</i>	Havanese	38378	Tara Martin Rowell
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<b>17</b>	<b>GCHG DC Ace's Chain Reaction HXAd HXBd</b> <i>J Reischneider/K Libertore/T Libertore/S McDaniel</i>	Bouvier des Flandres	30995	Larry Fenner
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<b>27</b>	<b>GCH CH Monocacy Bend's Lady Of The Chase</b> <i>T Koerber/S Nordstrom</i>	English Foxhound	22477	Adam & Katie Bernardin
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<b>29</b>	<b>GCHG CH Kan Trace Very Cheeky Chic</b> <i>P Booth/S Sinkovic</i>	Lagotto Romagnolo	21888	Phil Booth
<b>30</b>	<b>GCHG CH Chancellors Radioactive "Thanos V Barste" CGC</b> <i>B Thomas</i>	Rottweiler	21844	Rich Mysliwiec
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RANK	DOG'S NAME OWNER(S) NAME(S)	BREED	DOGS DEFEATED	HANDLER(S)
<b>34</b>	<b>GCHP CH Topaz Wildfire For Umunhum THDN TKN</b> <i>R McQueen/M Rusher</i>	Siberian Husky	19608	Lauren House
<b>35</b>	<b>GCHG CH Delamer Suzi Sals Sushi On The Boardwalk</b> <i>K Nuovo-Roe</i>	Schipperke	19207	Krista Nuovo-Roe
<b>36</b>	<b>GCHP CH Brigadier Shamrock All Silver Stars</b> <i>J Lee/M Lee/B Rosener</i>	Brittany	18683	Diego Garcia
<b>37</b>	<b>GCHG CH Justart Majenkir Status Symbol</b> <i>S McGraw/A Iwakiri/S Iwakiri/K Staudt-Cartabona</i>	Borzo	18263	Stuart McGraw
<b>38</b>	<b>GCHS CH Clussexx On Red Alert At Stonecroft</b> <i>S Blau</i>	Welsh Springer Spaniel	18106	Roxanne Sutton
<b>39</b>	<b>GCHP CH Peabar P.S. I Love You</b> <i>K Lynn/P Browne/M Siroka/D Brower/N Brower/L Gerstner</i>	Scottish Terrier	17921	Ania Kelly
<b>40</b>	<b>GCHG CH Sunkota Casey's Off To Dublin</b> <i>C Story</i>	Golden Retriever	17670	Kristin Lyons
<b>41</b>	<b>GCHP CH Starline Windborn Classique</b> <i>J Truitt/J Zolezzi/L Wilson-Paust</i>	Whippet	17661	Lori Wilson-Paust
<b>42</b>	<b>GCHP CH Twin Creeks It Had To Be You</b> <i>C Crown/B Beard</i>	Rottweiler	17463	Holley Eldred
<b>43</b>	<b>GCHS CH Lost Heritage Knight Of Eldorado</b> <i>C Vanover/K Lawless/S Hickman</i>	Treeing Walker Coonhound	17223	Cole Vanover
<b>44</b>	<b>GCHP2 CH K'Mander Dawnglow Arnage</b> <i>K Anderson/N Atkins/E Atkins/E Neff</i>	English Cocker Spaniel	17123	Meagan Ulfers
<b>45</b>	<b>GCHP CH Clarity Reach The Sky Vjk-Myst</b> <i>C Simpson/S Acevedo/V Nunes-Atkinson/Y Hassler-Deterding</i>	German Shorthaired Pointer	16677	Valerie Atkinson
<b>46</b>	<b>GCHP CH Pramada Koradox Impossible Dream Aliti SI</b> <i>T Childers/M Peal/T Sikora</i>	Longhaired Dachshund	16618	Caitlin Cahill
<b>47</b>	<b>GCHP CH Brighton Benchmark</b> <i>A Carter/M Lamb</i>	Standard Poodle	16612	Lindsay Gorder
<b>48</b>	<b>GCHS CH Brightluck's Image At Bayleigh</b> <i>K Bailey/M Riddoch</i>	Welsh Terrier	16011	Tracy Szaras
<b>49</b>	<b>GCHP CH Aurora's Rhythm Of My Heart</b> <i>J Mueller</i>	Saluki	15764	Julie Mueller
<b>50</b>	<b>GCHG CH Bloom An Glow In The Dark TKN</b> <i>M Mosing/A Blomquist</i>	Papillon	15644	Brian Livingston
<b>51</b>	<b>GCHB CH Bugaboo's Let It Be</b> <i>C Johnson/K Johnson/D Johnson/M Johnson/T Johnson</i>	Old English Sheepdog	15566	Taylor Johnson
<b>52</b>	<b>GCHG CH Highlander's Snow Pilot</b> <i>A Palmer/H Shimizu/B Palmer</i>	Siberian Husky	14909	Tim Terella
<b>53</b>	<b>GCHS CH Starlaine Standing Ovation</b> <i>K Kato/K Schoning/E Hopper</i>	Doberman Pinscher	14480	Andy Linton
<b>54</b>	<b>GCHG CH Xeralane's Shut Up And Kiss Me</b> <i>Xeralane Kennel/B Prato/E Takamoto</i>	Lhasa Apso	14258	Devon Kipp
<b>55</b>	<b>GCHP2 CH Cerise Bonanza</b> <i>D Cherry/H Huber/K Huber</i>	English Springer Spaniel	14227	Howard Huber, Jr.
<b>56</b>	<b>GCHS CH Pinnacle Broxden Lickety Split</b> <i>A Fitzpatrick/S Fitzpatrick/B Hairline/M Hairline/A Rodrigues/P Booth</i>	Smooth Fox Terrier	14208	Dylan Keith
<b>57</b>	<b>GCHP CH Irodale's The Legend Exists</b> <i>M Kahlo/A Kahlo</i>	Boxer	13787	Wendy Bettis
<b>58</b>	<b>GCHP CH Vtop Hillside Just Another Southern Gentleman</b> <i>J Hill/S Hill/L Rainwater</i>	Great Dane	13682	Tristen Lawrence
<b>59</b>	<b>GCHG CH Bright Lights Rocyn's 24k Magic</b> <i>K Gordon/A Hier/M Fisher/E Lima</i>	Bulldog	13617	Eduardo Paris
<b>60</b>	<b>GCHP CH Cammcastle's Back To The Future TKN</b> <i>S Roberts/P Marsh/J Roberts/S Guynn</i>	Rottweiler	13578	Erin Piercy
<b>61</b>	<b>GCHG CH One Love Hashtag Not Vanilla</b> <i>D Shindle/H Maxwell/E Hutson/P Martinez</i>	Long Coat Chihuahua	13517	Erika Lanasa
<b>62</b>	<b>GCHP2 CH Far Away Black Star CGC TKI</b> <i>L Taft</i>	Portuguese Water Dog	13410	Kimberly Calvaca
<b>63</b>	<b>GCHG CH Good Fortune Good And Ready II</b> <i>J Mauk/V Mauk</i>	Chinese Shar-Pei	13396	Clint Livingston
<b>64</b>	<b>GCHB CH Monaline Unit</b> <i>A Bark/V Pijunovic</i>	Welsh Terrier	13226	Robert Carusi
<b>65</b>	<b>GCHB CH Surrey Sage</b> <i>C Gausche</i>	Miniature Poodle	12891	Kaz Hosaka
<b>66</b>	<b>GCHP CH Blueprint's Sweetgold Country Girl</b> <i>A Andras/J Andras</i>	Golden Retriever	12414	Clint Livingston

Red number (00) identifies dogs fed Purina® Pro Plan® brand dog food.

\*\*Dog News Magazine Top 100 Dogs based on AKC All-Breed Competition and RBIS through 12/31/22. Purina trademarks are owned by Société des Produits Nestlé S.A.



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# TOP 100 ALL-BREED CHAMPIONS™

RANK	DOG'S NAME OWNER(S) NAME(S)	BREED	DOGS DEFEATED	HANDLER(S)
67	GCHG CH Now And Then Watermark Cruisin At Kellary A Berry/J Osterbauer	Bearded Collie	12359	Mark Bettis
68	GCHG CH Cloudpointe Ringside Gossip A McLaughlin/G Sharp/O Stensen	Norwegian Buhund	12324	Amie McLaughlin
69	GCHP CH Kazuri's All I Want For Christmas CGC TKN S Sweetman/M Kurtzner/K Kurtzner	Beagle (Over 13")	12290	Michael Kurtzner
70	GCHS CH Ne Orageux's Nudge Wink Wink T Millner/M Millner/B Weber/B Weber	Briard	12220	Joan Scott
71	GCHP CH Kp-Burtwood Who's Lookin' Now R Kenney/K Paulson	Boxer	12193	Dylan Keith
72	GCHG CH Glacier's Star Spangled C Wood/G Wood/L Durand	Wirehaired Pointing Griffon	12012	Zack Helmer
73	GCHG CH Lagniappe's From The Mountains To The Bayou H Reed/C Reed/L Mason/M Mason	Giant Schnauzer	11880	Alfonso Escobedo
74	GCHP CH Mariah's Absence Of Malice Mi Casa M Bigham/B Kimball/T Marshall	Doberman Pinscher	11816	Michael Shepherd
75	GCHG CH Tamarin Tattoo L McIngvale Brown/D Girouard	Affenpinscher	11663	Alfonso Escobedo
76	GCHS CH Abbeyrose Black Chrome M Duafala/J Anspach/P Allen/S Williams/D Peters	Welsh Terrier	11570	Leonardo Garcini
77	GCHS CH Let's Rock Xtremely Fast P Howard/J Ferrera/A Hargrave/V Swarowski/T Cassidy	Russell Terrier	11569	Gustavo Molinari
78	GCHP CH Bramver's Orohime L Block/B Block	Long Coat Chihuahua	11552	Runchana Deview
79	GCHG CH Blue Moon Pop A Razzi A Moulton/J Popovits	Australian Terrier	11507	Kellie Williams
80	GCHS CH Cobano (Avalos-Lara) R Yenchsky/E Lanasa	Xoloitzcuintli	11488	Erika Lanasa
81	GCHS CH Aspyre Cat Got Ur Tongue K Spey/T Truesdale/D Truesdale/H Spey	Pointer	11248	Ashley Oldfield
82	GCHS CH Dunkirk Just One More Time L Macedo Delgado/J Deluna/T Reese/R Winters	Pekingese	11140	Tim Reese
83	GCHG CH Barbary's Reigning Royalty CGCA TKN R Silva	Chow Chow	10954	Ralph Silva
84	GCHS CH Bagatelle Rainbow Moon R Corbett/B Charest/J Charest	Old English Sheepdog	10929	Clifford Steele
85	GCHG CH Weissenberg Champagne On Ice C Cassidy	Weimaraner	10922	Michelle Scott
86	GCHS CH Ederra's Glacier The Power Of Mo'Ne C Clegg/M Clegg/M Arechaederra	Kuvasz	10877	Caroline Clegg
87	GCHG CH Planet's Pop Star B Kaplan-Barrett/E Barrett	Dalmatian	10874	Michael Scott
88	GCHG CH Aprodombi Merez Maszat Marci P Radrany	Pumi	10838	Michelle Scott
89	GCH CH Whit's Classically Chloe R Costello/S Whitlow/R Whitlow Jr/C York	American Foxhound	10682	Diego Garcia
90	GCHG CH Carmel Sky High Stargazer M Lande/M Jacobs/C Ewer	Miniature Schnauzer	10598	Susie Olivera
91	GCHP CH Irresistible Winter Is Coming Of Danditops A Nobles/L Newcomb	Bulldog	10507	Jay Serion
92	GCHS CH Wenrick's Nightcap J Smithey/N Shaw/C Smithey	Whippet	10359	Chestie Smithey
93	GCHS CH Charteroak Tra La La Of Grandeur G Vaccaro/M Vaccaro/E Rechler	Afghan Hound	10324	Teri Tevlin
94	GCHS CH Barnstorm One Chance Fancy By Dzine D Planche/P Bernardo/L Cook/M DeMers	Tibetan Terrier	10301	Lois DeMers
95	GCHG CH Aubrey's Mama Can't Buy You Love T Sommerson-Wilcox/V Savioli/C Savioli	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	10215	Tammie Wilcox
96	GCHG CH Chyscott's The Greatest Showman W Shafer/L Shafer/K Simmons	Scottish Terrier	10178	Krissy Simmons
97	GCHG CH Felicia Gloria Yablunevi Tsvit A Mikerin/M Galperina/I Yablona	Black Russian Terrier	10144	Jason Starr
98	GCHG Fabelhaft Robobull Ferragamo M Mulchayev/J Dalton	French Bulldog	10142	Alberto Montila
99	GCHS CH Mit Ivram The Best Is Yet To Come Brian M Sage/E Oliveri	Alaskan Malamute	10114	Jeri El Dissi
100	GCHS CH Touches Judgement Call J Martenson/L Johnstone	Japanese Chin	9689	Rowan Baggenstos

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\*The handlers or owners of these champions may have received Pro Plan dog food as Purina ambassadors.



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# Honoring Special Dogs

Summer continues to be a busy time for our many sports.

This month the AKC Agility Premier Cup will take place at the Historic Crew Stadium in Columbus, Ohio, on July 8. A hundred of the top agility teams in the country will descend on Columbus to compete in this all-star competition for \$10,000 in prizes. The finals of the competition, featuring the top 50 teams, will air on the ESPN network and we will gladly share that information with you soon.



## OUR CHAMPIONS

Speaking of competitions, we want to congratulate the 2023 winners of the AKC Rally National Championship and the AKC National Obedience Championships. The National Obedience Championship winner is NOC OTCH13 High Times Shake 'n Bake, UDX8, OGM, SH, a Golden Retriever known as Baker, handled

by Kori Bevis of Cannon Falls, Minnesota, and the Rally National Championship winner is RNC/TC/OTCH11/AGCH/MACH5/PACH/RACH Norwood Color Me Zayne, UDX11, OGM, RM4, RAE3, HSAd, HSBd, HXAd, HXBd, MXC, PDS, MJC, PJS, MJPB, PAX, MFG, QX, T2B5, a Border Collie known as Zayne, handled by Kimberly Berkley of Caseyville, Illinois. Both these magnificent dogs competed

RUSSELL BIANCA ©AKC

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

against hundreds of others for these top honors. This year's competitions were the largest ever! We want to thank the exhibitors, staff, and volunteers that made yet another record-setting AKC Championship successful.

## OUR HEROES

In other news, we are pleased to honor two new recipients of the 2023 AKC Paw of Courage Awards. We are thrilled to honor K-9 Ivanka of NWI K9 Search & Recovery in Munster, Indiana, and K-9 Barrett of the Montville Connecticut Police Department. Ivanka is a 4-year-old German Shepherd Dog certified through the American Working Dog Association in human-remains detection. She has assisted the ATF, local law enforcement, local firefighters, and more, in the past year alone. She was able to assist in identifying the location of a burial site of a young boy from 40 years prior. Ivanka and handler Stephanie Baker are volunteers and are not paid and bring closure to families.

K-9 Barrett (with his partner Officer Witts) has successfully located narcotics, firearms, wanted suspects, and missing persons. In May of 2020, Barrett was exposed to fentanyl and became the third working police dog in the United States to be saved by Narcan. As a result of the assault, Barrett began experiencing seizures, diagnosed as a brain bleed. He was placed on medication,

but the prognosis worsened with the brain bleed growing. Despite the effects of his injury, Barrett continues to report to work, eager to serve Montville and the state.

The AKC DOG-NY Paw of Courage expresses appreciation for the work that dogs do in the service of humankind, is not specific to purebred dogs, and can be presented to police K-9s, military working dogs, and dogs who have demonstrated a heroic act. These awards recognize dogs who serve their communities honorably, making great impacts in the lives of their human counterparts.

And lastly, but certainly not least, AKC Meet the Breeds—Chicago in conjunction with the International Kennel Club's "Great American Dog Show" is swiftly approaching. If your club has not signed up for your breed to be represented, we assure you this is an event you do not want to miss! For more information on the event or to get signed up, please write to [meetthebreeds@akc.org](mailto:meetthebreeds@akc.org). We look forward to seeing you and educating the public about our wonderful breeds and responsible dog ownership.

Until next time...



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## Breed Columnist Steps Up Front

**O**ur monthly parent-club breed columns are the special sauce of the AKC GAZETTE. For nearly a hundred years our columnists have reported news, dispensed advice, put forth strong opinions, and entertained readers in ways not found in any other dog publication.

During all those decades, the columnists have always occupied the same section of the magazine: after the features and before the Secretary's Pages.

In recent years, however, we have been utilizing these talented fancier/writers in new ways, pushing their material up to the "front of the book."

In our June issue, for instance, the "Where Fanciers Gather" feature presented a panel of breed columnists holding forth on the subject of good sportsmanship. And in this issue our [American Sealyham Terrier Club](#) columnist, Bev Thompson, makes her front-of-book debut as our Westminster

Bev Thompson, ASTC, our intrepid correspondent at the big show



roving correspondent.

At last month's big event at the Billie Jean King Tennis Center, Bev strolled the venue taking photos, shooting videos, and chatting with her fellow fanciers. We present the results in this issue with our thanks for work beyond the call of duty.



**On Our Cover:** *Black and Tan Coonhound, Alton Anderson photo (AKC Archives)*

COURTESY BEV THOMPSON



## Plaid Was the New Black

As color photography was becoming the norm in 1970s magazines, another cultural phenomenon, the polyester revolution, was launched. By the mid-'70s, men who previously wouldn't have been caught dead in anything but sensible blue serge were suddenly seen in outlandishly colored leisure suits and boldly patterned open-collar shirts.

Another male fashion statement of the era was the garish plaid sports coat—today acceptable attire only at '70s-themed Halloween parties. Women, too, were wearing gaudy synthetics, but the look was somehow more jarring on the generation of middle-aged men who had won World War

II in khaki and presided over the postwar boom years in gray flannel.

As the experts at *trendnstylez.com* generously sum up the decade, “While some would consider the decade of the '70s as the biggest fashion disaster there ever was, we'd go against them and support the '70s as a decade of experimentation and new ideas.” Whichever side of that even-handed assessment you come down on, all can agree that the casual wear seen at '70s dog shows was an ideal subject for the vivid Kodachrome color favored by the era's ring photographers.

*From the GAZETTE's June 2020 “Pride and Polyester” special issue.*



A lot can happen in the first 30 days.

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Underwritten by Independence American Insurance Co.

Benefits subject to policy terms, conditions, exclusions, and waiting periods. See link below for complete details. \*The AKC Pet Insurance initial 30 days of accident and illness coverage is administered by PetPartners, Inc. See your policy for additional details. Insurance is underwritten and issued by Independence American Insurance Company (rated A- "Excellent" by A.M. Best) with offices at 11333 N. Scottsdale Rd, Suite 160, Scottsdale, AZ 85254. Not available in all states (including CA and WA) and available to U.S. residents. Eligibility restrictions apply. Activation required for coverage to take effect. Premium is deferred on initial 30 days of coverage. Visit <https://www.akcpetinsurance.com/akc-offer> or call 1-866-725-2747 for more information or to review terms and conditions. \*\*Foreign body ingestion, dogfights, and toxin ingestion are only covered once during the lifetime of a pet.

042023AKCGAZV2

## AKC Vet Scholarships Awarded

The AKC has announced the names of the 2023–2024 AKC Veterinary Outreach Scholarship recipients.

The scholarships support students with backgrounds in AKC events and programs seeking to promote animal health and medicine. The AKC distributed a total of \$73,000 in scholarships, with awards ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

### 2023–2024 AKC Veterinary Outreach Scholars

Amber Framstad (Washington State University); Amelia Foreman (Purdue University); Armen Brus (Michigan State

University); Breanna Uyeno (Iowa State University); Brooke Dominello (Mississippi State University); Claire Merriman (University of Missouri); Diana Chan (Tufts University); Emma Root (Cornell University); Jamie Dean (University of Florida); Jessica Reed (UC Davis); Katie Sandford (Auburn University); Marisa Melo (Texas A&M University); Maya Vulcan (Cornell University); Melissa McBride (North Carolina State University); Sam Johnson (VA-MD Regional College); Sara Yonker (Michigan State University); Jamie Wells (Tufts University); Hanna Westermier (Kansas State University)

## New Award for Parent Clubs

The AKC is accepting applications for the AKC Eddy Award through September 1.

The Eddy encourages and rewards AKC parent clubs that provide extensive breeder education to anyone interested in breeding their breed. A parent club must demonstrate a breeder-education effort (website, workshop, mentoring, or the like) that provides information beyond the expected, in an interesting and unique manner. There will be three winners each year.

All parent clubs are invited to submit a



description of their breeder-education effort for consideration by a committee consisting of AKC Director of Education Ashley Jacot, Vice President Mari-Beth O’Neill, and former AKC Chairman and Breeder of the Year Alan Kalter.

AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo says, “We are happy to recognize parent clubs

committed to safeguarding and perpetuating their breed through education for breeders at all experience levels.”

[More information/Application forms](#)

## UPDATES

From Judging Operations:

# Basset Fauve de Bretagne Joins Miscellaneous Class

**E**ffective June 28 the Basset Fauve de Bretagne, a French scenthound, became eligible to compete in the Miscellaneous Class at AKC conformation events. This action was approved by the Board of Directors at its February meeting. A notification concerning the addition of the breed was sent June 7 to all judges approved for the Miscellaneous Class. The Basset Fauve de Bretagne may be judged optionally on the ground or ramp.

**Breed Standard**

*The Fauve is a rough-coated pack hound whose history goes back to the French Renaissance.*

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

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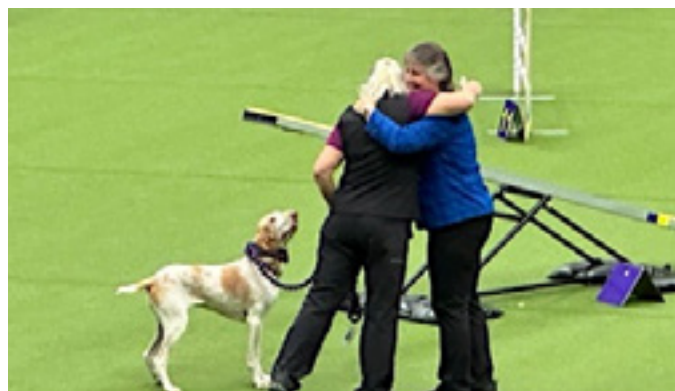


August 12-14, 2023 at the Westin Kierland Resort - Scottsdale, AZ

## UPDATES

# Westminster: Once Around with Bev

NEW YORK CITY—Our Sealyham Terrier breed columnist, Bev Thompson, attended Westminster KC, May 6–9, at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, and documented the event with photos, videos, and interviews exclusive to the GAZETTE. We share some of the photos here. See also the Videos page for more of her on-the-spot coverage.



PHOTOS COURTESY BEV THOMPSON

# UPDATES





**Westminster videos courtesy Bev Thompson:**  
First up, **Margery Good** (Goodspice) and Sealyham Terrier Stache.



**Kimberly Berkley** made the long trip from Illinois to compete in obedience with her Borders, Zayne and Zucco.

## VIDEOS



**JoAnn Burtness's** MACH4 Bedlington Terrier, Valkyrie, turned in a stellar performance at age 12.5 years.



**Julianne Bovat**, of Great Barrington KC, was in the house to perform a Nose Work demo with her Scottish Terrier, Kenzie.





# Welcoming Juniors to Your Club

*Recommendations from the Delegate Juniors Committee*

*By Cindy Stansell, Delegate, Grand River Kennel Club, Inc.*

**T**he bylaws are the governing document for a club. They describe the objectives of the club, the terms of membership, the officers and board, and the general workings of

the club.

One way to encourage juniors is to change your bylaws to allow juniors to become members of your club. The Juniors Committee encourages all

clubs to amend their bylaws to allow juniors to participate. We recently suggested to the AKC Board that the Board streamline the bylaw amendment process to encourage clubs to add

DAVID WOO ©AKC

## FEATURE

juniors to their membership classes. We thank the Board for doing this.

The language that was approved is the current language from the Glossary of the *Sample Constitution and Bylaws for a Parent Club*:

“Junior—open to children under 18 years of age, a non-voting/non-office holding membership which may automatically convert to regular membership at age 18.”

This language is a simple way to introduce juniors to your club. It simplifies the conversion process when the junior ages out at 18. No further paperwork is needed from the junior. The only housekeeping is for the secretary, and/or any committees which assist the secretary in maintaining membership lists, to change the membership list to reflect that the junior has moved to a regular membership.

This simple method acknowledges that many states do not allow persons under 18 to vote. Because they cannot vote, they can



also not be a member of a committee because committee membership has a voting function.

This method may work for many clubs. However, it may not work for others. Bylaws must be internally

consistent. The simple method contemplates only two membership categories: regular and juniors.

Many clubs have other classes of membership. It is common for parent clubs to have foreign members.

DAVID WOO ©AKC

# FEATURE

If the club with foreign members adopts this language, it may put the club in conflict with the definition of regular membership. For example, a child of a foreign member joins as a junior. If that child remains in the parent's country, he/she does not qualify to be a regular member but could qualify as a foreign member. The simple method of automatically converting to a regular member would be in conflict with the bylaws, which define regular members as being residents of the USA.

This conflict can occur in other ways. Some parent clubs have a minimum time of ownership before regular membership can be obtained. These clubs have an associate membership for interested adults who cannot meet the membership requirements. A child who obtained a dog a year ago would also mean that the child could not qualify for regular membership if there were a three-year

ownership requirement. Yet the junior language would automatically make them a regular member in violation of the definition of regular membership.

If you want to maintain a simple version, it would be better to have language that the junior automatically converts to an appropriate membership at age 18:

“Junior—open to children under 18 years of age whose membership may automatically convert to an appropriate membership class at age 18.”

This allows juniors to simply convert to another membership—but one that fits their circumstances.

## YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

The committee finds that the sport often loses previously active young members when the youth is away at college or vocational school. The youth spends time on academics and social awakening, the education is often away from home and there may

be limited opportunity to participate in a club or in the sport. The committee wanted to retain their sense of community during this time to encourage them to become active again when they graduate. For that reason, we created a “Youth Membership” separate from the “Junior Member.” The 18-year-old could choose to be fully active as a regular member or could be inactive during their college years and chose to move to a “youth membership.”

If this concept is adopted, the inactivity during the college years would not jeopardize them from returning as an active member upon completion of their studies. Our language would also require them to notify the club of their intention to return to active status with another membership. Our recommended language is:

“**Youth Member** Shall be open to all persons between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one who



are full-time students at a university or college. Upon reaching twenty-one years of age or upon completion of the post-secondary degree, whichever occurs first, Youth members must reapply for another class of membership and pay the difference in dues. Youth members failing to apply for another membership class within six months of the expiration of this class of membership shall have their membership

automatically lapse.”

**COMMITTEE  
MEMBERSHIP**

This simple language may, however, not be enough. The rights and privileges are not well-defined. We recommend language that does this better and makes it clear that juniors may participate in committees. Committees are valuable training grounds for future club management, and juniors should be wel-

comed to the greatest extent possible. Our recommended language is:

*“Members without Full Privileges. These members do not count in the quorum, do not vote, do not hold office, and do not sponsor applicants for membership. They may hold committee membership; however, they may not chair a committee and they have no vote in the committee. They will receive club publications.”*

COURTESY HOTDOG PHOTOGRAPHY

# FEATURE

Then list under this section the types of members without full privileges along with the definition of the class. For example, Juniors and Youth could be subcategories.

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

We also recommend that clubs consider waiving dues for juniors and youth members. This takes into account that these members may have limited funds. A simple adjustment to the dues section that says that clubs may assess different dues *per class of membership* will solve this. Additionally, we considered the disadvantages of automatic conversion. If there is no automatic conversion, there is additional paperwork for both the junior and the club. But the benefits may outweigh the additional work.

If the junior converts from a class of membership with zero dues to a class of membership with \$50 dues, then the club should make a determination on how

this will be handled. Are the first-year dues waived? Are they pro-rated?

The application often contains information upon which the club relies. The statements that a person under the age of 18 makes may not be relied upon in some states. The completion of an application after the age of majority may give the club more ability to deal with untrue statements or failure to abide by any Code of Conduct.

The requirement of a new application may give the club grounds for denial if the junior adopted practices that were contrary to the club. It is probably easier to deny membership than to expel a member. Some parent clubs are concerned about certain unethical breeding practices. For example, that cute kid now decides to financially profit from the non-standard color market. Do you want him/her to automatically convert to regular membership?

If your club thinks it

needs to be better protected, the following language could be used:

**“Junior Member** Shall be open to all persons between the ages of ten and seventeen. Upon reaching eighteen years of age, Junior members must reapply for another class of membership and pay the difference in dues. Junior members failing to apply for another membership class within six (6) months after their 18th birthday, shall have their membership automatically lapse.”

This language also takes into consideration the wish of the junior to no longer participate in the sport.

You should carefully consider the needs of your club before adopting bylaw language. Whatever approach you choose, please maximize the ability of juniors to join and participate in your club.—**C.S.**

---

*This article originally appeared in the March 2023 issue of Perspectives, the Delegates' publication.*



## Junior Achievement

As a tie-in to this month's "Welcoming Juniors" feature, we take a look at junior handlers of times past who went on to long, successful careers in the sport.

1965: At [Badger KC](#), judge Denny Kodner's Best Junior is **Daryl Martin**, with 7-month-old Maltese Martin's Star Puff. Daryl learned the dog game from her mother, breeder-handler Rena Martin. Daryl, our Maltese breed columnist, enjoys a distinguished career as a breeder and professional handler.

## TIMES PAST



Sixteen-year-old Charlie Garvin, of Columbus, Ohio, with his mother's Dalmatian Ch. Korcula Salona, CD. The beautiful bitch helped her young handler win Best Junior at Westminster in 1969. Charlie's mom, Betty Garvin, was among the AKC's first female Delegates and attended 40 consecutive [DCA](#) specialties. Today, Charlie is AKC board member **Dr. J. Charles Garvin**.

Westminster 1954: **George Alston** wins Best Junior Handler at age 14. The judge is Hollis Wilson; Professional Handlers Association president Clint Callahan presents the trophy. "I was just a boy from the farm [Vienna, Virginia] when I first saw New York," Alston told the *GAZETTE*. "My father drove us all the way to Madison Square Garden in his pickup truck. I was wearing my new suit and squeaky shoes from Sears Roebuck."



## TIMES PAST



▲ A Children's Handling class of the 1950s, judged by Wendell Sammet. In the center is **Marsha Hall Brown**, later a professional handler, English Setter breeder, and longtime judge. With her sister, Bethny Hall Mason, she wrote two editions of *The Junior Showmanship Handbook*.



Westminster, 1958: On her 17th birthday, **Nancy Kelly**, of Stamford, Connecticut, won the Juniors finals with her Golden Retriever Ch. Brandy's Golden Ghost: "When I was 15, I saw Pat Leary win Best Junior at Westminster, and then Pat Madsen win when I was 16, in 1957. I made it my goal to qualify for Westminster in 1958, the last year I would be eligible." Rooting in the stands were Kelly's mentors, Marilu and Josiah Semans, of the historic Golden Pine Kennel.



Photos by *Kathleen Riley* (conformation)  
*Mary Huff* (performance)

# Irish Water Spaniels

## Gather “Up North” *By Laurel Reeves*

Irish Water Spaniel owners and admirers were invited “up north” to the 2023 [Irish Water Spaniel Club of America’s](#) 2023 National Specialty near Lake Elmo, Minnesota, May 20–24. The theme of “Woods & Water” featured

“Taste of the Midwest” meals and a décor festooned with the region’s signature buffalo check plaid. The relaxed setting offered attendees an opportunity to visit with longtime friends, greet new breed supporters, and admire IWS partici-

pating in a wide variety of activities, all surrounded by a bounty of beautiful grounds. The weather was perfect—sunny with temperatures in the 70s all week long. (The chair says she planned it that way!)

The specialty started with

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## RINGSIDE



obedience and rally, judged by Louise C. Botko; and agility, judged by Catherine Nelson. These events were held at Animal Inn Training School, a multiservice facility dedicated to these sports. The specialty then moved to the Washington County (Minnesota) Fairgrounds for sweepstakes, judged by Diane Wacker, and a splendid outdoor setting for breed, judged by Dr. Camille McArdle. On the specialty's final day, Kelly Farm was the location for

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY PHOTOGRAPHY

## RINGSIDE

the WC/WCX tests where judges Robert Mattlin and Chuck Stokes, and a large gallery of onlookers, observed IWS doing what they're bred to do. A more perfect venue for this field event would be hard to find. Lastly, the Specialty wrapped up with a superb dinner that included the "up north" favorite, walleye, prepared to perfection, and the annual awards presentations at the charming and accommodating Lake Elmo Inn Event Center.

In addition to the IWS activities scattered throughout the week, there was a handling clinic by Joanne Grimsrud; Rebecca Bell's (RBLegal) talk on Pet Protection Agreements & Pet Trusts; Sarah Zumpf's presentation on photographing your IWS; and a scent work demonstration by Patrice Dodd. A Judges Education presentation was given by Dan Sayers.

In the weeks leading up to the Specialty, and as the Specialty was underway,



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## RINGSIDE



breed judge changes presented a couple hurdles. The first announced breed judge suffered an injury just before the publishing of the premium list, so was not able to fulfill the assignment. And just 24 hours before breed judging was to commence, the second announced breed judge was unable to carry out the assignment due to transportation issues. Fortunately, Dr. Camille McArdle was



COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY PHOTOGRAPHY

## RINGSIDE



available, willing, and quite able to adjudicate the Breed judging.

The small but dedicated show committee, chaired by Laurel Reeves and assisted by Greg Johnson, included Sarah Zumpf, Agility; Mary Oleskow, obedience and rally; Rosemary Sexton, WC/WCX; Mary and Bill Daly, Hospitality, Meals,



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# RINGSIDE



Ribbons and Trophies; Nicole Brown, Registration; Lisa Schaitberger, Catalog; Ann and Brian McNeill, Auctions and Camping; and Terry Kast and Melonie Thompson, Merchandise. Additional support was received from Nance Olson Skoglund, On-Site Secretary and GSCA AKC Delegate, who skillfully assisted with the approvals needed in the



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# RINGSIDE



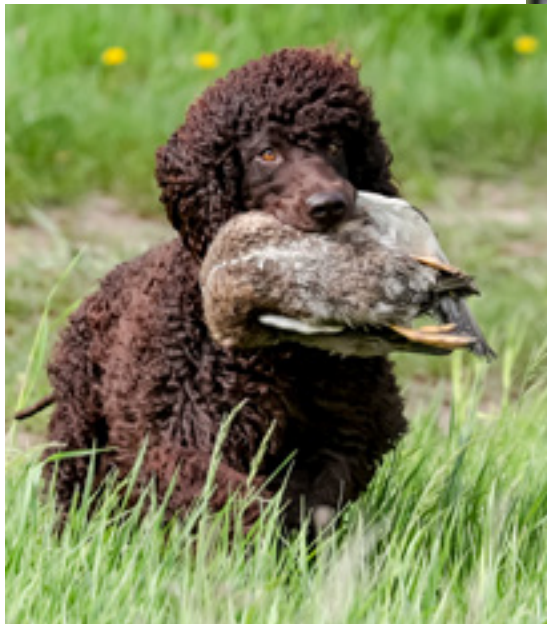
final judge's selection.

Thanks to everyone's efforts and the dedication of the breed's devoted supporters, "up north" proved an ideal setting for gathering the clan in celebration of the active and adventurous Irish Water Spaniel.—**L.R.**



COURTESY MARY HUFF

# RINGSIDE



COURTESY  
MARY HUFF



# RINGSIDE



COURTESY MARY HUFF

## Katie Bernardin



“You have to love your job,” AKC Registered Handler Katie Bernardin says on a recent episode of the [Pure Dog Talk Podcast](#). “You have to do it with a passion. You sacrifice your own life to make sure the dogs always come first. You take care of the dogs. But you have to *learn* to take care of dogs.”

A quick tip from Katie: “Think of someone you really admire in the sport, and imagine they’re always looking over your shoulder.”



# Canine Cruise Chicago:

a benefit for the AKC Museum of the Dog

**Friday, August 25**

**6:30–10 p.m.**

**Docking at McCormick Place, Chicago, IL**

Join the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog for a festive night on board the Spirit of Chicago as we enjoy cocktails, a buffet-style dinner, silent auction, and dancing while admiring the Chicago skyline from the waters of Lake Michigan.

After boarding at McCormick Place, guests will have the opportunity to enjoy dockside cocktails from the cash bar before embarking on a two-hour cruise with spectacular sunset views from climate-controlled interior and exterior decks. DJ entertainment will serenade guests during dinner before dancing the night away and placing bids at our art-inspired auction.

All proceeds from this special evening will benefit the AKC Museum of the Dog in New York City and enable the Museum to continue to care for the canine art in its collection, provide educational programming for the public, and inspire positive engagement with dogs year-round.

## **Individual Tickets: \$150 per person**

*(\$79 of which is tax-deductible)*

- first-come, first-served seating for one on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> floor decks.

## **VIP Tables: \$2,500**

*(\$1,772 of which is tax-deductible)*

- reserved table with seating for eight on the top floor deck with a private outdoor lounge
- includes two complimentary drink tickets per person
  - signage at the event with name or logo



To register, go to this URL or scan the QR Code:

[bit.ly/caninecruisechicago](https://bit.ly/caninecruisechicago)



# BREED COLUMNS



Edited by *Arliss Paddock*



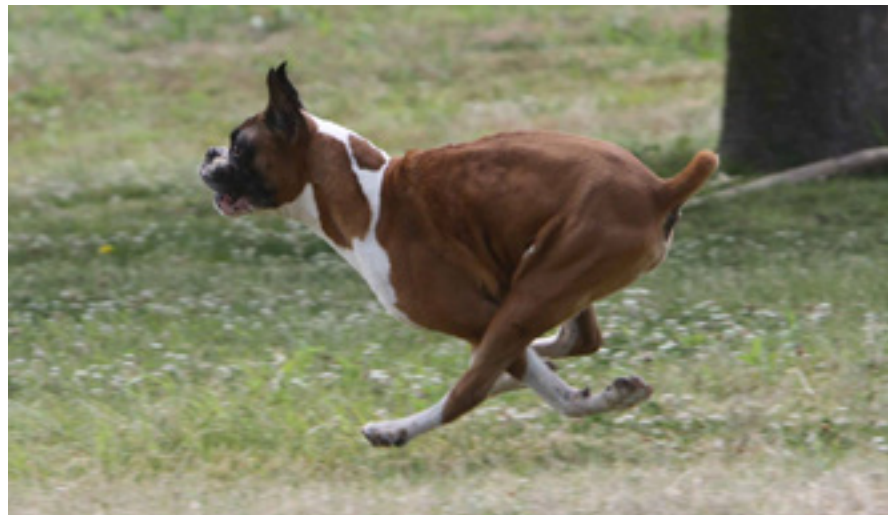
*Chesapeake Bay Retriever DC AFC Fireweed's the King of Cool, call name McQueen, is the breed's latest Dual Champion. Read about McQueen—and how he got his name—in Betsy Horn Humer's column on p. 46.*

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# BREED COLUMNS

## ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by the breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's traits, history, care, and training. A national parent club is made up of dedicated breeders and fanciers and represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to serious dog fanciers in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate quarterly by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year. Information and opinions expressed in the breed columns represent the views of their authors, not necessarily those of the breed's parent club or the AKC. For questions about the breed columns, e-mail [ArlissPaddock@akc.org](mailto:ArlissPaddock@akc.org)



## THIS MONTH

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# BREED COLUMNS

## SPORTING GROUP

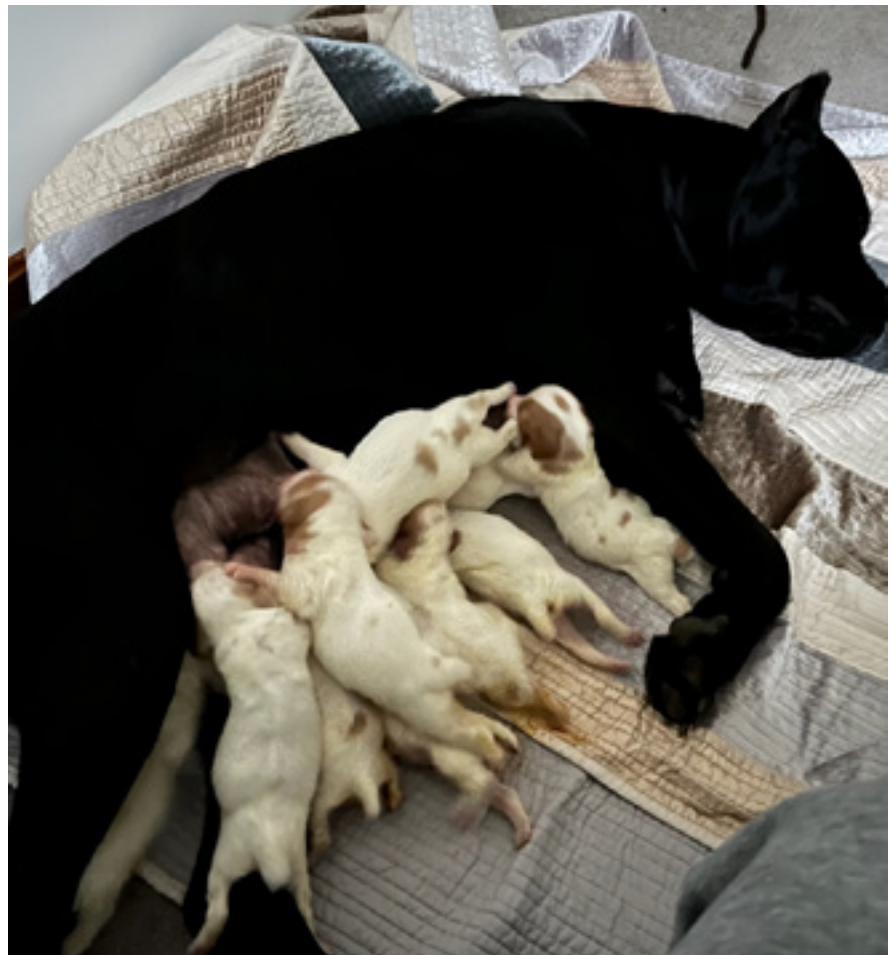
### Brittanys

#### DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH

As this piece is being written, it's a day after a trip was made to an animal clinic in a suburb of Cleveland. The trip was to pick up a special Brittany who had two weeks previously given birth to 10 puppies via a C-section, which was not a normal one.

A special lady ([whelper-helper2006@yahoo.com](mailto:whelper-helper2006@yahoo.com)) who performs this service for clients of giving birth to new pups was monitoring a Brittany named Cloud, whose temperature had just drop below 100 degrees F, indicating onset of labor. Next move was to take Cloud to the clinic, which was only 10 minutes away.

Just before the doctor started the C-section the uterus ruptured; the procedure was done as quickly as possible, yielding ultimately 10 pups. The positive side of all this was that although the uterus ruptured, it was along the line of a normal C-section; with the stitching and gluing the uterus back



*A Cane Corso dam who had to be separated from her own pups acted as surrogate mother to a litter of 2-week-old Brittanys when their dam developed mastitis.*

together, Cloud will be able sometime in the future to carry another litter.

With this new litter of Brittany pups, everything proceeded normally, with Cloud nursing the pups for the next six days. Later, however, it was discovered that she had swelling around a

teat that was hidden beneath her right leg, and it was quickly determined this was a possible beginning of mastitis. Her temperature was up to 103 degrees, with normal for dogs being 101 to 102.5.

A trip was made to the clinic for further assessment.

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## SPORTING GROUP

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Her temperature was brought under control, and antibiotics were given to hopefully reduce or eliminate the bacteria that was causing the mastitis. (The antibiotics given at this point would not adversely affect her milk supply for the pups.) That day Cloud was back nursing her 10 pups, all with fat little tummies.

Two days later, in the morning Cloud had an elevated temperature of 104 degrees and was lethargic. The antibiotics given were not working, and she was taken back to the clinic. Cloud would not return to nursing the pups, as this second intravenous application of antibiotics would contaminate the milk.

At this time in the life of these 10 pups a “diamond in the rough” appeared. It was a dog of another breed—a Cane Corso, which are typically described as noble, intelligent, loyal, and strong. Another client ([scandifio@scandifio.com](mailto:scandifio@scandifio.com)) also had his Corso at the “ladies’ home” whelping pups, which had

been weaned away from their mother. Permission was granted by the owner for his Corso to allow the 2-week-old Brittany pups to nurse, which to start with was a closely supervised process.

The mother Corso continued for the next two weeks to nurse and care for the Brittany pups as if they were almost her own.

As the owner of Cloud the Brittany and her pups, there was and is on my part a significant amount of gratitude expressed to the owner of the Corso dam. His dogs are bred to have an excellent, gentle temperament, and this certainly was shown by this Corso. She was a great mother to the Brittany pups. The last several days she even cleaned them along with nursing the pups.

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, the trip to Cleveland was to pick up Cloud, who beat the infection from the mastitis and has healed to be ready to resume her training for a field trial career, with also

the possibility of being a mother to a future second litter. —David Webb,  
[davidawebb@aol.com](mailto:davidawebb@aol.com)  
American Brittany Club

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## Lagotti Romagnoli

### THE WELL-GROOMED LAGOTTO

Lagotti, of course, have hair. If it gets too long, it will become matted, every bit of debris will become imbedded in the coat, and the dog will be extremely uncomfortable. For this reason, a truffle-hunting Lagotti’s hair will be very short indeed. A show dog’s hair will be longer, to enhance the look of the breed. It is a matter of degree.

The standard says that the hair should neither be longer than 1.5” nor be sculpted, and should follow the shape of the body—a rustic trim for a rustic working dog. Perhaps the most egregious way to ignore the standard is to allow hair to cover the eyes. This is cruel to the dog because vision is impaired, but it is also wrong because those eyes are one of the most beautiful things about the



# BREED COLUMNS



## SPORTING GROUP

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*The three “pet trims” most often utilized for the Lagotto Romagnolo (photos ©Katrien van Gemert)*

COURTESY ©KATRIEN VAN GEMERT / COURTESY ROBIN MOREHOUSE



# BREED COLUMNS

## SPORTING GROUP

breed. Sensitivity, empathy, intelligence—all of these traits are evident in the Lagotti’s eyes.

Most Lagotti, of course, are not show dogs, and while it would be unusual for one in the ring to have a super-short haircut, it may be excellent for a pet.

I asked Robin Morehouse, a groomer, breeder, and owner of Fino Lagotto in Santa Fe, New Mexico, about how often a dog should be groomed, and she offered three suggestions.

She said that for “optimal cuteness” grooming should occur every four to five weeks. That would keep the length to about one inch on the body, and one-and-a-half inches on the face. A second option is what Robin calls “a nice pet trim.” All the hair on body, legs, and tail is kept at about a quarter-inch long, with “a little extra hair on the face to accentuate the broad skull and short muzzle.” For this cut, grooming should be done every six to eight weeks, and the only brushing or combing needed

would be on the face after a bath and towel-dry. She added that the coat should always be allowed to air-dry. However, she said that in Italy, a working dog’s coat is cropped very short, to less than a quarter-inch. This is her third option and is recommended as comfortable for the dog, as they don’t do well in warm weather if their coats are too long, and they are easy to maintain, as brushing is unnecessary. The curly muzzle may need a bit of untangling, which is simple after a bath if you use conditioner. About every four months, when the hair seems too long, the dog gets a haircut and the cycle begins again.

The pictures accompanying this column showing all three options are supplied by Lagotto grooming expert Katrien van Gemert from her book, *Lagotto Grooming: Keeping it Rustic*.

Full disclosure: Our Lagotto, Watson, has been getting that monthly “optimal cuteness” haircut. However, after speaking with

Robin, I’m planning to crop his hair quite short this summer for his optimal comfort instead, and in future stay with a “nice pet trim.”

And that gets us back full circle to the topic of grooming. In a show, the standard reflects the dog’s rusticity and life purpose, and should be adhered to. For a pet the cut should do the same, while also taking into consideration the budget and time constraints of his human companions.

—Susan Yager,

[Susanyager1@gmail.com](mailto:Susanyager1@gmail.com)

Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America

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## Pointers

### A POINTER SHOULD BE FIT FOR PURPOSE

The Pointer was bred to cover ground with efficiency—demanding speed and lasting power—and effectiveness—calling for scenting the wind for game while on the go—and to easily stop in a point to indicate game found. Any individual, regardless of whether the person engages

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in the sport, should breed for or reward a dog built to support that function. Yes, conditioning, training, and what some might call “spirit” can make a tremendous difference in whether a well-built dog carries out his or her function, but the show ring is intended to evaluate whether the form of the dog’s build supports the breed’s intended function. The Pointer, in the ring and in a breeding program, must be evaluated on whether the dog is fit for purpose.

I will mention here a few nuances of the breed, what makes a Pointer a Pointer; in future articles, I will delve into more details on these and other Pointer elements.

The Pointer is a series of graceful curves; the breed combines compact power and agile grace. There is nothing in the breed standard about amount of bone, but the Pointer must convey lasting power and strength to relentlessly gallop across fields, over hills, and through woods to locate game. They are solidly built dogs, with



*“The Pointer ... combines compact power and agile grace.” (Artist: Claire Thompson)*

COURTESY CLAIRE THOMPSON

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both depth and breadth of chest; balance; and head planes parallel or with the nasal bone so formed that the nose is slightly higher at the tip than the muzzle at the stop, in order for the head, neck, and spine to stay properly aligned and the front and rear to be able to maximally extend while the dog scents the wind in a full gallop across the field.

The Pointer came from a combination of breeds, as they were during the time the Pointer was created. Though the specifics vary a little depending on the source, the breeds typically mentioned are sighthounds, scenthounds, and even a dash of terrier.

Greyhounds gave Pointers a moderated version of their distinct curves, which should be so defined that they are an essential differentiator of the outline of a Pointer. Greyhounds were used in the development of the breed for speed and running style. In their job, Pointers gallop across the field, so this requires a slight

arch over the loin; a deep chest, with head held high; aerodynamic, oval bone; flexible and slightly slanted pasterns, as shock absorbers; long and laidback shoulder, to reach out and back; a powerful hindquarter, to drive; and oval feet, to most efficiently grasp, grip, and release the soil as the dog extends out and contracts.

The Pointer gallops at top speeds to cover more ground in various terrains and so increase the chance of encountering game, while the Greyhound is more extreme in build, able to launch into gear for a sprint to chase the prey, a hare.

Scenthounds brought the breadth of chest, ribs well sprung, for breathing room and a strong, pounding heart that enables a lasting power. Thus it is not just a depth of chest that supports the dashing speed, but the breadth of chest that enables a lasting speed. The balanced front-to-rear angles of scenthounds are also essential in the build of a Pointer, as this gives the ability to

evenly hit the ground for hours on end without tiring.

And, most obviously, the scenthounds have gifted their powerful nose to the Pointer. Unlike the scenthound, the Pointer would be galloping with head held high and nose to the wind, not the ground. To scent the wind while running, the nose needs to be placed on the head in a way that allows it to best bring in the scent of the wind it is encountering, as well as to cause no need to position the head or neck in an unnatural and damaging position to do so. Thus, with a head held high during a gallop, the nose would be best positioned with the nostrils perpendicular to the ground, hitting the wind straight on. The form of head that supports this is one in which the head planes are parallel or with the nasal bone so formed that the nose is slightly higher at the tip than the muzzle at the stop.

The Bull Terrier ancestry brings the Pointer tenac-

## SPORTING GROUP

ity and perseverance to continue on in whichever environment the Pointer must hunt. The terrier also brings a front-to-rear balance that supports stability in stance on the point and in the crouch or crawl, as well as otherwise on the move.

Thanks to the contribution of different breeds, the Pointer was born to fulfill a purpose. Each of the Pointer's elements, and, more importantly, the Pointer as a whole, should be evaluated on whether the dog is fit for purpose.

—Hayley Thompson,

[windlight1@aol.com](mailto:windlight1@aol.com)

American Pointer Club

### German Shorthaired Pointers

#### NATIONAL SPECIALTY TIME

As the parent club's historian for the breed, attending a national specialty show is always a highlight for me and something I eagerly anticipate. Unfortunately I will be missing the one in Hunt Valley, Maryland, this year.

The GSP fancy always considers this a family reunion to catch up with friends and what they are doing with their dogs and breeding programs. Facebook has taken a lot of mystery out of the anticipated waiting, but it still can't take the place of seeing old friends in person, planning a get-together, dining out, and welcoming newbies. But it's always about the dogs and seeing them in person, putting your hands on them, watching them move, and observing their personalities.

The young dogs are the best as they wiggle and squirm under the hand, and someone will usually have that next-generation puppy to show you. It just doesn't get better than being smothered in puppy kisses!

Then there are the veterans: How do they look? Some will have gray faces, while others appear not to have aged at all, but when it's ringtime don't get between them and the entrance. They know the drill—it's show time, and they don't miss a step on the go-around. They hit their



German Shorthaired Pointer puppy Cash (center), with black coat color, among liver-colored relatives

COURTESY PATTIE TITUS



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stack then give the judge that look: *I'm here, and the best thing you've ever seen.*

The young adults are coming into their own, while the puppies are showing promise of what is to be, while the veterans are still strutting their stuff. And there are always a few clowns who make things interesting with their antics. This is what makes the national specialty show so exciting: the opportunity each year to observe firsthand the dogs from established kennel lines and specific pedigrees—and with each successive year as they mature and reproduce.

The 2023 national specialty is unique because it is the first GSPCA national with the black/black and white coated Shorthairs being shown. There will be at least one in the Best of Breed competition, having finished his AKC championship in January at the Florida Classic cluster.

I met my first black/black and white GSP at the 1992

GSPCA national specialty show that was held in Frederick, Maryland. Her name was Matilda, and she was imported from Georgina and Michael Byrne's Burnbrook Kennels in Western Australia. Georgina is the author of *Der Deutsch-Kurzhaar*, published in 1990 and considered one of the most comprehensive books about the Shorthair breed.

In 1998, as secretary of the parent club, I received the first petition started by Matilda's owner and other members to the parent club to remove "black" as a DQ from the breed standard. Twenty-five years later the national specialty show will witness the first black/black and white dogs being shown, with some in the same classes as their liver/liver and white littermates.

It would be nice to say "I was there" when it happened.

—Patte Titus, Historian  
[chexsix@me.com](mailto:chexsix@me.com)

[German Shorthaired  
Pointer Club of America](#)

## Chesapeake Bay Retrievers

### NEW DUAL CHAMPION

History has been made again: The Chesapeake Bay Retriever world has another dual champion! DC AFC Fireweed's The King of Cool is the first "dual" since 2016. A "dual" is a dog who has earned the title of Field Champion by competing and winning in field trials and is also a champion of record at dog shows. The abbreviation used is DC. The AFC in front of this dog's name refers to Amateur Field Champion.

McQueen, as he is known, is owned by Linda Harger and Tom Ivey. He is by Ch. Clippers Frozen Assets x AFC Ch. Fireweed's Poison Ivy and was bred by Sharon and Brett Crow. McQueen earned 13 Derby points and was QA2 (Qualified All-Age) before he was 2 years old. He earned his AFC at the age of 3. He has qualified for two National Amateur Field Trials and a National Open. McQueen has over 50 All-Age points and a great career ahead.

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Chesapeake Bay Retrievers  
(Evelyn Shafer photo)

And how did McQueen get his name? Linda reports:

“When I first brought McQueen home, he would escape anything that I put him in, and I started laughing and calling him Steve for Steven McQueen in *The Great Escape*. A friend of mine and I batted that around a little bit, and she came up with the fact that

Steve McQueen in his glory days in Hollywood was called ‘The King of Cool.’ It just fit, so that’s what I named him, and his call name became McQueen.”

On September 10, 2022, McQueen finished his FC (Field Champion) title by winning the Open stake at the Idaho Retriever Club Field Trial. In order to com-

plete a FC, in addition to earning 10 required points from placements 1 through 4 there must also be what is known as an “Open 1st.” Chesapeakes compete with all the other retriever breeds at field trials. The fast-running Labradors and Golden Retrievers are the main competitors. There has not been a dual cham-



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pion Labrador Retriever since 1982, nor a Golden Retriever since 1973.

There are now 24 Chesapeakes who carry the esteemed title of Dual Champion. McQueen is the sixth dual Chesapeake that Linda has trained and/or owned. Most of her duals have come down from her own established line.

McQueen's breed championship was completed at the Packerland Kennel Club show held in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, on April 1, at an American Chesapeake Club supported entry. McQueen was handled by Devon Kipp Levy for most of his points and then on to Winners Dog on March 31 and April 1, earning both majors to complete his bench championship.

I was told "the building rang with shouts and applause" when it happened, with an uproar and cheers from the Chesapeake fanciers, exhibitors, and friends. There has been overwhelming support from Chesapeake owners all over

the country.

—Betsy Horn Humer,  
[tiderunnr2@verizon.net](mailto:tiderunnr2@verizon.net)  
American Chesapeake Club

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## Curly Coated Retrievers

### TRIMMING NAILS

When I acquired my first Curly, I learned that nail grooming is an exceptional challenge with our breed. I tried to clip my young bitch's nails and could not do it. I took her to the vet, and the vet said, "We can handle this." However, shortly after taking her back to do so, he said, "You are right. We cannot. So she has to be sedated for the ordeal."

This went on for a few months. Then I started my Curly girl in a basic obedience class. Fortunately, the team next to me in class was a groomer with her dog. I mentioned my challenge, and she observed that my bitch's nails were longer than they should be. She advised me to trim or file one nail per day until the dog accepted the situation in

a more relaxed manner.

The quick is quite close to the end of the nail, and it is easily nicked, which causes bleeding. And Curlies, being sensitive dogs, become quite concerned with it all. Gradually my first Curly did accept this gentle approach to nail grooming. Ever since that time, I have used different nail-care routines for each of my dogs.

With my two current adult Curly girls, one lies on her side on the couch for nail care. I am able to clip each nail, and I give a treat after each foot. My younger girl lies on the grooming table on her side, and I clip just the very tip of each nail. When I've finished each foot, I give a treat and then move on to the next foot. When I've completely finished with all eight feet, everybody gets cookies!

Jenny Dickinson  
comments:

"As Ann describes, many of our Curlies come to their owners with no experience of nail care, and a window of teaching opportunity has



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Curly-Coated Retriever

[annshinkle@aol.com](mailto:annshinkle@aol.com)  
Curly-Coated Retriever  
Club of America

## Golden Retrievers

### THE NOSE KNOWS

**A** Golden paradox: We humans smell what we see, while our Golden Retrievers see what they smell. Goldens interpret the world around them through their ultra-sensitive sense of smell, be it a downed duck in a heavy marsh, a landmine buried in a roadway, skin cells filled with cancer, or the sadness of an unhappy child. It's that amazing scenting ability that has spawned the term "that famous Golden nose." The ability to identify specific odors is far greater in Goldens (and other retriever breeds) than in most other breeds of dogs. An estimated 300 hundred million scent receptors inside the nose allow the dog to interpret and identify the infinite variety of smells in the universe.

A human, with a paltry five million receptors, could

passed. I work with service dog trainers who anticipate that disabled folks might not be able to have a wrestling match every time they need to shorten their dog's nails. Service dog breeders start trimming nails in the whelping box—not just handling the feet, but letting the pups feel some pressure and hear the sounds of the clippers and the grinding tool while they are being fed yummys

by an assistant. They do this every few days.

"Whatever early developmental procedures our breeders are following—and I hope it is Puppy Culture, or a protocol equally science based—*please* add a nail care protocol to it. We do no harm in adding this extra step, and it prevents a lot of panic and misery for our dogs."—J.D.

—Ann Shinkle,

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

## SPORTING GROUP



*Golden Retriever*

recognize a specific perfume in a small room, while a dog could distinguish the same scent in a football stadium—and at the same time, identify the ingredients in the perfume.

So how exactly does each “Golden sniff” work? Using highly specialized photography, researchers have discovered that as the moist, spongy surface of the dog’s nose captured the various scents carried in the air, each of the dog’s nostrils worked separately.

The imaging also showed the path of airflow in the nostrils, revealing tiny slits in the side of each nostril that enabled the dog to inhale and exhale at the same time. When you see your Golden’s nose quivering during a hearty sniff, you know it’s sorting out information in miniscule amounts.

In addition, these olfactory structures serve as a direct conduit from the dog’s nose to its brain, enabling the brain to identify and decode

the data it receives. The canine brain is far more specialized in analyzing odors, with an estimated 10 percent of the brain dedicated for olfaction. In contrast, humans use about .01 percent brainpower for that purpose.

Yet another complete olfactory system, called the vomeronasal organ, is located above the roof of the dog’s mouth. Also known as Jacobson’s organ (perhaps he discovered it?), the vomeronasal detects the unseen, the hormones that humans and other animals naturally release, allowing the dog to identify feelings, such as aggression, hostility, or sadness, even illness and pregnancy. This special scenting apparatus also gives dogs the ability to sniff out cancers, drugs, and hundreds of invisible odors on land, sea, ice, and snow.

Thanks to the vomeronasal organ, Golden Retrievers are especially adept at identifying human emotions and excel as therapy and assistance animals.

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY PHOTOGRAPHY

## SPORTING GROUP

Frequently used by therapy groups and other organizations during catastrophes and individual family crises, the Golden “knows” when to offer a friendly paw, a gentle nuzzle, and nonjudgmental love. Thanks to its unique ability to smell and/or sense our human needs, it could be said the Golden Retriever’s most important role is that of healing hearts.

—Nona Kilgore Bauer,  
[nona@nonabauer.com](mailto:nona@nonabauer.com)  
Golden Retriever Club of America



Labrador Retriever: “Afternoon Nap” by Molly Poole

## Labrador Retrievers

### OH, SO YOU WANT A PUPPY

I was watching the AKC Dock jumping competition for 2022 the other night. I was amazed at the intensity of the individual dogs and the diversity of the breeds. They all were enthusiastic about their next dive and were totally focused.

This enthusiasm and intensity made me think of all the times a client posed the question, “What breed of dog should I buy?” Most

of the time I knew the personalities of the individual and their family.

But what breed of dog is the best breed? Not to insult anyone, but that really depends on multiple factors. No, I am not talking about genetics or health issues specifically—and those are extremely important overall—but about the individual traits of a particular breed.

Now, I am a Labrador Retriever/Brittany person. Why? Because I enjoy com-

peting and hunting with my dogs.

So, let’s talk a bit about picking the perfect puppy. High on the list to consider is your personality. Are you a jogger, a couch potato, a fisherman, a boater, a person who enjoys quite personal space, an outgoing person who engages with everyone, or an introvert who likes their corner of the room? Depending on who you are, it is extremely important to think about

COURTESY MOLLY POOLE

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those breeds that fit your personality.

What are your intentions for having a dog? Companionship is a given, but what else? Let's take a look at the dock jumper. Those dogs had an intense desire to get a bumper. But are you ready for the training that it takes to compete successfully? What facilities are available near where you live? Who will be your mentor? And can you live with the intensity these dogs need to be successful?

What about the training of a hunting companion? I do believe some individuals (that is, some of my fellow hunters) believe dogs can train themselves if you just leave the training DVD module next to their kennels so they can absorb the training by ESP. I think all that happens in that scenario is a chewed-up DVD and a dog who chases birds 200 yards from their master.

If one is to have a dog companion in the field, again obedience training, field work, and learning

to control the dog are all squarely on the shoulders of the owner.

Also, did you pick the correct dog for your hunting style? For example, a duck hunter would want a quiet dog who is intense but manageable in the duck blind, while an upland hunter would like a dog who has some range but also is in control. That is why I hunt with both Labradors and a Brittany.

Let's get back to the personality of the new owner and the family, and let's use the Labrador Retriever as an example. For the couch potato, a British style of Labrador show-bred for companionship and the occasional one or two ball-tosses would most likely fit into that family. Those particular Labradors are just as happy napping next to the couch.

On the other hand, what about the jogger or hunter? Those Labradors need some length of leg and should have the stamina to fulfill the wishes of the owner.

For the dock jumper, one wants, I assume, an extremely high-energy dog. For that type of intensity, the owners may need to understand that with intensity comes some noise and a whole lot of energy.

When selecting a new puppy, not only is purpose and personality of the family important, but so is understanding the pedigree. Again, is the puppy all field-bred, or all show-bred? What are the personalities of the parents like? Were the puppies raised in the house? Were they exposed to other dogs, maybe to cats or birds, and to common house noises like the vacuum cleaner or garbage disposal?

Everyone loves the puppy who immediately runs from his littermates to greet prospective new owners. People are concerned about the puppy sitting by himself in the corner. The first puppy may most likely be the alpha puppy of the litter. It would not be a good choice for the quiet family pet. The puppy in the corner may



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be the thinker of the litter, or maybe is just shy. That puppy probably would not be good choice for a “Type A” family.

What is the best puppy for an individual or family? That really depends on the family and their expectations. Some research on the front end of the search for a new puppy reaps years of pleasant companionship.

—John Lawrence, DVM  
[yelodoglabs@gmail.com](mailto:yelodoglabs@gmail.com)  
The Labrador Retriever Club

### English Setters

#### A LITTLE POPULARITY COULD BE A GOOD THING

As I’m writing this piece, it’s only a few days after this year’s Westminster Kennel Club dog show. This year the beautiful Cider, GCh.B Winchester’s An Apple a Day, JH, won the Sporting Group, following in the pawprints of the equally gorgeous Belle, GCh.S Ciara N’ Honeygait Belle of the Ball, FDC, CGC, the winner of

the 2022 Sporting Group. As a breed we have been blessed with fabulous representatives year after year, but until recently they have been overlooked on the group stage at Westminster. It seems amazing to me that now we have had two back-to-back Sporting Group winners.

In 2022 I was ecstatic over Belle’s win. This year, almost as soon as Cider won, I was thrilled for her connections, but I also felt just a twinge of concern. With two beautiful English Setters getting so much attention in the national spotlight, was the public going to start taking notice of our hidden gems? Were our breeders going to see an uptick in calls about puppies? And, if they do, is that a good thing, or a bad thing?

Let’s face it. Most of us are incredibly protective of our breed. Some of us are almost paranoid. That’s fine. I know that we all love our dogs, and we want every puppy and dog to go to the perfect home with wonder-

ful people. I think most of our puppies and dogs do go to great homes. Almost every breeder who is in the breed long enough will have a story about a home that didn’t work out, but that is part of life. All of us do our best to place puppies and dogs in the best situations possible.

What happens if more people start clamoring for English Setter puppies? Would you try to breed a little more often? Have a second litter in a year from one of your other girls? Would you try to attend more dog shows to finish titles? Or would you pass people along to another breeder? Put them on a two-year waiting list? Discourage callers and send them to rescue?

As much as I know that it scares all of us to have a “popular” breed, I think we should consider that there could be some good things about having English Setters become at least more recognizable to the general public. We might



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welcome some new people into the breed because they saw them at Westminster and just became aware of English Setters. We don't have to assume that new people have nefarious plans. They might want a sweet, beautiful pet—like you probably did when you first started with English Setters. They might end up showing an English Setter or taking part in agility, obedience, hunting, or other fun things to do with their dog. Yes, maybe someday they will become a breeder, with a good mentor.

We don't have to assume the worst or think that English Setters are going to become overbred if we are contacted by new folks who were dazzled by Belle and



*English Setter Cider (GCh.B Winchester's An Apple a Day, JH), this year's winner of the Sporting Group at Westminster, with her best buddy; 2022 Westminster Sporting Group winner Belle (GCh.S Ciara N' Honeygait Belle of the Ball, FDC, CGC, JH), just having finished her JH title, with co-owner Van Jacobsen.*

COURTESY JUSTINE SPIERS / COURTESY VAN JACOBSEN



## SPORTING GROUP

Cider on TV.

We need to keep in mind that, like many other breeds, we don't register many dogs and litters per year with AKC. We do need to think about the future. If a little television exposure attracts some new people, try to see it as an opportunity to help the breed flourish instead of something frightening.

I know we all laugh about people who think our dogs are "longhaired Dalmatians," but I think it would be nice for people to see my dogs and actually recognize them as English Setters.

If you are new to the breed or just considering getting an English Setter, they really are wonderful dogs—but like every dog, they need training, grooming, regular vet care, and lots of time and attention. More than many breeds, they expect to spend time with you. Confined to a yard or kennel most of the time, an English Setter won't be a happy dog. They are snugglers. Even an English Setter who weighs

70 pounds thinks he's a lap dog.

If you're interested in getting an English Setter, talk to people who have them to learn about the breed. Make sure this is the right dog for you. There are breeders and owners in all parts of the country. Most of us will talk your ears off about our dogs. If you decide this is really the dog you want, especially if you like a particular breeder, you may be put on a waiting list. At this time our breeders just don't breed that many litters per year. English Setters are worth the wait.

They say that some things are a blessing and a curse. If people become more aware of or more interested in English Setters, I'm going to choose to see it as a blessing. We control what happens with our sweet dogs. We need to have more people with English Setters for the breed's future. We just need to place dogs with good owners and educate them.

—Carlotta Cooper,  
Greeneville, Tennessee,

[eshever@embarqmail.com](mailto:eshever@embarqmail.com)  
English Setter Association  
of America

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## Gordon Setters

### THE SINGLE DOG

First, another update: After finishing two columns on Gordon Setter dual champions, I updated the last column by adding two more who finished in October 2022. Since we appear to be on a roll here, let's add another one, who finished in January 2023.

Welcome to the club to Dual Ch. Gordon Hill Upwind Hunter, MH, who finished at an English Setter trial outside Paris, Kentucky, in late January. Wynn was bred by Susan DeSilver and was sired by Ch. Munroc The Black Watch, MH, and is out of Gordon Hill Tempest. He is proudly owned by Janie Bristow and Rhonda Cornum. Congratulations to all involved.

Like a number of people who have been active in the breed for some time and

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*Gordon Setter Blue, of Wyoming*

have bred litters, there were usually multiple Gordons at my house. The first one led to the second one, and a bitch eventually led to puppies, grandpuppies, great-grandpuppies, and so on. It was a delightfully vicious cycle, which now that I am older makes a much better memory than a current reality.

For the last 11 years there has been only one Gordon in the house, starting with the last survivor of the last homebred litter. It's a much

better situation for me—and, as it turns out, for the dogs. They get individual attention, for which there was never the time previously. Grooming is now a pleasure again, instead of a chore. Cleanup has become much easier. Long walks in the fields or along the lake or river are easier to handle with one dog instead of several. Now that I am retired the cost of one dog and its food, veterinary care, and other supplies is much easier on the budget.

Then there are the relationships with the dogs themselves. They were always close before, but they have become even closer now.

After the last homebred dog died, I decided that the nearly 40-year affair was over, but there was something missing. That was when the phone rang and I discovered there was a 6-year-old bitch who had fallen on hard times and had appeared on an internet placement site. Her original breeders recognized her and quickly rescued her, and the phone call was to ask if I could possibly give her a home.

Three days later, after years of sleeping outside or in a garage, she was sleeping on my bed and discovering the wonderful world of toys. In all my years I had never lived with a Gordon who cared about toys other than chasing a bouncing Kong toy in the backyard. This one was a toy and “stuffie” fanatic. Long walks became fun again. After a

COURTESY JAMES THACKER





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year being on a leash or a long rope, she was freed to run loose on our walks. She made friends with other dogs, and she even trained a park ranger who drove along a bike path beside the river every morning to start carrying dog cookies in his truck so that he didn't have to share his McDonald's hash browns with her. She learned what great fun it was to slowly stalk Canada geese until they panicked and flew into the river or local ponds. Above all else, she was great company.

Of course, the downside to adopting older dogs is that they don't live long enough, and time in this case is like a roller-coaster. When one gets to the top of the hill, the descent can be quick.

Exactly one year to the day after saying goodbye to her, a text arrived asking if I might be interested in a 7-year-old, soon-to-be-retired show champion who was looking for his retirement home.

I'm not the superstitious type, but if I were, the timing was an omen. And

after a year being without a Gordon, again it was time for a new one.

One month later he stormed into the house, and there hasn't been a dull or quiet moment since.

To his credit he is the polar opposite of the old girl. He only cares about one toy, and he is anything but laid back. We just had our two-year anniversary together, and he is still on a long rope for our walks, ignores people and other dogs when we are walking, and rarely tires.

At my last physical with my doctor, he ended by offering to write me a prescription for another dog, since I have lost 15 pounds in two years. I had to explain to him that the current Gordon walks at an entirely different pace than the previous one. The last one was content to just be here, but this one wants to be involved in everything. I sometimes wonder if they are the same breed.

In summary, there is a different joy in living with one dog. It's not necessarily better than living with

several; it's just different, and occasionally calmer—despite my current roommate. And despite all his exuberance and our head-butting, he's loved.

—James Thacker,  
[dumbargs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dumbargs@sbcglobal.net)  
Gordon Setter Club of America

## Irish Red and White Setters

### GETTING INVOLVED WITH YOUR IRISH RED AND WHITE SETTER

Members found ways to keep busy in the first half of 2023. The national specialty was held in Yuba City, California, on May 13, and the Ohio Valley IRWSC Regional Specialty was May 19, in Marietta, Ohio. Agility, field trials, hunt tests, conformation shows, and obedience/rally trials are some of the ways IRWSAA makes available to keep active with your dog, have fun, and meet new people.

A challenge many clubs face today is member participation. In his January podcast, President Michael

# BREED COLUMNS



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*IRWSAA volunteers at the NYC Meet the Breeds, decked out in their best hunter orange. Left to right: Lauren Lang, with Kendra; Rachael Bockman; Tammy Ciesla, with Tippy; Chuck Turner, with Finley; and Chris Orcutt with Kitty and Thorn.*

Lamp mentioned his intention to address this universal concern.

One effort the board is pursuing is encouraging members to set up regional clubs. These clubs can offer a place to build a community of IRWS owners. This is a wonderful and worthwhile idea. The 100-plus membership is spread across the country, with density near breeders, though there are



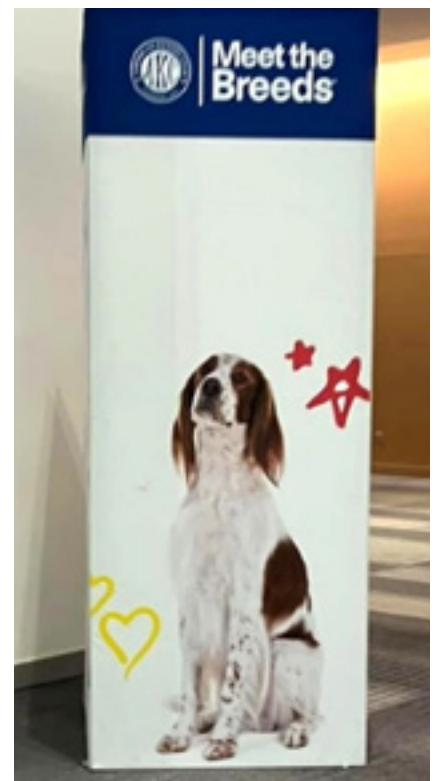
*Tami Orcutt with Amelia and Kitty, catching some much-deserved rest.*

IRWSs nearly everywhere.

For example, Duchess and I enjoy our time with the Houston Irish Setter Club. They extended a warm welcome—even if her coat was not all red. They included us in dog show setup, travel plans, training, and parties! They helped us navigate the new world of dog shows. They were so excited for us when Duchess earned her first conformation point over a finished dog—and just as excited for her first hunt test pass. And her



*AKC Delegate and IRWSAA Vice President Chris Orcutt, with Hoover.*



COURTESY OWNERS / IRWSAA



## SPORTING GROUP

Rally Novice legs, and ultimately her title.

Also inclusive are the Houston Obedience Training Club and Smart Dog Training Center—great places to train your pup in a safe and supportive environment. Their help was essential in our training, as is the San Antonio Weimaraner Club. We all share a common interest: our dogs! These folks are generous with their knowledge, patience, and time. They keep the events well organized and fun, making sure everyone finds a place to fit in with the group.

We appreciate them.

If you are not close to other IRWS owners, then find an AKC club near you. Figure out your goals and sign up for classes. You'll meet some nice people. Get involved and have lots of fun with your dog and new friends. You will be glad you did.

And who knows, you may find other Irish Red and White Setters nearby. That's what happened to us.

### ***New York City Meets the IRWS!***

Our breed was well represented at the AKC Meet the Breeds in New York City, January 28 and 29. Owners brought five well-behaved, sweet, excellent examples of our breed. Highlighting the breed's hunting nature, the booth featured photos of the dogs in the field, and the volunteers were decked out in "hunter orange" gear, making a very bright showing. All were happy to take part in educating the public and showing off our lovely breed. The AKC reported: "More than 25,000 prospective puppy buyers packed the Javits Center, providing the public a chance to learn about purebred dogs and responsible dog ownership. It is also a way to extend our knowledge and brand to dog lovers who may not otherwise engage with the AKC and share important information about our work."

Look for our booth August 26 and 27 in Chicago, and October 14 in Columbus,

Ohio—and check show calendars for other appearances.

—Cynthia Lancaster,  
[clclancaster@gmail.com](mailto:clclancaster@gmail.com)  
Lake Jackson, Texas  
[Irish Red and White Setter Association of America](#)

### **Clumber Spaniels**

#### **THE HAPLESS, HELPLESS SWIMMER PUPPY**

The "swimmer" or "flat" puppy is characterized by an inability to stand or walk even by the age of 3 weeks. Puppies with a heavy body, heavy bone, short legs, and a broad chest are potentially the most vulnerable, and Clumber Spaniels can certainly be affected. The swimmer's front legs are sprawled out to the side rather than underneath, with the back legs dragging behind. The puppy, lying flat on his chest and often lethargic, pulls himself forward by his head or front legs, panting, and presenting the overall appearance of paddling. In time the rib cage will flatten out, causing

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*Clumber Ch. Clussex Country Sunrise, 1996 (Ashbey Photo)*

internal complications, and he is doomed.

Swimmer puppy syndrome (SPS) is now recognized as a curable condition when detected and treated early, but both diagnosis and treatment as soon as possible are essential. The longer the swimmer puppy goes without treatment, the greater his physical deformities, especially with the flattening of the rib cage as he develops. There is little or no chance of recovery without human intervention,

and survival lasts only some eight weeks at most.

The good news is that not only can a normal life be achieved, but according to a recent study conducted in Thailand concerning some 2,500 puppies, only 2.13 percent were afflicted with SPS, with no appreciable difference between sexes. Causes still appear ill-defined but are not believed to be genetically related. At present, with proper treatment some have recovered in only days or a week.

However, it cannot be overly emphasized that only human intervention can give the helpless swimmer puppy a fighting chance for a normal life.

Physiotherapy must be consistent every day, and several times a day. Physical movement is essential: “Motion is lotion.” Basic procedures are first daily motion exercises, with hobbling or taping the legs pulled in only as wide as the body. Some simply use a child’s small sock to prevent the legs from spreading out. Others use a medical tape to secure the legs in the correct position, but this definitely requires expert assistance to avoid pain or damage. Then a sling, made perhaps from a pillowcase or a harness to support the puppy’s body, is used for about 15 minutes at a time three or four times a day, with the puppy’s feet just barely touching the floor.

Along with this, tickling or touching the puppy’s feet can stimulate the nerves, creating a “nuisance” sensation causing him to



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kick, thereby stretching and strengthening the leg muscles.

A component is water therapy, consisting of holding the puppy under the belly by hand or a sling in warm water in a pan or the bathtub for short periods several times a day. His swimming instinct should cause him to kick and paddle, further improving nerve functioning and building up muscle in the legs without placing pressure on joints and causing pain. When he tires, given his normal 101 temperature, he should of course be thoroughly dried.

Massaging is also very important. Place the puppy on his back on a blanket in your lap, and gently manipulate the limbs and the knee and hip joints. Move the legs back and forth in normal walking position to properly line up the bones and help develop the muscles.

When the puppy is resting or sleeping, to avoid putting pressure on his chest, he should be positioned

on his side between rolled towels. And of course non-slip surfaces are of prime importance. Easily washable towels or heavy blankets are recommended—and best, several rubber bathmats turned upside-down.

A healthy diet is of course a must, with perhaps vitamin E added. Excess weight gain exceeding skeletal development is to be carefully avoided, but a problem can be the inability to compete for nourishment due to lack of mobility. Conversely, a singleton can tend to become overweight.

With proper home treatment and without the stress of hospitalization, he is in no way a candidate for euthanasia as was the case in the bad old days. Most now can and do recover and go on to lead a normal life. Again it must be emphasized, however, that the problem cannot be solved without direct human intervention.

More information is available on the internet under “swimmer puppy syn-

drome,” including helpful photos.

If this column is in any way instrumental in helping save the life of even one hapless, helpless puppy, it will have well served its purpose.

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.,  
[bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com](mailto:bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com)

Founding/Life Member,  
[Clumber Spaniel Club of America](#)

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## Cocker Spaniels

### THE ALL-IMPORTANT ANGLE

Seldom can one angle be said to be so important to *both* beauty and function as the angle of the Cocker Spaniel’s shoulder construction.

The Cocker’s standard-prescribed well-laid-back shoulders contribute in an all-important way to the breed’s look of elegance as well as correct movement and function. The standard describes neck and shoulder construction and the resulting correct, forward-reaching movement in

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these sections:

“*Neck:* The neck is sufficiently long to allow the nose to reach the ground easily, muscular and free from pendulous ‘throati-ness.’ It rises strongly from the shoulders and arches slightly as it tapers to join the head.”

“*Forequarters:* The shoulders are well laid back forming an angle with the upper arm of approximately 90 degrees which permits the dog to move his forelegs in an easy manner with forward reach. Shoulders are clean cut and sloping without protrusion and so set that the upper points of the withers are at an angle which permits a wide spring of rib when viewed from the side with the forelegs vertical, the elbow is directly below the highest point of the shoulder blade to be properly constructed in the shoulders and forelegs so that he can reach forward without constriction in full stride to counterbalance the driving force from the rear.”



Cocker  
Spaniel

You can appreciate the beauty component of the properly constructed, well-laid-back shoulders when you look at photos or run your hands over the dog’s neck and shoulders. A Cocker with a short neck or with shoulders at an improper angle, sometimes described as “steep” shoulders, does not have an elegant, “flowing” look or feel.

I have sometimes heard the situation of short neck and shoulders tilting toward the back of the

head described as “stuffy.” That term pretty well represents the short neck/steep shoulder configuration. If the shoulder blades are too far apart, you can feel that the neck and shoulders do not flow smoothly and do not conform to the standard’s “well laid back” description.

Watching the dog being moved, you will be able to tell whether or not the individual’s shoulder construction and angle are correct in that it allows for easy movement of the

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

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forelegs in sufficient forward reach to balance a driving rear.

If the Cocker does not have this proper construction and angle, you are likely to see some form of constricted, short stride, which may be “overdriven” if the dog happens to have a properly constructed, driving rear quarters.

Further, without the proper shoulder construction and angle, the dog may not have a good spring of rib, with resulting lack of lung capacity—not a good characteristic in a sporting dog.

The Cocker is a sporting dog that is required to have the ability to cover ground easily in the field and to have the endurance and lung capacity to do its field work for a sufficient period of time.

You can see what an all-important angle this is in both form and function of the Cocker Spaniel as described in the official standard for the breed.

—Kristi L. Tukuā  
[American Spaniel Club](#)

### English Cocker Spaniels

In 1980, English Cocker breeder Dr. Arthur Ferguson, of the influential Dunelm line, presented a talk on the breed to the Dog Judges Association of America symposium in New York City. Following are selected excerpts from that talk—with many insights that still resonate today, while others provide illuminating historical perspective. The transcript of the talk first appeared in the Spring 1980 *ECSCA Review*.

### “THE ENGLISH COCKER IN PERSPECTIVE,” DR. ARTHUR FERGUSON

“Most of you, I am sure, know something of the history of the English Cocker in America, so I shan’t go into details. I might, however, refresh your mind on a few essential facts. Prior to 1935, all Cockers were shown as of the same breed. By that time the fallacy in this designation had become increasingly apparent. Only the fact that there were relatively few English Cockers



English Cocker Spaniel: Ch. Dunelm Galaxy, 1968 ECSCA National Specialty, handled by Richard Bauer

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

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in the country had kept it from becoming officially recognized earlier. Then, owing to the initiative of Mrs. Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge and the fledgling English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, the AKC granted the English Cocker separate status, but only as a variety. Separate breed status did not come until 1946. Meanwhile there were a few chaotic years while pedigrees were sorted out and judges got used to the situation.

“It was not too unusual for size alone to be considered the principal difference between the two varieties. I remember one person who had a handsome black of straight American breeding, but a bit too big, so he just entered him as an English Cocker and finished him without a defeat, and I am sure this was not an isolated instance.

“This matter of size, by the way, is one example of how circumstances tended to shape the attitudes of both breeders and judges to

the English Cocker in this country. With the American Cocker already present as the majority variety, and later the majority breed, and in the days before the American Cocker had achieved quite the distinctive type and furnishings it now has, English Cocker breeders naturally tended to cultivate—or, if you will, tolerate—a slightly larger, slightly taller, dog than was being bred in England. English dogs, of course, also varied in size, and some imports came to this country because they were oversize for English taste. But this matter of size is nevertheless a legacy with which we have had to live ever since. Continued contact with breeders in the United Kingdom has moderated this tendency, and I don’t think the variation in size is quite so marked as it used to be, but it is still there.

“The existence of the American Cocker as the vastly more numerous breed in this country no doubt

influenced the course of English Cocker breeding in other and subtler ways—for example, a willingness to tolerate a horsier head type. But the circumstances that in my opinion did most to shape English Cocker type in this country were much the same as those that also conditioned the evolution of the American breed. I refer to the circumstances in which dogs, especially Cockers, have customarily been put down and shown here, circumstances very different from those pertaining in the English show ring.

“At first glance this might not seem like a matter of much concern to American judges. After all, it is the American show scene they are primarily concerned with. The trouble is that breeders of English Cockers in this country have not been able to ignore the English dogs—nor have they, for the most part, wanted to. In fact, they have found themselves going back to imported stock whether they liked it or not,





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whether these dogs suited their taste (as they often have), or whether they won (which they often have not). The relation between stock produced under English show conditions and American, respectively, constitutes a fact that has had to be reckoned with, and one that both helps explain divergence in type in this country and, in a measure, justifies it.

“Anyone who has watched Cockers being judged at shows in the old country will know part, at least, of what I mean. The English ring, especially the Cocker ring, has been traditionally the preserve of the breeder-exhibitor—not a professional handler in sight, nor crates or elaborate grooming devices. English exhibitors, it is true, have of recent years been picking up some of our tricks of showmanship, but they have traditionally shown their dogs with a minimum of trimming and handling. Although they have not always practiced what they

preached, they have scorned any trimming that could not be done with the thumb and forefinger—none of the clipping and sculpting that we have developed to a high art. And in the ring they have, until recently, paid very little attention to posing their dogs. Indeed, breeders of the old school resented even getting down with their dogs at all, preferring to show them entirely on lead. The late H.L. Lloyd, of ‘Of Ware’ fame, used to say that, with everybody down on their knees with their dogs, it looked like a prayer meeting. When they did set their dogs up, the result would usually not have passed muster in an American ring, especially in an American group ring.

“And there is another difference, and one of far-reaching significance. Emphasis among English exhibitors has been primarily on breed competition, and relatively less (relative, that is, to our habits) on group competition. Though a group or Best in Show win confers unquestionably cov-

eted laurels there, as here, a top English dog’s show record tends to be measured not so much in the number of group wins to his credit as in the number of Challenge Certificates won in the breed.

“Circumstances such as these have tended to foster a special kind of Cocker—one of moderate proportions, as benefits the relative intimacy of the ring, moderate size, moderate angulation, moderate coat, moderate length of body and reach of neck, even moderate stride, a dog bred with more attention to the general balance and quality than to the showier effects to be had from more pronounced angulation, greater reach of neck, a relatively high tail carriage, a fast-moving gait, and, of course, more profuse coat. The rear-end furnishings that have set off so many American winners are thought so little of that they are removed entirely from the hock down. The English taste has been for a compact, merry little dog that

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can, in theory at any rate, hunt the hedgerows without getting all tangled up.”  
—A.F., 1980

English Cocker Spaniel Club of America

### English Springer Spaniels

#### SHAKE, SPIN, AND ROLL!

#### TITLES FOR TRICKS

Jumping into little boxes, crawling across the room, dancing on hind legs, and playing dead are just a few of the tricks six very different, very brilliant Springers performed at a recent AKC Trick Dog evaluation. What fun to see dogs showing off sophisticated work that the pups consider to be play.

Nancy Kolodner’s (Sonnet) young pups, Lysander and Beatrice, made quick work of their ten tricks necessary to pass the Novice Trick Dog title (TKN). Kolodner explained how her interest in dog training and her love of seeing dogs have fun and build their confidence mastering tricks, explaining, “We got



English Springer Spaniel

our first Springer in the early 1980s. She was so bid-dable. We kept asking her for more behaviors. Her favorite trick was balancing a treat on her nose until told she could flip it into the air and catch it. It is so much fun to have a positive interaction with your dog and watch the light go on in their eyes as they realize they can do something fun that you have asked them to do.”

How did Kolodner know her dogs liked trick training? “They were eager to offer behaviors of all kinds when we would train—climbing on things, bowing, offering paws, sits, downs, etc. Trick training offered them a very positive and reinforcing activity that we could share!”

Kolodner began teaching a trick class during the pandemic. Looking for

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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ways to stimulate the dogs with fun activities during the quarantine, “a tricks class seemed like a natural fit!”

Asked if she thinks dogs react differently to trick training than to other types of training, Kolodner finds, “It probably depends on how you teach other types of training. But in tricks classes, the emphasis is totally on having a positive interaction with your dog.” She notes that it is enjoyable to encourage dogs to explore behaviors that might earn them a reward.

Kolodner likes seeing the dogs “develop a closer bond to their trainer and become more outgoing and less anxious in new situations. Focus on trick training helps many high-energy dogs become calmer and more able to learn. Trainers learn to be more patient while the dogs develop more focus and longer attention spans. Dogs become more confident and relaxed when they have a toolbox of things they can do at any given time and situation.”

“Begin training pups trick behaviors as soon as you get them! They are little sponges and love to learn. The early bonding period is the perfect opportunity to develop good habits of learning for them. Unless a dog is in pain or otherwise incapacitated, dogs of any age seem to enjoy the interaction.”

Kolodner has lots of tips for getting started in trick training, suggesting, “A clicker is very helpful in marking behaviors that happen quickly as the dog is offering different options. I like marking desired behaviors with a clicker because the unique click sound is often faster than my vocal affirmation.” She notes:

“The first things we try to capture are behaviors that encourage the dog to focus on the trainer and pay attention. We also focus on all the standard behaviors we like a polite puppy to do: not jumping up unless commanded, standing, sitting, lying down, and so on. Then you begin to build on

those basics. Lying down, for example, turns into lying on your side, which can turn into ‘roll over’ or ‘play dead,’ depending upon what you ask for. A nice sit is a precursor to ‘sit pretty’ (with front paws in the air), ‘shake paw,’ ‘high five,’ etc.

She continues: “With any dog, short sessions provide the most bang for your buck. Two or three 5-minute sessions a day will get you much farther than one longer session. The dog needs time to rest and process the information It has received. Deciding what to teach really depends on what the dog is interested in. When a dog is offering a behavior naturally and you can turn that into a trick, it happens fast! A lot of the aptitude for learning tricks depends on the trainer. If the person is really bonded to and communicating with their dog, that dog will learn faster than one whose owner’s cues are awkward and not really tuned to that dog. Most Springers are very smart and eager

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to please, and that makes them easy to train.

“Spin, paws up, shake, and touch are quickly learned by most dogs. Some pups take a little longer to learn things like roll over, where they feel vulnerable during the trick. I personally enjoy when my dogs do skateboarding and balancing on things like basketballs. Little shopping carts that they can push are also fun. Facebook Marketplace is a great resource for inexpensive used toys and other items that can become tricks.

“Teaching your dog tricks will deepen the relationship that you share. Let all your training be fun. Enjoy the personality that your dog displays, and consider the process a training opportunity for yourself as a handler, whether your dog learns quickly or slowly!”

—Sarah A. Ferrell, Locust Grove, Virginia

[facebook.com/Valentine-Vishnu-Ferrell-1053487794678146/](https://www.facebook.com/Valentine-Vishnu-Ferrell-1053487794678146/)

English Springer Spaniel  
Field Trial Association

## Field Spaniels

### BEING JEKYLL AND HYDE

#### PART TWO

This month we continue the discussion on training begun in our column for the April issue ([here](#)). To re-emphasize: It is far more important to be fair to our dogs and be clear with them than to worry about what others think of our “Jekyll/Hyde” juxtaposition of

gruff voice/happy praise or sudden, bright reward after a verbal or physical correction. With inclusion of firm command and fair correction as well as happy praise and reward, blended, balanced training not only has room for both but is clear communication that, when used consistently, brings consistent results. It doesn’t matter if we are talking



*Field Spaniel*

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

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day-to-day life functions of the home, or specific performance behaviors or ring commands; having a clear picture of what to do and what *not* to do helps make dogs successful and happy. They feel secure when they understand what is and isn't allowed and can perform to your standards. This can be a matter of *safety* as well as winning moves, so it applies to everyone, whether on the road to titles or hanging out and cuddling.

### **Your House, Your Rules**

As a trainer, I always appreciate that people have different wishes and homes. Some are permissive of certain things but not others. You will get what you train! If you are OK with behaviors, you will allow them. If you want something different, there are ways to teach clearly and humanely what you expect and reinforce. It has practical use as well as being mannerly and manageable, something we all want in our dogs.

I have been asked how I

taught the dogs to stay off of furniture. Like any simple lesson, it is broken down into bits and utilizing what they already can do. I have the young smarty on a leash and buckle collar and some treats. I do this both standing up and sitting on a soft bench, bed, or couch. They already know how to get on and off safely by themselves at this point. My invite is a pat on the surface, maybe “up” as a command. They hop on and we make a big fuss, treats, pets, praise.

My “off” is gruff and serious, they get a small pop down to the floor where I immediately praise and treat and love on them. The first few times they look stunned, then they get it and act on command without a correction. Really no different than any other training except it is two things. Come up on command, Off on command. Feel like Jekyll/Hyde?

Consistency is key. Practice with you in different positions and in all areas—bed, chair, park bench, sofa, pause table at the train-

ing club, on any safe surface or furniture in any location. Dogs do not generalize well and so we must apply it in various settings and reinforce what they know. My rule is you are allowed on invite and you must vacate when told *off*. Four on the floor is immediately praised. Then our friends and family can choose if they allow them up or not.

Of course, all bets are off in certain situations as sometimes our travels were permissive to free game and the dogs loved it. They sometimes would break the rule in a home they visited and if that was permissible, fine. Make the distinction clear, and they become reliable. Interestingly, this also works well for the oft-heard complaint of jumping on people. Off is off, no matter what it's on.

The few minutes spent introducing it is very confusing because they have to be re-encouraged to get *on* after you already had them jump *off*! The lightbulb flashes on, and they

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get the on/off switch and master the game in a matter of minutes! It is so amazing how smart puppies are and the confidence they gain as we watch the wheels turn before our eyes. They're like "Oh, aha!—it's two separate things, but both are allowed and rewarded? COOL."

Finally, a word about "putting things on cue." It can work very well to capture a behavior (desired or not) and to put a name to it, such as jumping up or barking. Then—you guessed it—we can teach the opposite behavior and then cue that in command, so they "off" or "hush/quiet."

Happy training, and may your dual nature bring out the best in your dogs for home or show.

—Shannon Rodgers,  
[shannontrodgers@gmail.com](mailto:shannontrodgers@gmail.com)  
 Field Spaniel Society of America

### Irish Water Spaniels

#### 2023 NATIONAL SPECIALTY

The 84th Irish Water Spaniel Club of



America national specialty was held in May at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Lake Elmo, Minnesota, and vicinity. The weather was spectacular, and true to the hallmark of IWS, who are always up for anything, the range of events during the week displayed the multi-dimensional nature of the breed. Perhaps most notably, six of the nine dogs who competed in the field were also exhibited in the conformation ring, and two of them passed the



*IWSCA 2023 national specialty: Left, Best of Breed winner GCh.B Realta Sycomore Spry, CGC, owned and bred by Mark and Sondra Barker and Rosemary Sexton and handled by Mark Barker; Right, Paddy, High in Trial with owner Terry.*

Working Certificate Test.

National specialty chair Laurel Reeves, assisted by an able team of volunteers, devoted hundreds of hours over 18 months to making sure that our annual "meeting of the clan" did not disappoint. Club members and friends traveled from all over North America to participate, from Florida to Washington State, California to Massachusetts, and even Alaska, Alberta, and British Columbia.

In addition to obedience,

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY / COURTESY DANA LOUITT



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rally, agility, sweepstakes, conformation, and the WC/WCX event, we had two successful auctions and raised additional funds for rescue through the generosity of quiltmaker Ann McNeill and art donor John Assid in memory of his wife, Lorraine Raleigh. Other club members sadly lost in the past year were recognized in the catalog, including Mary Reich (to whom the show was dedicated), Mary Ruth Calhoun, Tom Deckard, Richard Liebaert, Colleen Rebello, and Bill Sclater. For the health of the breed, we held a cardiac clinic, and 21 IWS had echocardiograms. Those who publish their results in the CHIC database will receive a \$100 rebate from the club.

Other high-quality offerings during the week included a well-received judges' education presentation by Dan Sayers; a wonderful handling class taught by Joanne Grimsrud; a seminar on pet protection agreements by local attorney

Rebecca Bell; a fun look at taking photos of our dogs, by Sarah Zumpf; and an inspiring scent work demonstration by club member Patrice Dodd, who recently achieved the Detective title with her IWS Carlin.

Thoughtful attention was also paid to the details that make specialties special: some great logos reproduced on lovely merchandise; a Buffalo Plaid color scheme that repeated in the décor, a nice, well-located host hotel to increase mingling; goody bags for all in attendance; opportunities for club artisans and businesses to sell their wares; raffle prizes and an open-air lunch for the handlers and sizeable gallery at the WC/WCX; and a smoothly-served sampling of hearty local fare, including Spam on a stick, at mealtimes.

Awarded Best of Breed by judge Dr. Camille McArdle in a stunning grassy ring beside a large shady pavilion was GCh.B Realta Sycomore Spry, CGC, owned and bred by Mark

and Sondra Barker and Rosemary Sexton and handled by Mark Barker.

Congratulations to Team Spry and all the winners and competitors, and many thanks to Laurel Reeves and her committee on a very successful specialty!

For a gallery of wonderful photos of event highlights, see the "Ringside" coverage in this issue.

—Dana Louttit,

[Danalouttit@lw.com](mailto:Danalouttit@lw.com)

[Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)

## Sussex Spaniels

### GOOD NEWS

After last year's severe lack of puppies in the U.S., with only 14 Sussex born in 2022, it was almost a miracle that after three other people had small litters in January, I had a bonanza of puppies.

It started on February 7, when Xpresso, almost 5 years old and who failed to "take" on several occasions, not only became pregnant with her first litter, but



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Sussex Spaniel

presented me with five puppies—two boys and three girls! She had a normal litter and normal delivery—it was wonderful!

I really had not expected her to get pregnant, since we had tried and tried, so I had gone ahead and bred another bitch, Zing, for her first litter at 3 years old. She had failed to conceive once.

Three days later, on February 10, things happened. Her litter started quietly. She was asleep when I went out to walk the two old girls, and I wasn't gone more than seven minutes. When I came in, I checked

on her immediately and she had two puppies! One was still in the sac. I got it out and got them both breathing—a boy and a girl. Zing was as surprised as I was! That was at 10:30. I wrote it down and took a deep breath, thinking I would have some time before anything else happened—but no, at 10:40 she had another boy! I was amazed. Then at 10:47, she had another girl!

In over 50 years of breeding Sussex, I had never had a litter come so fast. At 11:15 she had another boy; breech, but fine. At 11:45, she had another boy! So, in one hour and 15 minutes, she had six healthy puppies!

This just goes to show that you never know with Sussex. They can be astounding. It teaches us to never give up. If they don't get pregnant, try, try again. Prepare for anything.

All the puppies from both litters survived and are thriving and will soon be going to their new homes.

The SSCA 2023 national specialty will be on

October 13 near Nashville, Tennessee. Check our Sussex Spaniel Club of America website (below) for more information.

—Marcia Deugan,  
[ZiyadahReg@aol.com](mailto:ZiyadahReg@aol.com)  
Sussex Spaniel Club of America

## Welsh Springer Spaniels

Several years ago, storied Welsh Springer breeder and all-breed handler Betty Cummings (Wynfomeer) was interviewed by Anne Legare (Holly House), Margaret Hilliard (Farhill), and Judy Hogentogler (Cornerstone) about her life in dogs, which began in the 1930s. This is a lightly edited excerpt from that interview.

### BETTY WINS BEST TEAM IN SHOW AT THE GARDEN

**AL:** Tell us about showing a team at the Garden. This was long ago, when they had class dogs at the Garden, and you mentioned they also had classes for teams, which is four dogs shown together.

DAVID WOO ©AKC



# BREED COLUMNS

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**BC:** They had braces and teams.

**AL:** Well, braces are two; teams are four.

**BC:** Four, that's right.

**AL:** And you showed ...

**BC:** I showed a team—and a brace, occasionally—of Newfs who went Best in Show at the Garden.

**AL:** Oh, really?

**BC:** Uh-huh. And then I went to the Newfoundland specialty with a team of Landseer Newfoundlands. And then the other place that we showed the four was at Pittsburgh.

**AL:** They had teams?

**BC:** They had teams there, and we went Best in Show at Pittsburgh, four Landseer bitches. They were all sisters. Three were from one litter, and one from a prior litter, and they all just sort of stayed together. When I showed them at the specialty for the first time, the owner said, "Betty, you are not to show those dogs alone." I said, "Yes, ma'am." And we showed two braces. I took one set, and Ned [Cummings] had the other



Welsh  
Springer  
Spaniel

set. And when we went in for the team class, of course she had forbidden me to show them alone. I said to Ned, "Bring your two up on the outside," and I had one who had never been shown in her life.

**AL:** *What?*

**BC:** One dog had never been. She came in season,

and you can't put Newfoundlands together when they're in season because they can fight. So you don't take a chance. They're too big to break up. And so I said, "Ned, you bring the young ones over and put them on the inside close to me, leave the experienced ones on the outside.

DAVID WOO ©AKC



# BREED COLUMNS

## SPORTING GROUP

OK, you get at one end of the ring,” and Vera, who was my kennel girl then, at the other end of the ring, and I said, “If I lose them, catch them.”

So, I said, “OK, girls, let’s do it,” and then we went in, circled the ring, sent them up and down. And we went up the ring and I just sort of let them pivot on me. Well, I was very lucky, especially since the new one who had never been shown until that morning. And she would start going a little ahead, and I would say, “Hold back, hold back,” or “Annie, get up there, get up.”

**AL:** It’s like you’re driving horses.

**BC:** Yes, you just talk to them, and they would come up and even their noses out. And then I said, “Whoa,” and they all stopped. I went to their heads and sort of held four heads. At the back end, every tail was wagging, and they were all wagging in unison. And the judge came up and she said, “How do we check the mouths?” I said, “Very quickly, ma’am.”

And she said, “All right, let’s make an attempt at a down and back.” And off we went. And I got to the end of the ring, and I just said, “Girls, turn.” And zoom—they turned right around, like a pair. I waited for the fourth one to get up there level with the rest of them, and off we went down to the end of the ring. And we were almost up to the judge, and I bellowed, “Whoa!” and all four of them stopped dead in their tracks.

**AL:** They never had any training or anything?

**BC:** No.

**AL:** That’s amazing.

*This is another in a series of excerpts we will be reprinting in coming editions.*

—Wendy Jordan,

[wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com](mailto:wendy.jordan@capstrategiesgroup.com)

[Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America](#)

### Vizslas

#### ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD

Sitting ringside, enjoying a full day of mentoring, I was struck by an unfamil-

iar term: *Esterhazy saddle*. I had heard this unique marking pattern referred to as “wings” or “the saddle,” but “Esterhazy saddle”? I needed more information.

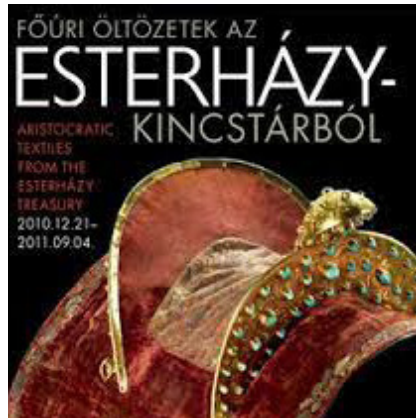
On the VCA website under Judges Education, “Vizsla In-Ring, Hands-On Examination” is the following text:

“View the dog from behind, noticing the spring of rib, the slight narrowing at the short loin, broadening once again at the pelvis/croup. The thighs should be well developed. The hocks should be moderately angulated, and the connecting rear pasterns should be parallel to each other and perpendicular to the ground. Various lighter shades of coat color along the sides of the neck, shoulder, and withers area are noticeable from this angle, forming the Esterhazy saddle. This is common for the breed.”

If it’s common in Vizslas, I needed to know more.

With its origin in the Middle Ages, the noble Hungarian family of

## SPORTING GROUP



*When the Vizsla is viewed from above and behind, often noticeable are lighter shades of coat color along the sides of the neck and shoulder. This is known as the “Esterhazy saddle,” named for the Hungarian noble family who played a significant role in preserving the Vizsla, and whose accumulated wealth included treasures such as this saddle adorned in gold.*

Esterhazy produced many soldiers, diplomats, and patrons of the arts. The Esterhazys arose among the minor nobility of the northern part of Hungary (today’s southwest Slovakia). They were granted the title of Count and later received the title of (ruling) Prince by the Holy Roman Emperor. The family’s success arose from the steady accumulation of land and loyalty to both the Roman Catholic Church and the Habsburg Emperor.

By the 18th century, the Esterhazys were the greatest landowner magnates

in Hungary, with a private fortune larger than the Habsburg emperors. During the 19th and 20th centuries, the Esterhazys saw their holdings and political power diminished by world events. However, after the fall of communism in Hungary in 1989, the family regained much of its wealth and has been actively involved in preserving their heritage and culture.

The Esterhazys were avid hunters and played a significant role in developing and preserving the Vizsla breed. Training and selectively

breeding their dogs was a longstanding family passion, and they jealously guarded the Vizsla, preserving the breed’s pure blood while developing the hunting ability of these “yellow pointers,” identified by the golden-rust coloration from tip to tail.

The Esterhazy saddle might have been intentionally selected as a distinguishing characteristic of their own bloodline, or the saddle could be a natural variation. We’ll probably never know for sure.

In my plunge into all things Esterhazy, a family known for artistic patronage,

COURTESY JAMIE WALTON / THE ESTERHÁZY TREASURY, MUSEUM OF APPLIED ARTS, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

## SPORTING GROUP

it was no surprise to find an exhibition at the Museum of Applied Arts in Budapest featuring an Esterhazy saddle. The rich leather color is adorned with gold and blue-green turquoise inlay on the pommel and cantle of the saddle. The resemblance to the Vizsla Esterhazy saddle is uncanny. A literal Esterhazy saddle adorns the back of my jewel box of a canine.

William Shakespeare was of the time but had obviously never met a Vizsla. “All that glitters *is* gold.”  
—Jamie Walton,  
[jamie@professionaldesign.org](mailto:jamie@professionaldesign.org)  
[Vizsla Club of America](#)

## Weimaraners

### WEIMARANER VS. TOY

It’s a beautiful summer day, and lots of people are outside pattering around their houses and yards. One neighbor says to another, “Did I see a delivery truck at your house dropping off one of those ultra-fancy exercise bikes?” Almost sheepishly the reply is, “Yes,

it’s just another one of my husband’s toys.”

Can’t you hear the dismissiveness in that exchange between two neighbors? *It’s just a toy.* It’s of no great importance, just the current whim. Adult humans seem to feel obligated to apologize for the collections of stuff they buy for amusement. Weimaraners, on the other hand, have a totally different opinion about toys.

To a Weimaraner a toy is an object to be tossed, chewed on, carried around, and defended from other dogs. In the hierarchy of objects that are important to a Weimaraner, food may come in first, but toys are a solid second. Why are they so important to our dogs?

The simple answer is that they are fun. They are objects to be played with, as opposed to all the things we say are off-limits to our dogs. We tell our dogs “Do what you want with your ball, but don’t dare touch the curtains, the rug, the dangling electrical cords ...”



Weimaraners, February 1994  
(Chet Jeziarski art)

—and the list goes on and on.

More than fun, toys provide mental stimulation. Playing with that raggedy, chewed-up toy is the equivalent of our doing a crossword puzzle or word game. Not only are toys mentally stimulating, one interesting study shows that dogs will play with new toys more than well-known old toys. Novelty gives them the added mental stimulation that they crave.

Playing with toys also fosters a way to expend

## SPORTING GROUP

energy and get exercise. Put a dog in the yard, and after an initial burst of running, things slow down. On the other hand, toss a ball or a disc, and suddenly it's game on. Chasing and retrieving replace an ambling, half-hearted poke around the yard. Toys help to redirect energy to activities that we sanction.

Toys are also important for building a good relationship with your dog. Play fosters safe, interactive behavior between us and our dogs. While they delight in solo time with toys, turn the situation into a retrieving game, and there's far more interest. There are canine behavioral studies that show that dogs play longer when we join in their game. Retrieving a thrown toy gives your dog great exercise and strengthens the bond between the two of you.

It's impossible to talk about Weimaraners and toys without mentioning toys with squeakers. How many of you have witnessed the savage disemboweling of a toy that squeaks? My

guess is that there's not a reader out there who hasn't presented their dog with an adorable plush toy that was quickly turned into a pile of stuffing and rags. In the twinkling of an eye, what's left are bits of fluff and you desperately trying to get the squeaker before it's swallowed. Sound familiar?

What is it about toys that squeak? The answer is that they awake the predation instincts that are hard-wired into our dogs. While today we refer to our gray friends as omnivores, their ancestors harken back to carnivorous predators. The search for dinner involved hunting down prey, grabbing it by the neck, and shaking until there's no "squeak" left in the hapless critter. Watch a Weimaraner with a squeaky toy, and you'll see the vestiges of these hunting roots.

There's something that I don't understand about the relationship of Weimaraners and their toys. On one hand, I've had dogs who destroy any toy with a vengeance but

conversely others who seem to nurture their playthings. At first, I assumed the nurturing related to maternal instincts, but that theory quickly went out the window. The most nurturing of all my dogs was a very "studly" big male who at the age of 5 still had intact toys that were given to him in his puppyhood. On the other hand, of my most maternal females showed her commando tactics on any toy. While she was a model mother with her puppies, if a toy wasn't sold as "for power chewers" it wasn't given to her.

How Weimaraners interact with toys is as varied as their individual personalities. Some show nurturing behavior toward their toys, while others are on a search-and-destroy mission. Like so many things about our breed, there's no one answer, and that is part of their charm.

—Carole Lee Richards,  
[zarasweimaraners@yahoo.com](mailto:zarasweimaraners@yahoo.com)

[Weimaraner Club of America](#)

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP

### Akitas

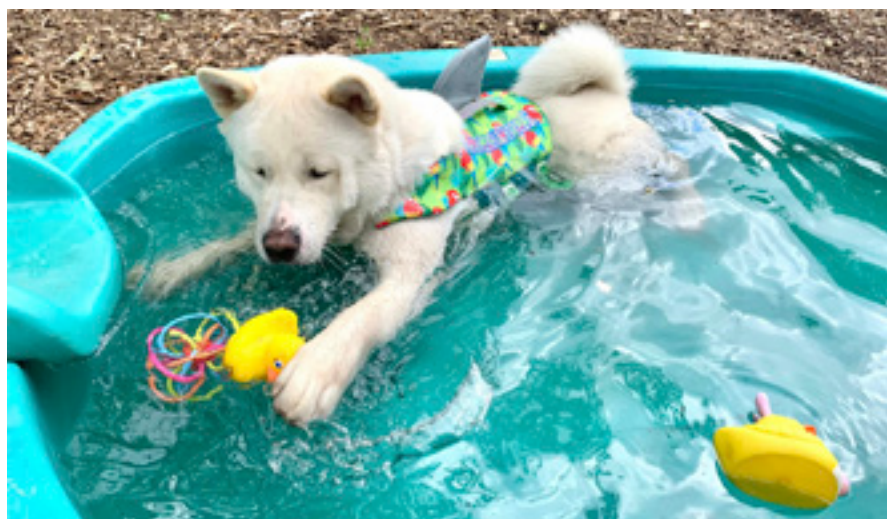
#### KEEPING COOL IN SUMMER HEAT

The summer heat is upon us here in the Midwest. Most Akitas love the cold and snow of winter but do not do well in summer heat.

How do you prepare to keep your dogs happy and safe when temperatures climb? For dogs who spend most of their time in air-conditioned homes, it's generally not as much of an issue. For dogs who spend lots of time outdoors, however, it's important to be prepared for weather conditions.

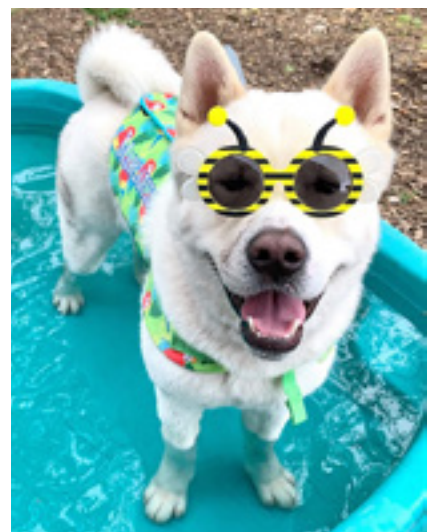
Do you have a plan for extreme temperatures? Our kennel has controlled heat and air conditioning, with large fans to keep air moving. Kennel dogs that do not have access to a building can be kept cooler with shade cloths and fans. Cool water is a must.

Summer storms in the Midwest can bring tornadoes. Do you have a plan to provide safety?



*In hot weather, access to cool water provides dogs with welcome relief.*

Power outages and extreme temperatures call for a plan of action. We have an ice-cold basement set up with crates and a generator if needed. Our power



COURTESY LINDA WOLF

## WORKING GROUP

company sends a text message if the power goes out. Do you have a plan for if you are not at home, and have you informed your dog-sitter of what to do?

Traveling to shows in the summer requires thinking ahead. Will you be set up in a nice air-conditioned building? Lucky you! Will your dog spend the day in your vehicle? This is where your planning becomes important.

Many exhibitors at shows will use shade cloths to keep the sun off their vehicles while parked. Try a practice run and set a thermometer in your vehicle to see just how hot it can get inside your dog's crate. You might be surprised.

What supplies do you bring to summer shows? Basics would be a cooler with ice to keep plenty of cold water for your dog. Some people use cooling crate pads and "cool coats." Small fans to keep air moving can be attached to crates. Do you run your vehicle with the A/C on? If so, what would happen if the

vehicle stops running? Are you there 100-percent of the time? Five to ten minutes can be deadly to your dog in 100-plus temperatures if the air-conditioning fails.

If you travel in an RV, look into a reliable temperature-monitoring service. Do you have a backup plan in case your generator or the fairground power fails? An RV can quickly become like an oven in just a few minutes without A/C. Most of us have heard horror stories where generators have failed and dogs have died. Be prepared with a plan. Your dog's life depends on your being prepared.

You will see many exhibitors at outdoor shows with rolling coolers that carry ice and cold towels for their dogs ringside. Some even bring battery-operated fans to the ring.

Learn about the signs of heatstroke, and be prepared and ready to act quickly.

In addition to the summer heat there are also those summertime bugs: bees, wasps, and so on. Learn

what to do if your dog is stung, and have the supplies on hand. Always follow your veterinarian's advice for any emergency.

With that in mind, what medications do you carry with you? Most of us carry Benadryl. Please note that the maker of Benadryl does not recommend its use for animals. Some medications contain xylitol, which is highly toxic to dogs. Talk to your veterinarian and ask if this medication can be used in case of a bug bite and the proper dosage to give your dog. They may recommend something else. It's important to carry necessary emergency medications and supplies with you to every show.

Akitas in their summer coats can still overheat, and Akitas that are stressed from the heat can bloat. Do you carry Gas-X, Bloat Buster, or similar medication to use in case of bloat? Most of us are not qualified to tube a dog who has bloated. Do not attempt this, as you can cause more harm and

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are wasting time that could be used to transport your dog to an emergency vet. Keep handy the address and phone number of the emergency vet that is available for the dog show—this information is listed in the premium list and judging program. There may also be a veterinarian on-site at the show.

Many summer shows provide small pools filled with cold water for the dogs to cool off with. If your dog is hot, make use of them. Cooling off their feet can make a big difference for your dog.

When an extreme heat wave is in the forecast, sometimes it's just not worth risking your dog's life by attending a show. Stay home!

Being prepared can make for an enjoyable time versus a disaster.

Keep cool, and enjoy spending time with your Akita this summer!

—Linda Wolf,

[Okamiakitas@aol.com](mailto:Okamiakitas@aol.com)

The Akita Club of America

## Alaskan Malamutes

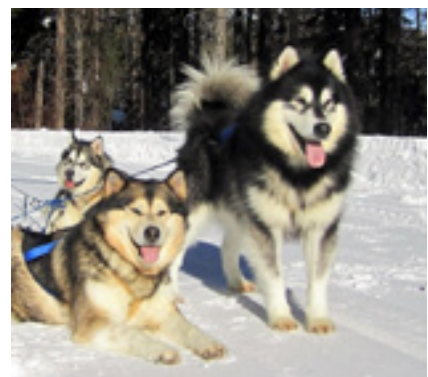
### MOUNTAIN HOME, REVISITED

Often, as our readers know, the Mountain Home bloodline of Sue and Roy Fuller has inspired me as I have sought to convey the essence, instinct, strength, spirit, and energy of our beloved breed.

This spring, knowing I was facing complicated surgery with an unknown outcome, I found comfort once more in thinking of the fundamental joy of harnessing the dogs and running a perfect trail together with them in the dawn of a new day. Sometimes poems have a way of writing themselves, and so I shared my poem below on this theme with Sue, who responded with the brilliant photos that make this column complete.

And so I focused on believing that the future would indeed create a new day, rich with joy and promise, shared with my dogs

*Alaskan Malamutes at Mountain Home thrive in fulfilling the breed's heritage.*



COURTESY SUE FULLER





## WORKING GROUP

and with all of you, my dearest friends. So please enjoy these images of the Mountain Home dogs, thrilled to be embracing their heritage, and snap a lead on your own perfect kids, and join us this very morning!

The Dawn Before Our Run  
*When I look at all my dogs sleeping;  
Tranquil, fed and watered,  
down for the night;  
I reflect on them  
I look upon them;  
Sons and daughters,  
Grandsons and granddaughters—  
The very heart of my heart:  
The very life of my life.*

*But the best part of all is that  
They will wake with the dawn,  
And stretch, and yawn,  
And look to me, and then  
I will go to them, and once again,  
My wondrous team,  
We'll link up and begin to run  
Energy and joy, soaring together  
To greet the rising sun.*

—Phyllis I. Hamilton,  
[benchmark1946@gmail.com](mailto:benchmark1946@gmail.com)  
Alaskan Malamute Club  
of America

## Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

### THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG IN THE SHOW RING

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs have guarded livestock against toothy predators in Turkey for millennia. This is a breed where many of the dogs being shown in the United States today still work as livestock-guardian dogs (LGDs) when they are not being shown.

The working Anatolian blends in with his stock. He is roughly the same size as a full-grown sheep or goat, and he will mingle with his herd, head down, moving slowly like the grazing animals he guards. He doesn't stand out from the crowd unless he has to and often spends much of his day lying in an area that gives him a good view of the terrain he's guarding.

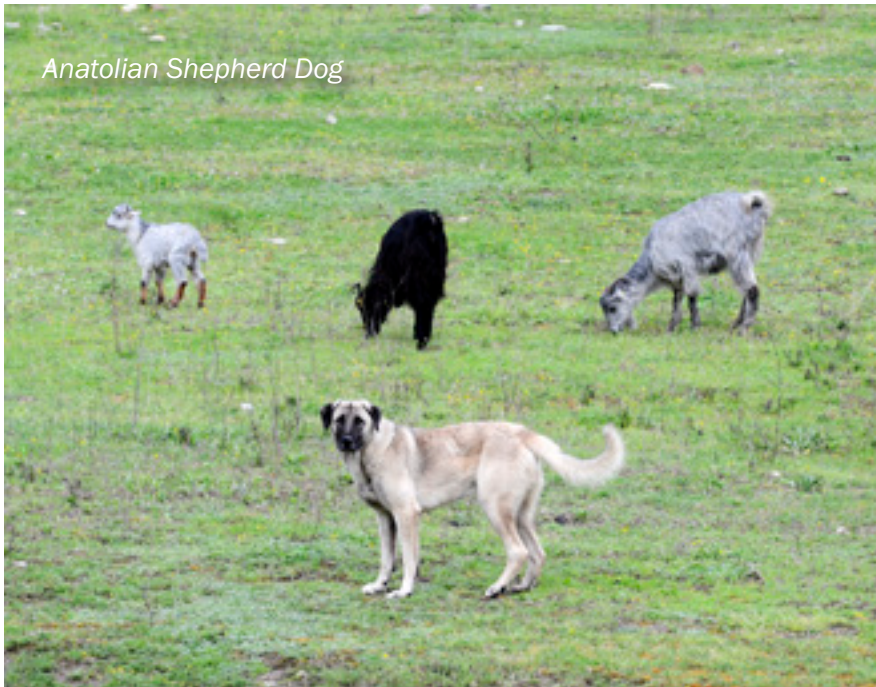
The length of time it takes for a dog to go from quietly blending in to tackling a threat depends on the dog(s) involved, but is shockingly short.

The Anatolian standard says: "Temperament: Alert and intelligent, calm and observant ... Reserve around strangers and off its territory is acceptable. *Responsiveness with animation is not characteristic of the breed.*" (Emphasis mine.)

In the ring this means that you are not looking for a dog who stands out from the crowd. The Anatolian should be a quiet, unobtrusive dog. He won't have his head and tail up since the chances of running across a coyote at a dog show are pretty slim, and the dog knows this. He very well may look morose or extremely bored.

Approach this dog quietly and from an angle, not head-on. Many times you will find the handler greeting you as you walk up in an attempt to let the dog know that he or she does not

## WORKING GROUP



Anatolian Shepherd Dog

perceive you as a threat. Allow the handler to show the dog's bite. There is no need to count the teeth.

You may find yourself being ignored by the dog during the exam, or you may even find the dog actually attempts to avoid you. Do not be offended, and do not hold this against the dog. As long as the dog will allow itself to be examined, it's all good. This is not a hound or retriever who has been bred for a few hundred years to work for mankind in a servile manner; rather, it is a peer to the shepherd

that has been selected for millennia to do man's dirty work and patrol the frontline between predators and livestock.

Judges, when you have an Anatolian in your group ring, do not penalize the dog for lying down while waiting in line. Think of the ring as a pasture, and the handlers and dogs inside its boundaries as livestock. If the Anatolian is lying down, that is a sure sign that the dog has examined the area, determined that there are no threats present, and is lying down to keep a low

profile while watching for threats. This may be your only indicator of the dog's working temperament in the absence of livestock. A busy, flashy Anatolian who is up pacing and leaping at the end of the lead is not the dog you want guarding your livestock—busy dogs mean upset stock, and that means less weight at the sale barn and more activity to draw the attention of predators.

Instead, go out of your way to notice if there is an Anatolian in your ring. Reward this calm, stoic breed when you see a good one. He might not wag his tail at you, nor put up his ears when you whistle or shake a box of mints in his face, but when push comes to shove he will tackle a coyote to save your goats for you, or put himself between you and a loose dog on a walk. Don't let this quiet breed get lost among the other breeds in your ring.

—Jo Lynne York, 2016

[Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America](#)

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP

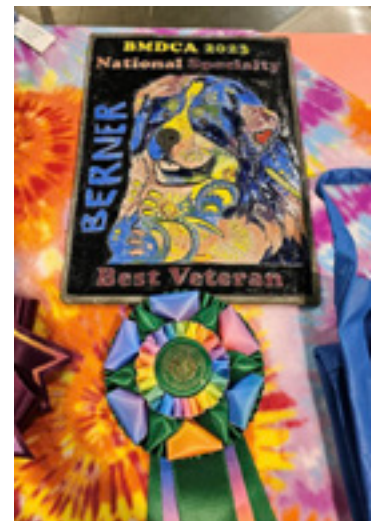
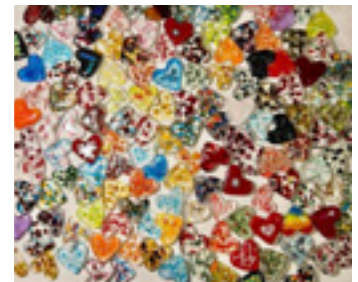
### Bernese Mountain Dogs

#### BERNESE NATIONAL SPECIALTY 2023: WHAT A GROOVY TIME!

The Berner faithful descended onto CalExpo (California State Fairgrounds) in Sacramento April 2–9, prepared for a week of Berner-related education, competition, and shopping. The theme was “Berner Love,” inspired by 1967’s Summer of Love. Bell-bottoms, tie dye, and love beads were the uniform of the week. The hard-working show committee produced an amazing array of ribbons, awards, and decorations reminiscent of the hippie days.

Imagine seeing about 1,000 ribbons (and trophies) for the 468 dogs entered in this specialty show and trials, with a total entry of 734. There were classes offered in agility, conformation, CGC, draft, Farm Dog, herding, obedience, rally, scent work, and tracking.

The Veterans Parade was a showcase event during the



At the breed’s “groovy” national specialty in California this spring, Bernese Mountain Dogs and their people gathered for a week of competition, education, and fun. Pictured are Berners in the long stay exercise in the draft test; ribbons; team obedience; hippie-themed obstacles in the precision course; the specialty poster; and decorated hearts that were hidden on-site to be found throughout the week, emphasizing the theme of “Berner Love.”

COURTESY J. MAXWELL / M. BISCHIEL / MICHELE GUERRINI / MARJORIE GEIGER

## WORKING GROUP

Top 20 intermission. It was a standing ovation for the oldest dog in attendance, Jackie O, at 13 years 11 months.

Team obedience was entertaining, as usual. Four teams showed their creative and original costuming while performing traditional obedience patterns. The Beatles were represented with the Yellow Submarine team.

The week of events was started by herding in nearby Patterson. The next day, draft and agility were underway at Cal Expo. The obstacles on the draft course featured highlights of the 1960s—there was a signpost from the corner of Haight Ashbury, and at another corner was a Berner cart holding a plastic marijuana plant. That obstacle created judge instructions that were unusual and in the spirit of the week: “Turn left at the pot plant.”

The pictures, stories, and statistics in the Rescue Gallery display were enjoyed and cried over. The

achievements of Berner people to respond to the massive influx of dogs into the system has been miraculous—proof that Berner people do share the love.

Another way the love was shared was in the hiding and finding of hearts. Small, beautiful hearts were hidden everywhere for attendees to find and enjoy. Many were glass hearts, as pictured, but there were also rock hearts and crocheted hearts. These tangible mementos of the event instilled camaraderie and encouragement.

There were once again international attendees. The international reception was well attended and had a lively discourse. Some of the countries represented were Argentina, Australia, Japan, and Canada. Two of our judges were from Norway.

One very interesting point shared by Berner Garde representative Lori Jodar is that the U.S. is now in the minority in submissions. Berner Garde is truly an international endeavor.

Berner University is an

educational component of the specialty that focuses on health and training specific to our beloved breed. This program was expanded to all week through the use of poster sessions. The expanded time and easily available curriculum gave everyone a greater opportunity to learn. Twenty posters were displayed on a diverse range of subjects including first aid, choking, ovary-sparing spays, and CPR. Several homeopathic options were discussed, and BNS posters on the dopamine response and use of gabapentin were also displayed.

Homemade and decorated sugar cookies were one of the specially themed treats available during the week. There was such amazing attention to detail. Kudos to the chefs!

With the unusual timing of Best of Breed falling on Easter Sunday, the show hospitality went above and beyond to finish strong by organizing a mimosa bar and breakfast buffet at

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP

ringside. It was a sweet ending to a stupendous week.

Peace out to all you wonderful “happy hippies.” See all you buds next year when we meet in St. Louis, at Purina.

—Marjorie Geiger,

[marggeiger@yahoo.com](mailto:marggeiger@yahoo.com)

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America

## Boerboels

### BOERBOELS: WHY HEALTH TEST?

One of my Boerboel-owning friends asked what the topic of this next article was going to be. I responded, “health testing!” My friend rolled her eyes and moaned, “Oh, no! That is *so* boring!”

Admittedly, this topic is not brimming with the excitement of covering an agility or dock diving competition. However, as I explained to my friend, consistent health testing of all Boerboels used for breeding would create a solid bedrock of soundness and good health for future generation;



retaining—or improving upon—the conformation, temperament, athleticism, and versatility that are hallmarks of our breed.

To get a sense of how Boerboel owners and breeders currently view health testing, I posed questions on our American Boerboel Club (ABC) member forum, as well as contacting a number of Boerboel breeders and owners, asking about their views of health testing.

### **Top reasons cited for not health testing/not buying puppies from health-tested parents:**

1. *Saw no need.* Boerboels are generally a hardy breed—as would be expected, given their history of guarding their farming families and livestock from dangerous predators in remote areas of South Africa. This certainly ensured survival of the fittest, particularly as there were few veterinarians or

## WORKING GROUP

medicines available. This history is one of the reasons stated by several owners and Boerboel breeders for their lack of concern about health testing.

*2. Increased expense.* A number of owners commented that breeders charged more for health-tested puppies, and they didn't want to "pay extra." One person commented that he thought health testing was just a "ripoff." Others said that they would rather "handle vet bills if something happens." (Unfortunately, the "something" that happens may be incurable or affect quality of life.) Similarly, some breeders believed health testing was unnecessary, far too expensive, and too time-consuming.

*3. Misunderstanding what health testing is.* For example, several puppy buyers thought that a "vet check" of puppies was the same thing as "health testing" of the parents. Some breeders said that they sent DNA samples to Embark or

similar services, believing this was quite sufficient.

### ***Top reasons cited for the importance of health testing/buying puppies from health-tested parents***

One of the most thorough and insightful answers I received was from a very passionate breeder, Rosalyn Rombauer, who wrote to me, saying:

"Yes, I health test. I do echocardiogram by a board-certified cardiologist, PennHIP, elbows, shoulder, thyroid, HUU (hyperuricosuria), CMR1 (canine multifocal retinopathy), patellas, eyes. For joints, I want to see that done older, like around age 3 or later. For eyes, I start now at 6 months so they get used to it and do it annually. I do echo (echocardiogram) at one year, and again after 2.

"This breed is fairly new compared to many other AKC breeds, so it's even more important that breeders post both passing and non-passing scores, so that we can improve the health.

Because there is such a lack of transparency with health testing, it makes it hard for a buyer who is new to the breed to figure out what dogs are from solid lines.

"I also think it's important to test joints after a dog has seen many miles. It's appalling for those who do it at less than 24 months—because what good is looking at the joints of dogs who have not 'seen some days'? If you do it earlier, it should still be done again later. It's important to do an echo in this breed because of the congenital heart disease, subaortic stenosis (SAS). In the Boerboel, an auscultation often times will not catch it."

Some breeders said they want to be known for selling good-quality, healthy, long-lived puppies that meet the standard. Individual breeders emphasized different aspects, depending upon what their puppies were meant to do—conformation showing, sports competitions, serve as working dogs, and so on. One remarked,



## WORKING GROUP

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“It is just good business.”

Finally, in terms of breeders, several expressed a wish or intention to “continue to improve the breed for the future” through sound breeding and health-testing practices.

Unfortunately, several buyers who were willing to discuss the importance of health testing had bad or devastating experiences with buying puppies from non-health-tested parents. A handful described major temperament problems, severe hip dysplasia, and death from cardiac issues.

So, what should Boerboel breeders be testing for?

Here are the American Boerboel Club testing recommendations: “... to preserve the health of future generations of this versatile working mastiff-type dog, the American Boerboel Club, which is the AKC parent club of the breed in the United States, strongly recommends all breeders perform the following diagnostic tests on any animal they intend to use as breeding stock.”

*Hips* should be evaluated radiographically by a certified specialist.

OFA: animal greater than 2 years of age.

PennHIP: animal greater than 12 months of age.

Veterinary-controlled registry if imported from foreign country.

*Elbows* should be evaluated radiographically by a certified specialist.

OFA: animal greater than 2 years of age.

Veterinary-controlled registry if imported from foreign country.

*Cardiac* function should be evaluated by a certified specialist.

OFA: animal greater than 12 months of age.

Veterinary-controlled registry if imported from foreign country.

The American Boerboel Club also recommends breeding animals be tested for sexually transmitted diseases prior to breeding, as well as testing for reproductive function to ensure a successful breeding, pregnancy, and parturition.

*Helpful links*

[Orthopedic Foundation for Animals](#)

[AKC Breeder of Merit Program](#) (also offers advanced levels of recognition for breeders)

[American Temperament Test Society](#) (Note: As of Jan. 2023, 60 Boerboels have been tested. Of these, 55 passed and five failed, for a success percentage of 91.7%. Results and titles are recognized by the AKC.)

—Karen Cornelius,  
[klc@klcassociates.com](mailto:klc@klcassociates.com)

[American Boerboel Club](#)

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## Boxers

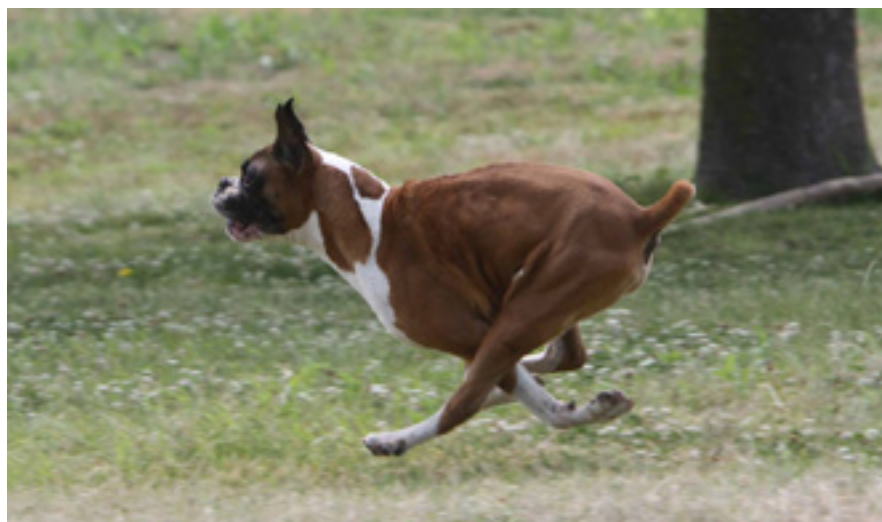
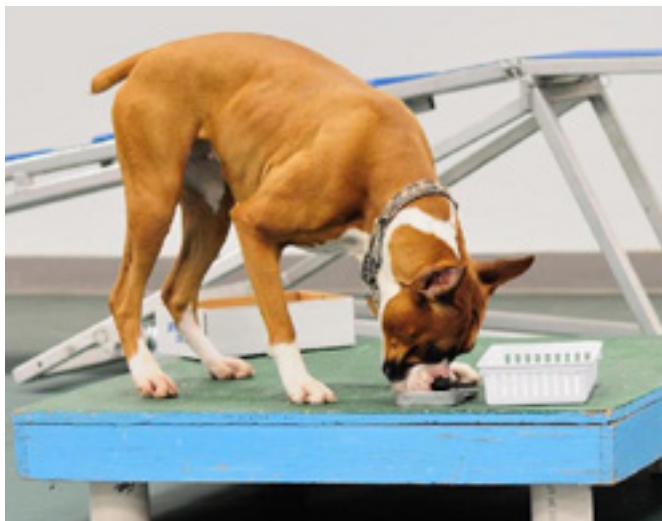
### NOT JUST ANOTHER PRETTY FACE

Over time, Boxers have increasingly been recognized for their talents and versatility as a working dog in such fields as military service, police service, and therapy assistance, as well as acting as guide dogs and many other personal services to man.

In addition, in the last few years the Boxers have

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP



*At the national specialty and through club awards the American Boxer Club celebrates the breed's beauty, working skills, and versatility.*



COURTESY AMERICAN BOXER CLUB





## WORKING GROUP

*exploded* in canine sports. The statistics are out for 2022 for the American Boxer Club.

Boxers have arrived on the scene and are now increasingly making their mark in many performance, obedience, and other challenging events showing the versatility of the breed.

The American Boxer Club at the national specialty awards banquet recognized that Boxers earned 1,434 new titles in 2022. A total of 1,072 dogs earned these titles:

25 Boxers earned Agility Champion titles

Five Rally Champion titles were earned

One Boxer earned a UDX in obedience

One Boxer earned the top AKC Scent Work title, Scent Work Master

165 Boxers earned Canine Good Citizen titles

188 new title certificates were created for dogs owned or bred by ABC members

Acknowledging this surge of participation, the American Boxer Club recently initiated a new

award recognizing the dual-participating Boxer—the Champion of Merit award. This is achieved by earning a conformation championship and certain levels of performance awards.

54 new AKC Champions of Merit were awarded this year at the ABC’s annual dinner and awards banquet.

The Boxer is a working breed. Every owner will attest to the breed’s comical and loving personality, but as a working dog, no matter the task, the Boxer shines with a challenge. They love to have a purpose.

The possibilities are endless for all Boxer owners, regardless of age or ability. A quick call to the AKC or an area kennel club for information on local classes and events many result in a great hobby for you and your Boxer. They will know of the availability of training in many different sports and activities.

A busy Boxer is a happy Boxer (*and a happy owner*).

—Virginia Shames,

[arribatali@aol.com](mailto:arribatali@aol.com)

[American Boxer Club](#)

## Bullmastiffs

### “HAPPINESS IS A WARM PUPPY”

Charles Schulz let his iconic *Peanuts* character Lucy, famously known as a “fussbudget,” school his readers on what really matters in life when he had her tell us all:

“Happiness is a warm puppy.”

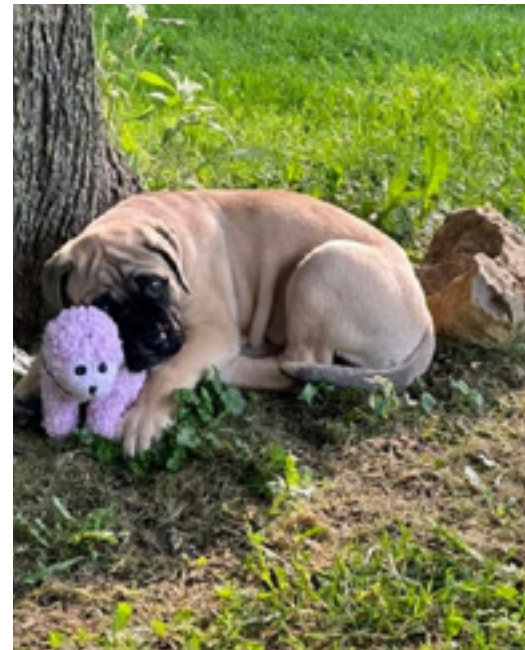
Though Schulz penned that particular comic strip more than 60 years ago, even now, reading this column, most of us are nodding in agreement at this sage comment by the famed cartoonist and lifelong dog lover.

Do you remember your first puppy? Your first purebred dog? How about your first show prospect, and the day when that warm and wiggly puppy first came into your life and into your arms?

I do, too. I also remember that iconic comic strip gracing my family’s refrigerator for the whole of my childhood, placed prominently among family reunion photos, glowing report cards, coveted event invitations,

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP



*Puppies are “hope on four paws”—and they allow us as breeders to move forward with our goal of bettering the breed.*

and other important paper artifacts of our lives.

I have been saying and writing to my friends in the dog world for about 30

years that puppies are “hope on four paws.” As breeders, exhibitors, owners, we all love dogs, certainly, but we who call ourselves breeders

are observing, comparing, and testing our purebred dogs, from birth, through their developmental stages, and into old age, working to

COURTESY LINDY WHYTE



## WORKING GROUP

better our breeds.

We Bullmastiff breeders make note of sound temperament and breed type, of back, balance, and bite, of all the mental and physical traits that combine to make the ideal Bullmastiffs we hope to breed. We look at them and we hope. Through triumphs and tragedies, we can't lose hope, because if we do, we can't continue with our dream, and it is those dreams we all have that come together in that elusive vision we hold—that vision that keeps us testing for clearances, studying pedigrees, showing our dogs, working with our colleagues, and planning and breeding our next generations.

Bringing happiness to their people and hope for their breeders; these are heavy responsibilities for ones so young and small. Because puppies bring hope, we breeders move forward, and new generations of Bullmastiffs grace the conformation rings and performance trials, the whelping boxes, and the

homes of the many people—us included—to whom they bring happiness, to all who prize our breed for their loyal and protective instincts as well as for their distinctive looks.

As breeders, though we fall in love with every puppy we breed, as well as those we bring into our packs to add to our breeding programs, it is our responsibility to look beyond our love. We strive to ensure wonderful homes to all dogs in our care, whether with us or with other deserving families and individuals, breeding only those who best exemplify our breed standard, whose mental and physical traits will make our next generation better representatives of the breed, and whose get will help us move forward with our goal of bettering the breed.

If you adhere to this goal, then you are a preservation breeder, and we thank you!

—Lindy Whyte,

[Tryumphe@comcast.net](mailto:Tryumphe@comcast.net)

[The American Bullmastiff Association](#)

## Chinooks

### JANUARY 1929, ANTARCTICA: DOG DAYS

In 1929, Admiral Byrd realized sled dogs were critical to human survival on his Antarctic expedition. Their job was to haul the supplies over the snow, ice, and deadly crevasses to the Little America campsite, where the crew would be busy building underground houses for shelter.

Chinook was the most famous dog on the expedition. He was large, with a golden fur coat, and his once-black muzzle had now turned silver. Chinook's grandfather had been Robert Peary's lead sled dog when Peary discovered the North Pole in 1909.

Chinook's driver, the grizzled Arthur Walden, was considered the best sled dog driver in the U.S. Part of the pair's success together was the definition of mutual love and respect.

"He is 11 years old and the greatest leader I have ever known," Walden said of Chinook. "We will keep him

# BREED COLUMNS

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*Chinook, the Chinook breed's foundation sire, was the most famous sled dog on Admiral Byrd's 1929 expedition to the Antarctic. For months, dog teams pulled supplies across the nine-mile distance from where Byrd's ship was moored back to the base camp, called "Little America." Photos: Chinook and his sons; Byrd's ship, "The City of New York"; aerial view of dog teams hauling loads; Little America camp, snowed under; dogs waiting in harness; sled dogs in C-47 aircraft.*

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY

## WORKING GROUP

in reserve to take the lead in emergencies. Nothing can stop him.”

Byrd was bringing the most cutting-edge technology with him to the Antarctic. He knew the mechanical equipment was prone to failing in extremely cold weather. But sled dogs were tried and true and have been proven the most reliable transportation in the Antarctic.

“Dogs, you see, are the only animals to use down there,” said Walden. “The dog doesn’t sweat, so he can do hard work and live right down on the ice and sleep. He doesn’t need water and can go days without food and still do hard work.”

The noise of dogs barking and howling, men shouting, and ice cracking pierces the deep, ever-present Antarctic silence. As Byrd’s ship, the *City of New York*, sailed into the recesses in front of the Ross Ice Shelf, an area called the Bay of Whales, and came to a stop, the crew hammered 200-pound ice anchors into the solid ice

pack, mooring the ship.

Shortly after, Byrd found a spot where they would build their winter base, which he dubbed “Little America.” The base was nine miles from the ship—a long distance to haul their supplies, especially with the constant threat of hidden crevices in the ice, or “crevasses.” A fall into a crevasse by a crewmember or dog would most likely be fatal. But the base needed to be far enough away from the bay to be safe in case the ice broke off and floated out to sea.

Byrd and his team had their work cut out for them. Unloading and moving the supplies was a grueling, nonstop task that exhausted everyone. It would take months to complete, and they had to be finished before winter came and the sun disappeared for four months.

At the North and South Poles are two seasons, winter and summer, beginning and ending at opposite times. In the southern hemisphere, the winter season

at the South Pole starts in March. It lasts until the end of September, unlike in the northern hemisphere, where winter at the North Pole begins near the end of September and lasts until the end of March. This phenomenon has to do with the tilt of the Earth’s axis. In December, the northern hemisphere tilts away from the sun, making it colder. It is tilted toward the sun in the southern hemisphere, making it warmer.

For weeks, dogs and penguins, always nearby, watched the steady stream of boxes, crates, and barrels of supplies going down the wooden planks onto the ice. Once the stores were off the ship, they were ready to be off to Little America, a job that fell on the sled dogs.

Once the sled dogs stepped off the ship and onto the ice for the first time, finally free from their cages, they were wildly excited, rolling in the snow, running in circles, and occasionally grabbing one another’s throats.



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Nevertheless, they were always eager to start work, straining to get to their places near the sleds and anxiously waiting to be harnessed.

The dogs and their drivers quickly settled into their new Little America home. The dogs slept in crates or buried themselves in the snow—except Chinook, who slept in a tent with Walden.

After a quick coffee every morning, the sled dog drivers would crack their whips and yell, “Hike!” or “Yake!” for straight ahead, “Gee!” to turn right and “Haw!” to turn left, and “Whoa!” to slow down. Soon after, they would arrive at the ship to haul more supplies back to Little America.

For safety, the 10-dog sled teams always worked in pairs, with someone watching them from the ship’s crew’s nest. At the same time, they made their two dangerous trips a day over the shifting ice, running through the snow as fast as they could to Little America.

On January 17, everyone

noticed that Chinook had yet to arrive at the ship. Chinook not arriving at the ship wasn’t too unusual; sometimes he didn’t lead the dogs, and Walden didn’t want him to get overworked. During those times, Chinook usually ran ahead or behind the sled to keep his eye on things. Whenever there was a difficult trail, Walden could depend on Chinook to lead the dogs safely through the danger.

But this time, Chinook ran behind the team as they approached the ship. He fell behind, and Walden looked; Chinook was nowhere to be seen. Some of the men were worried that Chinook had fallen into a crevasse.

“No,” Walden said. He knew Chinook better than anyone. “Chinook was downed by three other dogs the day before, which means he has lost his lead in the pack of husky dogs. He was never off his feet in a dogfight before. He figured it all out. He was all through. And he came and bid me goodbye, but I didn’t realize what

he was doing until later. Then he walked off alone to find a place to die. I dream of that dog yet, and I can’t get him out of my mind.”

—Kathleen Riley,  
[kathleenrileyphotography@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenrileyphotography@gmail.com)

[Chinook Club of America](#)

## Doberman Pinschers

### WHERE IS IT IN THE STANDARD?

The AKC standard for the Doberman Pinscher is often pointed to as clearly articulating the blueprint for the breed. Yet it can be argued that it’s specific and vague at the same time. How can this be? When discussions of the Doberman Pinscher and its construction become passionate among breeders and exhibitors—with disagreement sprinkled throughout—the areas with gaps in descriptives can become visible.

A friend recently asked me where the standard calls for the proper oval we want to see when viewing a

## WORKING GROUP

Doberman from the front. Good question. It does not.

Pulling out portions of the standard to find how this “oval” became an important tool. There are clues! Like a puzzle, putting these clues together to help create a cohesive image can be fun and offer a few *Aha!* moments.

Our standard is divided into sections, so the whole can be visualized as the sum of the parts. For this discussion, we will zero-in on four that help describe the “ideal” oval.

In the opening paragraph of our standard, *General Appearance*, the second sentence says: “muscular and powerful, for great endurance and speed.”

In *Neck, Topline and Body*, it calls for “Chest broad with fore chest well defined. Ribs well sprung from the spine, but flattened in lower end to permit elbow clearance. Brisket reaching deep to the elbow.”

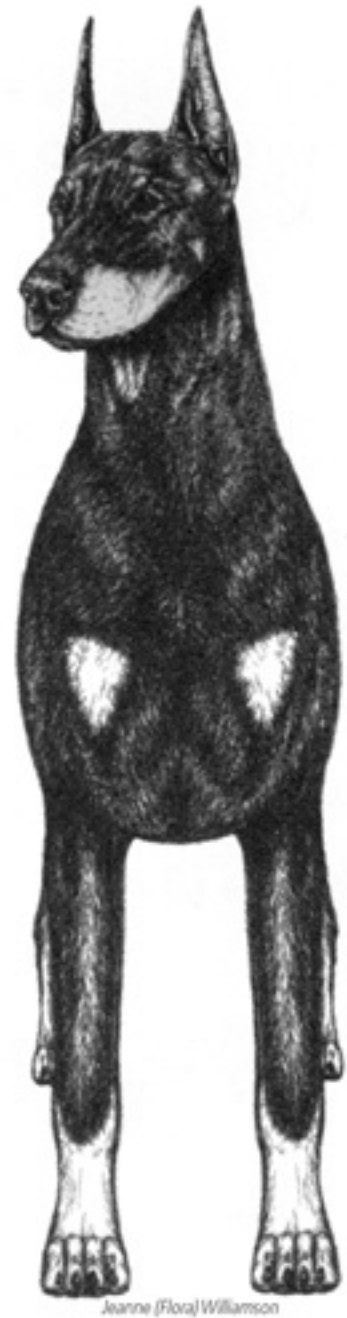
Then we move to the *Forequarters*: “Legs seen from front and side,

perfectly straight and parallel to each other from elbow to pastern; muscled and sinewy, with heavy bone. In normal pose and when gaiting, the elbows lie close to the brisket.”

Taking the descriptions offered, we look at *Gait*: “... legs are thrown neither in or out ... When moving at a fast trot, a properly built dog will single-track.”

Each of these descriptors helps to paint a picture of the ideal forequarter, which creates an oval when viewed from the front.

A profile image of the musculoskeletal system of the canine shows how the muscles connect the bones of the front assembly to each other and to the underlying skeleton. They appear as wide brush-strokes, layered in different directions as the soft tissues—ligaments, tendons, and muscles—build up from rib cage, to scapula, and across the withers, holding the elbows close to the narrowed rib cage and supporting forward reach (pulling) and locomotion



The “oval” structural makeup of the ideal Doberman as seen from the front is evident in a drawing from the Doberman Pinscher Club of America’s *Illustrated Standard*.

THE DOBERMAN PINSCHER ILLUSTRATED STANDARD ©2006 BY THE DOBERMAN PINSCHER CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.



## WORKING GROUP

(the push) on the stride's return. Then weaving onto the bones of the foreleg and the digits of the paws ...

Without correct structure, as observed with the dog standing still, the dog will not be able to move cleanly. Converging toward the imaginary line under the center of the dog coming at you (or going away), with no flipping of elbows or pasterns or moving wide, describes clean movement on the down-and-back.

While the hindquarters incorporate a physical connection of skeleton to rear legs, via the hip joint, the forequarters are secured by a system of soft tissue: tendons, ligaments, and muscles.

When looking at properly built Doberman, the forequarters show a broad chest, well-sprung ribs—tapering to give room for elbows to lie close to the deep brisket—with little daylight visible. In turn, those elbows connect to straight, parallel, muscled and sinewy, heavy-boned legs.

Looking at the illustration from the Doberman Pinscher *Illustrated Standard* portraying the ideal front view, the oval is clearly seen. This infrastructure of muscle, especially in the forequarters, is key to creating a dog able to gallop to and take down a human, one of the breed's purposes Herr Dobermann desired and obtained.

— Leslie Hall,

[pajant@aol.com](mailto:pajant@aol.com)

[Doberman Pinscher Club of America](#)

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## Dogues de Bordeaux

### POWER, STRENGTH, AND ATHLETICISM

The AKC breed standard for the Dogue de Bordeaux contains many references to the breed's strength, athleticism, and muscular composition. As a working breed, these attributes enabled the breed to fulfill its historical purpose to perform various tasks such as guarding properties, hunting big game, draught work, and combat with other animals.

While various features contribute to the breed's overall conformation, it is essential to emphasize the Dogue de Bordeaux's strength and athleticism, which are integrated in many ways. Lack of power impacts forward drive and proper movement. Lack of athleticism negatively affects capability and function.

Power, strength, and athleticism in the Dogue de Bordeaux are no less critical today than they were during the evolutionary development of the breed. When assessing the breed in the conformation ring, judges must be mindful of the qualities that facilitated the breed's development and use as a working breed and judge the exhibits accordingly. Per the AKC breed standard, judges should consider the breed's robust physique, solid bone structure, and well-developed musculature.

The breed should show a harmonious balance between strength and proportion, with clearly defined



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*Dogue de  
Bordeaux*

muscles to support the dogue's movement and power. Strength in the Dogue de Bordeaux facilitated the breed's function in successfully performing many tasks (Triquet, 1997). A Dogue's power and drive are a vital part of the breed's essence, indicating whether the dog being judged has the functional qualities necessary for its intended tasks.

In addition to strength,

evaluating a Dogue's athleticism is vital for determining its conformance to the breed standard. Although the breed is robust and muscular, it should also have the capability of free and supple movement, with evidence of powerful drive from the rear and good extension of the forelegs. Movement shouldn't appear labored or hampered in any way and should appear fluid

and effortless.

The breed's athleticism allows it to perform various tasks such as search and rescue, obedience, rally, tracking, draught work, and participating in activities with its family members. It is essential that judges recognize the Dogue de Bordeaux's capacity to meet physical challenges and its potential to excel in various working roles. A dog who is athletically challenged may not fully embody the breed's capabilities and struggle to meet its intended tasks' demands.

When judging a Dogue de Bordeaux, harmony and proportionality are paramount in assessing its conformation to the AKC breed standard. It is also prudent to strike a balance between strength and athleticism. While strength emphasizes the breed's power and physical capabilities, athleticism showcases its agility and ability to perform. These traits should work harmoniously, reflecting the breed's functional



## WORKING GROUP

excellence and overall conformation. A dog that demonstrates a combination of strength and athleticism is likelier to possess the breed's desirable attributes and successfully meet its intended roles.

World-renowned British dog judge and author (Hancock, 2001) noted the Dogue de Bordeaux's immense strength, athleticism, and power in describing its history and use as a big game hunter. He also recognized the requisites of the breed as being a synergy of strength, agility, power, and substance.

In a previous email communication with me, Hancock summarized his assessment of the Dogue de Bordeaux by writing:

“Your breed has a past as a hunting mastiff in the stag and boar hunt, as a seizer of giant valour and immense value in the hunting down of perhaps the most ferocious quarry pursued by dogs. The blend of power, athleticism, reckless bravery, and anatomical

soundness in the breed just has to be acknowledged.”

Judges play a vital role in promoting and preserving a breed's uniqueness and attributes that contribute to its genotype and phenotype. In many respects, the judging community serves as the curator of our breeds. By awarding accolades and recognition to proper conformation and breed standards, judges play a vital role in breed stewardship and preservation and reinforce the importance of the traits incorporated in the AKC breed standard for the Dogue de Bordeaux.

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—Victor C. Smith,  
AKC Delegate, Judges' Education chair,  
[V102071@inreach.com](mailto:V102071@inreach.com)  
[Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America](#)

## German Pinschers

### TRAINING THE DOG IN FRONT OF YOU

I've taught a lot of beginning obedience classes over the years, mostly for pet owners, sometimes for first-time dog owners. More than one person has come up to me and said something along the lines of, “Our old dog was perfect—he came when we called, he didn't chew anything he wasn't supposed to, he was calm, and he loved everyone.” Partly, this is because old dogs are often easier than young dogs. They know your routines. They don't need as much exercise. They understand what you're asking. And you know how they learn, what they love, and, basically, you have a relationship with them. The new dog is, well ... *new*.

# BREED COLUMNS

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German Pinscher

Even if your new dog and your old dog are the same breed, there can still be differences in their personalities. One might be more outgoing. Or more concerned about people or other dogs. Or get bored more easily. If you're changing breeds, the differences may be even greater.

Because German Pinschers are a fairly uncommon breed in the

U.S., new owners often haven't owned a German Pinscher before. It's important, then, not just to know what the breed is like, to do your research, find a reputable breeder, and be clear on what your particular wants and needs are, but also to be prepared for a dog that will very likely be different than your last dog.

"Train the dog in front of you" is a great piece of

advice—but what does it mean? And how do you do it? As a breed, German Pinschers are smart, independent thinkers with a strong prey drive. Because their role as general farm dogs included acting as alarm dogs, they tend to be very aware of their surroundings and often have to work through distractions that might seem insignificant to you or me or your last dog.

Some dogs were bred to stick close and work as a team. Those dogs are not German Pinschers who were bred to act independently in their traditional roles as vermin catchers and alarm dogs.

None of this means that German Pinschers can't excel as part of a team. It does mean that how they learn and how we build relationships with them may be different than our last dog. I feel like German Pinschers are often asking themselves, "What's it worth to me?" Rather than an innate love of teamwork.

As a breed, versatile

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German Pinschers participate in many sports and activities—obedience, rally, tracking, agility, dock diving, scent work, Barn Hunt, and others. Individual German Pinschers may or may not excel at particular sports. My first German Pinscher hated to be wrong. He loved sports where he could act independently—tracking and Barn Hunt and scent work. He did compete in obedience and rally, but it took time for me to understand him and what he needed.

I love those moments of discovering the dog in front of me, of adjusting to who they are and how they learn and what they love. I'm not perfect at it. Sometimes I wish they were a different dog or I was a different person. And sometimes it all clicks and we get those moments of great communication and synchronicity, and it's so worthwhile and fun.

—Deb Coates,

[charmingbillie@gmail.com](mailto:charmingbillie@gmail.com)

German Pinscher Club of America

## Great Pyrenees

*My mentor and friend Linda Weisser wrote this article in 1984 for the Great Pyrenees Club of America Bulletin. The article resides on the internet, with permission to share. Linda passed a few years ago but left a lasting imprint on many Pyr lovers. We try to carry on her knowledge and wisdom. Permission to reprint was given, and I've done some minor editing for clarity.*

### TEMPERAMENT—OR, WHO CARES? BY LINDA WEISSER

The ideal Pyrenean is an extraordinary animal. On the one hand, he is a territorial guard dog, ready to defend aggressively the lives of his charges and the ground he sees as his. On the other hand, he is a patient guardian, gentle with his human and animal family, calm and self-confident, distant, and discriminating with strangers. In order to maintain the delicate balance that makes the Pyr probably the best natural guard dog/pet in the canine

world, breeders must exercise rigorous judgment and ruthless selection,

We are beginning to slip into some serious temperamental aberrations in the breed, and if we don't recognize them and deal with them now, in a very few years our beautiful breed will be in deep trouble. Shy dogs have always existed in this breed, but the willingness to tolerate them is increasing, so we are seeing more and more of them.

Genetically, shyness exists in almost every line. Even two stable parents can produce a shy dog, but to deliberately perpetuate it by breeding a seriously shy dog is dangerous, and to breed two of them to each other borders on criminal.

There is something so un-Pyrenean about the dog that tucks his tail or runs from people. The true Pyrenean stands his ground with an alert but disinterested confidence, neither afraid nor submissive. However, the real danger that underlies shyness is the fear-biter

## WORKING GROUP

complex. Since a Pyr is a guard dog, his fear may translate into overt aggression if he does not have a truly calm and stable nature.

It is a case of “the best defense is a good offense.” The dog is frightened but feels that if he attacks what frightens him, he can drive it off before it gets him. This is not true guard dog aggressiveness and must not be confused with that. The truly stable Pyr does not bite people except under the most extreme circumstances, and never bites any family member unless he is in intolerable pain. A stable Pyr may bite a stranger who intrudes on his territory and does not heed the warning bark or growl. He will not do this in the presence of his owner unless the owner is directly threatened.

I have been horrified lately to hear of Pyrs who have bitten people coming to their houses as guests. But even more horrified to hear their breeders excuse this behavior by saying, “Well, they are guard dogs.”



Great Pyrenees

*No—no—no!* An animal as large and strong as a Pyr who bites under these circumstances is *dangerous*. I believe honestly and without exception that such animals must be destroyed.

So, how does the true Pyrenean act toward strangers on his property? Watchful, reserved, and calm is how I see them. If the owner greets the visitor in an amiable, non-frightened way, the Pyr accepts the people on his territory without threatening them. He may eventually be overly friendly, or he may not, but

he is never openly hostile. If a family member comes into the darkened house under any circumstances, the dog is glad to see him.

None but the greediest and unconcerned breeder (and apparently, they do exist) would be offhand about a dog that bites. However, it is easier to forgive the initial manifestation that leads to the biter: the shy dog. I don't know that I would go so far as to say that no dog who lacks confidence should ever be bred. Sometimes the overall virtues of the animal may justify breeding. But

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

## WORKING GROUP

anyone who does so must select the other individual with great care and then observe the pups closely and be alert to problems. We must be willing to recognize that temperament is largely hereditary and not burden well-meaning owners with the responsibility of having created these unstable animals. We cannot absolve ourselves of responsibility by blaming someone else. [...]

Calm and alert—that is real Pyrenean temperament. One potential problem is that Pyrs with this temperament are often not really showy, and natural showmanship is a rare commodity in this breed. A shortcut to this is through the high-strung, overactive, slightly nervous dog. Boy, are they showy, but instability is always lurking under the surface. And as family housepets [they] are guaranteed to drive any buyer crazy.

In the rarified world of the show ring, it is easy to pretend that [good] temper-

aments are not necessary. It is easy to ignore as long as the dog doesn't attack the judge or try to run out of the ring. We forgive the dog who has to be held firmly to be approached, and we are unconcerned about the dog who runs with ears pulled back and tail tucked down. What do we do about the judges (even breeder-judges) who will put up dogs who exhibit these aberrations? All truly stable Pyrs should be approachable on a loose lead—no dog should have to be held in a death grip to be touched.

I want to offer, as a beginning, the proposal that we amend our standard to read, as does the Dobe:

The judge shall dismiss from the ring any shy or vicious Doberman.

*Shyness*—A dog shall be judged fundamentally shy if, refusing to stand for examination, it shrinks away from the judge; if it fears an approach from the rear, if it shies at sudden and unusual noises to a marked degree.

*Viciousness*—A dog that

attacks or attempts to attack either the judge or its handler is definitely vicious. An aggressive or belligerent attitude toward other dogs shall not be deemed viciousness.

This clear statement in their standard has been in great measure responsible for the extraordinary stability of the Dobe. Surely we could do no less to protect the temperamental future of our breed.

We can amend the standard and try to educate judges, both of which are imperative to avert catastrophe. However, in the end, it becomes a matter of personal responsibility for each of us.

First, we need to learn what a true Pyrenean temperament really is, not accept our own dogs as correct because they are what we are used to. Then we need to be absolutely honest with ourselves about what we see, not ignore or excuse anything. We must be willing to discard those dogs we know are over the tolerance line, no matter how wonderful they



## WORKING GROUP

may be otherwise. When we breed any dog we know is borderline, we must do so with open eyes, alert to the potential problem. [...]

When we sit down to choose a mate for our beautiful bitch, along with front, rear, pigment, and coat, we must write the large word, *temperament*. The most beautiful eyes and magnificent coat will not make a true Pyrenean out of a flaky and timid animal. No degree of perfect soundness or exemplary type can be used to excuse the existence, let alone the breeding, of a Pyr that bites a guest or turns on its owners. That is not a guard dog; that is a “maniac.”

Long after we have left the exciting, challenging, artificial world of dog shows, the descendants of our canine stars will be occupying the homes of average families and patrolling the pastures of busy ranchers. It will not matter then, if International Champion Superstar had 100 Bests in Show. What

will matter is if he had a true, stable, Pyrenean temperament.—L.W.

—Karen Reiter, AKC  
GAZETTE Columnist

[Great Pyrenees Club of America](#)

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### Komondorok

#### YOUR DOG'S HEALTH AT THE SHOWS

We just enjoyed a fabulous Komondor Club of America national specialty at the Kentuckiana Cluster in Louisville. Thanks so much to the KCA and host club volunteers who worked so hard to make it happen.

One downside for the weekend was that several dogs went home sick or were sick at the event. Why? This is an ongoing concern to the whole dog show community, and it is not new. There are commonsense reasons why this happens, and some commonsense solutions.

The particular issue here was digestive upset, so I'll consider that first. Dogs are stressed on the road and

are exposed to unfamiliar situations and pathogens, viral and bacterial. We make an effort to be as consistent as we can in our care of the dogs on the road. If we feed twice daily at home, we feed the same food twice daily on the road.

Our dogs have water available to them all the time at home, so they have a bucket of water in their crates at the show, hotel, and car on the road. We bring water from home, no new and different tap water on the road. If we run out, we buy purified (not distilled) water at the market and switch to that. In the old days (before every supermarket had a whole aisle of good water) some handlers used lemon juice and other less ordinary additives to the dog's water. The lemon juice increased acidity and gave the water a taste some dogs liked, guaranteeing good intake. Maybe the acidity helped kill bugs, maybe not. Distilled water deprives the dogs of some minerals and is good for your car battery,

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not your dog.

Dogs can catch an illness from any one of the thousand dogs at a show. We avoid nose-to-nose contact and overly used dog exercise areas. Still, dogs catch things; the notorious one is commonly called “dog show crud.” A dog who is not eating and has loose stools might get dehydrated; push water and Pedialyte-like electrolyte solutions to help this. The commercially available dog electrolytes match a dog’s need better than the human or baby versions. If your dog is prone to “crud,” carry some with you.

Get some cooked rice (Chinese restaurant take-out-style), maybe with chicken stock on it; this keeps something mild in their stomachs that will help them firm up. Bland chicken (three parts rice, one part chicken) is a good addition, and dogs love it. Many supermarkets have rotisserie chicken right up front. If these bland foods solve the problem within a day or so, no drugs are needed.



*Komondor*

Imodium (loperamide) and Pepto-Bismol can help dogs, but make sure the Pepto doesn’t contain a canine-forbidden sweetener like xylitol (aka birch sugar), which is very toxic to dogs.

Sometimes the same symptoms are not really “crud” and are instead related to travel stress and Giardia. Putting the dog on a good probiotic (like ProViable DC) before





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starting a series of dog shows will help with stress-caused digestive issues. Dogs are often exposed to Giardia (a common parasitic infection) and may be carrying it with them, but they deal with it healthily until stress (new water, change in food, change in schedule, and so on) allows it to get the upper hand. Metronidazole is a standard and fairly harmless antibiotic which is used to treat Giardia if bland food doesn't solve the problem.

Most vets would not start an antibiotic immediately for a "simple" case of diarrhea with the dog acting normally. Talk to your veterinarian about carrying metronidazole (Flagyl) as well as Imodium in your travel kit. If you don't have it, someone at the dog show might. If your dog is lethargic, won't eat, has bloody diarrhea, and/or vomiting, get to a vet ASAP. No fooling around with a serious illness on the road or at home.

For Komondors, I must

mention bloat. It is a killer. My January 2021 column discusses this in some detail. Please read it [here](#). If your dog is groaning with abdominal pain or drinks water that comes right back up, get to the nearest emergency vet immediately. Gas-X or a similar product with simethicone may help reduce the gas, but go to the vet anyway! Here is another excellent article <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/bloat-in-dogs/>.

Bordetella (kennel cough) is a common respiratory ailment that is "in the air" at dog shows, especially indoor shows. Usually it is just an inconvenience in healthy dogs, but if you bring it home to puppies or old dogs it may be deadly. A simple nose-spray vaccine will protect your show dog. Use it before you travel. Protect both your traveling dog and the ones at home.

I hope your dog doesn't get sick, but just in case, let's review your suggested travel kit:

*Water from home, your*

*dog's usual food, Imodium and metronidazole, doggy electrolytes, a probiotic, and anti-gas medicine with simethicone.*

AKC rules forbid bringing a sick dog to the show. Use the seasonal Bordetella nasal vaccine and the probiotic ahead of time to avoid issues.

Thanks to AKC super-vet Jerry Klein for checking my old wives' tale solutions and making excellent suggestions.

—Eric Liebes,  
[ericliebes@earthlink.net](mailto:ericliebes@earthlink.net)  
[Komondor Club or America](#)

## Kuvaszok

### THE CHANGING FACE OF JUDGES' EDUCATION: IT TAKES A VILLAGE ...

Most important function that any parent club performs is the development and implementation of an informative and illustrative judges' education program. A vital component of this education is the availability of dogs for hands-on evaluation by attendees seeking qualification by the

## WORKING GROUP

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AKC to judge that breed.

In the past, judges would travel to national specialties, where the dogs in attendance would be in such numbers as to make the time and expense worthwhile. They may have opted to attend major national shows where multiple judges' education programs for a variety of breeds were available in one location.

The AKC has understandably changed the requirements for judges seeking approval for "low entry" breeds. It is expensive for judges to travel to national specialties that are standalone shows. It is also expensive for the clubs to send educators and mentors to shows where Working dog judges' education programs are presented, especially when it cannot be guaranteed that quality examples of the breed will be available for hands-on evaluations.

Questions arise: What can be done to ensure that the breed club has a collaborative relationship with new breed judges? How can we

best support these prospective new judges to assist them in having enough knowledge about the breed to enable them to appreciate and develop a fondness for our noble breed?

The Kuvasz is a low "entry breed" and is often not represented in competition at many shows on any given weekend. As a result, many judges don't have an opportunity to adjudicate the breed and put their hands on the dogs. In my experience, being confident of breed type, structure, and the nuances of a particular breed will ultimately lend itself to identifying wider options in placements.

As a low-entry breed, we are not likely to increase our numbers in the near future, if ever. So how do we as a breed club create a more dynamic and informative judges' education program that judges seek out, rather than simply checking all the boxes online? It is imperative that clubs look to bring their best efforts when it comes to judges' education.

We cannot and should not expect that judges will love our respective breeds if we fail to create opportunities to engage with the parent clubs and mentor with a sense of urgency and commitment to excellence.

I call on the Kuvasz community to begin work to build our Kuvasz University with online presentations and webinars in conjunction with the AKC, so that judges may watch and earn continuing education credits as they develop an in-depth, nuanced understanding of our breed.

I also call upon the community of judges who apply for the Kuvasz and cannot attend a live judges' education program to share with us their thoughts on how we can enrich their experience and support their efforts on an ongoing basis as we all face the realities of what it means to be a "low entry" breed. It takes a village ...

We welcome your suggestions at [president@kuvasz.com](mailto:president@kuvasz.com).

**Kuvasz Club of America**

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP

### Leonbergers

#### YOU KNOW YOU OWN A LEONBERGER WHEN ...

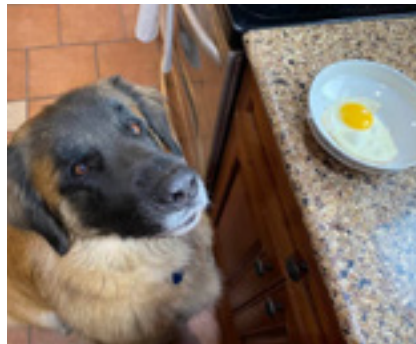
I decided to throw a question out to my Leonberger-owning friends and acquaintances in the form of a Facebook post. The responses flooded in, ranging from the humorous to the sentimental, and included some that made me laugh out loud and a few that made me teary-eyed. While some responses could well apply to other breeds, the overall combination does beautifully sum up what it is like to live with Leonbergers. I made very few edits to the responses, the better to capture the essence of the thread.

*You know you own a Leonberger when...*

- Any walk you take with him is going to be slowed by every person who has to meet him and ask the standard list of questions!
- You enjoy sharing space with mammoths in your home.
- They step on your feet and you can't move.
- There's dog hair in your food.
- "Vacuuming" tops the list of your daily aerobic activities. Followed closely by "brushing the dog."
- You have lint-rollers strategically placed throughout your home and in all vehicles.
- If you do certain performance sports, you get used to hearing people say, "Oh, you're *the* Leonberger!"
- When the dog beds take up half the living room.
- When you need to bring the measurer to go car shopping to ensure the cargo area is large enough.
- You special-order the "good" XL biodegradable poop bags.
- You bend over to give them a kiss, and they stand up and give you a black eye ...
- ... or break your nose (true story).
- Your heart gets shattered in a million pieces because of their short lifespan, and you do it over and over and over again...
- When you talk about "high knees," and you're describing walking over your dog sleeping in the doorway, *not* your workout routine.
- When you take a sample of muddy footprints from your yard to the flooring store, in order to match new carpet colors. And *then* wipe it on linoleum samples to see which hides it best!
- You just accept that a lap dog needs two laps.
- When sleeping upside-down is the norm.
- When you have to answer the "What breed is it?" question a million times a day.
- Your house is never over 67 degrees, winter or summer.
- When you warn everyone who meets your dog, "He's going to sit on your feet."
- When someone asks, "Do you ride him?"
- When they climb into your recliner with you. Then they look surprised when they look at you as you are smooshed into the recliner.
- Your heart is full of love and your clothes are filled with hair.

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*“You know you own a Leonberger when ...” A Leo makes friends at the office; eyes food on the counter; relaxes in the snow; wants to be a lap dog; stretches full-length on the bed; and provides piles of hair to keep you busy.*

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- When you have to go out and buy a bigger bed to fit everyone in it—then realize when you get a second Leonberger, someone is probably sleeping on the couch, and it’s not a Leo.

- You give up the sports car, the truck, and the SUV, and you now drive around in a minivan with the seats folded down.

- You say “I love you” at least 50 times a day ... and you aren’t saying it to your husband.

- In rally, you generally have to ask the judge to increase the distance between some signs, because you know your dog’s big Leonberger butt is going to take down a sign if it stays where it is.

- When you wake up in the middle of the night thinking there is an earthquake, but it’s just your Leo scratching an itch.

- When you use a plastic rake on your carpet before using the vacuum because you have killed two very expensive vacuums in the past while dealing with

Leonberger hair.

- When a car slows and stops beside you while you’re walking two of your Leonbergers, and a kid shouts out the window, “OMG, are those dogs??”

Yep, that about sums it up! And we would not trade it for the world.

—Shannon White,  
[oceanleonbergers@gmail.com](mailto:oceanleonbergers@gmail.com)  
[Leonberger Club of America](#)

### Neapolitan Mastiffs

#### NOT ELEGANT ... CATLIKE

Recently I was reviewing several discourses on the Neapolitan Mastiff by Italian judges. I was struck by the similar concepts used when discussing Neapolitan Mastiff movement.

*From Arch. Giuseppe Alessandra, longtime FCI judge and breed doyen who has judged our national specialty four times between 1996 and 2015:*

“...the length of the body, the angle of the shoulder and the type of angle of the posterior which gives, in

the Neapolitan Mastiff, the typical movement, motion, which is a step that is sort of a glide, that makes it very similar to the motion of a lion. Recently I was pleased to see a video that compared the movement of the Neapolitan Mastiff to the motion of the large mammals. It’s the best video I’ve seen in my life about the movement of the Neapolitan Mastiff because it is incredible to see how when he paces, he moves like a bear. And when he trots, he moves like a lion, even down to the movement of the shoulders, and a little pigeon-toed. The dog does not gallop very often, but when he does, he looks like one of the large felines. This movement is another of the very important characteristics of the breed.”

*Excerpted from breeder-judge Antonio di Lorenzo’s presentation after judging in California in 2002:*

“So we can have at a dog show, *Mastino* very elegant, with movement very badly for the nature of the

## WORKING GROUP



Neapolitan Mastiff

Neapolitan Mastiff. But good for a dog show. But we don't care for the dog show. We care for the Neapolitan Mastiff.

“So be careful. When the Neapolitan Mastiff moves, the movement is first of all of the back. The back takes the ground. The forearm uses the movement, this power. The Neapolitan Mastiff must cover a lot of ground like the lion.

“So you must also have proper type of the body. Forget the dog show. The Neapolitan Mastiff must

not be elegant. Must not be elegant. What do you think, that the Roman Coliseum is elegant? No, he is ancient, he is proud, he is history. The Doberman is elegant. But the Neapolitan Mastiff must not be elegant; he must be proud, like the Coliseum, like the *Pieta* of Michelangelo, like Leonardo. Because in action, the elegance was not the most important moment of the story.

*From Dr. Mario Perricone, 1993 commentary:*

“If the dog is walking at

its slow and shuffling gait, it appears indolent and lazy, incapable of the explosive power needed for a guard dog, which must be able to chase and bring down an intruder. As a breed, the Neapolitan Mastiff often paces, and this bear-like gait does not constitute a defect.

“At the trot, especially in action such as patrolling the boundaries of its territory, the Neapolitan Mastiff becomes a different, more determined and agile dog. The hindquarters have ample power to propel its considerable weight and the forelimbs stretch well forward. The Mastino movement is fluid and flat, and the bones of articulating joints may be seen to undulate beneath the thick skin. It is more feline than canine. It seems to be a panther, capable of overcoming impossible obstacles to bear down its prey.”

*Dr. Massimo Inzoli, who judged in NC in 2019. He comments on movement:*

“The dog is not only head, there is nothing sadder then



## WORKING GROUP

to looking a good-looking dog that is limping or looked to be immobile when trying to move. The Neapolitan Mastiff is not a statue, it is a living creature. We must find and breed soundness and well-balanced dogs with all of these traits. In older eras judges would tend to pick a specimen with good head, but now we have the type issue resolved for the most part head and movement equally assessed.

“Being a massive, long-bodied Molosser with feline-like movement will enable the Neapolitan Mastiff to gait with the head at topline/shoulder length. The dog with an erect/high head catches the eyes of people and judges, but we are not here to judge grace and elegance, we are judging Neapolitan Mastiffs, which is a breed of immense power, it’s a Molosser with a long body, feline-like movement drives and exudes power. The Neapolitan Mastiff should look imposing, there should be centuries from the Roman

Empire that is present in the dog.”

Elegance should not be the most important characteristic of the Neapolitan Mastiff.

—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe,

[Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com](mailto:Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com)

[United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club](#)

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## Newfoundlands

### TALE OF TWO NATIONAL SPECIALTIES

Although Newfoundlanders have been part of our family for 15 years, I’ve only recently attended the national specialty shows in Frankenmuth, Michigan. The early May weather could not have been more different from one year to the next. In 2022, it was hot and humid. The willows along the river were in full bloom. In 2023, the riverbank willows were delicately pale green, the buds not quite blooming, as if they didn’t trust the weather to

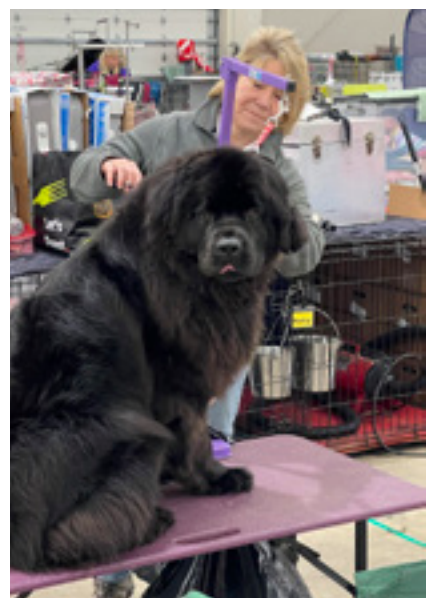
stay warm. The willows were right: The next few days were cold and rainy, before the sun emerged at the end of the week. Needless to say, the Newfs loved the cooler weather!

The first time around, I soaked up the basics, conducting research and interviews for an updated guide to the breed. I stayed in an Airbnb on Frankenmuth’s main street, photographed the Bavarian-style buildings and murals, and walked across the covered bridge to watch the competitions and pat some Newfs. I missed my dogs, but volunteering to hand out ring favors was a perfect way to see the dogs and handlers up close. I watched perfectly coiffed dogs drink water from a spray bottle to stay hydrated without the mess of wet jowls before going into the ring. A seasoned handler told me she’d worn an odometer at a show and logged 40,000 steps in one day!

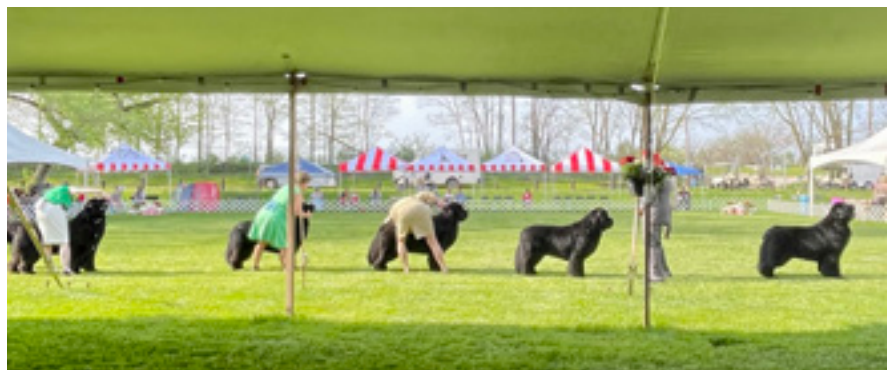
I saw how carting, obedience, and drafting events

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*Frankenmuth, Michigan, site of the 2022 and 2023 Newfoundland national specialties. Photos: the buildings; getting ready; Novice Bitches, 2023; willow trees line the drive; ringside view, 2022.*



COURTESY KATIE DOLAN



## WORKING GROUP

happen at all times of the day. In the educational session offered by the iconic Pat Hastings, we learned how dog breeds must be identifiable by the head alone and by the silhouette alone. Each breed is also distinct in its ability to do the job it was bred for and in temperament/character. We learned dogs from the northernmost climes have longer legs so they can escape from snowdrifts, while a German Shepherd is like a portable fence and can effortlessly trot for miles. And finally, I saw how the national specialty depends upon volunteers organizing celebratory parties with costumes, prizes, vendors, competitive events, and registration gifts.

At the recent national, I'd entered my Willow (Timberknoll Willow in the Winds) in the Novice Bitch class. It was a totally different learning experience. The recent Newfoundland Club of America strategic plan emphasizes mentoring of new participants: The Junior

Showmanship competitions were crowd pleasers, while I benefited from mentoring by Willow's breeders and her handler Joanne Brainard.

On a visit to her home six months before the national, Joanne showed me basic ring cues, how to properly use a slip collar, and how to encourage Willow to look straight ahead. "The judge will stare at her before approaching in the ring—that is often the most difficult part for a novice dog," so we practiced having people examine her. A fellow regional club member told me about K-9 Services, which signs dogs up for shows with a simple telephone call. I was not sure about the timing of bathing, grooming, and last-minute "going over" a dog, so I learned that too.

We watched Joanne's team getting various dogs ready. Joanne brushed Willow as I prevented her from leaping off the grooming table. She said, "People are betting on whether I'll have difficulty managing Willow in the ring. You need to be stricter. No

means no. She's very attached to you, so don't let her see you when she's being shown."

I decided not to watch Willow but asked my sister to film her debut and text me a rating. Amy soon texted "10." I was dubious but saw the end of the Novice class with the dogs lined up. Willow finished second! I saw one of Willow's breeders thereafter, who gave me a big hug. "She's beautiful. I think there's an innate predisposition for Timberknoll dogs to be enthusiastic and focused in the ring." Joanne was pleased too: Willow had indeed been a handful, ready to run out of the grooming area to find me, but then she settled down as they approached the judging area.

Next year's specialty is in Duluth, Minnesota, where I will certainly learn more from mentors and maybe even see the Northern Lights and a long-legged dog bred for snow.

—Katie Dolan,  
[katielangedolan@gmail.com](mailto:katielangedolan@gmail.com)  
Newfoundland Club of  
America

## WORKING GROUP

### Portuguese Water Dogs

#### PASSION FOR PWDS

Our family fell in love with Portuguese Water Dogs in the late 1980s, when they were a rarer breed. As sailors we wanted a dog that loved the water but did not want a shedding dog like a Lab. (Our cat took care of that.)

After searching for several months, we were able to locate Deyanne Miller in New Canaan, Connecticut, the person credited with “rescuing” the breed and bringing it to the U.S. One year later, out of the clear blue, we received her call: “I have a puppy for you—please come over to my home and pick it up.”

Ch. Farmion Intrepid Captain was the start of a serious PWD addiction for us. He went sailing, hiking, swimming, cross-country skiing, and was involved in everything we did. He was never more than an inch from our side. Captain obtained his championship relatively quickly and became an ambassador



*Portuguese Water Dogs*

for the breed, extolling its virtues and bringing many notable future PWD owners into the breed’s fold.

We then purchased a female, Carley, and quickly also put a championship on her. Captain, Carley, my husband, and I became well known in dog circles, and we were blessed with many experiences and memories that filled our lives and hearts.

We bred and owner-handled our dogs in conformation. It was a “good time” to be showing dogs. Many knowledgeable senior judges took the time to

guide us along and reward our dogs. Andy and I took many classes and training seminars—with George Alston (one of the early ones we attended), Pat Trotter, and so on. We purchased a motorhome and traveled our country, experiencing life on the road exhibiting and specializing our dogs. It was a sense of achievement when you were awarded a group placement amid a lineup of well-known dogs.

Our Best in Show was the ultimate icing on the cake. We bred our champions with an eye to produce the next competition dog and

COURTESY ANGELA KALIMANASH



## WORKING GROUP

grew our kennel by keeping and showing our best. Our puppy people benefited from our experiences, and many of them became longterm friends. We also trialed in obedience with several of our dogs and became active in agility. We collected many ribbons, now having mountains of them stored in closets.

But things have changed.

I still love my dogs, but I am shocked to see what has become of our beloved dog world. The animal-rights movement has taken over. It seems new people do not want mentors, nor want to listen to experiences so they can learn. Our new breeders seem to not understand structure and will guess an answer, making it a reality for their puppy buyers. There are PWD puppy mills across the U.S. And, despite the PWDCA and our members' best efforts, many puppy buyers just want immediate gratification and will buy that puppy with the one white spot over its eye, without regard to con-

formation, temperament, or health.

Conformation showing has also changed tremendously. We have very few owner-handlers and tons of paid agents.

What's happened to enjoying your dog, sharing and participating in experiences? Are the dogs just another book on your shelf of life, to be discarded when you are tired of them, or when they get old?

How can we preserve the past, improve the present, and provide for the future?

—Angela Kalmanash  
[Portuguese Water Dog Club of America](#)

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## Rottweilers

### ROTTWEILER HEAD TYPE

There is much concern in the American and German Rottweiler communities about extreme head type becoming more common and being awarded. These dogs often come from countries in East Europe and are now here in the United States being

bred. It is such a problem in Germany, the motherland of our breed, that the ADRK (the breed's parent club in Germany) had to make rules about muzzle length being in proportion to the back-skull. In the past it was approximated by the judge; now dogs in Germany must be physically measured.

This completely incorrect head type is easy to spot: The muzzle is not just too short, it also appears to have been pushed into the skull, the eyes tend to bulge out, and the top of the skull is domed. When you open the dog's mouth to count the teeth, molars will often be sideways so as to make room in the mouth for the teeth. The bite might be wry as well, if not level.

Why is this Pug/French Bulldog look attractive to some? Because these smashed-in faces, with their round eyes and small noses, tend to more resemble the face of a human infant rather than a dog. Some might ask, what's wrong with that?

## WORKING GROUP

There is a lot wrong with aspiring to extreme type. First and foremost, we are a working breed. If a Rottweiler cannot work, then he is of no use to the farmer. A dog with an abnormally short muzzle will not be able to breathe efficiently and will tire quickly and over-heat.

Changing the structure of the head and muzzle will also create many wrinkles on the head, which is highly undesirable in our breed. Eyes that bulge create enormous contact opportunities for debris and dust, causing irritation, possible infection, and perhaps even blindness.

The top-skull of a Rottweiler is to be relatively flat, with the ears extending the line on each side. A domed head is an easy, and lethal, target for a kick from a cow. A hard blow to the back of the skull on a bulge-eyed dog will dislodge the eyeballs from their sockets. None of these characteristics speak to being able to work a long day.

A misaligned bite or row



of teeth will hamper the dog's ability to catch and hold—whether it's a bull or a bad guy. The teeth are to be large and strong, well set into a strong underjaw, meeting as a scissors to the top. If the dog cannot grip because the jaw is weak, the teeth are scrambled or the bite is off, it is, again, of no use for work. If the muzzle is too short, then the dog is unable to take a deep bite

and hold on, as a shallow muzzle doesn't allow for enough depth for a bite.

The only reason to purposely breed such a head is for sales. There cannot be any other reason. Such practice only serves the self, and not our breed, neither now nor in the future. These heads are to be shunned, as they are entirely objectionable.

Judges, please don't award this type of dog. Breeders,

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP

please don't breed for this type of head. Sport competitors, I beseech you to shy from this fad. Remember our standard: The Rottweiler head is clean without wrinkling, with tight flews, a flat top-skull, and a proportion of 3 to 2 of back-skull to muzzle.

The standard is not an arbitrary document, but rather a template to create a healthy, physically balanced dog with intelligence and ability to get any job done.

—Jill Kessler Miller,  
[jilymillygsr@gmail.com](mailto:jilymillygsr@gmail.com)  
American Rottweiler Club

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## Samoyeds

Guest columnist Lisa Peterson is an elected prosecutor in Texas and a more than 30-year member of the Samoyed Club of America and the Abilene Kennel Club.

### ROAD TRIP!

Dog people enjoy taking road trips. We have friends around the country; we find majors “easier” anywhere

*but* at home, and we think nothing of driving thousands of miles for that one judge who might ... just might ... help fulfill our dreams. As a 30-plus-year veteran of dog shows who has been accused of having “itchy feet,” I completely understand! My most recent drive was from central Texas to Albany, Oregon. I have made similar jaunts to Wisconsin, Maryland, and Southern California. As a prosecutor, however, I see the complications which can arise when we cross state lines.

We all have our own things we load for a long trip. From medications (canine and human), to items arguably needed for protection, legal documents, the checklist for packing can rival a small novel (which is probably also included!) Let's take a quick look at some of the laws, which can change state to state, that can seriously impact the trip. (A quick note on those medications: Be certain to have the prescription with you, as many

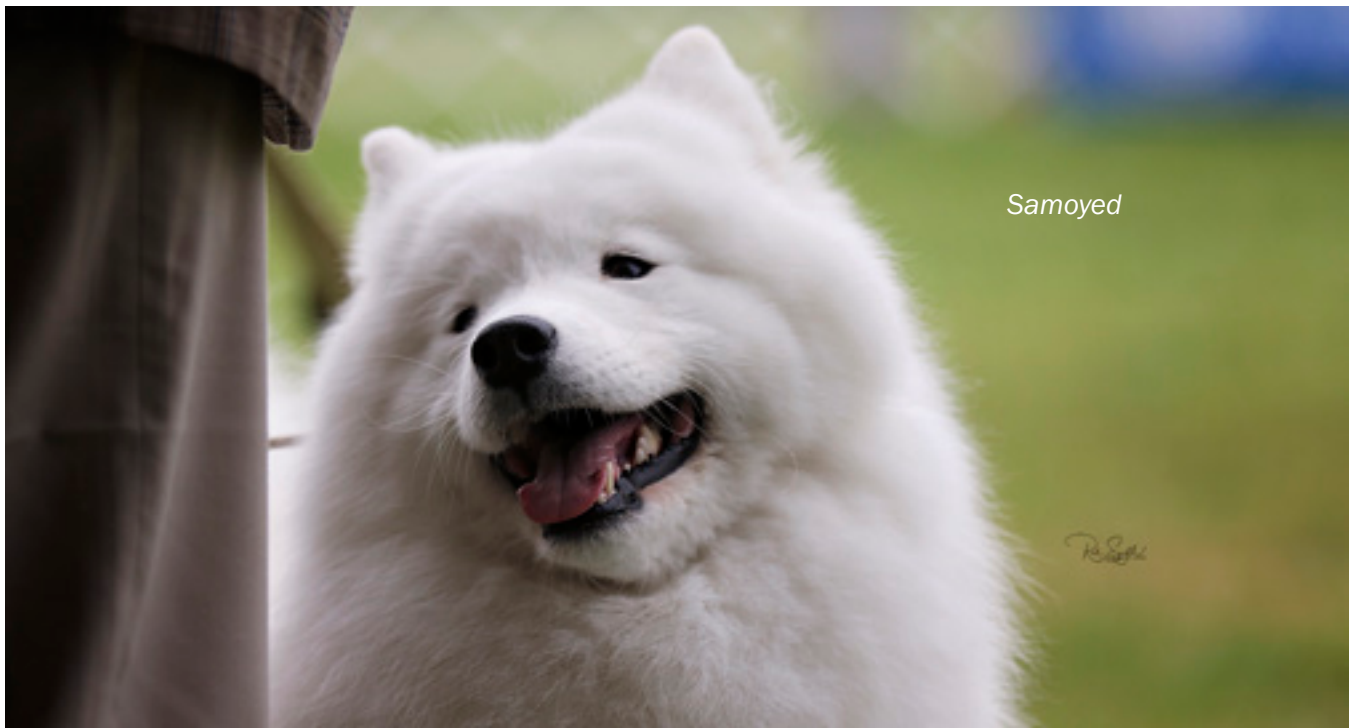
are controlled substances and illegal to carry without it!)

Traffic laws tend to change as soon as you cross a state line. In some states, there is a sudden plethora of signs alerting you the laws of the state you're entering—the speed limit, information about enforcement and the upcoming exit and more. Some states have signs about bans on texting while driving, or for cell phone use in certain areas, such as construction zones. It is easy to miss one, and be vulnerable to a citation. Remember that the ticket you sign is a promise to appear and take care of it. In many states, you can still be arrested for not signing it or for being less than polite. Throwing the ticket away is likely to result in your home state suspending your license until it is paid.

Many states have enacted laws making it legal to carry—concealed or openly—a firearm. These laws may limit carrying to persons with permits, or any person who does not have a

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP



*Samoyed*

felony conviction. To make it more interesting, many limit the right to their own citizens, while others outlaw the carrying for *any* person. As a practical matter, unless you display it or give law enforcement a reason to search your vehicle, it is likely no one will know of its presence. Circumstances can conspire against you. Theft of a firearm from your vehicle is going to require that you report your (prior) possession to law enforcement, which may give them cause to charge you.

Marijuana is one of the “hot topics” of the decade. Many states have legalized it, while others still consider it an illegal substance. Vendors in states where it is legal often use THC (the active ingredient in marijuana) in brownies or candy. The problem arises when another state penalizes possession by weight. Brownies are very heavy—and a THC-laced brownie may result in a felony arrest if found in your possession in the “wrong” state.

Do an online search or

consult a travel-planning resource (such as AAA) before your trip. Look up the states on your route. Check for unusual traffic rules and requirements for health certifications on dogs (or collar/leash/tag requirements). Look at restrictions on cell phone use and texting, as well as laws regarding weapons and drugs.

A trip to visit the local bars ideally should not include those run by the government!—*L.P., 2017*

Thank you, Lisa. For more

COURTESY REE SMYTH

## WORKING GROUP

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information about activities and events for Samoyeds, visit <http://www.samoyed-clubofamerica.org>.

—Heather LoProto, SCA  
Public Education Chair  
[hloproto@comcast.net](mailto:hloproto@comcast.net)  
Samoyed Club of America

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## Siberian Huskies

### THE SIBERIAN RESCUE CRISIS: HOW TO HELP

Our breed has a rescue problem. Or, rather, a *retention* problem. Although the popularity of the Siberian Husky has been steadily declining over the past several years (according to the AKC's annual Breed Popularity Ranking), the breed remains over-represented in shelter populations across the country. A Facebook post from a shelter in Southern California recently highlighted the 23 Siberian Huskies in their care. *Twenty-three!*

Many of the Siberians in rescue are due to owner-surrender; people buy a puppy because it is an adorable, mischievous ball of fluff

(and those blue eyes!), but then abandon that puppy when it becomes a head-strong adolescent and the breed's personality quirks finally emerge.

Another major reason Siberians end up in shelters is because they escape their home and are picked up or brought in as strays—maybe for the first time, maybe for the fifth time. Sometimes their owners can't be found, and sometimes their owners simply don't want them back. The dog is too much of a hassle. The owner can't cope.

Buying a Siberian is easy. Keeping a Siberian can be very hard.

The fact is, our breed is not easy for the average person to own: They are smart, they are resourceful in their pursuit of self-entertainment, and covering 50 or more miles in a day is buried deep in their DNA. And so we have a crisis: shelters and rescues full of wayward Siberians.

As stewards of the breed, I believe we owe a duty to

these dogs just as we do to our own. No, we probably didn't breed them. They were probably not sold on a contract to a well-vetted new owner who understood that the puppy must always be returned to the breeder if they could not keep it. They may not be the product of a meticulously-planned breeding between sound, standard-fitting dogs. But they are Siberian Huskies. They are members of the breed we profess to love and defend. They have been let down by people who don't care as much as we do, and we owe it to the breed to do what we can to help.

So what can we do to help these dogs? We can start by helping the rescues. Purebred rescues do the heavy lifting, pulling Siberians from shelters and trying to find them new, forever homes. If you are able, offering to foster a Siberian for your local purebred rescue will have a big impact. Rescues very often cannot pull dogs out of shelters unless they have a foster

## WORKING GROUP



*Siberian Husky*

home available.

Rescues are also always looking for people to volunteer their home and breed expertise. You already know how to educate potential owners and screen for the appropriate home, and these skills will help your foster dog find the best possible placement.

You also know how to acclimate a Siberian into your pack—teaching it manners and limits—and this knowledge will help set your foster up for success.

Rescues will typically pro-

vide all food and veterinary care for their foster dogs; however, if you have the means to cover some of this yourself, it will allow the rescue to spend that money on other dogs in their care.

If you aren't able to bring a foster dog into your home, consider donating your time. Rescues often participate in adoption events at local businesses, and they are always looking for help at these events. Spending even one afternoon a month talking to the public about the breed, walking adopt-

able dogs around the store, or helping the group set up and tear down crates will ease the burden.

Some purebred rescues conduct monthly group hikes and walks to get their adoptable dogs out for some exercise and exposure to potential adopters. Volunteer to walk an adoptable dog at one of these events. It's a great way to get some fresh air and help the breed at the same time.

Do you have urban mushing skills? Even better! Some Siberian rescues make a point of working their foster dogs in harness for a few reasons: it exercises the dog; learning new commands and skills works the dog's mind; and it can even make the dog more appealing to people looking for an adventure buddy. If you can meet up with the rescue folks and help teach an adoptable dog bikejor or canicross, it's a win for everyone.

Finally, rescue groups can always use donations. Money is welcome, of course, but donations of



## WORKING GROUP

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food, treats, and equipment are also helpful. Some purebred rescue groups sponsor auctions and raffles, and even donating items for those (or participating in them!) can help the group raise funds for veterinary care and supplies. Monetary donations may be tax-deductible, depending on the group's IRS designation.

If you don't have a Siberian rescue group in your area, you can still help. Consider a donation to organizations that support Siberian rescue, such as these:

*The Siberian Husky Club of America Trust.* One of this non-profit's purposes is to "support and obtain funds" for Siberian Husky rescue groups. Learn more about them at [www.shcatrust.org](http://www.shcatrust.org).

*Save Our Siberians.* This non-profit was created to assist Siberian Husky rescue groups with "non-routine expenses incurred for rescue dogs." Learn more about them at [www.sos-srf.org](http://www.sos-srf.org).

At the heart of helping solve the rescue crisis is

keeping Siberians in their homes, or making sure they go to the right home in the first place. This can't happen without education. It is critical that we keep talking to people honestly about our breed, stressing the need to train and contain. Take time to talk to spectators when they approach you at shows, even if you have to ask them politely to wait until after judging. Participate in Meet the Breeds events with your dogs.

We can't stop irresponsible breeding altogether, but every little bit we do to educate people about the best ways to find—and keep—a Siberian will make a difference for the breed as a whole.

—Jessica Breinholt,  
[jbshca@gmail.com](mailto:jbshca@gmail.com)  
[Siberian Husky Club of America](http://www.siberianhuskyclubofamerica.com)

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## Standard Schnauzers

### SUMMER SAFETY FOR YOUR STANDARD SCHNAUZER

Two major activities come to mind for July:

Your travels, and gardening outside with your dogs.

In warmer weather, if you take your dogs along when you go somewhere, please don't leave them alone in your car, even with windows cracked open, even if you intend to make only a quick stop. The "quick stop" could end up taking much longer than you had planned—for example, you chat with a friend, the cash register malfunctions, the item you need isn't on the shelf, and minutes are added to your "quick stop." Meanwhile, your poor dogs are sweltering, growing dangerously close to heat stroke (sustained body temperature of 104 degrees F and higher)—and unless cooling and treatment is immediate, death can follow quickly. "According to a recent study, the temperature inside a car increases by an average of 40 degrees F per hour. This means even if it's only 70 degrees F outside, the inside of the car can easily be greater than 110 degrees F. For this

# BREED COLUMNS

## WORKING GROUP



Standard Schnauzers Flash and Ivory safely romp outdoors.

reason, a dog should never be left alone in the car, even with the windows partially open.” (<https://www.petmd.com/dog/conditions/systemic/heatstroke-dogs>)

If the temperature outside rises to only around 80 degrees (all temperatures in degrees Fahrenheit), the time it takes that temperature inside the closed car to become dangerous is: 10 minutes, 99 degrees; 20 minutes, 109 degrees; 30 minutes, 114 degrees; and 60 minutes, 123 degrees.

(<https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/heres-how-hot-the-inside-of-your-car-can-get-in-high-outdoor-temperatures/ar-AAyh1Cw>) Therefore, please know in advance what to do if a dog shows signs of overheating or heat stroke.

I’ve been an avid gardener since I was seven, helping my dad breed roses. Since I ended up in a wheelchair and can’t get downstairs to the yard, my garden has become large pots and fif-

teen 15 x 15 boxes on our upper-level deck, accessed from the living room and bedroom.

I grow veggies and herbs interspersed with flowers, using the “French Intensive” method (information on this can be found online). Our dogs have always “helped” me in my gardens—for example, I had to watch my ripening tomatoes closely so I could pick the ripe ones before Charley did.

Outdoor gardening is a pleasant way to be with your

COURTESY SUZANNE T. SMITH

## WORKING GROUP

dog, but be aware of some potential dog hazards in the garden, including toxic plants, dangerous insect stings and bites, poisonous soil amendments, and harmful mulch material.

Awareness of toxic plants, including shrubs and trees, is comparatively easy. The ASPCA has an [extensive list of plants](#) toxic and non-toxic to pets—specifically, dogs, cats, and horses—with both common and scientific names. Click on most plant names to see a photograph of the plant. The FDA has a [list of potentially harmful substances](#) you might find with a garden, but their poisonous plant list is not as exhaustive as the ASPCA's.

Among popular garden veggies that are definite “no-nos” for dog-friendly gardens is the nightshade family, including such favorites as tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant, and tomatillo. Although nightshades contain toxic aspects, most bear edible fruits and tubers. Several of these plants are cultivated easily in the home

garden, and they include some of the most commonly eaten vegetables today.

Edible nightshade plants include tomato, tomatillo, naranjilla, eggplant, potato (excluding sweet potato), pepper (includes hot and sweet varieties as well as spices like paprika, chili powder, cayenne, and tabasco), pimiento, goji berry (wolfberry), tamarillo, Cape gooseberry (ground cherry), pepino, and garden huckleberry.

Ban these ornamental plants from your garden:

- Lily of the Valley, oleander, yew, foxglove, and kalanchoe (may cause heart problems if ingested)
- Sago palms (*Cycas spp*) (can cause severe intestinal problems, seizures and liver damage, especially if the nut portion of the plant is consumed)
- Azaleas, rhododendrons and tulip/narcissus bulbs (can cause intestinal upset, weakness, depression, heart problems, coma, and death)
- Castor bean (can cause severe intestinal problems,

seizures, coma, and death)

- Cyclamen, amaryllis, chrysanthemums, pothos, English ivy, philodendron, corn plant, mother-in-law's tongue, hibiscus, hydrangea, peace lily and schefflera/scheffleria (can cause intestinal upset)
- Substances in rhubarb leaves and shamrock (can produce kidney failure)
- Fungi, such as certain types of mushrooms (can cause liver damage or other illnesses, and may produce aflatoxins)
- The yesterday-to-day-and-tomorrow plant (*Brunfelsia spp.*), autumn crocus (*Colchicum spp.*), and glory lily (*Gloriosa spp.*) may potentially be harmful.

Some popular plants for a dog-friendly garden are catmint, catnip, black eyed Susans, roses, hibiscus, marigolds, sunflowers, jasmine, cosmos, hollyhocks, pansies, and petunias. Strawberries, blueberries, and other berries are great for sharing with your animals.

Keep in mind that insect stings and bites can transmit

## WORKING GROUP

life-threatening bacteria, parasites, or viruses, so it's crucial to use veterinary-prescribed topical or oral preventive medications, but if your dog is being shown in conformation, avoid collars and collar-based medications that can ruin a show coat. If your dog has been bitten or stung, identify the offending critter(s), remove any stingers, and if the dog's reaction calls for it (think blocked or swollen airways, drooling, vomiting, or anaphylactic shock in which you have only moments to administer fast-working epinephrine), get your dog to your vet immediately. These bad bugs include fleas, ticks, mites, mosquitoes, ants, flies, and bees, hornets, and wasps.

"Anaphylactic shock is a rare, life-threatening, immediate allergic reaction to food, an injection, or an insect sting. The most common signs occur within seconds to minutes after exposure to the antigen. Dogs differ from other domestic animals in that the major organ affected by anaphylactic shock is the

liver, rather than the lungs. Therefore, gastrointestinal signs are the major signs of anaphylactic shock rather than respiratory signs. These signs include sudden onset of diarrhea, excessive drooling, vomiting, shock, seizures, coma, and death. The dog's gums may be pale, and the limbs may feel cold. The heart rate is generally very fast, but the pulse is weak.

"Anaphylaxis is an extreme emergency. If you think that your dog is having an anaphylactic reaction, seek emergency veterinary assistance immediately." (*Merck Veterinary Manual*)

Anaphylaxis may be considered rare, but I personally have seen two unforgettable instances of almost immediate death resulting from anaphylactic shock after a bee sting. The first was many years ago at a dog show in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, when mini-Schnauzer Ch. Miown Exotic Poppy was awarded Best in Show just as a bee stung her. Tragically, she died in the ring moments

later. The second was at a family outing at a lake in Virginia, where my cousin was fishing from a boat—a bee stung him, and he died before reaching shore. Immediate injections of epinephrine might have saved them both,

Toxic soil amendments are not so easy to track down. Hazards reported in potting soils include heavy metals such as mercury, lead, and zinc; arsenic and cadmium may also be present, but their levels tend to be lower. These pollutants accumulate from areas around industrial waste sites, while organic compounds like fungicides and insecticides arise from contaminated agricultural fields. Lead is particularly concerning, because it can cause severe poisoning symptoms even at low doses due to its persistence in the environment.

If chemical fertilizers are used in any soil, all bets are off. If your dog ingests any soil, identify the kind used and get veterinary help immediately.

## WORKING GROUP

Your dog isn't safe if you use only organic additives such as manure, either. If care hasn't been exercised at the additive's source or in its storage, such additives could be overabundant with pathogens: bacteria such as *Salmonella spp.*, fungi like *Rhizoctonia solani*, viruses including parvovirus B19 (also known as parvo), an assortment of bloodsucking worms, and even parasites like *Giardia lamblia*, all of which can cause serious health issues if ingested by humans or animals. Pathogens found in contaminated potting soils have been linked to such canine and human respiratory infections as Legionnaires' disease after inhaling dust from mixtures disturbed by people handling them without protective gear.

The presence of these microorganisms relies on environmental circumstances (oxygen availability and temperature), so you can prevent their presence with proper storage conditions before using organic

additives in the garden area. Proper storage containers are airtight with airtight seals on the lids; let additives languish, stored in a cool place, for at least three months before using.

Mulch is a must-have in many gardens, especially to help tender plants survive harsh winters, but it can be dangerous for your dog as not every mulch is mutt friendly. Some include dyes, dangerous chemicals, and toxic ingredients, while others have scents that entice your pooch to chow down, risking mouth and stomach issues. Your dog should never consume mulch, as every form poses a serious obstruction risk, regardless of ingredients. Not only does mulch risk blocking your dog's digestive tract, but jagged edges can cause oral injuries and internal damage if swallowed.

Seven mulches that are OK in a dog-friendly garden:

1. *Pine bark*. OK—cheap, fades slowly, and eco-friendly, but can wash away and may be too acidic for

some plants.

2. *Cypress*. Meh—affordable, stays in place better than pine, color fades, doesn't let much water through; not very eco-friendly.

3. *Cedar chips*. OK—pricier, rich color fades, smells great, dog-safe insect-repelling properties; watch out for dyes and chemicals.

4. *Pine-needle straw*. OK—pricier, easy to spread and shape, natural brown color, sustainable (small carbon footprint), can harm dog stomachs if ingested, no natural insect-repelling properties, provides soil nutrients on breakdown, may be too acidic for some plants.

5. *Coco mulch*. OK—Not to be confused with dangerous cocoa bean mulch, coco mulch is made of coconut husks, lighter than most, easy to work with, retains water but drains easily, naturally discourages insects, long-lasting color, contains fewer natural nutrients.

6. *Rocks and stones*. OK unless your dog is a rock-

## WORKING GROUP

chewer—no decomposition odors, not chemically treated, won't attract bugs or termites, long-lasting, eco-friendly, but heavy and can dry soil, inhibiting plant growth.

7. *Fir bark*. OK—more expensive than most, made of conifer (fir) tree bark, stays in place well, natural water-resistance and weed protection, no dog-harming chemicals, less tempting for dogs to dig on larger chunks, stick-lovers may swipe a piece occasionally for chewing, hence risking mouth injury.

The four bad mulch materials are eucalyptus mulch (mulch and leaves are toxic, causing digestive distress); dyed or chemically treated mulch; mulch made of salvaged wood (often treated with chemicals and arsenic that poison the soil and plants grown in it; cocoa bean mulch, which contains theobromine, the poisonous element in chocolate.

While you should avoid all four, the most dangerous is cocoa bean mulch.

(<https://www.k9ofmine.com/best-dog-safe-mulch/>)

Checklist for your dog's garden safety

- Store gardening products and tools out of your dog's reach.

- Investigate plants thoroughly before adding them to your garden, particularly flowers and fruit-bearing plants. There are plenty of beautiful dog-safe shrubs and dog-friendly yard plants available.

- Check garden plants against the ASPCA list of pet-toxic and -nontoxic plants.

- Ensure that soil-amending components are not toxic for dogs.

- Assess soils used for plants for possible parasite or disease contamination.

- Use pet-safe weed killer; better yet, pull weeds by hand.

- Always monitor your dogs around the garden.

- Avoid rodent-killing chemicals that can harm canines. Prevent your dog from eating, mouthing, or playing with carcasses.

- Use only dog-safe pesticides. Better yet, use companion planting, plants that attract noisome pests, or beneficial insects, or install a bat house.

- *Do not use cocoa-bean mulch.*

- Clean up gardening debris and clippings regularly.

- Block dog's access to dangerous plants, such as onions, garlic, and grapes.

- Compost only in dog-free areas to prevent dogs foraging for tidbits.

If the worst should happen, you can contact the Pet Poison Helpline

(855-764-7661; <http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com>)

or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (888-426-4435, [www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control](http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control)).

It's a good idea to keep this information handy.

—Suzanne T. Smith, Los Alamos, New Mexico,

[WustefuchsSS@aol.com](mailto:WustefuchsSS@aol.com) since 1967

[Standard Schnauzer Club of America](#)



# SECRETARY'S PAGES

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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.

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## ATTENTION DELEGATES NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, September 12, 2023**. For the sole purpose of conducting the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees, the meeting will be called to order at 9:30 a.m. After those present at that time have voted, the Delegate Meeting will recess to begin the Forum (approximately 1 hour in duration). The Delegate Meeting will reconvene following the conclusion of the Forum at which time anyone who had not yet voted will have the opportunity to do so, then the polls will be closed.

## DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

**Rebecca Barber**, Springfield, MO,  
Ozarks Kennel Club  
**Kristen L. Burgoyne**, Gloucester, RI,  
Providence County Kennel Club  
**Cameron R. Capozzi**, Crossville, NY,  
Queensboro Kennel Club  
**Robert Scott Dove**, DVM, Flint Hill, VA,  
Scottish Deerhound Club of America  
**Debbie Hockaday**, Providence Forge, VA,  
Gloucester Kennel Club of Virginia



# gazette

[Click here to read the July 2023 issue!](#)

**Heidi Kilgore**, Winslow, IN,  
Evansville Kennel Club

**Pamela A. Langstein**, Woodmere, NY,  
Yorkshire Terrier Club of America

**Kate McCallum**, Northville, MI,  
Alaskan Malamute Club of America

**David Todd McDonald**, Central City, IA,  
Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

**Dr. LeeAnn Podruch**, Hatley, WI,  
Silky Terrier Club of America

**Renee Lynn Popkey**, Brooksville, FL,  
Pasco Florida Kennel Club

**Sandra Schumacher**, Great Falls, MT,  
Papillon Club of America

## NOTICE

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of 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:

Ms. Kathy Doehler (Pueblo, CO)

Dr. Jerry Hans (New Carlisle, IN)

Mr. Justin McGrew (Conway, AR)

Ms. Josie Ornum (Salinas, CA)

Ms. Marian Panter (Carson City, NV)

Ms. Brandi Ritchie (Jarrell, TX)

Mr. Gene Smith (Grafton, IL)

## NOTICE

Ms. Lisa Asuma (Geneva, OH). Action was taken by the Louisville Kennel Club for conduct at its March 19, 2023 event. Ms. Asuma was charged with personal property damage. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and a \$100 fine. (Boxers)

## NOTICE

Mr. Dickson Bedell (Richmond, VA). Action was taken by the Old Dominion Retriever Club for conduct at its March 25, 2023 event. Mr. Bedell was charged with improper treatment. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Labrador Retrievers)

## NOTICE

Mr. Branndon Butler (Monroe, GA). Action was taken by the Music City Beagle Club for conduct at its January 28, 2023 event. Mr. Butler was charged with substitution. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a seven-year suspension from event privileges and a \$5,000 fine, effective March 9, 2023. Mr. Butler appealed the decision to the AKC Performance Trial Board. The Performance Trial Board denied the



appeal and affirmed the penalty. (Beagles)

## NOTICE

Ms. Lori Chowning (Livingston, MT). Action was taken by the Shasta Kennel Club for conduct at its March 19, 2023 event. Ms. Chowning was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Borzoi, Scottish Deerhounds)

## NOTICE

Dr. Phyllis Giroux (Goldvein, VA). Action was taken by the Old Dominion Retriever Club for conduct at its March 26, 2023 event. Dr. Giroux was charged with disregard of published club regulations. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and \$500 fine, effective May 9, 2023. (Multiple Breeds)

## NOTICE

Mr. Sam Livingston (Canton, MS). Action was taken by the Feliciana Retriever Club for conduct at its May 17, 2023 event. Mr. Livingston was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as reprimand and \$100

fine. (Labrador Retrievers)

## NOTICE

Mr. John Walker (Arroyo Grande, CA) Action was taken by the Las Vegas Hunting Retriever Club for conduct at its February 26, 2023 event. Mr. Walker was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a 79 day suspension of all AKC privileges and imposed a \$100 fine, effective March 26, 2023. (Labrador Retrievers)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Robin DiPersio (Hector, AR) from all AKC privileges and imposed a \$2,000 fine, effective May 8, 2023, for violation of the *Unauthorized Use of Club Funds* policy. (Pekingese, Shih Tzus)

## 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 non-compliance with record keeping and dog identification requirements:

Effective June 20, 2023:

Mr. Jack Deeming (Warwick, MD)

Multiple Breeds

Ms. Jeanne Deeming (Warwick, MD)

Multiple Breeds

Mr. Jesse Froehlich (Cameron, OK)

Pomeranians, French Bulldogs

Mr. Justin Porter (Lawton, OK)

Multiple Breeds

Ms. Misty Porter (Lawton, OK)

Multiple Breeds

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES  
APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS – CHAPTER  
2, SECTION 14 – DOG SHOW ENTRIES,  
CONDITIONS OF DOGS AFFECTING  
ELIGIBILITY**

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Chapter 2, Section 14**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. This will be voted on at the September 12, 2023 Delegate Meeting.

**CHAPTER 2**

**SECTION 14.** All clubs holding shows under American Kennel Club rules must at each event have available or access to; the current applicable breed standards, the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Events, the Show Manual, and any other applicable rules, regulations and/or guidelines for the competitions being held.

**CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Letters concerning judges and provisional judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST Applicants

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.

**NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

**Ms. June M. Dennis (112533) CA**

(209) 808-3123

marendaknls@gmail.com

Pointers, English Setters, Cocker Spaniels, JS

**Karen L. Dewey (112481) NH**

(603) 504-2813

pkdewey@comcast.net

Bloodhounds, JS

**Mrs. Cathy M. Driggers (112496) FL**

(386) 846-7175

driggers@nottinghampoms.com

Pomeranians, JS

**Mr. Mark A. Driggers (112498) FL**

(386) 473-6851

m\_a\_driggerscti@yahoo.com

Pomeranians, JS

**Dr. Alan Hargrave (112433) IN**

(765) 730-3828

ahargrav@bsu.edu

Border Terriers, Russell Terriers

**Ms. Katherine Holmen (109619) NV**

(507) 261-1926  
k8sk9skennels@gmail.com  
Staffordshire Bull Terriers

**Kathleen "Kate" Long (112515) FL**

(813) 857-5161  
tamiamicollies@gmail.com  
Collies, JS-Limited

**Dr. Candace Lundin (112536) VA**

(540) 869-1238  
fzureick@earthlink.net  
Russell Terriers

**Ms. Robin Mathews (110537) NJ**

(723) 501-9581  
bisdogs@aol.com  
Dachshunds, JS

**Gwen Meyer (112103) IL**

(815) 624-6196  
gwenmeyer123@me.com  
Irish Setters, English Cocker Spaniels,  
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Soft Coated  
Wheaten Terriers, French Bulldogs,  
Bouvier des Flandres, Briards, JS

**Mr. Kent W. Meyer IL**

(815) 378-6197  
kgmeyer@meyerspetcare.com  
Irish Setters, English Cocker Spaniels,  
Whippets, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Soft  
Coated Wheaten Terriers, French Bull-  
dogs, Bouvier des Flandres, Briards, JS

**Mr. George Robert Rohde (108869) IL**

(708) 837-2222  
rohdecollies94@yahoo.com  
Collies

**Mrs. Jennifer Rutkas (7505) IL**

(630) 779-6780  
jrutkas@gmail.com  
Giant Schnauzers, Collies

**ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

**Ms. Anne Barlow (18397) TX**

(512) 423-4500  
anne7836@yahoo.com  
Barbets, Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers,  
English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish  
Red and White Setters, English Cocker  
Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels

**Mr. Douglas E. Broadfoot (96999) NC**

(434) 944-0623  
broadstrider@gmail.com  
Black and Tan Coonhounds, Sloughi

**Mr. Lloyd J. Constantine-Amodei (95053) FL**

(215) 570-6674  
ljamodei@gmail.com  
Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Irish Terriers,  
Skye Terriers

**Donna L. Danner (106047) OK**

(918) 407-0199  
4showpaws5@gmail.com  
Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Pugs,  
American Eskimo Dogs, Chinese Shar-  
Pei, Tibetan Terriers

**Mrs. Beth Downey (102539) MS**

(410) 829-2455  
bethdowney539@gmail.com  
Balance of Herding Group (Bearded  
Collies, Berger Picards, Briards, Cardi-

gan Welsh Corgis, German Shepherd Dogs, Mudik, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds)

**Mrs. Lisa Farmer (95249) GA**

(770) 891-8820

[lisafarmer2013@gmail.com](mailto:lisafarmer2013@gmail.com)

Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Miniature Pinschers, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Lowchen

**Mr. Edward A. Fojtik (104757) IL**

(847) 254-6166

[efojtik@aol.com](mailto:efojtik@aol.com)

Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, German Wirehaired Pointers, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels

**Ms. Gaye Lynn Grant (100927) IL**

(815) 355-3487

[littleflock@comcast.net](mailto:littleflock@comcast.net)

Kuvaszok, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Canaan Dogs, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Collies, Old English Sheepdogs, Swedish Vallhunds, Spanish Water Dogs

**Mr. Duff M. Harris (91790) CA**

(714) 425-0454

[allegro6@ix.netcom.com](mailto:allegro6@ix.netcom.com)

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Rottweilers

**Mr. Steven Herman (6305) FL**

(813) 973-3153

[ljlucin@gmail.com](mailto:ljlucin@gmail.com)

Doberman Pinschers, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

**Dr. Vandra L. Huber (6857) WA**

(425) 881-5809

[vlhuber.88@gmail.com](mailto:vlhuber.88@gmail.com)

Balance of Herding Group (Pyrenean Shepherds)

**Dr. Andrew A. Kramer (24604) NC**

(703) 975-6266

[aak0527@gmail.com](mailto:aak0527@gmail.com)

Dachshunds, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets

**Ms. Pamela S. Lambie (96227) AZ**

(760) 272-0625

[pam@pamlambie.com](mailto:pam@pamlambie.com)

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boerboels, Chinooks, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

**Miss Mary Lee (103048) MS**

(901) 268-2410

[maryflee7@gmail.com](mailto:maryflee7@gmail.com)

American Foxhounds, English Foxhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Sloughi, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs

**Ms. Sandra Moore (40375) TN**

(931) 657-8102

[avalonborzoi@benlomand.net](mailto:avalonborzoi@benlomand.net)

Azawakhs, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds

**Mrs. Angela Pickett (100269) FL**

(407) 252-3111

pickettpap@aol.com

Barbets, Bracci Italiani, Brittanys, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas

**Mr. Gary C. Sackett (96555) NV**

(702) 351-5566

gcsackett@yahoo.com

Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers

**Ms. Pamela Schroeder (108285) WA**

(778) 834-0059

pam@schroeder.bc.ca

Vizslas, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, French Bulldogs

**Pamela Wilson (64914) TX**

(512) 280-3103

wilscot@sbcglobal.net

Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers

**Ms. Erika N. Wyatt (107433) IL**

(708) 612-3647

erika@sloughi.us

Greyhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds

**Mrs. Lisa Young (43070) AZ**

(605) 390-1135

youngsongbeagles@gmail.com

Plott Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS**

**Miss Hadley George (112559) OH**

(740) 485-5057

hadleynicole04@gmail.com

**Tanya Tresino (112535) AK**

(907) 232-3171

tanyasueak@hotmail.com

**Jackie Wooden (112543) CA**

(661) 589-8457

regaldalmatians@gmail.com

**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 PERMIT JUDGES**

**Mrs. Caron Marie Honeck (107434) MN**

(763) 263-3102

danesvbluestone@netzero.net

Great Danes

**Ms. Shawne Imler (112061) MD**

(410) 371-6044

shawne698@gmail.com

Cane Corsos, Standard Schnauzers, Miniature Schnauzers, JS

**Michele McGroarty (94201) NY**

(516) 356-3471  
 mcchips@optonline.net  
 Curly-Coated Retrievers

**Angela M. Stevanus (112189) CA**

(951) 640-6819  
 angeldotz@yahoo.com  
 Dalmatians

**Mrs. Allison Corn Sunderman  
(112099) MI**

(517) 688-3059  
 sunoaknl@hotmail.com  
 Terrier Group (Airedale Terriers,  
 American Hairless Terriers, Ameri-  
 can Staffordshire Terriers, Australian  
 Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border  
 Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers,  
 Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Ter-  
 riers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox  
 Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish  
 Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lake-  
 land Terriers, Manchester Terriers,  
 Miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature  
 Schnauzers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich  
 Terriers, Parson Rusell Terriers, Rat  
 Terriers, Russell Terriers, Scottish Ter-  
 riers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers,  
 Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staf-  
 fordshire Bull Terriers, Welsh Terriers,  
 West Highland White Terriers)

**Ms. Sheila A. Thulin (111927) CA**

(815) 236-5244  
 tophat3@me.com  
 Smooth Fox Terriers

**Ms. Patricia Zapf (112201) PA**

(412) 716-9808  
 shadomoon\_aussies@yahoo.com  
 Australian Shepherds

**ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES**

**Ms. Shira Lee Barkon (108315) PA**

snocrest1@gmail.com  
 Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Greater Swiss  
 Mountain Dogs, Samoyeds

**Ms. Kathi Brown (55262) MA**

(987) 897-4717  
 kmbrownsience@verizon.net  
 Bluetick Coonhounds, Norwegian Elk-  
 hounds, Sloughi

**Mrs. Marla Capozzi (100459) TN**

(931) 710-5770  
 taylorsrun89@gmail.com  
 Beagles, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Dachs-  
 hunds, Greyhounds, Whippets, Sealy-  
 ham Terriers

**Ms. Cynthia (Cindy) Collins (107395) MI**

(810) 919-2306  
 veritygoldens@me.com  
 Labrador Retrievers

**Ms. Deirdre Maureen Dawson  
(105262) CA**

(925) 768-1005  
 kangadale2@yahoo.com  
 Wire Fox Terriers, Irish Terriers

**Ms. Jane M. Engemann (96727) OK**

(580) 248-0578  
 jtodd@aol.com  
 Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Miniature

Schnauzers, Toy Fox Terriers

**Krista Hansen (95865) NY**

(585) 457-7106

camlochcollies@aol.com

Dachshunds

**Ms. Deborah Hubbard (102869) RI**

(401) 398-8147

deb@fridaygoldens.com

Labrador Retrievers

**Mr. Dean A. Laney (98653) ID**

(208) 369-6923

nalaney@q.com

Cirnechi dell'Etna, Norwegian Elkhounds, Redbone Coonhounds

**Ms. Sylvie McGee (95341) WA**

(360) 705-1233

sylvie@sylviemcgee.net

Alaskan Malamutes, Scottish Terriers

**Mr. Dale A. Meyer (6655) WI**

(715) 654-5330

meyerd@tds.net

Curly-Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Irish Setters, Irish Water Spaniels

**Ms. Bonnie Money (105681) IN**

(317) 452-2204

blmoney@att.net

Bearded Collies, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Tervurens, Collies, Norwegian Buhunds, Pulik, Pumik

**Mr. David J. Peat (6909) AZ**

(480) 473-4776

davepeat@cox.net

Barbets, Brittanys, Lagotti Romagnoli,

Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, German

Shorthaired Pointers, Gordon Setters,

Clumber Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels,

Field Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels,

Weimaraners

**Carol Pyrkosz (96273) TN**

(325) 300-2711

cpyrkosz@yahoo.com

Azawakhs, Ibizan Hounds, Petits Bassets

Griffons Vendeens, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets

**Mr. Jay Roden (104891) OH**

(513) 207-4937

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Komondorok, Neapolitan Mastiffs

**Mr. Karl M. Stearns (101597) PA**

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kstearn@kmstearns.com

Australian Terriers

**Dr. Donald Sturz (5449) NY**

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Pekingese

**Marilyn Van Vleit (67040) OR**

(503) 510-1332

mvanvleit@gmail.com

Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds,

Basenjis, Irish Wolfhounds, Sloughi

**Dr. Oleg N. Voloshin (101869) MD**

(301) 379-8847

voloshino@yahoo.com

American English Coonhounds, Basset

Hounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds,

Bluetick Coonhounds, Harriers, Irish

Wolfhounds, Redbone Coonhounds,  
Scottish Deerhounds, Treeing Walker  
Coonhounds

**Sherry Webster (6863) TN**

(901) 289-6239

swakc3@gmail.com

Balance of Sporting Group (Bracci Italiani,  
Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooi-  
kerhondjes, German Wirehaired Pointers)

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES**

**Mr. Robert Chaffin (111877) TX**

(903) 908-6737

robertchaffin28@gmail.com

**Mr. James R. Holliday (112101) AL**

(803) 487-6670

jholliday2080@gmail.com

**Ms. Tina Starr (112167) LA**

(225) 964-2049

ivylaneboxer@aol.com

**BEST IN SHOW**

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

**Mr. Ted W. Eubank (53715) TX**

(214) 649-1104

teubank143@aol.com

**REINSTATED JUDGE**

The Judging eligibility of the following

person has been reinstated.

**Mr. Aaron Goldfinger (7302) NY**

(516) 994-4017

aaron.goldfinger74@gmail.com

Parson Russell Terriers

**RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Mrs. Roberta Keller

Mrs. Jinny Nealon

Mrs. Terry A. Sigler

Mrs. Melanie Williams

**EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Winkie Assell

Ms. Marilyn Biggs

Ms. Carol S. Brown

Mr. Jeff Gilmore

Mr. William E. Hempel

Mrs. Paige (Penny) Hirstein

**DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES**

Mr. Jordan L. Chamberlain

Mrs. Wendy Galbreath

Mr. James J. Ham

Ms. Lily Russell

Mr. Charles Trotter

**REGULAR STATUS APPROVED**

**OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING**

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



**Mrs. Wendy B Silveira (104079) CA**

(408) 821-7739

wendsum@earthlink.net

Rally – All

**Stella Rowlett (109327) NV**

(206) 437-5862

stellacello@gmail.com

Obedience – Novice

**NEW 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.**

**Renee Hoover (99372) VA**

(434) 409-5386

srhrotti@gmail.com

Obedience – Open

**Kenneth Kozak (106156) OK**

(405) 602-0219

kennethjkozak@gmail.com

Obedience – Open

**Ms. Geri Lopez (98591) CA**

(916) 757-2537

gezpez@gmail.com

Obedience – Open

**Ms. Karen R Scheiner Esq. (103945) NJ**

(856) 428-3745

doxyladynj@gmail.com

Obedience – Novice

**Gayle Geiger (97567) PA**

(412) 302-7720

gaylegeiger@comcast.net

Tracking – TD/TDU

**EMERITUS OR RESIGNED OBEDIENCE/  
RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES**

Michael Carlucci – Obedience (IL)

**DECEASED OBEDIENCE/RALLY/  
TRACKING JUDGES**

Linda Krasley – Rally (PA)

Bernie Brown – Obedience (IN)

James Ham – Obedience & Rally (MI)

**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 Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary.

BRIOPANACHE- Poodles- Shanon Ryan

BYMYSIDE- Miniature American

Shepherds – Annette M. Duguay

CAPROCK-Golden Retrievers &

Shetland Sheepdogs -Jennifer Harper

CINEALTAS-Labrador Retrievers-

Samantha E. Grubbs

COMPASS- Wirehaired Vizslas- Belinda

J. Perry & Jeff M. Gowen

COVEY FLUSH- English Cocker

Spaniels- Phil D. Gray

CRYSTAL CREEK- Poodles- Bonnie M. Winings

DUCAT American Eskimo Dogs, Golden Retrievers & Whippets- Helen Dorrance

EMBER- Pugs- Barbara C. Johnson

GDR- Labrador Retrievers- Chris E. Hall

LOTSOFDOTS- Dalmatians- Deanna

M. Lombardo & Sean L. Lombardo

MOONSTONE- Australian Shepherds-

Alicia Campbell & Morgan Campbell

NEWBLISS- Lagotto Romagnolo-

Kimberly D. McGurk & Hugh A. McGurk

NORTHERN SEAFOG- Nova Scotia

Duck Tolling Retrievers- Debbie L. Smith

OSDABOX- Boxers- Billie M. Samuelson

POLAR LIGHT- Great Pyrenees-

Patricia L. Schremp

PRAIRIE FIRE- Vizslas- Russell J.

McKay & Chalea R. Walters

SAGE BROOK – Australian Shepherds –

Autumn Stanley

TWERKSWERKS- Parson Russell

Terriers- Denise M. Tschida

UTOPIA- Dalmatians -Willo Carter

WILLOWLAKE- Australian Shepherds-

Heather Smith

WISE'S – Chihuahuas- Gale L. Wise

## REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

AISLIN FIELDS- Australian Shepherds-

Lisa M. Wance

ALEANNAN- Border Collies- Frank A. Horvath & Orshi Horvath

BLUE ANGEL- Pembroke Welsh Corgis- Ashley C. Matthews & Curtis J. Matthews

DAWG HOUZE- German Shepherd

Dogs- Viviana D. Mantalvao

ECHO RIDGE -Pyrenean Shepherds-

Stephanie M. Schneider & Donald

Schneider

ELYSIUM'S- Norwich Terriers & French

Bulldogs- Karen Sullivan & Henry Bruce

Sullivan DVM

ENCORE'S- Chihuahuas-Kathy J.

Hoover

FAITHFUL ACRES- French Bulldogs-

Sasha Sindt

GALLIVANT – Labrador Retriever -

Fabian Negron

HIGHRIDGE -Labrador Retrievers-

Tony Flores & Mikayla L. Flores

KERSEY'S-French Bulldogs- Adria M.

Kerti

KEYSTONE- Bernese Mountain Dogs-

Sheri L. Wright-Wagner

LOST HOLLER- Saint Bernards-

Tammy J. Yarber

LOTUS- Pharaoh Hounds- Darci Kunard

MERAKI - Cane Corso & Italian

Greyhound – Laura Essenmacher

NEKKID AMBITION-American

Hairless Terriers- Ruth A. Davies-Dillman

& Randal L. Dillman

NEWSTEAD- Newfoundlands- Linda G.

Chadwick



# SECRETARY'S PAGES

PINKPAW – Chihuahuas- Rachael L.  
Miller

STARLITE- Doberman Pinschers-  
Tabitha Hopp & Jason A Mouck

TAMPA- Rhodesian Ridgebacks –  
Barbara J. Lynch

WHIRLAWAY- Rhodesian Ridgebacks-  
Jennifer L. Lazowski

ZOHI\_ Miniature Schnauzers- Lisa C.  
Raimonde & John J. Raimonde



**QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES  
OF  
THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB  
JUNE 13, 2023**

Dennis B. Sprung, President  
PRESENT 247

Affenpinscher Club of America — *Letisha Wubbel*

Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc. —  
*Ms. Constance Butherus*

Airedale Terrier Club of America —  
*Aletta L. Moore*

Albany Kennel Club, Inc. — *Corey Heenan*

American Belgian Malinois Club — *Carol J. Shields*

American Bloodhound Club — *Mary Lou Olszewski*

American Bouvier des Flandres Club,  
Inc. — *Patte Klecan*

American Boxer Club, Inc. — *Sharon Steckler*

American Brittany Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Terry Hilliard*

American Bullmastiff Association, Inc. —  
*Howard Gussis*

American Cesky Terrier Fanciers  
Association, Inc. — *Mr. Brian P. Meindl*

American Chesapeake Club — *Heidi Henningson*

American Foxhound Club, Inc — *Harold Miller*

American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc. — *Don Hanson*

American Maltese Association, Inc. —  
*Ms. Sandra Bingham-Porter*

American Manchester Terrier Club —  
*Roberta Berman*

American Pointer Club, Inc. — *Mr. Danny D. Seymour*

American Rottweiler Club — *Mr. Peter G. Piusz*

American Sealyham Terrier Club —  
*Barbara Shapiro*

American Shetland Sheepdog Association  
— *Marjorie Tuff*

Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.  
— *Ms. Patricia A. Sample*

Asheville Kennel Club, Inc. — *Corie Haylett*

Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc. — *Ann Wallin*

Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc. — *Gail A. LaBerge*

Augusta Kennel Club, Inc. — *Catherine Iacopelli*

Australian Cattle Dog Club of America  
— *Joyce Rowland*

Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.  
— *William I. Christensen*

Baltimore County Kennel Club — *Lucy C. Campbell*

Basenji Club of America, Inc. — *Katie Campbell*

Bayou Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jean A. Boyd*

Bedlington Terrier Club of America — *Howard Solomon*

Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc. — *Mayno Blanding*

Black Russian Terrier Club of America — *Susan Sholar*

Border Collie Society of America — *Lisa M. Pruka*

Borzoi Club of America, Inc. — *Prudence G. Hlatky*

Briard Club of America, Inc. — *Diane Reid*

Bronx County Kennel Club — *Alexa Samarotto*

Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc. — *Priscilla Gabosch*

Bulldog Club of America — *Link Newcomb*

Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*

Cairn Terrier Club of America — *Pam Davis*

Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club — *Theresa Goiffon*

Canaan Dog Club of America — *Pamela S. Rosman*

Canada Del Oro Kennel Club — *Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*

Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc. — *Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*

Carolina Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jaimie Ashby*  
Carroll Kennel Club — *Mrs. Rachann E. Mayer*

Catoctin Kennel Club — *Joseph Fitzgerald*  
Catonsville Kennel Club — *Beverly A. Drake*

Central New York Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Diane D. Almy*

Champlain Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — *John E. Cornell*

Charleston Kennel Club — *Terri Hallman*  
Chattanooga Kennel Club — *Mr. David Gilstrap*

Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc. — *Marge B. Calltharp*

Chow Chow Club, Inc. — *Margaret DiCorleto*

Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts — *Dr. Stephen Lawrence*

Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc. — *Kelly E. Lease*

Columbia Kennel Club, Inc. — *Nili Young*

Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland — *Leslie A. Jaseph*

Conroe Kennel Club — *Jane Bates*

Dachshund Club of America, Inc. — *Larry Sorenson*

Dalmatian Club of America, Inc. — *Dr. Charles Garvin*

Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club — *Stephanie A. Crawford*

Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club — *Dr. A. D. Butherus*

Doberman Pinscher Club of America —  
*Glen Lajeski*

Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.  
— *Mrs. Patti L. Strand*

Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America  
— *Victor Smith*

Durham Kennel Club Inc — *Mr. Jack E.  
Sappenfield, II*

Eastern Dog Club — *Frederick R. Vogel*

Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer  
Club, Inc. — *Robert Rynkiewicz*

Elm City Kennel Club — *Dr. Gregory J.  
Paveza*

English Setter Association of America,  
Inc. — *Dr. Brenda J. Parsons, D.V.M.*

English Springer Spaniel Field Trial  
Association, Inc. — *Susanne Burgess*

Erie Kennel Club, Inc. — *Julie W. Parker*  
Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Terrie Breen*

Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America,  
Inc. — *Neal Goodwin*

Fort Lauderdale Dog Club — *Stephanie  
S. Brooks*

Fort Worth Kennel Club — *Harold Tatro  
III*

Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.  
— *Gale Golden*

French Bulldog Club of America —  
*Virginia T. Rowland*

Furniture City Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Merry J. Millner*

Galveston County Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Cathy De La Garza*

Garden State All Terrier Club, Inc. —  
*Mr. Richard L. Reynolds*

Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Ms. Cynthia (Cindy) Collins*

Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Virginia Denninger*

German Pinscher Club of America —  
*Barbara L. Visinski*

German Shepherd Dog Club of America  
— *Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia*

Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.  
— *Chris Reed*

Gig Harbor Kennel Club — *James R. Dok*

Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mrs.  
Bonnie Lapham*

Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Barbara Breidenback*

Golden Retriever Club of America —  
*Ellen Hardin*

Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc. —  
*Nance O. Skoglund*

Grand River Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mrs.  
Cindy Stansell*

Great Barrington Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Dr. Ellen C. Shanahan*

Great Dane Club of America, Inc. —  
*Jean Highlands*

Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc  
— *Ms. Karen J. Burgess*

Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Barbara Shaw*

Greater Miami Dog Club — *Dr. Azalea  
A. Alvarez*

Greater Ocala Dog Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Penny DiSiena*

Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association — *Mr. Jerry A. Berkowitz*

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc. — *Joanne Schottinger*

Greenville Kennel Club — *Gloria Askins*

Greenwich Kennel Club — *Donna Gilbert*

Greyhound Club of America — *Kathleen B. Whitaker*

Hatboro Dog Club, Inc. — *Sally L. Fineburg*

Havanese Club of America — *Shirley A. Petko*

Heart of the Plains Kennel Club — *Patricia M. Cruz*

Hendersonville Kennel Club — *Betty Ann Brown*

Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc. — *Nancy Fisk*

Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jane Wilkinson*

Hungarian Pumi Club of America — *Nancy Nelson*

Huntington Kennel Club, Inc. — *Ms. Marile A. Waterstraat*

Ibizan Hound Club of the United States — *Michelle Barlak*

Illinois Capitol Kennel Club, Inc. — *Ann L. Cookson*

Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc. — *Rita J. Biddle*

Irish Setter Club of America, Inc. — *Ms. Karolynne M. McAteer*

Irish Water Spaniel Club of America — *Dan Sayers*

Irish Wolfhound Club of America — *Eugenia Hunter*

Japanese Chin Club of America — *Cecilia Resnick*

K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc. — *Dave Morgan*

Keeshond Club of America, Inc. — *Richard Su*

Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, Inc. — *Doreen Weintraub*

Kennel Club of Beverly Hills — *Thomas Powers*

Kennel Club of Buffalo, Inc. — *Margaret Doster*

Kennel Club of Niagara Falls — *Daniel Petko*

Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc. — *Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton*

Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Inc. — *Harry Booker*

Kennel Club of Riverside — *Sylvia A. Thomas*

Kennesaw Kennel Club — *Bud Hidlay*

Labrador Retriever Club, Inc. — *Tony Emilio*

Ladies' Dog Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Arna B. Margolies*

Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America, Inc. — *James Talbert*

Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Diana L. Skibinski*

Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club — *Mary McDaniel, D.V.M.*

Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jan Croft*

Langley Kennel Club — *Ms. Dianne E. Franck*

Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc. — *Robert N. LaBerge*

Leonberger Club of America — *Don James*

Lexington Kennel Club Inc — *Mr. Zac Crump*

Long Island Kennel Club — *Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.*

Longshore-Southport Kennel Club, Inc. — *Michaelann Mako*

Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc. — *Ruth Crumb*

Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jessica Ricker*

Manatee Kennel Club — *Judy Seltrecht*

Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc. — *Lynn Garvin*

Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa, Inc. — *Mr. Marc Crews*

Middleburg Kennel Club — *Beth Wilder*

Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA — *Suzanne T. Ritter*

Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc. — *Ralph Hogancamp*

Mispillion Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mr. Todd Clyde*

Mississippi Valley Kennel Club — *Gretchen Bernardi*

Mohawk Valley Kennel Club — *Ms. Amy Romeo*

Montgomery County Kennel Club — *Ms. Ida E. Weinstock*

Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc. — *Barry A. Hoovis*

Morris Hills Dog Training Club, Inc. — *Eleanor Campbell*

Mount Vernon Dog Training Club (MVDTC) — *Christopher Marston*

Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mary Yoders*

Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jane F. Ruthford*

Myrtle Beach Kennel Club — *Sylvia Arrozwood*

Nashville Kennel Club — *Anne Gallant*

National Capital Kennel Club, Inc. — *Norma Ryan*

National Shiba Club of America — *Maggi Strouse*

Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club — *Viola Burgos*

New England Beagle Club, Inc. — *Blaine Grove*

Newton Kennel Club — *Catherine H. Murch*

Norfolk Terrier Club — *Susan Schneider*

North Shore Kennel Club — *Holly E. Johnson*

Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club — *Ann M. Schultz*

Norwegian Elkhound Association of America, Inc. — *Lori Webster*

Norwich Terrier Club of America — *Jean Kessler*



Orange Empire Dog Club, Inc. —  
*Bradford Yamada*

Parson Russell Terrier Association of  
America — *Gary Koeppel*

Pasanita Obedience Club Inc. — *Mrs.*  
*Betty M. Winthers*

Pekingese Club of America — *Steven*  
*Hamblin*

Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc. — *Dennis*  
*J. Gallant*

Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc. — *Bettina*  
*M. Sterling*

Pharaoh Hound Club of America —  
*Dominic P. Carota*

Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc. —  
*Larry Wilson*

Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc. — *Dean*  
*Burwell*

Plainfield Kennel Club — *Linda A.*  
*Deutsch*

Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado —  
*William E. Ellis*

Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of  
America — *Diane Conyers*

Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc. —  
*Frances Stephens*

Ramapo Kennel Club — *Jeffrey D. Ball*

Redwood Empire Kennel Club — *Johnny*  
*Shoemaker*

Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United  
States, Inc. — *Ms. Mary L. Elliott*

Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc. —  
*Debra F. Jones*

Rio Grande Kennel Club — *Mary E.*  
*Ferguson*

Riverhead Kennel Club, Inc. — *Michael*  
*Capozzi*

Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club  
— *Barbara L. Burns*

Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club —  
*Karen Cottingham*

Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club —  
*Leslie P. Rogers*

Saluki Club of America — *Monica H.*  
*Stoner*

Samoyed Club of America, Inc. — *Gary*  
*Griffin*

San Mateo Kennel Club, Inc. — *Harvey*  
*M. Wooding*

Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC. —  
*Mr. David J. Peat*

Saratoga New York Kennel Club — *Mary*  
*Lou Cuddy*

Saw Mill River Kennel Club, Inc. —  
*Mimi Winkler*

Schipperke Club of America, Inc. — *Lee*  
*A. Stusnick*

Scottish Terrier Club of America — *Helen*  
*A. Prince*

Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.  
— *Barbara Reisinger*

Seattle Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jeff Ryman*

Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of  
Orange County — *Susan L. Hamil*

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of  
America — *Sally Sotirovich*

Somerset Hills Kennel Club — *Harvey Goldberg*

South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc. — *Jean Edwards*

South Shore Kennel Club, Inc. — *Linda C. Flynn*

South Windsor Kennel Club — *Mrs. Laurie Maulucci*

Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay — *Glenda Stephenson*

Springfield Kennel Club, Inc. — *Dr. Thomas M. Davies*

St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association — *Jan R. Gladstone*

Standard Schnauzer Club of America — *Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser*

Staten Island Kennel Club, Inc. — *Marianne Megna*

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*

Susque-Nango Kennel Club, Inc. — *Laura Trainor*

Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Florence Duggan*

Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc. — *Marylyn DeGregorio*

Tennessee Valley Kennel Club — *Mrs. Richella M. Veatch*

Texas Kennel Club, Inc. — *Dr. Michael Knight*

Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc. — *Stacey La Forge*

Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California — *Mrs. Marla Meindl-Capozzi*

Troy Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mr. Donald S. Gillett*

Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc. — *James S. Corbett*

Tucson Kennel Club — *Dr. Kenneth H. Levison*

Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc. — *Patricia C. Sarles*

Two Cities Kennel Club — *Eduardo T. Fugizwara*

United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc. — *Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*

United States Lakeland Terrier Club — *Maria Sacco*

Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club — *Robert Lachman*

Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Carol Fisher*

Vancouver Kennel Club — *Jolyne Lea*

Virginia Kennel Club, Inc. — *Mrs. Sandie Friend*

Vizsla Club of America, Inc. — *Mrs. Kathy A. Rust*

Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc. — *John J. Cadalso, Jr.*

Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc. — *Cindy Miller*

Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc. — *Marthina L. Greer*

Weimaraner Club of America — *Jennifer Martin*

Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc. — *Richard Rohrbacher*

West Volusia Kennel Club — *Cathy Driggers*

Westbury Kennel Association, Inc. — *Peter J. Festa*

Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association, Inc. — *Judy M. Descutner*

Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc — *Laura Myles*

Winston-Salem Dog Training Club, Inc. — *Jane Fitzin*

Woodstock Dog Club, Inc. — *Karen Dezwey*



**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB  
DELEGATE MEETING  
JUNE 13, 2023**

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. ET.

Delegates were reminded to check in at the reception desk, so they would be recorded as present.

The Chair introduced the persons seated on the dais. On my immediate left is our Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies. To his left is the Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota. On my right is Joan Corbisiero, Professional Registered Parliamentarian. To her right is Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary, and to Ms. DiNardo's right is Shari Cathey, the Court Reporter.

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

**Eileen Barbieri**, Pine Plains, NY to represent Mid-Hudson Kennel Association  
**Jean A. Boyd**, Brookeville, MD to represent Bayou Kennel Club

**Zac Crump**, Georgetown, KY to represent Lexington Kennel Club

**Peter Festa**, Smithtown, NY to represent Westbury Kennel Association

**Linda Gagnon**, Wendell, MA to represent Pioneer Valley Kennel Club

**Dr. Marthina Greer**, Lomira, WI to represent Waukesha Kennel Club

**Howard Gussis**, Kenosha, WI to represent American Bullmastiff Association

**Beth Hendrick**, Sterling, VA to represent English Cocker Spaniel Club of America

**Karen Justin**, Westtown, NY to represent Great Pyrenees Club of America

**Chris Marston**, Alexandria, VA to represent Mount Vernon Dog Training Club

**Christian W. Paris**, Elverson, PA to represent Pocono Beagle Club

**Jessica Ricker**, Youngstown, OH to represent Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club

**John C. Schneider**, Kingston, MA to represent Middlesex County Kennel Club

**Howard Solomon**, Newton, NJ to represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America

**Sally Sotirovich**, Glen Head, NY to represent Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America

**Lee Ann Stusnick**, Shawnee, OK to represent Schipperke Club of America

**Frederick Vogel**, Pomfret Center, CT to represent Eastern Dog Club

The following Delegates, who were

attending their first meeting since being officially seated, were introduced from the floor:

**Jean Boyd** to represent Bayou Kennel Club

**Zac Crump** to represent Lexington Kennel Club

**Mary Lou Cuddy** to represent Saratoga Kennel Club

**Peter Festa** to represent Westbury Kennel Association

**Dr. Marthina Greer** to represent Waukesha Kennel Club

**Howard Gussis** to represent American Bullmastiff Association

**Corey Heenan** to represent Albany Kennel Club

**Holly Johnson** to represent North Shore Kennel Club

**Jessica Ricker** to represent Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club

**Howard Solomon** to represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America

**Sally Sotirovich** to represent Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America

The minutes of the March 14, 2023 Delegate Meeting were published in the online April 2023 *AKC Gazette* and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. If there are no corrections, the minutes will stand approved as published. There were

no corrections, and the minutes were adopted as published.

The **American Toy Fox Terrier** Club was duly elected a member of The Great American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies delivered the Chairman's Report as follows:  
Thank you, Dennis. Good morning, everyone. As members, Officers, Delegates and volunteers in AKC clubs, we are all part of a passionate and widespread community of people who want the best for our sports, the AKC and our dogs.

With the support of the American Kennel Club, each of our affiliated organizations carries out a distinct mission to ensure that our dogs are protected, nurtured and celebrated. All of these organizations achieve important accomplishments in participation with and on behalf of our entire community.

I would like to share some updates about the affiliates to highlight their news and accomplishments.

You will hear a comprehensive review about the AKC Humane Fund later this morning, and I thank all of the members of AKC Staff who volunteer to keep this organization doing great things to

advance responsible dog ownership.

The AKC Canine Health Foundation recently named Dr. Stephanie Montgomery as its new Chief Executive Officer. Dr. Montgomery is a board-certified veterinary pathologist who has been serving as Chair of CHF's Scientific Review Committee and on the Board of Directors. Welcome Dr. Montgomery – AKC CHF is fortunate to have you at the helm providing your leadership and expertise.

Registration for the AKC Canine Health Foundation 2023 National Parent Club Canine Health Conference is open on CHF's web site at <https://akcchf.org/>. You can attend in-person or virtually. This event is a great way to stay up to date with the work your clubs are supporting on behalf of your breeds.

Thanks to the generosity of the Irish Setter Club of Milwaukee, donations in support of the AKCCHF-funded research on epilepsy and hemangiosarcoma were matched dollar for dollar this spring.

The AKC Museum of the Dog held a terrific gala on May 5, 2023 honoring Ellen Charles, who serves as the Museum's President of the Board of Directors, and the Honorable David C. Merriam,

who is Vice Chairperson. Nearly 200 guests helped raise about \$69,000 for the Museum.

The Museum's current exhibition, *Identity & Restraint*, opened on April 4, 2023 and showcases several historic dog collars. See the exhibit at 101 Park before it closes on September 4, 2023. The next exhibition, *Fashionable Dogs*, will open on September 8, 2023 and will feature popular dog breeds throughout history.

Long regarded as a leader in pet recovery services, AKC Reunite has surpassed 10 million pets in its database.

AKC Reunite and its supporters have donated \$2.4 million for 102 fully stocked trailers placed in communities across the United States to keep pets safe during natural disasters.

Reunite and AKC clubs have awarded almost 500 Adopt a K-9 Cop grants, worth over \$3.7 million, to provide police departments with working canines.

We thank all the clubs and their members who have joined forces with AKC affiliates, through their hearts and their checkbooks, to advance these important causes.

There is now another entity joining our

roster of affiliated organizations.

The AKC Purebred Preservation Bank takes a bold step in ensuring the future of all purebred dogs. A common problem standing in the way of progress in breeding is that frozen semen is often abandoned due to an owner's death or incapacitation, or because storage fees can become burdensome.

As our own Dr. Garvin has said "Preservation is not just for the breeds with lower-than-average levels of breeding activity, but for any breed that might face genetic bottlenecks or other genetic difficulties, now and in the future."

Following Dennis' recommendation, in early 2021 the AKC Board began to explore establishing a frozen semen program to increase gene pools, safeguard the potential of quality producers and make it easy for Parent Clubs to have a path forward in advancing their breeds in the near and far terms.

The Purebred Preservation Bank will accept and store frozen semen from individuals and storage providers. The AKC PPB will fund the storage and manage the transfer process according to protocols and criteria set with Parent Clubs.

I am very pleased to announce that the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank has just received 501(c)(3) status from the IRS, making donations to the organization eligible for tax deductions as allowed by law.

The future of our breeds is up to all of us. I urge you to learn more about these efforts. Information about the Purebred Preservation Bank and opportunities to fund this effort will be provided on the Bank's own web site, which is <https://akcppb.org/>.

Every one of us, involved and engaged as we are, has a stake in the success of our AKC affiliates.

So, renew your memberships. Buy tickets. Sponsor a table. Remember them during the holiday season and put them in your will. We owe it to our community of fanciers. We certainly owe it to our dogs. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President's Report as follows:

The Chair has been advised that the Ashtabula Kennel Club has withdrawn its appeal on the seating of its Delegate applicant, therefore the agenda of today's meeting is amended to remove that vote.

I am pleased to report that the first quarter of 2023 was successful in a number of areas. My appreciation to the Board for their leadership and Staff for implementing. Sports & Events continue their brisk pace with gains in both the number of events and entries. Our Media Department reported an increase of 33 percent in the number of events aired on ESPN for 2022 year-over-year. This includes Companion, Performance and Conformation, as well as a made-for-TV special about the ACE Awards. Government Relations continues to protect our rights as breeders and owners in numerous ways. Doug, Torraine, Keith, and Alan will continue their regular updates to the fancy on the progress of the CMS project. Registration is experiencing a slowdown for individual dogs while litters increased as compared to the previous two COVID years.

On May 17, 2023 we conducted the first Breeder Toolkit webinar, welcoming 528 attendees. 95 percent registered 1-2 breeds, and 62 percent have 1-2 litters annually. 96 percent of attendees reported the webinar was helpful and three-quarters stated they are interested in a Part 2, which has been confirmed, and will be conducted on July 26, 2023.

A little bit later, Sheila Goffe will provide an update on major Government

Relations initiatives. Following her, Linda Duncklee and Jill Zapadinsky will share our Registration and Customer Service initiatives.

First, we'll turn our attention to Daphna Straus who will provide you with a presentation on the AKC Humane Fund.

Ms. Straus spoke as follows: Hi everyone – thank you for the opportunity to tell you about the AKC Humane Fund, a charitable affiliate of the AKC that focuses on Responsible Dog Ownership.

I would like to start with the mission statement of the Fund, which is to unite animal lovers in promoting responsible pet ownership through education, outreach and grant making. If that sounds rather broad, it was intentional. We want to be able to help in broad ways, share the world of AKC and its messaging, and make it possible for pet lovers in the general population to participate in our causes. Here you can see how our “Wall of Honor” has grown over the years, thanks to our many supporters, including so many AKC clubs and Delegates.

Let me tell you who's who. Doug Ljungren is the President, Peter Rohslau is the Treasurer, Gina DiNardo and Brandi Hunter Munden are Directors,

and I am the Secretary. We are all volunteers for the Fund.

First a little bit of history. Why do we have the AKC Humane Fund? This was Dennis' brainchild. Everyone will remember, you can donate to the AKC in some ways, but those donations are not tax deductible. AKC is a not-for-profit organization – an association if you will – but it is not a public charity. In 2007 Dennis came up with the idea to create a home for people who wanted to support AKC philanthropically, and through which we could present people with options including our AKC affiliates and AKC programs like Juniors Scholarships. We went through the process with the IRS in 2007 and were on our way the following year. The result was a 501(c)(3) public charity that offers a tax-deductible opportunity to support activities that relate to what we do on behalf of dogs and the people who love them.

Many people ask, what does the Fund do? We couldn't leave it very vague – we had to define our “Exempt Purposes.” These are the key programs of the Fund. They are all areas of funding. We make grants to a multitude of organizations, give scholarships for education, and fund programming like the ACE Awards. All of these areas advance Responsible Dog Ownership.



One of the funding areas that we are most proud of are our grants to domestic violence shelters. This came out of a recommendation by Gina shortly after the Fund was established. It is a sad and well-known fact that people who are suffering domestic or relationship abuse are often deterred from leaving their abuser, for fear of what would happen to a pet – who would have to be left behind. Many domestic violence shelters do not accept pets. The AKC Humane Fund makes grants to domestic violence shelters that are or wish to become pet friendly. Grants may be used for supplies like kennels, crates, food, flea and tick medications and other everyday needs. One shelter in Arizona used our grant to make a sun shelter for their dog kennel. We see the largest amount of grant applications in the area of domestic violence, since this issue is widespread.

This was especially true during the pandemic, when it was widely reported that during lockdown, calls to domestic violence hotlines hit record levels. Though we are thankfully past the worst of COVID-19, the need to keep pets with their owners under dire circumstances remains critical. Applications for this grant are available on the Fund's website <https://akchumanefund.org/>.

The Parent Club Breed Rescue grant is something that we would like more people to know about, not only because it helps clubs bear the expenses related to rescue, but also because it helps AKC address the matter of how we are part of the conversation about rescue. Parent Clubs can apply if they have rescue expenses or they can refer an organization that they trust that rescues their breed. We have distributed more than \$200k for this purpose and we try to make it as easy as possible for clubs to apply and be approved. The money can be used for the costs of rehabilitating and rehoming dogs. Generally, these amount to veterinary expenses. We do not make grants to “buy” dogs in any situation.

If a Parent Club does not perform rescue work, it can enable another organization to apply on behalf of their breed. That only requires a letter of referral on club letterhead. Note this is not treated as an endorsement but rather an approval of an application for funding. I am pleased to announce that these grants are now being sponsored in part by Pet Honesty, a pet supplements company. Again, the application can be found on <https://akchumanefund.org/>.

Here is an example of a breed rescue

organization who received a grant and wrote to express their gratitude. The breed they represent is the Belgian Malinois. The Treasurer wrote, *“The faithful support of your Fund is very welcome, as the growing visibility and popularity of our breed continues to increase the number of dogs coming into our rescue system despite our best public education efforts. Intakes for this year are already up 50 per cent over last year. On behalf of all of us in the rescue system, thank you for having our backs!”*

In the early years of the AKC Humane Fund, we raised awareness for how pets are affected by natural disasters. We had raised money for Hurricane Sandy and there was money left in that Fund, so we paid it out to 23 organizations to help with relief from wildfires out West and hurricanes down South. We also took part in the funding of two Reunite trailers for Houston Texas in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. As we have distributed all funds raised, the Sandy Fund has been “sunsetted.” Disaster Relief is still within AKC Reunite’s exempt purposes, so in future you will hear about disaster relief only thru Reunite.

Scholarships are a vital funding area for the Fund as well. We have the long running Spurling Scholarship which helps

students pursue academic studies in disciplines that promote Responsible Pet Ownership.

This Scholarship notably helps people who want to become vet techs. Also, we have seen fanciers choose to endow scholarships for Juniors through the AKC Humane Fund. The long running George Ward scholarship for apprentices of AKC Registered Handlers was brought under the auspices of the AKC Humane Fund in 2010. These are examples of the AKC Humane Fund helping to advance programs that begin inside AKC.

The Spurling Scholarships are named for its original supporter, Sir John Spurling. Every year we receive more than 100 applications from students pursuing education in all aspects of animal care, not only veterinary medicine. Students come from a variety of academic institutions, from universities to community colleges. Most successful candidates have some background or experience in AKC events.

One scholarship recipient, who was studying to become a vet tech wrote to us and said: *“Thank you to the AKC Humane Fund, Inc. for helping to establish my dreams. The John D. Spurling OBE Scholarship has made a significant difference eliminating some*

*of my financial concerns.”* At a time when the cost of education is becoming out of reach for so many, it is so rewarding to help these students achieve their goals.

The George Ward Scholarship has been assisting apprentices of AKC Registered Handlers since 2005. It became part of the AKC Humane Fund portfolio of scholarships in 2010. Every year the AKC Judging Operations department invites candidates to apply for educational assistance. This is another way in which the AKC Humane Fund plays a part in advancing education and the sport of dogs at the same time.

The Awards for Canine Excellence is a long running campaign that the AKC began to highlight the many ways in which dogs enhance the lives of humans. It is our celebration of the Human-Canine Bond. Each year, dogs are nominated in the categories of Uniformed Service, Exemplary Companion, Search and Rescue, Therapy and Service. A winner in each category gets to name a dog-related charity to receive a donation from the AKC Humane Fund. In recent years the ACE Award Winners have been the subject of a show that AKC produces for ESPN2 called K9 Heroes. This program brings new attention to ACE, AKC and the Fund every year and expands our

audience base. Nominations are accepted on <https://akchumanefund.org/> and <http://www.akc.org/> through July 1, 2023.

The AKC Humane Fund is operated by volunteers who have full time jobs at the American Kennel Club, so we cannot boast a robust fundraising strategy. We launch a year-end Annual Appeal every October, which happens to be Domestic Violence Awareness month. Every fall, our club officers, judges and other friends will find a letter of appeal in their mailboxes. We intentionally do not bother you more often that, and we thank you for considering supporting the Fund. One hundred percent of all donations are paid as grants in our program areas. Expenses are covered through the generosity of AKC and our Sponsors.

Survey Monkey Contribute is an example of how the public can help the AKC Humane Fund aside from writing a check. Anyone can sign up to take surveys for free, and in doing so, the company will make a donation to your charity of choice. The AKC Humane Fund applied and was approved to be in the roster of charities that receive support. It is an easy way to support the Fund. Twenty thousand people have driven more than \$40k in donations through this platform. To participate, go to <https://contribute.surveymonkey.com/>

[monkey.com/charity-sign-up/akc-humane-fund](https://monkey.com/charity-sign-up/akc-humane-fund). Also, note that Amazon Smile was closed in February of this year.

The feedback we get from the organizations we have helped is heartwarming and inspiring. To date, the AKC Humane Fund has made almost \$1.5 million in grants to help pets and the people who love them.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge our sponsors who help make our important work possible. They are Pet Honesty, The Farmer's Dog, YuMOVE, Winix, Eukanuba and AKC Pet Insurance.

And to all of you – Our Delegates, clubs, officers, judges, fanciers and friends – Thank you for supporting our work in all the ways that you do.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Daphna, and special thanks to Doug, Peter, Gina and Brandi for their volunteering along with Daphna, to keep the AKC Humane Fund a success.

Ted Phillips, CFO, delivered the Financial Report as follows:

Thank you, Dennis, and good morning, Delegates. I'm pleased to hear so much talk about two 501(c)(3) organizations,

the Humane Fund and the PPB. I feel like I'm in a room filled with accountants! I always enjoy meeting with you, seeing the yellow buttons when you're new and introducing myself.

Today we will look at some key performance indicators of both non-financial and financial results of operations for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2023. The first quarter results are positive, with solid revenue and good expense control. Let's start with the non-financial statistics. The first chart presents totals for litter and dog registrations. Litter registrations total 79,000, which is 6 percent lower than in the first quarter of 2022. Dog registrations total 182,000, which is also lower than the first quarter of 2022. Please keep in mind that the online litter and dog registrations continue to exceed 85 percent of all registration transactions for our business. For Sports & Events, we have both entries and events on this slide. First-quarter events totaled 5,087, which is 9 percent higher than the first quarter of 2022, and entries exceeded 782,000, which is 3 percent higher than the first quarter of 2022. In summary, on the non-financials, we'd like to thank our breeders, and you, the Delegate Body, our Board of Directors, my colleagues on Staff for the strength of these two programs.

Now, let's look at a high-level overview of

the first quarter financial results. These results reflect the Board-approved spending from our 2023 budget. Each month, Dennis and I provide the Board with a detailed report with an analysis of financial results. In the first quarter of 2023, AKC had a solid financial result, with a net operating income of \$4.3 million. These results demonstrate the delivery of budgeted AKC programs. They are led by registration and events income totaling \$27 million in the first quarter of 2023. You'll note on this slide that almost 70 percent of the first quarter revenue is from the major programs, registration and events and totals \$18.8 million. Within this total, \$14.9 million is registration, and events total \$3.9 million. Another significant area of revenue is the advertising, sponsorship, and royalty revenues which represent a total of \$4.4 million and represent 16 percent of operating revenue. Finally, our various e-commerce products and services total \$3.6 million. Those revenue streams, e-commerce, and such total 13 percent of our operating revenue. Each of these programs has started the year with solid results.

Next up, we have operating expenses. Total operating expenses for the first quarter are \$22.9 million. Staffing expense, which is the largest line in the budget, total 50 percent of the operating

expenses for this quarter, and that total is \$11 million. The other substantial operating expense lines listed on this slide include budgeted items that run the AKC programs. We break them down between professional fees, fulfillment, travel and insurance, rent, and depreciation. Each of these has been affected by price increases, inflation, and supply chain risk. We expect this will be a challenging year, but we will be monitoring these costs closely and do a quarterly review with management as well as review financials with the Board. We will endeavor to complete all the programs intended within this budget. One item I'd like to draw your attention to is the AKC continues to support our charitable affiliates with donations equal to five percent of our operating expenses. There are other non-operating expenses that include the annual cost of the pension expense and changes in the value of investments.

Finally, here is our balance sheet. We have total assets of \$247 million at the end of March 31, 2023. I can happily say that most of the financial markets have recovered from the disastrous 2022, and investment performance guided by our investment policy statement for the first quarter was positive at almost four percent. On this slide, the liability section is primarily comprised of future obligations

for pensions and leases; both are long-term costs for AKC.

Once again, thank you for your time today; we appreciate your dedication. I'm available to answer any questions at your convenience. Thank you.

There was a vote on the amendment to **Article VI, Section 6** of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which removes the reference to professional judges (one who charges a fee in excess of expenses) as it relates to Delegate occupational eligibility.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee submitted by the Delegate Coordinating Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Barbara Burns, Rockford Freeport Illinois Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Barbara Burns, Delegate for the Rockford Freeport Illinois Kennel Club. I've been advocating for this for quite a while, so I wanted to bring to everybody's attention. There are several other Delegates that have professions that they make money from, such as Show Secretaries, Superintendents, photographers, every-

body that's on a committee gets a stipend for their work, and the Board Members get stipends for their work. In fact, I found out that the committees are asking for a raise. If they are about to have this, I see no reason why judges should be set in a separate entity. We put a lot of money into our education and travel so that we can do our job and do it well, and I really would like to see this pass today and allows us to be equal paid for equal work. There was a two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the **Chapter 2, Section 14**, of the **Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility**.

Ms. DiNardo: The amendment to **Chapter 2, Section 14**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility*, inserts "or access to", to recognize the acceptance of digital copies of required booklets at events. It modifies the list of required references, removing The Complete Dog Book. It also replaces the list of documents to have available "when applicable" with the generic statement of "any other applicable rules, regulations and/or guidelines for the com-

petitions being held.” in recognition of the greatly expanded and changing list of competitions held with Conformation dog shows.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the September 2023 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There were no questions or discussion.

Linda Duncklee, Director of Registration Services and Jill Zapadinsky, Director of Call Center & Registration Support delivered a presentation on innovation and new technology for AKC breeders and dog owners.

Ms. Zapadinsky: Good morning. We're happy to be here today to share the Customer Service and Registration technology. As Dennis stated, my name is Jill Zapadinsky, and I'm the Director of the Call Center & Customer Registration Support. As you can see from the picture, I've been with the AKC for a long time, since 1994 to be exact. Also pictured here

is my amazing team.

Before I get into the details about the call center, I'd like to provide a little bit of background about the work we do. My department handles all the calls that come into AKC's main number which is (919) 233-9767. Yes, I have that number memorized. This is a number that appears on all the AKC registration forms and on our website. It's used by dog owners and breeders alike. We do transfer some calls that come into this area, but we handle 90 percent of them. Some of the areas we may transfer calls to would be Government Relations or Event Records. We handle about 60,000 interactions monthly, so we are very busy. These interactions include inbound and outbound calls, emails and we also do live chat. Of the 60,000 interactions, about 80 percent of them are registration related. Our customer service agents all work from home. As a matter of fact, we were working from home five years before the pandemic hit. This meant when the world shut down, we were able to continue business as usual. We're available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Including management, we have 31 full-time agents and 39 part-time agents to optimize the scheduling. At the top of the slide, you'll see where it says customer

service doesn't cost, it pays. We say that because our agents work hard with our customers to walk them through every step of the online registration process.

Next, I'm going to tell you about the technology we use with the call center. When customers call in, they are presented with an interactive phone tree, they do things like press one for dog registration. When they make a selection, they are routed to the appropriate agent. This slide shows you how many calls are in queue, how many are with an agent, and how many agents are in after call work. Since we do have a high call volume, we do have an option to have an automated call back so a customer can select for a call back and not lose their place in line. The system automatically calls them back when it's their turn. We also have email through the phone system. The emails have been separated to streamline the process so if they get a question about a certificate issue date, it would go one way, where someone with a litter registration would go to a different agent. This allows us to route the emails to the right person and they're handled more efficiently. In addition to this, we also handle a live chat. This is a visual of what our live chat looks like. The agents enjoy chatting with the various customers, and the live chat is only available on the registration pages.

We also handle private Facebook messages as well as feedback from AKC.org.

As you may be aware, sometimes it's hard to retain customer service agents. We work hard to hire the right people for the position. It takes about six to eight weeks to onboard a new agent and we provide them with an amazing training manual that details everything they need to know for the job along with actual AKC documents. We've changed our training over the years where now we really work to train them to use the resources and let them find the rule as opposed to memorizing every portion of our rulebook. Technology plays such an important part of our training. This is what our training looked like pre-COVID. We had in-person training. We had to get agents who normally work from home, to come to the office, sit with the new agent, listen to phone calls and assist each other. When COVID hit, it forced us to make a change for the better. We hired virtually and we trained virtually. The agents love it and so do we. During training, they can see each other. They can chat through Microsoft Teams. They can share screens with one another and listen to live customer service calls. We take quality very seriously in customer service. It's important that we keep agents engaged with us, and that they get quality assurance checks to make



sure they're giving the right information. Since they do all work from home, we want to make sure that they get to know us and have that relationship, and they love AKC as much as we do. The system will automatically deliver a monthly quality assurance check where their manager has reviewed a phone call, and they've given them feedback. The customer services agents are able to listen to the call and can see the screen that they were on during that call, so that really helps us with efficiency. I'm excited to say that our Customer Service Department has been nominated for CCW 2023 Best in Class Contact Center. CCW is the world's largest customer service trade show and educational event. I've also been nominated as Contact Senior Leader of the Year by my amazing team. Before we move from CCW, I'd liked to say that our very only Mark Dunn was awarded CCW's Next Generation Leader there last year. Mark earned that award by championing the many efforts in technology that we use at AKC today.

Another way that we evaluate customer service is through our Stella Connect survey. This is a third-party AKC branded tool that we use. You may have seen this if you've ever called into AKC's main line, and this is only used by our department so you would have to call into the main line to receive a survey. But it's a

way for our agents to get immediate feedback, which means a whole lot to them, and it also tells us right away if there is an issue so we can make it right by the customer. Here an example of some of the feedback Kay received: *"I was having trouble transferring registration and she walked me through everything, step by step and stayed on the line. She also gave me useful information. She was very patient and kind. That feedback makes the agent feel really good and it also helps management to know Kay is doing her job correctly."* The way it works for them to get the automated Stella Survey is that our agents receive a screen prompt from Salesforce whenever a phone call comes in. Salesforce is our Customer Relationship Management System. After they are done with the call, the disposition the reason for the call, they close the Salesforce case, and the survey just automatically goes out. What's really neat to me is that 30 percent of our customers take the time to complete this survey. I think that's a very good survey rate, and then 94 percent of those people say that they've resolved their issue with that phone call. I'm very proud of our agents, and I can tell you we've earned 4.9 out of 5 stars. The program also has a rewards area based on points that we use each month for incentivizing the agents.

The next piece of technology I would

like to share with you is about our screen share technology. This has just been recently implemented, and we are still training our agents on it, but it allows us to see a customer's computer screen while they're doing the online registration. This is really helpful because we found historically when talking to a customer and telling them where to go on the application, by the time we tell them to enter pin number, they say, I don't see that. So, we have to start the process again. This way we can see where they're at and we can even highlight on their screen to help them find the necessary information. We can do this two ways, one by live chat like on the screen so they will just hit connect, and the other way is through a phone call where they would enter in a 4-digit code that we provide for them. I'm really excited about this because it brings a better experience for both the customers and for the customer service agent.

The last featured technology I'll be sharing today is our chat bot. We have a new chat bot, and we've named our virtual chat bot Bailey. She's our virtual assistant, and she was developed based on the top 75 customer service and registration FAQs. We collaborated with our Marketing team to make sure our responses went along with AKC's brand and tone. We really appreciated

their efforts with it. The bot is available on registration pages, and it's available 24/7. I hope we can reach new customers this way and assist our current customers. The bot will transfer to a live agent during normal business hours. She's going to grow with us. She'll learn about our customer journey, and we'll use analytics to continue to improve the bot. As I said, this is only available on the registration pages right now, but I hope one day it will be in other places. Of course, I had to show a picture of my dog. I have four dogs at home, two of which are Conformation Champions that I co-own. It's been such a neat experience getting them as puppies, taking them to training classes and all of the different dog shows and watching them grow into lovely examples of the Boxer breed. My daughter, Ally, shows in Juniors, and I'm sad to say she's aging out in September. This experience has really helped me to learn more about that side of AKC and made it even easier to help our customers.

Ms. Duncklee: Good morning, everyone. My name is Linda Duncklee, and I am the Director of Registration Services & Breeder Relations. I've been with the AKC 30 – almost 31 years. One of my big roles at AKC is working with our IT department on new development. Anything internally and externally that

relates to registration, I'm involved in helping them implement it. There are a few things I'm going to tell you about today, one of them is Breeder Tool Kit. We created Breeder Tool Kit as a replacement for our old online recordkeeping system. We wanted a new, updated look and feel, and we wanted a place where breeders could do all things AKC. We are working to implement a lot of new technology in here. You can register your dogs, register your litters, as well as working with our inspectors to ensure that Breeder Tool Kit meets 100 percent of recordkeeping requirements. This is great for them because when they go out to do inspections, any breeder who is using Breeder Tool Kit does not have to printout the paperwork. It's right here. We began showcasing Breeder Tool Kit last year at ANC. We were also at the International Kennel Club Breeder Symposium and as Dennis said, we had a live webinar which had over 500 people in attendance. This is great for us because we get a chance to talk to our breeders and get their input, so we not only can share Breeder Tool Kit and the things that it can do, but they give us input, and it helps us to determine our next step and what we want to add into the Breeder Tool Kit. One of the things requested is simple how-to videos for all the things you can do, and we are getting

those developed. Prepaid dog registration is one of the tools inside a Breeder Tool Kit. With prepaid dog registration, a breeder can purchase all the registrations in advance for the puppy owners. They can set a registered kennel name or a dog name so it can't be changed during registration. They can also electronically designate limited registration so that cannot be changed as well. They can complete the registrations on behalf of the puppy buyers, and this is a great tool to easily identify which puppies are not registered to ensure that you're getting 100 percent of the puppies in your litter registered. We're working right now on developing a new online litter process. We have cut the technology down from 10 steps to 4. The current online litter is oldest application, so it really needed an update. One of the new features that you can do inside our online litters, since it connects with Breeder Tool Kit, is that you can select the breed of your dog from a drop list that's in your managed dogs. We've enhanced the à la carte offerings so you can purchase prepaid directly in line, and we've also included all the artificial insemination types, which you were not previously able to do online. Currently in production, we have artificial insemination fresh and fresh extended, and we'll be releasing standard litter and even frozen semen litters. We talked a lot about

frozen semen litters today. They will be able to be submitted online. Online foreign applications became available for online registration in the last couple of years. A person that purchases a foreign-bred dog can now submit their foreign registration online by uploading their documents and completing their online application. Internally we still have to review everything, just as we would paper, but it's a very big timesaver for a customer not to have to print and mail everything into us. This has been a great tool for them, and we also implemented online response letters which means when they send in their documents electronically, if they're missing something, we will email the customer and say, you're missing this pedigree and they can send it back to us electronically, so no paper ever has to be mailed. For online duplicates, a customer who owns a dog or litter can now order them online. They no longer have to contact AKC by calling or mailing in a request to get a duplicate.

With forward-thinking, we have a lot of new technology that we're working on. We're going to be streamlining our online dog registration process in 2023. We are also working to implement email response letters with all our applications, not just those online but our internal applications as well. When someone does mail

in paper, instead of waiting for a paper response, we will email you and you can email back, and I know that's something a lot of people have been asking for over the years. We're also putting open registration online, it will be a similar process for any dog that is from a domestic registry. A big tool that we are working on is AB testing. What AB testing means is that is a strategy that we can use internally to have multiple versions of the same application go down different the paths. For online litters, I can send 20 percent of people down one path while everyone else stays in the standard path. That's going to allow us to see quickly and easily what the best flow for our customers is. We wanted them to have the best experience when we're building these new online applications, so this is really going to help us.

Here is contact information for Jill and I, and if you have any questions for us, feel free to email, feel free to call us – and we'll be glad to talk with you. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Linda and Jill. Those two talented executives bring 60 years of AKC experience with them. Linda just mentioned that the average tenure in the Registration Department is 20 years. I should share with you along those lines, the average employee in AKC management is with us for 16 years.

According to the Department of Labor, the average is 6.2 years. So, we've added about 10 years to that statistic – and we can only each aspire to be like Paula, who looks upon us as rookies.

Sheila Goffe, VP of Government Relations delivered a presentation on legislative highlights and updates.

Ms. Goffe: Good morning again and thank you very much for the opportunity to speak with you today. Many of you have heard me say before that anti-breeder legislation is one of the greatest threats to the future of our breeds and our sport. A simple piece of legislation at the federal level carries the potential to undermine or wipe out thousands of high-quality breeding programs and the strength of our sport. The same thing can also happen at the state or local level.

This morning I'll provide a brief update of the legislation we're seeing around the country and especially at the federal level.

I would like to start also by thanking all of you for participating in legislation. They're a lot of you in this audience who are participating, including as legislative liaisons, and your engagement is crucial. Thank you very, very much for

all that you do.

The AKC Government Relations team is comprised of 11 Staff with decades of experience in all aspects of public policy. Our responsibilities are divided by function and region. I'm very pleased to say we now have five team members who are deployed throughout the country, covering the northeast, southeast, Mid-Atlantic, Texas/central states and the West Coast. This map is available for you at the GR table. Please take a copy. This tells you who your direct contact is in your region.

Our efforts fall into four basic categories. On a daily basis, we review, monitor and respond to legislation and regulations. This includes tracking bills, issuing alerts, amending problematic legislation, testifying and providing model legislation. We also advocate for policy that supports responsible dog owners and breeders. Today we're introducing more legislation than ever before, and we're having better successes than ever before. We entertain all threats to responsible dog ownership and the future of our breeds; and we provide resources and policy expertise to both lawmakers and to dog owners so that together we can successfully advocate for dogs in our own communities. All of our materials and information –

legislative tracking, alerts, videos, talking points, etc. are available on our Legislative Action Center at [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org).

Year-to-date we've analyzed and tracked approximately 1400 federal and state bills impacting dogs and dog ownership. The largest category we're tracking by far is cruelty. Unfortunately, that typically also includes breeder regulation, breeder restrictions, etc. That's because the bills that we see that are introduced by anti-breeder types often refer to cruelty and "puppy mills" along with breeding.

The second slot is working dogs. These are measures impacting service, detection and law and enforcement K-9s.

Then, animal control proposals such as limit laws, tethering, temperature restriction and so on; Veterinary, which is vet licensing, crop dock, mandatory spay-neuter, and those types of laws. Increasingly, we're seeing a lot of efforts in the area of land use, field trials and hunting. This really focuses in on the use of public lands for field trials and performance activities; and in some cases, our Conformation dog shows as well.

Over the last six months we have tracked approximately 1400 new dog bills at the federal and state level. We are reviewing,

tracking and responding to each as appropriate. We're seeing an unusually high number of implementing regulations, at 781. Despite the heavy amount of research and analysis this all involves, on average we published an alert or testified to lawmakers somewhere in the country every day so far this year.

What I really want to focus on this morning however is federal legislation. Federal legislation is crucial because it can potentially impact everyone. Most federal dog bills seek to amend the Animal Welfare Act, which governs federal breeder regulation. This falls under the purview of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

When most people think about USDA licensed breeders, they often think about large commercial facilities. Animal rights organizations often equate USDA breeders with what they call "puppy mills." But here is the reality: If you maintain five or more intact females of any small pet species: cats, dogs, gerbils, hamsters, rabbits, etc. or any combination of those and breed and transfer just one sight unseen, you are subject to USDA licensing.

Requirements for USDA licensing involves maintaining commercial kennel engineering standards (whether you have a kennel or you raise dogs in your home); Annual inspections; being listed

in an online, publicly searchable database, along with your inspections; and other requirements. This is why USDA licensing is such a big deal. It's not just commercial kennels.

Like other USDA programs, the Animal Welfare Act is reauthorized every five years, and 2023 is the year. We are expecting to see a lot of action on federal legislation that relates to the Animal Welfare Act and breeding this year. The bill reauthorizing the Animal Welfare Act is called the Farm Bill because it reauthorizes farm programs. It funds all USDA programs, and it's absolutely enormous. It's so big it's only reauthorized every five years. It covers everything from nutrition assistance to commodity programs and even pet breeding. It's must-pass legislation. So that means that it's a target for every imaginable animal interest group trying to get their legislative agenda attached to it. Incidentally, that does cover us as well.

Animal rights groups spend millions trying to add restrictive breeder legislation to it. This year their primary focus is on two bills. The first is the Puppy Protection Act and the second is Goldie's Act. AKC priorities are to keep the animal rights bills off the Farm Bill, while also spearheading efforts to provide more resources

for USDA to enforce existing laws. Very simply, we don't believe we need more new laws, we believe we need better enforcement of existing laws. Also, if possible, it's very important to try to get the Healthy Dog Importation Act attached to this measure.

When you see our alerts, please act on them, and urge everyone you know to contact your members of Congress. Again, the Farm Bill is a once-every-five years effort.

Here's a quick synopsis of what these bills do:

The Puppy Protection Act is one of the HSUS's top priorities this year. It is their stated intention to attach it to the Farm Bill. It includes arbitrary one-size-fits-all requirements that can undermine small, high quality and specialty breeding operations. Here are some, just some, of its prohibitions. Prohibiting breeding unless a dog is prescreened by a vet, but it doesn't tell us what tests are going to be required or who makes the decisions about the breeding, prohibiting more than two litters in 18 months. Arbitrarily prohibiting breeding based on age and size of dogs. It also mandates temperature ranges for kennels, irrespective of the dog's acclimation or breed, and mandates annual dental exams in addition to stan-

dard annual health exams. We believe these kinds of decisions should be made by owners in conjunction with their veterinarian, not by arbitrary government mandate.

Goldie's Act basically removes the distinction between minor paperwork infractions and care and conditions violations. We care – we're AKC, we certainly care about paperwork. But we believe that care and conditions must always be the priority. Goldie's Act would create an environment where you could be put out of operation or targeted because of a paperwork violation. Now, keep in mind all of those inspection reports are publicly available online and regularly accessed by animal rights groups. Again, this is a big deal. Goldie's Act also allows for immediate euthanasia or seizure of animals at an inspection. At that point of inspection, if your dogs are found to be suffering "psychological harm" – and it doesn't define for us what psychological harm is – your dogs could be euthanized or seized. The bottom line is this bill creates far too much opportunity for mischief by animal extremists.

There's a third bill I'd like to mention – and this one we do want to see advance. We are very pleased to support the Healthy Dog Importation Act. In 2019,

the last year for which we have statistics, more than one million dogs were imported into the United States. Many of those dogs came in with forged or invalid health certificates, creating major risks to pet and public health. The Healthy Dog Importation Act quite simply brings U.S. canine import requirements in line with those of other western countries, to protect that pet and public health. It requires all imports to be negative for disease and parasites, a valid health certificate from a veterinary authority recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and dogs to be micro-chipped so those records can be verified. Additionally, it would also make the CDC's current country-based blanket bans unnecessary.

Here are our takeaways: The 2023 Farm Bill could have a huge impact on federal licensing and requirements that impact professional and hobby breeders. Dogs aren't one size fits all, and the regulations shouldn't be either. But animal rights activists are pushing for one size fits all requirements that could hamstring breeders and potentially undermine high quality small breeding programs. AKC GR Staff, and our representatives are meeting with dozens of lawmakers and staff in Congress and in states across the country, talking to media, testifying, creating alerts, and providing resource materials.



But lawmakers need to hear from their constituents. They need to hear from the folks who vote for them. We are asking for your help. Please share our alerts and resources and please reach out to your lawmakers when you see these alerts. More resource information is available, again, on the table; and on our website, again [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org).

Please don't hesitate to contact the GR team if we can be of any assistance to you at all. That is our job. We're here to help you. Thank you for your time.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Sheila.

Gail LaBerge, Delegate from the Atlanta Obedience Club, gave an update on AKC's PAC.

Ms. LaBerge: Good morning. First, I wanted to say how lucky we are to have Sheila and her Staff out there fighting every day for us. That gives me the opportunity to bring up how you can help her advocate by donating to the AKC PAC. Every dime that you give goes to elect or support those in office who have the same approach and respect for AKC's position on canine legislation. It opens the door for Sheila and her Staff to get into some of these offices. So that's one way you can help.

Today we're kicking off our annual

sweepstakes, titled "Treat Yourself." You're going to be getting these flyers electronically. The grand prize is a gift basket valued at least \$350, but in addition there is a \$1000 gift card inside that basket. Every dime that goes into this will go into the PAC funds for officials. It is \$25 per ticket or five for \$100. You can get your tickets today. Yes, I understand that if you keep this among the Delegate Body, your chances of winning are better than if you take this back to your clubs. We really need you to take this back to your clubs because we need as much funding as we can get, because you heard all the animal rights groups Sheila mentioned, and they have a heck of a lot more money than we do. So please take it back. We'll also be sending this out to club secretaries that are affiliated in any way with the America Kennel Club so that they can share it with their membership also.

Now I'm going to ask Michael Knight, will you come up please? The AKC PAC Board of Directors have given me a resolution honoring Michael for the term that he served on the AKC PAC Board. We are appreciative for the leadership and the many suggestions that he gave us, and helping us raise funding, and we wanted to publicly recognize him and say thank you, Michael, for all of your work. Don't forget, Sheila's outside at the cor-

ner table.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Gail.  
Congratulations, Michael.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the list of vacancies for the Delegate Standing Committees that are to be filled in September.

Ms. DiNardo: These are the vacancies on Delegate Standing Committees that are to be filled at the September 2023 Delegate Meeting:

**All-Breed Clubs Committee:** 3 - three-year terms

**Bylaws Committee:** 4 - three-year terms

**Canine Health Committee:** 4 - three-year terms

**Companion Events Committee:** 3 - three-year terms and 1 - one-year term

**Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee:** 3 - three-year terms

**Dog Show Rules Committee:** 3 - three-year terms and 1 - two-year term

**Field Trial & Hunting Test Events Committee:** 4 - three-year terms

**Herding, Earthdog, Coursing and Scent Work Events Committee:** 3 - three-year terms and 1 - one-year term

**Parent Clubs Committee:** 3 - three-year terms and 1 - one-year term

**Perspectives Editorial Staff:** 6 - two-

year terms and 1 - one-year term

Mr. Sprung: Delegates will be emailed self-nomination forms by the end of June. The self-nomination form must be returned to the Executive Secretary by Friday, July 21, 2023.

Questions on the procedures to be followed should also be directed to the Executive Secretary. Delegates may only self-nominate for one committee, except that a member of the *Perspectives* Editorial Staff may also serve on another standing committee.

In August, the Delegates will be emailed the nominees for each committee, and their qualification statements with the September Delegate Meeting notification.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Gretchen Bernardi, Mississippi Valley Kennel Club, expressed concerns regarding the AKC Judges Recertification Program.

Marylyn DeGregorio, Taconic Hills Kennel Club, shared a statement from her club regarding their perspective that Judges approved for groups and Best in Show (BIS) should not be eligible to

compete in the National Owner Handler Series (NOHS).

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

*(One sharp rap of the gavel.)*

(Proceedings concluded at 12:15 p.m. ET.)

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

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## SPORTING GROUP



American Water Spaniel



Barbet



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 and White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water Spaniel



Labrador Retriever



Lagotto Romagnolo



Nederlandse Kooikerhondje



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone Italiano



Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer Spaniel



Wirehaired Pointing Griffon



Wirehaired Vizsla

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## HOUND GROUP



Afghan Hound



American English Coonhound



American Foxhound



Azawakh



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick Coonhound



Borzoi



Cirneco dell'Etna



Dachshund



English Foxhound



Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen



Greyhound



Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish Wolfhound



Norwegian Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Portuguese Podengo Pequeno



Redbone Coonhound



Rhodesian Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish Deerhound



Sloughi



Treeing Walker Coonhound



Whippet

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



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

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## TOY GROUP



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



Brussels Griffon



Cavalier King  
Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese Crested



English Toy Spaniel



Havanese



Italian Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester  
Terrier (Toy)



Miniature  
Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier



# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Laekenois



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher Mountain Dog



Finnish Lapphund



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Miniature American Shepherd



Mudi



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish Vallhund



# AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

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/events/handlers/>

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

<http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/>

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/>