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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## TIMES PAST

## BREED COLUMNS

### Sporting Group

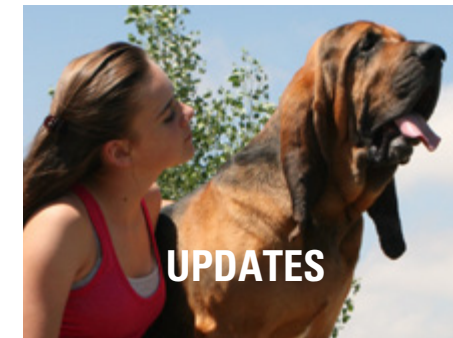
Brittanys	English Setters	Field Spaniels
Pointers	Gordon Setters	Irish Water Spaniels
German Shorthaired Pointers	Irish Setters	Sussex Spaniels
Curly-Coated Retrievers	Clumber Spaniels	Welsh Springer Spaniels
Golden Retrievers	Cocker Spaniels	Vizslas
Labrador Retrievers	English Springer Spaniels	Weimaraners

### Working Group

Akitas	Doberman Pinschers	Newfoundlands
Alaskan Malamutes	German Pinschers	Portuguese Water Dogs
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs	Great Danes	Rottweilers
Bernese Mountain Dogs	Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs	Samoyeds
Black Russian Terriers	Komondorok	Siberian Huskies
Boxers	Leonbergers	Standard Schnauzers
Bullmastiffs	Mastiffs	Tibetan Mastiffs
	Neapolitan Mastiffs	

### BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

Sporting and Working Groups	Hound and Terrier Groups	Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding Groups
January, April, July, and October issues	February, May, August, and November issues	March, June, September, and December issues



## UPDATES

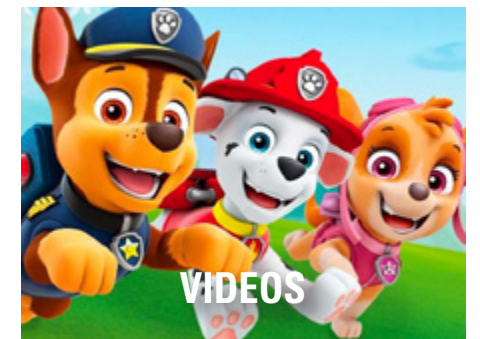


## SLIDESHOW

## SECRETARY'S PAGES

\*  
Links to AKC Parent Clubs  
appear following  
Secretary's Pages

\*



## VIDEOS

## FEATURE: TEMPERMENT TESTING



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# CONGRATULATIONS, WASABI!

Congratulations to Wasabi, the **2021 WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB BEST IN SHOW WINNER**. With his distinctive rolling gait, dignified temperament, and natural charisma, the 3-year-old Pekingese won over the crowd and judges. We're proud to be a part of Wasabi's amazing victory, fueling him with the advanced nutrition of Purina Pro Plan Complete Essentials Shredded Blend Chicken & Rice Formula.

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## Summer Fun

This has been an eventful summer for the AKC. From championships to major events and live shows, we have been a hive of exciting activity.

Preparations are heavily underway for our first-ever AKC Meet the Breeds national tour that kicks off in San Diego, August 14 and 15 at the San Diego Convention Center, and then makes its way to Dallas, August 21 and 22. Tickets for these cities are on sale now at [www.akc.org/meetthebreeds](http://www.akc.org/meetthebreeds). The tour will travel to eight cities across the country this year, and tickets for the next six cities will be on sale soon.

AKC Meet the Breeds is America's largest, in-person educational breed showcase. From Affenpinschers to Yorkshire Terriers and everything in between, the showcase gives pet lovers the unique opportunity to meet and play with about 100 different dog breeds in booths that depict each breed's country of origin, historical purpose and function, and attributes as a family pet, all while learning

about responsible pet ownership and which breeds may be right for them. The adventure also includes unique activities such as testing your own agility skills in the interactive area and participating in games and photo opportunities with the whole family.

I would like to thank each of the clubs and volunteers for their time and energy that makes this tour possible, especially our parent clubs.

We are also hard at work on our 19th annual AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day. Taking place on September 11 at the North Carolina Fairgrounds in Raleigh, this family-friendly day is filled with dog-sport demonstrations, AKC Canine Good Citizen testing, Trick Dog tests, and puppy training classes. Dogs and their owners will enjoy a free day of socially distanced giveaways, games, educational demos, and more. We enjoy hosting RDO Day each year and are excited to do it in person once again.

Lastly, we are happy to congratulate our Junior Scholarship recipients in conformation,



performance, and companion events. A total of 23 applicants were awarded scholarships based on their academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and their commitment to dog sports. The scholarships ranged from \$500 to \$3,000 and are awarded to high-school and college students.

We are proud to honor these students and their commitment to the future of our breeds

and our sports.

It is always a pleasure to share these events with you. Be well and have a wonderful and safe summer!

Dennis B. Sprung  
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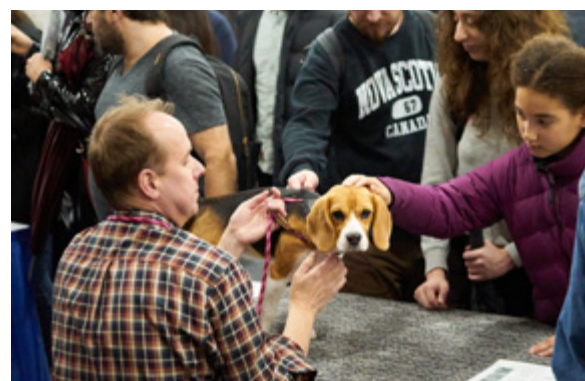
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## Road Trip!

This summer and fall, AKC *Meet the Breeds* will be coming to a city near you. AKC staff and club members will present our fabulous purebreds to the public from coast to coast at seven *Meet the Breeds* events, kicking off at San Diego in August. See the ad on page 15 for all the details. We can't think of a better way to shake off the pandemic blues than with this ambitious public-education road trip. As these photos from past AKC *Meet the Breeds* events suggest, it will be fun for dog lovers of all ages.

**On Our Cover:**  
West Highland  
White Terrier,  
Ty Foster for  
AKC



DAVID WOO ©AKC

# Westminster Wrap-Up

## WESTMINSTER KC, JUNE 12 AND 13 AT TARRYTOWN, NEW YORK

### Best in Show

Judge: Patricia Trotter  
Pekingese GCh.P Pequest Wasabi

### Sporting Group

Entry: 463  
Judge: James Covey  
German Shorthaired Pointer GCh.S  
Clarity Reach the Sky VJK Myst  
Owners: V. Nunes-Atkinson, Y. Hassler-Deterding, C. Simpson, C. Malcolm

### Hound Group

Entry: 399  
Judge: Jamie Hubbard  
Whippet GCh.P Pinnacle Kentucky Bourbon (Reserve BIS)  
Owners: K. Latimer, J. Descutner, N. Shaw, J. and C. Smithey

### Working Group

Entry: 418  
Judge Judy Harrington  
Samoyed GCh.G Vanderbilt 'n Printemp's Lucky Strike  
Owners: J. and B. Elford, M. Ralsky, C. Pacht-Ralsky

### Terrier Group

Entry: 299  
Judge: William Potter  
West Highland White Terrier GCh.G Crystal Boy de la Pomme  
Owners: Phavida Jaruthaver, Frederic Askin, Fred Melville

### Toy Group

Entry: 306  
Judge: June Penta  
Pekingese GCh.P Pequest Wasabi  
Owners: David Fitzpatrick, Sandra Middlebrooks, Peggy Steinman, Iris Love



### Herding Group

Entry: 350  
Judge: Bill Shelton  
Old English Sheepdog GCh.  
Bugaboo's Courage of Conviction  
Owners: Colton and Heather Johnson; Douglas and Michaelanne Johnson

### Best Junior Handler in Show

Lily Bennett  
Finals Judge: Dylan Kipp Keith

### COMPANION EVENTS

#### Masters Agility Champion

Border Collie On Target's a Little Less Talk, MX, MXB, MXJ, MJB, OF, handled by Perry DeWitt

#### Masters Obedience Champion

Labrador Retriever OTCH2  
Augustus Treasured Serenity, UDX2, OM4, BN, RA, NA, handled by Mary Ann Flanagan

#### High in Trial

Golden Retriever OTCH6 Gaylan's Bettin' on the Bright Lights, UDX4, OM8, BN, handled by Betsy Scapicchio

### Non-Sporting Group

Entry: 229  
Judge: Dennis McCoy  
French Bulldog GCh.P Chaselands

Mathew Moss  
Owners: Chad Howard, Nancy Shaw

# UPDATES

## Juniors Spotlight

# Colorado Club Supports

### AGED-OUT JUNIOR CREATES INNOVATIVE PROGRAM FOR KIDS

By *Karissa Groves*, Rocky Mountain Hound Association

My name is Karissa Groves, and I am a recently aged-out junior who loves the sport of purebred dogs. I saw during my time as a junior there was no or very little support for many juniors showing a hound.

I had a great run in juniors with my Bloodhound Sebastian, but I did more than Junior Showmanship. So, as I thought about creating a program for hound juniors, I wanted it to be more than points and Best Junior wins. Because of that, I wrote a program that has many elements and components for juniors to earn recognition.

The Junior Star program ranges from showing in Juniors to earning a championship or Grand Championship on their hound, but also securing a non-conformation title

(rally, obedience, coursing, tracking, and so on), and there is even more: things like ranking in your breed's Top 20 or Hall of Fame, or a specialty win or maybe even an ACE winner. I also want to encourage and reward juniors who are responsibly breeding hounds, so that is part of the program too.

The annual winner of our club's Junior Star program will receive an RMHA Junior Star Award, a \$100 Visa gift card, a \$100 stipend for the AKC National (when qualified and entered with their hound), a \$100 stipend for Westminster (when qualified and entered with their



*Karissa with the late Sebastian, "a fabulous Juniors dog."*

hound), and a scholarship (ranging from \$200 to \$500, coming from donations and from 25 cents per entry at our August shows).

### CATCH THE RISING STARS

Our Star Junior program officially began July 1. We



will use a July 1 to June 30 timeframe. This August at our RMHA Show in Greeley, we will have a celebration to mark the start of the program. The first winner will be selected and presented at our RMHA Show August 2022, so there is plenty of time to review the list of components and start working on accomplishing your goals with your hound!

Hound breed clubs, we challenge you to consider

matching the program or part of it. Perhaps you would like to offer a full match if the winner comes from your hound breed, or maybe you want to create a similar program in your breed club to truly help juniors with hounds. Please let us know if you have an interest in cooperating or if we can help you in any way.

More about the Rocky Mountain Hound Association: We hold three conformation shows each year; we offer rally

and obedience biannually at our summer shows along with health clinics. We hold several Fast CAT and lure-coursing events. Of course, we have monthly meetings and welcome new members (full, associate, and junior). Junior membership is free, and it is a Star program requirement.

Go hounds! And go juniors with hounds!—**K.G.**

For more information, visit [Rocky Mountain Hound Association](#) or the club's [Facebook page](#).



## More Help for K-9 Cops

AKC Reunite has announced new enhancements to its Adopt a K-9 Cop matching-grant program. For the past several years, the program has allowed AKC Reunite to match funds from AKC clubs, one-to-one, up to \$5,000 per grant in order to purchase K-9s for U.S. police departments.

Starting immediately, the program will accept contributions from the public to help cover the club's portion of the grant, and AKC Reunite will now match donations at a

three-to-one ratio, up to \$7,500 per grant.

AKC Reunite Adopt a K-9 Cop partners with AKC clubs to assist police departments in acquiring K-9s. Many law-enforcement agencies lack funds to obtain police dogs. The donations allow the police departments to obtain a new K-9 for help with search and rescue, bomb detection, and overall public safety.

Learn more about the program at [AKC Reunite](#).

## AKC Gives Companion, Performance Scholarships

The AKC has awarded Junior Scholarships for 2021 to 12 exceptional young people, representing 11 states, involved in companion and performance events. The scholarships are offered to high-school and college students.

Scholarship applicants were evaluated on academic performance, participation in AKC events, and involvement with AKC clubs. Applicants were required to write an essay on the impact AKC events have made on their lives.



O'Malley McGee

### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

#### Companion Events:

Abigail Anderson (Colorado), Kelsy Burk (California), Emily Burrier (Ohio), Jordon Dove (Washington), Riley Draus (Pennsylvania), Dana George (Illinois), Gabriella Kabakchieva (Wisconsin), Jordan Phoenix (Texas)

#### Performance Events:

Meaghan Edwards (California), Lucas Holzen (North Carolina), O'Malley McGee (South Carolina), Lanie York (Utah)

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# Breed-Specific Study, All-Breed Benefits

*A parent club trust is mapping their breed genome for the good of all dogkind.*

The Siberian Husky Club of America Trust will fund a breed-specific *de novo* genome assembly for the Siberian Husky, a project to map the complete Siberian genome.

With the original sequencing of the canine genome in 2005, the great diversity of the canine breeds made it apparent that breed-specific

mapping is of great importance in the research of diseases of different breeds. While many breed supporters have funded partial sequencing of their breed's genome (including the Siberian), the research has been very expensive and lengthy, and there are only a few completely sequenced breed genomes. This proj-

ect has already begun with a research team at the University of Wisconsin experienced working with a portion of the Siberian genome. With the help of new, state-of-the-art technology, the sequencing time will be significantly faster (months instead of years) and should result in the goal of the project—to have the entire Siberian genome mapped before the end of 2021.

The new technology is expected to yield a clean and exceedingly specific Siberian Husky genome at the end of the project. This Siberian genome will deliver a road-map for the further study of breed-specific diseases (such as cataracts, cancer, and others), enable the identification of genetic markers for disease detection, and open up possibilities for future disease

treatments.

Additionally, since the Siberian is relatively unmarred by human intervention and breeding for recessive traits, it is considered by researchers to be a clean breed associated with past generations and can therefore be useful to researchers studying diseases found in many breeds.

There is interest from other universities to use this new Siberian genome to research lymphoma, hemangiosarcoma, and osteosarcoma.

This is by far the most important and far-reaching project the Trust has funded to date, only possible thanks to donations, gifts, and fund-raising efforts.

This project is only the beginning. To learn more, and to make a donation, visit the Trust's [Facebook page](#).

*The Husky is considered a "clean breed" and can therefore be useful in the study of diseases found in many breeds.*



## Bell Joins Field Staff

On June 7, Jill Bell joined the AKC Executive Field Staff as a conformation representative covering the Dallas–Fort Worth area.

“Jill brings a high level of expertise to this position, having bred and handled dogs for many years,” Conformation Field Director Patricia Proctor says. “We are happy to welcome her as a member of the AKC staff.”

A lifelong fancier, Bell spent more than 20 years as a professional handler and has bred Whippets and Great Danes. She has finished countless champions and has handled many national-specialty and Best in Show winners. Bell spent the past several years as an AKC-licensed superintendent for Jack Onofrio Dog Shows.

SIBERIAN HUSKY: MARY BLOOM ©AKC; WIN SHOT: AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



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# SLIDESHOW



**Warm for February** It seemed odd to dust off our Westminster photo collection on a sticky summer day instead of during the deep freeze of a New York February, but such is life in pandemic USA. The WKC show committee deserve all the praise heaped upon them for somehow replicating the Garden experience on the grounds of a Tarrytown estate. By the time Best in Show came around, the “Warm Westminster” felt like any other edition of the venerable event: exciting, suspenseful, and glamorous.

We pay tribute to this indestructible American institution with a gallery of great champions from Westminsters past.



**1952** Doberman Pinscher  
Ch. Rancho Dobe's Storm

**1956** Toy Poodle  
Ch. Wilbur White Swan

**1964** Whippet Ch. Courtenay  
Fleetwood of Pennyworth

**1966** Wire Fox Terrier  
Ch. Zelay Mooremaide's Magic

**1969** Skye Terrier  
Ch. Glamour Good News

**1970** Boxer  
Ch. Arriba's Prima Donna

**1979** Irish Water Spaniel  
Ch. Oak Tree's Irishtocrat

**1980** Siberian Husky  
Ch. Innisfree's Sierra Cinnar

**1985** Scottish Terrier  
Ch. Braeburn's Close Encounter

**2002** Miniature Poodle  
Ch. Surrey's Spice Girl

**2006** Bull Terrier  
Ch. Rocky Top's Sundance Kid

**2008** Beagle  
Ch. K-Run's Park Me in First

*Researchers are exploring the hard science behind your dog's soft, adoring gaze.*

# Eye Contact

*A Pug's features resemble those of a human baby, inviting the long, loving eye contact of his owner.*

# FEATURE

**E**ye contact plays a fundamental role in human communication and relationships. When we look into each other's eyes, we show that we are paying attention to each other. This is equally true in the human-canine relationship. According to new research by Hungarian ethologists, at least four independent traits affect dogs' ability to establish eye contact with humans. Short-headed, cooperative, young, and playful dogs are the most likely to look into the human eye.

Dogs adapted uniquely well to live with humans, and communication plays a vital role in this. They are sensitive to the direction of the human's gaze, which helps them decide whether the message is directed to them. Forming eye contact with the owner raises oxytocin levels in both parties, which plays a role in developing social bonding. Individual dogs, though, are not equally

prone to make eye contact; the anatomy of the eye, the original task a breed was created to perform, age, and personality might also affect the tendency to form eye contact.

One hundred and thirty family dogs were examined at the Department of Ethology, Eötvös Loránd University. "We measured the length and width of their heads because this is related to their vision," says Ph.D. student Zsófia Bognár, first author of the study published in [Scientific Reports](#). "The Boxer, Bulldog, Pug, and snub-nosed dogs in general, have a more pronounced area centralis in the retina, so they can better respond to stimuli in the central field, which may make it easier for them to form eye contact with humans."

In contrast, consider the regally long-nosed Borzoi. They see a wide panoramic image because the nerve cells that process the visual information distribute more evenly in their retina. Therefore, if they

*Making eye contact raises oxytocin levels in both dog and owner. This helps in the development of social bonding.*



have to focus on the center of their visual field, they may be distracted by visual stimuli from the periphery more easily.

## VISUAL STREAKS AND AREA CENTRALIS

For many years it was universally assumed that all canine eyes had a "visual streak," a line of vision cells stretching across the retina's surface. This belief was challenged in 2003 by Paul McGreevey, an Australian professor of veterinary science, working with neuroscientist Alison Harman.

Studying eyes from cadavers of several breeds, McGreevey and Harman discovered that some dogs don't have a visual streak. Instead, their vision cells are densely packed in one spot, called an "area centralis."

The visual-streak breeds are dogdom's hunters. They have long muzzles, and their eye placement gives them the peripheral vision required to detect and follow movement over wide vistas at great distance. The sighthounds—

*Flat-faced dogs see more like human beings do: not much peripheral vision, but up close they see in high definition.*

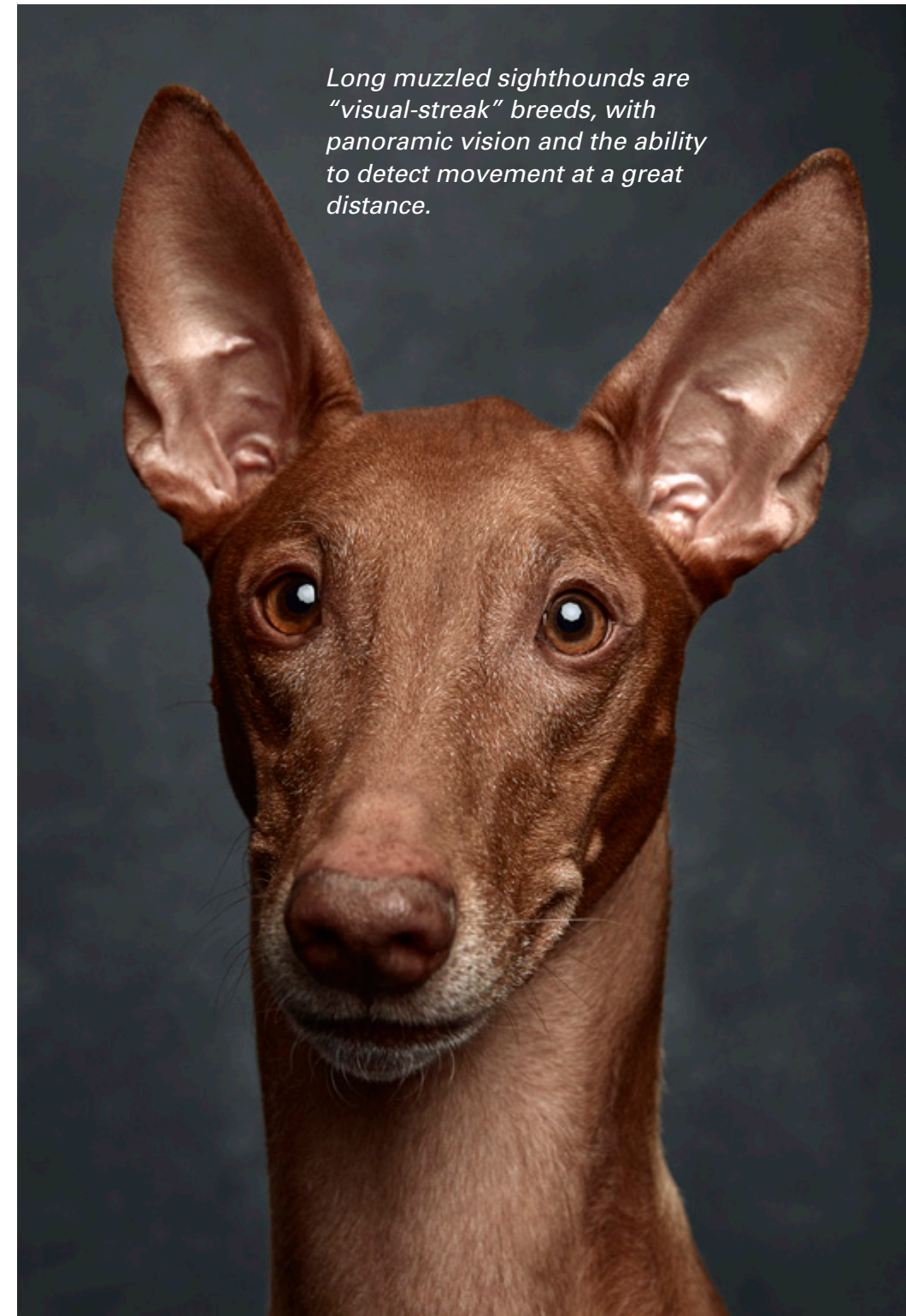


Salukis, Greyhounds, and other breeds contrived in antiquity to patrol vast expanses of desert—are the prototypical visual-streak breeds. In the retriever breeds, the elongation of the skull is less exaggerated and the vision not quite as panoramic, but the principal is the same.

Area-centralis dogs tend to be short-muzzled—think Pugs, Pekes, and other lap dwellers. These breeds, McGreevey and Harmon reported, have three times as many nerve endings in the retina as do visual-streak breeds. They see more like human beings: not much peripheral vision, but up close they see in high definition.

“So, when they they’re looking at their owner’s face and different nuances of the owner’s expressions, maybe they’re getting a bit more information than a long-nosed dog,” McGreevey theorized. “This is perhaps a way of explaining how attentive and charming short-nosed dogs are.”

*Long muzzled sighthounds are “visual-streak” breeds, with panoramic vision and the ability to detect movement at a great distance.*





*The “visually cooperative” breeds of the Herding Group will make eye contact faster than breeds driven by voice commands or that work independently.*

**THE BABY-FACE FACTOR**

In the behavior test conducted by the Hungarian researchers, the experimenter

first initiated play with the dog. In another test, she measured how quickly and how many times the dog formed

# How a Dog’s Eye Works

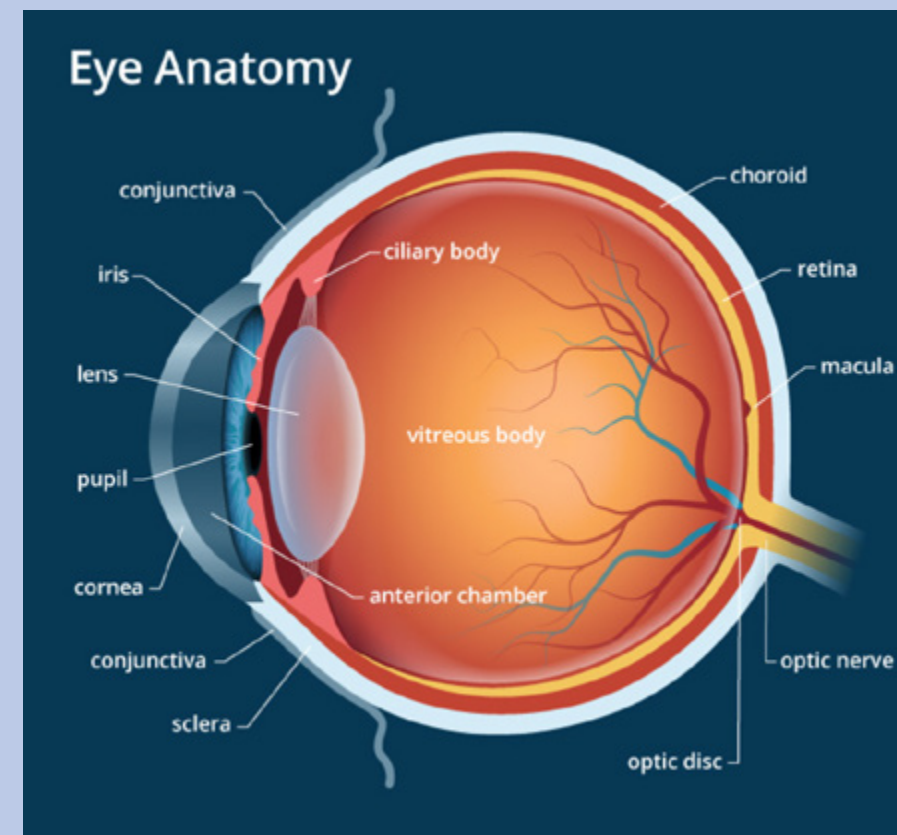
The cornea is the clear membrane that covers the eye. It allows light to enter and is the first of two lenses light passes through on the way to the retina. Behind the cornea is the sclera, the white of the eye. It is made of tough fibers containing blood vessels that supply the eye with oxygen and nutrients.

The iris is the colored part of the eye. The iris controls the pupil, the aperture at the eye’s center. In darkness, the iris’s tiny muscles expand the pupil to allow more light to enter; in brightness, the pupil contracts to prevent a damaging overload of light.

Canines evolved as nocturnal scavengers and hunters, so they have naturally large pupils. This helps to account for their keen night vision and diminished “depth of field” vision, that is, the distance over which objects can be put into clear focus. A human being with perfect eyesight has 20/20 vision; most dogs see at closer to 20/75.

Directly behind the pupil is the lens. This delicate mechanism receives light captured by the pupil, bends it, and focuses it onto the retina. The retina houses the nerve cells known as rods and cones. A dog has more light-sensitive rods than humans, but the canine eye has fewer color-sensitive cones, leading to the long-held—and erroneous—belief that dogs don’t see in color.

The retina transforms light into an impulse and kicks it back to the optic nerve, which transmits the impulse to the brain, where it becomes an image.



Behind the retina is a reflecting surface called the tapetum lucidum. A dog’s large pupils dilate fully in low light to facilitate night vision. In an ultra-efficient process of maximizing minimal light, the mirror-like tapetum catches light unabsorbed by the retina and reflects it forward onto the rods. This causes the eerie luminescence in dog eyes when they are caught in headlights or a flashlight beam in the dark.

SIDEBAR: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

# FEATURE



eye contact with her within five minutes. “The experimenter did not speak and remained motionless until the dog looked at her,” ethologist Dóra Szabó says. “Every time the dog looked at her, she rewarded this with a treat. Meanwhile, the owner sat in a chair, silent. We measured how much time elapsed after eating the treat until the next eye contact.”

It turned out that the shorter the dog’s nose, the faster it made eye contact with the experimenter. It is likely that they see the human face more sharply because of their special retina, but it is also possible that their owners gaze at them more often as their facial features resemble those of a small child, a powerful cue for humans. Because of this, dogs with shorter noses may be more experienced in making eye contact.

The researchers also examined whether the original role of the breeds still influenced eye contact forming.

Shepherd dogs, for example, are visually cooperative who follow the direction of the owner’s hand (stick) during their work with the stock. In contrast, visually non-cooperative sled dogs running in front of the musher can only rely on vocal cues, while Dachshunds also cannot see their owner in the underground life-and-death struggle. Long- and short-headed dogs are evenly distributed across the different breed groups.

As expected, dogs bred for visually guided work made eye contact faster than those driven by voice or selected for independent work. Surprisingly, the mixed-breeds performed similarly well, even though 70 percent were from a shelter. Perhaps their willingness to make eye contact even helped them to get rehomed in the first place.

The research was part of the European Research Council-funded [Senior Family Dog Project](#), aimed at aging research. The oldest dog par-

ticipant was 15 years old.

“We assumed that aging dogs would find it more difficult to control their attention and would be slower to switch from eating to looking at the face of the experimenter,” project leader Eniko Kubinyi says. “That’s what happened. Since we prescreened our participants for potential visual and auditory impairments, the slower establishment of eye contact seems to be a natural consequence of aging.”

This research emphasizes the fact that many factors affect the way dogs and humans communicate. It also sheds new light on our knowledge of short-nosed dogs. Many researchers, including Konrad Lorenz, suggested that these dogs were selected for their baby-like facial appearance. It is also plausible, however, that people preferred individuals that were more attentive to them and looked at them for a longer duration, facilitating communication. **GZ**

# Over 100 breeds of dogs. One place. BEST. WEEKEND. EVER.



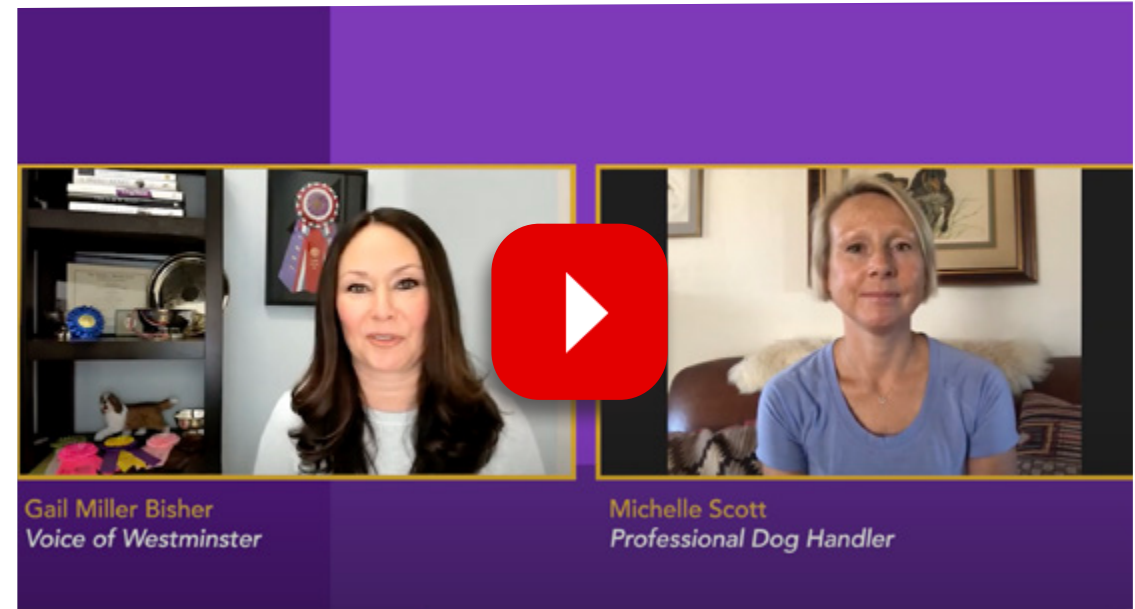
## Meet the Breeds®

<b>SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER</b> San Diego, CA August 14-15	<b>KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON CONVENTION CENTER</b> Dallas, TX August 21-22	<b>TAMPA CONVENTION CENTER</b> Tampa, FL September 18-19	<b>EXPO CENTER AT OAKS</b> Philadelphia, PA September 25-26
<b>DONALD E. STEPHENS CONVENTION CENTER</b> Chicago, IL October 16-17	<b>RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER</b> Raleigh, NC October 30-31	<b>GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER</b> Columbus, OH November 13-14	<b>ERNEST N. MORIAL CONVENTION CENTER</b> New Orleans, LA November 20-21



**Verb: Present Perfect**

*Perry DeWitt handles her Border Collie to a second WKC Masters Agility Championship in three years. 9:06*



**Carlee: The Razzle-Dazzler**

*Michelle Scott recalls handling a special German Shorthair to the sport's pinnacle in 2005. 1:06*



**At the Very Top**

*High atop the Empire State Building, David Fitzpatrick and Wasabi are featured in a Westminster postmortem brought to you by Reuters. 1:27*



**It's Like *The Avengers*, Except with Puppies**

*The hero pups from the popular series Paw Patrol hit the big screen this summer in Paw Patrol: The Movie. 2:10*



## Canine Temperament: A Prescriptive Approach

*The innovative AKC Temperament Test utilizes modern behavior-analysis techniques.*

*By Mary R. Burch, Ph.D.*

*Research shows that early temperament testing can be predictive of later adult behavior in police and military K-9s.*



US ARMY PHOTO

# FEATURE

Canine temperament is an important consideration for all dog owners. The [AKC Temperament Test](#) provides owners insight into their dog's temperament and assists them in addressing behavioral issues, thereby enhancing their relationship and enriching the lives of their canine companions. An extensive review of the canine temperament literature was completed prior to the development of the AKC Temperament Test. This led to the publication of an article in the *International Journal of Comparative Psychology*.

Canine temperament testing has historically been linked to the predictability of future behavior. A predictive model of canine-temperament testing assumes that a dog's behavior in one situation will likely be similar to its behavior in a variety of other situations.

The AKC Temperament Test (ATT) was launched

in August 2019. The ATT offered the first prescriptive model for canine temperament testing. The ATT can reveal areas in which a dog might fail to perform certain test items, but by using modern behavior-analysis tech-

niques, the behavior can be modified through a prescriptive approach.

The topic of canine temperament testing has been investigated by researchers for several decades. Multiple temperament tests were

developed after the publication of the landmark 1965 book *Genetics and Social Behavior of the Dog* (Scott & Fuller) that described canine-temperament research conducted in a laboratory setting.

In the early history of tem-

perament testing, temperament tests were viewed as having a predictive nature. For example, if a dog passed a temperament test for guide dogs when it was a puppy, knowing if the dog was going to be suitable as a guide dog

when it was an adult would be advantageous. Similarly, if a young dog who was a potential police dog was afraid of loud noises, when considering a career for the dog, it would be helpful to know if the dog would continue to balk at the noise of gunshot throughout its adult life.

## PREDICTING BEHAVIOR

Recent research shows that the question "Can early temperament tests predict the behavior of adult dogs" is far more complex than a simple yes-no. There are conflicting findings and inconsistencies with regard to the results of predictive temperament tests.

For predictive studies, the results may depend on which variables (such as the age of the dog) are being evaluated. A number of predictive studies indicated that puppy tests did not predict adult suitability for service dog work or police work, and several researchers found that there



*Temperament tests developed in 1965 by John Paul Scott and John Fuller were laboratory based.*



*Service dogs require expert screening and extensive professional training, and the process to prepare them for work is costly.*

was no predictive value when pet dogs were first tested as puppies and later as adults.

In contrast to studies of predictive temperament tests that show no predictive validity, there is also research related to service and guide dogs that shows temperament testing can be used to predict

future success in training programs, and certain behaviors or traits result in dogs being dismissed from training programs. These include pulling excessively on the leash and fear and reactivity.

Police and military dogs have been the subjects of research that shows early

temperament testing can be predictive of later adult behavior. Specifically, confidence and engagement were predictive measures of the success as a working dog.

Based on a review of canine temperament research, we can conclude that temperament may be more likely to

be predictive when testing is done with certain categories of dogs, including police/military dogs and service/guide dogs. Possible reasons for this include that these dogs are often tested at a later age, they have often received training that is administered by a very specific protocol, and they are often raised in a kennel or by trained puppy raisers where socialization and training procedures are consistent day after day.

This is very different than what happens with a litter of pet dogs who as early as 8 weeks old may be sent by a breeder to eight different homes where they are raised and trained (or not) under circumstances with a great deal of variability. Service dogs and police/military dogs are unique in that they must be well-screened to optimize chances of success, they require extensive training by skilled trainers, and the process to prepare them for their work is costly.

For these dogs, any process, such as a temperament test that is predictive, is one measure that can be combined with others to ensure potential problems are identified before an organization invests considerable time and resources in training a dog. For pet dogs, in some respects, the stakes are not quite as high. Because training is not as costly, the owners of pet dogs do not have to be as efficient with regard to time as specialty trainers (e.g., police and guide dog trainers). As a result, dog owners can take the time to train their pet dogs and provide rehabilitation and training to rescue and shelter dogs.

## MODIFYING BEHAVIOR

The AKC Temperament Test (ATT) employs a prescriptive approach to temperament testing in which dog owners are encouraged to use the test to identify problems related to their dogs' reactions to specific stimuli and then

remediate these problems. The ATT provides an educational tool for evaluating the temperament of pet dogs for dog owners and breeders.

When a prescriptive training protocol is successfully completed after a dog has failed the ATT, the dog's temperament has not been changed because it can now perform a test item correctly. Rather, behaviors related to temperament have been modified. An example related to humans would be a person who is painfully shy learning to do public speaking as a result of coaching. Most likely, the person is still basically shy, but adaptive, practical skills have been learned that make overcoming the shyness possible.

The prescriptive temperament test model seen in the ATT has definite value. In addition to testing, information on how the owner can work with problem behaviors is provided by the AKC here.

Dogs can overcome behavioral issues that may have



*Temperament is a crucial consideration in therapy work.*

been a barrier to going into the community with the owner (e.g., extremely fearful).

With regard to temperament testing, clearly, the development of an individual dog's temperament will depend on the environment in which the dog is raised and the socialization and training that is provided. With the exception of dogs that are housed and raised in ken-

nels for specialty training or research purposes, training history, socialization experiences, and methods of raising are likely to vary greatly from one dog to the next.

Temperament tests that have been traditionally used for predicting the future behavior of dogs can coexist with a prescriptive test such as the AKC Temperament Test. A beneficiary of the

prescriptive model of temperament testing is the dog. Dogs who are afraid to greet unfamiliar people, walk on unusual surfaces, and become extremely alarmed at unexpected auditory and visual stimuli to the point that they don't recover during testing, are likely to have lower quality lives that are severely impacted by fear.

Helping dogs overcome temperament issues can result in both an improvement in their welfare and an enhanced relationship with their owners. It is hoped that the prescriptive nature of the ATT coupled with the behavioral information provided will help dog owners train their dogs and address any behavioral issues, thereby enriching the lives of our canine companions.—**M.R.B.**

*This is a summary of an article published in the [International Journal of Comparative Psychology](#).*

## About the ATT

Temperament has been defined as an animal's personality, makeup, disposition, or nature. A longer definition of temperament is "individual differences in behavior that are biologically based." Temperament is not learned.

In the past several decades, there has been an increase in dog-trainer knowledge about behavior. We now know that behavioral procedures can be effectively used to modify behaviors (such as fearful reactions) that may be related to temperament. Considering that we can change behaviors often related to temperament (such as when a dog refuses to walk on an unfamiliar surface), temperament can be defined as an individual's natural predisposition to react in a certain way to a stimulus. Behaviors related to temperament may be modified over time with exposure and learning.

The AKC Temperament Test allows a dog's owner to determine how close a purebred dog's temperament is to its breed standard. For mixed-breeds, taking the ATT may provide insight about the temperament of an individual dog. The test provides information about a dog's reactions to a variety of stimuli (objects or events that can be detected by an animal's senses). The six categories of stimuli are Social, Auditory, Visual, Tactile, Proprioceptive (motion), and Unexpected Stimulus.

The ATT can identify behaviors related to temperament that can be addressed through training. If a dog passes the ATT twice, under two different evaluators, the owner may apply for the ATT suffix title.

### Bonus Video

[ATT testing at Cleveland All-Breed Benefit](#)



*The ATT employs a prescriptive approach to canine-temperament testing.*

## America Discovers the Ridgeback

Since antiquity, warriors have played a role in distributing dog breeds around the world. Alexander the Great brought mastiff types, the ferocious molosser war dogs, from the Greek Isles to his domains in Asia and Eastern Europe. The now-famous herding breeds of Britain were created in part from drover dogs brought by Caesar's conquering legions. In later centuries, Viking invaders added Scandinavian stock to the equation.

American GIs returning from the Pacific after World War II introduced Akitas to the States. Army private Larry Downey, of Chicago, built his line of top-winning Boxers from breeding stock acquired during the war from Frau Stockman's celebrated German kennel. And soldiers who served in the war's South African campaigns returned to America with specimens of an exotic hunting hound rarely seen in North America: the Rhodesian Ridgeback.



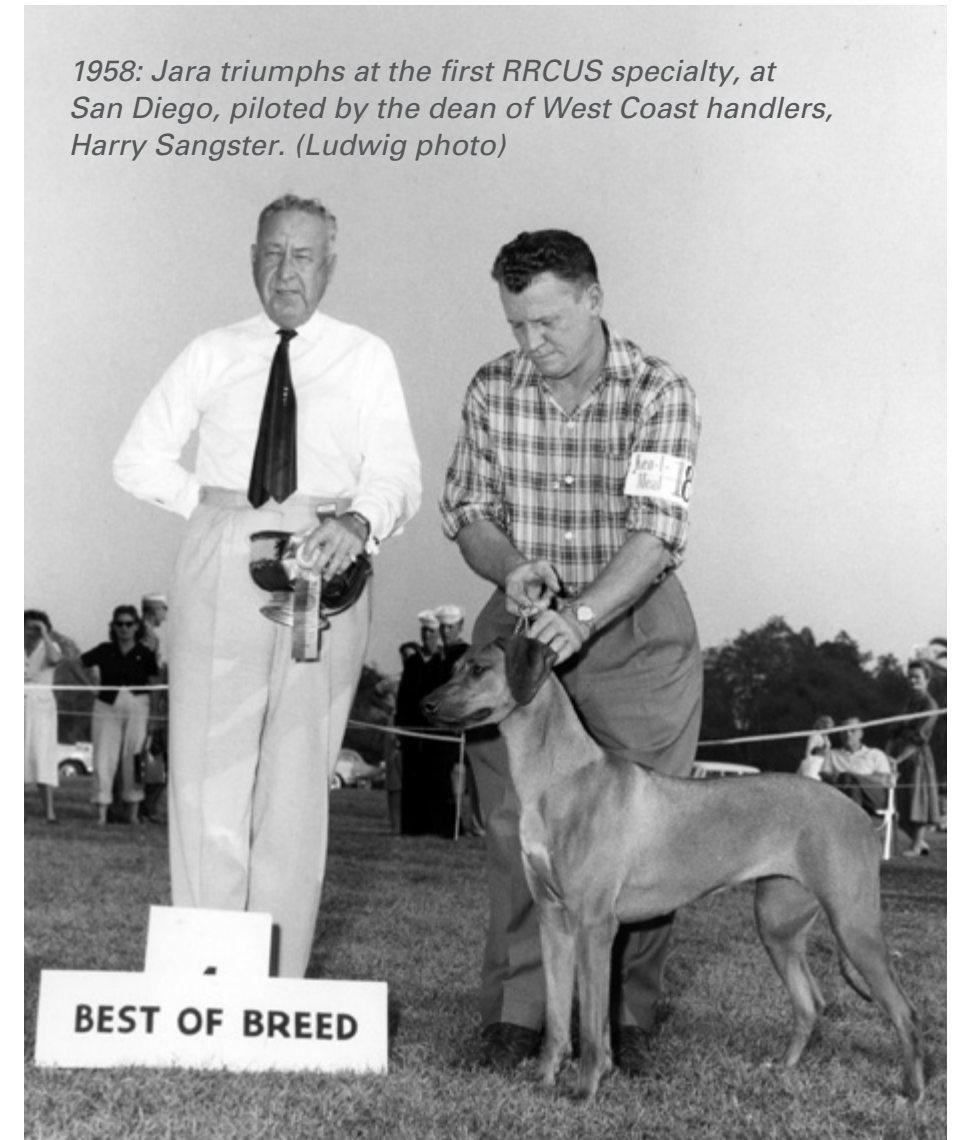
1957: Bimbo's history-making BIS under Major Godsol, handled by Ann Wadley for owner John Reardon (Tepe photo)

By the early '50s, an American Ridgeback fancy was taking shape. A key player in these formative years was Morrie DePass, a retired Army colonel from Mississippi. His Ch. Swahili Jeff Davis was the first Ridgeback to earn an American championship. The AKC recognized the breed in late 1955, and the [Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States](#) was formed in 1957 at a meeting hosted by Colonel DePass.

The win shots on this page commemorate

two milestones of these early years. It was at the [Wichita KC](#) show of April 1957 that Ch. Bimbo Ponjola of Kaybar, CD, made history as the AKC's first Best in Show Ridgeback—an especially sweet victory as it was judged by the universally respected Major Godsol.

Eighteen months later, at San Diego in October 1958, the RRCUS held its first specialty show. Revered all-rounder Frank Porter



1958: Jara triumphs at the first RRCUS specialty, at San Diego, piloted by the dean of West Coast handlers, Harry Sangster. (Ludwig photo)

Miller put up Ch. Lamarde Perro Jara as Best of Breed. In the 1950s, the California-based Lamarde Perro Kennel of E.L. Freeland and Margaret Lowthian dominated the breed west of the Mississippi, having finished 17 champions in the two years leading up to Jara's historic win.

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



*This month, American Pointer Club guest columnist Maggie Platt share's puppy-raising techniques gleaned from her 25 years in the breed.*

## 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 [Arliss.Paddock@akc.org](mailto:Arliss.Paddock@akc.org).

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### Brittanys

#### IT'S ABOUT DOGS AND PEOPLE

It's the whisper of the autumn breeze. It comes mixed with the turning of the autumn leaves to golden yellows and reds. It's when the October temperatures drop during the night, and the mornings are crisp: the time of the year to go upland bird hunting. I sit, as if reading a book, on the chair next to the fireplace and reflect on our Brittanys—on memories and stories about them, plus stories heard over the years of other dogs. Often those stories bother me, as they tend to be more about people than the dog, and further how people talk and the language used when talking about dogs and people.

Stories are just that! They can be positive—informative—with a focus on being a teaching tool. Or they can be flat-out nothing but a lie, or on a personal level something one might call *braggadocio*. Consider that often mentioned or published in an ad, their dog finished his field championship before he was 2 years of age. Consider this new field champion: What's the breeding, the type of competition involved (half-hour or hour stakes), and will the dog continue to dominate in field events beyond 2 years of age?

Also consider the Brittany who completes show events when he is 7 to 8 months of age. Wow! Six months; I believe that is the min-



imum age a Brittany can compete. Those Brittanys at that age will not even be full grown. The fact is a Brittany who finishes in the show ring before they are a year and a half to 2 years of age could—as an adult—possibly be “oversize” and thus not within the Brittany standard when fully grown.

Personally in numerous occasions during or after field or show events when there are discussions about the Brittany and their per-

formance, often the subject focuses on appearance; sometimes performance. For example, “that dog is too leggy” or comments on color are discussion points. Consider specifically the vitriolic language spewed by those who declare, “Is that a real Brittany?” while running or competing in an event, because the dog has a lot of white or the body type is not what they are familiar with seeing. Again, one often hears negative comments, perhaps about the handler, the judges, and/or the grounds on which the event is being held.

Question is, why all this negative, gossiping kind of discussion? This writer just does not have an answer, other than to humbly say, “Think positive, and be positive, and stop all this negative complaining.” It's all about our breed—the Brittany—and how to improve certain characteristics, such as scenting, bid-dability, and working together for the good of the breed.

This also brings another point, which was mentioned earlier in this article: how people talk, and their language. It is a very touchy subject, and the concerning behavior sometimes includes the use of those “four-letter words,” which could be offensive to some people. It is personal for me!

Let me describe a quick short story about my youngest son, who recently turned 50. He has a young family of four children, ages

8 through 13, and a super lady as his wife. It's a young family, because after completing ROTC and graduating from college, he spent seven years serving in the U.S. Navy. During that time in the Navy, when not deployed in the South Pacific or along the coast of Iran and Iraq, he found time to compete in field trials with his Brittany. Those trials depended on where he was stationed, in either Virginia or Iowa. His Brittany, Sam was able to complete his Field Championship during that time. Note that Sam was a leggy Brittany, with a fair amount of white.

Time moves on with a new Brittany, Gus, in my son's family. His kids are of the ages stated above. Gus has been with a trainer; he could compete in show and field events. My son is concerned about the type of language his wife and kids will probably be exposed to, if he once again comes to Brittany events.

Let's consider an important question. Does the negative attitude, along with vitriolic language and the use of “four-letter words,” play a part in why the number of people participating in Brittany events is decreasing? Just consider: It's all about our dogs and the people involved with this outstanding breed, the Brittany.

—David Webb,  
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 American Brittany Club

## SPORTING GROUP

### Pointers

Our guest columnist for this issue is Maggie Platt.

#### PUPPY-RAISING TECHNIQUES

Over my 25 years in the breed, seeing a shy, tail-tucked, worried Pointer has gotten significantly less, but it does still occur. We understand that great temperaments are required for any performance venue. Poor temperaments should never be tolerated by judges. Temperaments are most important for the rest of their lives and all of the activities in which Pointer owners participate. While new homes do need to continue socialization to develop resilient temperaments, the first 8 to 10 weeks are crucial.

While temperament is clearly genetic, there is much that can be done in the first 8 weeks of life that will set your puppies up for easier transition to their new homes, allowing them to be more resilient, stable, outgoing, and pleasant. There are some specific guidelines through programs such as Puppy Culture or Avidogs. I have never used either program, but I have heard wonderful things about them. Any similarities our actions resemble to those programs is coincidental.

We start on Day 1 handling puppies and deliberately touching every puppy all over,



*Pointer: John Donaldson, 1990  
(AKC Museum of the Dog)*

both as an inspection and to begin to get them used to being touched and manipulated. Starting on Day 3, we start early neurological stimulation daily, with each puppy. The ENS method includes holding the puppy with its head up, legs toward the floor, for five seconds, and safely and securely in your hands, head-down, for a count of 5, then on his or

her back for a count of 5. Next is touching between each toe, initially with a cotton swab, because it is smaller than your finger, until your fingers fit at about 1 week. Lastly we place each puppy on a cold washcloth (kept in the fridge in a plastic bag) belly-down and allow them to crawl off the cloth. These early neurological stimulation procedures take less

than 30 seconds a puppy daily for the first two weeks and stand the puppy in good stead for his or her future.

Toenails are clipped every third day or so, using regular-sized human nail-clippers for the first two weeks. After two weeks we switch to a cordless Dremel with a sanding barrel (36 grit) on a low speed weekly. As adults most of our Pointers can have their toenails Dremeled by one person while standing. While most do not like it, they tolerate it, which can be especially helpful because we leave dewclaws intact, and those can often be sharp. The research we have done suggests that dogs use their dewclaws for climbing, turning, and maneuvering in all sorts of normal ways and can even allow a dog who has fallen through ice to pull himself out of the freezing water to safety. There are people who worry about snagging a dewclaw when out hiking or hunting and choose the side of caution and continue to remove them. Having seen the slow-motion footage of dogs using their dewclaws, we choose to take the risk of injury.

Starting at 2 weeks, we play a “puppy noises” soundtrack we purchased at increasing volumes to expose the puppies to all sorts of odd noises. The soundtrack is somewhat dated—including the sounds of a telephone ringing, fax machines, and an old modem connection. It also includes sirens, chainsaw,



## SPORTING GROUP

rainfall, dogs barking, thunder, babies crying, airplanes, blow-dryer, doorbell, fireworks, gunshots, knocking, and motorcycles, to name a few. The puppies seem to not notice the noises at all, and we have noticed a significant decrease in startle responses to noises as well as much quicker, nearly instant, recovery time if they do get startled.

Once our puppies are 4 weeks old, we allow visitors. In weather over 50 degrees Fahrenheit, our puppies are in a fenced play-yard in our front yard. We live on a moderately busy back road, with plenty of road noise, neighbors, lawnmowers, children playing, dogs barking, and so on. Being outside also allows for easier cleaning and a differentiation of proper substrate for potty behavior.

Each night, when we bring the puppies into the house, we open the pen and encourage them to potty once they are up and running around and then follow us to the house, navigate 5 steps into the house and down the hall into the kitchen, where there is a puppy pen that includes crates, toys, blankets, and a rabbit tray with wood stove pellets for a potty area. The pellets have been the most successful for us as they slowly break down with urine and allow feces to be scooped or even be mashed into the pellets, which significantly reduce the tracking of poop all over the puppy area. Puppies are closed in crates initially in

pairs or triplets starting at 6 weeks, eventually transitioning to their own crate by 8 weeks.

We have several local puppy families with kids of varying ages whom we encourage to visit often and have even had local sports teams visit the puppies to simulate the noises and actions of young kids (given that we have no kids in our house). We encourage local families to visit often so they have a better sense of the puppies' personalities. Generally, we choose which puppies will fit best in each family and allow them to choose if there are similar puppies.

Our puppy pen includes a wobble board, which is a four-inch-square block of wood by two inches high screwed to an 18-inch-square piece of plywood. We have two different teeters, each with four-foot-long pieces of plywood attached to a four-inch and 12-inch piece of PVC pipe as the fulcrum. We have an insulated doghouse, a dog cot, a baby pool filled with plastic balls, a rabbit tray filled with water, a tunnel, and two plastic play-gyms—one of which has two slides of different heights, and a ramp that allows the puppies to get up to the slide platform. We also have a dog-walk type of structure that is only eight inches off the ground, and the wood is somewhat flexible, allowing for some movement as the puppies walk across. The puppies are allowed to explore these items at their own

pace and comfort.

Puppies go to their new homes at 8 weeks of age. Any “keepers” or puppies not placed go on sleepovers before 10 weeks of age to allow them exposure to other environments and experiences. We find that our puppies tend to transition easily into new homes, and both house training and adjustment to their new families is easy. —M.P.

Thank you, Maggie.  
—Helyne E. Medeiros,  
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[American Pointer Club](#)

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## German Shorthaired Pointers THAT ROMAN NOSE ...

How well do you know your breed's standard? Developers of a breed usually come to agreement about the desired characteristics they want that are recognizable in addition to specific inherent qualities to do the job for which it is being created. Once created, a standard is set for future breeders to keep breeding true to type.

From the beginning, Shorthair breeders were in agreement that nose sensitivity and scenting capabilities couldn't be fine enough. A majority prevailed when it came to the inclusion of breeding stock exhibiting specific physical head characteristics thought at the

time would enhance scenting capabilities. But in 1879, in Hannover, when the breed standard was revised, some of the best breeding stock were eliminated simply because they didn't exhibit the legendary ancient German lineament.

Questions about our standard arise from time to time, such as “When did they take that out?” or “When did they change the [fill in the blank] section?” Periodically a standard may be changed depending upon circumstance and/or the prevailing interest of those tasked with the change. Or for those asking the questions, it may simply be a misconception between two different breed standards or the time frames of their breed's current standard and a previous one.

The first documented import of a Shorthair was in 1926, with the breed recognized by AKC in 1930, and in 1935 individuals organized as the National German Shorthaired Pointer Club wrote a standard. In 1938, some of the same people were part of the group that made application to the AKC to become the breed's official U.S. parent club, the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America.

The term *Roman nose* first appeared in the parent club's 1946 AKC standard: “The fore-face should rise gradually from nose to forehead—not resembling the Roman nose.”

In 1953, the AKC mandated the GSPCA to

## SPORTING GROUP



*Left: Axel v. Wasserschling. Axel's owner, Herr Gustav Machetanz, barely managed to escape eastern Germany with his dogs ahead of the Russia army during WWII. He eventually settled in the Westfalen area of Germany.*

*Right: K.S. Kraft v. Syratal, from the 1935 German Studbook, with head planes typical of the era.*

re-organize and become a separate entity from its original Minnesota club roots. In 1962 the re-organized club assembled a committee to review and rewrite the 1946 standard. Using Ernst v. Otto's 1902 German standard as a reference, the subsequent standard approved in 1976 didn't contain the "Roman nose" reference, nor did the revision in 1992 that is still current today.

In 1954 the Federation Cynologique

Internationale (FCI) was founded, and the standard for the Deutsch Kurzhaar contains a similar reference still current today:

"Viewed from the side the nasal bridge shows a slight curvature in all transition from a nobly constructed ram's nose to a slight rise above the straight line—more prominent in males. A totally straight nasal bridge, although still acceptable, is less attractive, a concave bridge (dish-face) is a serious fault."

Early American imports came with German immigrants prior to World War I or with returning American soldiers after both wars. Both sources were depended upon the German kennel stock available at the time.

After WWII, the prepotent Axel v. Wasserschling dominated Shorthair breeding for almost a decade in Germany, with his get and grand get exported worldwide helping many German kennels rebuild and influenced

the breed in America though imports. Axel had a Roman nose.

In today's show ring, regardless of whether AKC or FCI standards are applicable, one could conclude a Shorthair with a Roman nose would be "much ado about nothing."

—Patte Titus,  
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[German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America](#)

COURTESY PATTE TITUS

## SPORTING GROUP



*Curly-Coated Retriever*

### Curly-Coated Retrievers TWO DIFFERENT CHALLENGES

Recently, one of my Curly-Coated Retrievers was diagnosed with Cushing's disease. At that time, I had never met a dog who had this ailment and certainly needed more information in order to learn more

about it. My vet had simply said that no medication was needed at that time, and she shared with me the results of the all-day test that Shine had in order to diagnose her problem. I then went to work to find out about Cushing's disease.

I found out that every case is different, and

some owners did share that their dog had been through it in the past and did well on medication prescribed by the veterinarian. Shine demonstrated a ravenous appetite and extreme thirst. After six months of deterioration of coat quality (over her back she was almost bald and her coat was an orange color, while her sides and legs remained dark liver, with some curls, but not good coat), I again visited our veterinarian. She agreed that it was time to start her on a medication, and Shine is now on one pill a day.

She has now started very gradually to improve in slow motion and is growing a bit of coat over her lumbar area, which had been very sparse, with just tiny wisps of hair. I realize that any improvement will be a slow process, and I am hoping that her coat will continue to gradually improve, but she has a very patchy coat now, with spots of baldness.

Meanwhile, I continue to learn more about this disease, and Shine maintains her wonderful ways.

If any of you reading this column have any hints for dealing with Cushing's disease, I would really so appreciate hearing from you.

Another challenging subject that I have read nothing about lately is that of a bitch producing one or more "swimmer pups" in a litter. Quite some time ago, I asked Cathy Lewendowsky, a well-known Curly breeder,

about this subject, as she had, in the past, a litter in which a few of the pups had this problem. She shared the following with me:

First, she checked the subject online but then decided to raise the pups like orphans, more or less. She allowed the pups to feed and held them on their sides while they fed. After feeding, she held them while the bitch cleaned them and then put them into baskets propped with rolled washcloths under their front, to put them in the most natural position.

"They had eaten and were ready to sleep. I carried them room to room to make sure no one flattened out. If they were restless, I picked them up and cradled them, and that usually tires out a pup.

"Once they were ready to eat again, I repeated the cycle all over. It took only three days to note that the chest cavity was back to a bowed chest—not a pancake! I had to take time off from work, but no more than if it was an orphaned litter.

"I shall now wait to see whether these pups are more people oriented, since they spent so much time with me or my husband."

Thank you, Cathy, for sharing this very worthwhile information with us.

—Ann Shinkle,  
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[Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America](#)

## SPORTING GROUP

### Golden Retrievers

#### ORDER IN THE COURT

A courtroom can be a very intimidating place. That often depends on the reason you are there. For victims of domestic and sexual abuse, the courthouse can be terrifying, a place where they must face their attacker and testify against them.

That experience can be especially stressful for children who are already traumatized by what happened to them. Today, prosecutors are utilizing ways to make testifying less frightening in such cases.

Enter Sully, a 6-year-old Golden Retriever who helps relax and comfort children in the St. Louis, Missouri, county court system. Sully is a Courthouse Facility Dog who works in family court, prosecutor's offices, and child advocacy centers. Professionally trained to provide a calming influence for children during stressful court proceedings, he helps the most vulnerable victims and witnesses feel willing and able to tell their stories and describe their experiences.

Sully was trained by C.H.A.M.P. (Canine Helpers Allow More Possibilities) Assistance Dogs, Inc., a nonprofit organization that places skilled service dogs with people who have disabilities, and facility dogs with professionals who utilize their dogs' special skills



*Golden Retrievers: "Evening Stroll," painting by Sally Berner, AKC Museum of the Dog*

in healthcare facilities, courthouses, and child advocacy centers.

Becky Shaffer, Sully's former handler and current caretaker, got Sully when he was 2 years old and fully trained. As an assistant prosecuting attorney, Becky took Sully to work with her every day and used him for office staff who wanted or needed him to work with children, teenagers, and adults. Even if an employee was having a bad day, Becky would send him to their office.

"I purchased little stuffed animals that looked like a Golden and put on each one a bandana with Sully's name," Becky said. "And I gave these to anyone who used Sully,

as a reminder."

Becky retired two years ago, but Sully loved to go to work and did *not* want to retire. So, Becky still brings him to the office to continue to work with Child Advocate (CA) Vickie Carricato and child abuse victims. Vicky takes him to courtrooms, prosecutors' offices, and to Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) where the children are interviewed about their experiences.

"We first set up a meet-and-greet so the victim gets acquainted with Sully," Vickie said. "He might do a couple of tricks, then sit next to them or cuddle up. He seems to understand their fear or anxiety and will put his head in

their lap. Once the child starts to pet the dog, they relax and begin to open up about their experience. Some children will even lie down with him or lie on top of him."

Vickie said the judges love him and allow him in the courtroom and in the witness box. Vickie has Sully lie down at the child's feet so they know he's there to comfort them. Some children have even taken off their shoes and rubbed their feet into Sully's fur. The child/victim will be questioned by the prosecuting and defense attorneys and could be on the stand for two to three hours. Depending on the child's age, the judge may modify the oath to tell the truth and will usually provide direction if the questioning is prolonged. Sully's presence makes those interrogations easier for the child to handle.

Sully has worked in over 300 court cases. Vickie has handled child sexual and physical abuse cases, as well as abandonment and deaths. For obvious reasons, the job takes its toll on morale for Vicky and other office staff. Sully is their morale builder. When not working in the courtroom, his next-best job is hanging around the office to bring a golden ray of sunshine and lift their spirits.

But isn't that what Golden Retrievers always do?  
—Nona Kilgore Bauer,  
[nona@nonabauer.com](mailto:nona@nonabauer.com)  
[Golden Retriever Club of America](https://www.goldenretrieverclub.com/)

## SPORTING GROUP



Labrador Retrievers were bred as working dogs, and they enjoy the challenges of problem-solving, learning, and thinking.

### Labrador Retrievers

Jennifer Broome is our contributor for this column once again. Jennifer has been a professional dog trainer for nearly 25 years, working family dogs for obedience as well as specializing in field/hunting dogs and competing in AKC hunt tests and field trials. She is also an AKC Breeder of Merit for Labs and German Shorthaired Pointers. Her specialty is working with the public, helping them to locate dogs that best match their family, teaching about good breeders and what to look for, puppy rearing, overall obedience training, and field-dog training.

#### AN INTERVIEW WITH A LABRADOR RETRIEVER

*Me: Congratulations Mr. Labrador, this is the 30th year in a row that your breed has topped the AKC Most Popular Breed list! Why do you think your breed is so popular?*

Mr. Labrador: We are *great* family dogs! We love people, we love attention, and we love to work. We have an easygoing, likeable personality, and we truly enjoy being in the company of humans. We are easy to train, and we enjoy life.

*Wow, that is pretty cool! What don't you like about being the most popular AKC breed?*

Mr. Labrador: Well, just because we are

popular does not mean our main existence is to be family pets who stay sedentary and confined in the house or fenced yard. We were bred as working dogs, and we enjoy the challenges of problem-solving, learning, and thinking. We get frustrated if we are left home simply to be an object of affection, treated as fluffy toys to be loved on. That does not fulfill our lives or provide environmental enrichment. Don't get me wrong, we love all of the doting from our human families, but we are dogs, we are smart, and we need mental stimulation in order to satiate our brains and burn our mental energy to accomplish tasks and feel satisfied.

*Wait a minute—you mean you don't just love lots of treats, exuberant, high-pitched, loving squeals from your humans, rough-housing, playing and wrestling, then tons of cuddling?*

Mr. Labrador: Honestly, not really. Those human behaviors only get us revved up and overly excited. Not to mention what all of those treats do to my waistline! Even one extra pound on me is like 10 pounds on my humans. I don't know enough not to run my fastest after the ball that you throw, and those extra pounds hurt my joints and make me really sore. So when I run my heart out after a ball that my owner throws, I just don't have the common sense to be careful, so any extra weight just means I will most likely overdo it

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and hurt myself.

*Oh, OK, that makes sense. So, I guess that it is really important to keep you nicely fit and trim. But don't you just love it when your owner shrieks with praise to make you wiggle and jiggle and get you really excited!?*

Mr. Labrador: Oh no, here we go again. Don't get me wrong, I *love* my human family, but how am I to control my exuberance and emotions if my humans get me all excited!? They excitedly antagonize me with enthusiasm, but then they get mad when I jump for joy (on them!). I knock down little kids because I can get so cheerful, my tail launches treasured items off shelves and counters, and I grab at human hands because I just want to play. If my humans act like my littermates, I consider this "game on," and I am going to mouth them, tackle them, and play rough. Then I get into huge trouble!

*Wait a minute ... Your beloved humans get you all excited so that you cannot even control your emotions, and then they expect you to be calm, thoughtful, and well-mannered? Isn't that unfair?*

Mr. Labrador: *Bingo*—we think so! Our emotions are simply a mirrored reflection of how our owners treat us. If they are calm, kind, and collected, then we too will take on that lovely behavior to feel relaxed and balanced. If our humans only interact with elation, roughness, and play, then we get stuck

in a state of excitement, which actually causes us stress and anxiety. It is so difficult for us to behave when we are stuck in that emotional and unstable state.

*Wow, this all makes so much sense! Mr. Labrador, what is your idea of a happy and well-balanced life?*

Mr. Labrador: We love to spend time with our humans. We appreciate when they treat us with calmness, compassion, and kindness. This allows us to control ourselves and be well-mannered. The better behaved that we are, the more we enjoy life! Everyone loves to be around good dogs, and thoughtful, calm people make us better pets. When we are well-behaved, we get to go places, play with other dogs, and be around lots of people.

*What else do you enjoy?*

Mr. Labrador: As a breed, we truly enjoy exercise. We love to swim, go for hikes, and run our hearts out. We love to retrieve (thus our name!).

*How do you feel about strict rules and structure? Some people think that being strict with a dog is just mean.*

Mr. Labrador: Funny you asked that! We actually love rules. We are pack animals, and we appreciate being held accountable for our behaviors. If our owners let us run amok, then we must be in charge. This gives us the reins to be guard dogs, we get to control our humans, and we often develop bad habits out

of stress such as digging, chewing, barking, and being all-around obnoxious and unruly. We would much rather politely follow our humans and their pack, because it is too much responsibility on *us* to lead and control them every day. That just turns us into naughty dogs.

*Well, this all really makes sense! One last question: What is your idea of a perfect day?*

Mr. Labrador: That is an easy answer. We love to nap most of the day. Sixteen to 18 hours is ideal. In order to nap soundly and peacefully, we like a balance. We love a good working walk with our owners where we need to think and be obedient. This burns our mental energy and exhausts us. We love to exercise, play with some canine friends, swim, and do some retrieves. This burns our physical energy and tires our yearning to move. Finally, we love to snuggle with our humans and enjoy bonding and cuddle time. When we are mentally challenged, physically exercised, and (most importantly) loved and cherished, we are very happy Labradors! —J.B.

[The Labrador Retriever Club](#)

## English Setters

### THE HEALTHY DOG IMPORTATION ACT

Most of us were dog lovers first, before we learned about English Setters and other



English Setter

specific breeds. We have big hearts, and we love lots of animals. That makes us wonderful, caring dog owners, but it also makes us easy marks for the people and groups who operate retail rescues.

There absolutely are good rescue groups with people who go above and beyond to help people and dogs in need. You can find them all across the United States. We have several good groups associated with our English

COURTESY: HOT DOG PHOTO

## SPORTING GROUP

Setters. Unfortunately, in the last couple of decades, some people have turned rescue into a moneymaking business. You can find the stories about these bad rescues online nearly every week. The actions of these bad apples are tainting opinions about rescue in general.

If you've been in purebred dogs a long time, then you might remember that at one time most rescue groups were breed-based. They were, in fact, run by breeders and others associated with parent clubs. Breed clubs still operate a huge network of rescues in the U.S., taking care of our own as much as possible.

The business of rescue, where mixed-breed dogs are bought cheaply and sold for high prices, often with a sad story attached, is something different. In fact, this model worked well for rescue groups for years, along with the spay-neuter mantra. Adoption from shelters and rescues became a popular way for people to obtain a dog. The number of dogs and puppies entering shelters plummeted. Fewer than a million adoptable dogs per year are being put to sleep in the U.S. Contrast that number with over 20 million dogs euthanized per year a few decades ago, and you can see the improvement.

This news should be something to celebrate, but shelters and retail rescue groups have not celebrated. What exactly is their mission? Is it to protect the public from stray and unwanted

dogs? To act as a safety net for unwanted American dogs? Or is it to find ways to stay in business?

Since there are fewer dogs and puppies entering shelters and rescues in the U.S. today, this has left these groups looking for "merchandise." There has been speculation that some groups are breeding their own dogs or working with some breeders in the shadows to supply desirable puppies for adoption, but evidence has been lacking.

One surefire way that shelters and rescues have been obtaining dogs for adoption is by importing them into the U.S. Some of these dogs come over the Mexican and Canadian borders. Some come from China and southeast Asia as "meat dogs." (Seriously, who breeds Chihuahuas and Toy Poodles as "meat dogs"?) Some of them are simply street dogs. Others have come from Egypt and the Middle East, Europe, and a hundred other countries.

In fact, groups have been importing over one million dogs into the United States each year. These are not dogs being individually imported to an owner or breeder for a show career. Most of them are being brought over in batches of 30 to 40 dogs. They may or may not have legitimate health papers and vaccinations. Some of the dogs have carried diseases that we didn't previously have in the U.S., and there is no required quarantine

period for them.

Most recently, 34 animals (33 dogs and one cat) were imported to the U.S. from Azerbaijan to Chicago. One of the dogs ended up with a family in Chester County, Pennsylvania. He began acting strangely. He later tested positive for rabies, despite having paperwork that showed he had allegedly been vaccinated for rabies. At least 12 people were exposed to the dog and will have to undergo the rabies protocol.

The case sparked an investigation across several states. The other animals that were on the flight were supposed to be kept isolated in quarantine, in case they also have rabies, but one of the dogs has escaped quarantine and is now nowhere to be found.

This is the fourth rabid dog that has been imported into the U.S. since 2015—all of them rescue dogs. All of them had fraudulent rabies paperwork.

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) announced that starting July 14 there will be a one-year ban on dogs from some 113 countries where rabies is still a problem, including Azerbaijan.

The ban is partly due to the spike in the number of puppies denied entry to the U.S. because they were not old enough to be fully vaccinated.

In fact, according to the [USDA Animal](#)

[Welfare Act](#) (AWA), puppies and dogs for resale (which includes adoption) are not supposed to be imported into the U.S. at all until they are at least 6 months of age. Shelters and rescues have been ignoring this regulation.

There has been outrage from shelters and rescues over the ban. The AKC is being blamed for the ban. In fact, the rescues have only themselves to blame for importing underage puppies and dogs with rabies and false paperwork. The rescue that brought in the latest rabid dog is still collecting money and is planning to import dogs right up to the deadline.

Rabies is not the only disease associated with the imported dogs. The H3N2 canine influenza that first appeared in the U.S. in the Chicago area in 2015 was traced to rescue [dogs imported from South Korea and China](#). Thousands of dogs in the United States became ill as a result of this form of canine influenza. It is now considered to be endemic to the U.S.

Just a few days ago the Healthy Dog Importation Act was introduced in Congress by Congressmen Kurt Schrader, DVM (D-OR-5), and Congressman Dusty Johnson (R-SD-ALL). This bill is supported by the American Kennel Club, the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA), and the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

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The act would require that dogs imported into the U.S. submit valid health certificates from a licensed veterinarian accredited by a recognized veterinary authority, be permanently identified, and checked upon entry. It would not ban dogs from any specific country.

We are all dog lovers. We can all feel compassion for dogs in other countries, though sometimes the groups involved are seeking money and running scams. Regardless of their intentions, we need to consider the health and welfare of our own dogs. Importing dogs with fake health certificates and diseases endangers the health of your dogs and mine. Dogs carrying rabies put all of us at risk. Great strides have been made to reduce the number of dogs euthanized in shelters. Fewer dogs are in need of rescue today. Those are good things. Stop importing more dogs, especially dogs with fake health certificates and questionable back stories. Don't believe everything you read or see online.

—Carlotta Cooper,  
[eshever@embarqmail.com](mailto:eshever@embarqmail.com)  
[English Setter Association of America](#)

## Gordon Setters

### A FEW FIRSTS

Gordons as a breed have been around for quite some time, so let's look at some of

the historic "firsts."

The first two Gordon Setters in the U.S. were Rake and Rachel, imported by George Blunt of New York in 1842. Blunt gave Rachel to his good friend Daniel Webster. The first Gordon registered in a North American studbook was Bang, owned by J.W. White of St. Louis. The registry was the National American Kennel Club Stud Book, published in St. Louis in 1866. In 1886 that registry was merged into the AKC Studbook. Gordon Setters were one of the original 10 breeds recognized by the AKC.

The first Gordon Setter specialty show for which results exist was held in 1945 in northern Westchester, New York, with an entry of 24. Best of Breed was Ch. Downside Bonnie of Serlway, with Opposite to Ch. Brenda of Serlway—littermates. The first Gordon Setter national specialty did not come along until 1983 and was held in Springfield, Ohio, and judged by Mrs. Jeanette Allen of Scotland, with an entry of 393. She selected Ch. MacAlder Penelope for Best of Breed, and her son Ch. MacAlder Best for Shojin as Opposite. The oldest current specialty is the Midwest specialty, held each May in Ohio. It's been going since 1954.

October 4, 1969, marked another first for a Gordon Setter, when Ch. Legend of Gael became the first Gordon to win a Best



*Timberdoodle Dan of Avalon, UDT, the first Gordon Setter to earn an obedience title, never had a non-qualifying score.*

in Show in the U.S. at the Vacationland KC show in Maine. He was owned by Mrs. Cheever Porter of New York and was handled to Group 1 by Robert Forsyth and to Best in Show by Jane Forsyth.

The first Gordon Setter to win the Sporting Group at Westminster came in 1975, when Ch. Afternod Yank of Rockaplenty, owned by Mrs. W.W. Clark of Virginia and handled by George Alston, took the blue rosette.

There are no known records listing the first Gordon Setter champion of record, so more research needs to be conducted.

The first Gordon to earn an obedience title is a remarkable case of "brains" as in the

GSCA's motto of *Beauty, brains and birdsense*. The dog was Timberdoodle Dan of Avalon, UDT, owned by George Dixon of Ohio. Dan began his obedience career on March 8, 1941, when he was 2 years old. He finished in three trials and earned his CD on April 20, 1941. He plunged into open competition on June 14, 1941. He completed his CDX on August 24, never missed a beat and completed his Utility Dog title on September 7, 194—

one day shy of six months since earning his first CD leg. He earned his tracking title on August 22, 1941, as tracking was a part of the Utility requirements at that time.

He never had a non-qualifying score, and of his nine scores, six were better than 190.

The first Gordon Setter to earn the Obedience Trial Championship title was in 1985, when OTCH Steve's Gift of Love, TDX, owned by Janie and Steve Bristow of North Carolina, earned the last points under Gordon breeder-judge and longtime obedience judge George Pugh.

The breed's first Master Agility Champion was Ch./MACH3 Brentwood's Commander



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in Chief, who earned the title in April 2005. He was owned by Julia Ashley and Pam Krothe, of Ohio and Indiana.

There are many firsts in the field category, and those will be along in a separate column.

—Jim Thacker,

[dunbargs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dunbargs@sbcglobal.net)

Gordon Setter Club of America

## Clumber Spaniels

### THE CLUMBER SPANIEL'S ROSETTA STONE

Just as the Rosetta Stone found in Egypt provided the essential key to deciphering hieroglyphs, the 1788 painting *Return from Shooting*, by Francis Wheatley (1747–1801), provided the essential key to our breed's early history. Jan Irving, in her encyclopedic *The White Spaniel*, heralds it as “the major landmark in the development of the Clumber Spaniel.” It has been frequently observed that without this painting, it is likely the Clumber Spaniel would not even bear its present name.

”Shooting” (along with gambling!) was a central pastime for 18th- and 19th-century English landed gentry on their huge estates. With hordes of overseers and servants, hunting filled their plentiful leisure time. Thus it was only natural this would be an important feature of the paintings that adorned the walls



“Return From the Shoot,” by Francis Wheatley (1747–1801), includes four unmistakable representatives of today’s Clumber Spaniel.

of their spacious mansions.

Commissioned by the Second Duke of Newcastle (1720–1794), lord and master of the 3,800-acre Clumber Park in England’s Robin Hood country, this huge, almost seven-foot by over five-foot oil-on-canvas painting hung for generations in the cavernous entrance hall of the 105-room Clumber House, adjoining the dining room that seated some 150 guests for “intimate” dinners. The central figure is of course the Duke, along with a mysterious Colonel Litchfield, William Mansell (the

Duke’s kennel master and true preserver of our breed), two of his assistants, plus four Pointers, and—most notably—four absolutely unmistakable representatives of today’s Clumber Spaniel, in quite varied poses. The painting was widely exhibited, with engraved copies printed in 1792 and 1803 and a reprint recently available online. A portion later engraved by William Nicholls depicting just Mansell with only three Spaniels appeared in the April 1807 issue of England’s well-known *Sporting Magazine*. But the original canvas itself,

ultimately willed to the Sheffield Art Galleries, as recently viewed by Clumberphiles Ricky and Don Adams, has unfortunately been relegated to a storage facility reportedly part of a wastewater-processing plant. *Sic gloria mundi*.

Also seen in the painting is Clumber Bridge, today the only real remaining landmark from the Second Duke’s time, with Clumber House far in the background. Torn down in 1938, little import that it would not have been visible from the angle of the painting.

The painting was commissioned in 1788, the year the Second Duke transferred his principal residence from his Oaklands estate, only too near the political turmoil of London that he detested, to the bucolic charm of the Midlands. At the time the Duke was 68, having experienced the deaths of his wife, both brothers, both sisters, and three sons, and he was barely on speaking terms with his only surviving fourth son.

So much for the painting itself, but what do we learn from it? First and foremost, proof that in 1788 there were at least four representatives on the Clumber estate of the breed which—in all probability because of this painting—would eventually come to be termed Clumber Spaniels. Absolutely nothing assures us, however, that these four spaniels were at the time the only such dogs on this estate, or in England, or in France. The four

MUSEUMS SHEFFIELD, UK

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spaniels on the right of the painting can certainly be explained as simply offsetting symmetrically the four Pointers on the left. Their presence in a party returning from hunting assures us of their use in the field: the spaniels for scrub, the Pointers for open country. The text accompanying the later 1807 engraving reliably informs us of their introduction into England from France thanks to a gift to the Second Duke from a Duc de Noailles, and their preservation “unmixed,” thanks to gamekeeper William Mansell.

Reactions to the painting’s spaniels have varied over the years.

1870: “Perfection. Wonderful backs and loins, with great feather, but not so much lumber as some show dogs of the present day.”

1905: “What better authority do we moderns have to go on than this picture!”

1906: “Wheatley was famous as a painter of domestic subjects, not as a painter of dogs.”

1912: “Small, not more than about 35 pounds. Heads short throughout, distinctly weak from eye to nose.”

1998: “Quality specimens of the breed. Worse dogs have been presented in the show ring even in recent times.”

Finally, three main observations:

First, persistence of type. One could take any of these four spaniels of 1788 into today’s show ring without embarrassment. On the

small side and lacking in substance, they would probably win no prizes, but no one would question for a moment they were Clumber Spaniels. For how many of today’s breeds can this be said concerning specimens from almost two and a half centuries ago?

All four are white and orange (or more accurately, mahogany). Why then the persistent British preference for the “authentic” white and lemon only?

Lastly, the tails of all four are docked, though with unseemly length of flag. This is in no way cosmetic. In the 1700s, organized shows were not yet even a gleam in anyone’s eye. These were simply practical hunting dogs used to flush game in thick, sharp underbrush where long tails would be not only painful but a handicap in doing their job.

Reminder: *Oh, to be as good a person as my dog thinks I am!*

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.  
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Breed Historian and Delegate, [Clumber Spaniel Club of America](#)



*Cocker Spaniel: That face, that fabulous face!*

## Cocker Spaniels THE FACE THAT LAUNCHED MULTITUDES OF COCKER FANCIERS

The Cocker Spaniel standard, in the “Head” section, under “Expression,” provides, “The expression is intelligent, alert, soft and appealing.”

Many probably remember when they first saw that Cocker Spaniel face. I do! The Cocker face is captivating and has drawn in many fanciers to owning, training, improving, and preserving the breed.

Once you are launched into a “career” admiring and helping Cocker Spaniels, what are some of the main concepts you should keep track of to ensure your efforts have the best impact?

*Breed for good temperament.*

There have been historical periods where temperament in the breed could be very questionable. This is such a key feature to people being able to enjoy their companion Cocker, and also for the Cocker’s successes in activities. I have witnessed the improvement that long-term selection for stable, outgoing temperament made, and what joy the improvement brings to everyday life of dogs and owners.

*Do health testing, and be aware of the growing database of results.*

Follow the parent-club recommendations for health testing, and see if there are tests you may wish to do even beyond that. Anyone in the course of a dog career can have unexpected defects and problems arise. The question is what you do about it. It is difficult to fault a person who consistently does health testing and faces up to any problems encountered while striving for overall improvement.

*Pay attention to the environment in which your Cocker are maintained.*

So much of this aspect is common sense. Avoid exposure of your dog to herbicides and

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pesticides. Be careful of the cleaning products you use around the dogs and the method of application. Find out product history of use, if you can, for any product you consider using on or around your Cocker.

*Be thoroughly familiar with currently recommended vaccine protocols.*

You are responsible for maintaining your Cocker's health to the best of your ability. Seek out experts in various care aspects, and familiarize yourself with the research on the canine immune system and things that may affect it. Naturally, circumstances and requirements vary, depending on the area in which you live. Make sure you analyze the benefits against the costs of any products you may use on your Cocker, read the fine print of product information, and seek veterinary advice. Further, your Cocker is an individual, and individuals do not necessarily react in identical fashion to a particular food or product.

*Socialize your puppies, and always continue educating new owners on Cockers and their care. Be available to consult, furnish information, and answer questions.*

It is crucial that you handle and socialize Cocker puppies so they can develop their full potential. Make your best effort to educate new homes on grooming needs for the Cocker and be a referral source for products, services, and educational opportunities they may need for their Cocker. Do not forget to mention

the local Cocker club, the American Spaniel Club, and local obedience training groups. Invite them to events that the local Cocker and all-breed clubs are having, and give them advance information on what they will be seeing so that can get the most out of an event. Prepare to answer follow-up questions, and keep in touch with the new homes to see if they would enjoy attending more events.

Remember the face that launched your interest in the Cocker Spaniel, and all that it led you to.

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

## English Springer Spaniels

### ONCE AROUND THE RING: ADVICE FOR SUCCESS

Following is a compilation of advice from experienced exhibitors.

“First, seek out a handling class with an instructor who will work with you and your dog individually, as well as with a group,” advises Dawan Horock, of Daz-End.

“Master the proper way to enter the ring: gaiting from the entrance of the gate to where you stack. Don't walk in giving the impression of ‘OK, I'm here.’ Practice troubleshooting for things that may happen in the ring. Practice with a mirror to see what the judge sees when



*English Springer Spaniel: Once around!*

your dog is stacked. Become familiar with ring patterns: the diagonal, L pattern, and triangle.

“Carefully choose your lead and collar. Collar placement and tension on the lead make a huge impact on how your dog gaits. On a down-and-back, to control your dog use a short, loose lead—your dog will move more slowly and with more control. On the go-around, give the dog more lead for him to move out faster. Adjust to your dog's speed

changes.”

A confident handler looks ready to win. Chris McGonigle's advice to novices: “Believe it—you might actually win. Early in my ten years of breed ring experience, I was so unnerved when my 6-month-old puppy bitch took a five-point major that I started jumping up and down. As a result, we missed out on BOW or BOS—even Best of Breed. So, to novices I say: Eyes on the prize.”

“Springers are a complicated breed. Have a mentor close by—someone who can see the dog weekly, or at least monthly. Springers require elaborate grooming, and the styles seem to change frequently. Read *Raising a Champion: A Beginner's Guide to Showing Dogs*, by A. Meredith John.

“Learn more about showing in the breed ring by reading. Excellent books that teach understanding structure, gaiting, and naming the parts of your dog include *An Eye For a Dog: An Illustrated Guide to Judging Purebred Dogs*, by Robert W Cole; *The Winning Edge: Show Ring Secrets*, by George Alston; and *Dogsteps: A New Look Manual to Canine Movement, Dog Anatomy, and Natural Gaits of Purebred Dogs for Breeders, Judges, and Anyone Wanting to Show Dogs*, by Rachel Page Elliott.”

Monica Bowers (ESSpecial) encourages newcomers to the breed ring, saying, “We all have to start somewhere!”

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Shove your stage fright behind you. Make your checklist of goals. Listen to these voices of experience from Springer exhibitors with winning advice to share.

If you are uncertain about the pattern requested, ask! Be ready to enter the ring and go exactly where they tell you to go. Leave plenty of room ahead of you when moving. It is very poor manners to run up on another exhibitor. Pay close attention to the judge's directions. Always congratulate the winner and thank the judge for your ribbon. Stick around to watch. Learn more by watching the winners and specials in Best of Breed competition. Blame politics last.

Unless you are showing at Madison Square Garden, leave sparkles and sequins at home. Dress as you would for a job interview, in a suit that fits well and that you are comfortable bending and running in; choose a color to complement your dog. The object is for the judge to watch your dog, not be distracted by wild attire. Good shoes, with rubber soles, are imperative. Read Pat Craige Trotter's book, *Born to Win*.

"Gaiting your dog is an art," Linda Deuel (Lindless) tells us. "Don't bob the poor dog's head—every time your arm goes up, so does the dog's head. Take long, smooth strides, striving to gait in a straight line. Bait the dog, don't feed the dog! Judges don't appreciate

looking at a dog's bite that is full of liver. Be thoughtful. Tell the judge if your bitch is in season when he goes over her."

Choosing your show prospect is a critical basis for conformation success. Francie Nelson (Fanfare) suggests:

"Purchase a really good dog from a knowledgeable, caring breeder. Consider purchasing a male, rather than a female. Breeders don't let top-quality bitches go to novices; good dogs are easier to acquire. Buy an older puppy. A breeder cannot guarantee the show future of a puppy at 8 weeks of age. Study and know the breed standard and AKC regulations. Every time you sign an entry form, you agree to abide by the rules and regulations.

"Consider your goals. If your goal is simply to have a fun experience, go ahead and do it yourself. If your goal is to have a really fine example of the breed be seen by many knowledgeable fanciers, or if your goal is simply to win often, have fun in puppy class, but hire the best handler around."

—Sarah A. Ferrell [Facebook page](#)  
[English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association](#)



Field Spaniel

## Field Spaniels

### TALKING WITH NON-DOG PEOPLE

Whether through family, work, or community, we all experience the sometimes-uncomfortable conversations about our passion with folks who are uninitiated in the world of purebred dog fancy. Having to remain diplomatic can be tough, and striving to educate can be a losing battle, but remember it is an opportunity in every circumstance.

I choose to practice humor in such discus-

sions, because at the heart of it there is usually good intention and the love of the amazing animal shared in common. People appreciate dogs, and many people have a very narrow experience of that appreciation. Sure, they may have owned multiple dogs and even participated in activities beyond that life, but we fanciers have a completely unique set of views and vision when it comes to all things canine. Remember they just come from a different perspective and generally want to share that.

I try to look at it as factual; a majority of people own common things like homes, cars, and dogs. There are niche hobbyists and infinite knowledge for those who have special interest in a hobby such as woodworking, muscle cars, or dog sports. While I may share automobile ownership in common with other people, I am most definitely not a mechanic, nor even an aficionado of a specific type of car. I own a vehicle as a means of transport, and I love the car I drive. I may even know some specifics on the make

## SPORTING GROUP

and model and car type or purpose, such as cargo space or towing capacity. This does not by any means make me an expert. (Now of course as dog people, we know there is a subclass of “preferred dog vehicles” and as such strike up passionate conversation on the topic!) It really is no different for dog owners. People love their pets, their breeds.

It can be a struggle to maintain composure when you hear people spouting misinformation surrounding their own dog practices, methods, or beliefs. Much to our horror, people will form such opinions and behavior based on what they heard, read, or experienced in the past. This leads to hearing about how an adult human trained their dog, the breeding notions they maintain, and other disturbing things. Consider that they may have learned it from their elders or an unenlightened internet post.

In the interest of not getting heady, we might not want to jump right in asking if their dog has a CHIC number, what the inbreeding coefficient number is on their litter, or if they have any majors. Learn about their love for their individual dog and what they see as problematic with the breed. Try to find a common ground of appreciating what dog behaviors endear us, and the fun parts of owning beloved companions.

Instead of lecturing the NDP (non Dog

Person), explain to them what lights your fire in terms of your own breed and the dog activities that bring you joy. Paint a picture for them that might inspire questions or invite conversation.

Appreciate the differences in not only dog breeds, but the kinds of people who love them! Easier said than done when water-cooler talk turns to hearing a coworker is considering dropping a few grand on a designer dog and has no substantial background information. Mention the depth of research you did when you got started and how happy you are that it truly paid off.

Talk up great programs like AKC’s Canine Good Citizen training and certification. Relate it to being able to enjoy your dog as a responsible owner in terms of home ownership, travel, and getting involved in your community.

Refer to the conversations and learning you have had with talking to your breeder or fellow fanciers. Invite them to participate in a training class or attend a show or event. We were once all beginners, and if we wish to see change, we have to be willing to help people learn.

Don’t rule out “pet people” or those who have mixed-breeds or crossbreeds. Everybody has a place in enjoying dogs, and it is not snobbery to want to foster the dog-human

relationship and see dogs in loving “forever” homes. I find many people are surprised to hear the acceptance when we talk about basics like grooming, treats, or how to prevent unwanted dog behavior. I remind them that we all start with those amazing “blank slate” puppies or beginner dogs!

Think of times you have been afforded a chance to learn a new skill. Perhaps you even gained confidence where you once had fear. Somebody somehow took the time and effort to show you you could be successful and that no one is a finished product. So it must be when approaching a non-dog person. I have thrilled at everything from getting a new puppy owner to teach a simple trick to systematically winning over someone who had bad dog experiences as a child.

Discussing veterinary experiences is often a common bond as we all want our dogs to live long, healthy, and happy lives. With so many ways for people to get involved with dog activities now, there truly is something for everyone. Where we once had to discourage the novice who might not go Winners Bitch or achieve a MACH, we can help them to better enjoy their dog’s virtues and instincts. Trick training, scent activities, and working with a dog’s drives are all incredibly validating.

Be a living example. When a neighbor sees

you tiring out your dogs and reaping the benefits, they might just copy you! Maintain good standards as a dog owner, and help others to achieve the same. I think sharing tips is fun, and most people love it when you compliment their dog. The key is to not come across as intimidating or judgmental, even if you don’t share their particular viewpoint.

Remember to not take things too seriously. At the end of the day we can all afford to be kind and appreciate the amazing dogs that make our world awesome and enrich our lives. Being able to laugh at the fact that we spend many hours, miles, and dollars for a bookmark ribbon is priceless.

Know that the letters added to our dogs’ names are labors of love that we choose to pursue—they mean precious little to the uninitiated, but they surely built a bond that is readily apparent.

Appreciate the silliness of our dogs and that a feral canine and a pampered grand champion alike still like to poop, roll, and snort.

Share the pride in what you have gained in your experience, and do your best to foster that in others’ learning. You just might be surprised who you teach and what the outcome might look like.

—Shannon Rodgers,

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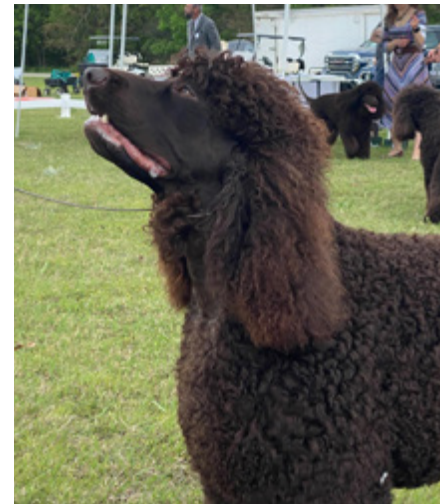
## SPORTING GROUP

### Irish Water Spaniels

#### THE NATIONAL SPECIALTY

There are a few key ingredients for a successful national specialty: Thoughtful, well-organized and determined co-chairs. An interesting, affordable, and comfortable venue. And robust attendance. Despite the waning days of social distancing, the Irish Water Spaniel Club of America's 2021 National Specialty in Tulsa, Oklahoma, had all that and more. Beautiful, high-quality merchandise with distinctive 2021 branding. A Working Certificate water test held across the parking lot from the main hotel lodge. A specialty judge who was in the conformation ring one day and in camo judging the field test entrants the next, including the Best in Specialty Show winner, GCh. Flintcrest Five Star General, just two and a half years old. Dozens of the same Irish Water Spaniels competed in both conformation and performance events. And live stream coverage delighted many club members and fanciers around the world who wanted to attend but could not and were able to feel like they did.

When Mark and Sondra Barker offered to host the 2021 IWSCA national two years ago, the plan was to have it in April in Oklahoma City. They landed instead at the beautiful Post Oak Lodge in Tulsa because it offered a site that was conducive to their most important



*Irish Water Spaniels and their people enjoyed coming together in early May for the 2021 IWSCA national, held at the Post Oak Lodge in Tulsa, Oklahoma.*

goal: a national that fostered conversation and community. We stayed in four-room cabins with front porches for grooming and communing. We ate our delicious meals in a high-ceilinged dining room with a sanitized buffet or under the trees outside. The dogs relaxed the moment they got out of the cars after driving halfway across the coun-

try from as far as Washington, California, Massachusetts, and New York. For five days in the early days of May, the people let go too.

We kicked it off in the sunshine with a regional specialty won by GCh. Poole's Ide Sargeant Sloane, CD, RN, AX, MXJ, XF, followed by a weather-challenged agility trial, and obedience, rally, and sweepstakes in a car-

peted ballroom with glass walls. The national conformation competition was in full sun, with an impromptu a cappella national anthem, a ringside pop-up full of judges being educated, and an entry of some 45 gorgeous, wind-blown Irish Water Spaniels. We managed to have a productive annual meeting, two very successful auctions, a breed history presentation, a wet dog contest, and ten impressive WC runs before a large and enthusiastic gallery.

Our breed was one of the original breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club, and our club is 83 years old. We are mighty proud that our champions are largely owner-handled, our members groom their competition's dogs, and the very same dogs run in agility, obedience, field events, scent work, Barn Hunt, dock diving, and conformation. Our Board of Directors meets almost every month, our supportive members are great friends and cannot wait to gather, our committee chairs hold their positions for years but welcome new volunteers and ideas, and we are a leader in social media coverage for an AKC parent club. We do it all for a common love of the quirky, distinctive, and highly intelligent Irish Water Spaniel breed. You may have to wait a while and travel to get an IWS pup, but you will be so glad that you did.

—Dana Louttit

[Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)

COURTESY IWSCA

## SPORTING GROUP

### Sussex Spaniels

#### LET'S TALK ABOUT TOPKNOTS

The Sussex standard states clearly: "Serious faults are a narrow head, weak muzzle, the presence of a topknot, and a general appearance that is sour and crouching."

When, years ago, the SSCA was required by AKC to reword the standard, Bobby Lewis, Craig Heugal, and I vowed to stick to the original standard in every way. Part of this was regarding "Faults." Where before there were numerical assignments for the severity of each fault, the revision required only "major," "serious," and "minor." Numerically, topknots fell into the "serious" category.

Many have wondered over the years why a topknot should be considered a serious fault—especially when a few hairs sticking up on top of the head can be so quickly smoothed away with a grooming stone. Well, there are different degrees of topknots. The question became more evident to me in the last year, as many photos on social media show pet Sussex with varying topknots. The "so cute" comments on this fault reminded me of the many times I have been asked to groom a dog for a novice before he goes into the ring and then the gasp when that "cute" topknot disappears!

This is one of the many questions that meanders around in my head at times. However, this year one of my males devel-



A Sussex Spaniel before grooming, and after—sans topknot.

oped (grew) quite a serious topknot. Before, I had been lucky to never have more than a few stray hairs to deal with. This was serious. Even more so, but with an answer, when I went out to the kennel because *everyone* was barking madly and found that this particular male had acquired a ringneck dove that flew or wandered into his run. I have had this happen before, never with a good outcome for the bird. However, this time not only had the male grabbed the dove (which are much

bigger than a mourning dove, but not quite as big as a pigeon) but the bird had fought back and entangled his feet in that long, messy topknot!

Picture if you will a Sussex shaking his head and biting at this bird that was screaming and fighting to get free! Trying to hold the dog still long enough to disentangle the bird was impossible—it took a pair of scissors to get the bird loose, and then it was too late (for the bird). It probably had a heart attack.

Anyway, my opinion is that since Sussex Spaniels were bred for "penetrating the dense undergrowth and flushing game" and to retrieve same, hunters would not want to have to cut any bird or goodly amount of undergrowth out of a Sussex topknot! Look at most sporting breeds, you don't generally see topknots or much hair, unless on dogs that were bred more for retrieving in water—Poodles, Irish and American Water Spaniels, and so on.

So this is another reason why standards shouldn't be changed, that dogs should be bred to the standard, and not the other way around.

On another note, Sussex Spaniels are thieves. Most Sussex won't share toys or food. You can buy seven toys all the same, and give them to two dogs, and there will be one that is the favorite and must have for both dogs. Or one dog will carry all seven into one crate or hiding place and guard them all. I have found that the best way to introduce a new toy that was just so adorable that you had to buy it is to put it in a pile of other toys or under a table or something and pretend that it has been there all along. It does cut down on the competition aspect.

—Marcia Deugan,  
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 Sussex Spaniel Club of America

COURTESY MARCIA DEUGAN

## SPORTING GROUP



The WSSCA celebrated the club's 60th anniversary at its 2021 national, held in Asheville, NC, on Memorial Day weekend. Shown: Winners Bitch competition in the ring; handpainted prizes by artist Diane Blasius; national specialty trophies; WSSCA supported entry Best of Breed winner in the Sporting Group.

### Welsh Springer Spaniels SO, YOU'RE HOSTING THE NATIONAL SPECIALTY?

We had our venue; we had our judge; we had a theme; we had a team.

But we had no idea there would be a pandemic.

Since 2015, the Greater Chesapeake WSS Club had been planning to host the 2021 WSSCA National Specialty at the Blue Ridge Classic Cluster in North Carolina on Memorial Day weekend. Things were fraught. We were bombarded with questions, understandably, and the answers kept changing:

*"Will ringside seating be allowed?"*

No. ... Maybe. ... No, definitely not. ... Yes, anyone can have ringside chairs, but they must be six feet apart. ... Yes, bring your own chair and sit where you want ...

Once entries were in, and the final rules were in place, our show committee thought we could relax just a little. Nope.

Dawn the morning of the national specialty. The year 2021 is the 60th anniversary of WSSCA, so we had a "Diamond Anniversary" theme to the trophies. Our trophy table team put together a glittering array of sparkle lights and crystal trophies. But ... we had no first-place rosettes. Second, third, and fourth place? Yep. Just no first place. Me: *"Ack! Where's the superintendent? What's going on here?"* Them: "Miscommunication, sorry! Just give us a list of all the first-place winners, and we'll mail them."

Then an official from the show-giving cluster approached. Sweepstakes were underway at this point, and I was spending a lot of time smiling and saying, through gritted teeth,

"Here's your trophy! You'll get your rosette in the mail. Thanks for exhibiting!"

Said cluster official pulled me aside to ask, "Have you seen your specialty judge? She was supposed to judge another breed and didn't show up. She isn't answering her phone."

Me: Hyperventilating and speechless.

"No problem," says the cluster official. "Just look through the catalog and pick another judge, and we'll make it work."

Me: "We have 90 Welsh Springers, won't that oversubscribe any other judge?"

"Well, yes, that could be a problem," acknowledged the cluster official. "Don't worry about this, we have an hour(!), and the AKC Representative is on the phone now."

Me: Bug-eyed and suppressing a scream.

Where's the president of WSSCA? Found her. Explained the situation. Who can we get

to judge our national specialty at, literally, the final hour? Get the show committee together for a brief talk. Everybody smile! Nothing to see here!

Judge found! Crisis averted. Jeez, Wendy, you're such a worrywart. "Here's your trophy. We'll mail your rosette. Thanks for exhibiting!"

With the liberal consumption of vodka and other spirits, plenty of laughs at ringside and, always, our beautiful display of Welsh Springers, the show committee got through another national. Sign me up as a worker bee for the next one, but I will never be the show chair again. If my resolve should weaken, I'm keeping a copy of this column to remind me.

Thanks for exhibiting!

—Wendy J. Jordan,

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COURTESY WENDY JORDAN



## SPORTING GROUP

### Vizslas

#### WHAT IS THE MODERN HUNTING DOG?

Growing up in the suburbs, I spent many a weekend pheasant hunting with my dad at a local club. It was the best way to spend cool Southern California mornings—Mom handling the dog, Dad shooting, and our dog Elke passing judgment on whoever happened to be the invited shooter of the day. Even at seven years old, I could read a dog who wanted to stop hunting in front of the guy incapable of hitting the broad side of a barn. These are times I'll always cherish.

As the years passed, so did the local landscape and demographics. Our hunting grounds became housing developments, and hunting as a family pastime was less common. I'm still hunting my dogs, but I don't see today's youth and families engaged in the sport as much as in years past.

With the hunting season only months long, and decreased access to hunting grounds, owners are seeking new opportunities to work as a team with their dogs, finding new ways to use those extraordinary canine scenting abilities that come naturally. In fact, dogs' noses are 10,000 to 100,000 times more accurate than ours.

In 2017, the AKC developed the game of scent work based on the work of professional detection dogs, such as drug dogs. In scent



*Scent work is a perfect activity to engage the Vizsla's hunting skills off-season.*

work, however, the dogs sniff out the scents of birch, anise, clove, and cypress. In that first year, Vizslas earned 22 scentwork titles. Over the next three years, the breed added 615 additional titles. As a result, more people are finding satisfaction in working with hunting dogs bred over generations for natural proficiency in scenting. In Southern California,

there has been an explosion of Vizslas coming into the sport, with 12 percent of the participants in the last open trial being Vizslas—more than any other breed.

Of note, most of these Vizslas already have a hunting accolade to their name. The Vizsla/handler teams succeed quickly. Most handlers have already learned to read their dogs in the

field when they're coming into the scent cone, and they're good at bringing environmental factors into play, reading the wind to help guide their dogs into a search area. Could it be that we're on the cusp of a modern hunting dog?

In speaking with Penny Scott-Fox, who was instrumental in the formation of AKC Scent Work and served as scent-work judge at the 2020 Vizsla Nationals in Estes Park, Colorado, I learned that a number of Vizslas are actually using their natural point as a scent-alert indicator.

As a preservation breeder, longtime steward of the breed, and promoter of the Versatile Vizsla, I would never want to see any of the innate abilities of our hunting dogs diminish. During hunting's long off-season, scent work just might be the perfect game to ensure our breed will keep those scent skills in tune before the next outing after live game.

—Jamie Walton

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[Vizsla Club of America](#)

## SPORTING GROUP

### Weimaraners

#### "I'M LOOKING FOR A WEIMARANER PUPPY"

The majority of breeders will agree that the hardest part of responsible breeding is making good placements for the puppies. More than once I've heard the sentiment "The dogs are easy; it's the people who put me through the wringer."

Talk to experienced breeders about placing puppies, and it will bring out recollections about both fabulous owners, and "war stories" about placements that were disastrous.

How do you spot the good homes—and conversely, those that should be rejected? I asked that question of several people whom I respect as individuals who will carefully screen prospective puppy buyers. Everyone I asked stressed the importance of lengthy conversations about the buyers' expectations and experience, and how they plan to meet the needs of their dog.

The buying public has gotten savvy about what to say to breeders. A common approach is to promise the breeder anything and tell them what they want to hear. My advice is just to keep talking, and keep an eye out for "red flags." It's easy to spot "red flag" indicators when they occur in bunches, but it's harder when most of the conversation is good but there are one or two things you're just not



*Weimaraner puppies*

sure about. Here are a few that should raise the hair on the back of your neck:

1. The family schedule leaves the puppy alone for hours and hours. Although the buyers are well intentioned, their life is overly crowded with other commitments. There are only 24 hours in a day, and puppies need a big chunk of time.
2. The buyer talks repeatedly about breeding. Make sure you're not enabling a backyard breeder.
3. The puppy won't live in the house. Don't all the books warn, "Weimaraners can't be relegated to the kennel"?

and maintaining an active dog. Beware when there are repeated questions about allergies, strength of the dog, and how much they shed.

6. You suggest obedience training, and the response is, "I don't need training classes, I know how to train my dogs by myself." Then you have to wonder if the previous dogs were good solid family members or terrors on paws who were banished to the backyard.

7. In conversation there's a history of other dogs that "... didn't work out."

8. The buyer has very limited money. Let's face it, to keep a puppy in good con-

4. There's no fenced yard "... but we walk a lot." You have to wonder how they feel about walks in pounding rain, sleet or snow, and broiling temperatures—and don't forget those 2 A.M. "I gotta go out" pleas.

5. The buyer, or members of the family, have health issues that preclude the activity level needed for raising

condition, it takes substantial funds for quality food, veterinary care and general maintenance.

9. This one is sometimes hard to spot. The buyer evidences lack of savvy about animal behavior. There are people who don't respond to the signals that we, as dog people, take for granted. We're not looking for Dr. Dolittle "talk to the animals" skill, but enough that the person is cognizant of canine communication.

10. You don't have good rapport with the person. Placing puppies is not an exercise in making new friendships (that's an occasional bonus). However, if you're not comfortable with a person, it limits communication. It's also an issue of when you can't put your finger on it but you have a gut reaction that a person is not a good match for your puppy. When in doubt, go with your gut; that might not be the right home.

The purpose of this column is not to send shudders of guilt about past mistakes. The purpose is to remind us all that placing puppies is one of the hardest parts of breeding dogs. Hopefully, ticking off a few things that have "bitten" other breeders will help to get great homes for our wonderful gray dogs.

—Carole Lee Richards,

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[Weimaraner Club of America](http://www.weimaranerclub.com)

## WORKING GROUP

### Akitas

#### WE'RE BACK!

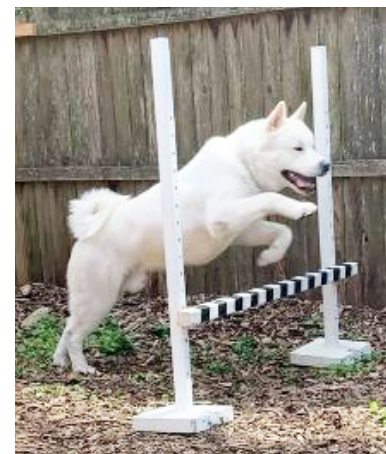
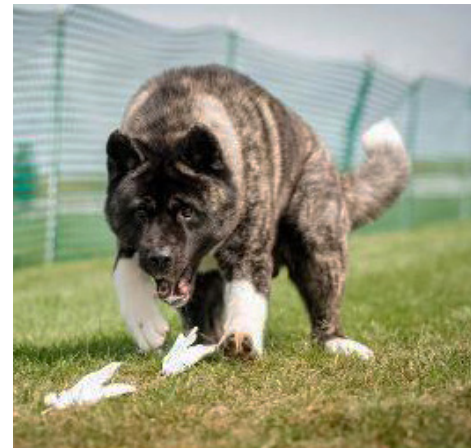
After a long break, the Akita column in the *Gazette* is back. Dr. Rebecca Kestle and I will be sharing this space to bring you topics of interest. Today's column is to hopefully get you and your Akita back to having fun together with performance activities.

While most of us have had some type of change in our lives and daily routine due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many of our dogs have also. Some of you worked from home, and your dog got to enjoy your presence ... *all ... day ... long*. Others may have had increased hours away from home due to their employment. Either way, life has changed for us and our Akitas.

There were many changes to our dog activities also. Training classes cancelled, shows and trials cancelled. Even socializing our young dogs became a big challenge.

Now that most restrictions have been lifted and we are slowly getting back to "normal," our dog activities are opening also. Training classes are happily accepting clients, and dog shows and trials are available in most parts of the country.

For those of you who are still not able to attend trials and shows, AKC has offered virtual—yes, virtual!—rally, obedience, agility, and Trick titles, available to you and your



*Don't be afraid to try new dog sports with your Akita—the breed enjoys and can excel in a wide range of activities.*

dog from the comfort of your home. The complete rules are available on the AKC website. Give it a try!

You may also have heard about Barn Hunt and Fast CAT, two other areas that our breed can do well in. ACA members who compete in any sport are always willing to help and offer support.

The ACA offers a Versatility program that is open to all Akitas owned or bred by an ACA member. It is a wonderful and fun pro-

gram. There are different levels of achievement, and it is designed to keep you and your Akita active. While at first glance the rules make look daunting, it really is fun. Points for a championship to therapy work and even community service help earn the Versatility Awards. There is also a Beginner level in the program. Akitas who may never be agility stars but are Canine Good Citizens or top Trick performers are just what this program is all about.

The ACA Performance Committee members are a great source of knowledge and are always willing to help and keep you motivated.

This year the ACA National will be in Topeka, Kansas, on September 20–25. There will be two rally and obedience trials. If you start training now, you can be ready to hit the rally ring. It is fun!

The best part of rally is that you can talk to your dog the entire time—or beg and plead for that last sit. The performance people at the national will be ringside cheering each team. They are a great group.

If you are not ready just yet to enter a performance sport you haven't tried, get up very early and come and watch. You will have fun, and you'll learn what it takes to get your dog ready for the performance ring.

We have all been there—the first time in the ring, the first time taking your Akita off leash, your dog doing the dreaded "sniff the entire ring," "kiss the judge," or just having the zoomies to everyone's delight but yours. You will never forget your first qualifying score or first High in Trial!

Hope to see you and your Akita at the performance ring!

—Linda Wolf,

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[The Akita Club of America](http://TheAkitaClubofAmerica.com)

## WORKING GROUP

### Alaskan Malamutes

#### FOOD REWARD: THE MALAMUTE'S POWER PYRAMID

Finally! Shows and performance events are gearing up again, and we're able to plan our schedules and training goals once more. So let's take a lighthearted moment to review the rewards that mean the most to our Malamutes, and create a kind of Top Five list: a food-reward hierarchy that can be custom-tailored to each dog in order to maximize their learning curve.

As we welcome new Malamute owners into our breed, it's especially rewarding to see them enjoying a variety of AKC's newer performance events such as Barn Hunt and Trick Dog, and earning these titles in an atmosphere more relaxed and informal than traditional obedience competition.

These events have been an educational journey for me as well, since I freely admit I was very much an "old school" competitor, having begun my doggy career over 50 years ago, working my Irish Setters in obedience under the guidance of some of our most successful and demanding trainers of that era.

As a result, I take every opportunity to explain the fundamentals of learning theory to new Malamute owner-exhibitors, starting with the key concepts of Reward Value and Timing. I also help them to visualize their



*Alaskan Malamute Hal (Shekinah Halcyon Days at Benchmark) pictured at age 5 months alongside his own Power Pyramid: Kielbasa ranks first by far; then beef in second place, followed by liver, chicken, and cheese.*

dog's progress in the form of a literal learning curve—a mental chart to record their dog's progress. This is easier than it sounds, and it's mastered by most owners. It's also useful to analyze the cause of problems they may encounter, such as anxiety and distractibility, and adjust their training environment accordingly. So here's a hearty welcome to our newcomers, as we "old hands" offer our support and experience to make this a wonderful journey of achievement and joy!

*Food vs. Praise? Just Ask Your Malamute!*

Every quality of your Malamute that you

fell in love with in the beginning is intimately related to their unique evolution as a breed with the Inuit native peoples. Their ability to pull heavy loads to bring in the hunters' kill, their endurance and strength, and a certain instinct to find a safe path over frozen lakes and shifting snowfields, created the hard-wired traits of our modern breed. In the

brief summers, they were often simply turned out to forage on their own, becoming skilled hunters themselves and locking in the strong prey drive that we see today.

As a result, food sources—especially meat and fish—are supremely important to Malamutes. The breed evolved in a place and time in which they alone, not some adoring human, were primarily responsible for their own food, and thence their survival and their ability to reproduce. Always seeking food, always thinking of food: These traits came first, and they still do!

In contrast, the breeds developed by humans living in more temperate environments were shaped around valuable traits such as herding livestock and retrieving of game (both greatly modified prey-drive behaviors). Strict selection of the best workers in each generation, including traits such as willingness to work for praise alone, molded these breeds in a completely different way. After all, in a settled culture of livestock-raising or agriculture, with a permanent home base, the dog becomes a valuable partner and can now rely on the human to provide food all year 'round.

Fast-forward several centuries, and today our modern working and companion breeds, properly raised and socialized of course, learn to perform hugely complex training scenarios for praise alone, often combined with being able to play with a special toy reserved solely for a successful performance (and indeed, play behavior is also a greatly modified prey-chasing and -catching response).

But our Malamutes, as far as they're concerned, are still out there on the tundra, hunting for that marmot or hare, air-scenting for that colony of seabird nests full of eggs, stalking their prey, ready and absolutely capable of catching and eating it: ready to survive! And so as we take this truth to heart, we explore and rank all the foods our Malamutes love, and for each dog, we can make a Top

PHYLLIS HAMILTON

## WORKING GROUP

Five list of the food rewards that they work hardest for—their very own Power Pyramid!

### *The Power Pyramid*

Picture this: You're back in school, and you've been assigned a term paper on a new and complex subject—let's say on a new discovery in gene therapy for a specific cancer. Your entire grade depends on it; in fact, you won't graduate unless you get an A on it! But your school is unique: if you get an A, you also get a new car or truck of your choice, valued at up to \$50,000! It's no mystery: you'll work exceptionally hard to learn about your subject, and craft your new knowledge into a solid, detailed, outstanding report and earn that incredible reward.

Now, let's apply this concept to Malamutes, and here's our willing participant: my own Hal, Shekinah Halcyon Days at Benchmark, pictured at 5 months of age, alongside his own Power Pyramid: Kielbasa ranks first by far; then beef in second place, followed by liver, chicken, and cheese. You'll have fun finding your own Malamute's Power Pyramid and watching their learning curve develop right before your eyes!

### *Timing Is Everything*

Let's sum this up with an important reminder: Timing is truly everything. You need to be able to feed the reward within one actual second of your dog performing the

desired behavior, in order for them to associate the behavior with the reward—otherwise, you'll be rewarding whatever they were doing, say, 30 seconds later. If that happened to be rolling on the ground with all four feet in the air, that's what you'll be rewarding—and what you can count on next time!

So here's to you and your marvelous Malamute as together you embark on the joys and challenges of training and a wonderful life of companionship. Regardless of our years in the sport, we never stop learning, as we focus on what a blessing our Malamutes are, in this life we so dearly love.

—Phyllis I. Hamilton,  
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Alaskan Malamute Club of America

## Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

### THE ANATOLIAN: A LIVESTOCK GUARDIAN DOG

Livestock guardian dogs (LGDs) are a recent addition to the shepherd's toolkit in the United States. They have long been used as a first line of defense against predators in Europe and Asia, but it was only recently, in the mid 20th century, that they made their way into the U.S. Their use really did not catch on with American livestock producers until after the Endangered Species Act came



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into being in the 1970s, making it illegal to kill many of the apex predators that were cutting into American livestock producers' bottom line. Dogs are seen as a "predator friendly" means of protecting livestock, since the decision to engage with the dog is entirely up to the predator—walking away means the chance to get a meal from an unprotected property nearby, whereas engaging with the dogs lowers the predator's chances of walking away unscathed.

Since the 1970s, the U.S. government and

several university systems have undertaken many studies on the effects of using LGDs to protect livestock. There is one group in particular that I want to share with the readers here, because it is a good resource for anyone who owns an Anatolian Shepherd, or any other LGD breed, and who wants to learn more about care and handling of working dogs, and it is near and dear to me because it is in my native Texas. That group is the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Livestock Guardian Dog Program.

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

## WORKING GROUP

First, some background. The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Livestock Guardian Dog Program (or TAMU LGD to save typing) is situated in San Angelo, Texas, in the heart of sheep and goat country in the state. It is, as indicated by the name of the program, part of the agricultural extension service of Texas A&M University, the state's oldest public university. Texas A&M is home to the state's only DVM program and has long been the home of serious research geared towards the success of the state's dependence upon agricultural endeavors on all levels. The vet school is the last word in specialist veterinary medicine, and the agricultural extension service is the last word in all things ag related.

The LGD program seeks to educate livestock producers on the advantages and value of incorporating working LGD into their sheep and goat breeding programs. Aside from the inherent difficulties of making a living off of livestock and the land, predators can cause a producer to lose as much as 20 percent of a lamb or kid crop. Lost animals equal lost money.

The TAMU LGD program started in 2015 with the participation of half a dozen neophyte LGD-owning sheep and goat producers, and dogs ranging in age from 6 to 12 months that were purchased from a working breeder in Billings, Montana. The initial yearlong

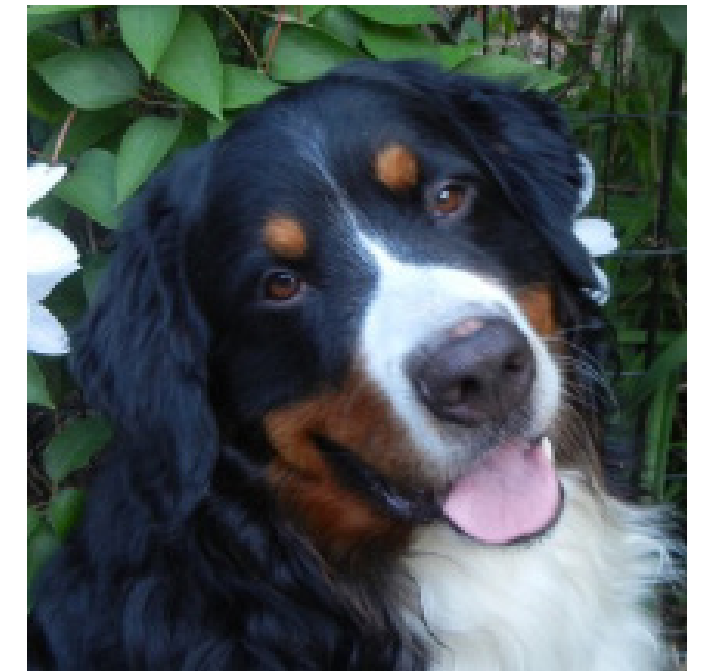
project was successful enough for the LGD program to continue, and the program website includes case studies of the original participants where they detail, warts and all, their experiences. Mistakes were obviously made in this initial trial, but one of the positive things about the LGD program is that it takes steps to keep others from making the same mistakes—it encourages producers to socialize their dogs and bond them with people; it suggests inventive and effective ways to feed dogs at remote locations on large properties where producers may not see the dogs on a daily basis, and methods of tracking dogs in the pasture; and it does all that it can to help people who choose to use working LGD be successful by providing them with best practices to follow.

To this end, the LGD program has frequent, free presentations on topics such as socialization and behavior of the LGD, nutrition, management, introduction of pups to livestock, and ways to create an environment for the dog to succeed as a working LGD. The program has a presence on Facebook and YouTube, where you can find all of their presentations. The people presenting the programs include veterinarians specializing in the behavior of dogs and the human-dog bond, wildlife specialists, and veterinary nutritionists who specialize in feeding canine athletes and

working dogs. Sign up and you get a free pass to the Zoom presentation and the chance to type in questions for the presenter to discuss, as well as the aforementioned archive of videos on YouTube and Facebook. You can find the TAMU LGD program website with links to their social media platforms and archived materials [here](#).

How does this pertain to Anatolians? Because Anatolians *are* LGDs, even those Anatolians who are kept as pets with no stock. All breeds are created with a purpose, and that purpose shapes the animal in every way—size, coat, color, and most especially, behavior—and when we lose sight of the original purpose of our breeds, we lose the breed itself. Working ability is a trait that is selected for just as much as clean movement, a certain head shape, or a more profuse coat. We must keep the working traits of the Anatolian Shepherd alive and in the gene pool, and programs that use the power of social media to educate those seeking to use their Anatolians in a working environment—or even those who are simply curious about the breed's original purpose and want to learn more—are going to help us keep our Anatolians working for generations to come.

—Jo Lynne York,  
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*Bernese Mountain Dog Tommy (Tschuggen's Swanee): "Forever my sweet 'A' dog."*

## Bernese Mountain Dogs

### TRAINING REFLECTIONS AFTER AN OFF DAY: "CHANGE THE OBJECTIVES AND CALL IT A SUCCESS!"

I recently had a frustrating class with my young dog. He acted like he'd never heard the words "sit" or "down." He forgot how to "stay," one of his rock-solid behaviors. Since we are preparing for our CDX (Companion Dog Excellent) debut, he obviously has heard them, and done them excellently in the past. And to top it off I was struggling with a headache. I really thought about just leaving. But instead I had an epiphany and changed my

COURTESY MARJORIE GEIGER

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objectives.

Since I knew I was not at my best, and my dog had forgotten basic cues, I refocused on basics. In addition, I lowered the criteria to warm up on each exercise. A review of heeling and sits, fast paced and highly rewarded, gave us a spirit reset. We ventured into position changes, with lowered criteria. I stood right next to him, using voice and hand signals. After a couple repetitions, I stepped in front. A couple more, and I switched to signals alone. Bingo! The boy was now performing like a rock star. I returned to my dog and rewarded him with treats and a rousing game.

As a class we went on to retrieving. Since this is not a favorite on a good day, I quit after two very nice times of picking up the dumbbell. We switched to playing with the glove. My boy was lying at my feet while my instructor was giving me pointers. Across the room a classmate across the room tossed her dumbbell. My boy leaped to his feet, running toward it! Fortunately he returned to me easily. *Yippee!* He showed interest in a thrown dumbbell and did a great recall. That is a win/win for us.

As I drove home, I reflected on the class. At first I was tempted to shrug off the hour as a lost day. Then I remembered a trick from mental management training. I reviewed the class and looked for the top three things:

1. His interest in the classmate's dumbbell.
2. Lying at my feet calmly between exercises.
3. Drinking out of the pail once we returned to the van.

Number 3 may seem silly, but that has been a learning process for him. For a long while he has refused to drink out of the pail. Then I discovered he doesn't like the clanging noise of the pail against the crate. So a few weeks ago I bungeed the pail to the crate. *Voila!* Now he will use the pail, and I have less spilled water.

"Mental Management" is wonderful structure by Lanny Bassham ([mentalmanagement.com](http://mentalmanagement.com)) that offers training principles that focus on positive thought process for goal-setting and life. Pacific Institute is another similar program that specializes in creating high-performance mindsets.

So my class time did exactly what classes are supposed to do: It taught me many things. When I realized my team wasn't at optimum performance, I constructed a new plan to help us be successful. I didn't leave; I changed the objectives. Fortunately our instructor encourages us to "work at your dog's level." I recognized I was struggling with skills, so I returned to basics. I lowered the criteria so that my dog and I could complete exercises well. I took more breaks to reward my dog. So I may not have progressed in skill level, but our foundations are firmer, our relationship stronger. I

changed the objectives, and now I can call the day a success.

Happy Training!

—Marjorie Geiger,

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Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America

## Black Russian Terriers

### VISUALIZING THE STANDARD, PART THREE: STRUCTURE

In this final installment of our series, we will discuss the remaining structural anatomy of the Black Russian Terrier. The size and substance continue to be a hot topic of discussion amongst the BRT community and judges. The Black Russian Terrier Club of America has issued multiple communications regarding this, so we will simply touch on it here.

According to the AKC breed standard, mature male Black Russian Terriers are to be between 27 and 30 inches in height, with the desired height between 27 and 29 inches. Maturity is defined as over the age of 18 months; FCI states for males 28–30 inches, no less than 27 inches, and no greater than 30.5. Both standards express that height should not exceed 30 inches, as this is a serious fault.

Here is where it gets tricky for those learning about the breed. The AKC standard also says: "Height consideration should not outweigh



*"The Black Russian Terrier should always give the impression of strength. ... The topline ... should always appear strong and remain level while in motion."*

COURTESY BRTCA

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that of type, proportion, movement and other functional attributes. General balance is more important than absolute size.”

So, what does this mean, you might ask? What the standard is saying is that even though a dog looks very tall, massive, and impressive standing in line, it does not mean he is the obvious winner. Bigger is *not* better. Often, we see in the oversized dog a lack of substance and lumbering movement. He may also be lacking in depth of chest, spring of rib, as well as good bone. Remember, this is a working dog. He has purpose! Think of form following function. Endurance and sound working ability come from a balanced, well-proportioned dog. The moderate dog within the desired height and balanced proportions will be able to do this job far longer and with greater ease than an oversized dog.

A crucial piece to take away from the standard when thinking of size is: The desired height-to-length ratio is 9.5 to 10, and as per the standard, “The chest is oval shaped, deep and wide with well-sprung ribs. The bottom line of the chest extends to the elbows or below and is not less than 50 percent of the dog’s height measured from the withers.”

While the Black Russian Terrier is not considered a “head breed,” correct conformation is still important. His head should be proportionate with the body and give an

impression of strength and power. His head is equal in length to his neck, which sets at a 45-degree angle. The planes of the skull and muzzle should be parallel, the back skull being slightly longer than the muzzle measured at the stop giving a 5:4 ratio. The head and muzzle should have substance and yet not be overdone. A wide neck and head can give the impression of a short neck.

Eyes should be almond shaped, medium size, and dark in color. Light, round, or bulging eyes are a serious fault. Ears should be medium sized and set high on the head, but not above the level of the skull and should “fold” forward toward the front of the head. The Black Russian Terrier’s bite is scissors, with full dentition. Any deviation from the bite, or two or more missing teeth, is considered a disqualification.

The Black Russian should always give the impression of strength. Remember, he should have well-sprung ribs, and a deep, wide oval chest that extends to or pass the elbow. There is a slight slope from the top of his withers to a strong, firm back. The top line of the Black Russian should always appear strong and remain level while in motion. Moving “downhill,” roached back, or bouncing topline in a mature dog is incorrect for the breed and should not be rewarded.

The back is broken down into a ratio of

2:1:1—that is, back, to loin, to croup. The loin and croup should be wide and muscular, and his tail should be carried at an approximate 45-degree angle, with a slight 5-6-degree angle of the croup. The tail may be docked or left natural, with the emphasis being on that of the tail-set. A natural tail should visually add to the overall balance and silhouette and should resemble a sickle or saber.

For a full, detailed look at the standard, please go to the [Black Russian Terrier Club website](#), where you can purchase your own copy of the beautifully illustrated standard.

—Emily Foster,

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

[Black Russian Terrier Club of America](#)

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## Boxers

### INFORMATION, PLEASE!

So, you have decided you want to learn more about your Boxer. Where do you start?

With the development of the digital age, the opportunity of finding a wonderful and healthy family companion is at the tip of your fingers. The [American Boxer Club](#) offers a comprehensive website that allows one to travel through the history of the breed—from inception, to development, to importation to the U.S., and then the breed’s American

Kennel Club recognition in 1904, up to and including today’s most pertinent information on the Boxer breed.

A short trip through the website, constructed and continually updated by webmaster, Vicki Rounsaville-Millard, provides a plethora of information for the newly interested or experienced breeder.

From the introduction, “the national parent club is dedicated to the wellbeing of the Boxer breed.” As John Wagner (often cited as the father of the breed) Wagner further states in his book, *The Boxer*:

“Other breeds have pronounced specialized talents ... hunting, herding, trailing, and so on ... but for a combination of the outstanding virtues of many, with the faults of few, our Boxer is the most gifted of canines. For the man, woman, or child who wants an all-around dog, he has no equal. No other dog is more individual in appearance, more keenly intelligent, or sanely, even tempered. These virtues alone are priceless if the dog is to become a part of his master’s family, which he should for the well-being of all concerned. The Boxer has a faculty of worming his way into the good graces and the hearts of an entire household. He seems to offer something special to each person he meets. It’s astonishing, but true.”

The ABC website is divided into categories:



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Boxer

*Information*—This describes the history, development, and structure of the American Boxer Club, membership qualification, and other pertinent facts. This section also includes the opportunity to subscribe (membership not needed) to *In the Know*, the ABC's digital newsletter aimed at keeping both members and Boxer fans updated on past and upcoming

activities, medical updates, AKC events, and news. You can click on any or all seven years of issues for more information.

*Education*—Many books are written about the Boxer, but this section of the website sends you to other resources. The ABC has a YouTube channel, where one can view videos of many of the national specialties as well

as award presentations over the years. Also included are videos of National Champion obedience competition; videos of all BOXER U presentations—the breeder education programs; and many films of specialties and Parade of Champion events from years gone by—a wonderful opportunity to see some of the great dogs from years ago.

*Events*—This area of the website has information on all the previous and upcoming specialties and activities supported by the ABC, including the national and regional specialties as well as the local Member Club Specialties. It also includes information about the

American Boxer Club Futurity and Maturity competitions.

*Health* is the next category. It is interesting to see the extensive medical research regarding not only breed-specific issues, but also many medical problems that affect all canines. Fortunately, the American Boxer Charitable Foundation, the American Kennel

Club Health Foundation, and many other breed and all-breed clubs have invested millions of dollars for research and cures for both breed-specific problems and all canine illnesses. The most pertinent and updated list of testing and screening recommendations for Boxers and overall health resources are at the tip of your finger.

The *Information* category provides the AKC information and details on the Top Boxer winners in all AKC activities, listed by year. From conformation to obedience and all of the AKC sports that Boxers compete in—including dock diving, tracking, herding, VCD, and agility (with more events added yearly), the top Boxers each year are recognized.

The *ABC Store* has available reading material including the *ABC Illustrated Standard* and the booklets *Meeting the Boxer* and *Judging the Boxer*.

After a trip through the website, get ready to pack your bags. The ABC National Specialty, on hold since the pandemic, will be held in Indianapolis, at Wyndham West, on September 18–24. Included will be the national futurity, obedience, scent work, agility, and conformation events, and *lots* of socializing!

—Virginia Shames,  
[arribatali@aol.com](mailto:arribatali@aol.com)  
 American Boxer Club

## WORKING GROUP

### Bullmastiffs

Connie Urbanski and Susie Borg are Whiskey Hill, veteran Bullmastiff owners, breeders, and exhibitors active in regional clubs and in the American Bullmastiff Association. Connie has been elected to judge Sweepstakes at the national, has served several times as an ABA Board member and has volunteered in many capacities for more than three decades. Thanks, Connie, for writing as a guest columnist and for sharing your reminiscences with your fellow Bullmastiff lovers. I know you have mentored so many since you were a “newbie,” myself among them. We would all love it if you would share more of your memories.

### BEING NEW ... 32 YEARS AGO

My daughter, Susie Borg, and I purchased our first Bullmastiff 32 years ago, and Whiskey Hill was born. Our first Bullmastiff was a pretty fawn bitch we called Tillie. While showing her to her championship, we noticed a handsome dog ringside. Mugsy was Ch. Tri Ivory Dutch Treat, bred and owned by Jim and Sheila Polk, who we used as the stud for our first litter. Mugsy was not only handsome but also had a wonderful temperament.

The only health checks being done at the time were OFA hip certifications, and CERF was just being talked about. Things have cer-



*Longtime Bullmastiff breeder Connie Urbanski and two Whiskey Hill puppies*

tainly changed, and at the time good temperament was a huge requirement in selecting our stud dog. So, after Tillie was 2 years old and received her OFA number, we eagerly waited for her to come into season. We were blessed in that department, as Tillie came in

season every six months to the day. My grandmother had bred dogs, and so she told Susie and me: “This is what you need to do: The bitch will be in season 18 days—nine days in, and nine days out—and you breed the bitch on days 9 and 11.” What did we know but to follow her instructions! We then called Jim Polk, and he totally agreed to the plan. No blood testing whatsoever; we just followed my grandmother’s instructions. On days 9 and 11 of her season we met Jim with Mugsy and had a tie both times. Now we just had to wait. By the six weeks mark, there was no doubt Tillie was pregnant, and Jim came over to see Tillie for himself in case it was wishful thinking by the newbies. When we opened the front door, Tillie greeted Jim, and he had the most wonderful grin on his face. He then palpated and said we would probably have seven pups. Needless to say, we were all very excited!

We waited, and I read every book I could on whelping a litter. During the wait my grandmother passed away, so we were on our own. I thought, “How hard could this be? Dogs have been whelping forever, and Tillie will surely know what to do.” I was checking her temperature twice a day, and then around 5 p.m. on September 11, she began having contractions. By 10 p.m. I could tell something was wrong, however. and to make a long story short, one of the pups was breech and stuck. I

called the emergency vet clinic and they told me to put my hand in and turn the pup. Oh, sure! I tried, but it seemed to be only making Tillie more uncomfortable so off to the emergency vet. We lost the pup that was stuck, but the remaining eight were fine. In those days you weren’t allowed in the back with the vet, and they sent us home. Today I wouldn’t have left, but we were new at all of this. They called us at 5 a.m. and said we could pick up Tillie and the pups.

Off to pick up our precious cargo! We arrived in the waiting room and you could hear the pups, which only added to our excitement. The vet staff brought Tillie out to us, and there the pups were in the basket we brought. Susie and I looked in the basket, and every pup had a bright-pink nose. I was almost in tears, and the staff had no idea why they all had pink noses. I waited until we had Mom and pups settled and I got out my *Bullseye* and called Carol Beans to find out what to do about the pink-nosed litter. Well, she was very gracious and then began laughing, and I was beside myself. She then explained that the noses would darken up in a few days and apologized for laughing at me. Understand, at the time I didn’t know Carol at all, but loved her publication (*The Bullseye*), and it was the pink noses that brought us together.

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All was going well when Tillie didn't have enough milk, and we needed to supplement. Once again, I called Carol, and she guided us to goat's milk. After this, she checked in with me every day to be sure all was well. I could never thank her enough, and she became one of my dearest friends.

The icing on the cake with this first litter was something Susie and I could never have imagined. Our pick male, Dutch, became a champion very quickly and was awarded Best in Show at a large show in California, with Sheila Polk on the lead. It was a memory I will never forget, and that we shared the day with Jim and Sheila Polk will always be special. BIS Ch. Whiskey Hill's Bootlegger gave us the opportunity to travel and meet many special Bullmastiff friends. He was truly a once-in-a-lifetime dog and companion to Susie.

Today there are so many tools available for breeding and selecting the right bitch and stud. However, in some ways I would prefer to proceed as we did 32 years ago.

Always dream big! —C.U. and S.B.

Thank you, Connie and Susie!

—Lindy Whyte,

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[American Bullmastiff Association](#)

## Doberman Pinschers

### THE TRIBE

Dog people, as we are often called, includes breeders, owners and handlers in conformation, performance, and obedience venues. The judges are also among the travelers, with their year planned well in advance. I think we are better described as a "tribe." We have plans, we look at show schedules to determine where we are going in the coming months, we know who will be there. We save spots for friend's RVs. We are like a national traveling carnival, moving from one show site to the next. We know the best dog-friendly motels or hotels and the best restaurants in the places we are going. We scream and yell when our friends win, even as they beat our own dog.

Each year our breed's national specialty is a primary destination. We make reservations for the following year immediately after the current national. Many set goals for being among the Top 20—the DPCA holds three Top 20 events, in conformation, agility, and obedience—during our national. Vacation time is set aside for travel, and arrangements are made for dogs left at home, for family meals, and so on while we journey across a few states or across the country. We've come to know our Canadian peers, who routinely cross the border to compete in AKC events, and many



Americans go to Canada to compete, including their breed's Canadian national.

Then the pandemic. COVID-19 changed the world. It stopped the tribe in our tracks. Dog shows came to a grinding halt. It impacted thousands of lives, and the financial consequences hit handlers, show superintendents, photographers, vendors, dog publications, graphic designers, and many more. "We" were shocked at all that happened to what we believed was an invincible and solid web surrounding our world. Then ... the country shut down.

In addition to the loss of income, we lost our connection to our "tribe." We were required to stay home. There were no face-to-face encounters, across town or beyond. Training

went online. No in-person obedience, agility, or handling classes. The AKC made it possible for people to earn some performance titles with their dogs virtually. Many parent clubs, including the DPCA, cancelled their national specialties. For the DPCA, this was only the second cancellation since 1924; the first was during World War II. We had Facetime and other ways to keep in touch, but—and it is a big *but*—that did not suffice. It did not meet our emotional needs, did not replace the hours of chatting, going over dogs, and arguing about whatever while sitting at dinner or ringside during the groups. We did not have the celebratory parties when the newest MACH bar was awarded to one of our tribe.

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

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The DPCA Top 20 committees determined that there were not enough shows or trials during the pandemic to warrant holding the events at our 2021 national. We were thrown into a world unfamiliar to us. Some became depressed; being home for months was not the norm. Many pandemic litters were planned, whelped, and raised. The tribe had to recreate their lives.

When the country began reopening in January, my home state was the destination for those from all over the country. They came for the Florida circuit, stayed for Ocala, then stayed for other Sunshine State shows. Then moved into Georgia, and northward into the Carolinas as those states opened up again. The world was looking more familiar. Arms were outstretched into hugs, as mask mandates were also lifted. Smiles were ear-to-ear as we regained the physical connection with other humans, as important to “dog people” as their connections with their dogs.

When something we take for granted is gone, we realize how much more important the sidelines are. In the world of show dogs, we’ve come to understand the rings are, perhaps, the least important part of why we are there.

—Leslie Hall,  
[pajant@aol.com](mailto:pajant@aol.com)  
Doberman Pinscher Club of America



German Pinscher

### German Pinschers

#### WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

If you had to list the top five things you look for when you’re looking for a particular breed, and for a particular dog within that breed, what would your top five things be?

For me, the two things are slightly different. What I look for when I’m deciding on a particular breed of dog includes its historic purpose, level of care and maintenance, overall health of the breed, energy level, and general

temperament and personality. When considering a particular dog, I look at things that vary within the breed such as specific energy and temperament within the normal range for the breed, and at the parents and grandparents. I also look at my particular needs at that particular time: How will this dog fit with the other dogs in my household? Will it get along with my current dogs, enjoy the sports I want to pursue, and be comfortable in

my house, neighborhood, life?

I chose German Pinschers because they’re a medium-sized, short-haired dog, and generally healthy. Their historic purpose as ratters and general farm dogs is one of the reasons the AKC includes them in the Working Group. They tend to be independent thinkers who like to work and particularly enjoy scent games like nosework, Barn Hunt, and tracking as well as agility, obedience, and rally. One specific criterion for me when I chose this

breed was a dog I could pick up if I had to. German Pinschers generally weigh between 30 and 45 pounds, which means that as they get older (and I get older) I can help them in and out of the car and up and down stairs in the event of an emergency, or just as a little extra help every day.

Once you decide on a breed like the German Pinscher, it’s important to find a good, responsible, and ethical breeder who can not only provide information about the breed, its history, and any specific things to be aware of, but also help match the right puppy to you. Responsible breeders know their dogs, have sound reasons for their breedings and watch the puppies in the litter, noting their development and tendencies.

It’s also important to be clear, to yourself particularly, about what you’re looking for. As I said above, some of my criteria include getting along with my current dogs, enjoying the sports I want to pursue, and living happily in my neighborhood and with my lifestyle. Nothing is guaranteed—for example, neither the dog nor I know until we try how well we’ll work as a team or how far we can get in a particular sport, but knowing what I want and finding a breeder who knows what they’ve produced will get me as close as possible to a great companion and the ability to achieve many of my external goals. It’s all part of the

COURTESY: HOT DOG PHOTO

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journey, and you adjust as you and your new dog learn and grow together, but knowing what you hope for and working with a breeder who knows the breed makes for a great start.

So what are you looking for? It's an important question, no matter whether your criteria are similar to mine or completely different.

If you think a German Pinscher might fit in your household and your life, check out the German Pinscher of America website (see below) and the breed information at [akc.org](http://akc.org). Both are good starting places to learn more about whether a German Pinscher might be the breed for you.

—Deb Coates,

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German Pinscher Club of America

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## Great Danes

### GREATNESS

The Oxford English Dictionary definition for the word *great* when used as an adjective reads: “Of an extent, amount, or intensity considerably above the normal or average. Very large and imposing. Of ability, quality, or eminence considerably above the normal or average.” While imposing size is often what the word *great* conjures up in the mind, something of greatness might not be so *only* because it is big. Greatness can be a subtle combi-



*“The Great Dane combines, in its regal appearance, dignity, strength, and elegance with great size and a powerful, well-formed, smoothly muscled body.”*

nation of aspects, which along with size give something extraordinary presence; a presence nearly intangible, but immediately and undeniably recognizable when it exists.

In purebred dogs there are a few breeds that are labeled with the term *great*, *greater*, or *grand* in their name. Perhaps the most familiar of these is the Great Dane. While it is true that the use of the word *great* as applied to the Dane is descriptive of the breed's impressive size, it does not simply pertain to that. The Great Dane is more than just a large dog. He is a true giant, but one unlike any other breed capable of attaining similar height and substance. In the American Kennel Club's standard, the desired “General Appearance” for the Dane is clearly described in the very first paragraph:

“The Great Dane combines, in its regal appearance, dignity, strength and elegance with great size and a powerful, well-formed, smoothly muscled body. It is one of the giant working breeds, but is unique in that its general conformation must be so well balanced that it never appears clumsy, and shall move with a long reach and powerful drive. It is always a unit—the *Apollo of dogs*. A Great Dane must be spirited, courageous, never timid; always friendly and dependable. This physical and mental combination is the characteristic which gives the Great Dane the majesty

COURTESY CHANTEL O. JOHNSON

## WORKING GROUP

possessed by no other breed. It is particularly true of this breed that there is an impression of great masculinity in dogs, as compared to an impression of femininity in bitches. Lack of true Dane breed type, as defined in this standard, is the most serious fault.”

The *Apollo* of dogs. How so? Aesthetically speaking, when looking at ancient artwork of this Graeco-Roman god, especially in sculpture, Apollo is not portrayed as a Grizzly Adams type of man. Rather, he is presented as smooth, athletic, of noble rank, and youthful in appearance. Apollo is often considered the ideal *kouros*—neither coarse nor refined, but rather muscular and strong.

If we are comparing the Great Dane to Apollo, we find both figures to be beautiful in form. But was the image of Apollo’s physique the only thing about the mythical god that inspired the standard writers to compare the Great Dane to him? We may never be certain, but we do know that the in the myths about Apollo, he represented more than just the idea of youthful beauty. He was also known as a god of light and healing; of being bright and pure. Those who live with Danes often witness their innate power of empathy, and an inborn wisdom of *knowing*, which makes them natural therapy dogs. Some stories say Apollo himself was spirited, courageous, friendly, and dependable, and never timid or unduly

aggressive. When the poet Simonides wrote in the late 500s, he used a metaphor seemingly drawn from the Apollo kouros, which was, “In hand and foot and mind alike foursquare/fashioned without flaw.” Great Dane, Apollo among dogs.

Those who do not know Great Danes might view them only as *big*, overlooking the breed as one possessing a high level of versatility. The fact is, these are working dogs, and as such should be mentally and physically able to perform. They can be quite talented and are capable of learning and doing so much more than some realize. Danes are found enjoying nearly any canine activity that can accommodate for them. It is exhilarating to watch a Dane run at a full double-suspension gallop or make a long splash-down into a dock-dive pool or fly through an agility course! They do weight-pull, tracking, service dog work, and more. This breed can be playfully silly, mindfully protective, calmly majestic. Indeed, the word *great* in the breed’s name implies a dog of giant size, which it *is*, and which it *should* be. However, in Great Danes, *greatness* is that and so much more.

To further learn about this unique breed, visit the parent club website.

—Chantel O. Johnson  
[Great Dane Club of America](#)

## Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

In 1936, breed expert Dr. Albert Heim wrote to the Swiss club a speech where he reminisced on the first days of the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog. Below is a translation, primarily done by Dr. Wolfgang Reese of Wallau, Germany.

### DISCOVERING THE “BIG SWISS MOUNTAIN DOGS”

*To the General and Jubilee-Assembly of the Club for the “Big Swiss Mountain Dogs”*

Dear Friends of the Big Swiss Mountain Dogs [1],

You have most kindly invited me to your meeting and the twenty-fifth birthday festivity. I thank you! How I would like to have come to you! But I am in my 88th year of life and too weak to attend. As part of the festivity I am sending you a few written words which I would have spoken if feeling healthier. Please have them read to the group. (Auf Rothöhe) [2] From Rothöhe, Switzerland.

Be it known to all of you, my dear friends of the Mountain Dogs, that you are standing here on the grounds, surrounded by the park and house of the late famous animal lover, who in 1892 brought the ‘Dürnbächler’ (that is, the ancient name for the Bernese Mountain Dog) to Burgdorf, Switzerland, and then again



*Greater Swiss Mountain Dog images from the Natural History Museum in Bern, Switzerland.*

exhibited them in 1912 in Bern, Switzerland. He then became a successful breeder of those dogs for many years.

In 1912 he brought the Entlebucher and exhibited them in 1913 in Langenthal, Switzerland, for the very first time.

And that he was the one who rescued the Big Swiss Mountain Dog from extinction! That was Franz Schertenleib of Rothöhe, Switzerland. Thanks be to him! How did

## WORKING GROUP

this happen? As late as 1850 the Big Swiss Mountain Dog could be found all over Switzerland. Then, imported dogs of famous names and with pedigrees replaced him—he, “the common butcher’s dog without descent and name of breed.” One did not see the fact that he was to be found everywhere: proof the animal to be a balanced, indigenous native old race of better, higher content, better than the displacers. By 1880 he was almost totally undiscoverable.

Then, on a journey, our friend Franz Schertenleib met in Schöntannen, Switzerland, between the towns of Schwarzenberg and Gurnigel a big dog like he never had seen before. Colored as the Dürrbächler but with short hair and a stronger, bigger build.

Franz Schertenleib was so impressed by the animal that he bought it and brought it to the judges-ring together with his Bernese in September 1908. He wanted to know if the dog was something special, he expected no evaluation, he said. I, the judge looked at the dog strictly, then I joyfully shouted, “There, you have recovered the big ‘Bläß’ [3] [*bläss*, or *blaze*], believed lost! The Big Swiss Mountain Dog.” And with that remark I gladly gave him a rating of “vorzüglich” excellent and the first prize. Possibly this breed was to be rescued.

And with these words the race was bap-



*Greater Swiss Mountain Dog*

tized, and the SKG (Schweizer Kynologische Gesellschaft-Swiss Cynological Society) was the baptismal maid. Today, “Bello vom Schloßgut” would still be a winner. Soon Franz Schertenleib, the eager searcher, looked for, found, and brought other Big Swiss Mountain Dogs, like “Barry” for Mr. Imhof, and “Belline” for Mr. Jaussi and some others. The ancestors of a whole race now were together! Good luck to you, multiply!

Of course, if we wanted to rescue the old breed, we could not be modestly silent. At first, they were discussed in the judges’ reports and requested for further search for the still existing breed, then exhibited. At a follow-

ing exhibition there were 4, then 8, then 10 “Big Swiss” presented. Our president now estimates the number at about 300. Some 28 years ago we, the deceased or decrepit, found our breed again and recognized it. All of you have now, for a quarter of a century bred, educated, and practically held her and raised her.

My hearty thanks to all of you and especially the leaders of our clubs together with this plea: *Be faithful to our club and our breed, faithful as the Big Mountain Dog.*

—Dr. Albert Heim, May 1, 1936

*Translation notes:*

[1] Despite actual habits, the name of the breed is translated correctly.

[2] Rothöhe is a hilltop overlooking Burgdorf where Franz Schertenleib lived. Schertenleib was the first registered member in the Klub für grosse Schweitzer Sennenhund. Besides an admirer of dogs, he was also a wine dealer.

[3] A dog with a broad white marking over

the nose and forehead was a *Bläss*. Note: Among farmers and the majority of the rural population, there were no specific breed names for their dogs; they simply didn’t care. The local dogs were called names depending on their colors. If the dog had a marked white collar closed over the back, he was called a *Ringgi*. A dog with a broad white marking over the nose and forehead was a *Bläss*. When the white marking was less pronounced or even missing, he was a *Bäri*. In the Emmental, this dog was also called *Gelbbäckler* (“yellow cheeks”) or because of his yellow marks over the eyes *Vieräugler* (“four eyes”).

*Pictures are from the Natural History Museum in Bern, Switzerland.*

[Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America](#)

## WORKING GROUP



*Komondor coat looks quite different at different ages. Left is a 9-month-old, before cording; right, a 3-year-old, corded.*

### Komondorok

#### THE CHALLENGES OF KOMONDOR BREED EDUCATION

Teaching about Komondors has challenges. The breed is obscured by a heavy coat which looks quite different at different ages. There are rarely large entries, so almost no judge can get practical experience to use when they do get a large entry. We also have advantages in teaching our breed. Physically, under the coat the Komondor is not an unusual dog. We have an AKC standard and a couple of versions of foreign standards which describe the breed well. We have a collection of pictures in our PowerPoint presentation

and our Illustrated Standard showing good examples with and without coat.

When getting an important point across in adult education one piece of guidance is: Say what you are going to say, say it, and then say what you said. Another good plan is to: describe it with words, show a picture of it, and use numbers to describe it. When teaching about our rare breed we must use all of these techniques.

Our standard says, “The body is slightly longer than the height at the withers.” A recent Hungarian standard says the trunk length is

optimally 104 percent of the height, with an acceptable range of 100–108 percent. Our standard says the body is “powerful, (with a) deep chest, which is muscular and proportionately wide.” The same recent Hungarian standard says the chest width is 28 percent of the height, so a 28½-inch tall Komondor is 8 inches wide. So given the description

in our standard and those numerical measurements, the Komondor body can be pictured as a slightly rectangular Doberman, with more substance than an ideal Doberman.

Continuing the approximate Doberman analogy, we can discuss how to evaluate a densely coated Komondor under the coat, standing and on the move. Imagine that slightly rectangular and overly robust Doberman standing in front of you. Close your eyes. Could you still find the key structural elements (shoulder and rear angles, length of neck and ribcage, amount of bone,

proportion, breadth of top skull and muzzle) of the dog with your hands? Of course. Now send that imaginary Doberman around and down and back. Only watch its footfall, reach and drive, and balance at the feet and topline. Did you find out enough to evaluate its soundness, and movement efficiency and style? Of course. This is how the key elements of structure and movement must be evaluated on a heavily coated Komondor.

For judges, they can bring their abilities to evaluate smooth-coated dogs into the Komondor ring. For Komondor breeders, they should go watch Dobermans, Rottweilers, and maybe even Salukis and Irish Wolfhounds in the ring, because it is awfully hard to learn how to appreciate structure, proportion, and movement from scratch on dense- and variably coated Komondors.

Komondors in lovely coat look great, but are they better? The photos on this page show a 9-month-old and a 3-year-old. Which one is better? They both have nice topline and size. The adult seems to have a better neck and stands over his front well. The puppy seems to have more rear angles at knee and hock, he might be closer to just off square. Of course, they are the same dog. Does the corded coat typify Komondor type? Some years ago, we asked Anne Rogers Clark how she defined type in Komondors. She said it was the out-

COURTESY ERIC LIEBES



## WORKING GROUP

line. Asked for more detail, she said “outline” was the flowing line from a proudly held head down a strong neck and smoothly into a level short topline and a well-rounded rump. This dog shows that at both ages. Neither age is better.

The Komondor Club of America has an excellent Illustrated Standard available on its website. I suggest that breeders and judges alike take advantage of it.

—Eric Liebes,

[ericliebes@earthlink.net](mailto:ericliebes@earthlink.net)

[Komondor Club of America](#)

## Leonbergers

This month we revisit some insights on training the Leonberger from Astrid Robitaille, written in 2018.

### PATIENCE AND PROOFING

I’ve trained and titled many breeds that are considered “nontraditional” and are scarcely seen gracing the competitive obedience rings: a Malamute, a field-bred English Pointer, two retired racing Greyhounds (now *that* was a challenge!), Leonbergers, and now a Portuguese Water Dog. All presented unique training challenges.

For instance, many retired racers are not very comfortable in a sitting position, and



Leonberger

mine were no exception. The Pointer was very field-bred and had the attention span of a gnat. Very eager to please, but definitely not the brightest bulb on the tree, and once she learned a behavior it became *<the rule>*, the default setting to which she reverted when she was unsure what I wanted. The Malamute was very Leo-like in a lot of ways, doing things in her own good time, at her own pace, and shutting down out of boredom when I wasn’t careful about limiting repetition.

Perhaps the brightest dog I’ve ever trained, yet the most challenging, is my current PWD bitch. She’s really busting my training chops and making me rethink strategies like never before.

When the subject of training comes up, I’ve seen many Leonberger folk heave an exasperated sigh and say, “Leonbergers just aren’t cut out for obedience,” or “Obedience with

Leonbergers is always interesting, *and* humbling!” This bothers me, because in my experience, Leonbergers are not “special snowflakes” when it comes to training. True, every breed is unique, and every individual presents the trainer with different learning styles, strengths, and weaknesses, but I think we are often too quick to assign the label “creative Leonberger obedience” to a less than stellar performance when what we should be doing is looking inward and asking ourselves, “Does my dog really understand what I am asking, and reliably execute the behavior? Have I successfully faded out food lures and immediate rewards? Have we practiced with distractions? On grass? Around other dogs? With a ‘judge’ following us around the ring, clipboard in hand?” What seems reliable in our familiar training class or backyard can quickly unravel in an unfamiliar, high-stress environment, and as our stress levels rise, the leash conducts that stress right to the dog.

In my opinion, training a Leonberger is no different than training any other breed or mix. The trick is finding the right combination of training methods that work for your Leonberger, and then putting in the time to build consistency and solidify the behaviors. I think we sell our breed short when it comes to performance. Are they likely to rack up HITs with the frequency that Goldens and

Border Collies seem to? Probably not. But neither should we lower our expectations simply because “it’s a Leonberger.” Patience is crucial, and it’s often easier preached than practiced.

I’m guilty of that, most recently with my young bitch. Several friends from my training group were entering a local trial, and despite my nagging misgivings about our level of preparedness, I sent in my entry. I told myself that she’s a smart dog, I’m a decent trainer, and maybe she’ll pull off a miracle.

As pride goeth before a fall, suffice it to say that there was no miracle. Dismal though it was, our lackluster performance was in no way her fault but rested squarely on my shoulders. Though she worked amazingly well for me in class and at home, the busy, stressful, *loud* all-breed venue overwhelmed her, and she shut down.

So back we are at square one, building confidence and solidifying heel position. She has Open exercises down pat, but until her heeling and ring confidence are rock solid with all sorts of distractions, we won’t set foot back in the Novice ring. That is, unless I break down and follow the crowd again. Turns out we humans, the half of the team with the more developed brains and opposable thumbs, are much harder to train than our dogs! —Astrid Robitaille, 2015

[Leonberger Club of America](#)

## WORKING GROUP



*Mastiff: staunch guardian of hearth and home*

### Mastiffs

#### IN PRAISE OF THE MASTIFF, AND A LOOK TOWARD THE FUTURE

With expectations and training approaches suited to them, Mastiffs can be successful in, and enjoy virtually *any* endeavor. Mastiffs are a uniquely versatile breed! While renowned for being wonderful family pets and “couch potatoes,” they are staunch guardians of hearth and home

and have excelled in the show ring, therapy work, rally, carting, weight-pulling, scent work, Dock Diving, and even agility (although Mastiffs tend not to traverse an agility course with “sit-on-the-edge-of-your-seat” speed and panache, they do complete it in their own time, with gravitas). Many Mastiffs are multi-titled in these competitions.

This brings me to conformation, which is unfortunately regarded by too many as “looking pretty in the show ring.” Conformation in fact, is assessment of the correct type and sound structure that enables a dog to perform his or her job or purpose—as stated in the breed standard, which should act as the blueprint for the breed! Sound structure (conformation) supports performance, health, and longevity. In addition, the genetic endowment contributing to sound conformation may be passed on, in the genetic *mélange*, to future generations.

In terms of present-day Mastiff conformation in the U.S., there is much good news! As Steve Oifer has commented in articles and posts: “The Mastiff has come a long way in correcting toplines and rears, which have plagued the breed since time immemorial. Rears higher than fronts have resulted in reverse sloping toplines; and over the years, have been a bone of contention to breeders, exhibitors, and judges. Rear leg angulation in

the past was either too straight, or over-angulated, with cow hocks being the norm instead of the exception.

“Presently, certain breeders have placed more diligence on producing better rears and have succeeded in correcting both toplines and rears. This has resulted in judges awarding more group placements for the breed than in any previous recorded period. This is certainly reason for celebration!

“Unfortunately, there are still a number of Mastiffs lacking proper toplines and rear angulation. It is important to keep in mind that the genetic material for those unwanted traits still lurk in the shadows of the Mastiff gene pool. Such traits can easily return again if we let our guard down!

“An issue of growing concern is there are an increasing number of individuals breeding overdone types. This trend has been the bane of several other breeds over the recent past and has increased in Mastiffs to the point it now presents a real problem for the breed.

“The danger is in the fact that the standard presented for the breed in this country was altered to allow for greater wrinkle about the head. More wrinkle equals more skin, and more skin equals more droop about the forehead, eyes, side curtains, lips, jowls and dewlap. Couple that standardized trait change to a breeder who loves excess, and in no time

our Mastiffs will be hard to differentiate from other giant breeds who have gone down this road.

“It is unfortunate that the breed standard for the country of origin, regarding wrinkle, was not followed—or that little concern for consequences was anticipated in the quest to enhance ‘expression.’ There is a cost to the breed’s aesthetics in these specimens that do not follow the traditional historical expectation and to the public’s perception of what a correct Mastiff should look like!”

I personally hope that our club will take note of Steve’s comments about these unfortunate trends and develop some strategy to combat them. Steve discussed breed aesthetics; I will add my own concern that an overdone Mastiff—with excess skin and fat—may compromise soundness and overwhelm desirable conformation to the point our Mastiff may no longer be the versatile breed we know and love today!

I would also wish to see us—as Mastiff Club of America members, owners, breeders, and aficionados of our noble breed—celebrate and continue the successes that have been achieved. But that *will* require vigilance and commitment!

—Karen L Cornelius,

[klc@klcassociates.com](mailto:klc@klcassociates.com)

Mastiff Club of America (MCOA)

## WORKING GROUP

### Neapolitan Mastiffs

#### "IT'S ALL POLITICS!"—OR IS IT?

We've all heard the phrase "It's all politics." If you're like me, you've said it at a time or two yourself. But what does this mean? And is it true? And perhaps most important: Is it always bad?

I've thought about this for a long time, noodled it around inside my head. Seems to me that we use the phrase "It's all politics" to imply that the fix was in. That there was something outside the visible facts that influenced someone's choice or vote and thus affected the outcome. That someone's attitude incorrectly influenced a decision. Or even that one or two persons actively colluded in some improper way. The implication is also nearly always that it's not fair, and that politics is bad.

In our world of dogs and clubs, the accusation of "politics" most often comes when actions are voted on in meetings, during club elections, and at dog shows when judges make their final selections.

I've come to the conclusion that something is "political" if you do something you normally would not do because of who is involved. Also, usually if this is for some sort of personal gain. But, I also think that it's not always bad.

Suppose you vote for (or against) a motion



*Neapolitan Mastiff*

because you either like or dislike the individual who has presented it, not because of the motion itself. That's politics if you would have voted differently if it were someone else. Even worse, suppose you vote the way you did because someone you know or trust or want to impress has told you to do so because of their own likes (or dislikes.) That's politics.

But if someone you want to impress tells you to vote for in a certain way and that is the way you were intending to vote anyway for your own valid reasons, that's not politics. It's also not politics if you don't have a strong opinion one way or another and someone explains how and why they are planning on voting, and you can agree, so you do. Not necessarily, anyway.

If you and your friends happen to agree on something and end up voting the same way, even if it creates a "voting bloc," it is not politics. It is simply the normal result of people of similar attitudes, experiences, and goals who share similar opinions.

It is a normal human tendency to "go along" with others you like or respect. And there

is quite a natural tendency to be influenced by personal dislikes. We are all still too much like little kids picking their friends to be on their baseball team.

And finally, "politics" isn't always bad. Sometimes it is good to impress or honor someone. As long as it's not done to further your own personal goals or positions and there is no lasting harm, why not? That's the murkiness of "politics." It's not the fact of voting (or picking a dog); it's the reason behind the act.

Each of us must regularly examine our own reasons for our attitudes. I call it "turning your thinking sideways." What if someone else were to present the same issue; would I vote the same way? If someone else handled that dog,

would I still pick the same dog? If yes, then it's not politics. If no, well ...

The fact is that it is very hard to infer someone else's motives by watching their actions. Each of us must give some leeway when judging someone else. Don't assume. Just because you know two individuals do not get along, do not assume that every vote on opposite sides of an issue is because of that dislike.

Once at a dog show, a judge awarded Best of Breed to a dog owned and handled by a good friend. I overheard the following ringside conversation:

First observer (with obvious disgust): "It's all politics. The judge picked that dog because it was so-and-so's dog."

Second observer (placatingly): "No, the judge picked that dog because he liked it the best."

First observer (a little disgruntled): "OK ..."

Second observer (going for the win): "The judge liked that dog best because it was so-and-so's dog."

Politics? Maybe. Maybe not. The only way to say yes is if the dog so clearly did not deserve the pick that the final selection is shocking to the most casual of ringside watchers.

Otherwise ... give 'em a break!  
—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe,  
[Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com](mailto:Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com)

## WORKING GROUP

United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club

### Newfoundlands

#### N IS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND

*N* is for Newfoundland, a large heavily coated working dog known for its skills in water rescue and draft work. The breed can range from 26 inches and 100–120 pounds for the girls, to 28 inches and 130–150 pounds for the boys and is well-balanced and has substantial bone and size.

*E* is for the excellent temperament, which is the hallmark of the breed. The Newfoundland is intelligent, wants to please, and responds best to praise. The soft and benevolent expression can melt the most hardened heart.

*W* is for a water dog renowned for strong swimming skills and a strong rescue instinct. The Newfoundland is known for its work on the fishing boats from Newfoundland and for rescues of shipwrecked or drowning people. Water tests held across the country showcase the breed's aptitude for water and allow fanciers to add up to three water titles—Water Dog (WD), Water Rescue Dog (WRD), and Water Rescue Dog Excellent (WRDX)—to their Newfs' official names.

*F* is for the breed's full, luxurious coat. A flat, double coat of soft, dense undercoat and a topcoat of straighter, coarser, water-resistant



*Newfoundland Darbydale's All Rise Pouch Cove, 2004 (photo Tilly Grassa)*

hair protects the dog from the cold and the water. It does require regular and thorough grooming, with some trimming of ears, feet, and chest. However, one will still find hair everywhere!

*O* is for “Oh, no, he's drooling!” A talented drooler can sling slime up onto the ceiling! A drool-towel, judiciously used, is a necessity for most members of this breed.

*U* is for uniting with his human family. Newfs need to be underfoot and an integral part of their family. They will give never-ending love and companionship. It is a breed that is a natural for therapy work.

*N* is for the breed's reputation as the children's nanny. The author J.M. Barrie modeled Nana in his book *Peter Pan* after his own Newfoundland. Every proper Victorian English family would have a Newfoundland as a nanny to the children. The breed is good with all ages from 1–100 when properly trained.

*D* is for a draft dog renowned for its strength in harness. Whether pulling children in carts, bringing in firewood from the woods, or taking the garbage to the curb, the breed delights in being a working partner with its human family. Passing different levels of draft tests, like the water tests, will allow suffixes after the Newf's name: Beginner Draft Dog (BDD), Draft Dog (DD), and Draft Dog Excellent (DDX).

*L* is for Landseer, the nickname for the white and black color. Black, brown, and gray are the other recognized colors. Solid-colored dogs may show white at the chin, chest, toes, and tip of the tail. The Landseer should be a predominately white dog with black markings. The Landseer was popularized through the artwork of famous Victorian-era English

painter Sir Edwin Landseer.

*A* is for an athletic dog whose athleticism belies his size and substance. He is capable of jumping on grooming tables and couches—and on his humans, if not well-trained!

*N* is for the Newfoundland Club of America, an active parent club that is a leader among parent clubs in promoting education and responsible dog ownership, funding health research through its Charitable Trust, and helping Newfs in need find their forever homes.

*D* is for *devotion*. Newfoundlands are devoted companions who have won the admiration and hearts of the many people who are devoted to the breed.

—Mary Lou Cuddy,  
[bearscamp@gmail.com](mailto:bearscamp@gmail.com)

Newfoundland Club of America

### Portuguese Water Dogs

#### PWDCA—ALMOST 50 YEARS OLD!

**E**xciting days are ahead in 2022 as the PWDCA celebrates its 50th anniversary and hosts its 30th National Specialty Show! There is so much great material to cover about those 50 years, it would take a never-ending book to share it all. There have been so many wonderful people, events, and places, bringing very happy memories to

## WORKING GROUP



Portuguese Water Dog

mind. The fantastic Winter 2020 issue of *The Courier* dedicated its articles to “Legends of the Breed.” In this column I wish to share some of the highlights with you.

1968: the first female PWD was imported from Portugal by Deyanne Miller, followed by a male In 1970. These two “foundation” dogs produced the first litter to be born in the U.S (on

Nantucket Island), on June 17, 1971. At this time the PWD was threatened with extinction, and thanks to the goodness of the Miller family, and others, the breed survived.

1972: The PWDCA was organized by a small group of 16 owners as more dogs were welcomed into the U.S. Responsible leadership and breeders carefully planned out the future of the breed.

1981: the first regional PWD club was established, in Connecticut—the Fairfield County PWDC, now Nutmeg PWDC. There are now 18 regional clubs across the states, offering many venues to members.

1984: At the first AKC Championship, the Working Group was won by Ch. Charlie Brown. Charlie also became known as “The PWD Goodwill Ambassador”—handsome, charming, self-assured and personable. Everyone who met him adored him.

1992: The first PWD national specialty was held, with judging by Carla Molinari from Portugal. This was preceded by many years of showing and numerous dogs obtaining championship titles in breed and obedience.

2013–2014: A huge honor as the AKC’s top winning male show dog in the U.S., across all breeds, was a PWD: MBIS/MBISS/GCh.P Claircreek Impression De Matisse, RN. Matisse’s wins included 238 Bests of Breed, 350 Groups, two national specialties, and the

Top 20 Competition.

1998–2020: The PWDCA President’s Award was given annually to a club member to recognize people for their service to the breed.

Many, many other notables include:

*The people:* Deyanne and Herb Miller, Clara Doyle, Helen Roosevelt, Sonja and Jim Santos, Kitty Braund, Barbara and Ed Whitney, Carolyn Meisel, and Linda Fowler, to name only a few.

*Grooming:* The PWD has two coat types (curly/wavy), two clips that are acceptable (Lion/Retriever), and multiple colors (black, brown and white) and combinations thereof.

*PWDCA’s current longest continuous members:* 1974: Jayne Kenyon. 1978: Richard Bigler. 1978: Bob and Ruth Hollander. 1979: Thelma Gouveia, Rita Sylvia, Lin Kulp and Maryann Murray.

*Activities and titles:* Dogs obtained titles in breed, obedience, water work, rally, super-dog, tracking, Top 20, agility, Register of Merit, Producer of Merit, and the Multiple Achievement Certificate.

*Water work:* 1991: After many years of water work, the first water titles were earned by the breed doing what they loved to do and had been bred for. Depending on the required activity the dogs could earn the following titles: Working Water Dog, Apprentice Water

Dog, and Jr. Water Dog Certificate. All the time the dogs were loving their swimming, splashing, and water-working activities.

*PWDCA honors:* The AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award, AKC Breeder of Merit, and AKC Delegate.

*Publications:* 1972: A simple newsletter, later called the “Lifeline,” was started by Deyanne Miller to bring members together and share knowledge. From this evolved the official publication of the PWDCA, *The Courier*, to provide information to members to perpetuate the original mission of the PWDCA. *The Courier* includes information on dogs at work and play, and articles and photos from members on health, training, conformation, and rescue, among other topics.

*The Courier* has earned the DWAA’s “Best National Breed Club Magazine” award 10 times, and won the 2009 AKC Publication Excellence Award for extraordinary achievement and communication excellence for its article titled “We’ve Not Only Helped Our Own Dogs, We’ve Helped All Dogs.” PWD owners have also received individual writing awards given by the DWAA.

*The AKC GAZETTE’s PWD breed column* has also been a source of communication to the public and for over 30 years has had one PWD owner-editor who has contributed over 129 columns.

## WORKING GROUP

*Health:* PWDCA members have been exceedingly active and concerned about the overall health of their beloved breed. Many research programs have been supported by the club and its members all for the betterment of the breed.

*Rescue:* PWDCA Rescue began, and has been very successful, as a small group of members noted the need for rescuing, evaluation and placement of all PWDs that had been given up or abandoned by their owners or found in shelters, or when a breeder is in need of help. PWD Rescue has grown over the years and now has representatives all across the country who volunteer in times of need.

*Membership:* in the beginning, a small group of sixteen owners came together to form the club. Now members, in the hundreds, come from across the USA come together to devote their time and efforts of caring for and perpetuating the “wonderful world of water dogs,” a breed they love deeply.

*The Portuguese Water Dog Foundation*, an organization founded by PWD owners who are “dedicated to funding canine medical research focused on issues that affect the health and well-being of PWDs everywhere.” Working closely with but independent of the PWDCA, great research progress has been made in eliminating and/or developing testing for certain medical problems that can occur in the

PWD.

Needless to say, I have only covered briefly certain important aspects of a most incredible and unique organization, the PWDCA. Looking ahead, may the PWD and the PWDCA have many, many more years of success in all their endeavors.

*Obrigata* to all PWD members and owners who have worked tirelessly for so many years to promote and maintain the natural tendencies of the breed.

My sincere thank you to *The Courier* for the wonderful Winter 2020 issue that provided me with all the great information. For more, please go to the club website below.

—Carole Prangley-McIvor

[Portuguese Water Dog Club of America](#)

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## Rottweilers

### DON'T HOLD BACK ON SOCIALIZATION OF THE PUP YOU HELD BACK!

A problem I often see in young, purebred dogs—in all breeds—comes from the common practice of “growing a puppy out.” It’s understandable when a breeder has a nice, promising puppy to hold it back for oneself, to see how the pup develops. It’s a good idea for a breeder to keep their options open. Pup can always be placed later in a pet home or perhaps with someone who likes to show and can



Rottweiler

add prestige to your kennel name.

But breeders often already have other dogs. Some are older and retired, low-maintenance dogs. Some are adults, actively involved in showing, breeding, training, and competing. Thus, the youngsters are often last to get the attention that is so desperately needed the first

several months of life. They often spend their days in a kennel run, with another pup or dog at home, or in a crate waiting for their turn to come out and play.

Those days up to the “golden” milestone of 16 weeks (give or take) are the biggest opportunity you will have to socialize and expose

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

## WORKING GROUP

the pup—and eventual dog—to real life. The baby-dog brain is its most malleable at this time for exposure to new stimuli and making positive associations. This is the time to get pup out! Short car rides, strip malls, parks, children, walks in the neighborhood. Meeting new people and appropriate new dogs of all sizes and colors. Wearing a collar, walking on a leash, seeing the sights and hearing the noises of city life, of cars and trucks, loud sounds, smells of food, cats, birds, the feeling of grass, asphalt, tile, sand, grating beneath the feet. Real life outside of the home is noisy, smelly, and messy!

When this is not accomplished before 16 weeks, the dog will have a deficit in its resiliency to new surroundings, new people, new problems. Pups left at home are often more bonded and comfortable with the other dogs they live than with people. This is what I see in pups who the breeder has kept until after 6 months of age and the dog has never left the home. The breeder often sighs that the pup is too shy and scared for showing. Well—um, yes! That’s what happens when left at home, and that’s on you!

And while some socialization can still be accomplished after 4 months of age, it is slow and not always as complete as when it is done at an earlier age. It certainly lacks efficiency, considering what can be accomplished.

So, if you’re considering keeping a pup back, ask yourself, “Can I give the pup what he needs during these first months of life? Socialization, basic obedience, confidence-building, life skills? Time with kind and gentle strangers? Do I have the time and commitment?” As dog people, we are often at training and shows, grooming, preparing, driving to and fro. Keeping another pup may not be the best idea considering the whole spectrum. Be honest with yourself and do what’s in the best interest of the dog, and possibly the people who happily bring the dog into their family if you decide to not keep the pup after all.

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

## Samoyeds

Our guest columnist for this issue is Mary Drexler. Mary has been a Samoyed fan ever since her family made an impulse purchase of a puppy at a pet store in 1988. That first dog introduced her to the world of AKC obedience and showmanship, and she has been an addict ever since. Mary now competes in conformation, obedience, and agility. She has owned and shown other breeds but Samoyeds continue to be her passion. She



Mary Drexler and her Samoyed Hex

believes a dog should be a beautiful example of their breed and also be able to work at high levels in performance. Mary also believes that the key to a dog’s success is a trainer willing to figure out what the dog needs to understand its job. She currently shares her life with three Samoyeds, a Border Collie, and a Sheltie.

### HEX CAN DO ANYTHING! LESSONS IN COURAGE FROM A ONE-EYED DOG PART ONE

It is January of 2018 and I am filled with

excitement. Hex, my dog of a lifetime, was just days away from a date with a beautiful, talented stud dog and I was already dreaming of the puppies they would produce. She had finished the year with 11 points and a major, two UD legs, and 3 QQs to her MACH. Hex was only three years old and was well on her way to my goal of being the first C./ OTCh/ MACH Samoyed.

It all came crashing down on a Tuesday. Hex had woken up with a swollen, runny right eye and was a little nauseous. My vet got her right in. There was no sign of injury, but the eye wasn’t responding normally to light. My very alert vet checked her eye pressure and found it was 41. As normal is 20 or less, this was very concerning, and she promptly sent us to the ophthalmologist. After a brief exam the ophthalmologist brought all my dreams crashing down in one diagnosis. Hex had a rare form of glaucoma that effects first one eye, then the other. She was already blind in her right eye, and there was a 95-percent chance she would be completely blind by age 5.

Our focus switched from training and planning for the future to eye-drops, observation, and worry. Initially Hex was prescribed latanoprost and dorzolomide drops daily to keep the pressure inside her eye under control. Hex’s breeder and awesome supporter Robinette Dunahugh-Ralston, DVM, helped

COURTESY MARY DREXLER

## WORKING GROUP

me purchase a pressure pen so I could check her eyes any time she acted uncomfortable. Donna Cummings, the SCARF liaison for glaucoma, was also a wonderful resource to help explain glaucoma and its medications and symptoms. I was so grateful for their support. I learned to watch carefully for eyes that were watery, bulging in appearance, or shrinking into her head. I also checked pressures if she seemed to have a headache or was nauseous, as both can be a symptom of severe eye pain. At first, Hex struggled a little in low light. She would be unsure if we were walking early in the morning or late at night. She would also crash into things on her right side that she wasn't expecting to be there. It was hard to see her struggle, but in typical Hex fashion she quickly learned to adapt to these challenges.

To say I was devastated was an understatement. From the day Hex had chosen me, she had taken a firm grip on my heart. She was up for absolutely anything and everything I asked her to do. While it hurt to think she wouldn't earn the titles she deserved, what was really crushing was the thought that we wouldn't be able to continue to train together and build on our already strong relationship. Hex wouldn't let me give up on her, however. After a brief adjustment period, she made it very clear that she wanted to work. But could a one-eyed dog

really perform safely and effectively in obedience? What about agility? Without a right eye, how would she heel? How would she be able to safely jump? I was in uncharted territory, but I had a talented dog who wanted to try. I wasn't going to give up on her. —M.D.

*(To be continued.)*

Thank you, Mary.

—Heather LoProto, SCA Public Education Chair

[Samoyed Club of America](#)

## Siberian Huskies

### HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW SHCA.ORG?

Hello! My name is Jessica Breinholt, and I have taken on the *Gazette's* Siberian Husky column for the Siberian Husky Club of America (SHCA). I have been involved in various aspects of the breed for about 35 years, including conformation, sled dog racing, companion/performance events, breeding, and rescue. I hope to continue the tradition of entertaining and informative content set by our late columnist Jane Steffen.

I would like to start by introducing you to the parent club's newly redesigned website, at <http://www.shca.org>. If you haven't visited our SHCA site in a while, I encourage you to look it up and explore! Club webmasters Mary Groth and Anne Palmer have done a

fabulous job rearranging the site and making it device-intuitive.

Of special significance to me is the new Rescue Resources section of the site. As the breed grows in popularity, Siberian rescue is ever more important; and as a Siberian breeder and fancier I believe it is critical to support rescue for the continued well-being of our breed. I also believe our parent club should provide a comprehensive resource for Siberian rescue just as it provides resources for other aspects of the breed. I think the new Rescue Resources section of the website is a great start, and I hope you will take some time to look at it. As "Siberian people" we are sometimes approached by friends, co-workers, and acquaintances looking for Siberian rescue information ... maybe they know someone looking for a rescue Siberian, or someone looking to rehome their dog. The SHCA website's Rescue Resources pages may help you provide answers to such inquiries if you don't already have them.

The SHCA website (as well as *akc.org*) is also the place to find the latest revision of the breed standard for the Siberian Husky. The revised standard, approved by the AKC in February 2021 and effective as of May 12, adds disqualifications for merle and brindle coat patterns. These patterns have begun to appear in various pet "Siberians," despite



*Siberian Husky, watercolor, Susan Jacob*

the fact that they are not native to the breed and indicate impure breeding. By adding a disqualification now, it is hoped that these patterns will be eliminated before they become entrenched.

As I write this, we are in the midst of "coat-blow" here at the kennel—which means the show season must be starting! I wish you all of you a happy, productive summer with your



## WORKING GROUP

dogs. It won't be long before we head into my favorite time of year: mushing season!

—Jessica Breinholt,

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

Siberian Husky Club of America

## Standard Schnauzers

### ENCOUNTERING WILDLIFE: COYOTES, MOUNTAIN LIONS, AND BEARS

North America: home to some of the most dangerous mammals on the planet (humans top the list). Mammologist Bryan Harding's list for *North American Nature* includes three such species—coyotes, mountain lions, and bears—that can mean big trouble for you and your dog if you encounter one. Avoidance is your best defense, but how do you avoid such encounters?

We live on a canyon rim in northern New Mexico's mountains, where a constant stream of wildlife visits our yard. Our motion-sensing camera fastened to a tree near our house records squirrels, foxes, deer, bobcats, lynx, raccoons, coyotes, mountain lions, bears, and the occasional feral human!

*Coyotes*

Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) have spread to all parts of North America: wilderness, rural, and urban. Coyotes prey singly on eggs of Canada geese, small cats and dogs, deer fawns, and

other small mammals, including infants and young children left alone outdoors. Alpha pairs and packs also prey on adult deer, geese, and larger children and dogs. Coyotes are opportunistic feeders: seasonal fruit, carrion, and garbage. Our exceptional West and Southwest drought has made coyotes bolder.

A coyote's weight is similar to that of a Standard Schnauzer. Eastern urban coyotes are larger than their western wild counterparts, probably due to greater food availability and lack of enraged ranchers who hunt them.

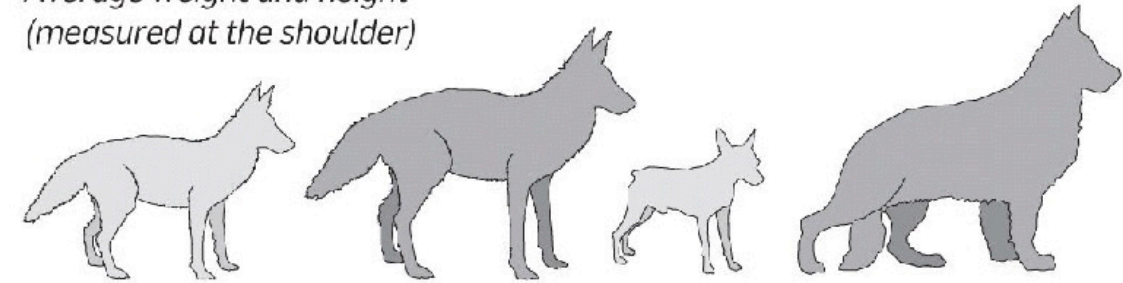
Coyote muzzles are long and pointed. Coyotes carry their full, bushy tails low when walking. With smaller feet more oval and splayed than round, compact SS feet, coyote tracks are distinguished from those of wolves (*Canis lupus*, whose feet measure approximately 4½ to 5 inches in length and 3 to 3½ inches wide) and large dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*). Unlike dog tracks, wolf and coyote tracks often have the hind track overlaid on the front.

One morning in the 1990s, my husband Ron and I walked with our lagging Standard Schnauzer Murphy (WolfeTone Wüstefuchs Wunder) in the canyon behind our house. When I urged Murphy to hurry, he frolicked up, with three coyotes in tow. He seemed to say, "Mom! Dad! Can I bring my new friends home for lunch?"

## AT A GLANCE

Larger, more wily and much more varied in color than its Western counterpart, the Eastern coyote is a product of migration and adaptation, establishing itself in New Jersey and other urbanized Eastern areas more than 50 years ago.

Average weight and height (measured at the shoulder)



**Western coyote**

Weight: 20-30 lbs.  
Height: 18 inches

**Eastern coyote**

Weight: 30-40 lbs.  
Height: 24 inches

**Miniature pinscher**

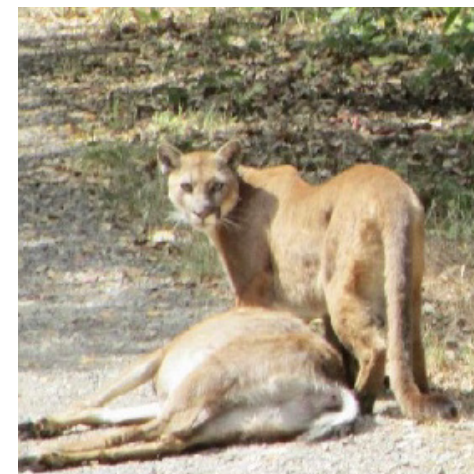
Weight: 8-20 lbs.  
Height: 12 inches

**German shepherd**

Weight: 85-95 lbs.  
Height: 26 inches

THE STAR-LEDGER

Source: Jonathan Way, Eastern Coyote Research, American Kennel Club, [dogsinddepth.com](http://dogsinddepth.com), NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife



Even urban areas can host wildcats, coyotes, and bears.. In June 2021, bicyclists on a heavily traveled trail near San Francisco Bay came across this mountain lion with a fresh deer kill. Center, a blonde black bear on our deck.

PHOTOS: LUTHER PUGH/LARON SMITH; GRAPHIC: THE STAR-LEDGER

## WORKING GROUP

“No, Murphy, they want you to be lunch.” Ron yelled, stamping his feet. The coyotes slunk off.

### Mountain Lions

Mountain lions (*Puma concolor*), also known as cougars, panthers, and puma, are the largest American wildcats and fourth largest worldwide. They have round heads, erect ears, powerful jaws, and retractable claws. They can climb and lurk in trees, jump 18 feet from the ground into trees, and outrun you at 30–40 miles per hour. Mountain lions are shy predators, hunting at dusk through the night into dawn, usually avoiding humans, but we see them often in daytime; there’s a mountain lion den across our canyon.

One day, we returned from errands to see a young lion lounging at the far end of our shady driveway. He lifted his head, blinked, seemed to say, “Oh, hiya,” and went back to his nap. Another time, returning late from a dog show, Ron checked the yard before letting out our Standard Schnauzers. From our patio-deck stairs, an adult mountain lion stared up at him. He ordered, “Shoo!” The shy cat departed.

While there have been fewer than 100 fatal mountain lion attacks in North America in the past hundred years, don’t dismiss mountain lions as overgrown pussycats. If a mountain lion stalks you and your dog, gather your dog

close, but don’t turn your back. The cat sees you as prey—so *don’t behave like prey*:

- Don’t run away from the cat; running stimulates its chase response.
- If you’re out for a run, stop, facing the cat.
- Appear larger than you are—wave your arms, flap your jacket, lift your bike.
- Don’t crouch down—this posture is submissive and weak, inviting attack.
- Maintain eye contact with the cat, speaking firmly, calmly, loudly.
- Throw stones, sticks, anything you can reach without bending down.
- If attacked, fight back—being wounded is better than being dead.

When we hike mountain or canyon trails with our Standard Schnauzers, we load our pockets with stones and carry a stout stick both to help cross steep, rough spots and to use as a weapon. Mountain lions in the western U.S. can weigh 250 pounds, whereas female Florida panthers average about 80 pounds. Mountain lion sounds range from a low grumbly growl to a high-pitched, sustained scream, almost like that of a distressed woman.

### Bears

Three species of bears populate North America: brown bears (*Ursus arctos*), with 15 subspecies, including grizzly bears and Kodiak bears, who have lived exclusively on Alaska’s Kodiak archipelago in isolation for 12,000

years; black bears (*Ursus americanus*, photo from our backyard camera); and polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*). Their average weights are 700, 500, and 900 pounds, respectively. Black bears can be red, blonde, blue, chocolate, and cinnamon, as well as black. Both brown and black bears are excellent tree climbers, so when out in bear country, look up! Polar bears are carnivorous, but brown and black bears are omnivorous. None view humans or dogs as food sources unless in depleted habitat.

Attacks from black and polar bears on humans are rare. Attacks from grizzlies are more common, usually occurring because a human or dog has threatened the bear’s food source (such as berry bushes or garbage receptacles), cubs, or space.

*Never* interfere with a mama bear defending her cubs. In bear encounters, do *not* run or climb a tree. All bears can outrun, outclimb, and outswim you and your dog.

If you encounter a bear, or are somewhere you might encounter one:

- Pick up small children, and leash your dog.
- Move sideways slowly, keeping the bear in sight.
- Make yourself as large as possible, stand tall, wave your arms.
- Speak in a calm voice to your child or dog so the bear realizes you are human.
- Carry bear spray containing capsaicin.

• Fasten bear bells to your dog’s collar, alerting bears you and your dog’s approach.

Reading and sipping my morning tea last June, I looked up to see a big, blonde black bear standing on our second-floor deck, pawing at our hummingbird feeder about two feet from the bedroom door. I quietly called, “There’s a bear on the deck!” Ron came running with his camera and took a series of photos.

Later, further up our mesa, Game & Fish found the bear with two cubs. The bear family was captured and relocated to the Gila Wilderness in southwest New Mexico.

—Suzanne T. Smith (Los Alamos, New Mexico), [WustefuchsSS@aol.com](mailto:WustefuchsSS@aol.com)

[Standard Schnauzer Club of America](#)

Sources:

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## WORKING GROUP

### Tibetan Mastiffs

#### DEVELOPMENTAL STAGES IN TMS

**T**ibetan Mastiffs are still a primitive breed. Bitches normally come into season once a year, in the fall or early winter, with pups born in the winter or early spring. This is the time of year when this year's puppies are settling into their new homes and last year's puppies are starting to transition from puppy to adulthood. It's a good time to review developmental stages and how each plays out with a TM. Since most people don't get their puppies until they are 8-plus weeks old, let's start there.

In the two to four months time frame, puppies are weaned and start to separate from their mother and littermates. It is also the human-imprint stage, where they begin to bond with their owners. Spending time with your puppy—lots of time—is imperative and will affect his ability to relate to people for the rest of his life. With human bonding comes social awareness: Who is a member of the family and who is not. Socialization at this stage is important for a TM to learn to be comfortable with those outside their family unit. Vets discourage taking puppies out to public areas before they are fully vaccinated, but that does not mean you can't socialize your puppy. Invite friends and relatives into

your home. Ask them to bring their pets. The mistake many people make is failing to socialize at home, where TMs are most protective, but take sensible precautions when introducing visitors. Do not allow your pup to rush the door or bark uncontrollably when the doorbell rings. Have a leash handy or crate your puppy until your visitor is safely inside, and then introduce slowly and calmly, allowing the pup to approach the visitor and not the other way around. A Tibetan Mastiff is more open to new experiences if he feels he is in control of the situation, so let him make the initial approach, in his time. If you notice your pup becoming stressed, you may need to remove him from loud or chaotic situations, and provide downtime. Socialization should take into consideration a pup's ability to cope and not overwhelm.

By 4–8 months, your pup is ready to explore the outside world. A puppy's mental capacity is fully formed by this age, and this is the period when they learn the quickest and easiest. Much of what they learn is from experience by trial and error, so introducing new experiences daily is essential. TMs quickly lay claim to places they frequent, ever expanding "their" territory, so vary the route for walks, go to new parks, introduce new people, and so on. Some owners are reluctant to engage in activities that their pup does not like, such as



*Tibetan Mastiff*

crate training or riding in a car. If the puppy is uncomfortable, drools or urinates, the owner avoids it. Better to address and work through the situation as a puppy than try to wrestle a 120-pound Tibetan Mastiff into a crate or a car at some point down the road. Whatever you want your TM to do as an adult, do it as a puppy, and do it often. Stimulation during this phase will actually increase brain cells in the appropriate area of the brain.

Your Tibetan Mastiff will develop emotional reactions to experiences, which will help determine temperament into adulthood. If a TM has a bad experience at this age, he never forgets it. Whenever possible, take the time to introduce your pup to a person or object that elicits a negative or fearful response. I remember spending half an hour to let a pup come to terms with a burned-out tree stump we encountered on a walk. At first sight, the pup

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY

## WORKING GROUP

was terrified and wanted to run away. We sat down, watched that old stump, and waited for the pup to get up and venture a bit closer. We repeated this until we were able to get close enough to discover that this wasn't something to fear after all. Think ahead and strategize to avoid potential problems before they occur. It is your job to guard your pup fiercely until he is ready to guard you.

The period from 8 to 18 months is a complex one. Pups reach adult height, and it is easy to forget that they are not yet mature. Owners often expect their puppies to act like adults, when in fact they are likely to behave like typical teenagers: questioning everything and pushing the limits. This is also the time your puppy will start to sexually mature, and females will have their first heat season.

With these hormonal changes come behavioral changes as well. Females may become needy and clingy as they approach estrus, and sometimes same-sex aggressive. Determined males will break teeth or break glass to get to a female in season. You will discover just how smart and how strong these dogs are. Be prepared. Look at your situation critically, and think of every possible escape route and scenario, because your TM will do exactly that. You have to be one step ahead.

Even if your dog is altered, this period presents challenges. Tibetan Mastiffs chew; they

dig; they destroy. They have all this energy that needs an outlet. They are not necessarily more destructive than other breeds, but they are bigger and have bigger teeth than most, so when they go at something, it is destroyed thoroughly and rapidly.

In addition, their guardian instincts emerge, and TMs realize they need to guard against something—they are just not sure what. So they bark at everything. If a TM is left outside to bark on his own, he will bark without ceasing. Teach him discretion by being a partner in protection. Let him know you have the situation in hand.

This is the time when TMs also start to become rigidly territorial and will challenge a stranger who comes into “their” home or yard, or approaches “their” child or car. It is your job to let them know what is a real threat, and what is not; when it is appropriate to bark, and when it is not. Tibetan Mastiffs respect a strong leader and will expect that from you. TMs like to be in control, and what is often labeled a “fear” is actually a situation where the pup feels a lack of control and is confused as to how to respond. Portray the sense that your pup can relax because you are in control.

Establish a routine; Tibetan Mastiffs thrive on routine. Work through threat assessments. Set rules and stick to them. Don't take “no”

for an answer: Keep working with your pup until you get the response you are looking for.

Tibetan Mastiffs enter their young adulthood phase from 18 to 30 months. You may see a sudden change in temperament, and aggressive issues may arise. Dogs who have gotten along in the past may have to be separated. Your pup will become more independent and less eager to please.

There may also be a challenge for pack position if there is more than one dog in the household. Resource-guarding may surface. This is the age when many TMs are returned to the breeder, surrendered to a rescue, or dumped at a shelter. Traditional dominance training will not work with a TM, but leadership and partnership does. Sometimes it takes creative thinking to negotiate with a TM and gain his cooperation.

For example, I have a male who became food-aggressive at about this age. We have worked out a solution: If he starts to guard his food, I offer him a highly valued treat and trade him for his food bowl. The trick is not to demand obedience but to make your TM think it is in his best interest to do as you ask.

By the time your Tibetan Mastiff is 2½ to 3 years old, if you have invested the time to train and socialize your pup with patience and consistency his behavior should be fairly consistent and predictable, and at this point you

will have an amazing companion and home and property guardian. Enjoy!

—Deborah Mayer,  
[debmayer@thetatek.com](mailto:debmayer@thetatek.com)

[American Tibetan Mastiff Association](#)



**MISSION STATEMENT** The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function.

Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

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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 14, 2021. For the sole purpose of conducting the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees, the meeting will be called to order at 9:00 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.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Jackson Tennessee Dog Fanciers Association

## DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

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**Jennifer Modica**, Cape May Court House, NJ, Union County Kennel Club  
**Kevin W. O'Connell**, Commerce City, CO, Terry-All Kennel Club

**Betty Winthers**, Lynnwood, WA, Pasanita Obedience Club

## 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 McCoubrey (Lubbock, TX)  
Ms. Donna Nagengast (Naples, FL)  
Ms. Becky Raines (Edmond, OK)

## NOTICE

Ms. Brittany Phelps (Granite Falls, NC) Action was taken by the Spirit of the Heartland Kennel Club for conduct at its May 6, 2021 event. Ms. Phelps was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty at a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

## NOTICE

Ms. Julie Osborn (Fairfield, CA) Action was taken by the Two Cities Kennel Club for conduct at its May 15, 2021 event. Ms. Osborn was charged with failure to prop-

erly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty at a three-month event suspension and \$500 fine, effective May 15, 2021. (Labrador Retrievers)

## NOTICE

Mr. Javier Torres (Las Vegas, NV) Action was taken by the Apple Valley Kennel Club for conduct at its April 10, 2021 event. Mr. Torres was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and \$500 fine, effective April 21, 2021. (Multiple Breeds)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for life and imposed a \$10,000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy:

Effective December 22, 2020:  
Ms. Laura Roberts (Jessup, MD)  
Multiple Breeds

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 4, 5 AND NEW SECTION 6

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **ARTICLE VII, Section 4, 5 and New Section 6 of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.** proposed by Staff. This will be voted on at the September 14, 2021 Delegates Meeting.

### ARTICLE VII

**SECTION 4.** There shall be at least eight regular meetings of the Board each year. Additional meetings may also be scheduled at the direction of the Board. The date, time, method and location of all regular meetings shall be determined by the Board. Fourteen (14) days notice of said date must be given to each Director by United States mail, telephone or electronic mail.

At the four quarterly Delegate Meetings, Directors should attend the Delegate Meetings and other appropriate Delegate functions.

**SECTION 5.** Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the Executive Secretary at the direction of the President, Chairman of the Board, or on the written request of three (3) Directors. Five (5) days notice of the date, time, method and

location of such special meeting must be given to each Director by United States mail, telephone or electronic mail unless a waiver of notice of such meetings shall have been signed by every Director.

**SECTION 6. (New Section)** Any one or more members of the Board or of any committee thereof who is not physically present at a meeting of the Board or a committee may participate by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment or by electronic video screen communication. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting as long as all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time and each Director can participate in all matters before the Board, including, without limitation, the ability to propose, object to, and vote upon a specific action to be taken by the Board or committee.

### 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 should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the

request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations by email at [judgingops@akc.org](mailto:judgingops@akc.org).

### 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. Gigi Griffith (109593) TN**

(760) 908-8188

[terranova57@gmail.com](mailto:terranova57@gmail.com)

Newfoundlands, American Staffordshire Terriers, Shiba Inu, Australian Cattle Dogs, Junior Showmanship-Limited

**Mr. Kim Griffith (99175) TN**

(760) 908-8171

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

Brittanys, Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden

Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, Alaskan Malamutes, Bullmastiffs, Great Pyrenees, Newfoundlands, American Staffordshire Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Shiba Inu, Australian Cattle Dogs, Junior Showmanship

**Ms. C. Cornelia (Conny) Hansen (105952) IA**

(319) 530-7722

[sccch81@netins.net](mailto:sccch81@netins.net)

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

### ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

**Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez (97321) FL**

(954) 434-0318

[minsmer954@yahoo.com](mailto:minsmer954@yahoo.com)

Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Japanese Chin) Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

**Miss Camille Lynne Bakker (105195) CA**

(916) 208-0393

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

Dachshunds, Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, English Toy Spaniels, Manchester Terriers, Papillons

**Mrs. Liz Bianchi (55587) VA**

(757) 285-4868

[cheffliz@cox.net](mailto:cheffliz@cox.net)

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Kuvaszok, Icelandic Sheepdogs

**Mrs. Lorraine Wegmann Bisso (6094) LA**

(504) 782-1652

regel@bellsouth.net

Black and Tan Coonhounds, Borzois, Red-bone Coonhounds, Shetland Sheepdogs

**Mrs. Diane Koontz Bresee (3129) TN**

(865) 274-3599

falcara@bellsouth.net

Belgian Laekenois

**Ms. Alisa Brotherhood (103359) TX**

(281) 989-3130

touchstone0525@att.net

Alaskan Malamutes, Dogo Argentinos, Rottweilers, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

**Mrs. Regina Bryant (105299) CA**

(209) 327-8778

catoriaussies@gmail.com

Belgian Malinois, Belgian Tervuren, Miniature American Shepherds, Norwegian Buhunds

**Mrs. Linda Clark (94461) OK**

(918) 995-2561

lclarkah@aol.com

Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Red and White Setters

**Mrs. Terry Dennison (47424) AK**

(907) 373-7376

katagnik@yahoo.com

Doberman Pinschers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Poodles, Briards

**Mrs. Beth Downey (102539) MS**

(410) 829-2455

bethdowney539@gmail.com

Balance of Working Group (Boerboels, Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Kuvaszok), Beagles, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Collies

**Ms. Julie Felten (17972) IL**

(847) 526-9332

jacfelten@aol.com

Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chow Chows, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen

**Mrs. Sulie Greendale-Paveza (7516) FL**

(815) 353-2241

suliegp@comcast.net

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises, Finnish Spitz, Lhasa Apsos, Shiba Inu)

**Mr. Ronald V. Horn (65755) CO**

(303) 797-8642

vnnewf@gmail.com

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese

**Mr. Kristofer Kelso (40630) CT**

(203) 520-3867

nevdiff216@aol.com

Nederlandse Kooikerhondje, Gordon Setters, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Boxers, Bergamasco Sheepdogs

**Ms. Kerry Kirtley (101393) CA**

(909) 609-5209

rbisdogs@gmail.com

Miniature American Shepherds

**Mrs. Cindy Lane (65098) GA**

(864) 316-6351

glane1464@yahoo.com

American Staffordshire Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

**Ms. Tina Leininger (101522) PA**

(717) 865-6055

whyteWynd@gmail.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs

**Mrs. Betty Nelson Pollock (39858) TX**

(903) 684-3091

avalonkennel@aol.com

English Cocker Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Belgian Laekenois, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Collies, German Shepherd Dogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

**Ms. Sheila Dee Paske (46304) CA**

(530) 306-8889

sheila@storybookdachshunds.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Bullmastiffs, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Saint Bernards, Siberian Huskies

**Mrs. Carlin Rasmussen-Johnson (103975) WI**

(715) 424-5561

carlinrasmussen@yahoo.com

Norwegian Elkhounds, Pugs, Belgian Malinois

**Mrs. Sharon Ann Redmer (2711) MI**

(734) 449-4995

sredmer@umich.edu

Balance of Sporting Group (Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Pointers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers) American Eskimo Dogs, Dalmatians, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos

**Mr. Allan Reznik (103211) AR**

(949) 929-5760

reznikallan@gmail.com

Dachshunds, Poodles

**Ms. Linda Robey (6621) MO**

(636) 677-6644

lrobey@swbell.net

Dogo Argentinos

**Mrs. Janet M. Schwalbe (48619) GA**

(706) 693-7142

reschwalbe@yahoo.com

Bedlington Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS**

**Mr. Bill Bates (103321) OH**

(513) 535-9858

bill@bearcatboxers.com

JS

**Ms. Brenda Holmen (109522) MN**

(612) 817-6970

medcitystaffs@gmail.com

JS

**Miss Alexis Kujawa (109463) CO**

(719) 394-7065  
lexi.kujawa143@gmail.com  
JS

**Miss Kelli Kujawa (109464) CO**

(719) 308-8927  
designervizslas@gmail.com  
JS

**Mr. George Robert Rohde (108869) IL**

(708) 837-2222  
rohdecollies94@yahoo.com  
JS

**Dr. Geno Sisneros (98459) AL**

(952) 240-3489  
gsisneros@aol.com  
JS-Limit

**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**

**Ms. Tiffany Anne Cross (109329) NH**

(603) 494-9204  
ctiffer2@hotmail.com  
Great Danes

**Mr. Charles (Chuck) Milne (109211) FL**

(404) 932-5405  
milne\_chuck@yahoo.com

Afghan Hounds

**Ms. Gina M. Schag (108997) IL**

(630) 669-1131  
chulachis@yahoo.com  
Chihuahuas

**ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES**

**Mr. James S. Albrecht (100017) MA**

(603) 770-6933  
nhbriard@aol.com  
Balance of Herding Group (Belgian Laekenois, Mudi, Pyrenean Shepherds)

**Dr. Frederic B. Askin (93643) NC**

(919) 533-6567  
faskin2@gmail.com  
Glen of Imaal Terriers

**Mrs. Shilon L. Bedford (15789) MN**

(320) 485-4825  
shilon@tds.net  
Japanese Chin, Maltese, Shih Tzus, Toy Fox Terriers

**Ms. Mary E. Benedict (66054) NY**

(585) 747-5380  
longacrecollies@yahoo.com  
Australian Shepherds, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Norwegian Buhunds

**Dr. Albert P. Bianchi (5459) VA**

(757) 672-4868  
k4ux@cox.net  
Brittanys, Basenjis, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Greyhounds, Otterhounds

**Mrs. Terrie Breen (65930) CT**

(860) 285-0499  
brenta@aol.com  
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Pugs, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds

**Ms. Diane Collings (94897) CA**

(415) 990-3317  
dianecollings@verizon.net  
Boerboels, Dogo Argentinos, Giant Schnauzers, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs

**Mrs. Michelle Conroy (95312) GA**

(561) 400-2567  
bluedane20@gmail.com  
Dogo Argentinos, Mastiffs

**Ms. Olga K. Evelyn (7591) CT**

(860) 429-2197  
amunique\_1@hotmail.com  
Vizslas, Siberian Huskies

**Mrs. Nancy Griego (90264) NM**

(505) 681-8020  
nrgakc@spinn.net  
Lhasa Apsos, Belgian Laekenois, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Pumik

**Mr. Steve Hayden (6674) IL**

(217) 546-6645  
hybrk1@comcast.net  
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Bullmastiffs, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees, Standard Schnauzers

**Mrs. Chris A. Levy (6368) OR**

(503) 390-4864  
chris@abiquadogs.com  
Balance of Sporting Group (Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters, American Water Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels)

**Mr. Richard J. Lewis (18253) WA**

(509) 697-6032  
richelieudogs@outlook.com  
Balance of Hound Group (Afghan Hounds, Borzois, Salukis, Whippets)

**Mrs. Marla Meindl-Capozzi (100459) NY**

(631) 878-1720  
mikemarla1@optonline.net  
Black and Tan Coonhounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Airedale Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers

**Mrs. Mary B. Napper (62737) TX**

(817) 458-1442  
mb\_napper@yahoo.com  
Barbets, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Irish Red & White Setters, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels

**Mrs. Shalisa Neely (98547) CA**

(707) 834-3672  
shalisaneely@gmail.com  
Afghan Hounds, Basset Hounds, Black



and Tan Coonhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Harriers, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets

**Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT**

(203) 631-7110

dulcedanes@yahoo.com

Boerboels, Cane Corsos, Kuvaszok, Samoyeds, Tibetan Mastiffs

**Ms. Sheree Sanchez (97389) CO**

719-313-1755

outlawaussies@hotmail.com

Harriers, Petits Bassets Griffons

Vendeens, Samoyeds, American Hairless Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Belgian Ter-vuren, Bouviers des Flandres, Canaan Dogs, Old English Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

**Dr. Gary L. Sparschu (6370) TX**

(810) 824-8049

glspar@sbcglobal.net

Alaskan Malamutes, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Komondors, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

**Mr. Karl M. Stearns (101597) PA**

(570) 595-3097

kstearns@kmstearns.com

Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, French Bulldogs

**Mr. R.C. Williams (93917) CA**

(530) 677-4815

rcwilliams@earthlink.net

Finnish Spitz, Norwegian Lundehunds, Chinese Cresteds, Pomeranians

**Ms. Lisa Young (43070) SD**

(605) 390-1135

youngsd@rap.midco.net

Afghan Hounds, Ibizan Hounds

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES**

**Ms. Joy Barbieri (109249) NY**

(845) 868-7616

joycelia@hotmail.com

**Mr. David M. Harper (109007) TX**

(281) 620-0808

goldenharper@aol.com

**Ms. Cindy Hartwell (104985) FL**

(207) 751-0047

cindy@mybeauce.com

**CONFORMATION JUDGE: RESIGNED BREEDS**

The judges below have notified AKC to resign their privileges for the following:

**Ms. Dianne Tyree**

Labrador Retrievers

**RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE**

**Mrs. Alane L. Gomez (0814)**

**DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES**

**Mrs. Jeannine M. Dowell (0530)**

**Tomas Gomez (0816)**

**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.**

**Dr. Milan Hess (99881) CO**

(303) 793-0055

flairfor@msn.com

Tracking – TDX/VST

**Ms. Cheryl Tisdale (94543) TN**

(615) 653-5523

eqwynd@peoplepc.com

Obedience – Open

**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:

AMERICA'S DREAM- American Staffordshire Terriers-Luis Y. Morales

DOCKSIDE-French Bulldogs- Kevin Peppers

DOUBLE G'S-Pembroke Welsh Corgis and

Danish Swedish Farmdogs-Marthina L. Greer & Daniel W. Griffiths

ENROUTE-Australian Shepherds- Taylor R. Justice

FOXTAIL-Russell Terriers- Karen & Stanley Kman

HEAVENLYSCOTS- Scottish Terriers-Kristi M & Matthew L. DuPont

LAGNIAPPE- Giant Schnauzers-Holly W. & Chris J. Reed

MOON VALLEY-Vizslas- Valorie L. Bordon

NIOTA- German Shepherd Dogs-Kimberly A. McGrew

OMEGAMTN-Border Collies-Gail M. Hollon

PAZ AMOR-Havanese- Diane Moshe

PEACEMAKERS- French Bulldogs- Lindsey Ponder

RCKBOTTOM- Beagles- Nathan C. Taylor

REVEROF- Pumi-Heather M. Phillips

SOUTHERN STAR- German Shorthaired

Pointer- Robbie D. & Kevin S. Jones

WHISKEY CREEK-Chesapeake Bay

Retrievers- Katherine E. Case

WINDSWEPT-Bouviers des Flandres- Tracy M. Zumwalt

**REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED**

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

ARROW STONE-Australian Shepherds- Jesslyn E. Mundy

BLITZWIRE-German Wirehaired Pointers- Amanda L. Anderson

BUMBLEBEARS-Old English Sheepdogs- Beth L. VanDervort

CALADESI-Portuguese Water Dogs-Lisa McClish-Boyles

DIABLO-Rhodesian Ridgebacks- Nancy Faville

ELJO-Boxers- Elena M. Johnson  
 EYE CANDY- Great Danes- Paul M. Johnson  
 HIBISKISS-Portuguese Water Dogs- Margaret Q. DeFore  
 HIDDEN SPRING'S-Labrador Retrievers- Edna F. Schenck and Paul D. Schenck  
 HIGH SIERRA-Australian Shepherds- Beth A. Ipsen  
 INFINITI-Papillons-Jinny Chow  
 JUMP-N-JIVE- Labrador Retrievers- Karin A. Bowler and Jim M. Bowler  
 KIDDLE-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Jennifer L. Barajas  
 KITTYHAWK-Flat Coated Retrievers-John F. Kobell  
 K-LEE- American Staffordshire Terriers- Rick D. Martinez  
 LAUREL SKY-Flat Coated Retrievers- Patricia K. Hunter and Thomas R. Hunter  
 ORO BLANCO- Samoyeds-Jeffrey R. Liddicoat and Margarita P. Liddicoat  
 PDR- French Bulldogs- Kelly L. Potter  
 PIVOT'S- Wirehaired Vizsla-Eric M. Wallendal and Megan N. Wallendal  
 ROSETTA-Papillons- Alicia R. Adams  
 SHAWDOX-Dachshunds- Lindi Kershaw and Karen E. Osburn  
 SPARROWS NEST- Bernese Mountain Dogs-Jenny W. Bunch  
 SUNNY SKIES-Labrador Retrievers-Aundrea C. Freeman  
 TADA- Poodles- Tanya A. Novotny  
 T-BOLDT- Bullmastiffs- Sherry Boldt  
 VON LOWENHERZ- Rottweilers-Jessica L. King



**QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES  
 OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB  
 JUNE 8, 2021**

Dennis B. Sprung, President  
 PRESENT 364  
 Abilene Kennel Club—*Melanie Steele*  
 Affenpinscher Club of America—*Letisha Wubbel*  
 Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*  
 Airedale Terrier Club of America—*Aletta L. Moore*  
 Akita Club of America—*Steven Lisker*  
 Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc.—*Patricia A. Peel*  
 Albany Kennel Club, Inc.—*KC Gottschalk*  
 American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—*Ms. Janina K. Laurin*  
 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. Terri Hilliard*  
 American Brussels Griffon Association—*Mr. Mark F. Jaeger*

American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.—*Alan Kalter*  
 American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Patricia Kanan*  
 American Chesapeake Club—*Heidi Henningson*  
 American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*  
 American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—*Don Hanson*  
 American Maltese Association, Inc.—*Ms. Sandra Bingham-Porter*  
 American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Inc.—*Barbara Donahue*  
 American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mr. Danny D. Seymour*  
 American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—*Dr. Geno Sisneros*  
 American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G. Piusz*  
 American Shetland Sheepdog Association—*Marjorie Tuff*  
 American Sloughi Association—*Erika N. Wyatt*  
 American Whippet Club, Inc.—*Karen B. Lee*  
 American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association—*Kate DeSanto*  
 Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Ed Collins*  
 Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*  
 Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc.—*Anne R. Palmer*  
 Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Corie Haylett*

Ashtabula Kennel Club—*Lynne Wickens*  
 Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*  
 Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A. LaBerge*  
 Augusta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Catherine Iacopelli*  
 Austin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bette D. Williams*  
 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*  
 Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Norine E. Noonan*  
 Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathleen Ronald*  
 Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Wozniak*  
 Bayshore Companion Dog Club, Inc.—*Susan Soviero*  
 Bearded Collie Club of America, Inc.—*Kathy Coxwell*  
 Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Phyllis Belcastro*  
 Bedlington Terrier Club of America—*Laurie W. Zembrzuski*  
 Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Mary G. Buckwalter*  
 Berger Picard Club of America—*Jacqueline Carswell*  
 Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Sara Karl*

Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—  
*Mayno Blanding*

Birmingham Kennel Club, Inc.—*Martha Griffin*

Black Russian Terrier Club of America—  
*Susan Sholar*

Blennerhassett Kennel Club, Inc.—*John McCullagh*

Border Collie Society of America—*Lisa M. Pruka*

Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—*Prudence G. Hlatky*

Boston Terrier Club of America, Inc.—  
*Mrs. Kathleen M. Kelly*

Briard Club of America, Inc.—*Diane Reid*

Bronx County Kennel Club—*Alexa Samarotto*

Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—*Victoria Glickstein*

Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Priscilla Gabosch*

Bull Terrier Club of America—*Ms. Jan Dykema*

Bulldog Club of America—*Link Newcomb*

Bulldog Club of New England, Inc.—  
*Francesca J. Castaneda*

Bulldog Club of Philadelphia—*Elizabeth H. Milam*

Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*

Butler County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Ioia*

Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Pam Davis*

California Airedale Terrier Club—*Nancy Bougher*

California Collie Clan, Inc.—*Mr. Roy E. Degner*

Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—*Mr. Wayne F. Harmon*

Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*

Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*

Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*

Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Jacque Glenn*

Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*

Carolina Working Group Association—  
*Cathleen Rubens*

Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*

Catonsville Kennel Club—*Beverly A. Drake*

Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc.—  
*Robert E. Tainsh, M.D.*

Central Beagle Club—*Edwin T. Lorentz*

Central Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally Allen*

Central Iowa Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kristina M. DeLisi*

Central New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane D. Almy*

Central Ohio Kennel Club—*Rebecca Campbell*

Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Anita R. O'Berg*

Charlottesville-Albemarle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. John J. Lyons*

Chicago Collie Club—*Bryna Comsky*

Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Joao Machado*

Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—  
*Marge B. Calltharp*

Chintimini Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nick Pisas*

Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Margaret DiCorleto*

Clackamas Kennel Club—*Tami D. Worley*

Clarksville Kennel Club—*Robert A. Schroll*

Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts—*Dr. Stephen Lawrence*

Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*

Clermont County Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Marjorie Underwood*

Cleveland All-Breed Training Club, Inc.—  
*Mrs. Maureen R. Setter*

Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—  
*Dr. Bryant Freeman*

Colorado Kennel Club—*Mrs. Louise Leone*

Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Douglas Johnson*

Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne M. Hier*

Conroe Kennel Club—*Jane Bates*

Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*James F. Barron*

Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*

Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pamela J. Rhyner-Hirko, Cmdr. (Ret.)*

Cudahy Kennel Club—*Mr. Don H. Adams*

Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—*Larry Sorenson*

Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Charles Garvin*

Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Karen Dorn*

Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Sherri Swabb*

Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*

Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore—*Sandra Olsen*

Delaware County Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Brenda A. Algar*

Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—*Dr. A. D. Butherus*

Doberman Pinscher Club of America—  
*Glen Lajeski*

Durango Kennel Club—*Donald E. Schwartz, V.M.D*

Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Mr. Jack E. Sappenfield, II*

Elm City Kennel Club—*Dr. Gregory J. Paveza*

English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Chereen M. Nawrocki*

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*

Field Spaniel Society of America—  
*Katherine Sullivan*

Finnish Spitz Club of America—*Mrs. Cindy Stansell*  
 First Dog Training Club of Northern New Jersey, Inc.—*Mary D. Curtis*  
 Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America, Inc.—*Neal Goodwin*  
 Forsyth Kennel Club, Inc.—*June Guido*  
 Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—*Stephanie S. Brooks*  
 Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Harold Tatro III*  
 French Bulldog Club of America—*Virginia T. Rowland*  
 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*  
 German Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia*  
 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—*Mrs. Barbara N. Schwartz*  
 German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia W. Laurans*  
 Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—*Chris Reed*  
 Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America—*Jo Lynn*  
 Glens Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Bonnie Lapham*  
 Gloucester County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Carole L. Richards*  
 Golden Retriever Club of America—*Ellen Hardin*

Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*  
 Grand Rapids Kennel Club—*Mrs. Carol L. Johnson*  
 Grand River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Lettis*  
 Great Barrington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Ellen C. Shanahan*  
 Great Pyrenees Club of America, Inc.—*Rhonda Dalton*  
 Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California—*Mr. Jack G. Smith*  
 Greater Clark County Kennel Club Inc—*Ms. Karen J. Burgess*  
 Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara Shaw*  
 Greater Sierra Vista Kennel Club—*Ms. Charlotte I. Borghardt*  
 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*  
 Harrier Club of America—*Donna Smiley*  
 Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandie Rolenaitis*  
 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*  
 Hollywood Dog Obedience Club, Inc.—*Pia Paulsen*  
 Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane Wilkinson*  
 Hoosier Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karl H. Kreck*  
 Hungarian Pumi Club of America —*Marilyn Piusz*  
 Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dick Blair*  
 Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Marile A. Waterstraat*  
 Hutchinson Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barbara A. Penny*  
 Ibizan Hound Club of the United States—*Michelle Barlak*  
 Idaho Capital City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robyn Foust*  
 Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rita J. Biddle*  
 Intermountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michael L. Van Tassell*  
 Irish Red and White Setter Association of America—*Christopher M. Orcutt*  
 Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Karolynne M. McAteer*  
 Irish Terrier Club of America—*Thea F. Lahti*  
 Irish Water Spaniel Club of America—*R. J. Rubin*  
 Irish Wolfhound Club of America—*Eugenia Hunter*  
 James River Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sherry Harman*

Kachina Kennel Club—*Lee Ann Stusnick*  
 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 Riverside—*Sylvia A. Thomas*  
 Kennesaw Kennel Club—*Bud Hidlay*  
 Kern County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Claudia Burk*  
 Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.—*Tony Emilio*  
 Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Kimberly Van Hemert*  
 Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Arna B. Margolies*  
 Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America, Inc.—*James Talbert*  
 Lake Champlain Retriever Club—*Wendy Jones*  
 Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diana L. Skibinski*  
 Lakes Region Kennel Club, Inc.—*Deborah L. Kreider*  
 Lancaster Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carolyn M. Vack*  
 Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan Croft*  
 Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert N. LaBerge*

Lehigh Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Meyer*  
 Leonberger Club of America—*Don James*  
 Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Laurie Green*  
 Lexington Kennel Club Inc—*Jan Wolf*  
 Long Island Kennel Club—*Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.*  
 Longshore-Southport Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Michaelann Mako*  
 Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Debra H. Owen*  
 Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ruth Crumb*  
 Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*James P. Henshaw*  
 Manatee Kennel Club—*Mr. Daniel R. Dahlberg*  
 Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynn Garvin*  
 McKinley Kennel Club—*Herman H. Tietjen*  
 Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Jeannette Nieder*  
 Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa, Inc.—  
*Dr. Andrea Hesser, D.V.M.*  
 Mid-Del-Tinker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Billy J. Price*  
 Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America—  
*Vanessa Giamo*  
 Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—  
*Joanne Wilds*  
 Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ralph Hogancamp*  
 Mohawk Valley Kennel Club—*Ms. Amy Romeo*

Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Barry A. Hoovis*  
 Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary Yoders*  
 Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane F. Ruthford*  
 Myrtle Beach Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowwood*  
 Nashville Kennel Club—*Anne Gallant*  
 National Beagle Club—*Eddie Dziuk*  
 National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Norma Ryan*  
 National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi Strouse*  
 Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club—*Viola Burgos*  
 Nebraska Dog and Hunt Club—*Gary Kavan*  
 Nebraska Kennel Club —*Medora Harper*  
 New England Beagle Club, Inc.—*Blaine Grove*  
 New England Dog Training Club, Inc.—  
*Julie King*  
 New England Old English Sheepdog Club—  
*Mrs. Jane C. Ogg*  
 Newnan Kennel Club—*Luanne K. Dunham*  
 Newton Kennel Club—*Catherine H. Murch*  
 Nisqually Kennel Club—*R. H. Hachtel*  
 Norfolk Terrier Club—*Susan Schneider*  
 Norwich Terrier Club of America—*Jean Kessler*  
 Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—  
*Alyson Casper*

Oakland County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Barry R. Wyerman*  
 Old English Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—  
*Sheila Kenyon*  
 Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—  
*Felice Jarrold*  
 Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Tim Ufkes*  
 Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy F. Murray*  
 Orlando Dog Training Club—*Mary L. Jensen, Ph.D.*  
 Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.*  
 Pacific Coast Pekingese Club—*Frank Meister*  
 Parson Russell Terrier Association of America—  
*Gary Koepfel*  
 Pasco Florida Kennel Club—*Patricia Lombardi*  
 Pekingese Club of America—*Steven Hamblin*  
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—  
*Mrs. Anne H. Bowes*  
 Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bettina M. Sterling*  
 Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America—  
*Helen Ingher*  
 Pharaoh Hound Club of America—  
*Dominic P. Carota*  
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—  
*Larry Wilson*  
 Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dean Burwell*

Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Margaret Vohr*  
 Plainfield Kennel Club—*Linda A. Deutsch*  
 Plum Creek Kennel Club of Colorado—  
*William E. Ellis*  
 Pocono Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Sandra Krieger*  
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—  
*Kathy Gregory*  
 Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Savage*  
 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.—  
*Robin Burmeister*  
 Progressive Dog Club—*Josephine De Menna*  
 Putnam Kennel Club, Inc.—*Florence R. Laicher*  
 Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—  
*Frances Stephens*  
 Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America—  
*Mrs. Nancy-Lee H. Coombs*  
 Queen City Dog Training Club, Inc.—  
*Erica Behnke*  
 Ramapo Kennel Club—*Jeffrey D. Ball*  
 Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*  
 Redwood Empire Kennel Club—*Johnny Shoemaker*  
 Reno Kennel Club—*Mrs. Vicky Cook*  
 Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—  
*Grace Wilkinson*  
 Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, Inc.—  
*Judith Lichtman*  
 Rio Grande Kennel Club—*Mary E. Ferguson*

Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*  
 Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—*Karen Cottingham*  
 Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club—*Leslie Puppo Rogers*  
 Saluki Club of America—*Monica H. Stoner*  
 Sammamish Kennel Club—*Dr. Robert C. Gloster, M.D.*  
 Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*  
 San Antonio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy J. Shaw*  
 Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—*Abbe R. Shaw*  
 Santa Clara Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Becky A. Richardson*  
 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.—*Betty Jo Patrick*  
 Scottish Deerhound Club of America, Inc.—*Hon. James G. Phinizy*  
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*Helen A. Prince*  
 Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Inc.—*Dr. Dawn Schroeder*  
 Seattle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandra Frei*  
 Sherwood Dog Training Club—*Jill Faulmann*

Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*  
 Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ann M. Cook*  
 Silver State Kennel Club—*Daniele Ledoux-Starzyk*  
 Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club, Inc.—*William J. Feeney*  
 Skye Terrier Club of America—*Mr. Stephen P. Hersey*  
 Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Harvey Goldberg*  
 South County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bob Calltharp*  
 South Jersey Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jean Edwards*  
 South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Flynn*  
 South Windsor Kennel Club—*Mrs. Laurie Maulucci*  
 Southeast Arkansas Kennel Club—*Ricky Adams*  
 Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club—*Marilyn R. Vinson*  
 Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc.—*John V. Ioia*  
 Southern Oregon Kennel Club—*Warren Cook*  
 Spinone Club of America—*Karen Luckey*  
 Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*  
 St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—*Susan Weigel*

St. Louis Collie Club, Inc.—*Isabel Ososki*  
 St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Jan Ritchie-Gladstone*  
 Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America—*Amy J. Schwoeble*  
 Staffordshire Terrier Club of America—*Jeannette O'Hanlon*  
 Standard Schnauzer Club of America—*Dr. Harvey Mohrenweiser*  
 Steel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Miss Susan M. Napady*  
 Suffolk County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Robert Eisele*  
 Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Inc.—*Marcy L. Zingler*  
 Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Florence Duggan*  
 Sussex Spaniel Club of America—*John R. Lewis, Jr.*  
 Swamp Dog Club—*Dr. Timothy Carrion*  
 Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marylyn DeGregorio*  
 Talbot Kennel Club—*Joann B. Beavers*  
 Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Stolz*  
 Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Richella M. Veatch*  
 Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Michael Knight*  
 Tibetan Spaniel Club of America—*Mrs. Linda C. Foiles*  
 Tibetan Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Stacey La Forge*  
 Toledo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Joyce Wilson*

Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—*Diana J. Komarek*  
 Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*  
 Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Gunzel*  
 Trinity Valley Kennel Club—*Debby Fowler*  
 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. Fugiwara*  
 United States Australian Shepherd Association—*Jeff Margeson*  
 United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*  
 United States Lakeland Terrier Club—*Maria Sacco*  
 United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club—*Ms. Margaret R. Wolfe*  
 Utah Valley Kennel Club—*Kelly D. Reimschiessel*  
 Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*  
 Vancouver Kennel Club—*Jolyne Lea*  
 Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association—*Lorraine Ebdon*  
 Virginia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sandie Friend*

Wallkill Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rose M. Robischon*  
Wampanoag Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rachel A. Wilson*  
Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*  
Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Miller*  
Waukesha Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary A. Eschweiler*  
Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Richard Rohrbacher*  
Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Bruce R. Schwartz*  
West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Tracy J. Pancost*  
Westbury Kennel Association, Inc.—*Geraldine Jaitin*  
Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*  
Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy McMaster Descutner*  
Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bonnie Bieber*  
Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Frederick R. Vogel*  
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*  
Winston-Salem Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Jane Fitzin*  
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Karen Dewey*  
Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Claudia M. Grunstra-Pierro*



## AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB DELEGATE ZOOM MEETING JUNE 8, 2021

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET).  
*(One sharp rap of the gavel.)*

Executive Secretary, Gina M. DiNardo, explained the Zoom Webinar functionality as follows: We will be using select interactive features for this meeting. Raise hand indicates that you wish to speak. You will be acknowledged in the order that hands were raised. You will be asked to unmute when it is time to speak. Keep your hand raised until called upon or lower your hand if you decide not to speak. Polls are launched live to conduct votes for new member clubs and amendments. Q & A is only to be used for issues regarding Parliamentary procedures such as to second a motion. If any Delegate has technical issues during the meeting, please call the Zoom Tech Support line at 919-816-3320. I'll repeat that. 919-816-3320.

*(National Anthem played.)*

Mr. Sprung introduced the Chairman, Dr. Thomas M. Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Executive Secretary, Gina DiNardo; Professional Registered Parliamentarian, Joan Corbisiero and David Levy, the Court Reporter.

Mr. Sprung offered condolences of the recent passing of Fred G. Ferris on March 29, 2021. He was the Delegate for the Connecticut River Working Group Association since January 2010.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the names of the Delegates seated since the last meeting.

Ms. DiNardo read the names of the Delegates seated since the last meeting in March 2021:

**Stephanie S. Brooks**, Coral Springs, FL, to represent Fort Lauderdale Dog Club  
**Brian Brubaker**, Carlisle, PA, to represent Puli Club of America  
**Rebecca (Becky) Campbell**, Dublin, OH, to represent Central Ohio Kennel Club  
**Anita R. O'Berg**, Goleta, CA, to represent Channel City Kennel Club  
**Edward J. Collins**, Scottsville, VA, to represent Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club  
**Jean C. Edwards**, Bridgeton, NJ, to represent South Jersey Kennel Club

**Jill Faulmann**, Sherwood, OR, to represent Sherwood Dog Training Club  
**Mary Ellen Ferguson**, Bernalillo, NM, to represent Rio Grande Kennel Club  
**Jane Fitzin**, Powhatan, VA, to represent Winston-Salem Dog Training Club  
**Eduardo Toshio Fugiwara**, Hampton, NJ, to represent Two Cities Kennel Club  
**Vanessa Giamo**, Newton, NJ, to represent Miniature Bull Terrier Club  
**Laurie Green**, Toledo, OH, to represent Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club  
**Corie Haylett**, Boone, NC, to represent Asheville Kennel Club  
**Edwin T. Lorentz**, Slippery Rock, PA, to represent Central Beagle Club  
**Leslie Puppo-Rogers**, Salisbury, NC, to represent Salisbury (NC) Kennel Club  
**Virginia T. Rowland**, Templeton, MA, to represent French Bulldog Club of America  
**Joanne Schottinger**, Chester, NJ, to represent Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club  
**Bruce Schwartz**, Los Angeles, CA to represent Welsh Terrier Club of America  
**Timothy Ufkes**, Seattle, WA to represent Olympic Kennel Club  
**Lynne Wickens**, Andover, OH, to represent Ashtabula Kennel Club  
**Rachel A. Wilson**, Scituate, RI, to represent Wampanoag Kennel Club

The following new Delegate introductions were given by the Executive Secretary:

## **Becky Campbell, Dublin, Ohio, representing Central Ohio Kennel Club**

Becky is a “life member” of Central Ohio Kennel Club. She has served as President, Vice President, Board member and is currently the Treasurer. She has had Mastiffs for over 25 years. Becky has been fortunate to share her home with nationally ranked dogs both in Conformation and Obedience. She is very active in her Parent Club as well as her local kennel club. Becky served as the Delegate for the Mastiff Club of America for the past eight years and is looking forward to her continued service as a Delegate for Central Ohio Kennel Club.

## **Jill Faulmann, Sherwood, Oregon, representing Sherwood Dog Training Club**

Jill is the Secretary, Treasurer and now Delegate of Sherwood Dog Training Club in Oregon. This club was started from the ground up. It was licensed in 2008 and became a Member Club in 2020. Jill is also a “life member” of Deep Peninsula Dog Training Club in California, is an officer in the Pacific Northwest French Bulldog Club, and a member of the French Bulldog Club of America. Jill has titled a variety of breeds in Tracking, Obedience, Rally, Agility, Fast Cat and Conformation. She also does the Trial Secretary services for the Sherwood Dog Training Club events.

## **Mary Ellen Ferguson, Albuquerque, New Mexico, representing Rio Grande Kennel Club**

Dogs have always been an integral part of Mary Ellen’s life. Growing up in Northwestern Pennsylvania, with a father who was an avid sportsman, “Gun Dogs” were beloved members of her family. Her affinity for Schnauzers began at an early age when friends from California brought their mini on their visit east. Although her love of the Sporting Group never dwindled, she knew that she would someday have a Schnauzer. A retired Hospital Administrator, Mary Ellen has served on a number of non-profit Boards in a variety of positions and has the distinction of being a multi-million-dollar fundraiser. Currently, she is Vice President of RGKC’s Board. Additionally, she serves as Assistant Show Chairman for the High Desert Cluster and coordinates the show’s Marketing and PR efforts. Mary Ellen is a strong advocate of Dog Breed Preservation and the tenants upon which the AKC was founded. She has owned, shown in Conformation and bred Standard Schnauzers for the past 20 years.

## **Jane Fitzin, Powhatan, Virginia, representing Winston-Salem Dog Training Club**

In 1994, Jane got her first Labrador Retriever and has been a “true blue” lab fan ever since. Jane’s current Labrador Re-

triever, Springtime Skies Thunderous Storm, a therapy dog, visits at-risk students in elementary schools and on the weekends Team Storm trials in Agility, Obedience, Rally and Scent Work. Jane actively teaches companion Obedience to the community and is a CGC evaluator. In addition to serving on the Executive Board of the Winston-Salem Dog Training Club in Winston-Salem, North Carolina for the past seven years, Jane also served as their past President, and now has taken on the role of their AKC Delegate.

## **Eduardo Fugiwara, Hampton, New Jersey, representing Two Cities Kennel Club**

Eduardo acquired his first Irish Terrier in 2012. He started co-breeding with Linda Honey under the Rockledge prefix in 2015. He has bred a multiple BIS, two multiple specialty BIS, 2018 Westminster BOB, 2020 AKC National BOB and a 2019 National Specialty BOB. He has served as Show Chair, Cluster Chair, Cluster Assistant Chair in different clubs. He increased the profit of one of his club’s shows 4200% in 5 years. He has served on his Parent Club’s Board of Governors since 2015. He has been serving in the All-Breed Clubs Committee since 2019, serving on different subcommittees, and the Nominating committee in 2020. His experience in the corporate world and high-performance sports have proven use-

ful in his initiatives in our sport.

## **Vanessa Giamo, Newton, New Jersey, representing Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America**

Vanessa first saw a Miniature Bull Terrier while attending Westminster Dog Show as a spectator and fell in love with the breed’s unique look and clownish attitude. She ended up purchasing her first puppy sight unseen from a breeder in Australia in 2001, and soon thereafter joined the MBTCA and became involved with showing and later breeding Mini Bulls under the kennel name Minotaur. Prior to representing the MBTCA as Delegate, she most recently served two terms as the club’s First Vice President. She has recently become an AKC Judge of MBT’s and Bull Terriers. Vanessa is also a member of the Newton Kennel Club and the Leonberger Club of America.

## **Corie Haylett, Boone, North Carolina, representing Asheville Kennel Club**

Corie is a new member to the dog show exhibiting family, though she showed horses in 4-H as a child. She has always had a family dog or two and had a Pomeranian live to 20 years old. She currently enjoys exhibiting her beloved Pomeranians and does breed, though only a few litters a year. Her son is exploring the opportunity of Junior Showmanship. Professionally, she teaches



full-time at Appalachian State University. In addition to the Asheville Kennel Club, she is an active member of her National Breed Club and a Toy specialty club. Corie hopes to bring a perspective from a new exhibitor to the Delegate Body and is honored to have been recommended and voted-in by members to represent the Asheville Kennel Club.

**Ed Lorentz, Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, representing Central Beagle Club**

Ed has been breeding and training Field Trial Beagles since 2011. He is an active Field Trial Judge and competitor in the North East Beagle Gundog Federation and the Pennsylvania Beagle Gundog Federation. He has two sons Caleb and Easton that are both involved in the Eastern Junior Beagler's handling program. Ed's enthusiasm for Beagles as hunting companions started at the age of 6 when watching his Uncle Bill's Beagle run a rabbit. Since then there is no better music than that of a pack of beagles on the hunt. As a Delegate of one of the first Beagle clubs in the United States, Ed is looking forward to increase awareness of the need for Beagles to be field capable while still meeting conformation standards. He is looking forward to dipping his toes into the Conformation world this season with his trialing Beagles in pursuit of a dual champion. He looks for-

ward to working with all of you.

**Anita R. O'Berg, Goleta, California, representing Channel City Kennel Club**

Anita proudly represents the Channel City Kennel Club, which is located in Santa Barbara County, California. Anita also serves the club as Assistant Show Chair and teaches their weekly handling class. Her other club memberships include the Santa Barbara Kennel Club and Morris and Essex Kennel Club. Anita is currently on the Board of the Samoyed Club of America as the club's Treasurer. Her other non-profit experience includes over 30 years in the Junior League of Santa Barbara. In her professional life she is a Corporate Controller. Anita would like to thank the membership of the CCKC for their trust. She looks forward to supporting the world of purebred dogs as a Delegate.

**Leslie Puppo-Rogers, Salisbury, North Carolina, representing Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club**

Leslie began her involvement in purebred dogs in 1978 with Cocker Spaniels, in 1986 she purchased her first Curly-Coated Retriever and is currently on the board of the CCRCA. Now she and her husband's main focus is Pointers, they co-bred and co-owned the 2019 National Specialty winner. She has been Show Chair for Lake County

Kennel Club of Northern California and Salisbury Kennel Club. She is the Corresponding Secretary of Salisbury Kennel Club and looks forward to representing the club as their new Delegate.

**Virginia Rowland, Templeton, Massachusetts, representing French Bulldog Club of America**

Virginia is a breeder/judge of French Bulldogs and Bullmastiffs. She is active in the American Bullmastiff Association as a Board member, National Rescue Coordinator and a member of the Ladies' Dog Club. She is also the President of the Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners. This is her fifth time serving as a Delegate since 1984, previously representing the American Mastiff Association, Macon Kennel Club, Ladies' Dog Club and American Bullmastiff Association.

**Joanne Schottinger, Chester, NJ, representing Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America**

A lifelong lover of dogs, Joanne became involved with Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs in 2004 in California where she was an officer in the Southwest GSMD club (now disbanded) and a member of the GSMDCA. Her 'Swissies' predominantly compete in Conformation events, but also have participated in Rally, Obedience, pack hiking, and

weight pulling. She recently bred her first litter with a great deal of support and advice from her AKC Breeder of Merit. Retirement from oncology practice in California brought a move back to her native New Jersey, but she continues to teach (remotely) in a medical school in California and remains engaged in research on cancer screening.

**Tim Ufkes, Seattle, Washington, representing Olympic Kennel Club**

Tim began his journey in the world of dogs in 1996 with a puppy that ended his show career with multiple BIS in the United States and Canada. Tim joined OKC in 2007 and has held positions including Grounds Chair, Assistant Show Chair, Show Chair and lastly President as well as having served on the Board of Directors nearly every year of his involvement in the club. Additionally, Tim has been a member of the Irish Water Spaniel Club of America since 1997. Tim is excited to represent one of the premier shows held each year in the western United States and eager to be a part of the Delegate Body for the AKC.

**Lynne Wickens, Andover, Ohio, representing Ashtabula Kennel Club**

Lynne's career in showing dogs began at an early age of 11 with a Wire-Haired Fox Terrier. As a junior handler she trained and

learned how to hand strip a terrier. She currently breeds and shows West Highland White Terriers. She just recently retired her 15-year-old Westie from Agility who was the number one Westie for several years both at the MACH and PACH levels. He was invited to the AKC Agility Invitational 6 times. She is currently running 5 Westies and a 24" All-American Dog. She has participated in Obedience, Rally, Conformation, Agility, Fast CAT®, and has obtained numerous titles. Lynne is the Rally and Agility trainer for the Ashtabula Kennel Club. Lynne also enjoys travel, photography, and crafting. She is looking forward to becoming more involved with the AKC.

**Rachel A. Wilson, Scituate, Rhode Island, representing Wampanoag Kennel Club**

Rachel was introduced to Great Danes in 2008 first as a pet and then found the love of Obedience and Rally after attending classes at a Competition Training Center. She volunteered at Great Dane Around New England Rescue until 2013, when she founded her own rescue Great Dane Rescue of New England. Her 12-volunteer organization covers five New England states rescuing and rehabilitating Great Danes, averaging 40-65 dogs per year. As her love for the breed grew, she obtained a rescue Great Dane that proved to have Obedience and Rally talents and that became a

High in Trial and High Combined at the Great Dane National. Although a rescue – he was a purebred Great Dane who was given up on – but in the right home, with the right family amazing things could be accomplished and become a team. Fast forward to 2014 when Rachel acquired her first Conformation Great Dane where she fell in love with that aspect of the purebred dog sport. Upon finishing her first champion, she co-bred her first litter and continues to breed when timing and pedigrees are right. Rachel continues to show and compete in Conformation as an owner/handler/breeder and owner-handler, Rally, Obedience and Fast CAT/Lure Coursing. This year she will be embarking on showing Chihuahuas as she has always owned, along with her Great Danes. Rachel is a CGC Evaluator and will be looking to acquire her Junior Showmanship judging license within the upcoming year to start with as they are the future of our Sport.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you and a sincere welcome to our new Delegates.

The minutes of the March 9, 2021, Delegate Meeting were published in the online April 2021 AKC Gazette and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as

published.

Dr. Davies presented the Chairman's Report as follows:

Good morning or afternoon, whatever the case may be. Resilience. Flexibility. Communication. When we look back on the past year and a half – as we do now nearing the midway point of 2021 – these are the words that characterize our incredible organization. The end of the pandemic is at last in our sights, but there is still a long way to go.

The resilience of our Delegates, clubs, breeders, exhibitors, handlers, judges and volunteers has been nothing short of extraordinary. Challenges with quarantines, social distancing, health protocols and venue shutdowns never tempered our fanciers' desire to host events for all who love and value purebred dogs. It was certainly not easy, but those of us who were able, continued to show up for our dogs and our sport. We are getting back to where we have been. Now, AKC events for the second quarter of the year are at ninety-nine percent of the quantity of events in the same period of 2019, before the pandemic. The return is most notable among certain Companion events, but all sports are rising to meet a new day when

we can congregate safely again and share the love of our purebred dogs together.

Registration trends also prove the resilience of our breeders. Litters and dogs have grown by 18% and 25% respectively, as compared to the same period last year. Navigating the demand of so-called "pandemic puppy buyers," contending with distanced veterinary visits and socializing young puppies have been among the challenges our breeders faced. But we pressed on with our mission to carry forth and improve breeding stock into the next generation. Our breeds, particularly those bearing the mark of "vulnerable," demand our cultivation and preservation. Breeders who maintained these important efforts during this difficult period have our respect and appreciation.

The road forward has not been easy for anyone in our sport. But we have persevered, and that is the true measure of our accomplishment. As Nelson Mandela put it, *"Do not judge me by my success; judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again."*

All of us, including the fanciers we represent, have shown how being flexible and receptive to new ideas and expectations can see us through trying times. We

adapted to face coverings and social distancing protocols to bring back competition where we could. We provided virtual titles in Companion and Performance events to allow dogs and owners to gain a foothold in our sports when traditional opportunities were few. We availed ourselves of continuing education online to hone our skills away from the rings. We participated in meetings like this, virtually, to keep pace with the speed of business. And while our lives begin to take on a greater degree of “the way things were,” we will consider how some of the “pandemic practices” could continue to add value to the ways in which we collaborate going forward. It was Martin Luther King Jr. who famously said, “*If you can’t fly, then run. If you can’t run, then walk. If you can’t walk, then crawl. But whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.*” ... and that’s just what we have done.

Communication has been the key to how we have achieved so much under so many constraints. The Board and Staff have made inordinate efforts to keep everyone abreast of developments and changes during the past twelve months. Thomas Jefferson wrote, “*A well-informed electorate is a prerequisite to democracy.*” Throughout the pandemic, our President and CEO has sent sixteen in-depth reports to update

Club Presidents, Secretaries and Delegates about Staff projects and achievements. In an effort to enhance Board transparency, your Board established a Board Communications Committee in May of last year. This committee is tasked with timely communication with the entire Delegate body on issues and inquiries that are important to the Sport and the fancy. This committee speaks for the Board and represents the opinion of the Board. In some cases, the Communications Committee simply delivers a timely message, while in other cases it is a response to an inquiry of the Board from the Delegate Body. The Committee welcomes the opportunity to communicate with you all, so please continue to reach out.

Staff has also taken extra steps to communicate to new dog owners with concrete ways to engage with our organization and our mission. A new email series called “AKC Events Near You” began in April as a way to notify new dog registrants about upcoming events and learning opportunities tailored by location and breed eligibility. Every month, registrants in the past 12 months with a dog between the ages of 4 and 36 months receive a list of AKC events in which their dog can participate, occurring in the following month within 120 miles of their home. In April alone, we de-

ployed more than 400,000 emails. As more events return and as registrations increase, these email numbers will continue to grow. We want to do everything possible to encourage new dog owners to join us in our sports, and to support our clubs to build gate and entries whenever possible. This triggered email series is just one more way in which we are leveraging communication tools to rise to the challenges of our times.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, I would like to acknowledge some individuals who have put into practice the *resilience, flexibility and communication* that have seen AKC through the pandemic.

In the field, Pattie Proctor. The work of a Conformation Field Representative is largely behind the scenes, particularly when events were cancelled, but its value cannot be understated. Pattie’s efforts have been extraordinary. Covering events, observing judges, running clinics, creating schedules, leading conference calls, mentoring field staff and every aspect of “the show must go on” are all in a day’s work for this pillar of the sport. Pattie, we thank you for all that you do.

Also, in the field, Dr. Mary Burch. The scientific leader of the AKC Canine Good Citizen program, Mary has given 25 years

to the notion that a well-trained dog is a joy to own. Under her care, the AKC Canine Good Citizen award has been bestowed upon 1 million dogs. Mary has grown our roster of CGC Evaluators to an all-time high of more than 13,000. Ever receptive to the needs of new dog owners, Mary has built the AKC Family Dog Program to extend CGC into more titles, including AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy, AKC Community Canine, Urban CGC, AKC Therapy Dog, and AKC FIT Dog. Mary has also devised new programs for owners who wish to train virtually, including AKC Trick Dog and AKC Virtual Home Manners. Thank you, Dr. Burch.

In Raleigh, Tim Pursell, and in New York, Paula Spector. Together, this cross-departmental team transformed the way our meetings take place, and it was their sweat equity and collaboration that ensured that we have never missed a beat. To date, 11 Board meetings, 4 Delegate Meetings complete with electronic voting and 28 Committee Meetings all came together seamlessly thanks to their dedicated planning, technical support, training and attention to detail. I join them both in saying we all look forward to the day when we can see each other again in person. Thank you, Paula and Tim.

In New York, Ron Furman. While the pandemic put a damper on professional sports, Ron Furman led the way for AKC to fill the void. With a portfolio of exciting events unfolding on ESPN Networks and a debut of the AKC National Championship on ABC TV, Ron has helped us broaden our audience and sponsors immensely by introducing the viewing public to the thrilling world of AKC events. Agility, Fastest Dog, Dock Diving, Flyball, Police K9 and other programs are all joining the ranks of AKC Action Sports on ESPN, thanks to Ron's vision and ingenuity. Thank you, Ron.

In Raleigh, Keith Frazier. Conditions in North Carolina required critical attention that was delivered expertly by Keith and his team. Print and mail services that we require for our core business – most notably Registration – never shut down when the pandemic began and have kept moving forward like a well-oiled machine. Keith and his team have worked tirelessly in person at our Operations Center to ensure that employees could return to a safe and secure office environment with all necessary health measures in place. Thank you, Keith.

And, in Raleigh, Doug Ljungren and the entire Sports & Events Staff for building

the virtual titling programs that have brought into AKC so many new sport participants and allowed the existing participants to continue to hone their skills and to enjoy their canine partners in new and fun ways. Thank you, Doug, and all the “outside the box” thinkers on your Staff.

2021 is halfway behind us, and we have every reason to be hopeful for better days ahead. Still, we will forge ahead with the *resilience, receptivity and communication* that our fancy and our Staff have exemplified during these exceptional times. Thank you again for your collaboration and support.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Tom, for that inspiring speech and for the recognition of Staff. It's an honor in their behalf, I thank the Board.

Next is the President's Report. AKC Sports are back. My compliments to the many clubs that admirably held various events while upholding strict government mandates of social distancing, temperature checks and masks.

Our clubs commitment shared by knowledgeable volunteers and coupled with dedicated judges, stewards, exhibitors, event secretaries and superintendents led the way for an amazing comeback from

one of the most challenging times in any dog person's memory. Together we survived a pandemic, statewide shutdowns, recession, tumultuous elections and social unrest.

AKC's mission to uphold the integrity of the registry and promote the sports of purebred dogs while breeding for type and function requires leadership and collaboration from the Chairman, Vice Chair, Board and Staff working in harmony. Fortunately, we have this.

Litters and individual dog registrations are stronger than they have been in 15 years thanks in part to outstanding customer service, in-house technology advances and the dedication of AKC Breeders. Our sports are once more beginning to flourish, picking up where we left off the year before COVID when entries were the highest in history. Virtual opportunities created during the pandemic are welcoming new people to the AKC universe for the very first time. Everyone in North Carolina, the Field, and New York City played an important role and I thank each one of them.

Of course, this doesn't just happen; it takes you – the Delegate Body, clubs, responsible breeders, event secretaries, su-

perintendents and a host of others, plus a Board and Staff possessing a vision with the will and commitment to achieve it.

Beyond these attributes of the Great American Kennel Club there is history, today and forever.

Please watch the screen for a tribute I put together on “Who We Are”. With special appreciation to Cody Barr for her technical knowledge and support.  
*(Who We Are; History; Today; Forever Video played.)*

Mr. Sprung: That, my friends, is the Great American Kennel Club.

Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips, gave the Financial Report as follows:  
Good morning and good afternoon to all of our Delegates. Thank you for attending today's meeting. We truly appreciate your time and your support. Today I'm presenting key performance indicators and financial results for the first quarter of 2021. That first quarter is made up of three months ended March 31, 2021, compared to the same period in 2020. When relevant, we will include references to the 2021 budget. Let's begin with these nonfinancial key performance indicators, these data points are essential to telling the story of

the March 31, 2021 net operating results. The chart you see on your screen provides a monthly comparison of litter registrations for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021 with comparison to 2020. For the three months ended March 31, 2021, litter registrations totaled 82,026. This result is 22 percent higher when compared to the same period in 2020. Here are two additional points regarding the positive impact of litter registrations. Litter registrations are 12 percent of total revenue for the quarter ended March 31, 2021. The aforementioned double-digit growth began in August of 2020 and continued through the end of March 2021. The average growth over this period was an increase of 21 percent. This is a strong and sustaining measure of AKC revenue.

This chart provides a monthly comparison of dog registrations for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021, as compared to 2020. For these three months, dog registrations totaled 226,658. This result is 37 percent growth over 2020. As we dig into these numbers, it's essential to note that beginning in April 2020, and continuing through March 2021, dog registrations sustained double-digit increases over the same prior year period. The average increase over those months was 20 percent. To illustrate how these nonfinancial

statistics support financial results, please note that the combined litter and dog registrations represent 48 percent of total revenue for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. AKC's online process for registrations is essential and very popular. As of March 31, 2021, we're pleased to report that 82 percent of dog registrations and 85 percent of litter registrations occur online. In closing this section, we thank our breeders, the entire Delegate Body, our Board of Directors, and AKC Staff for these outstanding achievements and we look forward to continued success in the future.

As we turn to events and entries on this slide, the COVID-19 pandemic has continued its impact on our first quarter results. Looking back to last year, it's essential to remember that in the first quarter of 2020, the trends were following a strong activity from 2019. However, in late March 2020, the shutdown began to impact events and entries adversely. In these results, we see the continued impact on events and entries. The events and entries as of March 31, 2021, were 22 percent and 39 percent lower. However, looking ahead, our Sports & Events Staff, has reported their current projections extended through July 2021, indicate the path back to more events has begun. As you heard from our Chairman, we are looking at a number

close to 100 percent of our 2019 activity. We're pleased when we hear this – and we hear that clubs are holding events; we look forward to better times.

On this next slide, let's review the financial operating results for the first quarter of 2021 compared to the year-to-date budget and to prior year-to-date actual results. As of March 31, 2021, total revenues of \$25.969 million produced net operating income of \$9.379 million. These results were generated principally by increased registration revenues and overall lower expenses. Let's look at the first quarter budget vs. actual results for 2021. First quarter budget, total revenues actual exceeds total budget by 31 percent. Total expenses are 9.7 percent lower than budget. These variances are due to cautious budgeting due to the pandemic's uncertainty and a slow return to business activity in the first quarter of the year. In addition, certain operating expenses were not fully deployed because there was insufficient business activity to support spending. When comparing the first quarter of 2021 to the first quarter of 2020, we report the total revenues increased by 27 percent while total expenses decreased by 14 percent.

Now, let's look at a breakout of total revenue on this slide which comprises the sig-

nificant lines or groups of revenue. I'll refer to groups and provide comments and significant elements of the group. The first group, titled, registration and related fees for the first quarter of 2021 has actual revenue of \$16.265 million. This is primarily comprised of total registration revenue of \$12.4 million. This result exceeded Q1, 2020, total registration revenue of \$8.9 million by 27 percent or \$3.4 million. When comparing Q1, 2021 total registrations against budget, we report that revenues are 32 percent higher or \$2.9 million higher. Revenue from litter and dog registrations comprised 48 percent of total first quarter revenue in 2021 vs. 44 percent of the prior year. Going a little deeper into these totals, please note that dog registrations exceeded Q1 2020 by 42 percent or \$2.8 million. In addition to the registration results, here are some examples of increases in registration-related fees due to our online presence. Sales of certified pedigrees exceeded Q1 2020, by \$705,000 or 56 percent. Online certificate transfers exceeded Q1 2020, by \$128,000 or 48 percent, and litter certificates and AKC puppy folders also exceeded Q1 2020 by \$276,000 or 56 percent.

Moving on from registration, let's look at the events and other fees group. This group combines revenues from recording and service fees, title recognition fees, and

events application fees. Q1 in 2021 actuals of \$2.5 million are lower than the prior year by \$217,000 or 8 percent. The significant area or significant measure in this group are event service fees, leading this group at \$1.6 million for the first quarter of 2021, vs. \$1.9 million for the first quarter of 2020. As we mentioned earlier, positive news is that although these Q1 actuals lag the prior year, the positive indicators point to the second quarter as a significant increase over the prior year, and closer to 2019 actuals. Moving on to product and service sales, Q1 2021 revenues totaled \$3.2 million, which is 3.8 percent, or \$128,000 lower than the prior year. When this revenue group is evaluated further, we're also pleased to report that merchandise sales of \$769,000 are comparable to the prior year. As a reminder, both e-commerce and traditional order fulfillment produced these sales. DNA services are ahead of the prior year by \$541,000 or 31 percent, and income from Good Dog! Helpline totaled \$1.3 million and exceeds the prior year by 61 percent. Next, let's look at advertising, sponsorship and royalties. Q1 2021 revenue totaled \$3.8 million, exceeding the same period in 2020 by \$1.3 million or 53 percent. This positive variance is due to new sponsorship revenue that is recognized in the first quarter of

2021.

Now, let's review the slide on controllable expenses where we compare Q1 2021 results to budget in the prior year. Before we get into the details, please note that total controllable expenses for the first quarter were \$2.3 million or 14.5 percent lower than the prior year's first quarter. Total controllable expenses were also lower than budget by \$1.4 million or 9.2 percent. All lines or all groups except for postage, materials and fulfillment were lower than budget and I'll explain why shortly but here are the significant variances for controllable expenses. Travel was lower than budget by 73 percent or \$506,000. Rent and occupancy expense for outside facilities were lower due to not holding a Meet the Breeds® event, and promotion and public relations expenses were lower due to the timing and spending of deployable assets and promotions. Staff costs were lower than the prior year by 11 percent or \$889,000, and lower than budget by 5 percent, or \$380,000, principally due to conservative cost projections for health-related benefits in 2021. Remember all expenses are lower due to the careful expense management that we deployed. As I mentioned earlier, an area of cost increase is in fulfillment, because we realized additional sales

and merchandise activities. The group of expenses at the far right relates to our grants and donations, and AKC continues to support our charitable affiliates as authorized by our annual operating budget. Grants and donations to the Canine Health Foundation and the AKC Museum of the Dog are consistent with budget and prior year actuals. Also, please note that at federal and state government levels, our Government Relations Staff continues to support or provide support for legislation promoting the mission of AKC.

Now, let's take a look at our investment results, and see how they performed in the first quarter of 2021. The investment performance results are reported on the bar graph on the right, and investment asset allocations are reported on the pie chart on the left. Investment assets are diversified in order to manage market risk which is why we show a broadly diversified portfolio in the pie chart. As of March 31, 2021, investment performance was positive, returning 3.72 percent. However, the portfolio trailed the balanced index benchmark by 81 basis points due to market volatility. As you see on the slide, the one and three-year trailing reports beat benchmark. The AKC investment portfolio at March 31, 2021 was comprised of the following asset allocations:

Equity investments make up 63 percent of the portfolio; fixed income investments and cash make up 24 percent, and private equity assets total 13 percent. Overall, this is very good performance in a volatile financial market which followed a lengthy economic shutdown.

Finally, I'd like to present our balance sheet or statement of financial position. Please note this statement is not combined with any of the AKC affiliates. Total assets as of March 31, 2021 stand at \$163 million. This is \$11.2 million higher than December 31, 2020. This increase is principally due to the net operating results including cost controls and increased investment values. The liability and commitment side of the balance sheet is generally comparable with December 31, 2020. The overall financial condition of AKC continues to be healthy due to the combination of revenue and expense related comments I made earlier, and a positive tone by management deploying AKC assets. At the same time, we continue to assess risk using good governance tools such as our investment policy statement, while considering the future impact of post-retirement and pension plan obligations.

In summary, I'd like to thank you for your time today. We appreciate your dedication

to AKC and look forward to serving you. I want to thank the AKC Board of Directors for their continuing support of our mission through its programs and support of our Staff. We've worked through many challenges in the past year and are ready to move forward as activities recover. It's our combined efforts, our Delegates, our Board and our Staff that make up the building blocks for a successful program supporting our mission. I'm available to answer any questions at your convenience – I've included my contact information on this slide, and I wish you a good meeting today. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ted, for that thorough report.

Next, there was a bylaw amendment vote and a rule change vote. The first vote was on the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club **Article VII, New Section 2**, which moves a statement concerning the election of Board members from Article VIII, which addresses the nominating committee and nominations for the Board, to Article VII which addresses the election of Board members. The remaining sections of the Bylaws in Article VII and Article VIII will be renumbered.

The amendment was proposed by the Dele-

gate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The second vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 6 – Championships, which removes the phrase referencing one type of independent specialty to generalize the language, provides consistency within the section and allows for future inclusion of additional independent specialties that may be developed without further modification of the section.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, **Article VII, Sections 4, 5 and New Section 6**.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club **Article VII, Sections 4, 5 and New Section 6** which affirmatively set forth the ability of the Board to meet through electronic means in accordance with New York State Not-for-Profit Law. The remaining sections of the Bylaws will be renumbered.

This amendment was proposed by AKC Staff and brought forward with approval from 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 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read a list of vacancies for the Delegate Standing Committees to be filled in September.

Ms. DiNardo: These are the vacancies on Delegate Standing Committees that are to be filled at the September Delegate Meeting:

**All-Breed Clubs Committee:** 4 three-year terms  
**Bylaws Committee:** 3 three-year terms, 1 two-year term and 1 one-year term.  
**Canine Health Committee:** 3 three-year terms.

**Companion Events Committee:** 4 three-year terms and 1 two-year term.

**Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee:** 4 three-year terms.

**Dog Show Rules Committee:** 4 three-year terms.

**Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee:** 3 three-year terms and 1 one-year term.

**Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee:** 3 three-year terms and 1 one-year term.

**Parent Clubs Committee:** 4 three-year terms and 1 one-year term.

**Perspectives Editorial Staff:** 6 two-year terms and 2 one-year terms.

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, Gina DiNardo, by Friday, July 16, 2021.

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. Their qualification statements will be included in the September Delegate Meeting notification.

The Chair called on Doug Ljungren, EVP Sports & Events, to introduce the 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award video presentation.

Mr. Ljungren: Since 1999, The American Kennel Club Lifetime Achievement Awards have honored those individuals whose outstanding accomplishments have left a lasting mark on the Sport of purebred dogs. The nominees and recipients of this award have fully demonstrated their passion and commitment to our Sport. They have earned our deepest respect as well as our heartfelt gratitude. Each winner receives an engraved sterling silver reveré bowl. The names of this year's recipients will also be added to the Lifetime Achievement Award perpetual trophy, a Tiffany & Company sterling silver bowl, which is on permanent display at AKC Headquarters in New York City. (*2021 Lifetime Achievement Award video plays.*)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Doug, and congratulations to the three winners of the Lifetime Achievement Awards. It is our honor to recognize them.

The next Delegate Meeting will be held on September 14, 2021. More detailed information will be emailed to the Delegates.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Frances Stephens, Delegate for the Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers spoke in support of the St. Bernard Club of America Board's initiative to encourage new participation in the Sport. As of July 1, 2021, each club that hosts a local specialty offering Junior Showmanship with an entry of a least one Junior, will receive \$100 to support their local programs.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for sharing that positive information.

Don James, Delegate for the Leonberger Club of America, and member of the Perspectives Editorial Staff requested article submissions for the upcoming September issue. In the role of Coordinator for the issue, he provided his email contact information [20destry03@gmail.com](mailto:20destry03@gmail.com).

Felice Jarrold, Delegate for the Old Pueblo Dog Training Club inquired about having the Forum presentation video and President's Report video available to share with clubs.

Mr. Sprung: Yes, the "AKC Who We Are; History, Today; Forever" video that I put together will be shared with the Delegates.

Ms. DiNardo: If the Delegate Forum presentation on "Nutrition and New Research

on Canine Hygiene" can be shared, the video will be posted to the Delegate Portal, and I will advise the Delegate Body.

Sylvia Thomas, Delegate for the Kennel Club of Riverside, *Perspectives* Editor offered Delegates the option to have articles from *Perspectives* be sent to them in PDF format to share with club members, advising them to reach out to her by email. She announced that there were vacancies on the *Perspectives* Editorial Staff to be filled at the September election and invited the Delegates to join the group.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Sylvia for your work on behalf of *Perspectives*.

John McCullagh, Delegate for the Blennerhasset Kennel Club followed up on his suggestion about having lengthy items such as new or changed breed standards be attached as separate files to the Secretary's Page in the AKC Gazette, or *Perspectives* to avoid costly and time-consuming printing.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, John. We will get you an answer this week on that.

Mr. McCullagh: Thank you, Sir.

Susanne Burgess, Delegate for the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association,

spoke on behalf of the English Springer Spaniel Foundation, serving as past President and a current Board member. She provided website information, (<http://englishspringerfoundation.org/>) for donations in memoriam of David Hopkins, who was a long-time Delegate, Chairman of the Field Trial Committee for many years, a member of the CHF Board and dedicated to the Sport. She explained the money from contributions would be used to commemorate the activities David was most involved in.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. It's nice to honor David.

Pat Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America gave an update on the AKC Reunite Program trailers. Including trailers in the pipeline – there are 100 – and an additional 12 coming soon. A celebration will take place when the 100th trailer is finished. There was a recent deployment to Mesa, Arizona for the Telegraph fire where 6 dogs and 1 parrot were rescued. In April 2021, a trailer deployed with the Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services and all the animals were safely evacuated. Pat thanked everyone for helping to raise monies for the trailers and the clubs for working so hard to support the program.



Mr. Sprung: Pat, thank you for your leadership of the trailer project. It's fabulous. It will be an exceptional day for the AKC and for Reunite when the 100th trailer is released.

James Phinizy, Delegate from the Scottish Deerhound Club of America, expressed compliments to AKC Staff, specifically Mara Bovsun, for her editorial work on the *AKC FAMILY DOG* magazine. He recalled that when he was an AKC Board member in the 1990's, a policy was established to send a copy of the *AKC GAZETTE* to the governor's office and every state house. He recommended that the current AKC Board consider doing this with *AKC FAMILY DOG*, explaining it would be a smart PR effort to spread the word of AKC with a publication that appeals to the everyday person.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for the suggestion and for your compliment to Mara and I will see to it that it is on the July agenda for our Board of Directors.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

*(One sharp rap of the gavel.)*

(Time noted: 1:21 p.m. ET)

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

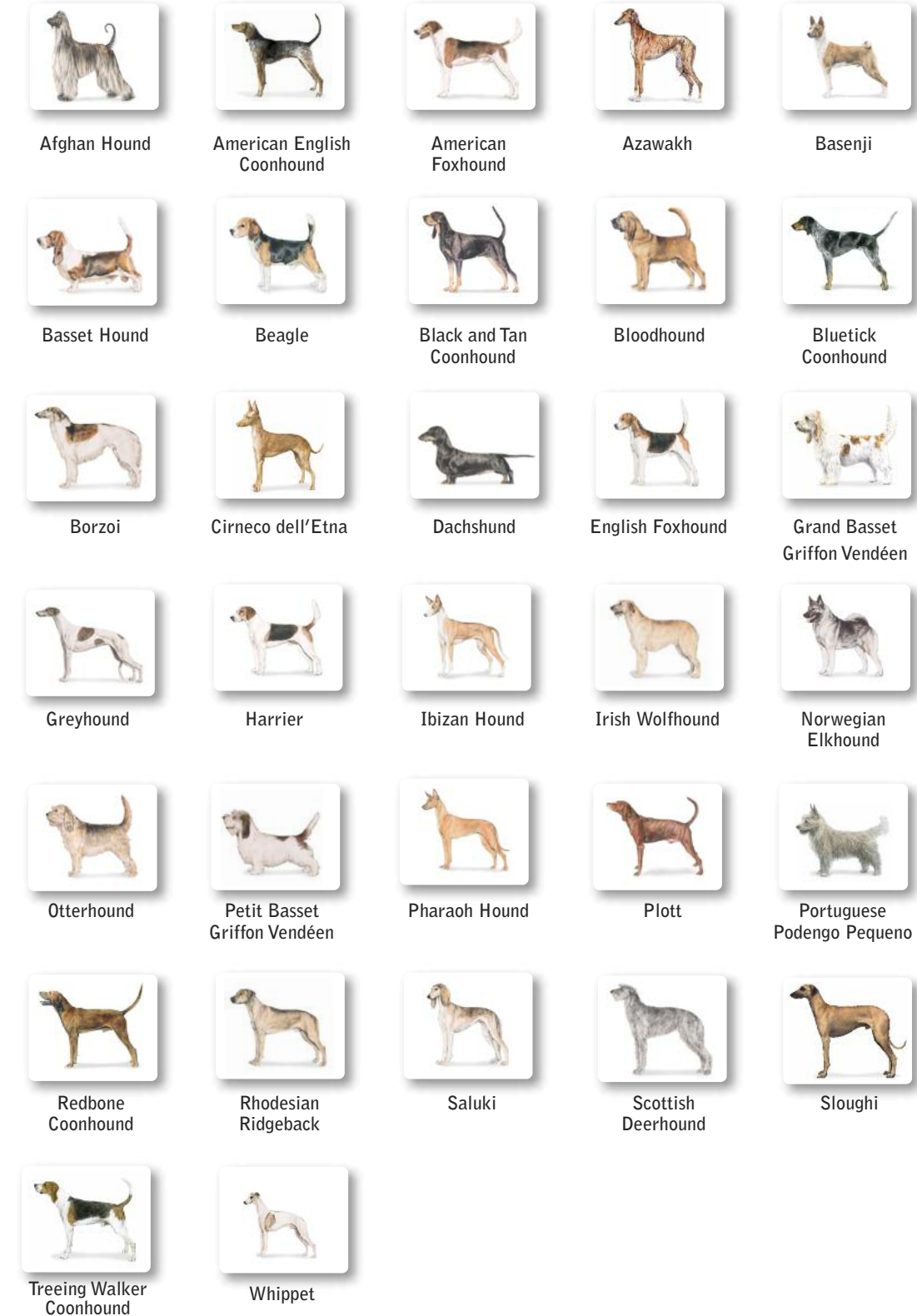
# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## SPORTING GROUP



## HOUND GROUP



# 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



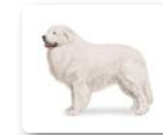
German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



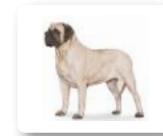
Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

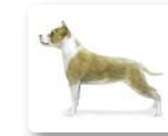
## TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



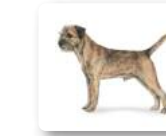
American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



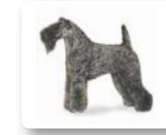
Fox Terrier (Smooth)



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

## NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



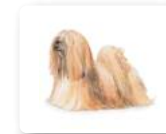
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



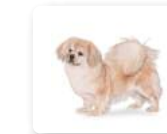
Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

# PARENT CLUB LINKS

## HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian 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



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/>