

THE ETERNAL BOND



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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BREED COLUMNS

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| Brittanys | English Setters | Field Spaniels |
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| Curly-Coated Retrievers | Clumber Spaniels | Welsh Springer Spaniels |
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| Alaskan Malamutes | German Pinschers | Portuguese Water Dogs |
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| | Mastiffs | |
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BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

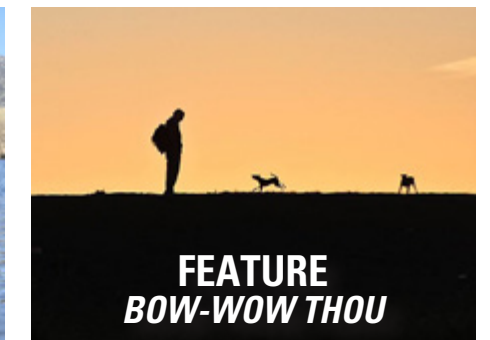
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| Sporting and Working Groups
January, April, July, and October issues | Hound and Terrier Groups
February, May, August, and November issues | Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding Groups
March, June, September, and December issues |
|---|--|--|



UPDATES

SECRETARY'S PAGES

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Links to AKC Parent Clubs appear following Secretary's Pages



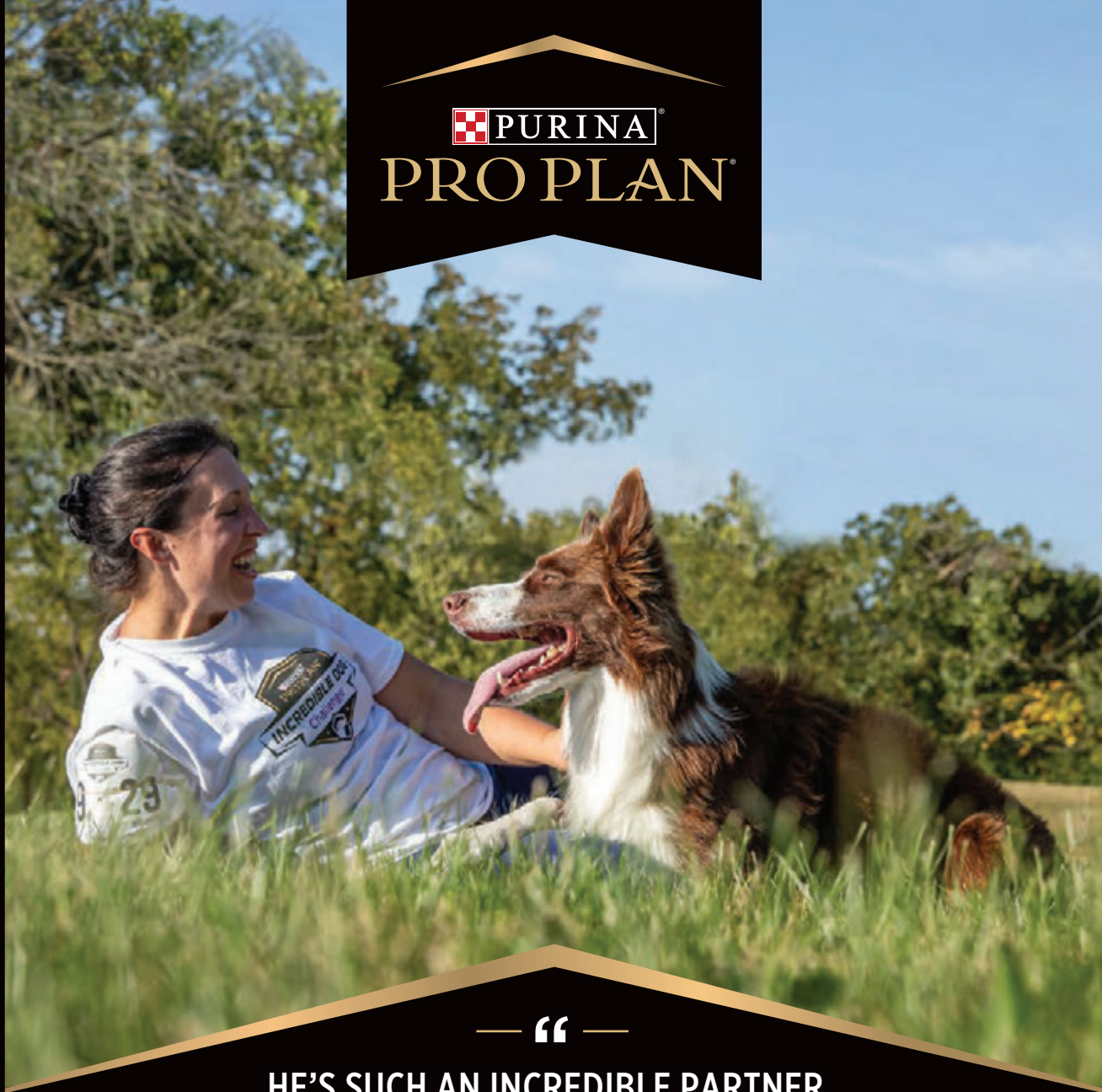
FEATURE BOW-WOW THOU



TIMES PAST



PREPPING YOUR PERFORMANCE PUP



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— ” —

MARIA BADAMO

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Things Are Warming Up

We are very excited for spring and summer as we begin a gradual journey back to live in-person events, and as we are seeing more and more clubs find safe ways to host them. April live events are down 7 percent from 2019, and May events are down 4 percent compared to 2019 across AKC sports. After a long year of rescheduling and cancellations, seeing the increase in events is a sign of a return to normalcy.

We hosted the AKC National Agility Championship, on March 26 to 28 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the Tulsa Expo Center. This annual competition brought out the best of our canine athletes. Last year's event was postponed due to the pandemic, so we were thrilled to welcome more than 1,100 dogs from 49 states competing for championship titles. There were many safety precautions in place, including no spectators at the trial, social distancing, temperature checks, face coverings, and sanitation stations readily avail-

able for participants and staff. If you missed any of the action, go to AKC.tv to see the preliminary competitions and preferred finals. The ESPN app will carry the Finals competition, on demand, for the next 30 days.

We will kick off the month of May with National Purebred Dog Day. This tribute was originally created by Colorado fancier Susi Szeremy in 2013 as a way to increase awareness and celebrate the many ways purebred dogs better our lives. Thousands of breeders and dog owners from across the United States celebrate purpose-bred dogs and the predictability of breeds during NPDD on social-media platforms. We look forward to celebrating our dogs and educating the public about why we hold our breeds so dear.

May also brings the return of the wildly popular AKC Agility Premier Cup. The second annual event is set to take place on May 15 in Ocala, Florida, at the newly completed World Equestrian Center, with the same COVID precautions in place that we used in Tulsa. This event is an all-star display of canine



talent and athleticism. The top agility competitors and their handlers from around the country will be invited to compete at the elite event achieving honors and competing for cash prizes. The show will be aired on ESPN at a later date which we will happily provide to you.

There are so many great things to share with

you, and we look forward to even more as the summer approaches. We wish you a healthy and safe spring.

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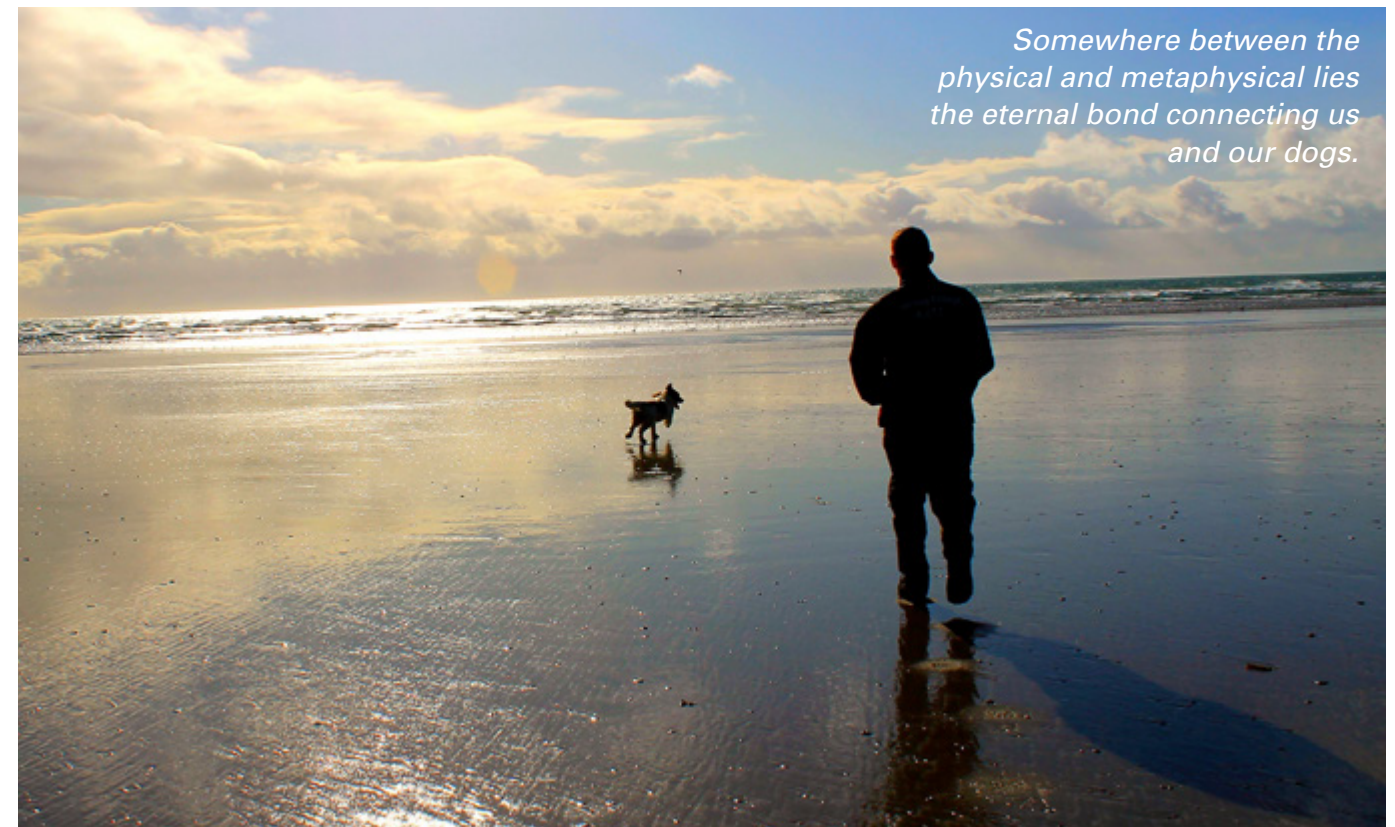
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The Eternal Bond

We publish two feature stories this month under the umbrella heading “The Eternal Bond.” At a glance, you might find the two stories vastly dissimilar. And, honestly, I didn’t see the connection myself until about halfway through the production of this issue.

Our first feature is an extended Q&A with Robert J. Squires, whom you will recall as the AKC’s director of obedience in the 1980s and ’90s. Bob began dog training during his distinguished career as a Marine Corps officer. “Prepping Your Performance Pup” is a nuts-and-bolts guide to locating and training a puppy for companion events. It’s filled with practical knowledge acquired from more than 50 years as a trainer, handler, judge, and instructor. (Want to see how a prospect will take to training? Bob advises to pinch the pup between the toes.) Bob’s tips will be useful to any serious dog person, even if companion events is not your thing.

Our second feature comes from another dog-sport lifer: the writer, scholar, and AKC



Somehow between the physical and metaphysical lies the eternal bond connecting us and our dogs.

Breeder of Merit (Infinidad Cavaliers) Dr. Tracie Laliberte. In her article, Tracie applies her knowledge of Western philosophy and dogs to discover the elusive Thou in our canine companions, which enables “encountering the wildness of nature” and “recognizing the profound mystery of otherness.” This and other elevated thoughts are explored in “Bow-Wow Thou.” (Please don’t blame Tracie for the hokey title—that was my bright idea.)

We present in this issue two accomplished dog people taking different paths to the same destination: a closer, deeper relationship with

their dogs. Squires’s hands-on puppy management and Laliberte’s flights of philosophy are two sides of the same canine coin. Somewhere between the physical and the metaphysical is the perfect realization of the eternal bond that connects our two species.—B.B.

On Our Cover:
English Toy
Spaniel, photo by
Mary Bloom



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UPDATES

Three Decades of Lab Love

The Labrador Retriever is America's sweetheart for a 30th straight year, but a little Frenchman is gaining on him.

The Labrador Retriever is America's favorite dog breed for the 30th consecutive year, according to rankings based on AKC individual-dog registrations for 2020.

While the reliable Lab holds a long sit at the top of the rankings, the French Bulldog continues to rise in popularity. The Frenchie climbed to second place in 2020, pushing the German Shepherd Dog down to third. The German Shepherd had been the second most popular AKC breed since 2009.



German Shepherd Dog: Shifts into third

Rounding out the top 10 breeds are the Golden Retriever, Bulldog, Poodle, Beagle, Rottweiler, German Shorthaired Pointer, and, nosing back into the top 10 for the first time in seven years, the Dachshund.

AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo says, "America's love for Labs is undeniable. They're such versatile, family-friendly dogs that it's no wonder they've been so popular for 30 years."

The French Bulldog, however, seems poised to end the Lab's reign.

"The playful, adaptable Frenchie has become increasingly popular over the past decade and shows no signs of slowing down," DiNardo says. "As always, we encourage people to do their research to make sure they are not just getting a purebred dog, but most



French Bulldog: Number two with a bullet



Dachshund: 10th, by a nose

importantly a well-bred dog from a responsible breeder."

Among urbanites, the Labrador Retriever was the number-one breed in Milwaukee, Salt Lake City, and Albany, New York.

Breeds completing a decade of impressive gains in the rankings include the Dalmatian (number 69 in 2010; 51 in 2020), Samoyed (number 72 in 2010; 56 in 2020), German Wirehaired Pointer (number 74 in 2010; 60 in 2020), Giant Schnauzer (number 96 in 2010; 67 in 2020), Anatolian Shepherd Dog (number 112 in 2010; 85 in 2020), and Boykin Spaniel (number 136 in 2010; 87 in 2020).



Labrador Retriever: The long, long sit

UPDATES



Agility: Oklahoma, OK!



TULSA, OKLAHOMA—From a combined entry of more than 1,100, America’s top agility dogs were crowned at the AKC National Agility

Championship, March 26 to 28, at the Built Ford Tough Livestock Complex.

“After the cancellation of last year’s championship, it

was even more exciting to see all the competitors come out this year and show off their honed skills,” says AKC Executive Vice President Doug Ljungren. “These canine athletes are the best of the best in the sport, and we’re proud to celebrate them and their talented handlers.”

We will have lots more from Tulsa in the May GAZETTE. In the meantime, congratulations to all the winners.

Link
[2021 NAC Winners](#)

Stainmaster New AKC Sponsor

The AKC has announced that [Stainmaster](#) will be an official sponsor of AKC televised events. Stainmaster makes durable and attractive carpet and vinyl flooring designed to stand up to “what your four-legged friends can dish out.”

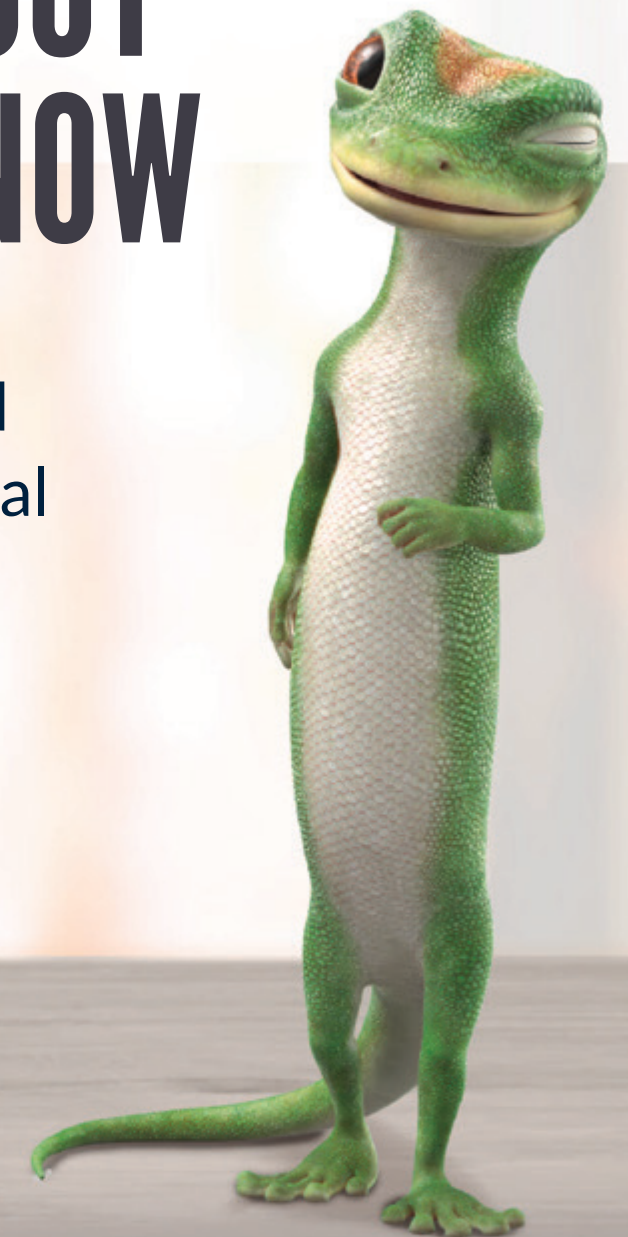
“At our shows, we have many dogs,” AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung says. “Having a flooring that is not only safe for dogs, but also has dog friendly benefits, makes for a better experience for our dogs and our exhibitors. We also look forward to sharing the Stainmaster brand with our constituency and dog owners everywhere.”

Stainmaster flooring will be featured in the AKC National Championship broadcast and such ESPN presentations as AKC Fastest Dogs USA, AKC Agility Premier Cup, AKC National Agility Championship, NADD Premier Cup, and AKC Flyball National Championship.

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UPDATES

AKC Pubs Honored by Dog Writers

The GAZETTE and AKC FAMILY DOG won Best Magazine in their respective categories in the 2020 Dog Writers Association of America competition. The Best Magazine awards capped an unprecedented 10 awards for AKC Publications in the annual honors for media professionals.

“I’m proud of the recognition our talented, professional, and experienced Publications staff has received,” AKC Publications Director Russell Bianca says. “Their hard work and dedication to providing high-quality informative and entertaining publications—both print and digital—has been acknowledged by the many awards won by our magazines in 2020.”

The DWAA honored a slew of FAMILY DOG writers with bylines familiar to readers of both magazines. They include Dr. Jeff Grognet, Elaine Waldorf Gewirtz, Jen Reeder, and Managing Editor Mara Bovsun.

The GAZETTE’s Bud Boccone and Kate McCroary were honored for their work on our August art-history portfolio, “[The Canine Muse](#).”

Link

[Complete 2020 DWAA Nominees and Winners](#)



Best Individual Photo winner: Donna Bielawski’s cover shot of Cocker Spaniel Elvis



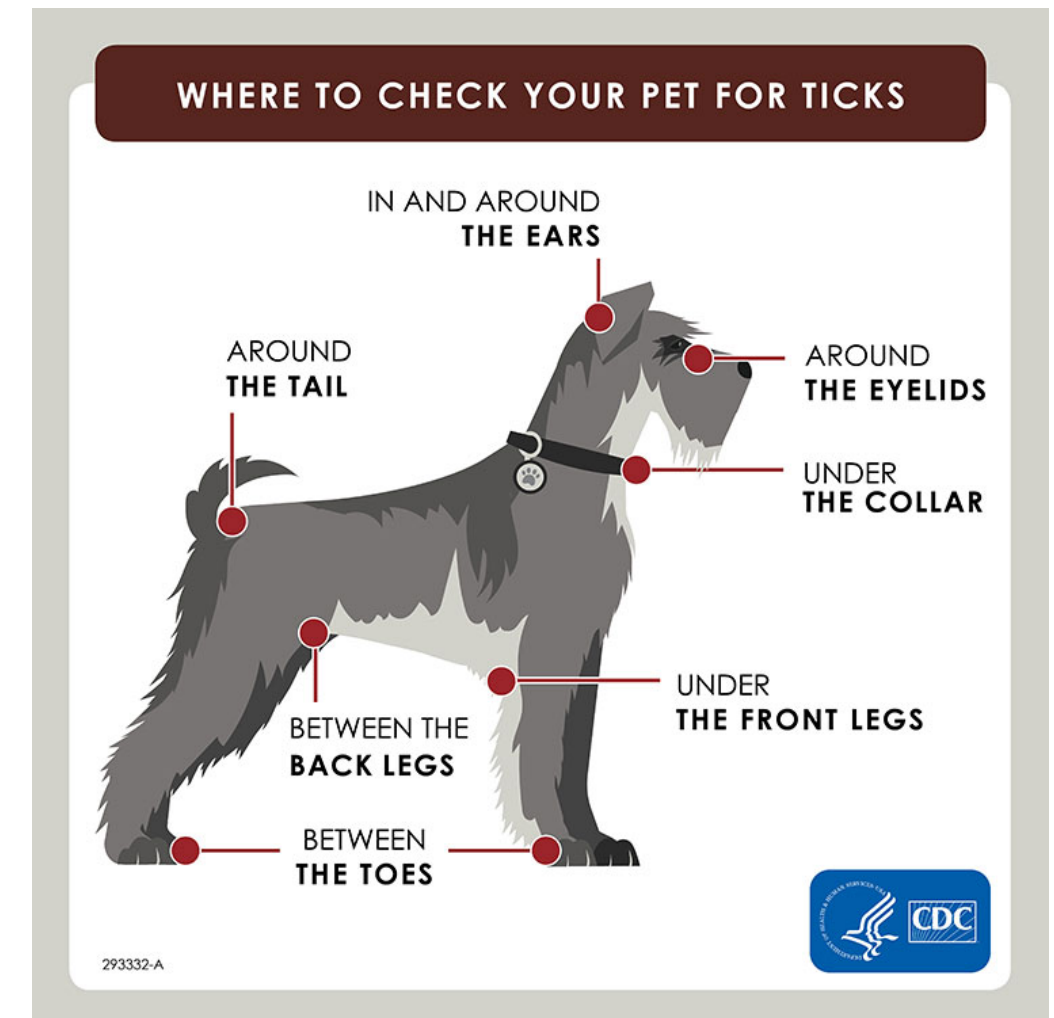
“Richard Gallo and His Dog at Petit Gennevilliers,” Gustave Caillebotte, from “The Canine Muse”



April Is Lyme Disease Prevention Month in Dogs

Here are some helpful resources concerning Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.

- [AKC/CHF Tick-Borne Disease Initiative](#)
- [Parasite Prevalence Maps by State](#)
- [Researching Connections Between Ticks and Cancer](#)
- [The Rising Tide of Lyme Disease](#)



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The 2020 AKC Rally National Championship took place in Orlando on December 11, 2020, in conjunction with the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin, bringing together 411 top competitors from across the country. It was a one-day event, with dogs meeting entry eligibility requirements at more than 1,000 events over the past year. The top 10 dogs in each of the six classes were recognized for their cumulative performances.

“The dogs who competed in this event are considered among the best of the best,” says Pamela Manaton, AKC director of Obedience, Rally and Tracking.

Link

[*Rally/Obedience National Champions*](#)



We interviewed Bob Squires in 2017 for a brief item about training for companion events. We found Bob in an expansive mood, and what was scheduled for a 15-minute chat stretched out over an hour. We couldn't use the long-version interview at the time, but we agreed it was too good to leave on the cutting-room floor forever. What follows is that interview, published in its long form for the first time.

Robert J. Squires, of Webster, New York, was AKC director of obedience through the 1980s and '90s. He was previously a U.S. Marine captain and winner of the Silver Star for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action" in Vietnam. He began training German Shepherd Dogs in 1966 and by 1969 was judging obedience.

After retiring from the Marine Corps in 1983, Squires continued to teach and judge obedience. At the AKC he oversaw obedience and tracking, chaired Advisory Committees, oversaw the launch of the National Obedience

Prepping Your Performance Pup



Somewhere within this puppy scrum is your next performance champion. Your job: Find him

AKC legend Bob Squires discusses his methods for selecting and preparing a puppy for companion events.

ALL PHOTOS WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Invitational, and helped pave the way for the AKC agility program. He left the AKC in 1998 and returned to judging.

Squires, a grandfather of 10, is today an emeritus judge. In 2015, he received an AKC Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the realm of companion events.

How can you tell which pup in the litter is the performance pup?

Start off just by observing the puppies. Are they active? Do they play? Do they pay any attention to you? And there are little things you can do. Roll a pup over on his back, rub their tummy a little, and hold them there. The dog that goes limp and stays limp is maybe a little too submissive. The pup that right away starts biting your hand, is maybe too aggressive. The dog that sort of lies there, tolerates it a little, then starts getting uncomfortable and wants to get out of that position, that's the middle

ground. And that's what you're hunting for.

A pup that's either too aggressive or too shy is maybe not a good candidate. Doesn't mean they won't make excellent pets, just that they'll probably more challenging to train for competition. We're looking for an even, middle-of-the-road temperament—but with a lot of energy. A dog with no energy is difficult to train.

In a class I was teaching, there was a girl with a Golden Retriever. An easy breed to train. But this dog was a nightmare. It had no personality. It was neither timid nor shy nor aggressive. It was nothing. A class I taught later had two dogs that were exactly the same. Turns out, these three dogs were from the same litter. And I got talking to one of the owners, I said, "When you went to look at the litter, what did you see?" And the woman said, "We always got there right after they ate, so



"Start off just by observing the puppies. Are they active? Do they play?"

they were always sleeping." I said, "Did you ever see them play?" She said, "No."

Yet another way is to pinch that little bit of skin between the pup's toes—not too hard, now. The dog that shows no reaction might be a little too insensitive, and the one that

right away bites you might be too aggressive. The dog that's in the middle is probably your best bet for training in any kind of work.

What breed are you looking for?

Certain breeds react to

handlers, on command, to do their work. Those animals are easier to train. That can be anything from a Border Collie to a Golden Retriever to a German Shepherd Dog. If you're already a great trainer-handler, go ahead and try some of the more challenging

breeds. But if you're just getting started, you want to start with a puppy that should be easier to train.

For agility, I want a fast dog who pays attention to me. For obedience, the speed isn't quite as important, but the enthusiasm still has to be there.

With puppies, are we really talking about training, or just getting a pup used to the idea of paying attention?

Yes, getting it to pay attention, but also in that time is socializing the dog. Get your puppy out into every environment you can think of where there are distractions. I used to take my dogs to kids' baseball and soccer games. I'd take them to the mall to train them. I want to be able to walk a pup around where there are people and distractions and he gets used to them and is not panicked or overwhelmed. Kids used to come up to me and say, can I pet your dogs? And I'd always have a few extra dog biscuits in my pocket to give to the kid to give to the dog.

The world can be a distracting place for a puppy.

I think a lot of people shield their puppy from distractions

rather than expose him to them. Now, I have the dog on leash, so you have control. If he's not paying any attention, I back up and call him to me. When he comes in to you, praise him a lot to let him know that he's got to pay a little bit of attention to you and he's got to ignore everything else that's going on around him.

And the younger you get him started on that, the easier it is for him to get used to what's expected of him. When I had puppies and I put food down for them, I would run my hand through that food dish while they were eating. Or I would give them a bone, then take the bone out of their mouth. This is to let them know that, even when there's food in the dish, they can show no aggression. I had kids. I couldn't afford to have a dog that was protective of food with kids crawling around. And, if you start it at a very early age, the dog will have no problem with it.

The way a human child can often learn something quicker than an older person?

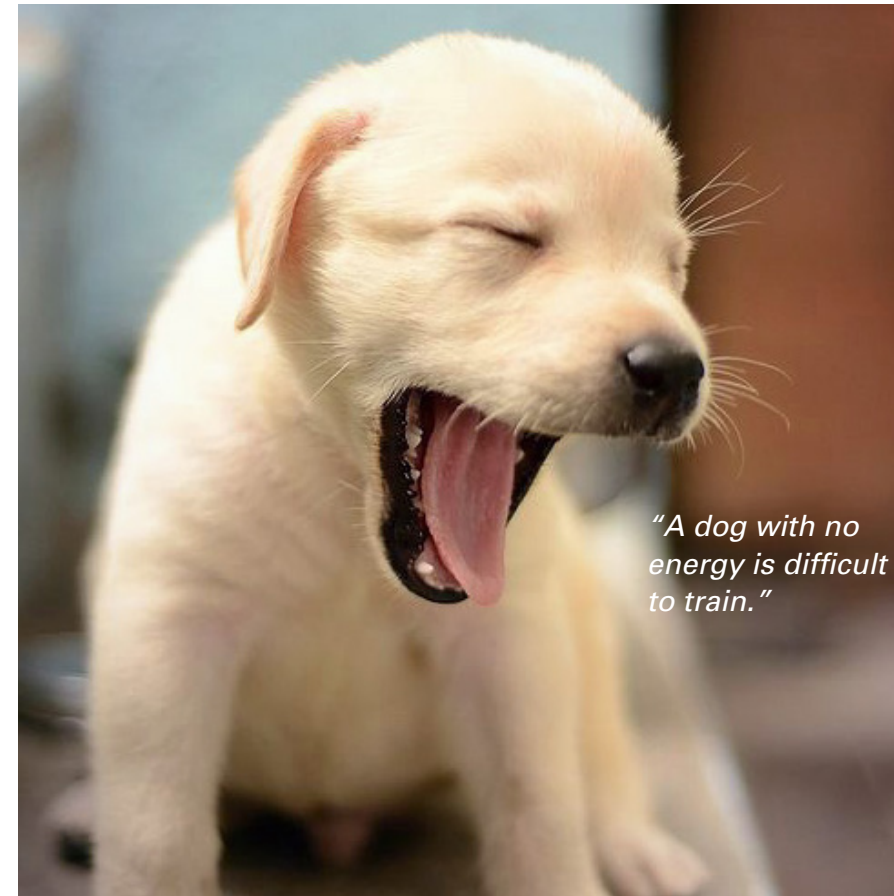
Yes. The first training class I ever went to, the instructor told me, "No one should be allowed to have kids until they've trained one dog."

IN THE BEGINNING

And when does actual training begin?

I will start doing that—I hate to give a timeframe—but at 3 or 4 months, at least. But I'm not doing much of it, and I'm not doing anything in a very strict method. I never do stays that early. I want a dog a little older and mature before I start stays. What I want to do is get him used to walking on a leash, paying attention to *me*.

And here's the way I do that: He's on the leash, he's pulling on the end of it looking at something. I turn around and go the opposite direction and call him very enthusiastically at the same time. So, all of a sudden he turns around and sees



"A dog with no energy is difficult to train."

me going the other way and he's got to go with me.

And I do a lot of jumping with a young dog on leash. Where, there might be a jump that's just three or four inches tall, and I encourage him to jump over it. He is so used to jumping that by the time he gets older, jumping is second nature to him. So, paying attention to me when I jump, the coming to me when I call,

and the jumping are the beginnings of all my training.

"IT'S A LOT HARDER WITH KIDS ..."

And what about rewards: praise or food?

I use praise, but also food sometimes. The key here is that every dog is different—you have five German Shepherds, you have five different temperaments. You've

got to find out what each dog reacts to. A trainer I know, a nationally known trainer I know, told me, "I'll never write a training book because I train every dog differently." If he wrote down how he trained this dog, it wouldn't necessarily apply to the next one.

When something should be praised, it should be a sincere, enthusiastic praise. When the dog misbehaves your tone should be firm. And always the same tone of voice. When a dog breaks a sit, for instance, there should be no praise. Just a stern, steady "No." And you try again.

What you see in classes, when a dog lunges or growls at another dog, the owner will get down next to the dog, put his arm around the dog, and start petting the dog, saying "It's all right, good dog." Wait a minute. What do you just reward him for? You rewarded him for behavior you didn't want. That goes back to the quote about not having kids till you trained a dog. Because you've got to be



"Get your puppy out into every environment you can think of where there are distractions."

consistent with your kids, and it's a lot harder with kids than it is with dogs.

What do you think about puppy kindergarten classes?

It's the same thing I think about any class: If it's a good, well-run class with an instructor who knows what they're doing, it's good. The best thing about a puppy kindergarten is that it exposes a dog at an early age to other dogs in a controlled situation. As important as it is to get the puppy around other people and kids, it's just as important to get him around other dogs. I don't want him to fear other dogs, or be aggressive toward other dogs.

So, a good puppy kindergarten is a good idea. I think anybody going to any class, at that level or a higher level, should go and observe and talk to the instructor and make sure that the instructor's basic philosophy to train a dog is compatible with their own.

TRAIN WITH AN OBJECTIVE

At the end of year one of a dog's life, what commands should he know?

First, he should know "come." He should know that when I call him, he has to come to me. Then you get into the stays, and then you get into the heeling. But a dog who won't come on command is a dog that's a problem.

In training this, people, I think, take the leash off too soon. If the leash is on and you call the dog, you have some control over it. You have to do it so it's so ingrained in his mind that there's no other choice but to come. If you take the leash off too soon, he can run around and I'll keep calling him and eventually I'll have to chase after him. It might be fun to not come back. I think I'm teaching him the "recall," and he thinks I'm teaching him how to play.

How about being consistent: Using the same tone, the same gestures, the same words?

Yes. If you come home from work and you've had a bad day and are in a foul mood, it's not usually a good time to train your dog. When training a dog, you should be so consistent it's almost frightening.

Working with a puppy, how do you know when the training session is over?

I always trained with an objective. I wanted to work on recalls today, or I wanted to work on stays today. I would work on that for five minutes, 10 minutes the most. Then, I'd do a few minutes of the other commands, just to keep him in tune with it. Training sessions should last no more than 20 minutes, and in between I'd throw the ball for the dog or do other things that weren't part of the formal training. But it all

depends on the temperament of the individual dog. Bored dogs work slower, with less enthusiasm. And always finish on something positive, on your dog's favorite activity.

If you're having trouble with something, sometimes the longer you work on it, the worse it gets. Work on the problem commands a little bit each day, rather than a long time just a couple of days a week.

There's always that one problem obstacle on an agility course, the one that the pup seems to hate ...

You've got to ease him through it, using whatever it takes to motivate them. I'm too old to do this anymore, but I've seen handlers crawl through the tunnel with their pup, playing with them, talking to them the whole way through! Whatever it takes to get him through the course.

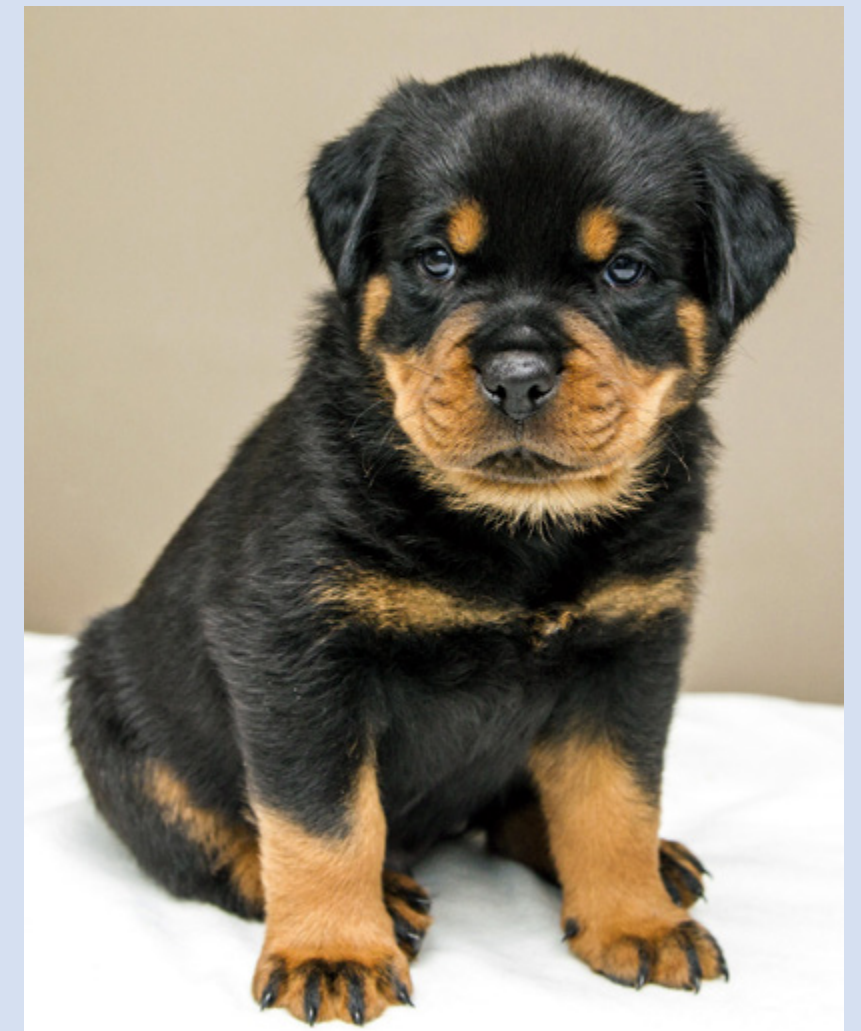
We hear so often about

a pup hitting a plateau in a training program, where it seems no progress is being made.

It's like kids. When your kid is very young, he'll do anything you want. When he gets to be a teenager, everything you taught him is somehow completely gone. Sometimes a dog hits an age, like a kid, when he wants a little independence. Sometimes, part of working through that is reevaluating your training methods: Am I demanding too much, or not enough? But a trainer should know that hitting that plateau is nothing unusual.

DO YOU ADVOCATE CGC TRAINING?

CGC is good because it gets you to do good things. It's not the end-all of obedience training, but it's sure not a bad start. It's good for the handler because you start to see a little success. And once you see success, a little more feels good. **GZ**



The Takeaway

- Given a choice, pick the energetic, even-tempered pup for sports training.
- Early socialization is crucial!
- "Come" comes first.
- Consistency is key.
- Short, frequent sessions are better than long, infrequent ones.



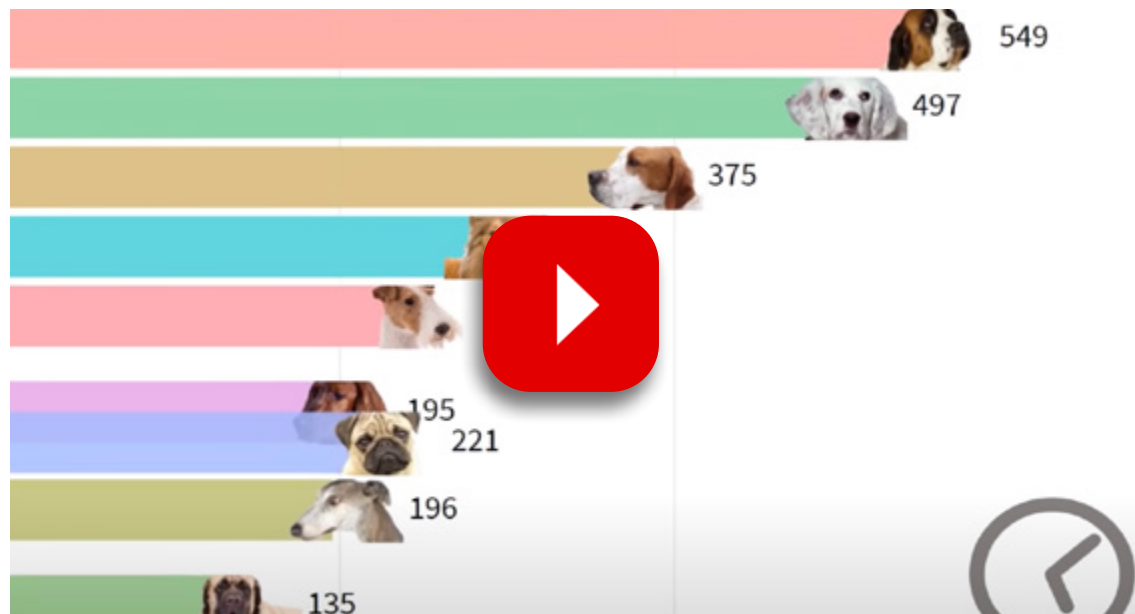
Southwest Shelties

MESA, ARIZONA--Here's a look at the independent specialties hosted in March by the Mid-Arizona Shetland Sheepdog Club. 8:01



Mr. Edd

Michael Hill interviews one of the longest-serving judges in AKC history, the legendary Edd Bivin. 24:35



115 Years of Breed Popularity

This is a neat sidebar to this month's 2020 "most Popular Breeds" rundown: an animated timeline of America's favorite breeds from 1885 to 2020. 3:58



Speak, Boy, Speak!

The GAZETTE's Bud Boccone visits the AKC Museum to discuss one of Hollywood's weirdest talking-dog projects, The Barkies

Influences in history such as the rise and rule of technology and Descartes' Machine Theory of animals significantly contributed to shaping people's view of the dog as a device in the contemporary human-canine relationship. However, not all people in millennial America have this technological view of the domestic dog.

Instead, there are many people who share intimate relationships that involve feelings of kinship with their canine companions. In her book *Melancholia's Dog*, Alice Kuzniar describes this unique relationship that some people share with their dogs: "... [A person's] relation to the dog cannot be restricted to the singular role of guardian, lover, companion, or child but incorporates all of those modalities and shifts among them."

If a person were to step back and evaluate the millennial canine in the United

Bow-Wow Thou

*"Do I concern you? Am I there for you?
Am I there?"*

A breeder takes a philosophical look at encounters with Thou in dogs.

By Dr. Tracie Laliberte

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States, he or she would likely be perplexed by conflicting concepts. That observer might notice a pit bull being corrected by a menacing-looking prong collar yet also see a Pug being kept warm by wearing pajamas. They might observe one person's dog being left home alone all day in boredom while another's is lovingly dropped off daily at doggy day care, where it will play with other dogs. That observer might also note the sharp contrast between the thousands of dogs that continue to be "discarded" in the shelter system, and the growing trend of recognizing the rights of dogs by assigning a legal "guardianship" status to people. The observer might see the dog as an object in one circumstance, and understand it as the subject of human care and concern in another circumstance; these are different sides of the human-canine divide.

Unlike the dogs that are

French mathematician, scientist, and philosopher **René Descartes** (1596—1650) is generally regarded as the founder of modern philosophy. He advocated vivisection (operating on a living animal for experimental purposes). Surgery on animals without anesthesia was once common; many people, most significantly Descartes, claimed that animals did not really feel pain.



René Descartes, portrait by Frans Hals

viewed as objects, the dogs that are the subject of human concern are valued as a part of nature. The evolving modern view of the domestic dog, although complex, is the result of a fundamental human realignment with nature.

DOG AS DEVICE

The human-canine divide is a boundary that developed between humans and canines

beginning in prehistory. The split was influenced by factors such as humankind's own understanding of nature and human social development as the interspecies relationship progressed from prehistory into the Middle Ages. Additionally, the views of Aristotle and St. Thomas Aquinas that led to the traditional Western anthropocentric view established a clear division between humans and

dogs because it focused on the differences between the species and placed them into clear categories of "us" and "them."

What's more, this human-focused view allowed humans to use animals as instruments, and by denying animal rationality; it subsequently denied an ethical responsibility to all animals, including dogs. Furthermore, during the rise and rule of technology, people began to view the dog as a device. In this view, the dog is something that is objectified as the result of becoming standardized (the creation of purebred dogs), dominated, and disposable in the human mindset.

Historically, Descartes' philosophical thinking also created a platform for the means-end split that also shaped the modern human's understanding of the world and significantly contributed to both the view of the dog as a commodity as well as the treatment of the canine as an object.

In an interesting irony, Descartes' scientific inquiry was also a turning point in history whereby people began to reconnect with nature, which began to bridge the divide between people and dogs. In his book *In the Company of Animals*, James Serpell writes, "The Cartesian vivisectionists had sowed the seeds of their own destruction. All the evidence that they had accumulated on the internal anatomy and physiology of humans merely served to emphasize their similarity to humans."

Cartesian science used dogs as experimental subjects in an effort to portray animals as machines that were inferior to humans, yet this exploration of animals as machines instead highlighted the similarities between animals and humans. This ultimately served to blur the boundaries between humans and canines because they are similar, rather than to solidify the differences.

More importantly, however, was how the challenge to the traditional Western anthropocentric view over time engaged humans in critical thinking about animals and their relationships with these non-human animals, causing changes in the human-canine divide. Bridging the established divide between people and dogs in the modern technological scheme not only creates more positive relationships between a person and a canine, but it also allows that person the chance to rediscover the natural world.

Rediscovering nature is the first of two methods that philosopher of technology Albert Borgmann asserts allows a person to connect with the richness of true worldly experience. Accordingly, engaging in the richness of real experience leads to an awareness of the pernicious pattern of technology that exists in a person's life, which ultimately leads to the reform of tech-

nology and a path toward an experience of the good life. By crossing the human-canine divide and connecting with a dog, a person can develop a profound awareness of nature that exists in themselves, their dogs, and the world around them. In having the profound experience of nature, a person may then reorient with real experience which can potentially lead to a more meaningful and fulfilling life.

I, IT, AND THOU

In Modernity, it is possible to identify positive pathways that may overcome the human-canine divide in some way. These pathways illuminate the complex emergence of an evolving modern view that, like Borgmann's device paradigm, also begins during the scientific revolution and progresses over time. Positive pathways include: concerns for animal welfare, kinship among species, recognition of *Thou*, anthropomorphism as a

human reflection, and dogs as an intermediary to nature.

Each of these positive pathways involves crossing the divide between people and dogs in some way, whether it be moral, scientific, spiritual or phenomenological. The evolving modern view involves creating connection between dogs and people through the recognition or realignment with nature whereby nature attains a new and positive significance.

It is possible that any person who interacts with a dog has an opportunity to experience a crossing of the human-canine divide along any of the aforementioned pathways when there is a level of awareness that is present. To be sure, every purebred dog enthusiast has very likely moved along each pathway at some point through close interactions with their dogs. Dog breeders, particularly purebred dog breeders who spend a great deal of time examining and doting over

German religious philosopher **Martin Buber** (1878—1965) was known for his philosophy centered on the encounter, or dialogue, of humans with other beings, particularly with fellow humans but ultimately resting on the relation with God. This thought reached its fullest expression in his 1923 treatise *I and Thou*.



Martin Buber

neonatal puppies, represent a unique group that have much to contribute to the body of knowledge which expands the understanding of the pathway of the recognition of *Thou*.

The existentialist philosopher Martin Buber (1878—1965) believed that a person's inner and outer experience of the world is the result of how that individual interacts with reality. For this philosopher, a person is constantly engaged in one of two possible modes

of interaction with the world: He describes these modes as *I-It* or *I-Thou*.

According to Buber, the *I-It* relationship occurs when a person perceives something as an object, and relates to the other as a "thing." Buber describes this objectified perception as being one-sided because the meaning resides wholly in the observer and there is no connection between the observer and the other that is seen as a thing.

Additionally, relating to the world through this objectified perception is an empty existence for the observer and, Buber explains, "The basic word *I-It* can never be spoken with one's whole being." The other mode of interaction is an *I-Thou* perception, and this occurs when the observer reaches a level of awareness so that the other is perceived as a relational being, or *Thou*.

An *I-Thou* experience is based upon relationship, and the experience is dynamic because there is responsive interaction based upon the awareness of *Thou*. Through the experience of the *Thou*, a person is able to recognize true "otherness" and engage in the fullness of experience through this connection. John Berger describes this in his 1980 book *On Looking*:

"The animal scrutinizes him across a narrow abyss of non-comprehension. This is why the man can surprise the animal. Yet the animal—even if domesticated—can also

surprise the man. The man too is looking across a similar, but not identical, abyss of non-comprehension. And this is so wherever he looks. He is always looking across ignorance and fear. And so, when he is *being seen* by the animal, he is being seen as his surroundings are being seen by him. His recognition of this is what makes the look of the animal familiar. And yet the animal is distinct, and can never be confused with man. Thus, a power is ascribed to the animal, comparable with human power but never coinciding with it. The animal has secrets which, unlike the secrets of caves, mountains, seas, are specifically addressed to man."

To be sure, a person's discovery of the *Thou* in a canine companion is a profoundly reorienting force as it spiritually crosses the human-canine divide. Buber also reminds the reader that it is possible to view any living being, including humans, from the "It"



“The Cartesian attempt to define dogs as merely useful machines instead highlighted the similarities between animals and humans.”

perspective.

In fact, he suggests that domestication can only occur by giving up the “I” and saying “Thou.” Buber also asserts that the process of “taming” involves openness to the other. People who

share their lives with dogs engage in an on-going process of taming. Teaching a puppy the rules of the human house, showing the adult dog how to behave around visitors, expecting the ravenous dog to take the biscuit

from a human hand with the softest and gentlest of mouth manners are just some of the many ways that illustrate how “taming” is a continuous process. During these and various other human-canine interactions, humans and

dogs exchange glances like those that Buber describes sharing with his cat. In these interactive exchanges with their canine companions, humans have the opportunity to raise their awareness of *Thou* to a higher level.

IN THE EYES OF AN ANIMAL

Interacting with a dog also enables *I* to appreciate the uniqueness of that particular animal. Each dog has distinguishable qualities that may be physical, behavioral, or

intellectual, and these are revealed through the interactive relationship with a person. Experiencing the *Thou* means encountering the wildness of nature in the dog’s ferocious sounding play-growl and understanding that the

COURTESY WILLIAM KELLER



“By crossing the human-canine divide and connecting with a dog, a person can develop a profound awareness of nature.”

dog is only playing, appreciating how he or she lives in the moment by joyfully rolling in the grass, or knowing which types of food that individual dog may or may not like.

Buber reminds the reader, “Every *You* in the world is doomed by its nature to become a thing or at least to enter into thinghood again and again.” He illustrates this idea: “The *It* is the chrysalis, the *You* the butterfly.” This suggests that engaging in the *Thou* perspective is dynamic and an active process.

Borgmann describes the similar phenomenon of being focally connected and having profound experiences within the framework of technology. Buber illustrates *Thou* in connections with animals when he writes about his experience of looking into the eyes of an animal and recognizing the profound mystery of otherness. He explains this as an “opening up” when the person and the animal exchange

glances. When he looks into the eyes of his cat, he perceives a silent conversation in the cat’s return glance, “Can it be that you mean me? ... Do I concern you? Am I there for you? Am I there? What is it about me? What is that?!”

WHAT THE BREEDERS SAY

Because they begin evaluating baby puppies from the moment they are born, many purebred dog breeders have an acute awareness about the unique experience of closely interacting with puppies before and after the time that they open their eyes. To further explore this circumstance, experienced breeders of dogs were asked to respond to the following question on social media: *Can you describe the change (if any) that YOU experience when your baby puppies FIRST open their eyes and look back at you?*

Universally, the respondents describe their connection to newborn pups as changing, deepening, when the pups

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY PHOTOGRAPHY

open their eyes and can look back at the person holding them. Longtime Lhasa Apso breeder Joyce Johanson most aptly describes what she experiences at that moment when her pups open their eyes around day 14: “Perhaps they seem more ‘real’ to me because they can see me and I can look them in the eye. I always pick them up; look them in the eye, and say, ‘Welcome to the world, little one.’ I know it seems like a weird thing to say since they’ve been in the world already for a couple of weeks.”

Similarly, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel breeder Dennis Holmes from England describes: “Then at about thirteen days you pick up one of the puppies and notice they eyes have opened! Suddenly all this clinical and scientific nonsense goes straight out the window and all I then see a gorgeous little person looking at me! I try not to be anthropomorphic,



and I also know that although the eyes are open all they can see at this stage are just dim glimmers of light. But emotion takes over and I really feel that these tiny pups are actually looking at me and quite often I actually talk to them. It’s crazy, I know, but these tiny melting eyes have made contact with my heart.”

A verbal “welcoming”

into the world is also a common theme among breeders. Nancy Rice Waggoner explains, “I also welcome each puppy to the world when their eyes open.” Betsy Clagett also explains, “My first thought, my first utterance, even after all these years, and with each and every puppy is always the same thing: ‘Oh, HELLO!’ ”

Similarly, Beth Reed writes, “I become filled with excitement and anticipation when their eyes just begin to open. That first reflection coming from the smallest slits in their otherwise closed eyelids. I always find myself saying to each one on that monumental day, ‘I see you peeking at me.’...When I’m able to connect with them through

eye contact it’s such a meaningful connection that hits me deep in my soul.”

Heidi Mohn explains, “I say ‘Hello baby, welcome to the world.’ Then embracing them, I press each to my heart individually & absorb them into my soul. I literally feel them crawl in. My world changes.”

Other breeders also refer

to puppy eye opening as the “Who’s in there?” or the “Soul seeing” moment. Susan Platt Schidler also explains, “I love the first open slits when you can tell that there’s somebody home!”

A few breeders also described this moment of meeting as inspiring the same level of caring they have for human children. Karon Chanski’s response is one such example, “Welcome to the world, little one! I love you and will do everything for you...really the same thing I said when I saw my own human children for the first time and knew they could see me back...my heart filled.”

Interestingly, Karen Cusick, who does intensive care for puppies of all breeds, also describes the profound depth of the change as she describes talking to ailing puppies before they open their eyes:

“It may be your destiny to never look at your world as I know it to be, it is OK if you



"A person's discovery of the Thou in a canine companion is a profoundly reorienting force as it spiritually crosses the human-canine divide."

have been on loan for just a very short time, it is OK if you decide not to stay ... *but please*

don't open your eyes and look at me and then die, for that destroys me more than you will ever

know."

In recognizing the *Thou*, even breeders, many who already



"Welcome to the world, little one!"

experience real and regular connections with nature through dog rearing, become re-engaged and experience the profound fullness in the eloquence of nature in recognizing *Thou* even in very young puppies.

SILENT CONVERSATIONS

To be sure, people who spend time with their dogs carry on daily silent conversations in glance exchanges

with their dogs. They come to know and respect their dogs as individuals through their responsive interactions with them. Jon Katz, author of *Soul of a Dog*, writes, "Every dog is unique, and so is our relationship with him or her." These dynamic connections enable people to sense the completeness of their dogs, and recognizing *Thou* in other brings awe. This profound fullness is that which Borgmann

describes when he explains the richness of experience that comes in connecting with nature.—**T.L.**

Dr. Tracie Laliberte is an AKC Breeder of Merit and the author of From the Desk of a Dog Diva.

"I'm a lifelong enthusiast of purebred dogs," she says. "My love and dedication to our lives with dogs inspired me to study the human-canine relationship for my Ph.D. dissertation."

LEFT: COURTESY HOT DOG PHOTOGRAPHY; RIGHT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

TIMES PAST

Godsol Talks, Sabella Listens

As we prepared our tribute to the late Frank Sabella for the March GAZETTE, we were reminded of how each generation of fanciers passes along their hard-earned wisdom to succeeding generations. Sabella was a mentor and advisor to many young handlers and judges. And in his time, Sabella himself was taught by the great ones of his youth. Among them was Bea Godsol, who schooled many young fanciers.

What follows is an excerpt from a 2012 profile by Amy Fernandez:

Frank Sabella ... met Bea in the '60s when he was handling professionally. He acknowledges that Bea helped him tremendously when he retired to begin his judging career in the early 1970s. This included coming to the first show he judged. Driving back to the motel after the show, she listened as he analyzed and agonized about his decisions. Finally, she told him, "Never think of anything you do in the ring as a mistake; think of it as a learning experience."

Early in his judging career,

Sabella accepted an invitation to judge Toy and Non-Sporting breeds at an Australian show. He didn't realize that this included several breeds in the AKC Working Group such as Danes, Boxers, Rotties, and Sammies. "I hadn't shown these breeds very much and I wasn't very familiar with them." Sabella panicked and called Bea for advice. "She said, 'Don't worry. Come down here and spend a week with me before the show.'" She gave him a crash course on Working breeds and



Lakes Region KC, 1968: Bea Godsol gives BIS to Toy Manchester Terrier Ch. Renreh Lorelei of Charmaron, owned by Mari-Beth O'Neill and handled by Monroe Stebbins; presenting is Mrs. Brownlee McKee. (Gilbert photo)

shared a few secrets. This included her most memorable quote, "All dogs have faults; the great ones carry them well."

"She said, 'Whatever you

do, don't take a long time. Don't stare at them, and don't keep moving them down and back. If you can't make up your mind, send them around the ring one more

time and don't even think about it, just do what your heart says.' I remembered every word of her advice and I had the greatest write up in the Australian dog press after

the show. They said, 'Not since Percy Roberts came to Australia has there been a judge as knowledgeable,' and I was judging breeds I had never touched before."

Taffe McFadden

If you have made it this far into this issue, you are likely a veteran dog person who needs no introduction to Taffe, who, along with her husband, Bill, is half of one of the sport's all-time husband-and-wife pro handler teams.

“As a handler, we get excited with new blood, new eyes, new talent,” Taffe says. “It’s fun to see them take the baby steps, and then start taking leaps. It’s really fun. Bill and I do a handling class. And trust me, there’s nothing cooler than having them lay the ribbons out on the table when we come the next week after a dog show and they’re like, ‘Look what we did!’ It may be their very first blue ribbon, or it could be Best of Winners at a big specialty. That is just the best feeling to know that someone else has found the passion that we feel about this business. ... You can watch new people get the fever. That’s so much fun. That makes you believe that this business is going to flourish.”





This month's Siberian Husky Club of America column, by Joe Fitzgerald and Cindy Stansell, asks a provocative question: Are AKC parent clubs diligent enough about reviewing key official documents and their corporate registration? (Kathleen Riley Photo)

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.

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Brittanys

COLORS

There should always be considerable planning when a breeding is contemplated. Foremost, the breeding should only take place when there is a specific objective to improve the Brittany breed. Without a doubt, opinions will vary. Some may believe that both male and female must have shown performance in both the field and show arena; others believe that there are natural qualities of trainability exhibited during yardwork, along with a strong pointing ability with exposure to birds. In summary, both potential parents should exhibit performance over appearance. In addition, the Brittany standard should be a focus; however, tolerance should be considered.

The first Brittanys brought to this country, originating from the province of that name in France, came to hunt. Since the 1930s, when the breed was brought to Central and North America, the Brittany has also developed into an excellent field trial and show dog. Also consider that the Brittany is a great-looking dog. (Of course one could say that after I have had almost 50-some years with the breed, there probably is a bit of prejudice from this end.) Without a doubt the preferred color is orange; however, the dog should only have a certain amount of white. Too much white, maybe 80 to 90 percent, is frowned upon. From a practi-



Brittany colors include orange and white or liver and white in either clear or roan patterns, as well as liver in tri-color. Ticking is desirable.

cal viewpoint, white is easier to see when hunting or competing in field trials.

From a personal viewpoint, over the years we have had in our family 30 Brittanys. Colors have been orange/white, white/orange, liver/white, white/liver, liver roan, and tricolor—no orange roan. Just a few were selected for their

appearance; more white, as stated above, as it is easier to see when competing in trials or hunting. These Brittanys with more white came from litters of our breeding, in which it was believed pups would result in having intelligence and training ability to be great bird dogs. The history and performance were present in both the sire

and dam coming from our own breeding stock.

In his book *The New Complete Brittany*, Maxwell Riddle discusses in one of the chapters “Some Thoughts on Color.” A short excerpt follows:

“The early Brittanys in the American Kennel Club records were listed as being of various colors. Among them one finds orange-and-white, white-and-orange, liver-and-white, white-and-liver, red-and-white, white-and-red, lemon-and-white, and mahogany-and-white. There were dogs spotted with these colors, ticked with them, and there were roans. All of these dogs had one ability in common. They could hunt. The original prejudice against any but orange-and-white—or white-and-orange—seems to have come from Alan Stuyvesant. And because he was the greatest of all importers, orange-and-white came to dominate the American sporting scene. These dogs simply were numerically superior.”

There are two more short quotes from Maxwell Riddle’s book and the chapter on “Some Thoughts on Color,” which are also important to this subject of color:

“The rule must always be to breed for type and performance, and both come in both colors. Those, therefore, who hold a prejudice against one color—or lack of color*—may be limiting their breeding success, and may be harming the breed as well.”

“Its purpose – in this discussion* – is only to

COURTESY DAVID WEBB

SPORTING GROUP

try to place the question of color in its proper perspective. There are far more important matters for breeders of Brittanys to consider. These are stamina, nose, pointing instinct, intelligence and shyness, to name but a few.”

**Author’s note: I believe probably, at this point, enough has been said about color or lack thereof. Leave it to the reader for their thoughts and consideration.*

’Nuf said!

—David A. Webb,

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American Brittany Club

Pointers

Our guest columnist for this issue is Christine Pinkston.

SEND NEWCOMERS TO BREEDERS OF INTEGRITY

A mentor for the show- or companion-dog owner is someone who is a positive, guiding influence in the person’s life. *Uh-oh*. Is it possible that not everyone who has been around and considered an “old-timer” might not fit the bill? Afraid so. Over 40 some years ago I encountered a few of the stale, don’t-have-time-for-you types. But for those seekers who are pure of heart and purpose, a good mentor can be found—breeders and exhibitors of integrity who are willing to give a little extra to



help a more novice individual become a better dog owner, and maybe even elevate their interest to a competition-event level. Let’s try to be one of these. And, if that’s not in your DNA, pass along the name of someone who will help.

Each time we place a dog, we are automatically accepting the role. Try to approach each experience freshly and positively. Make your “student” feel welcome to contact you. And when a newbie approaches you, all starry-eyed and asking ridiculous questions, take a deep breath, and remember that maybe that was you (or me) so many years ago.

When I told a couple (who bought one of my puppies) that “I come with the dog,” I



A reputable breeder will be a good resource for each dog they place and will follow up on the dog’s welfare for a lifetime.

COURTESY HELYNE MEDEIROS

SPORTING GROUP

know they thought I was kidding. But isn't it the right thing to be there to mentor and support an animal that you, by choice and design, brought into this world? We all hope for a happily-ever-after scenario, and there are things we can do to help to make this happen, whether it's a companion home or a show home.

The same level of responsibility applies when you are asked to refer someone to a breeder. To whom do you refer them? That is the question, when just passing along any old name would be the wrong thing to do. We all get messages and calls regarding someone looking for a puppy. Assuming that this is a worthwhile inquiry, just tossing out some names without sufficient thought might be the easy but not the appropriate thing to do.

In our role (all of us) of mentor, giving a referral implies some sort of endorsement of the breeder whose contact info we pass along. There are good Pointer breeders, both parent club and non parent club members, who should be considered when referring. "Credentials" are *not* defined by club memberships. So the question we should ask ourselves before passing along a contact number is: *Is this breeder a person we can fully endorse because ...*

- They breed mentally and physically healthy dogs.
- They keep and treat their dogs humanely,

in a clean and comfortable environment.

- Their dogs are well socialized.
- All of their dogs live decently. Indoor accommodations are clean, and outdoor exercise areas are ample, clean, and safe.
- This breeder will be a good resource for each dog they place and will follow up for a lifetime on the dog's welfare.
- This breeder has a history of treating people fairly.

Remember that *you* are endorsing this breeder, and if there is any question in your mind, pass along a different name.—C.P.

Thank you, Christine.
—Helyne E. Medeiros,
seasydehm@aol.com
[American Pointer Club](#)

German Shorthaired Pointers ALDO LEOPOLD AND HIS SHORTHAIRED GUS

For those unfamiliar with Mr. Aldo Leopold, one only has to research the country's first designated Wilderness, located in the Gila National Forest in New Mexico. The plaque located there reads:

"To Aldo Leopold 1887–1948. Forester and wildlife manager – outdoorsman – ecologist – philosopher and practical idealist – interpreter of nature – pioneer in wilderness preservation. He taught an ethic of the

land and by his teaching, writing, and example gave added depth, breadth, and insight to conservation. Overlooking the Gila Wilderness, which he helped establish – First National Forest area so designated – this tablet is here placed by the Wilderness Society, of which he was a founder. Dedicated as a tribute to him for the National Wilderness Preservation System he helped create – in the thirty-first year of this System. September 12, 1954"

Aldo owned Shorthair Gotz vom Tuebingen, otherwise known as Gus. Gus's dam was Feldjagers Grisette and sire Klaus vom Schwarenberg, both early imports with significant genetic influence on the future of the German Shorthaired Pointer breed in America. Gus came from Joseph Burkhart, a German-immigrant gamekeeper who owned a kennel near St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. Burkhart is recognized as one of the early and preeminent breeders of the GSP in the United States. Gus was bred at least twice, producing Vicki vom Schwarenberg, dam of Rusty vom Schwarenberg, the first AKC dual champion in 1947 for the breed.

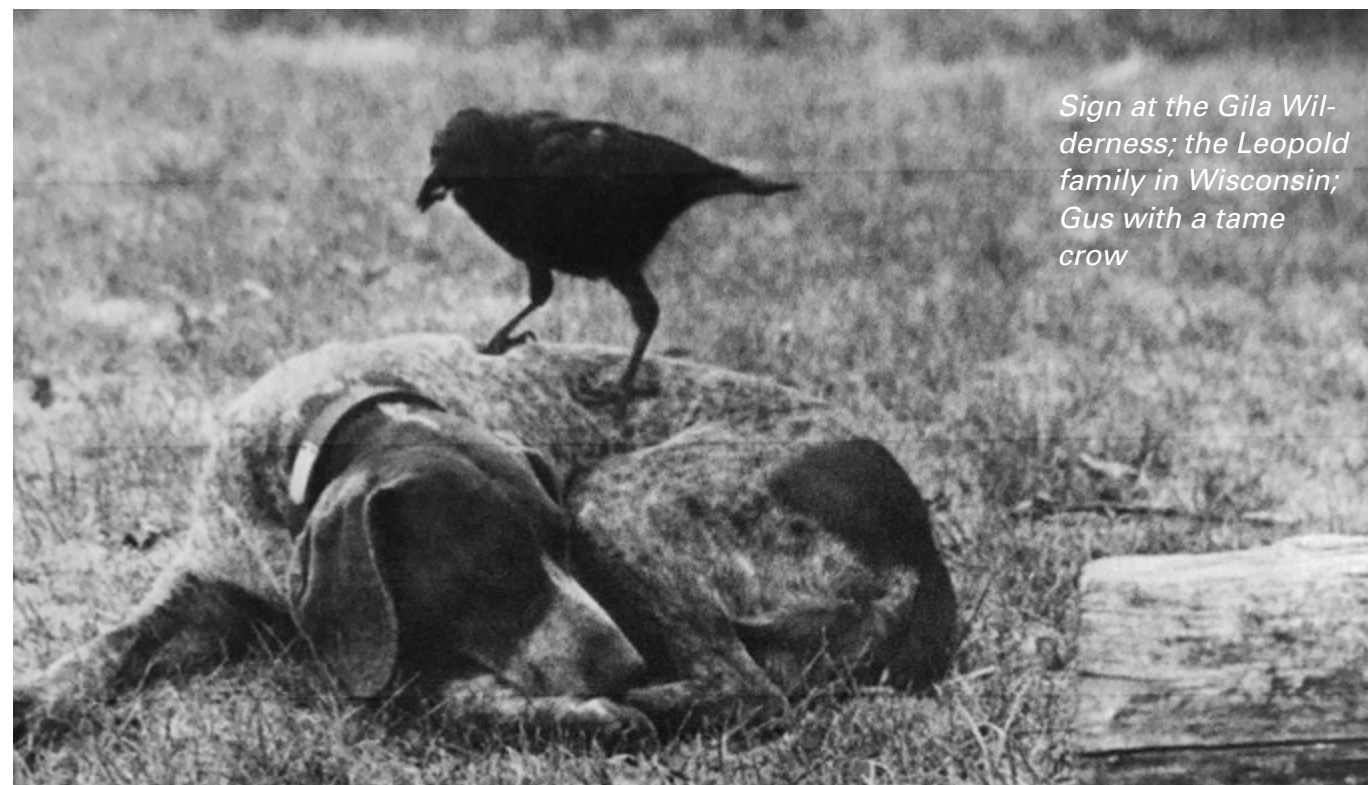
Gus was used initially by his first owner (Art) for census purposes, to help locate and document the four different types of gamebirds introduced in the St. Croix County area in 1923. Gus was trained on prairie chickens and came from very good bloodlines. His breeder, Joseph Burkhard, sold him to Art for

50 dollars—considered a lot of money at the time. In 1938, Art gave Gus to Aldo, who was so impressed with Gus that he wrote to his breeder Joseph Burkhart exclaiming Gus to be one of the most brilliant field dogs he had ever owned.

Gus was very much a part of the Leopold family, accompanying them on trips to their family retreat, where they would take their boat for rides on the Wisconsin River. In 1943, at approximately 6 years old, Gus spotted a wounded deer on a sandbar, jumped from the boat, swam to the sandbar, and was subsequently killed by the deer. Though Gus's life was cut short by the encounter, his lineage made an impact on the Shorthair breed with future generations. His dam, Feldjagers Grisette a German import sired by Bob v. Winterhauch, was considered a "blue blood" of the breed, because her pedigree indicated four generations directly back to Gus's grand-sire, Mars Altenau. Mars was known for his classic beauty and field wins and considered one of the two great pillars of the breed in Germany at the time.

In 1944 Aldo acquired Fleck, another Shorthair, but unfortunately, in 1948, at the age of 61, while helping a neighbor fight a grass fire on his property, Aldo succumbed to a heart attack. The effects of Aldo and Gus would benefit generations to come.

SPORTING GROUP



Sign at the Gila Wilderness; the Leopold family in Wisconsin; Gus with a tame crow

—Patte Titus,
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 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America

Curly-Coated Retrievers

Jenny Dickinson, my able assistant, this month shares with us some of her new Curly-Coated Retriever's puppy antics: Breed differences can be subtle but powerful, and the differences that puppies display can leave a first time Curly owner bewildered.

THEY ARE RESOURCEFUL!

We take pride in our breed standard's description of our dogs as "wickedly smart."

Our puppies are different from other retriever puppies in that their energies are not demonstrated as overtly as we see in Golden or Labrador puppies, whose exuberance and bouncy cheerfulness are impossible to miss. From an early age, Curly puppies problem-solve. Their energies are devoted to strategies. For the obedience trainer, this is a fabulous trait: My 5-month-old puppy is already doing scent articles. For the pet owner, however, this can be exasperating and may lead to the puppy being constantly punished or even given up.

I want to talk about what to expect from a Curly puppy and how to value rather than worry over his resourcefulness. I am now on my ninth Curly, but I continue to be surprised

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Curly-Coated Retriever

by his antics. I call them “antics,” but if I did not know the breed, I would be panicking about them. We all know that at 4 months, most puppies decide that they do not have to listen to us anymore. This is developmental, and it corresponds to the wolf pup’s ability at that age to leave the group for short excursions.

I am glad that my puppy is not a worrier—that he does not fret when he is told to stop jumping on the counter. To him, no shelf is too high, no counter too deep. This can, of course, be dangerous for the pup. He likes to grab knives out of the sink, for example. My first Curly did exactly the same thing and walked around the house like a pirate. All this means is that I have to work

harder on counter-surfing and jumping up. It is not the dog’s fault that he is curious.

At 4½ months, Henley decided that a baby gate is just a speed bump. It may take more than one try, but there is no baby gate that he cannot jump over. This persistence reminds me again of my first Curly, Henry, who would work to open a gate, no matter how long that it took. All my gates now have heavy chains securing them.

Persistence is the hallmark of the Curly-Coated Retriever. A Spinone Italiano owner friend of mine told me that a Curly is sent out at the end of her field-training sessions to search out any birds that may have been left behind by other dogs who gave up on finding their quarry. The Curly gladly performs cleanup. It is precisely the kind of challenge he embraces with satisfaction.—J.D.

Jenny, thanks so much for such a charming column. Also, in England, during the big hunting events with retrievers, the Curly was known as the “pickup dog” who did indeed find the birds that other retriever breeds may have missed.

A quick reminder to Curly owners: Our Curly field event workshop is planned for May 27–29, in Tennessee. Please go to <http://www.ccrca.org> for complete information.

—Ann Shinkle,
annshinkle@aol.com

Golden Retrievers

A BRIGHT LIGHT IN A BAD YEAR

The year 2020 was one of bad news and gloomy prospects for most Americans. I, for one, often turned to my sweet Golden (a rescue) and rowdy Labrador for smiles and comfort.

I was also cheered at some good news from the University of Missouri (MU): progress in the war on canine cancer. MU College of Veterinary Medicine oncology professors Jeffry Bryan, DVM, MS, PhD., DACVIM, and Brian Flesner, DVM, MS, DACVIM, have been working to create a vaccine to treat canine bone cancer (osteosarcoma). Osteosarcoma is one of the five primary cancers affecting canines, and it is the most common bone tumor cancer in dogs. It affects predominantly large breeds (which includes Golden Retrievers) and giant breeds, with 8,000 to 10,000 cases diagnosed each year.

While the tumors can occur in any bone, they most commonly occur on the dog’s leg, frequently a front leg, causing swelling and lameness from the pain. Unfortunately, amputation is usually necessary.

During their research, Dr. Flesner and Dr. Bryan partnered with Elias Animal Health Labs to create a vaccine using cancer cells from the tumor on the affected limb. Following amputation of that limb, the

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY PHOTOGRAPHY

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Golden Retriever

tumor cells are collected and sent to the Elias Laboratory, where those cells are cultured and grown into the desired vaccine. The vaccine is then given to the dog in three weekly injections, which stimulates the dog's immune system against that specific cancer.

Following those injections, blood is again extracted from the dog. Thanks to the vac-

cine, the blood now contains lymphocytes, the cancer-fighting cells (or “cancer warriors,” my description!) whose job it is to attack the cancer cells. These lymphocytes are separated, collected, and sent to the Elias Lab to be “activated” (Dr. Bryan’s description) to identify and destroy the tumor cells still present somewhere in the dog’s body.

Elias Labs creates a transfusion from those lymphocytes that is then transfused into the dog via a blood transfusion. The dog receives a weekly transfusion for the next seven to eight weeks.

Results of the MU immunotherapy protocol have far surpassed that of traditional treatment through amputation/chemotherapy. Of the many dogs Dr. Bryan and Dr. Flesner have thus far treated, most have experienced over 400 days of remission, compared to 270 undergoing chemotherapy. A retired racing Greyhound named Ruby best exemplifies the potential for this innovative vaccine. Diagnosed more than three years ago, Ruby had less than a year to live at best. After completing a round of the vaccine protocol, today Ruby is one happy Greyhound and enjoying her retirement three years later. Hopefully, there are many more “Rubys” in the future of this research.

Outside of the research world, a dog diagnosed with osteosarcoma first undergoes surgery to amputate the affected limb. Rounds of chemotherapy follow. Survival rates are limited, with about 50 percent of dogs surviving for one year, and another 25 percent living for two years.

Elias Animal Health is currently conducting an osteosarcoma clinical trial to evaluate its Elias Cancer Immunotherapy—combined

with surgery—as a treatment for this cancer in dogs. The trial is not limited to any specific breed. They offer financial assistance that will substantially cover costs of participation and treatment in the trial. Information is available at <https://eliasanimalhealth.com/eci-osa-04/>.

As with most research involving canine cancer, the long-term goal is to extrapolate any success into research that also benefits people.

If you would like more (or more clear) information on this study or others being conducted at MU, it is available on the [MU website](#).

—Nona Kilgore Bauer,
nona@nonabauer.com

[Golden Retriever Club of America](#)

Labrador Retrievers

Our column for this issue is by Jennifer Broome. Jennifer has been a professional 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 GSPs. Her specialty is working the 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.

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BREED COLUMNS

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Lab pups should be consistently taught a set of rules from a young age.



She owns a boarding and training facility in the Northeast, with upward of 40 dogs in training at a time.

FOUR ESSENTIAL LESSONS FOR EVERY PUP

Friendly, active, outgoing. Ranked number one in AKC breed popularity. The Labrador Retriever embodies such admirable characteristics that truly make them wonderful family companions. With such amazing temperaments and fabulous dispositions, these dogs almost train themselves, right?

Well, no, not really. All puppies should be taught consistently a very structured set of rules from a young age that will be the foundation to their education as they mature and develop. These early rules should include crate time to teach patience, quiet time, and politeness. Pups need to learn proper social behavior around people and other animals and be allowed free time to play and let loose their inner “wild child,” and they need plenty of exercise. Finally, pups need consistent learning moments of concentration to get in a focused mindset to begin obedience basics.

Puppies are so capable, and they are very eager and willing to learn. Their behaviors are easily shaped by their human handlers. Excited greetings from family, friends, and visitors simply encourage a puppy to explode

with reverberating enthusiasm, which leads to jumping and play-biting. Those owners who encourage, allow, and nurture excitement from their puppies help to mold and shape those behaviors, which tend to persist through the dog’s entire life.

A good question to ask yourself is “Do I want the *adult* Labrador to be doing this behavior?” If you do not want the behavior as an adult dog, then why allow it as a puppy? Too many owners are fooled into a pup’s cuteness and neglect to enforce a consistent standard. When is a puppy jumping on your legs or biting your hands no longer cute?

Sadly, during the pandemic of 2020, when so many families (especially first-time dog owners) thought it would be a great idea to bring a new dog into the home, puppies are suffering the consequences of overstimulation and too much interaction with play, excitement, and roughness, and just not enough calm, quiet, gentle time, patience, and obedience training. If you find yourself constantly yelling or correcting a pup with “No!” “Off!” “Stop biting!” “Stop chewing!” or pleas to stop other behavior, then you must look at the reality of your pup’s upbringing. What have you consistently and diligently taught this puppy?

One extremely valuable task is to crate-train a puppy, starting right at 8 weeks. While the

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pup might be extremely averse to it at the start, try making the crate a great place by feeding the pup in the crate and offering high-value, safe chew-toys while the pup is in the crate. This protected “house” offers pup safety from household dangers while unattended; it provides a natural den so pups can snuggle, relax, and not have to constantly watch their backs; it helps with houstraining; and it helps pups learn self-control and patience. Pups who are allowed to freely roam the house most often learn to chew and cause destruction. They feel the need to patrol and “own” the home, and this leads to many behavioral issues as they mature (including separation anxiety, aggression, destructive behaviors, and more).

All pups, regardless of breed, should learn from a very young age four obedience tasks: (1) to politely walk with you on leash; (2) to come to you when called; (3) to be still; and (4) to go places with you.

If all pups truly learned these four tasks (follow, come, stop/be still, and go) imagine the possibilities! Walks could be an enjoyable partnership, recalls consistent, patience accepted, and going to a destination could be a task of greatness. Leash-training obedience is so valuable in a dog’s education, since it can successfully help to mold and shape learned skills that will enable a dog follow commands. A trained dog lives a better life because he gets to go

places and be more social. People enjoy being around well-behaved, polite dogs!

So what are you waiting for? Get to training, and help your pup achieve greatness so he can accomplish his full potential as a wonderful, well-behaved canine companion.—J.B.

[The Labrador Retriever Club](#)

English Setters

THE NATIONAL FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP AND NATIONAL AMATEUR FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

Conformation has been returning to normal, in fits and starts, since so many events were canceled in 2020. Field events for our English Setters are already in full swing. This month we have reports from BJ Parsons and Kay Fouhey who were at the National Field Championship and National Amateur Field Championship in Medford, New Jersey, in November 2020. A shout-out to Mary Coldiron for providing details on the placings.

From Bf Parsons:

The National Field Championship and National Amateur Field Championship were held on the historic field trial grounds of the English Setter Club of America in Medford, New Jersey, the second week of November 2020. The site of the very first AKC field trial many years ago brought dogs from all over



English Setters at the National Field Championship; below, a setter relaxes while awaiting his turn on the field.



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the East to run in this premier English Setter field trial. As always, the weather can be a big factor. Our cold-weather-loving dogs ran in record heat for the Amateur Championship, while a cold front brought in drenching rain and cooler weather for the Open Championship, leaving parts of the course underwater. Dogs were not deterred by either situation, though, as the winning runs in both stakes were classic bird dog runs.

Dogs were turned loose in braces to run the 45-minute stakes. The two dogs had to prove they got along with their brace-mate as they proceeded around the course, followed by handlers, judges, scouts, and the gallery, all on horseback. The scouts helped locate the dog if he was out of sight on point. The gallery got to watch all the fun as the handler dismounted to flush and fire a blank pistol over the flushed bird. The dog must remain still during this process, and only move once released. The scout helped the handler by holding the horse during the bird work, and then take the dog forward to be released to run and hunt once again.

While handling from horseback was the norm, some successful handlers chose to walk the stake to handle their dogs. Quail were liberated, but existing coveys of quail live on the grounds and pheasants were released in the neighboring Wildlife Management Area, so birds were plentiful. A wrangler provided

horses for those who did not have horses of their own. A clubhouse provided shelter from the weather for awards, and many people camped in anything from car-campers or horse trailers to all sorts of recreational vehicles. Others elected to stay in nearby motels.

Dogs need to qualify to enter either championship by earning a “broke dog” placement in a previous field trial or be a Master Hunter. Broke dog placements can be either in a Gundog stake or an All Age stake; broke dogs don’t move once on point. They hold this through the flushing of the birds on the shot of a blank pistol. This year was difficult, since late-spring field trials were canceled due to COVID-19. Young dogs coming out of the Derby stakes had limited time in the fall to qualify but several managed to earn the required placement. Field Champions, Amateur Field Champions, a Dual Champion, and bench champions all competed together for the love of hunting birds.

In addition to the long streamer rosettes, silver plates and ProPlan dog food accompanied all placements. The winners also won embroidered chairs along with the right to add NFC or NAFC in front of their dog’s name.

From Kay Fouhey:

What a thrill to arrive at the English Setter Association of America grounds in Medford, New Jersey, on a warm fall day. We were all

welcomed by our host, Frank Luksa, and the committee. They all worked tirelessly to prepare for this major field event.

As I sat on the desk and looked across the fields, I couldn’t help but think about the long history of this historic site, which was founded in 1905. Oh, the many excellent setters who ran in competition here! Now it’s my turn to run; a very humbling experience, to say the least.

It was interesting to see the mix of setters in the competition. One might imagine a lot of field dogs. However, as I looked down the entries, there were many bench dogs with champion titles and a wide range of additional titles beside MH/SH/JH and AFC/DC. These are very versatile dogs, moving from the breed ring right out into the field.

As I explored the grounds, I found the English Setter cemetery, where so many of our dogs are at rest. A peaceful place for our loyal friends.

As the days moved on, we had some riding their braces on horseback and others walking the course. The weather was very warm for November, getting over 75 degrees some days, so it was a quick dunk before most of the dogs ran!

The evenings ended with wonderful dinners, lots of stories, laughs (some at our own expense), and good fun. I enjoyed the sharing

of information about field trials, rules, lessons learned, and the passing of this learning to some of the new exhibitors. The judges really took an interest in the exhibitors and wanted them to be successful. The prizes and ribbons were beautiful, and there was wonderful sportsmanship and support from all the exhibitors.

English Setter National Championship (November 11 and 12, 2020) Medford, New Jersey

Placements:

1. Pine Straw’s Sweet Tea (owners, Mike Reeves, Gwynne Mcdevitt, and Amber Duff; handler, Jeanette Tracy)
2. Ladywood’s Miss Daisy (owner, Elizabeth Archer; handler, Jeanette Tracy)
3. Dc/Afc Windsor’s Field Harvester, JH (owners, Frank Luksa Jr. and Hunter Luksa; handler, Frank Luksa, Jr.)
4. Grand Woodlands Dallas (owner, Robert Angen; handler, Jeanette Tracy)

Awards of Merit. Windsor’s Lightning Over Munroc (owners, Frank Luksa, Jr. and Rhonda Cornum; handler, Frank Luksa, Jr.); Windsor’s Bleu Sky (owners, Robert and Kim Sexton; handler, Robert Sexton); Ch. Linwood 50 Shades of Joy (owners, Bruce and Amy Arnold; handler, Bruce Arnold); Ch. BJ’s Festivity Grand Prix (owners, BJ Parsons and Kristem Apodaca; handler, BJ Parsons, DVM).

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2020 English Setter Amateur National Placements:

1. FC Good Reason Harvey Emmett Farkleberry (Kerri Elfvin)
2. Dc/Afc Windsor's Field Harvester, JH (Frank and Maryella Luksa)
3. Diamond Hill Mad Max (Lisa and Paul Pollack)
4. Windsor's Lightning Over Munroc (Frank and Maryella Luksa and Rhonda Cornum)

Congratulations to all! Thanks to BJ, Kay, and Mary for their help with this column.

Also, save the date! The 2021 English Setter National Field Trial will be held Tuesday through Friday, November 9 to 12, in Ionia, Michigan, at the beautiful Ionia Field Trial grounds.

The Michigamme English Setter Club's field trial will be Friday through Sunday, November 5 to 7, 2021, at the Highland Field Trial grounds. Setter-only stakes will be offered.

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

Gordon Setters

YOUNG GORDONS ARE A JOY

By the time you read this the world is hopefully a calmer, safer, and less virus-infected place, or at least it is well along the road

to that place.

In the last column I wrote about what a joy older Gordons are, what a sense of comfort and companionship they can be. This time let's reverse things and talk about another part of the equation: puppies. One of the good things about social and electronic media is opening an e-mail or logging onto whatever site one is using and seeing pictures of young puppies new to the world. And with the length of this pandemic and the cancellation of Gordon specialties, field trials, hunting tests, and other events, there are now juvenile dogs that a number of us have seen grow up online rather than in person.

Undoubtedly there are new Gordon owners with puppies who have missed a world of fun at Gordon events by having those youngsters make complete fools of their owners. Imagine never having had the thrill of watching your pup's littermate do a great job in a puppy stake, and then turning your pup loose and having him decide he isn't sure that horses belong in the world, or that the course should really go in a different direction than the one intended. Perhaps, after all the practice stacking and gaiting at home and in classes, one doesn't get to be totally embarrassed by having the pup decide to do neither, now that it is time to perform at an actual show.

And let's have some sympathy for the folks



breeding the litters. There is time, study, and a lot of money invested in health testing, breeding, whelping, screening potential buyers, and getting pups to those new homes. How unfair it is that they don't get the thrill of catching up with those pups months later and after going thoroughly over them realizing they kept the wrong pup for themselves.

In all seriousness, puppies are the future of the

breed, and when they are flopping around the whelping box, or napping after mom has sprung for a meal, they offer the things all us need more than anything after the last year and a half. They offer hope, and they give us dreams.

Such a good deal.
—Jim Thacker,
dunbargs@sbcglobal.net

[Gordon Setter Club of America](#)

SPORTING GROUP

Irish Setters

WHICH CAME FIRST?

Conversation at a dog show often turns, inevitably, to the quality or lack in judging. Endless debates have taken place about how to improve it, but there is one direction where fingers are seldom pointed, and it can be where the judging failure is the most detrimental to the breed. The whelping box with the precedents and antecedents to the event is where the decisions are the most critical and the most difficult. Judging cannot be influenced by love or politics if the preservation breeder is to be successful in the most critical charge: preserving and perpetuating the distinct hallmarks that make the individual dog an Irish Setter.

We have not had much opportunity to evaluate our breeding stock against others of late, but we do have a lot of time to contemplate our breeding stock against the standard, the truest and most important comparison. There are four setters; there is not one generic setter colored with different brushes. How closely do we maintain the differences? All of the setters call for heads with parallel planes, but that is where the similarity ends. Our Irish should have almond eyes, which give a distinctly different expression than the much rounder eye of the English. Backskulls are different; the Red and White does not have the occipital



point, and the Gordon's is deeper, both unlike the long, lean backskull of the Irish with the pronounced occipital point. The Irish flew is less than the squared-off Gordon flew or the pendulous lip of the English. The Irish face should, given time to develop, show the beautiful chiseling around the foreface that his more elegant lines allow. When we look at the heads draped over sofa arms, as breeders, it is important that we see the distinctly Irish ver-

sion, and where it deviates from the standard, we recognize the deviation and have a plan going forward to address the shortcomings. The judge in the ring should be pleased with the head he sees, and the judge in the home should feel her heart sing when presented with the beautiful face that reflects the hallmarks of the breed each day.

The outline of each breed is distinctive, and no matter the color of the outline, the breed

should be easily recognized by how the setter stands in silhouette. The Gordon exhibits a topline that is moderately sloping; the Irish Setter topline inclines slightly downward, without a sharp drop at the croup; the English Setter topline is to be level or sloping slightly; and the Irish Red and White states level, not sloping. All should carry the tails straight off the back—that is a commonality of the setters best fixed in the genotype. Underlines are also distinctive to each breed, forming an important characteristic of the outlines.

Coats can obscure or enhance the true outline, particularly when the scissors are held in the hands of the artist. The three breeds oldest to the kennel club are sculpted more and more. The scissored outline may be contributing to the generic setter by producing cookie cutter looks. Hair is an accessory. We all love its beauty, but don't let hair obscure you to actual structural faults and strengths. The standard calls for a pleasing fringe, not a floor-length drape.

There is much more the breeder-judge must look for with a cold and critical eye in the home. Like the PSA says, reading is fundamental. Reading the standard and reading the dog before you in order to breed to the standard is fundamental to judging your breeding before you send it out to be judged by another.

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We will continue this discussion.

—Mary C. Lamphier,

erinfy@gmail.com

Irish Setter Club of America

Clumber Spaniels

We are fortunate to have as our guest columnist Gail Budde, the CSCA's long-time obedience-rally-agility-Trick Dog chair.

CLUMBER SPANIELS AND AKC TRICK DOG TRAINING

The AKC has many different venues to earn titles along with traditional companion and performance events, so something for every Clumber Spaniel owner. Many of these require some athletic ability plus time outside the home, which is not always possible. Trick Dog training is an important way to work with your Clumber at home for only a short period each day, and once your Clumber understands that learning new jobs is a plus with rewards, there is no end to what can be accomplished. Your Clumber enjoys being part of your life, and learning new skills when taught in a positive way. And the bonding alone makes the whole process well worth the effort!

Start your puppy or adult dog with a task where he can be successful, and have a spe-



Clumber Spaniels
(Reuben Ward Binks)

cial treat used only for training. The basic “sit and down” is a good beginning, leading to hand signals and other “tricks.” Be quick to reward with a special treat for the slightest effort, however don’t expect even a “sit, stay” at first. Proceed in a positive way so he can be successful, always keeping the training period short and positive. Your Clumber learning new jobs can be both fun and rewarding, with a willingness to learn more. Be enthusiastic and creative. Clumbers are intelligent, thinking dogs, so make that work for you. Use clear, distinct signals and voice commands,

and if your Clumber defaults in a skill already learned, stay positive—he is trying to please. Take some steps back to make this new job clearer for him—but be sure to always reward the effort so he will want to keep trying.

There is a list of AKC Trick Dog titles for various levels which can be found on its website. Most Clumbers are natural retrievers and love to carry things in their mouth, so use that for teaching other tricks. Teach the dog to “take,” “hold,” and “carry” an object. A Clumber can be taught to “give” by offering a treat with the command, gradually elimi-

nating the treat. Also clicker training is a very positive way to teach these jobs. This can lead to teaching your Clumber to drop the object into a basket. Clumbers are great at using their noses, so encourage this by hiding a toy or treat under one of several cups. These are among the many options once you have taught learning in a positive way.

Teaching basic skills leads to more advanced jobs. Keep your signals and words clear and simple, different from any other commands, and don’t progress too quickly. You want your Clumber to be successful so he is willing to keep trying. My Clumber clearly understood “down,” but when I started teaching “roll over,” it was difficult for him because of his long, heavy body. But when his efforts were rewarded, he eventually got it. Some of these skills are used for obedience and rally, such as circle left and right, while some are more difficult, like side-stepping and moving back away. Once your Clumber becomes accustomed to learning new jobs, however, the skills are endless.

In most areas there are many evaluators for winning Trick Dog titles. But mostly time spent with your Clumber will reward both of you, and there is no end to the jobs a Clumber can learn without leaving the house. But above all, enjoy time with your Clumber! —G.B.

Thanks, Gail!

BREED COLUMNS

SPORTING GROUP

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.,
bryantfreeman72@yahoo.com
Breed Historian and Delegate
[Clumber Spaniel Club of America](#)

Cocker Spaniels

DECISIONS, DECISIONS: THE DECISION-MAKING CROSSROADS OF THE THOUGHTFUL COCKER BREEDER

Creating the next generation of Cocker Spaniels each time should send one scurrying into one's "vault" of information on Cocker pedigrees, health data, physical and temperament evaluations, *and* retained knowledge from one's mentors. These breeding decisions are not, and should not be easy.

Anyone who has been involved with the dog hobby likely realizes that luck plays a part, as does fact-based decisionmaking in the choices for a breeding. My mentor would sometimes say, "You can't outguess Mother Nature"; sometimes your careful plans would not produce the hoped for "click," and the results were disappointing. Other times a planned combination would far exceed expectations! Perhaps in between luck and decision lies "instinct," the breeder's incalculable talent. Sometimes one just believes all elements align and that this combination would be a good thing to do.



Cocker Spaniel
(Lynda Beam photo)

I was very fortunate to have three mentors furnishing distinct areas of advice. When I would ask one of the mentors who she was going to breed her beloved special girl to she would say, "whatever the little angel on my shoulder tells me to," as she exhibited that

priceless instinct. The other element of her decision-making encompassed serious study of genetics, doing test breedings, careful evaluation of breeding stock, and health testing of breeding stock, far ahead of most in her historical time. I have kept those files to this day.

This mentor believed strongly in very carefully planned line-breeding as to pedigree and type. She stated that for her the most difficult decision crossroads in her breeding program appeared when she felt it was time to introduce an outcross. She said that it was always so difficult; it seemed either that a physically beautiful specimen had a less than desirable pedigree, or a dog with a sound, good (but outcross) pedigree had a physical presence that left much to be desired; was faulty. The times when she did take a chance on introducing an outcross, she kept the results from using that dog rather at mental arms' length. She knew that some characteristics and problems took time to make themselves evident, so did not count on the results of an outcross breeding being accepted as a permanent insertion into her program until time had passed and further health testing took place.

This mentor was home full time with her dogs and spent a great deal of time watching and observing them. She kept her puppies such that they were constantly observed, exercised and well socialized. She paid attention to the similarities in the generations, the behaviors that repeated, even though not from one generation to the next; the "family" characteristics you might see over and over again.

When going into the vault of memories and advice from this mentor, I often think about

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



SPORTING GROUP

one particularly striking comment from her to the effect that you should *not* keep and use a particular dog who had a physical characteristic or behavior that you “would not want to see in every dog in your kennel.” This seems an extremely strict standard to follow but it was solidly based on her observations. She observed that certain behaviors, that could not possibly have been observed and learned by the next generation, would appear over and over. Thus, if a dog had an objectionable physical feature or pattern of behavior, you should take that into consideration in your decision-making for creating the next generation!

No question, planning the Cocker Spaniel breeding program is complex. It is a mixture of study, observation, knowledge, and accumulated data all to create and conserve a special breed.

—Kristi L. Tukua

[American Spaniel Club](#)

English Springer Spaniels DIRT DANGERS—AND FEARSOME FUNGUS

Have you seen the viral internet photo of a freckled-face Springer wearing a facemask? Once you consider the wide variety of fungal organisms lurking in woods, fields, and stream banks, you may wish your dog could

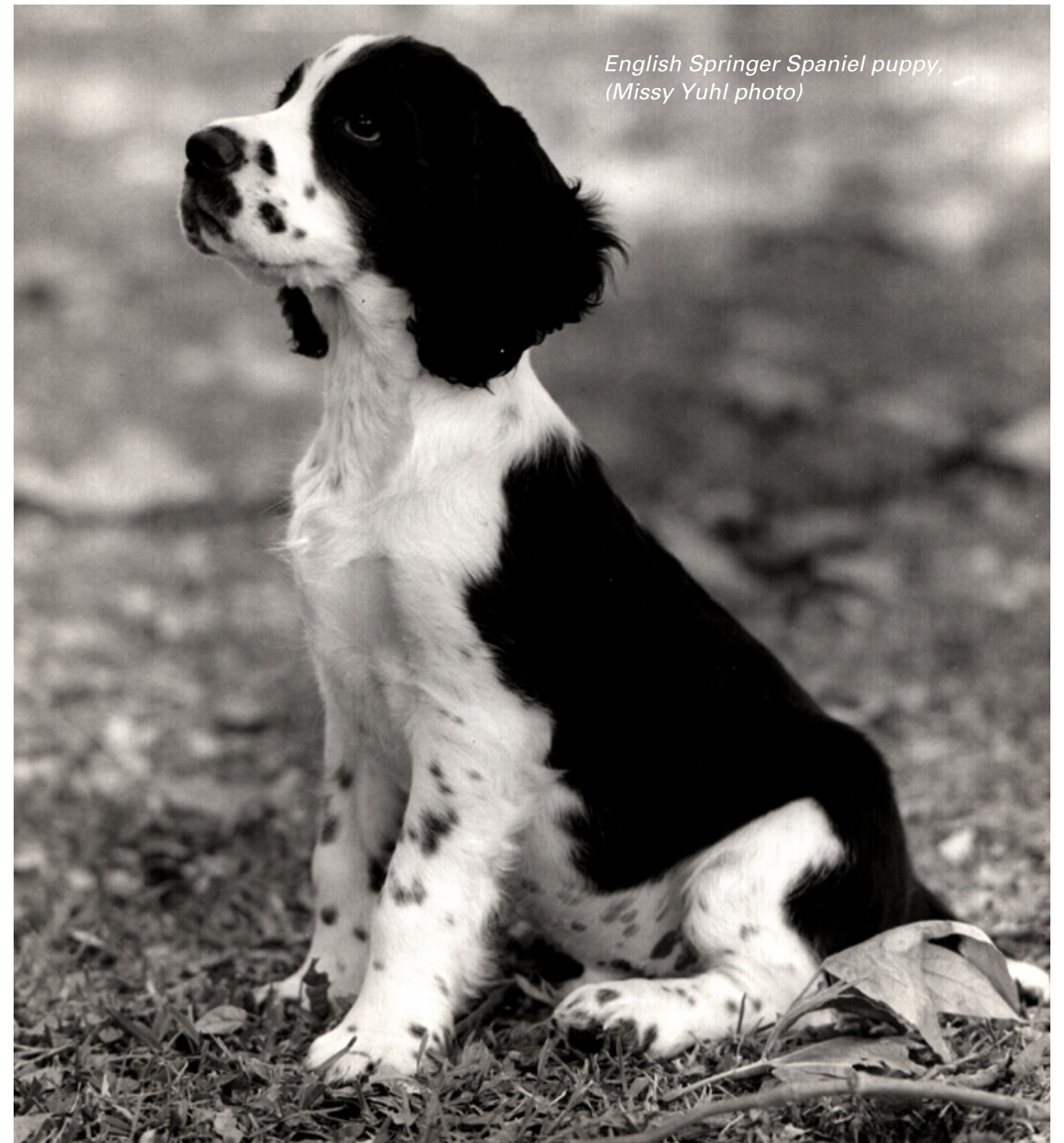
wear a facemask to be better protected in the wide world of airborne dangers.

The day I came upon the photo of the facemask-wearing Springer, I had just gotten off the phone hearing about a lovely, wild, young spaniel who had lost his life to blastomycosis.

Blastomycosis is a fungal infection, usually found in moist dirt, around fallen trees, and in damp, swampy areas—habitat that calls to a Springer Spaniel to put her nose to the dirt for a prolonged, intense snuffle. “Infections arise most commonly in dogs between the ages of 1 and 5 years. Sporting dogs or hunting dogs are at greater risk because these breeds spend a lot of time with their noses close to the dirt, sniffing out a scent or a trail,” explains Dr. Ian Sprandel of the University of Illinois Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Urbana.

Spread by microscopic spores inhaled into the dog’s nasal passages, blastomycosis can spread into the respiratory and lymphatic systems. A dog suffering from blastomycosis may have a wide variety of symptoms, including cough, fever, shortness of breath, lack of appetite, skin lesions, depression, weight loss, lethargy, enlarged lymph nodes, eye irritation and lesions, or lameness.

Is it any wonder with symptoms this varied and occurring in so many parts of the body, diagnosing an inhaled fungal infection can be difficult? Because the illness develops at varied



English Springer Spaniel puppy,
(Missy Yuhl photo)

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

SPORTING GROUP

speeds and severity, some dogs will receive diagnosis and treatment earlier than other dogs who grow sick more gradually.

Seeking medical attention, at the first glimmer of your “my dog is off” sense is key to diagnosing and treating symptoms early, rather than late.

Unfortunately, for worried dog moms and dads, blastomycosis is only one of many dangerous fungal diseases waiting to creep into your dog’s active nose.

Histoplasmosis is found most often in soils where birds and bats have roosted and made the dirt nitrogen rich and heavily laden with their droppings. I have not met many spaniels who would not think ground covered in years of bird poop was paradise. Have you? Before you let your dogs run and sniff in unfamiliar wooded areas, be sure to check out the looks, smells, and any area residents’ knowledge of the ground she will cover. The initial symptoms of histoplasmosis are often vomiting and/or diarrhea, plus any of the symptoms of blastomycosis. Your veterinarian may request a fecal and urine sample, and add blood analysis, radiographs, and even a biopsy for diagnosis.

Cryptococcosis, another fungus often found in soils rich in bird and bat excrement, occurs most often in areas that are damp most of the year—in moist soils, decaying trees, and leaf

mounds. Along with the usual fungal infection symptoms, dogs affected by cryptococcosis may develop neurological and seizure symptoms.

Not all fungal spores thrive in dark, wet dirt. *Coccidioidomycosis*, often called “Valley Fever,” is found by dogs working or playing near dry, dusty soil that has been stirred up to be inhaled. Dry soil that has been tilled for planting, building area excavations, strong winds, earthquakes or any digging in arid areas harboring the fungal coccidioides spores can spread the illness. Most often, the first symptom will be a cough, which should not be ignored.

Aspergillosis is a fungal infection that develops in all parts of the country, found in most soil, especially in dry grass, dusty locations, and around hay storage areas. Usually developing first symptoms in the nose, with mucus, swelling, sneezing, and bleeding, aspergillosis can spread into the dog’s bone marrow and bones.

While it’s doubtful our Springers will begin wearing facemasks, we need to be very mindful of the types of soil and surroundings where dogs delight to unleash their miraculous noses. See your vet for all worrisome sneezing, coughing, or other symptoms that may be a red flag for an unwanted fungus invading your dog’s nose.

—Sarah A. Ferrell, Locust Grove, Virginia,

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English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association

Field Spaniels

INTRODUCING A STUDENT TO STANDARDS

We all come to the fancy in different ways. Some people are raised in a dog show family, others become enamored with pleasant pet experiences, and some have that moment that just catches their breath while really *seeing* the beauty of the dog. All of us at one point go through an initial learning of our chosen breed or in the study of breeds, what makes a good-quality specimen, and how can you see it?

Study of canine anatomy and conformation takes time and dedication. Some have a natural “eye” for it, and some don’t, but the juxtaposition of faults versus merits is where we begin to really understand what it means to be “correct.” We learn to observe movement and feel structure. This is where exposure to many individuals is so important. Judges’ education is vital to the evaluation of our breeding stock. Helping judges to learn subtle nuances can only benefit our breeds. We should take the time to explore the outliers. A learning judge or fancier won’t understand head planes or

properties of front and rear assembly if they don’t see and feel a variety of dogs. Discuss these things with new and experienced dog-folk. Have them feel proper coat texture, as well as some that are too soft or harsh. Don’t be afraid to tackle commonly seen faults.

Most AKC breed standards as they are written and developed by parent clubs utilize phrases and descriptors that can help one to develop a picture in their mind of the ideal. Some are also not clear enough to get an idea of the extremes to which those characteristics can vary unless physically shown or observed.

Use references and comparisons to juxtapose a “good” feature from a fault. Photos are readily available and illustrative, just know (and teach!) that they aren’t the actual dog. It is a real education when you get to see and lay hands on a dog you had previously only seen in photographs.

I have had the pleasure of showing some newer fanciers hands-on what a judge is gaining in a brief physical exam and observation. Along with new fanciers learning to stack and set a dog quickly, they should also learn the methods by which a judge can quickly feel what they need to determine proportions and construction of an animal.

Try role-playing with new owners, handlers, and judges in terms of stacking a dog and going over them. Use terminology from the

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standard, and discuss and study how a judge observes as they approach—what they can see and feel.

Note a dog's expression, shape and placement of features. Consider the bite, the length

of ear leather. Discuss the length, strength, and purpose of the neck as they examine, including prosternum, the front assembly placement, layback of shoulder, and foreleg bone. Talk about a dog's spring of rib and

length of loin, what is and isn't appropriate for hallmark characteristics of the breed. Note the underline with "little or no tuck-up," and also how body proportions affect the outline of the dog. In general, topline shows dips with front issues, and roaches hunches with rear issues. Explain the difference between tail-set and tail carriage and proper display while hand-stacking. Cover each part of the rear assembly so hip angle, stifle, and pastern are all understood.

Many new handlers struggle as they learn to gait, and understanding footfalls and movement will help them to adjust speed. Sometimes adjustment in the collar and lead make all the difference on the move. Work in mirrors, and practice free-stacking. Set dogs up incorrectly to show them the effects it has on their presentation.

Be sure to cover turnout of the dog as well—grooming and handling techniques of the breed should be considered. Review the standard in terms of purpose, knowing why these characteristics are important to the work they do help us to show and produce to best advantage.

Finally, don't forget the relationship! Having that partnership in really knowing the animal you are showing can pay big dividends in being able to get their best performance. All dogs have "hot buttons" and behavior pat-

terns to work with. Be kind in respecting their individuality.

Do you take the time to study the standard and to share that with newcomers? Does the new owner truly understand what those sections and words mean in the standard? Take some time in reviewing terminology with fresh eyes and seeing it from a lay person's view. Teach it to someone new, and reflect upon what they learn—it's really a great exercise in understanding anatomy, biomechanics, conformation, and type.

Happy learning!

—Shannon Rodgers,

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[Field Spaniel Society of America](#)

Irish Water Spaniels

JOIN FELLOW IRISH WATER SPANIEL LOVERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Now is a good time to join Facebook or other social media sites where the Irish Water Spaniel Club of America (IWSCA) has a presence and an ever-growing following.

Here are links to all of the IWSCA social media pages:

The main [IWSCA Facebook page](#):
"Irish Water Spaniel Conversations"

[Facebook Group](#):

[Irish Water Spaniel Photo Collection &](#)

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Archive page on Facebook:

[Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)

National Specialty Facebook page:

2021 IWSCA National Specialty:

IWSCA on Twitter: [@IWSAmerica](#)

IWSCA on Instagram: [@IWSAmerica](#)

IWSCA on Pinterest:

And, finally, the [IWSCA YouTube channel](#).

Don't miss any IWS news or amazing photos and videos, upcoming litters, puppies-puppies—puppies, events, and/or just meet up with some old friends. Now is the time to make that switch to social media!

Club news is also sent out through occasional email blasts, and always on the IWSCA Facebook pages. And of course, there's the amazing IWSCA newsletter, *Rat Tails*, edited by Edith Blackswell, which all members receive through e-mail.

—Laurie Jacobs, IWSCA Public Relations Chair

Thank you, Laurie!

—Dana Louttit

[Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)

Sussex Spaniels

2020: A CHALLENGING YEAR

Having live, healthy Sussex puppies born brightens even the most dismal year, like 2020. There were four Sussex litters born



last fall, totaling about 22 puppies. Unusually, there were many more girls than boys, a trend that seems to have started last spring. It will be interesting to see if that continues, as historically there have always been more boys than girls, including the six-year period in England back in the 1960s when not a single female puppy was born and survived.

Of course, that is the way things go some-

times. Over the years I have found that:

If your waiting list has people wanting girls, you will have all boys.

If your waiting list has people wanting boys, you will have girls.

If you enter a bitch in an obedience class at a show, she will come in season just after entries close.

If you enter a special in a show under a judge who has liked him or her in the past, your dog will either

blow all their coat or limp.

And on and on.

The end of 2020 brought tears to many in the club as we lost three people of great value to the breed:

Michael Coltham, who with his wife of 62 years, Betty, bred the Colbenn Sussex died shortly before Thanksgiving. Michael donated some beautiful paintings to our National auctions over the years and I am happy to have one of them. Betty is one of our Board members, and we send her our sympathy.

John Lewis, father of lifetime member John Robert Lewis Jr., died in December. “Mr. Johnny” was not only a well known musician, but proved to be excellent at whelping and helping to raise Sussex puppies. Bobby depended on him for driving him and dogs to shows in the years before he was old enough to get a driver's license.

On New Year's Eve we lost Doris Engbertson, longtime member, board member, breeder, and owner of both Sussex and Labs. Doris was always ready to help and did much to introduce new people to the breed. She was super at doing Meet the Breed events in California. She was a very talented lady.

(We lost all three to age-related causes, not to COVID-19.)

Not only will we miss these stalwart supporters of the breed, but also, the breed needs new



Sussex Spaniels, AKC Meet the Breeds

people to carry on. We welcome new members and are happy to mentor new people, especially those interested in breeding, showing, performance, and so on. The Sussex still makes a fine hunting dog as well.

—Marcia Deugan,
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Sussex Spaniel Club of America

Welsh Springer Spaniels CELEBRATING THE CLUB'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

This year the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America (WSSCA) celebrates its 60th anniversary.

On April 15, 1961, a letter from James P. Parker was sent to a group of Welsh Springer enthusiasts suggesting the formation of the club. The first meeting was in October 1961, where a Constitution and By-laws were adopted and the first president, Hobert (Bert) Randolph, was elected. Mr. Parker was elected the Secretary-Treasurer—which is exactly the sort of punishment one gets for suggesting the formation of a club! The WSSCA then began the process of figuring out how to be accredited by the American Kennel Club (AKC). It seems that was a lengthy process; the club didn't achieve official AKC recognition until 1978.

Early membership meetings were timed to coincide with the American Spaniel Club shows in January, with Welshie enthusiasts meeting in the Library Room of the Hotel Roosevelt in New York City. Original club members included Mrs. Elenor Howes. Dogs she imported were the parents of the first Welsh Springer to gain an AKC championship, Holiday of Happy Hunting, in May of 1955.

The WSSCA held its first AKC Sanctioned Match at Randhaven Kennels in 1964. The annual meeting schedule was changed to hold the 1964 membership meeting at this match, rather than in New York City. Minutes indicate there were seven charter members, four new members and nineteen guests at that meeting. Fifteen Welsh Springers, the largest gathering in America to that date, were judged at the inaugural match by breed stalwart Edwin "Ned" Cummings. Ned and his wife Betty were professional handlers of all breeds but fell in love with Welsh Springers. Their "Wynfomeer" kennel name is on or behind many of the East Coast champions of the time. The match was held at Bert Randolph's Randhaven kennel, and the minutes state the Randolph's served a buffet supper that was "very much enjoyed by all." It was another ten years before WSSCA held a sanctioned match; in 1974 the Saucon Rod

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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The WSSCA's first supported entry was held in Pennsylvania in September 1979, in conjunction with the Berks County Kennel Club show, and was judged by Anne Rogers Clark.

and Gun Club in Pennsylvania was the scene.

Once AKC recognition was achieved in 1978, the club could begin holding more than just matches. The first supported entry was held in conjunction with the Berks County Kennel Club (Pennsylvania) in September 1979 and was judged by Anne Rogers Clark. Mrs. Clark judged 42 Welsh Springers that day, and how I wish I could have been there to see that! The first national specialty was in 1980 and judged by Mrs. Jeannette G. Brady. The show was held in Ludwig's Corner, Pennsylvania, in conjunction with the Penn Treaty Kennel Club show, and 64 Welsh Springers were entered.

Also in 1980, three women whose names you will still recognize were elected to membership: Dr. Joan Hamaguchi, DVM; Dr. Colleen O'Keefe, DVM; and Rhonda Kuhn. Colleen was president of WSSCA when I first joined the club in the early 2000s, and she was active in WSSCA and in breeding until her death due to cancer. Joan and Rhonda are still members and have served WSSCA in many capacities. A club runs on its volunteers, and all three of these women, among many others, are testaments to that.

Our 2021 National Specialty will be held Memorial Day weekend, as part of the Blue Ridge Classic Cluster. This is the Diamond Anniversary of the club, and we're looking

forward to lots of bling. Here's to another 60 years!

—Wendy J. Jordan,
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 Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America

Vizslas

THE CHEMISTRY OF A POINTING DOG CLUB

The Vizsla Club of America (VCA) crowned its first National Field Champion, DC AFC Brook's Willie Whompum, in 1976. In the 44 years following, our National Field Trial has been run in a two-series format. The first series is a 30-minute stake, and the second series is a 45-minute stake with a retrieve on course. This format is different from the other three pointing clubs, although they also require a retrieve. The German Shorthaired Pointers, Weimaraners, and German Wirehaired Pointers all utilize a one-hour, single-series stake to decide their National Field Champion.

The current two-series format is like a sports bracketing system. The first series is run, and the judges pare down the field. The judges then choose their braces for the second series, so everyone can see the best dogs running head-to-head. You'd want to see Serena Williams play Naomi Osaka, not a player

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Vizsla

down in the rankings, right? The second series determines the winner, a dog who not only demonstrates superior stamina to run over two days but also shows the consistency to win both days.

After our 2015 National Field Trial in Wyoming, there was chatter about changing the Vizsla Open (not Amateur) format to a one-hour stake like the three other pointing-breed clubs. The VCA Field Trial Advisory Committee (FAC) conducted a membership survey, asking if the format should be changed. A total of 341 members responded, with 52.5 percent wanting things to stay the same. A further paring of the results excluded those who acknowledged their participation in field trials on their membership applications. The remaining 190 respondents were evenly split on making a change. With no clear indicator one way or the other, the FAC recommended leaving things the same.

Over the past several years, judges have repeatedly commented on how far Vizslas have come compared with the other pointing breeds. While shuttling judges to and from their hotels, I've witnessed such conversations. The VCA is proud that amateurs run a majority of our field trial dogs. Our National Field Trial entry was 100-percent amateur in 2020, 71-percent amateur in 2019, and 68-percent

amateur in 2018.

Dog clubs never seem to be short of club-dividing issues. It can be very polarizing when you have a sporting dog club where the field and show dogs are still crossing over and both remain widely dominated by the amateur handler.

After six years, the FAC again proposed changing our two-series National Field Trial to a one-hour stake. This time, the survey included only horseback field trialers. In all, 75 members responded, with 52 percent in favor of changing to a one-hour stake. There was a difference of only three votes, but the FAC recommended that the Board of Directors make the change to a one-hour stake.

This is where the chemistry comes in. Should the Board of Directors implement the FAC recommendation and undo 44 years of a working system for a slim margin of three votes? The Board of Directors decided to host a workshop. We gave access to all the letters and information we had received and invited the field community to voice their opinion in an open forum via Zoom. Out of that forum came an idea.

The bottom line is we all have a batch of common ingredients. Rather than mixing baking soda and vinegar and creating an explosion, why not come together and bake a cake?

BREED COLUMNS



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The idea is to still offer a two-series event. The first series will be 30 minutes, but the second series will be an hourlong stake format. It's the best of both concepts—bake a cake, and enjoy the wine. There will be a two-year trial period just to be sure the wine doesn't eventually turn into vinegar.

Here's to cooking up new ideas.

—Jamie Walton,

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[Vizsla Club of America](#)

Weimaraners

BACK TO "NORMAL"

There are many things you can say to describe life with a Weimaraner, but one thing that cannot be disputed is that they love being with you. Weimaraners have little tolerance for why they can't be with your constant companion. They love their people, and happiness is being with their human pack

Over the past year, our daily life has been upended in so many ways but one steadfast constant is that our dogs continue to relish our company. During the past months almost all of us have had some pretty hefty changes to our lives. Where we work, how we go to school, ways we interact with our friends, and how we spend our leisure time has been reshaped and redefined. Daily routines that we took for

granted morphed into unexpected patterns of lockdowns, closures, and cancellations.

It is not just everyday human life that has changed; the dogs that share our lives have been impacted too. If suddenly you're working from home, your dog has to get used to having you around for most of the day. From a Weimaraner's point of view, having you home is just wonderful. Sure, they have to spend more time supervising human activity, and leisurely naps may be interrupted but your increased hours at home are just their cup of tea. Maybe they luck out and your daily exercise involves taking them for more walks and runs than what used to be normal. Sure there are major changes to the routine, but their bottom line is that they are much happier having your 24/7 company.

The trait of wanting to be with you is so innate that veteran Weimaraner owners just take it for granted as part of their way of life. From the start of the recognition of the breed in this country, this desire for closeness was carefully laid out as a hallmark of Weimaraner behavior. One of the very early books published in the U.S. about the breed stressed that Weimaraners are "not easily relegated to the kennel." Writing about the



Weimaraner: February 1994 (illustration by Chet Jezierski)

same trait today, our wording might instead describe them as Velcro dogs. They will pad around after you, inspect what you're doing, and redefine "constant companion." It's a trait that needs to be carefully explained to people who have never owned a Weimaraner before.

The strength of the human-Weimaraner bond is one of the things we emphasize to our new puppy owners. Not only do we mention it, but also we reiterate that it is a major trait of our breed. While this type of steadfast loyalty and bonding is attractive, there are times when it can backfire. For example, how many times have you had a heart-to-heart with novice owners about the likelihood of separation anxiety and how to deal with it?

The past year has altered many of our daily comings and goings, and we need to be prepared to deal with how our dogs will react when we resume the routine of the "new normal." While we may consider ourselves knowledgeable about what it's like to live with a Weimaraner, think about how you will prepare your dog for the inevitable changes that will come when you get back to a routine that doesn't involve you being there most of the time. Never had a separation anxiety issue before? We've never had a year like the one we've just had before, either.

—Carole Lee Richards,

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[Weimaraner Club of America](#)

WORKING GROUP

Alaskan Malamutes

This month we continue our look at the Mountain Home Alaskan Malamute kennel, begun with the first installment in the January issue.

MOUNTAIN HOME: BUILDING A PEACEFUL PACK PART TWO

At Mountain Home, each summer is devoted to breeding, whelping, and raising a carefully planned litter. From the very beginning, in the whelping box, the puppies enjoy daily gentle handling and socialization. From 4 weeks to 8 or 9 weeks, they spend all day playing in one of the big, shaded outdoor yards, in view of the adults in their runs, and they gain vital human interaction from family friends and summer visitors.

During this time, too, far from paved roads, the Fullers take the dam of the litter on a flexible lead for longer walks on the trails, and the pups follow along, exploring the meadows and woods, gaining endurance and developing their muscles and coordination on natural terrain, plus benefiting from the mental stimulation of discovering each new vista and the curiosity and excitement of finding what is around the next bend of the trail.

As the sturdy youngsters reach 4 months, they join a playgroup of as many as 12 adults of both sexes and all ages in the big fenced

yard for hours each day. Here the puppies' natural instinct to accept the adults as dominant helps them learn to read the adults' expressions and body language as they interact in games of running and chasing each other and splashing in the kiddie pool, their favorite spot!

This is so much more than a casual process. With Sue or Roy always nearby, no growling is allowed. Instead, as the youngsters interact with the adults, vital pack dynamics are created, a pecking order is formed, and a peaceful group is born. Generation after generation, the foundation of solid genetic temperament combines with hours of daily group interaction. As summer rounds into autumn and the youngsters grow into fit 6-month-olds, a team is forming.

With the first snow, training runs begin, and the pups learn to wear their own harnesses and to patiently accept tying-out to the dog truck or trailer before the run—and then once the adult team is in harness, to free-run alongside the team and realize the excitement and energy of being part of the group, hearing the driver's commands and learning what they mean as the team responds. Sue and Roy are observing them too: noting their gaits and coordination, and which puppies are more confident, destined to be hooked to the gangline soonest and take their place in the team.



At Mountain Home, the foundation of solid genetic temperament combines with hours of daily group interaction.

And best of all, to see those who want to run in front—potential future leaders!

Generally, older adults are chosen for these first training runs, to keep them in shape as well and to act as real mentors for the youngsters running next to them.

As winter proceeds, the training runs lengthen, and now we see sound and muscular 7- and 8-month-olds who know and love the excitement of riding in the dog truck, being in harness, running with the team, responding



COURTESY MOUNTAIN HOME KENNELS

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to commands, and pacing their energy to the steadiness in harness they need to keep up a brisk trot for several miles. By spring, as they turn a year of age, they are sound and fit: true pack and team members in every way, living symbols of the solid genes behind them.

Working Titles: Mountain Home's Greatest Legacy

The very first Working Lead Dog Excellent titles awarded by AMCA were Mountain Home's Yukon, WLDX, WWPD, and Mountain Home's Snowshoe, WLDX, WWPD. In the decades since, more than 20 Mountain Home dogs have earned the Working Team Dog Excellent (WTDX) title; over 10 have gained the Working Lead Dog (WLD) title, and more than 77 have earned the Working Team Dog (WTD) title—an achievement that may stand forever.

For over 30 years, Sue Fuller has also dedicated her time and expertise to one of AMCA's most important roles, as chair of the Working Dog Certification Committee. The breed's working instinct and ability are the very qualities that distinguish our breed and its heritage. AMCA's working titles include Working Pack Dog (WPD), Working Lead Dog (WLD), Working Team Dog (WTD), and Working Weight Pull Dog (WWPD), plus the greater challenges of Advanced (A) and

Excellent (X) levels for each achievement.

As AMCA members all over the world work toward these titles with their dogs and submit required data to Sue, she maintains AMCA's database. When all requirements are completed and verified, she sends them the AMCA's iconic Working Certificates, which have pride of place in members' homes—proof that our Malamutes continue to excel in the roles that have defined them since the breed's origins and through all the years since. AMCA members, by their very nature and preference, regard the breed's working ability as absolutely critical to its existence, and a large percentage of our members achieve significant prominence in our working events, as well as in obedience and agility competition, in addition to outstanding careers in the breed ring.

Mountain Home Today

Mountain Home dogs continue to build a major presence in obedience, agility, rally, and other AKC performance events, as well as in these events and other recognized competitions around the world.

For the Fullers, thriving in their Cascade Mountain fastness, dedicating their whole lives to their breeding program and making certain of the future for every individual they have bred, while doing their part for this remote

region's economy, ensures their place as stewards of our breed's existential heritage and of the country they call home.

Mountain Home is truly a bloodline like no other.

—Phyllis I. Hamilton,
benchmarkmals@gmail.com
Alaskan Malamute Club of America

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs TURKISH IMMIGRANT TO AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY

As noted in the last column, the year 2020 marked the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America. While it is safe to say that livestock-guarding dogs as a landrace type have been in use in Turkey and other parts of the world for millennia, wherever people have had a strong sheep-tending culture, the breed itself did not come into existence in the United States until 1970 when the breed club formed and began breeding the dogs to a standard and keeping a studbook.

The Turks, like many people whose lives and livelihoods have been dependent upon livestock for survival, have long used dogs to guard sheep and goats. It does not matter where you look in Europe and Asia, LGD breeds have much in common—large size,



Anatolian Shepherd Dog: June 1999
(Sally Anne Thompson photo)

weatherproof coats, protective natures, nurturing temperaments with those they consider their own, an independent intellect, and a general distrust of novelty in their environment. In Turkey there are regional strains that produce distinctive types of livestock guarding dogs. They are discernible to those very familiar with Turkish dogs by body style, and by

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coat type and color, but to the average individual, they all look pretty much the same—like an Anatolian. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog gene pool is a broad sampling of the various regional types of landrace livestock guarding dogs native to Turkey, which accounts for the wide range of acceptable body type and coat variation seen in the breed. The most important thing about the Anatolian is its demeanor around livestock, with all other traits falling into place behind that.

So how did the dogs that became the Anatolian Shepherd Dog breed get here, and what took them so long? I'm glad you asked! Turns out they got here in three waves that we know of. The first instance that we have records for is in the late 1930s, the second in the middle of the 20th century, and the last—third time's the charm—was in the late 1960s, when the Ballards brought into the country the dogs that became the first two entries in the ASDCA studbook.

In the first instance, the author, Dee Brown, includes a chapter in his book *When the Country Was Young: A Writer's Notebook*, about the first known instance of Turkish LGD in the U.S. A male/female pair were donated to the U.S. government's Sheep Dog Project in Maryland shortly before the U.S. entered World War II. According to Brown, it was the result of a casual conversation between the Secretary of

Agriculture, Henry Wallace, and the Turkish ambassador. Wallace had apparently mentioned in passing that the U.S. was attempting to determine the best sheepdog. The Turkish ambassador responded that he already knew the best sheepdog—it was the dogs the Turks themselves used. The Turkish gift included a bitch, who soon gave birth to 12 pups. Apparently the Turkish dogs rapidly outgrew their living quarters and almost ate their keepers out of house and home. Long story short, the Sheep Dog Project could not afford to keep them, and all 14 dogs were sold as government surplus to an individual from the Virgin Islands.

The important thing to note about the Sheep Dog Project is that the government was attempting to find the best herding dog for American wool producers. The dogs they kept in the government kennels were all herding breeds—Border Collies and Pulik are specifically mentioned by Brown. Livestock guarding dogs didn't register on the U.S. government radar until after the Endangered Species Act came about in the early 1970s.

In the second instance, we know that an archaeologist at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Rodney Young, brought dogs to the U.S. in the mid-20th century, but there was no attempt made to incorporate them into a breeding program at the time.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog 2005 *Yearbook* states there was an ad in the September 1964 *Dog World* classifieds touting Anatolians at a permanent dog exhibition in Florida—again, with no indication that a breeding program was established. The dogs were family companions and/or a novelty.

It is safe to say that none of the early importations took root and flourished because the time simply was not yet right for these large dogs to make their mark on the U.S. agricultural scene. It was only after the formation of the ASDCA in 1970 that the Turkish dogs that we now call Anatolian Shepherds got a toehold in this country.

This is largely due to the efforts of the dedicated people who founded the breed club, and who partnered with the Hampshire College Farm Project's LGD program, and the interest of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in finding a more predator-friendly method of livestock protection after the Endangered Species Act came into being. Once sheep and goat producers were no longer able to use firearms and poisons to rid themselves of large predators, the stage was set for the Anatolian Shepherd Dog to become an American success story.

—Jo Lynne York,
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[Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America](#)

Bernese Mountain Dogs CUE VS. COMMAND: CHANGES IN ATTITUDES

Training patterns and methods have changed dramatically in the last years. Pavlov and his studies of conditioning opened the door to today's revolution in animal husbandry and relationship. Conditioning and positive reinforcement have become stepping-stones in behavioral science. Positive reinforcement-based trainers have acknowledged the importance of relationship and discovered that the relationship needed new words to describe the work. A telling example is in the use of the word “cue” instead of “command.” The difference in the emotional impact of those two words is important. A cue is indicative of asking for a response. Asking for a response shows value in the partnership.

Another example is in how trainers describe themselves. The broader term “educator” is a more accurate descriptor, because the criteria of the job have changed. As a “trainer,” my job is to educate people how to communicate with their dog, and to help the dog learn to listen to his people. Berners always have something to say. Their coloring makes it easier to see and read their expression. Choices to be made in the relationship are dependent on learning and listening.

Choice in training is revolutionary. Susan

WORKING GROUP



Bernese Mountain Dog

G. Friedman, Ph.D, has pioneered work in applied behavior analysis. She became fascinated with animal behavior after parrots became part of her household. She realized her experience and studies would have valuable crossovers to animals. Her website (<http://www.behaviorworks.org>) is treasure trove of information. Much of her work focuses on choice and how essential choice is to mental health.

Shaping a behavior is an aspect of giving

choice. Shaping is the act of rewarding the dog for behaviors that approximate the finished picture of the behavior. The criteria are raised as the dog approximates finished behavior.

Watch your dog's behavior on tasks. Evaluate the work and the energy. Are they enjoying it? Berners are generally willing workers, yet they do not enjoy drilling a task.

Berners like new and different challenges and love having a choice. Being aware of those tendencies drives me to be a more flexible educator. My "lesson plan" may not be aligned with my dog. I usually have three to six behaviors (tricks) in process. When a dog doesn't seem to be focused or enjoying a training task, I have asked, "Not today?" If the dog moves away, we move to another behavior objective. Frequently at the next session they will come back to the task with enthusiasm.

Choice in behaviors can be extremely important to consider, particularly when working on rehab behaviors. Perhaps your dog isn't being stubborn; rather, he hurts!

London-based trainer Chirag Patel developed a protocol he calls "the Bucket Game." I have been using it to great advantage in modifying behavior with grooming or nail-trimming issues. In the Bucket Game, the dog is reinforced for focusing attention on the bucket of treats. I use a jar. Give treats, and

subtly and gently begin the task. If attention wavers, the task stops, and so do the treats. When the dog returns to focus on the bucket, the treats and task are continued. The game of choice seems to result in more cooperation and longer, calmer sessions. The old adage "work smarter, not harder" seems to be a very appropriate description. Getting the dog's cooperation results in a far more pleasurable experience for all.

Listen to your dog. Watch the behavior. They will talk to those who listen. The listening balancing act provides choice and allows joy.

Happy training!

—Marjorie Geiger,

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[Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America](#)

Black Russian Terriers

VISUALIZING THE STANDARD PART TWO: MOVEMENT

In this article, we will focus on identifying correct movement of the Black Russian Terrier (BRT). We will look at the standard for guidance, and then at canine structure, to piece together the proper movement of the Black Russian Terrier.

I often reference one of my favorite books written by Rachel Page Elliott, *Dogsteps: A New*

Look, when searching for a better understanding of canine structure. Page Elliott opened a whole new world in understanding the structure of a dog. Her book has been very educational for me and for so many dog fanciers. To really understand good movement, one must understand good structure; the two go hand and hand. As the saying goes, "Form follows function."

The Black Russian Terrier's AKC standard says:

A well-balanced Black Russian Terrier should move freely in a smooth, fluid motion. In movement the normal head carriage is extended forward and the backline remains level. As movement accelerates, the feet will converge toward a centerline. The BRT covers a lot of ground through strong reach of the forelegs and drive of the hindquarters.

A balanced dog means not only the overall structure, but also a front that matches the rear. To elaborate, the front assembly consisting of the shoulder and upper arm should form a 100-degree angle, with the hip joints approximately matching that angle in the rear. This degree of angulation gives way to the effortless, powerful gait of the BRT. Deviation from this degree of angulation and lack of structural balance will cause an imbalanced dog and improper movement.

It is important to point out that the gay head carriage and upright movement, although

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“The Black Russian Terrier covers a lot of ground through strong reach of the forelegs and drive of the hindquarters.”

pleasing and flashy on the Afghan Hound, is not proper carriage for the BRT. His head is in a forward-driving position with a solid, straight backline (topline). This allows the shoulder to open into a full range of motion that maximizes reach as his legs converge under the body toward a center point as speed increases. A dog too straight in the shoulder will have shortened reach, thus not allowing a powerful, ground-covering stride. This can be



caused by an upright shoulder, a short upper arm, or both. On the other hand, over-angulation in the rear is not ideal for endurance in the working dog.

To compensate for the over-angulated rear,

the dog will then overreach and lack the powerful thrust from the driving rear. The BRT should never lumber nor move from side to side in a rolling action. Harmonious movement should be effortless and not wasteful of energy. The BRT’s gait should be solid and powerful with purpose to maximize ground-covering athleticism.

As Rachel Page Elliott wrote, “Gait tells much about the dog’s structure that is not revealed when he is standing still, as it reflects his physical coordination, balance of body and soundness.”

The July column will continue discussion of the breed standard, with a look at structure.

—Emily Foster,

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[Black Russian Terrier Club of America](#)

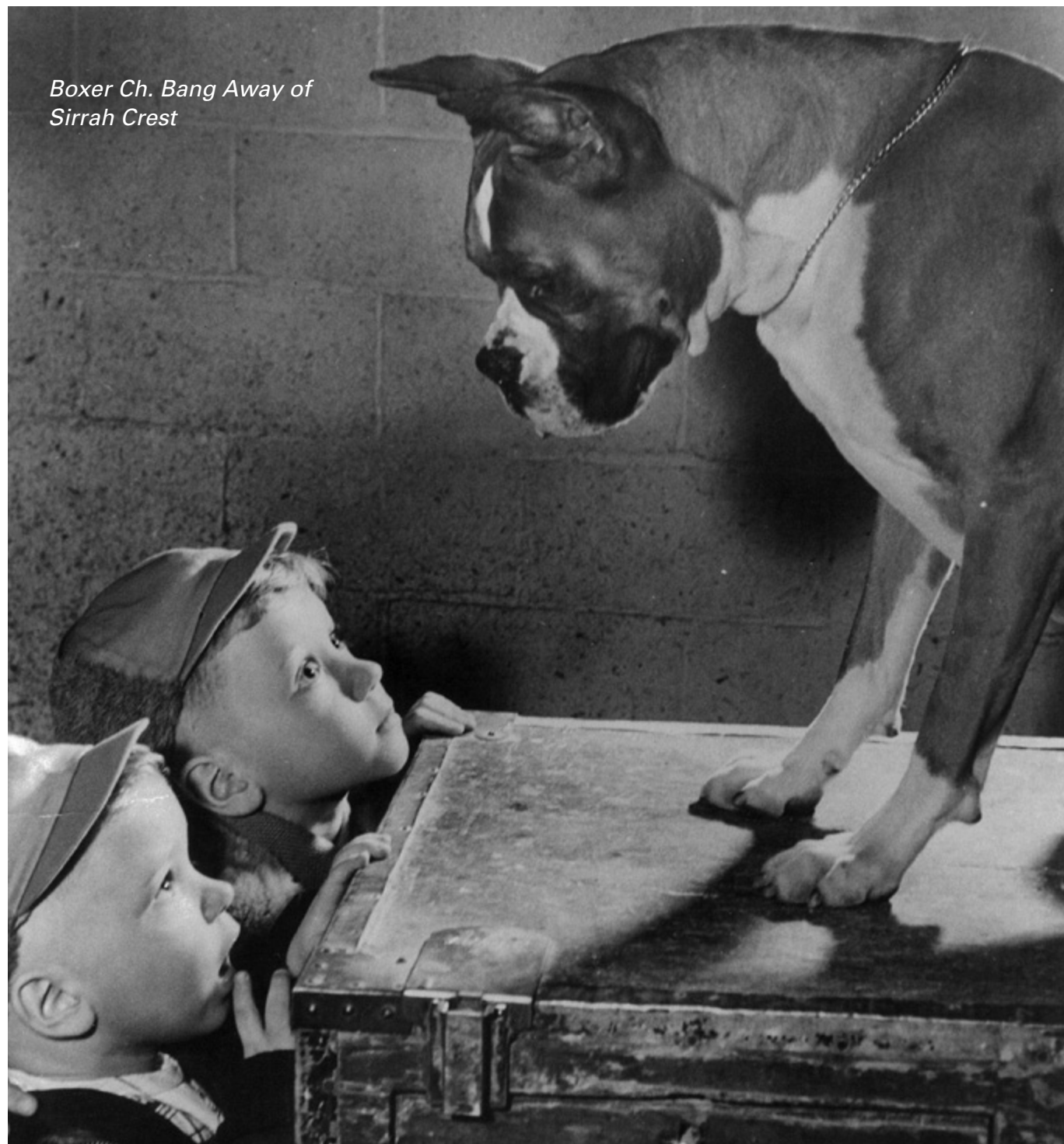
Boxers

JUST SOME FACTS ... JUST SOME STATS

It is hard to believe that I attended my first dog show 50 years ago this month (Old Dominion Kennel Club). I was finishing

COURTESY EMILY FOSTER

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Boxer Ch. Bang Away of Sirrah Crest

college, and my parents had bought a Vizsla puppy and were encouraged to show her by the breeder. They entered that show (one of the largest in the country) and asked me to come home from college to show Greta at a dog show. Sounded like fun to me; I had never been to a dog show.

While showing Greta, who finished quite fast despite my lack of knowledge, I fell in love with the Boxer breed and the camaraderie and competition of dog shows. Within the year, I had graduated from college and purchased my first Boxer.

And now I sit here 50 years later, thinking of how the sport has evolved and changed.

It is interesting to follow the growth and changes over the years for the Boxer breed.

In 1974, the American Boxer Club national specialty had an entry of 253 in the classes and 117 in the national futurity. At that time, a three-point major win required defeating 18 males or 20 bitches.

The national specialty moved from the Statler Hilton in New York—a one-day show the day before the Westminster Kennel Club show in February—to New Jersey, eventually growing to multiple days, changing to a May date, moving on to Maryland, then moving to Kentucky and finally the current home of Indianapolis, Indiana. The one-day show has evolved into a weeklong event—a spectacular

showcase of the breed.

In the 1980s and 1990s there was rapid escalation of growth of the breed. The ABC national specialty in 1995 had a total of 582 class entries and 216 futurity entries. By 2000, the national specialty had a total entry of 745—at this time the point scale required 39 males or 50 bitches for a five-point major in Eastern shows.

After many years, the decline began. Times and lifestyles were changing.

By comparison: In 2008, 13,215 Boxer litters were registered. Ten years later, in 2018, we saw the number of litters registered decline to 5,279. The Boxer breed continued to rank in the top ten breeds as far as popularity, but fewer puppies became available. With increase of number of shows available and so many other dog activities available, allowing increased owner interaction with their Boxer, participation in dog sports has greatly changed.

Smaller, more frequent shows in closer geographic availability have opened more convenient options. However, to the breeder, there is no show comparable to the national specialty. It is the yearly pilgrimage.

The national specialty, always a week of spectacular Boxer activities, as of 2019 had an entry of 484, with a total entry of 677, including 74 obedience entries and 78 rally

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entries—a large decline from the former years. *Yet*, while declining in conformation participation, the Boxer has emerged as a stellar performance breed. Boxers and their owners are now highly competitive in agility, Barn Hunt, dock diving, herding, and scent work, in addition to the role as support and guide companions. When challenged, the intelligence of the breed comes through—but often, a bit of comic relief is added to the performance.

Plans for the national specialty in Indianapolis in May are being cemented ... masked and safe, COVID cannot defeat us.

—Virginia Shames,
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American Boxer Club

Bullmastiffs

Thanks to American Bullmastiff Association President Alan Kalter, of HappyLegs, Registered, for sharing his ideas and insights. HappyLegs is the kennel prefix of Alan Kalter and Chris Lezotte. They had their first litter in 1986 and finished their first homebred champion at the Detroit Kennel Club show in March 1989. They have bred over 175 titleholders, which includes group winners, specialty winners, sweepstakes winners, top producers, Register of Merit recipients, national-specialty and Westminster

winners, and futurity winners, as well as the youngest Bullmastiff male in the history of the breed to win an all-breed Best in Show. Both Chris and Alan have served the American Bullmastiff Association and its regional clubs in many roles. Alan and Chris were the first Bullmastiff breeders to become American Kennel Club Breeders of Merit. In 2016, they were the first and only Bullmastiff breeders to be honored as the American Kennel Club Breeders of the Year.

SHARING BREEDER KNOWLEDGE

The originator of the Bullmastiff breed as we know it was the English breeder S. E. Moseley, whose foundation formula of “60 percent Mastiff, 40 percent Bulldog” lives on in our breed standard today. Mr. Moseley’s homebred Farcroft’s Fidelity was the first Bullmastiff registered by the (U.K.) Kennel Club and thus is the first dog in the pedigree history of our breed. Fidelity was also the first Bullmastiff to win at a KC show and was undefeated in the breed for his entire show career. Moseley’s Farcroft Silvo became not only the first champion bitch, but also the first Bullmastiff champion in history. The first Bullmastiff registered in the U. S. was Fascination of Felon’s Fear, bred by Moseley.

Imagine if, like in the movie *Night at the Museum*, where President Roosevelt comes



Alan Kalter: “The journey of every successful Bullmastiff breeder started with another breeder’s journey.”

alive and talks with Ben Stiller’s character every night, it were possible to bring Mr. Moseley back for a breeder-to-breeder chat on Zoom. And imagine him explaining his statement “Having planned my work, I work my plan.”

Unfortunately, we can only imagine that with Moseley, but we do have that opportunity with many other breeders today.

What Bullmastiffs are today is the sum total of the choices made and the actions taken by our breeders. Understanding how the iconic Bullmastiff breeders of our recent history have “planned their work and worked their plan”

holds significant potential to improve every breeder’s plan, and every breeder’s labor of love.

We are fortunate to have many members of the American Bullmastiff Association whose breeding programs have made a difference for Bullmastiffs—a difference that isn’t a snapshot in time, but one that contributes to a better tomorrow for all Bullmastiffs.

While our archives include the facts of our breed, such as pedigrees and show results, they don’t, for the most part, include the values, beliefs, and firsthand knowledge that comes from a lifetime of experience in breeding. An oral or written history of our iconic ABA member-breeders would be an invaluable resource for all breeders.

Hopefully, this would augment a breeder-mentor program. The ABA has an impressive Judges’ Education program, with dedicated, knowledgeable, and passionate mentors. They understand the impact judging has on the future of our breed and work diligently to ensure a well-educated judging community whose work serves to advance Bullmastiffs in type and soundness of body, mind, and spirit.

Mentorship for breeders is an opportunity for the future of Bullmastiffs. Unlike mentoring judges, breeder mentoring isn’t just about teaching the facts. Instead, breeder mentoring

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supports a breeder's journey from novice to iconic. Steven Spielberg's take on mentoring is an excellent guide for mentors: "The delicate balance of mentoring someone is not creating them in your own image, but giving them the opportunity to create themselves."

The learning curve for new breeders could be exponentially shortened through accessing the experiences and wisdom of longtime breeders. Think of how knowing hard-learned solutions to problems could help others avoid similar heartaches. Think of how much better off our dogs and our breed would be if all that knowledge were readily available.

The journey of every successful Bullmastiff breeder started with another breeder's journey. And then another, and another ...

As Isaac Newton said, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." What could be more impactful for Bullmastiffs than providing those shoulders?

We have the stories to tell. We have the experience to pass on. We have the desire to help our breeders and our breed. Now is time for the ABA to create both a breeder mentorship program and an oral/written history of our iconic breeders. —A.K.

Thank you, Alan.

—Lindy Whyte,

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[American Bullmastiff Association](#)

Dogues de Bordeaux

HISTORY AND THE BREED STANDARD

The AKC Dogue de Bordeaux breed standard fills almost three pages of text. It meticulously covers every area of breed conformation in minute detail. There are reasons for its thoroughness. A study of a breed's history, function, and purpose provides a window into understanding a breed standard's intent. The Dogue de Bordeaux's evolutionary journey requires a similar analysis of the totality of the factors that created the breed as we know it. Today's Dogue de Bordeaux breed standard and phenotype results from a concerted effort by French scholars, cynologists, and fanciers of the breed who saw a need to standardize breed type and establish a standard that identifies correct conformation in vivid detail. This effort began in earnest during the latter half of the 19th century, having the additional goal of eliminating excessive features, which the French called "monstrosities" or "hyper types."

Constantly visible teeth, enormous heads that were totally out of proportion to a dog's size, and other excessive features were examples of "hyper type" and required elimination to achieve the desired conformational attributes of balance, moderation, and function as a working breed.

During the latter half of the 19th century,



During the latter half of the 19th century there were three distinct types of the breed, each named for the area of France where it was prevalent, consisting of (clockwise from top) the Parisian, Toulouse, and Bordeaux types.



there were three distinct "types/varieties" of the breed, each type named for the area of France where it was prevalent, consisting of the Parisian, Toulouse, and Bordeaux. The Parisian looked somewhat like an English Mastiff with a tall, slender body and plenty of daylight underneath. It had a relatively small head for its body size, with less wrinkle. The Toulouse type had a skull that was strong but not trapezoidal-shaped, and a longer muzzle that was wide and powerful at the base but



COURTESY DBBSA

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less broad at the muzzle's end. Its head features resembled that of today's Presa Canario. The third type was the Bordeaux, whose phenotype forms the basis of our breed today. The Bordeaux was built lower to the ground, had a wrinkled, trapezoidal-shaped head, and had the features and attributes that were the foundations in establishing written breed standards for the Dogue de Bordeaux.

While many scholars, breeders, and fanciers contributed to the breed's evolution, three French scholars were at the forefront in developing the breed standard and phenotype.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Megnin (1828–1905) was a French army veterinarian and the editor-in-chief of the French National dog magazine *L'Éleveur* ("The Breeder"). Megnin conducted the first comprehensive study of the breed and developed the first breed standard in 1896. Professor J. Kunstler was the second French scholar to continue Megnin's work in researching the Dogue de Bordeaux. Kunstler was a professor in comparative anatomy and embryology at the Faculty of Sciences in Bordeaux, France. In 1910, after three years of research, he published "A Critical Study of the Dogue de Bordeaux," in addition to a more precise and detailed breed standard compared to Megnin's previous work. Kunstler's breed standard went into effect in 1926.

The third scholar to have made significant contributions to the development of the breed and subsequent edits of the breed standard was Professor Raymond Triquet. Triquet served as president of the FCI Standards Committee for many years.

After World War II, Triquet and others took stock of remaining breed specimens in France. They facilitated the rebuilding of the breed and improved focus on the overall health, phenotype, and expansion of the Dogue de Bordeaux's genetic pool. Triquet rewrote the French breed standard in 1971 and edited several subsequent versions since that time. Triquet refers to Kunstler as the "father of the breed" who created the "modern Dogue de Bordeaux," while referring to himself as the "rescuer of the breed."

The AKC Dogue de Bordeaux breed standard language shows that breed founders and breed standard authors viewed moderation and elimination of excessive features as vital to proper conformation. The standard represents a blueprint that repeatedly emphasizes the importance of harmony, moderation, symmetry, and proportional attributes. It begins by describing the Dogue de Bordeaux as having "a harmonious general outline." The words *moderate* and *moderately* appear five times, along with descriptions such as "symmetrical," "proper proportions," and "exaggeratedly."

Lastly, the breed standard ends in part with "any deviation should be penalized in direct proportion to the extent of that deviation," which shows a continuation of emphasis on harmony, moderation, and symmetry.

World-renowned British author, FCI judge, and cynologist Colonel David Hancock, MBE, describes the breed standard for the Dogue de Bordeaux as one of the best that he has ever reviewed for its clarity, detail, and thoroughness. Colonel Hancock's assessment validates the work that began in the late 19th century to establish a breed standard that creates a vivid picture of the correct features and serves as a roadmap for judges, breeders, and fanciers to follow in evaluating, breeding, and preserving the correct Dogues de Bordeaux. To do otherwise would be a gross disservice to this magnificent breed.

—Victor C. Smith,
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AKC Liaison and Chair, Judges' Education Committee

[Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America](#)

German Pinschers

THE LIFE OF THE MODERN GERMAN PINSCHER

I grew up on a farm at the end of a dead-end gravel road, more than 10 miles from the

nearest town. Our dogs, Border Collies and Beagles and an occasional Cocker Spaniel, lived a large portion of their lives on their own terms—in and out of the house, herding cattle, hunting rabbits, riding in pickup trucks, and barking at the snowplow and the mailman. Today, I live in the middle of a small city. My nearest neighbor's house is 25 feet from mine. I'm an alleyway and four houses away from a busy, four-lane street.

German Pinschers were originally bred as general-purpose farm dogs. Their role on the farm was to be ratters, alarm barkers, companions, and occasional livestock herders. That role, that daily life, is nothing like the one my dogs, and many other German Pinschers, live today.

The life of a modern-day dog often consists primarily of sleeping, eating, regular walks, chasing an occasional rabbit, and waiting for us to come home from work. It may also include hiking, training, and participating in sports, travel, and other enrichment activities. German Pinschers live in high-rise apartments, in large households, in small spaces, in the middle of nowhere, and in the middle of everything. They often live with owners who are away from home many hours each day. Modern German Pinschers may need to navigate crowded elevators and sidewalks; wear harnesses, collars, and leashes; and cope

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German Pinscher

with constant noise and sudden environmental change. The number of things they can do independently is more constrained than the lives of their ancestors, or even than the lives of the farm dogs I lived with when I was growing up. In addition, there are more daily stressors, more noise, more people, and more reasons for an alarm barker to sound the alarm. There are fireworks and police sirens, and screaming children and adults. Many dogs today have a territory they don't control, full of things they don't always understand.

And yet they're still the same dogs. The German Pinscher is still, as he was a hundred years ago, a medium-sized, short-coated dog with a strong, square build. German Pinschers are energetic, watchful, alert, agile, fearless, determined, intelligent, and loyal. They like having a job or at least the opportunity to explore and understand things on their own.

Though life is different now and many German Pinschers aren't doing the everyday work of a general farm dog, they still possess many characteristics that make them good modern-day companions. They're easy keepers. They're generally healthy. They're smart and generally happy. In addition, there are a lot of advantages to being a modern dog. My dogs are warm and well fed. They have access to world-class health care, regular exercise, and a fire to lie in front of on cold winter evenings.

Is it a better life? A worse one?

In many ways it doesn't matter—it's the life they, and we, have.

It pays, though, to remember that dogs, like us, need time to relax and to step away from the everyday world, from the noise and the hustle and the schedule. Time to sniff and explore. To sit in the sun. To be dogs.

—Deb Coates,

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[German Pinscher Club of America](#)

Great Pyrenees

"DIS-A-PYRS" AND SHAPESHIFTERS

There is an old anecdote in the Great Pyrenees community that was first told to me over 25 years ago and is still popular now. "What do you call a Great Pyrenees off-lead? A Dis-a-Pyr." This is the truth. Give them an inch, they'll take 10 miles. It's their job to investigate possible threats. They're shape-shifters. They can squeeze through openings in a fence like a mouse trying to get into a quarter-inch hole. For some Pyrs, the expansion of their perceived territory is necessary for them to be effective at their job. This is why good fencing is so important when you own a Great Pyrenees.

I used to laugh when friends of mine would show me the size of a hole in the fence that

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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Great Pyrenees

their Pyrs had squeezed through. Then I met Buddy, who became part of my household a few months ago. He is a huge Pyr, even by our standards. He has gotten out of the fence, numerous times, through holes that my cats don't even use. Buddy is a shapeshifter who likes to "dis-a-Pyr" and roam the neighborhood, expanding his realm of land to protect.

Historians believe that the Great Pyrenees breed dates back 3,000 years. From those very

early days until the present time, the Great Pyrenees would follow and protect their flocks and their shepherds. Each spring, they travel the Pyrenees mountain paths up into the lush, green, mountain grasses, where they spend the warmer months, keeping watch over their flocks as they grazed in the sunshine. When colder weather started to set in, they would travel down from the mountains and spend winters in their towns with a different job,

protecting their families.

Their travels were far and wide. The Pyrs would mark their territory, warning away predators with their scent and their barks, keeping their flocks safe from unwarranted attacks. You could say that travel and distance are part of their genetic makeup.

Some Pyrs are more content to stay closer to their flock, while others prefer distance, searching for threats that are unknown to us, or their shepherds. If you've ever seen the shepherds with their dogs and sheep, you'll find a method to their madness. They work as a team. Depending on how many Pyrs you have, one or more will be at the front of the flock, a few more at the rear, one or two in the middle, and those that protect the outer flanks. It is like having a barrage of tanks surrounding new soldiers as they go into battle, prepared for anything that comes, but parading along peacefully. Their job is to protect them by barking and letting predators that they are near. They are not stealthy, like some LGD breeds. They bark to warn predators that they have arrived.

The genetic propensity to wander is ingrained in the Great Pyrenees. For thousands of years, they wandered. The idea of fencing is something that came into existence when the breed began to gain popularity in the households of the general population. As

the breed became more popular in the U.S., fencing became a norm. You can take the Great Pyrenees out of its mountains, but you cannot change that which is ingrained: the propensity to roam.

—Karen Reiter,
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Great Pyrenees Club of America

Komondorok

KOMONDOR CORDS ARE NOT "TWISTED," BRAIDED, OR OILED

Characteristic of the look of the Komondor is the breed's unusual, corded coat. Our standard says "A grown dog is entirely covered with a heavy coat of ... tassel-like cords, which form naturally" and "The puppy coat is relatively soft, but it shows a tendency to fall into cord-like curls." So, between the puppy coat and the characteristic ropey, corded coat of the adult the Komondor fancier helps the coat take form. The coat must be corded by two years of age.

Recently I attended a seminar of another breed. The presenter distinguished that breed's coat from Komondor (and Puli) coats by saying that ours were "twisted." That was incorrect.

Komondor and Puli corded coats are not twisted. We do not twist them when the coat

COURTESY KAREN REITER

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Left: Cords on a one-year-old Komondor. The coat shows fuzzy ends, the recently split new cords, and each cord growing out of the skin. Right: A well-maintained mature Komondor coat. The groomer ensures that each long cord is independent and open to the skin.



is forming, and they do not twist on their own. It does not say “twisted” in our standards. For Komondors and Pulis, the curly or wavy puppy coat clumps itself together into cords integrating (or capturing) coarser outercoat and softer undercoat.

Let me say again: no *twisting*. Don't look for twisting, as it is not there and should not be there.

In Anna Katherine Nicholas's wonderful *The Book of the Poodle*, cording is described in the section written by Mrs. Hoyt. She says the

coat is “brushed out, oiled, and braided, will grow into the so-called “corded” coat.” I have helped cord a couple of Poodles and have seen others. I promise that this is not the way to cord a Poodle coat. The Poodle coat is corded the same way as other corded coats, by letting it clump into plates or mats and then splitting them into cords; no braiding, no oils, and no brushing out.

Komondor (and Puli) coats are corded by allowing the young dog's coat to clump up.

Details depend on the texture of the individual's coat. Variables in each dog's coat are the proportion of finer undercoat with coarser outercoat, and amount of crimp or curl. At some time before 1 year of age, coat that has been correctly left unbrushed will clump or mat into plates or thicker bunches. This happens an inch or so away from the skin and outward. When the clumps or plates are three or four inches long (9 months to 12 months in age), they can be split into cords. Cords grow out of an area on the skin about the diameter of a quarter. Once split, the cords grow out and are encouraged to stay separate at the skin. Each time the dog is washed or gets wet and dries, the individual cords tighten up, so the long cords you see on an adult dog are much smaller in diameter than a quarter.

Komondor coat grows three or four inches a year. Once corded, it stays corded; they cannot be brushed out. Length of coat is purely a function of age (and not having been clipped down) so that when you see a Komondor corded to the ground, it is 6 or more years old. It is also an achievement in coat care and preservation.

Historically, on the Hungarian plains the shepherd (*pasztor*) lived with his flock, with his serious and independently minded guard dog (Komondor), and probably with his smart and active herding dog (Puli) as well. Grooming

out sticks and brambles and keeping his dogs' coats in rough cords must have helped build the bond between the dogs and their master. The dogs' coats, with natural oils, would have been fairly waterproof, so they would keep the dogs protected from weather and any predator's bite. The dogs may have been clipped along with the sheep now and then.

In our judges' education sessions we emphasize that the dogs must be evaluated under their coats. It is inevitable that the coat will also be seen and evaluated for quality. Coat quality in Komondors should be evaluated for color (white) and either cording, or the ability to cord in young dogs. Misinformation about cords and how they form abounds and must be ignored.

—Eric Liebes,
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Komondor Club of America

Kuvaszok

TRICK DOG AND THE KUVASZ

I'm happy to announce that Starlite will be turning 13 years old this May. Besides the obvious reasons to celebrate, I'll also celebrating something I would not have expected: the fact that Starlite is still earning titles. This January, I'm very pleased to announce that Starlite became the first Kuvasz to earn a

COURTESY ERIC LIEBES

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Trick Dog Elite Performer title (TKE), the highest level of Trick Dog titles.

Some people I speak with are surprised to hear that a Kuvasz can earn Trick Dog titles. A very small number believe that such titles are beneath the dignity of the Kuvasz. Since there are some noteworthy benefits to trick training, I thought I would take a moment to discuss some reasons why it's worth pursuing Trick Dog titles with your Kuvasz.

One of the nice things about Trick Dog is that some of the tricks are closely related to physical fitness exercises. Some of Starlite's tricks were a part of her canine-conditioning program years before AKC started offering Trick Dog titles. Tricks like the Paws Up, Shake Hands, Push Up, Back Up, and Figure Eight are often incorporated into home exercise programs to increase strength, mobility, and hind-end awareness. So, it's possible for dogs, including healthy veterans, to physically benefit from being involved in trick training. Remember to always check with your dog's veterinarian to ensure that your dog can proceed safely in any new training program, and always set dogs up for success based on their physical capabilities.

Trick training also provides an opportunity for social interaction and mental stimulation, which is good for both dogs and humans. In an article entitled "Does training make

you smarter? The effects of training on dogs' performance (*Canis familiaris*) in a problem solving task," written by Sarah Marshall-Pescinia, Paola Valsecchi, Irena Petak, Pier Attilio Accorsi, and Emanuela Prato Previde, researchers found that dogs with higher-level training demonstrated better problem-solving skills than dogs with either no training or only basic training. It's not hard to imagine how an increased problem-solving ability would benefit the Kuvasz when working, playing, or competing in other sports.

While some may argue that tricks are not for the Kuvasz, I would say that they are perfect for the Kuvasz. The Kuvasz is comedic, creative, and intelligent, and these traits allow them to excel in learning new tasks. Despite Kuvasz being strong and independent guardians, Trick Dog can tap into the fun-loving side of their personality. Starlite actually taught herself some of the tricks, and I just needed to put them on a cue.

Since there are tricks that use agility obstacles, scent discrimination exercises, and rally maneuvers, an unexpected benefit of Trick Dog is that it can be a steppingstone to other sports like agility, scentwork, and rally. Our breed can always use more talented representatives in these venues.

On a personal note, I originally thought Trick Dog titles were simple and easy to

obtain. However, after having gone through the levels with Starlite, I can testify that there is a nice, well thought out progression in difficulty level that I've come to appreciate. For those who are interested, I'd recommend reading the tricks for each level before starting to train. I think it will give a clear picture as to why you're teaching the seemingly "simple" tricks in the Novice level. For what it's worth, Starlite really and truly enjoyed learning her tricks, and I'm sure we'll keep learning more together.

I love to see the breed succeeding in all venues, and Trick Dog just gives the Kuvasz one more opportunity to show off the positive traits of our breed.

—Julia Babecki,
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Kuvasz Club of America

Leonbergers

MEMORIALS

This month's column was originally going to be dedicated to coverage of the Leonberger Club of America national specialty, which was going to be held near the end of March. However, Covid continues to dominate the headlines, resulting in the national being delayed yet again. So, rather than a general review of the fun and results

and fellowship that make up the national, I had to reorient the focus of this article. Like many (most?) of you, I am thoroughly tired of dealing with Covid. I work in healthcare (doing X-ray and CT in a hospital setting), and I have lived/breathed this pandemic long enough. Sigh. But our world rolls on, and instead of covering the national, I found myself thinking a lot about how we dedicated dog owners go about memorializing a heart-dog who has crossed the Rainbow Bridge.

A recent message from a devoted puppy-owner informed me that their beloved Leonberger (a son of my fifth Leonberger) had crossed the bridge. Despite the ache that such a note conjures up, there also comes a sense of appreciation, both that these people adored and revered the dog for his entire life, and that they thought to keep me informed. This dog was not only a devoted family pet, he also served as a service dog for a family member who had special needs. And while no amount of years on this planet would ever feel like enough, it still brings tears and grief when they do cross that bridge.

I have always said that I would rather be someone who grieves and aches about the passing of a dog than be someone who doesn't care. And yet, that grief and ache takes its toll when it is fresh.

All of which brought me to reflect on the

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Owners memorialize their special dogs in many ways, such as with this tattoo, which was created based on the dog's actual pawprint.

various ways that we dog lovers may memorialize our dogs who have passed. While all of my dogs have taken a bit of me with them when they left, there have been those few who took a bigger slice with them. And I have found myself wondering what ways others have found to memorialize those dogs that left an indelible mark on your soul.

My fifth Leonberger is memorialized in a number of ways, but he also holds a place on my actual skin. I got a tattoo in his memory that those who did not know him may not understand, but it holds a deep meaning for me. It is a paw-print (from his actual paw-print), superimposed over a cross-bones

symbol in homage to his piratic name. It was designed by a fellow Leonberger friend, and it is only visible when I want it to be. I have friends who have also gotten a tattoo to memorialize their Leonberger, and other friends who have gotten artwork to hang on their walls. I have friends who have had metalwork and gate signs and jewelry made in memory of their Leonbergers. Mailboxes, stationery, checks, and so on. For people outside the dog fancy, that might seem strange. But to my people, otherwise known as dog people, it makes total sense.

—Shannon White,
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 Leonberger Club of America

Mastiffs

ENSURE YOU'RE DEALING WITH A REPUTABLE BREEDER

I have touched upon this topic in a past article. However, the COVID-19 pandemic that has blighted our lives over the past year and into the early months of 2021 has required mitigations that are mandating or encouraging people to stay at home, aside from shopping for essentials. As reported by a number of news agencies and shelters, the situation has led to an unprecedented demand for pets.

This has resulted in many “scams” recently being reported on Mastiff groups on Facebook, as unscrupulous (supposed) Mastiff breeders take advantage of families who are already in love with their possibly nonexistent puppy and excited about bringing him or her home.

For this article, I am assuming buyers have done their research on the Mastiff and have decided that despite the breed's massive size, drooling, snoring, farting, eating the furniture, and other socially less desirable traits, this *is* the breed they want!

What to Watch Out For

The nonexistent puppy: The most common scam of which I have become aware is one in which the breeder advertises adorable Mastiff puppies online (sometimes on a very convincing, professional-appearing website), encourages you to select one, then asks for an often exorbitant deposit or “holding fee.” (Note: This is, in itself, not a “job stopper,” but read on.) If the breeder is within traveling distance, you will be advised that you cannot visit “your” puppy due to Covid concerns (which *is*, actually, a legitimate reason). However, you may receive photos of the puppy as he or she develops—a strategy designed to allay any doubts you may have harbored.

Time to go home: This is a point when disreputable breeders may take advantage of buyers

who have not done research. The breeder will insist on full payment before the puppy is picked up, delivered, or shipped. It is a time of travail for buyers, as these terms are generally insisted upon by reputable breeders to protect themselves from disreputable buyers. In the main scam, once the disreputable breeder has your money, he or she will request more funding for vet health appraisals, early vaccinations, and providing a pedigree. When the scammer believes they have extracted all of the money possible—from you and other scammed puppy buyers, they will often close down their websites and establish new ones with different aliases.

Who's your Daddy? Related to the *nonexistent puppy*, this is the scam in which the buyer *does* receive the puppy, but it is either not registered with a legitimate registry, or *no* pedigree and registration papers are provided. Often the seller will have a convoluted story about why the papers are not available, and then disappear.

Heartbreak Hotel This, in my opinion, is the most unconscionable scam of all: You receive your Mastiff puppy (from allegedly health tested parents), and within a few weeks or months, your puppy has seizures, cardiac issues, parvo, and/or other life-threatening disorders that are difficult and expensive to treat.

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How to Avoid a Scam:

Research, research, research! If you are looking for a Mastiff puppy, both the Mastiff Club of America (MCOA) and the AKC have a list of reputable breeders. You must be patient, as everyone does not have “Pop-Tart puppies,” ready to go at all times!

If something seems suspicious on a breeder’s site, it probably is ... look elsewhere.

Ensure the breeder you have decided upon belongs to the MCOA and registers their dogs with the AKC (or relevant country’s equivalent—for example, in England, the OEMC and the Kennel Club).

Make sure you receive a traceable pedigree that conforms to claims the breeder has made.

Ensure there is a contract to establish expectations between you and your breeder that you can read early on in your relationship.

If you are not grilled with many questions from your selected breeder about your knowledge of and experience with the Mastiff, *run away!*

Be prepared with your own questions, guided by your initial research.

Final advice:

Do your homework!

Don’t be swayed by expensive- and professional-appearing websites.

Join local or regional Mastiff clubs, and take members’ advice.

While this has been a rather barren period in terms of all-breed shows, try to attend any in your area that have strict Covid protocols.

Study our standard—it is the template or blueprint of that the Mastiff should be.

—Karen Cornelius, MCOA Corresponding Secretary

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[Mastiff Club of America \(MCOA\)](#)

Neapolitan Mastiffs

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

As with many (most?) clubs, our membership numbers have been a concern for the United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club (USNMC). We believe there are several factors:

First, many besotted *Mastino* owners of their first purebred dog are new to the dog fancy and do not have the embedded loyalty to the world of the AKC nor the traditional sense of honor in belonging to the breed’s AKC parent club.

Then, unfortunately, Neapolitan Mastiff people are, in general, reluctant “joiners.” Instead, just as they believe their dogs are unique in the purebred world, they regard themselves as “different.”

Interestingly, the Neapolitan Mastiff community embraced the use of the Internet early

and fiercely. The internet provides all of the traditional benefits of parent club membership (access to photos, stories, and education, and most importantly a sense of connection with others around the country and the world), without any of the pesky accompanying obligations to commit to any group, attitude, or to be actively involved in any work.

And lastly, you don’t have to be a member of the parent club to enter any shows, to donate to trophies for specialties, to attend the annual celebratory banquet, to buy any item, to see photographs on the internet, or to read the stories. On the internet you are free to kibitz on topics like the standard or judges’ education, without waiting for the club to publish a newsletter and without any usual filters of trying to be nice to other club members. You can feel connected to others around the country and the world for free.

No longer do people with a gripe have to announce they’re starting a “new competing club” (a common occurrence in the pre-AKC *Mastino* world). Now anyone simply starts a chat room or a Facebook group and instantly gains followers. Too many well-meaning club members become hesitant to defend the club in the contentious internet environment lest they become personal targets of the invective. So they remain silent.

The USNMC is a presence on the internet,

but it is only one in the midst of many.

Curiously, not all of the nonmembers criticize the club. Instead, they oh-so-magnanimously announce support of the club’s actions. They make it clear that they’re not a member of the club “because of politics,” but they are proud to say they can still acknowledge when the club does good (making themselves sound noble and ethical and fair and, yes, a wee bit condescending).

Fortunately, we do have a solid core group of members. A few are AKC folk who, attracted to the *Mastino*, join and work within the parent club as a matter of course. Some are long-term members who are firmly committed to the club. Admittedly it is difficult to get all the work done with such a small group, but we struggle on with determination because we will not give up on our given purpose.

And interestingly enough, we do have silent support of the large portion of the *Mastino* community even while we don’t have joiners. For example, donations to our national-specialty trophies come from equal parts members and non-members. Entries at our national and other specialties are about half from members and as many if not more from non-members.

Similarly, attendance at our annual awards/celebration banquet at the national and interest in our education on the standard and

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Neapolitan Mastiff

attendance at education events come from both club members and nonmembers.

The USNMC continues to be the only organized Mastino club in the country, and while so many claim that “politics” is why they don’t want to join, at the same time they look to the USNMC to lead the charge to do the right thing when issues arise.

So, just what is this all-so-important “politics?” Well, that’s a topic for the next column!

—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe,

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United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club

Newfoundlands

TAYLOR VINGE, 2020–2021 AKC

VETERINARY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE

PART TWO

In the first installment, in the January issue, the family’s first Newfoundland, Darcy, had become very ill at age 5. An outside vet came in to help and spent days flipping through books and researching possible illnesses. Finally, when all were close to giving up hope that Darcy would recover, the vet came across Addison’s disease. All the symptoms matched up to what Darcy was experiencing, and after administering the medicine her body needed, Darcy went from being on death’s doorstep to making a full recovery. Thanks to that vet who spent days and nights tirelessly researching Darcy’s symptoms, she went on to live

nearly 14 years. The vet never gave up hope, and that kept the family going throughout the whole ordeal. Taylor continues below.)

That vet gave me the chance to learn from Darcy over the next few years and allowed me to begin my experience in the dog training and dog show world with her at my side. He gave me the chance to hear Darcy’s sassy, big barks every day, and to be woken up by her licking me all over my face, arms, and hands because she wanted breakfast.

He gave me the chance to continue my swims in the pond on Gerri’s property with Darcy, and to become fascinated with the breed’s natural instinct to save someone from the water, as Darcy would whine at the shore until I allowed her to swim out and pull me to the safety of land.

That vet gave me the chance to care for a senior dog and pay her back for all the wonderful experiences she gave me throughout her life.

He allowed me to share quiet moments with her at the edge of the ocean, laying together with Darcy’s head in my lap as the waves gently lapped at our feet.

He allowed me to, in those quiet moments, remember the times when Darcy would have joyously plowed through those waves in her youth.

That vet also gave Darcy the gift to remember those moments as well, as I would watch

DAVID WOO AKC

WORKING GROUP

her paws twitch in her sleep, most likely remembering her more youthful days, only to wake up a short time later and remind us that she was still a spunky, healthy senior that absolutely adored life.

By dedicating a few days of his life to saving the life of a dog who wasn't even his own, that vet gave me more than he could ever imagine, and that is precisely why I am in vet school now. I want to have the ability to save an animal's life and to give another person the gift that he gave to me.

I am currently in my second year of vet school, but last semester I was lucky enough to be chosen for the AKC Veterinary Outreach Scholarship 2020–2021. In order to receive this scholarship, I had to explain my past experiences competing in AKC events and what having purebred, purposefully bred dogs means to me. It wasn't hard to explain the bonds I have formed with all of my Newfies through hours upon hours of training to compete and title with them in AKC events like rally and obedience. Also, even right this second, how beneficial it is to have a well-trained, relaxed “nanny dog” in my home to help keep me calm when my anxiety levels skyrocket due to school. As happy as I am to be in vet school, the expenses are extremely high, and I will be working to pay off my student loans for years, so having a bit of help from the AKC



is truly a blessing. Due to the scholarship, I was able to take out a little less in loans this year, and it helped curb some of my worries about paying for classes, books, groceries, house rent, and so on. Words can truly not express how grateful I am, and I give Rosie some extra love every day for being an amazing working girl and helping me accomplish the things that allowed me to

qualify for the scholarship.

While I have accomplished my dream of getting into vet school, I'm still not entirely sure what specifically I want to focus on when I graduate. I shadowed an amazing veterinarian, Dr. Funk, throughout a couple of summers during my undergraduate years, and he was a big advocate for acupuncture and chiropractic

adjustments. I have had him do acupuncture on my own Newfoundlands, and I have seen the wonders the treatments can do for their physical well-being. After seeing such amazing results by using such a noninvasive, natural method, I have decided that I do want to include acupuncture in my work as a vet in the future. I also know that I want to work with small animals like dogs and

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cats, but I have a passion and love for horses as well, so I do see the possibility of having a mixed practice one day.

All I do know at this very moment is that I want to use the years of knowledge I have gained by working with dogs and learning their behaviors, as well as the medical knowledge I will gain through vet school, to help keep my future clients healthy and their human owners happy. I want to be the vet who sits on the floor and cuddles with the senior dog who has come to her clinic since he was just a pup. I want to be the vet who spends a few extra moments in the room with a nervous animal to make them as comfortable as possible. I want to be the vet who causes a dog to go into a fit of excitement over seeing me because they know cuddles and treats come along with my presence. And lastly, I simply want to be the vet who all owners know they can trust and rely on. The medical knowledge I will have will be amazing, but the relationships I'm going to get to build with animals and their owners throughout my life is going to definitely be the icing on the cake. —T.V.

Thank you, Taylor. We wish you the best of luck!

—Mary Lou Cuddy,
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Portuguese Water Dogs

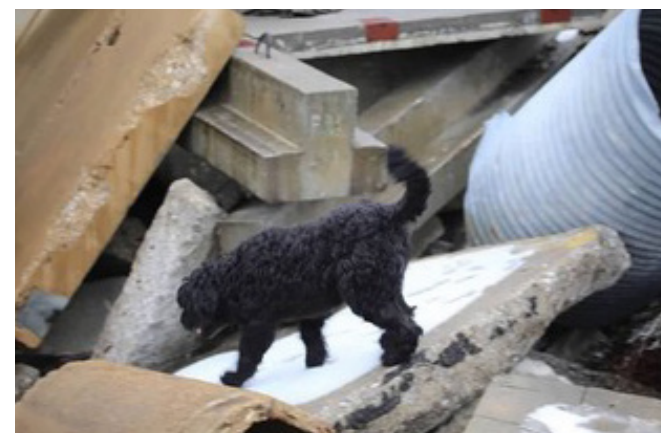
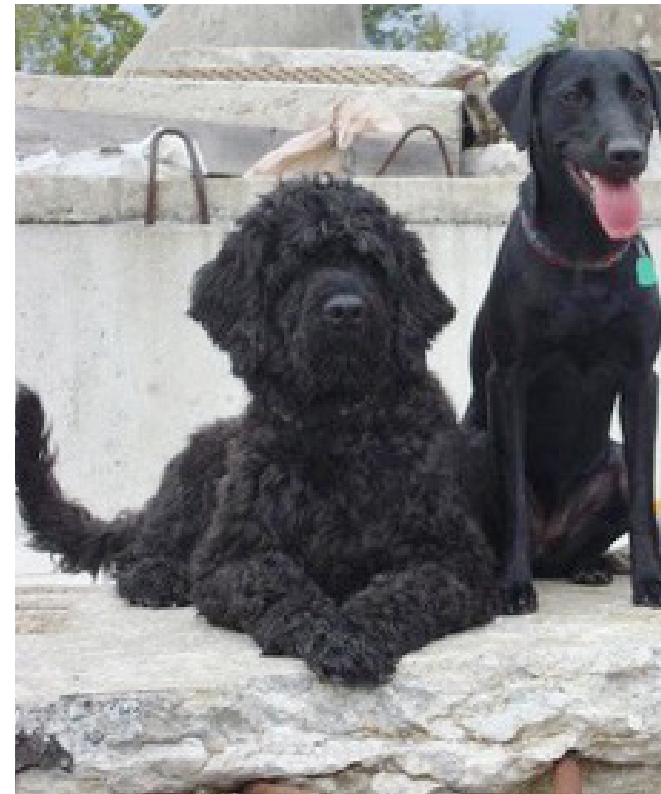
This month we continue our interview begun in the October 2020 issue with Marian Beland, who works in search-and-rescue (SAR) training with her young Portuguese Water Dog, Micah, and with Connie Millard, owner of the first PWD SAR dog, Dutch, who worked at the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster. My sincere thanks to both owners for their educational responses.

PORTUGUESE WATER DOGS IN SEARCH-AND-RESCUE PART THREE

How do weather extremes and terrain affect search efforts and the dog's fatigue?

C: Dogs that are not conditioned to the ambient weather or move to a different region will have a tougher time hitting the ground running than the dogs that are normally deployed within that area. It's not so much what the conditions are as it is what the dogs are used to.

M: Having a dog acclimated to the conditions makes a difference, although I think there are some weather extremes and terrains that can affect them. The handler should always be the best advocate for their dog. Depending on the breed and the dog, sub-zero weather can lead to hypothermia, especially if a dog gets wet, and high heat, humidity, and high altitude can also be issues under



Portuguese Water Dogs make excellent search-and-rescue dogs and work in a wide range of scenarios.



COURTESY CONNIE MILLARD

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certain circumstances.

Are there separate canine certifications for different kinds of searches, such as live, dead, forest, buildings, disaster rubble, urban streets, water, and wetlands?

C: FEMA has two different certifications: Live and HRD (Human Remains Detection). We primarily search rubble, but we also train inside intact building structures and wilderness scenarios. In our system there are not special certifications for different environments, only for different types of victims (live and deceased). Also, no dog can hold both certifications. If we choose to train K9s for each discipline, we will have two different dogs.

M: Yes, I have trained and certified my dogs for Wilderness Air Scent, Water Search for drowned victims, Scent Discriminating Trailing, Human Remains Detection, and Disaster. There are different training techniques for the different disciplines.

Is there a difference in the way the dog searches, in terms of trailing versus air-scenting? Is the dog on lead, or free-moving off-lead?

C: “Tracking” is what a lot of folks call it, though SAR dogs actually “trail.” They follow human scent rafts, rather than crushed vegetation, which is what tracking is. Trailing is a useful tool in the toolchest of any search dog. My dogs, when working in a wilderness search, will use trailing if there is a trail, and either continue on that trail or go “heads up”

and leave the trail reverting to air scent once they catch wind of a scent. It’s all about expediency, not about form. My dogs work off lead and without collars. (Unless there are alligators—then I keep them on a short leash!)

M: As Connie explained, in trailing, the dog is looking for a particular person. The handler lets the dog smell something from the lost person (such as a hat or glove), and the dog looks for that person to the exclusion of everyone else by following the scent-trail left behind as the person walked. These dogs are worked on lead, in a nonrestrictive harness.

The Air Scent dog is looking for “generic human scent.” They are worked off lead. Their job is to find “any human” in the area, communicate that “find” to the handler, and get the handler to the victim. If they find a hiker instead of the victim, the dog is rewarded for making a “find” and asked to go find someone else, which they usually do enthusiastically.

Water Search is still a little different. These dogs work from the bow of the boat to help locate the victim under water. The experienced water search dog “steers the boat” by shifting from port to starboard as the boat crosses the wind and the dog tries to keep in the scent. The boat driver follows the instructions of the dog handler who is reading the dog’s actions. When the dog is close to the

point where the scent is rising out of the water (the most concentrated amount of human scent), the dog is trained to perform a trained indication (this can be to bark, lie down, sit, scratch at the boat, and so on).

How does the dog alert the handler when they find someone?

C: In order to certify in FEMA a dog must use focused bark indicating human scent, both for Live-find and for HRD. The reason for this is that our disaster dogs work on dangerous terrain, and we want to limit the amount of their traversing across debris and collapsed structures. That said, once we are deployable and out on a search, I’m hypervigilant to my dog’s body language, and I will follow what my dog’s body is telling me. On wide area searches, when a bark is often too far away for us two-legged human beings trudging along behind to even hear, a recall/refind is an appropriate alert, and my dogs will make that adjustment. (*Recall/refind is when the dog finds the victim, runs back to the handler, “tells” us he or she has made a find, and we follow the dog back to the victim—just like in Lassie.*)

M: A lot of air scent handlers believe that a dog should choose their alert. The reasoning is that if the dog enjoys doing that behavior, the behavior is less likely to break down under adverse conditions or when the dog is very tired. For air scent, my dogs have all liked the

recall/refind with a “bark alert.” For Human Remains Detection, some dogs do a recall/refind (an active alert), some may lie down or sit (a passive alert) where the scent is the strongest, and some are trained to dig or scratch at it (an “aggressive alert,” which taps into the dog’s natural instincts).

Making a find is a reward for search dogs—but how does the handler reward the dog for searching long and hard with no finds?

C: In disaster work, we often go days searching without making a find. To keep my partner engaged, if I sense he or she needs a reminder about the purpose of our labor, I send a teammate to hide, get found and then reward the dog. This can be done anytime/anywhere.

M: Most of the time, after searching a negative area, I give a low-keyed reward for his search effort. Once away from the search area, I give the release command, provide a small treat, and let him carry his toy back to the car. The reward is very small compared to the giant party that happens when he makes the “find.”

I personally extend my heartfelt and biggest thanks to Connie and Marian for all the wonderful and educational materials they have shared with me for this column. Because they both train with various different agencies, their responses may differ somewhat. I have

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learned so much about SAR dogs, their handlers, the love and bond between them, and the very hard and rewarding work they do. Hopefully one of you reading this column will one day be the proud owner of a PWD SAR dog.

Thank you once again, Marian and Connie!

—Carole Prangley-McIvor,

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Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

Rottweilers

TIPS ON KEEPING DOGS YOU'VE BRED OUT OF RESCUE

First, I am happy to say that Rottweiler Rescue of Los Angeles (for whom I can speak, but not other rescues) rarely gets a dog from a Code of Ethics breeder. Most of the dogs that come in are from either what are often called “puppy providers” (“volume breeders”) or “pet-to-pet breeders,” as opposed to ethical breeders who do quality, infrequent breedings.

However, it can happen. Life happens to those with even the best intentions. People lose jobs, lose their homes, can be reduced to a speck of what they used to have. So, what can you do to tilt the odds in your favor?

Have your puppies microchipped before they go to their new homes. Don't buy into



the conspiracy theories that microchips can cause cancer, or you're being tracked by Bill Gates. When the pup is sold, register the pup your name as the primary contact and the buyer as secondary. If a dog from your breed-

ing lands in a shelter and is scanned, you will be notified immediately. Fold the price of the chip and registration into the selling cost. Make it non-negotiable.

Impress upon the buyer over and over again

that you are always available to take back a dog from your breeding. State that the dog may not be sold, bartered, given away, nor in any way transferred to another person or entity without notification to you. State it in your contract, and have them initial the clause. Consider putting a “remedy” in your contract that if you are not advised or offered the dog, there is a monetary fine, and state the amount.

Check in on the buyer occasionally. Create a “tickle” file, and send out emails once a year on their birthday. Make one call a day to a puppy buyer. Let them know you care.

Always take a dog back, even if you have to put it down due to illness or temperament issues. If it's a nice dog, many people are looking to adopt. Spay and neuter first. That is the right thing to do.

Speaking of spay and neuter, I can't tell you how many dogs I've seen that are one or two generations away from outstanding dogs. People don't know what they're doing; all they know is they bought a nice dog, and so they think they should breed it! Enforce spay and neuter contracts.

If you do get a call from a shelter or rescue group, be nice. It is not their fault the dog is in protective hands. Do not scream, yell, or blame the rescuer! My suggestion is to merely ask, “What can I do to help?” They may allow

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

WORKING GROUP

you to have the dog (after spay or neuter). They may choose not to release the dog to you, and that is their right. The contract you have is between you and the buyer, not the rescue. They are not legally or ethically beholden to you. Be nice. Show your concern. Offer assistance. Remember it is not “your” dog and being unpleasant with get you nothing.

If they do allow you to have the dog back, remember the dog is under stress and in crisis as well. The dog will need time, and perhaps medical attention that has been denied for issues such as blown cruciate ligaments, a dental, or ear infections. Do not be in a rush to “get rid of” the dog. Spay and neuter before placement.

If the rescue organization would prefer to keep and place the dog themselves, say you understand and offer financial assistance. A couple hundred dollars or more is a lot of money to rescues who are responsible for copious veterinary bills, not to mention food, toys, or beds. Frankly, a donation is the least you can do if they’re going to take on all the work.

I truly hope no dog you’re bred ever ends up needing help. But if it happens, be ready to either take the dog back into your home or assist the rescue that has the dog. The dog needs you as a backup until the day they are put to rest.

—Jill Kessler Miller,
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American Rottweiler Club

Samoyeds

This month we continue the column by Lisa Hubenig begun in the January issue. Lisa has been showing dogs for over 45 years and has been involved with Samoyeds for over 30 years, currently enjoying breeding, showing, and working with her dogs under the Sershan Samoyeds prefix. She also enjoys volunteering with the local child-reading therapy program and participating in obedience, rally, herding, weight pull, and two official sled dog races. She even tried her Sams at one of the first Chase Ability tests in Canada.

WINNING AND LOSING PART TWO

Losing is taking a wrong turn in your breeding program, bringing in health issues or a fault that wasn’t expected. This results in having to change gears, give up on your plans and dreams for ‘that line,’ and having to start over, going in a different direction away from those dogs you have, even though you still love them so much.

Winning is continuing along your path of breeding, training, showing, and titling. You can hold your head high, knowing that you



The author’s beloved Samoyed “Bowen,” Can./Am. Ch. Sershan’s I Got Rhythm

COURTESY LISA HUBENIG

WORKING GROUP

have a group of friends in the breed who respect each other's differences, appreciate the different dogs they have, and encourage each other at all times. These are the friends that you can celebrate when they win (especially when they win over your dog). And it means being there to help them understand when something isn't quite right.

Losing is, of course, making almost as many enemies as you do friends during this process, due to besting others' dogs. Things become personal and give way to negative feelings.

I've have often wondered why folks become so upset when they lose to another dog. They may become negative and angry with the owner-handler-breeder of the winning dog. But it was the judge who awarded the dog—not its owner, handler, or breeder. There should be no anger at the judge, either! You entered the dog and paid for the judge's opinion, who gave it to you. If you don't like it, why get mad with the people who didn't even have anything to do with the decision?

And so, it goes for a few years, and then you really begin to understand a new level of things.

Winning is acquiring a new puppy from a new line (or the newest litter), watching that 13-week-old puppy become acquainted with your 13-year-old matriarch. It is enjoying the old thrill of new dreams, new goals, and fresh

ideas for training and developing this addition to your breeding program.

Losing is watching your 11-year-old boy, the one that was born into your hands all those years ago from that first perfect litter, which became your first dual-titled champion, who was loved by everyone who has ever been in your home as the sweetest dog, and knowing that his time is quite limited now, and the heartache that will come. *Losing* is having a dog of any age become ill or injured. *Losing* is seeing how old that special "first" dog has become, and watching your past go before your eyes.

Winning is having that beautiful puppy learn to pee outside more than inside. It is watching that puppy learn so well, so fast, the things you are teaching. *Winning* is also having that special old boy eat something and keep it down, slowing the weight loss just a bit for another day. *Winning* can also be having that injured or sick dog make a small step toward recovery, or just not get any worse that day.

Losing is having to clean up the mess when that puppy doesn't quite make it outside in time. *Losing* is when the special old dog doesn't keep his dinner down, or isn't hungry at all, and you have to help him eat, even a little bit. It is watching your sick or injured dog fail to improve or take a turn for the worse.

Winning is taking that puppy to its first show

and seeing him having so much fun and behaving so well—all that work has paid off! *Winning* is seeing that special old boy get up in the morning, the sparkle still in his eyes, offering a tail-wag, and interested in food again for another day. It is seeing that sick or injured dog enjoy a few moments of being their "old self."

Losing is seeing the light go out a little more each day in that special old dog's eyes, or in the sick or injured dog; the tail wags a little less, the bark and song not as loud or as often.

Winning is dreaming about moving forward with that puppy, the joys and challenges ahead, knowing that you have a whole new friend and companion to enjoy for many years.

Losing is saying goodbye to that special old dog or to that sick or injured companion. It doesn't matter whether it be suddenly, due to health or an accident, or drawn out.

Saying goodbye forever is the biggest *losing* moment we endure. It comes for all of us that have dogs to share our lives. All that other "winning" does not make it any easier. For me, each loss hurts a little bit more, as it opens the scars from each loss before.

It is only after this great loss as the healing begins that we really understand that it was we who *won* when we were given the gift to share in that dog's life, and every dog before them.

It is then we understand and appreciate that they didn't share our life; we shared theirs. We learned from them, appreciated them, and learned to love them, in a way that is unique to each and every dog. You can't love any two dogs the same; each is different, each teaching us more than we could ever teach them.

So, you see, *winning* or *losing* is about more than show ribbons, performance titles, bragging rights, advertising, statistics and breed records, or any of those things. Those are important, and we should continue to do these activities to ensure we improve ourselves and our breed.

However, at the end of our days, we should be able to remember the real *wins* of friendships formed with great dogs and great people, as well as remembering the real *losses* of when we had to say goodbye to any of those who touched our hearts, changed our lives, and helped us be the people we are.

My *win* today was having my sweet old boy wake up this morning with the light in his eye and a tail wag just for me, then eat his breakfast and keep it down—another good day, another *win*.—L.H.

Thank you, Lisa.

—Heather LoProto, SCA Public Education Chair,

hloproto@comcast.net

[Samoyed Club of America](#)

WORKING GROUP

Siberian Huskies

Our guest columnists this month are Joe Fitzgerald and Cindy Stansell. Joe is an officer of the Siberian Husky Club of America, a longtime breeder, and a musher of Siberian Huskies. Cindy is a longtime breeder, an AKC judge, and co-chair of the club's Standard Revision Committee.

THE FOUNDATION UPON WHICH A CLUB IS BUILT

We in the fancy have our own checklist before we leave for an event: Entries, check. Grooming supplies, check. Bait, check. Directions, check. Dog (!), check. But are AKC parent clubs being as diligent about reviewing key official documents and their corporate registration?

Like our Siberians, the Siberian Husky Club of America (SHCA) has been workmanlike in its attitude and steady-as-you-go in its approach to our club foundation documents. But like a musher on the back of a dogsled, vigilance can never give way to complacency if one wants to avoid disaster. The following is what we have found ourselves giving special scrutiny over the past couple of years, and what is essential for any club's basis for operations.

Breed standard. The Siberian Husky breed standard has always recognized "all" colors as permissible, which gave us great flexibility



Siberian Husky: February 1999 (Kent and Donna Dannen photo)

in maintaining the diversity of our foundation stock. While a challenge at times, given the usual cycles of exhibitor and judge preferences, it has served the breed reasonably well. However, that all changed with the advent of crossbred "designer" breedings. With the first reports of "merle" and "brindle" Siberians, the SHCA filed impure breeding complaints and posted a warning for members and

judges on the SHCA website. However, after a reported appearance of a brindle Siberian in the conformation ring, the SHCA was compelled to go further. A standard revision committee proposed a disqualification for merle and brindle, with additional guidance to avoid disqualifying permissible colors and patterns. This process was supported by extensive member webinars and seminars designed to illuminate the need for the proposed changes and to answer questions. These revisions were overwhelmingly accepted by our members, and we await final approval from the AKC Board.

Constitution and bylaws (CBL). Last revised in 1995, our CBL was increasingly out of step with the legal requirements of our state of incorporation, and it was not up to date with regard to current AKC policies, guidelines, or events. Most notably, it restricted club communications to "snail mail" or in-person means and was not providing the club the flexibility to meet new challenges that confronted it.

This modernization did not come easily, nor quickly, but the force of events compelled the board to expedite a change, and 2021 will hopefully usher in a new CBL, an interactive website, notices by email, and more online meetings and seminars, which will result in a new era of club functionality and reduced

expenses. In an age of existential threats to the dog fancy at large and to such historic breed-related performance activities such as sled dog competitions, a forward-looking CBL is essential.

Standing Rules. The SHCA has board-approved internal rules that describe our operating procedures. Over time, these rules had not been well accessed or updated. In response, the club established a committee to review all of the standing rules, to recommend the resolution of any standing rules in seeming conflict, and to clearly place the maintenance and dissemination of the policies in the care of the Recording Secretary. Standing rules are the embodiment of our club's institutional memory, and we are according them the importance they deserve.

While the CBL, standard, and standing rules can be considered the "foundation" documents for a breed club, there are several other records that are also important and legally imperative. We have seen other parent clubs lose both their *incorporation and their IRS tax status* for failure to file the appropriate returns. We have clearly designated these roles in the CBL to remind the officers of the necessity to maintain corporate registrations. The designated *registered agent* must also be periodically reviewed. If that is a club member in the state of incorporation, is that member still active,

WORKING GROUP

mentally alert, and willing to serve in this position, or is it time to hire a professional firm in the state? Such firms are generally available for a modest yearly fee.

If the club can afford it, they may consider having *an attorney on retainer*. The SHCA recently engaged an attorney in our state of incorporation who is well-versed with non-profit corporations. She was a valuable resource as we rewrote the CBL and remains a valuable resource in advising us how we may reduce liability with adjustments to such things as the membership application and appointment of committee members.

Another area that needs periodic review is *insurance*. What are the needs of the organization? General liability is a must, but what about coverage for directors and officers, fidelity bonds, event cancellation, and so on? Does the insurance exclude activities that are sponsored by the parent clubs? For example, the SHCA does not do rescue (there is a separate charitable organization for that), nor do we have activities involving firearms (which some sporting breeds may need), but it does sponsor sledding events.

While there was no emergency or catastrophe that the SHCA had to confront, it was also clear that there was a need to strengthen and modernize our “defining” documents. Every board must tend to the “important,” as

well as the “interesting” or “pressing.” While the next national specialty must come off successfully, inattention to a breed standard that is not aligned with evolving threats to the breed may be catastrophic. While budget numbers need to add up, an out-of-date CBL can hamstring the efficiency and legality of how a club operates. With increasing litigation, documents must be in place to reduce or eliminate risk.

The take-home lesson: It is important to keep your show list and check it twice—but don’t end up forgetting the dog!—Joe Fitzgerald and Cindy Stansell

Thank you, Joe and Cindy.

—Jane Steffen, Brownfield, Maine,
klonaquay@gmail.com
[Siberian Husky Club of America](#)

Standard Schnauzers SPRING HAS SPRUNG—BEWARE!

Spring is upon us, bringing longer days, balmy temperatures, flowering plants and trees, and—beware!—allergies and bugs. Our Standard Schnauzers are not safe from these nuisances. Spring winds exacerbate allergies by stirring up and transporting pollen and dust. Garden mold, chemicals in fertilizers and garden pesticides, residue from winter de-icers, and insect stings and rodent bites can

trigger allergies or illness in your dog.

Dogs get four kinds of allergies:

- Skin allergies, often caused by exposure to fleas, ticks, arachnids, plants or yard-treatment chemicals.

- Food allergies, activated by beef, dairy, wheat, egg, chicken, lamb, soy, pork, rabbit, and fish. Most dogs are usually allergic to more than one thing.

- Seasonal/environmental allergies, also known as atopy, are triggered by substances existing in your home, backyard, and wherever your dog spends time. These allergens can be inhaled, as with pollen, or absorbed through the skin when your dog touches them. Common sparks for these allergic reactions include pollens, plant or animal fibers, bugs, dust mites, and mold spores.

- Acute allergies: Dogs who have sudden allergic reactions to irritants have acute allergies. These are most commonly induced by insect bites or stings, but they may have other causes as well. Symptoms include facial swelling, vomiting, or even more severe signs of trouble, such as labored breathing, collapse, and even death with a true anaphylactic reaction. Acute allergies need immediate veterinary intervention, so watch your dog closely if insects are nearby.

My most horrifying dog-show memory occurred in the early 1970s at an outdoor

show beset with bees in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Miniature Schnauzer Ch. Miown Exotic Poppy won Best in Show. Stung by a bee as the judge presented the BIS award, Poppy collapsed from anaphylaxis and died in the ring moments later.

An allergic reaction occurs when your dogs’ immune systems respond with hypersensitivity to substances they breathe, ingest, or absorb through their skin. The following symptoms in your dog could indicate an allergic reaction:

- skin or paw itchiness;
- chronic licking of paws or skin;
- hives;
- swelling of the face, ears, lips, eyelids, or earflaps;
- red, inflamed skin;
- diarrhea;
- vomiting;
- sneezing;
- itchy, runny eyes;
- itchy ears;
- chronic ear infections.

Some of these symptoms could be signs of other conditions, so don’t diagnose and treat on your own. For accurate diagnosis and treatment, see your veterinarian.

Fleabites can cause diseases in both humans and dogs such as flea-borne spotted fever, bubonic plague, murine typhus, and cat-scratch fever. It is important to distinguish fleabites

WORKING GROUP

from the bites of other insects in order to zero in on the right remedy. “Flea-allergy dermatitis is typically the easiest allergy to diagnose. It is usually diagnosed by identifying fleas on your dog’s body and applying a product that kills fleas before they can bite, to see if that solves the issues.” <https://www.petmd.com/dog/general-health/food-allergies-vs-seasonal-allergies-dogs>

Bloodsucking ticks can transmit Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis, anaplasmosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, babesiosis, bartonellosis (AKC cat scratch disease), and hepatozoonosis to dogs and, in some cases, to humans. All are serious if left untreated. <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/akcs-chief-veterinary-officer-on-tick-borne-disease-symptoms-prevention/>

Often, the best way to treat an allergy is avoidance of the allergen. Make dietary changes to combat food allergies. Rid your property of standing water to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds. Minimize outings at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes swarm. Keep your dog out of tall grasses, weeds, and woodpiles where fleas and ticks flourish—especially important if your area hosts wildlife from whom ticks can drop or be rubbed onto trees and bushes.

Avoidance may or may not always be possible, but in terms of treatment, it depends on your dog’s kind of allergy. In addition to any necessary lifestyle changes, your veterinarian may also prescribe an allergy relief medication



Standard Schnauzer

to control your Standard Schnauzer’s allergy signs, such as itching and any secondary skin infections that might have developed as a result of the irritant.

Control your urges to add to your garden—first, check the complete list (with photos) of potentially dangerous/deadly plants at <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control>. If your dog ingests a plant on the list, call your veterinarian or the 24-hour emergency hotline at 1-888-426-4435 (fee possible). Most spring bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, crocus, and Easter lilies are toxic. All parts of oleander bushes are poisonous. (When I was in graduate school at University of Arizona in Tucson, one or more students died yearly from roasting hot dogs on oleander sticks, so don’t let your SS snuffle around those shrubs.)

—Suzanne T. Smith, Los Alamos, New Mexico, WustefuchsSS@aol.com

[Standard Schnauzer Club of America](#)

Tibetan Mastiffs

COMMUNITY: LET’S IMAGINE

Each breed is supported and perpetuated by a core group of people dedicated to preserving and protecting that breed for the future. The latest term used to describe these people, and a great one indeed, is *preservationist breeders*. Branching out from this

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

WORKING GROUP



Tibetan Mastiff

core group are the puppy owners who buy from them, and who become an extended family. Expanding the base further, we can include breed enthusiasts who simply love and admire the Tibetan Mastiff and are concerned for the future of the breed. Ideally, we should encourage and support each other while serving as a resource for others, creating a network that develops into a community, connected by a shared love of the breed.

The Tibetan Mastiff community has been fractured, at best, but rather than dwell on the past, let's consider what can be accomplished if we pull together rather than pull apart. Let's imagine.

A cooperative breed community can set standards that benefit our dogs, our breeders, our puppy buyers, and our breed in general. These include a written breed standard as a criterion for breeders; standards of care;

standards to guide breeding practices; ethical standards; and standards for good sportsmanship. We can embrace our annual national specialty, where those standards are exemplified and showcased as a means of breed education, and where fanciers can meet and build relationships that keep the community alive.

A supportive community can work together to improve the health and well being of the breed by sharing health information, identifying common problems, and working together to eliminate those problems from the breed. We can participate in and support research studies on health issues that affect the Tibetan Mastiff. For this to happen, the community as a whole needs to demand compliance with health-testing recommendations, encourage honesty, and applaud those who have the courage to come forward and speak up when a health issue has presented in the breed. Those who comply with all recommended health testing can be recognized as an incentive for others to follow suit.

A community of established and experienced owners and breeders can act as mentors to new members by sharing experiences, answering questions, and helping first-time Tibetan Mastiff owners navigate the breed, the show ring, and the whelping box. We can strive to be inclusive, so that everyone feels they have a place to turn for advice. We can offer a wel-

coming hand rather than a cold shoulder.

A cohesive community can promote the breed to the general public with an honest and realistic portrayal of breed temperament and characteristics. This will help to ensure that potential puppy buyers choose the right breed for their home and family, and are educated and prepared for owning a Tibetan Mastiff, reducing the odds that a puppy will be rehomed or abandoned.

Working together, the community can be a port in the storm, a place of refuge for owners and breeders who find themselves in a life situation where they are unable to manage or care for their dogs, and can intervene before the situation escalates to the point of spinning out of control.

For those times when intervention is necessary, a close-knit community can offer a network of foster homes, transport, and financial support to facilitate rescue efforts, avoiding our Tibetan Mastiffs being discarded at a shelter or confiscated by animal control. We should have each other's back, not be stabbing each other in the back.

These are just a few of the things that we could accomplish with a strong breed community. Let's imagine it. Let's achieve it.

—Deborah Mayer,
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 via Zoom Webinar on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 beginning at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time. It will follow the Delegates Forum which will begin at 11:00 a.m. ET.

DELEGATES CREDENTIALS

Christopher R. Abraham, Pasco, WA,
Richland Kennel Club
Dana L. Alexander, Chandler AZ,
Superstition Kennel Club
Jill Faulmann, Sherwood, OR,
Sherwood Dog Training Club
Jane Fitzin, Powhatan, VA,
Winston-Salem Dog Training Club
Eduardo Toshio Fugiwara, Hampton, NJ,
Two Cities Kennel Club
Vanessa Giamo, Newton, NJ,
Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America
Laurie Green, Toledo, OH,
Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club
Corie Haylett, Boone, NC,
Asheville Kennel Club
Edwin T. Lorentz, Slippery Rock, PA,
Central Beagle Club
Kathy A. Rust, Walcott, ND,
Vizsla Club of America
Mark S. Stempel, Bohemia, NY,
American Shih Tzu Club
Lynne Wickens, Andover, OH,
Ashtabula Kennel Club

NOTICE

Mr. Robert Gipson (Sikeston, MO). Action was taken by the Southeastern Missouri Beagle Club for conduct at its December 6, 2020 event. Mr. Gipson was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language directed personally towards a judge. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a six-month suspension of event privileges and a \$500 fine, effective December 30, 2020. (Beagles)

NOTICE

Ms. Megan Smith (Yuma, AZ). Action was taken by the Yuma Kennel Club for conduct at its November 27, 2020 event. Ms. Smith was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a one-month event suspension and a \$500 fine, effective March 1, 2021. (Cocker Spaniels)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Christy Cunningham (Monroe, VA) from all AKC privileges for five years and imposed a \$1,000 fine for refusing to make her dogs and records available for inspection when requested. (Multiple Breeds)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. ARTICLE VII, SECTION 2

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **ARTICLE VII, Section 2**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.* proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee. This will be voted on at the June 8, 2021 Delegates Meeting.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION 2. The names of all candidates for election as directors shall be published in alphabetical order on the Secretary's Page of the March AKC GAZETTE of the year in which they come before the annual meeting to be voted upon.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS CHAPTER 16, SECTION 6 – CHAMPIONSHIPS

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 16, Section 6**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. This will be voted on at the June 8, 2021 Delegates Meeting.

CHAPTER 16

SECTION 6.

(Previous portions of the sections are unchanged.)
At independently held specialty shows ~~and concurrent specialty shows~~ for breeds divided into recognized varieties, if a dog

designated Best of Variety is also awarded Best of Breed in inter-variety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of any variety entered at that specialty show. If a dog designated Best of Variety or Best of Opposite Sex in its variety is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in inter-variety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of its sex in any variety entered at that specialty show. Such points shall not be in addition to, but inclusive of, any Grand Championship points previously awarded the dog in its variety competition.

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.

APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified *but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.*

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANT

Mrs. Carolyn Keiper Horowitz (109109)
TN
(863) 393-5579
carolyn@rustic-lane.com
Manchester Terriers

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Larry C. Abbott (20217) TX
(972) 562-1200
theabbotts@abbottusa.com
Balance of Herding Group (Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Bergamasco Sheep-

dogs, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Pyrenean Shepherds)

Miss Vicki E. Allenbrand (91374) KS
(678) 429-4609

blackjackdogs@earthlink.net
Beaucerons, Belgian Malinois, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds, Shetland Sheepdogs, Swedish Vallhunds

Mrs. Anne M. Beckwith (100057) OH
(614) 570-9779

halcarsft@columbus.rr.com
American Hairless Terriers, Bull Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Mrs. Shilon L. Bedford (15789) MN
(320) 485-4825

shilon@tds.net
Japanese Chin, Maltese, Shih Tzus, Toy Fox Terriers

Mr. Dean Burwell (103997) SC
(803) 831-8375

dean@pawgate.com
Airedale Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers

Mr. J. Calvin Dykes (100595) OR
(541) 562-1447

tresbeaufrenchbulldogs@eoni.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Coton

de Tulear, Lhasa Apsos, Shiba Inu)
Mrs. Sharon L. Dykes (100581) OR
(541) 562-1447

tresbeaufrenchbulldogs@eoni.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group
(Finnish Spitz, Lowchen)

Mrs. Nancy J. Eilks (23143) WI
(920) 648-3192

eilks@gdinet.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Cane Corsos, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Saint Bernards, Siberian Huskies

Mr. Larry E. Hansen Jr. (19512) AZ
(623) 975-0595

ironwoodnewf@cox.net
Akitas, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Dogo Argentinos, German Pinschers, Samoyeds

Ms. Dawn Hitchcock (100299) SC
(864) 238-2742

bubblezsc@hotmail.com
Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Italian Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers, Pugs, Yorkshire Terriers

Dr. Vandra L. Huber (6857) WA
(425) 881-5809

vlhuber.88@gmail.com
Belgian Laekenois, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Finnish Lapphunds,

Miniature American Shepherds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pyrenean Shepherds, Swedish Vallhunds

Ms. Karen Hynek (35536) MO

(636) 219-6991

jokareGS@aol.com

American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, English Foxhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Sloughis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Shiba Inu

Dr. Adam Stafford King (49694) IL

(812) 568-6972

askingdvm@gmail.com

Curly-Coated Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen

Mrs. Anna Lorenz (19278) WI

(920) 286-1499

annanewf@gmail.com

Vizslas, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, German Pinschers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Berger Picards

Mr. Ronald Lukins (56312) WA

(805) 914-9269

ron.lukins@verizon.net

Balance of Hound Group (American Foxhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Plott Hounds)

Mr. Brian Meyer (15140) IL

(815) 332-4848

bckennel@aol.com

Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

Mrs. Cindy Meyer (15141) IL

(815) 332-4848

bckennel@aol.com

American English Coonhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Ms. Bonnie Money (105681) IN

(317) 452-2204

blmoney@att.net

Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Belgian Sheepdogs, Briards, German Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mrs. Paula Nykiel (5487) MO

(636) 239-5577

nykiel@usmo.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds)

Mr. David J. Peat (6909) AZ

(480) 473-4776

davepeat@cox.net

Balance of Working Group (Boerboels, Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Mrs. Pamela Peat (5894) AZ

(480) 473-4776

pampeat@cox.net

Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Ms. Dierdre Petrie (63937) PA

(610) 763-8976

deirdrepetrie@yahoo.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Harriers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Sloughis), Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Havanese, Papillons

Ms. Lily Russell (74429) IA

(319) 795-3305

marialrussell53@gmail.com

Balance of Herding Group (Belgian Laekenois, Old English Sheepdogs), Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians

Mrs. Barbara Shaw (6554) TX

(903) 870-6425

bshaw322@gmail.com

Curly-Coated Retrievers, Boykin Spaniels, Field Spaniels, German Pinschers, Great Danes, Mastiffs

Mr. Ed Valle (93014) FL

(407) 766-2604

edrey524@gmail.com

Biewer Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, Maltese, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mrs. Jennifer Bell (109179) LA

(225) 933-6132

mystang50@yahoo.com

Ms. Cindy Hartwell (104985) FL

(207) 751-0047

cindy@mybeauce.com

Ms. Mallori Seifert (109181) CA

jackpotfarms2@gmail.com

Mrs. Lynn Smithson (109147) CA

(530) 282-4444

catsnhound@yahoo.com

PERMIT JUDGES

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

NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Mrs. Susan Ann Kerwin Bush (5119) AZ

(262) 337-0889

susanannbush@gmail.com

English Setters

Mrs. Chris Ann Moore (108927) AR

(479) 221-0555

bisacd@aol.com

Akitas, Bullmastiffs, Rottweilers, Chinese Cresteds, Papillons, Chinese Shar-Pei, Shiba Inu, Australian Cattle Dogs, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, JS

Mrs. Gina Wieser (90371) MO

(813) 318-1290
ginawieser@aol.com
Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanaese, Italian Greyhounds, Japanese Chin, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Poodles, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Mr. Rick Blanchard (90228) RI

(401) 623-1475
nixbmf@aol.com
Boerboels, Giant Schnauzers, Komondorok
**Permit status approval for Balance of Working Group (Dogo Argentinos, Kuvaszok, Tibetan Mastiffs) pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

Ms. Carol S. Brown (31144) NC

(717) 507-3230
carolb7521@gmail.com
Tibetan Spaniels, Border Collies, Collies
**Permit status approval for Berger Picards, Shetland Sheepdogs pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

Mrs. Robin Casey (92447) WY

(307) 514-1519
sgborzoi@aol.com
Azawakhs, Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Dachshunds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Dr. Joyce Dandridge (62237) DC

(202) 726-9155
justuschows@verizon.net
Dogo Argentinos, Standard Schnauzers, Pekingese, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Pumik

Ms. Marcie Dobkin (6442) CA

(858) 748-8848
msdobkin@cox.net
Airedale Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Irish Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Russell Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

Mrs. Janet Fink (6374) CA

(909) 307-9778
janetfink@verizon.net
Ibizan Hounds, German Pinschers, Biewer Terriers
**Permit status approval for Pekingese pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

Mr. Ronald Hoh (97979) CA

(916) 481-7108
arbtr8r@msn.com
Balance of Terrier Group (Cesky Terri-

ers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers), Bloodhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos

Ms. Diane Kepley (90370) SC

(301) 305-9986
westhavencockers@comcast.net
Doberman Pinschers, Airedale Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Mr. Thomas J. Latta (91010) MO

(816) 655-2142
tjlatta48@gmail.com
Dogues de Bordeaux, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

Miss Joan Luna Liebes (6515) CO

(719) 749-0232
joanluna@hotmail.com/eric.iebes@earthlink.net
Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Irish Water Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Mr. John S. Lucas (7444) TX

(512) 422-2625
john.lucas@zambar.net
Balance of Working Group (Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Leonbergers), German Short-haired Pointers

Ms. Robin MacFarlane (95827) FL

(772) 801-5293

armor16@aol.com
Great Pyrenees

Mrs. Christie Martinez (22596) WA

(503) 477-0801
xtiepl@gmail.com
Balance of Hound Group (American Foxhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos)

Mr. John Mayhall (101705) AZ

(929) 970-0969
mtn dogsrule@live.com
Ibizan Hounds, Whippets, Doberman Pinschers, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mr. James Mitchell 5140 Wilmington, DE 19802

(302) 521-8039
jjmjudge@gmail.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Coton de Tulear, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehund, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli)

Mr. Malcolm E. Moore (23275) AL

(334) 312-3900
arpsnit1@gmail.com
Beagles, Dachshunds, Whippets

Mrs. Betsey Orman (99925) WI

(847) 778-7661
bramblie@aol.com

Icelandic Sheepdogs
Mr. Richard Powell (17447) PA
(717) 496-5033
pnymdws@aol.com
Doberman Pinschers, Rottweilers

Ms. Ann Roth (63187) NC
(910) 791-3950
harnetthounds@juno.com
Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Newfoundlands, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

Ms. Rhonda Silveira (100061) OR
(503) 428-2021
rselveira.akcjudge@outlook.com
Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Belgian Laekinois, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Cindy Stansell (44666) NC
(919) 359-1150
rocyn@embarqmail.com
Black and Tan Coonhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Belgian Laekinois, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Bouviers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Pumik, Pyrenean Shepherds

Ms. Jan A. Sutherland (97231) CA
(213) 819-6218
moonrysn@hotmail.com

American Water Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels
Ms. Debra Thornton (18837) GA
(434) 262-6267
cypressbaydlt@gmail.com
Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Poodles, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Mr. John P. Wade (5936) NV
(916) 508-7979
jpwade508@gmail.com
Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Mr. Adrian Woodfork (6877) CA
(916) 716-2369
addoxdobes@sbcglobal.net
German Shorthaired Pointers, Labrador Retrievers, Vizslas, Norwegian Elkhounds

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES
Mr. Diego Garcia (108799) NC
(215) 499-5215
diegoevagarcia@gmail.com

Miss Kasey O'Brien (108935) FL
bullmastiffs08@yahoo.com

Ms. Grace Ann Szcurek (108487) IL
(630) 940-3137

graceszczurek@gmail.com

REINSTATED JUDGE
The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.
Mr. Robert B. Lawson (6456) FL
(239) 331-1100
rblawson45@yahoo.com
All Non-Sporting breeds, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Best in Show

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGES
Ms. Kathleen M. Davenport
Diana Van Sandt

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGE
Mrs. Connie Gerstner Miller

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES
Mrs. William (Dee) Hickerson
Mr. William L. Hickerson
Mrs. Judy English Murray
Mrs. Blackie H. Nygood
Col. Jerry H. Weiss

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:
ARROW STONE-Australian Shepherds-Jesslyn E. Mundy
ATLASSHEPHERDS- German Shepherd Dogs-Agatha Dudas
DESTA-Doberman Pinschers- Dayna C. Hewitt
DESTINY-Bichon Frise-Debbie L. Hollan
DYTTAR-Miniature Bull Terriers- Suzanne M. Rofols
FRAJAEC- American Staffordshire Terriers- Kimberly Rudzik
GOLDGROVE-Doberman Pinschers- Sharon S. Pflueger and Tamra L. Rabolo
HIGH ALTITUDE-Collies- Lauren R. Maggart
HIGHPOINTER-German Shorthaired Pointers- Wyatt W. Jenkins
HUDSONVIEW-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Laura Y. Glynn
INKA EMPIRE-Cane Corsos- Edgar Alex Portocarrero
KYMERITE-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels-Rebecca D. Markijohn and Michael G. Beasley, SR.
MIDEE- Chinese Shar Pei- Charles M. Williamson and Debra J. Williamson
PEARLZ-Poodles- Deirdre Junta
SECRETWINN-Labrador Retrievers-Debra Winn

SILVER LININGS- Australian Shepherds-
Heather Swik and Jennifer Swik

SOLACE'S-Australian Shepherds-Karine
Sanders

TMH-Labrador Retrievers-Tiffany J. Hairston

VON HAUSTIER-Rottweilers-Daniel Cullinan

WEST INDY-Weimaraners-Mary B. West

WHITECAP-Border Collies-Jessica R. Witchey
and Tim M. Egenrieder

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

AMBER WAVES- Great Pyrenees-Debbie A.
Hosley

BINGO'S- Pembroke Welsh Corgis-Sherry D
Hardman

BRIAR ROSE- Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers-
Carolyn Garrett

CASTLERIGG- Pekingese- Susan Speranza

CRESTVIEW-Dachshunds-Sarah I. Holland

FOWLPLAY- Labrador Retrievers- Nathan A.
Atkinson

INTUITION FARM-Great Pyrenees-Kathryn
E. Meier

ISLAND BOUND-Old English Sheepdogs-
Marcia A. Stedman

KENMARE- Cardigan Welsh Corgis-Lark A.
Schwartz & Fred H. Harnishfeger

LAST FRONTIER-Chesapeake Bay Retrievers-
Marynell E. Lee & Daniel M. Lee

MAPLEWOOD ACRES- Labrador Retrievers -
Nancy H. Schaetzke

MEDLIN HILLS-Cavalier King Charles

Spaniels-Lisa Payne

PREMIERE- Golden Retrievers- Christine C.
Texter & Lauren M. Texter

PRUDEN'S- Pomeranians- Darlene Pruden

ROYAL GIANTS- Giant Schnauzers- Melanie
McDowell & Jeral Davis

SHADY OAKS- Cavalier King Charles
Spaniels-Marion Schuessler & Stephen D.
Schuessler

SUNDERHUND- Dachshunds – Jennifer M.
Sunderman

TIMBERLAND FARM-Labrador Retrievers-
Sharon G. Smith

VERDE MONT-Labrador Retrievers- Gayle S.
Erdman

VOM BESCHUTZER-German Shepherd
Dogs-Lori B. Morton & Dawnetta Calhoun



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB MARCH 9, 2021

Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 405

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 Malinois Club—*Carol J.
Shields*

American Belgian Tervuren Club, Inc.—
Ms. Janina K. Laurin

American Black & Tan Coonhound Club,
Inc.—*Robert Urban*

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, Inc.—*Heidi
Henningson*

American Fox Terrier Club—*Connie Clark*
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold
Miller*

American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—*Don
Hanson*

American Maltese Association, Inc.—*Ms.
Sandra Bingham-Porter*

American Manchester Terrier Club—
Roberta Berman

American 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 Sealyham Terrier Club—*Kenneth
W. Mader*

American Shetland Sheepdog Associa-
tion—*Marjorie Tuff*

American Sloughi Association—*Erika N.
Wyatt*

American Spaniel Club, Inc.—*Bruce Van Deman*
 American Tibetan Mastiff Association—*Martha Feltenstein*
 American Whippet Club, Inc.—*Karen B. Lee*
 American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association—*Kate DeSanto*
 Anderson Kennel Club—*Laura A. Rockwell*
 Anderson Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
 Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc.—*Anne R. Palmer*
 Arkansas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Pamela J. Arwood*
 Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*
 Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A. LaBerge*
 Augusta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Catherine Iacopelli*
 Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—*Joyce Rowland*
 Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*William I. Christensen*
 Back Mountain Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Nina Schaefer*
 Badger Kennel Club—*Jennifer L. Amundsen*
 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*
 Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—*Mary G. Buckwalter*
 Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carole A. Wilson*
 Berger Picard Club of America—*Jacqueline Carswell*
 Berks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Eileen Narieka*
 Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Sara Karl*
 Bexar County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jerry Yarbrough*
 Bichon Frise Club of America, Inc.—*Mayno Blanding*
 Black Russian Terrier Club of America—*Susan Sholar*
 Blennerhassett Kennel Club, Inc.—*John McCullagh*
 Border Collie Society of America—*Lisa M. Pruka*
 Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Ruth A. Naun*
 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*
 Brookhaven Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marie A. Fiore*
 Bryn Mawr Kennel Club—*Victoria Glickstein*
 Bucks County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Priscilla Gabosch*
 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*
 Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club—*Mr. Wayne F. Harmon*
 Canaan Dog Club of America—*Pamela S. Rosman*
 Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*
 Cape Cod Kennel Club, Inc.—*David Harsch*
 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 Indiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sally Allen*
 Central Iowa Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kristina M. DeLisi*
 Central New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diane D. Almy*
 Charleston Kennel Club—*Terri Hallman*
 Chicago Collie Club—*Bryna Comsky*
 Chihuahua Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. Joao Machado*
 Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
 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*
 Colorado Kennel Club—*Mrs. Louise Leone*
 Colorado Springs Kennel Club—*Douglas Johnson*
 Columbia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Crystal Messersmith*

Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland—*Leslie A. Joseph*
 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 Monte Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carey Fayram*
 Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc.—*Andrew G. Mills*
 Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore—*Sandra Olsen*
 Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club—*Stephanie A. Crawford*
 Delaware County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Brenda A. Algar*
 Doberman Pinscher Club of America—*Glen Lajeski*
 Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*

Durango Kennel Club—*Donald E. Schwartz, V.M.D*
 Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Mr. Jack E. Sappenfield, II*
 Eastern Dog Club—*Mr. Theodore C. Hollander, Jr.*
 Elm City Kennel Club—*Dr. Gregory J. Paveza*
 Elmira Kennel Club, Inc.—*Homer R. Hastings, III*
 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*
 Finger Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Margaret B. Pough*
 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—*Eduardo T. Fugiwara*
 Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Harold Tatro III*
 Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gale Golden*

Furniture City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Merry J. Millner*
 Garden State All Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Richard L. Reynolds*
 Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cynthia (Cindy) Collins*
 Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia Denninger*
 German Pinscher Club of America—*Barbara L. Visinski*
 German Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia*
 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*
 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 Miami Dog Club—*Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez*
 Greater Philadelphia Dog Fanciers Association—*Mr. Jerry A. Berkowitz*
 Greater Sierra Vista Kennel Club—*Ms. Charlotte I. Borghardt*
 Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America – *Catherine Cooper*
 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 America Kennel Club, Inc.—*Julie Lux*
 Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—*Patricia M. Cruz*
 Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*
 Holyoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane Wilkinson*
 Hoosier Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karl H. Kreck*
 Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Pincus*
 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*
 Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America—*Patricia Putman*
 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 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*
 Jacksonville Dog Fanciers' Association—*Victoria A. Marks*
 Japanese Chin Club of America—*Cecilia Resnick*
 Jefferson County Kennel Club of Missouri—*Greg Smith*
 K-9 Obedience Training Club of Essex County, NJ, Inc.—*Dave Morgan*
 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*
 Kettle Moraine Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jacquelyn Fogel*
 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 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*
 Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.—*Debra Duncan*

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.—*Sue Goldberg*
 Lexington Kennel Club Inc—*Jan Wolf*
 Long Island Kennel Club—*Mr. William B. Tabler, Jr.*
 Longshore-Southport Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michaelann Mako*
 Louisiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Luis F. Sosa*
 Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Debra H. Owen*
 Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ruth Crumb*
 Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynn Garvin*
 Maryland Kennel Club—*Gary Sarvinas*
 Mastiff Club of America, Inc.—*Rebecca Campbell*
 Mensona Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. John S. Fitzpatrick, D.V.M.*
 Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jeanette Nieder*
 Mid-Del-Tinker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Billy J. Price*
 Middleburg Kennel Club—*Mrs. Susan Werner*
 Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—*Joanne Wilds*
 Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ralph Hogancamp*

Mississippi State Kennel Club—*Roxanne Hilsman*
 Mississippi Valley Kennel Club—*Gretchen Bernardi*
 Mohawk Valley Kennel Club—*Ms. Amy Romeo*
 Montgomery County Kennel Club—*Ms. Ida E. Weinstock*
 Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry A. Hoovis*
 Mountaineer Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mary Yoders*
 Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane F. Rutherford*
 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*
 Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.—*David Helming*

Newnan Kennel Club—*Luanne K. Dunham*
 Newton Kennel Club—*Catherine H. Murch*
 Nisqually Kennel Club—*R. H. Hachtel*
 Norfolk Terrier Club—*Susan Schneider*
 North Shore Dog Training Club, Inc.—
Mary Anne Fowler
 North Shore Kennel Club—*Richard F. Co-*
letti
 Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club—
Joyce Engle
 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
 Obedience Training Club of Hawaii,
 Inc.—*Beverly H. Conroy*
 Old English Sheepdog Club of America,
 Inc.—*Sheila Kenyon*
 Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Fe-*
lice Jarrold
 Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Betty M.*
Winthers
 Onondaga Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy*
F. Murray
 Orlando Dog Training Club—*Mary L.*
Jensen, Ph.D.
 Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gre-*
gory, D.V.M.
 Ozarks Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cathy Hawkins*
 Pacific Coast Pekingese Club—*Frank Meis-*
ter

Papillon Club of America, Inc.—*Miss Ar-*
lene A. Czech
 Park Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Susan*
Olsen
 Parson Russell Terrier Association of
 America—*Gary Koepfel*
 Pasco Florida Kennel Club—*Patricia Lom-*
bardi
 Pekingese Club of America—*Steven Hamblin*
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America,
 Inc.—*Mrs. Anne H. Bowes*
 Penn Ridge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dennis J.*
Gallant
 Penn Treaty Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bettina M.*
Sterling
 Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of
 America—*Helen Ingher*
 Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Do-*
minic 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.—*San-*
dra Krieger
 Poodle Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Donald*
Sturz, Jr.
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club,
 Inc.—*Kathy Gregory*

Portland Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Joan Sav-*
age
 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America,
 Inc.—*Robin Burmeister*
 Progressive Dog Club—*Josephine De Menna*
 Providence County Kennel Club, Inc.—
Richard E. Grant
 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*
 Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Debra*
Ferguson
 Riverhead Kennel Club, Inc.—*Michael*
Capozzi
 Roanoke Kennel Club, Inc.—*William L.*
Totten III
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—
Barbara L. Burns

Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*
 Sahuaro State Kennel Club—*Rita L.*
Mather
 Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—*Karen*
Cottingham
 Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club—
Bob Busby
 Saluki Club of America—*Monica H. Stoner*
 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*
 Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—
Sharyn Y. Hutchens

Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan L. Hamil*

Shoreline Retriever Club—*Michael Moscowwitz*

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*

Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gloria Shaver*

Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Harvey Goldberg*

South County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bob Calltharp*

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 Colorado Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carey Moreschini*

Southern Oregon Kennel Club—*Warren Cook*

Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay—*Glenda Stephenson*

Spinone Club of America—*Karen Luckey*
Springfield Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Thomas M. Davies*

St. Bernard Club of America, Inc.—*Susan Weigel*

St. Croix Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Deborah J. Wilkins*

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*

Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sonja J. Ostrom*

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*

Toy Dog Breeders Association of Southern California—*Marla Capozzi*

Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*

Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Gunzel*

Troy Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Donald S. Gillett*

Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*

Twin Brooks Kennel Club, Inc.—*Patricia C. Sarles*

Union County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kathy Sanders*

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*

Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club—*Robert Lachman*

Utah Valley Kennel Club—*Kelly D. Reim-schiissel*

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*

Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Elise Wright*

Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Anne Testoni*

Walla Walla Kennel Club—*Rod Strand*

Wallkill Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rose M. Robischon*

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*

West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Tracy J. Pancost*

West Volusia Kennel Club—*Cathy Driggers*

Westbury Kennel Association, Inc.—*Geraldine Jaitin*

Westchester Kennel Club—*Pamela G. Beale*

Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association, Inc.—*Judy McMaster Descutner*

Western Reserve Kennel Club, Inc.—*Janeane Cappara*

Westminster Kennel Club—*Mr. David W. Haddock*

Wilmington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Bonnie Bieber*

Windham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Fredrick R. Vogel*

Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*

Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Karen Dewey*

Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Claudia M. Grunstra-Pierro*



**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
DELEGATE ZOOM MEETING
MARCH 9, 2021**

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET).

(National Anthem played.)

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. Balloting for the Class of 2025 will be conducted live during this meeting. 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 tech-

nical issues during the meeting, please call the Zoom Tech Support line at 919-816-3320.

Mr. Sprung introduced the Chairman, Dr. Thomas M. Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Executive Secretary, Gina DiNardo; Professional Registered Parliamentarian, Joan Corbisiero and Estamarie Castelli-Velez, the Court Reporter.

Mr. Sprung offered condolences on the recent passing of Julian Prager on January 24, 2021, the Delegate for the Central Florida Kennel Club since January 2011.

The Chair announced it was the annual election of Directors and voting would be conducted live during the meeting by electronic ballot.

The Executive Secretary read the report of the Nominating Committee and the report on additional nominations.

Ms. DiNardo: Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the Nominating Committee:

Ms. Nancy Fisk,
Chair, Hockamock Kennel Club

Ms. Viola Burgos,
Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club

Mr. Eduardo Toshio Fugiwara,
Fort Lauderdale Dog Club

Mr. Doug Johnson,
Colorado Springs Kennel Club

Mr. Harold Miller, American Foxhound
Club

Alternates:
Ms. Marge B. Calltharp,
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America

Ms. Melanie Steele,
Abilene Kennel Club

were appointed by the Board of Directors at its July 2020 meeting, has nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board as are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club today - March 9, 2021. There are four vacancies for the Class of 2025.

Rita J. Biddle, Esq.,
Ingham County Kennel Club

Dominic Palleschi Carota,
Pharaoh Hound Club of America

Dr. Thomas M. Davies,
Springfield Kennel Club

Thomas Powers,
Kennel Club of Beverly Hills

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as a candidate for the vacancies on the Board of Directors for the Class of 2025, to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 9, 2021:

Patricia M. Cruz,
Heart of the Plains Kennel Club

Dr. Gregory J. Paveza,
Elm City Kennel Club

Mr. Sprung: The Bylaws provide that no nominations may be made from the floor. Nominations, therefore, closed on November 15, 2020. Delegates are reminded that this election is held in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order which requires a

majority vote to elect. There are four vacancies for the Class of 2025, each to be filled today. Balloting will be conducted live on Zoom during this Delegates meeting. The ballot will be displayed on the screen. You will have five minutes to vote. Then, I will declare the polls closed. Vote for no more than four candidates. You may vote for four, three, two, or one of the candidates. Click submit to cast your ballot. When you click submit, the ballot will disappear from your screen. If you still see the ballot, please click submit again. A ballot with more than four votes is invalid but does count towards the majority.

The Board of Directors election will be verified, tabulated, and audited as is our standard practice by the accounting firm KPMG. If more than four candidates receive a majority vote, the four receiving the highest majority are elected. If less than four candidates receive a majority vote, those candidates receiving the majority vote are elected and the other candidates will remain on the ballot for the necessary repeat ballots.

After the results of each ballot are reported, the chair will give ample time and opportunity for any candidate who wishes to withdraw to do so by raising their hand electronically and will be called upon. Ad-

ditional ballots, if necessary, will be cast live on Zoom during the meeting. Voting is now open.

(Voting conducted by ballot.)

The Chair declared that voting has closed. The results of the Board of Directors election will be announced during this meeting when ready by KPMG. We will now continue with the meeting.

The Chair calls 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 December 2020:

Bonnie Bieber, Middletown, DE, to represent Wilmington Kennel Club

Mayno Blanding, Ridgefield, WA, to represent Bichon Frise Club of America

Timothy Carrion, DDS, Owings Mills, MD, to represent Swamp Dog Club

Mary Lou Cuddy, Granville, NY, to represent Saratoga New York Kennel Club

Diana Komarek, Topeka, KS, to represent Topeka Kennel Club

Thea F. Lahti, New London, NH, to represent Irish Terrier Club of America

Daniele Ledoux-Starzyk, Henderson, NV, to represent Silver State Kennel Club

Carey L. Moreschini, Pueblo West, CO, to represent Southern Colorado Kennel Club

Cecilia Resnick, Leander, TX, to represent Japanese Chin Club of America

Richard L. Reynolds, Tenaflly, NJ, to represent Garden State All Terrier Club

Susan Schneider, Blairstown, NJ, to represent Norfolk Terrier Club

The following new Delegate introductions were given by the Executive Secretary:

Bonnie Bieber, Middletown, Delaware, representing Wilmington Kennel Club

Bonnie has been involved in purebred dogs since 1976 when her family purchased what would become her first Juniors dog, an Airedale Terrier. In 1978, her family purchased their first Bearded Collie, a breed she showed and bred until 2009. In 2002 Bonnie purchased her first Tibetan Spaniel, which she currently breeds and shows. She has also been involved in breeding and showing Alpacas since 2018. Bonnie has been a member of Wilmington Kennel Club since 1988 and has served in multiple board positions including past Secretary and past President. She is looking forward to her new Delegate role and hopes to expand her knowledge and understanding of AKC in a way that supports the growth and development of her club.

Mayno Blanding, Ridgefield, Washington, representing Bichon Frise Club of America

Mayno has owned purebred dogs all her life, participating in Obedience with her Sheltie as a teenager through his CDX. Her first Bichon finished her championship quickly going BOB over specials and ranking nationally. Subsequently that bitch earned her CDX and RAE2 titles, ranking first in her breed in both. As a member of the Bichon Frise Club of America, Mayno currently serves on the Health Committee, edits the Bulletin, and writes the breed column for the Gazette. Mayno is Secretary of the Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon and is Chief Ring Steward for the Rose City Classic shows. She enjoys stewarding and has led several ring steward seminars in the Pacific Northwest. She is looking forward to being the Delegate for the BFCA.

Tim Carrion, Owings Mills, Maryland, representing Swamp Dog Club

Tim Carrion rejoins us as Delegate having previously served in the position for the American Chesapeake Club. He has been active in AKC retriever field trials for over 50 years as a handler, judge and committee member.

Mary Lou Cuddy, Granville, New York, representing Saratoga New York Kennel Club

Mary Lou became involved with the Newfoundland breed in 1982 – first in Obedience, then soon venturing into conformation and breeding. She breeds one to two litters a year under the Bearsclap prefix striving to produce Newfoundlands who can do it all. She is an Honorary member of the Newfoundland Club of America and has served for 20 years on its Board of Directors as Recording Secretary and now 1st Vice President. She joined the Saratoga New York Kennel Club in the early 1990's and has served on its Board of Directors as President and then Secretary. She is the show chair for Saratoga's show in Bainbridge, New York. She enjoys mentoring juniors, teaching obedience and conformation classes and was a 35-year 4-H volunteer.

Diana Komarek, Topeka, Kansas, representing Topeka Kennel Club

Diana has been involved with AKC conformation activities for just over 36 years. She has held memberships in the Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Hickory Kennel Club, Murfreesboro Kennel Club, Nashville Kennel Club, Jackson Tennessee Dog Fanciers Association and currently in Topeka Kennel Club and United States

Australian Shepherd Association. Diana bred and showed Alaskan Malamutes in Conformation for just over 23 years. She has served as an officer in several of the All-Breed Clubs, Match Chairperson, Match Judge and Show Chairperson. She spent several years as the Newsletter Editor for the AMCA (Alaskan Malamute Club of America). Also served as Chairman of various show committees including Specialty Show Chairman and Sweepstakes Judge. Professionally, Diana holds a BS in Management & Finance and a master's degree in Accounting. Living in the Southeast, she was employed in the automotive industry in the positions of Comptroller and Regional Finance Director. Relocating to Topeka, Kansas, she was employed by the State of Kansas in the position of Finance Director for a state agency and later as CFO of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System. She retired from the State of Kansas at the end of 2018.

Cecilia Resnick, Leander, Texas, representing Japanese Chin Club of America

Cecilia first became involved with Italian Greyhounds. She is a member of The Italian Greyhound Club of America (IGCA) and served on the Board of Directors. She was the IGCA Judges Education Coordinator for eight years. Cecilia is a member of the Italian Greyhound Club of Greater

Houston and serves as Vice President. Cecilia is presently an AKC judge for the Italian Greyhound breed. Cecilia is enamored with Japanese Chin and is captivated by their lively gate and endearing personalities. Cecilia has been involved in the Chin fancy and is a dedicated conformation showman and Chin breeder. She was also the AKC Breed Columnist for JCCA. Cecilia is an Approved Breed Mentor and a Breeder of Merit for the Japanese Chin Club of America.

Richard Reynolds, Tenafly, New Jersey, representing Garden State All Terrier Club

Richard brings more than 55 years of experience in purebred dogs as an exhibitor and breeder, licensed professional handler, a Master of Foxhounds, a conformation judge approved for Hounds and Terriers since 1981, a judge of AKC Earthdog tests and has been both President and Show Chair for both Palisades and Saw Mill River Kennel Clubs. Richard's current pastime is as leader of the Ryder's Alley Trencherfed Society (R.A.T.S.) hunting rats on the streets of New York City with his pack of Terriers and Dachshunds. He is looking forward to joining his many friends in service to the AKC and our canine colleagues.

Susan Schneider, Blairstown, New Jersey, representing Norfolk Terrier Club

Susan Schneider has 40 years of business experience in both the Pharmaceutical and Chemical Industries with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business with a minor in Computer Science. Susan is a current member in good standing with both the Norfolk Terrier Club (8 years) and Scottish Terrier Club of America (35 years). She feels it is important to be part of the National Clubs so that we can learn from our fellow breeders and ultimately improve our breeding programs. Susan started her endeavor into the dog showing and breeding world in 1985 and has 36 years experience of breeding and showing owner-handled dogs for both Scottish Terriers and Norfolk Terriers in conformation, obedience and agility in the United States, Canada and Bermuda.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you and a sincere welcome to our new Delegates.

The minutes of the December 2, 2020 Delegates Meeting were published in the January 2021 issue of the online AKC Gazette and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on our website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

There were five clubs brought forward for AKC Membership.

- American Boerboel Club was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.
- American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.
- Carroll Kennel Club was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.
- Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.
- Morris Hills Dog Training Club was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Davies presented the Chairman's Report as follows:

Greetings everybody. A year ago, almost to the day, the American Kennel Club and our constituents had to face the grim reality of a lockdown due to an unprecedented pandemic. Incredibly, we are still grappling with this global disaster. COVID-19 has taken an unbearable toll on our Events, Clubs, Exhibitors, Handlers and Judges. But, there's light at the end of the tunnel.

I say that not only because of the vaccine rollout – measured as it may be – but be-

cause during this year-long period of trouble, fear and loss, AKC and our clubs have achieved some incredible things together. As the song goes, "You can't make it to better days unless you make it through the night". The work Staff did in 2020 was what we did to "make it through the night."

We built new programs, expanded our offerings and even seized opportunities that have proven themselves worthy of continuing, even when we return to the life we once knew.

So many of our constituents have struggled in the past year, home-bound and at a loss for ways to engage with their dogs. So, our organization has leveraged technology in dozens of ways to return a sense of purpose to our dog owners' lives. Virtual Trick Dog, AKC Rally® Virtual Novice and Intermediate classes, ACT Virtual Program and the Virtual Water Test for Pointing Breeds offer new ways to earn titles in our sports. We launched a new Virtual Home Manners Program for our AKC Family Dog suite of titles. A great many people have reached out to tell us how these programs have helped them regain a sense of joy and achievement during these dark times. We also expanded online learning to ensure that we could avail ourselves of continuing education when shows were cancelled. AKC Canine College now has

over 600 courses and exams to offer and has served more than 35,000 learners. Course enrollments continue to grow. We produced and delivered more than 125 webinars to more than 34,000 people, the majority of whom were Judges pursuing education supplied by our Parent Clubs and Staff. The value of online education has been proven during the pandemic and is something we certainly plan to expand. The Board approved more than 40 modifications to regulations or policies in order to assist clubs and judges at a time when flexibility has been so needed. We developed best practices for all sports to help our clubs hold events safely under the many existing restrictions. Your achievements have been absolutely inspiring. We built new levels of expertise in Safety Planning, culminating in the successful execution of the AKC National Championship in Orlando. We couldn't have done it without the support of our fancy, who gave their all to participate, follow protocols and adapt to new expectations. With the rest of the sports and the entertainment world stalled and constrained, AKC filled the void with the AKC National Championship, gracing television screens on the ABC network. Our show reached 7 million people over 3 hours and will be aired in various formats and channels 18 times through the end of this month.

The impact of the pandemic on the sports and entertainment industries has been devastating but has opened a door for AKC. Now ESPN networks will broadcast dog sports like Agility, FastCAT®, Dock Diving and Flyball over the next three years. What an exciting opportunity for AKC to introduce our companion, performance and title-recognition sports to people around the country.

Our public messaging has gained even more importance over the past year because of the growth in pure-bred dog ownership that the pandemic has triggered. Visitors to our AKC website, were up more than 50 percent last year. Litter registrations and dog registrations increased 12 and 20 percent, respectively. Americans want dogs more than ever before. Greater numbers of people working and attending school remotely has made dog ownership more attractive and certainly more possible for many more people. Yes, this is good for AKC. To paraphrase the book of Luke, and later Peter Parker, “to whom much was entrusted, more will be asked.” We now have a greater responsibility to educate these new owners about responsible pet ownership and the joys of owning an AKC registered dog. We stand ready to serve and engage them. As our new, inclusive tagline promises: “If it barks, it’s AKC.”

A famous phrase of the Churchill era encouraged Britons to “Keep Calm and Carry On.” In 2020, the American Kennel Club did just that. Our community of Fanciers, Clubs and Staff carried on, learning, adapting, delivering services and making improvements so that we will all be ready when we reach the other side. As Churchill himself said, “We are going on, swinging bravely forward along the grand high road – and already behind the distant mountains is the promise of the sun.” When the sun rises, we will be ready – and so will our dogs.

I began my remarks with “A year ago, almost to the day...” I’d like to add another, more personal comment. Many staff members rose to the challenge and aided our successful journey through 2020. But there is one of us who really took the bit by the reins and went far above the bar in order to keep us whole. One special individual began on February 25, 2020 and celebrated a one-year anniversary a couple of weeks ago, having worked for AKC every single day, including weekends, at his desk to make sure we would come out of this healthy. That individual is, of course, our CEO, Dennis. Steve Jobs once said, “The only way to do great work is to love what you do.” Your dedication and love for the Great American Kennel Club is without equal. Thank you, Dennis. And,

thank you all.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President’s Report as follows:

Addressing 2020 accomplishments before and since living in this challenging pandemic environment. What we did collaboratively to overcome serious threats that caused many tens of thousands of companies to permanently go out of business. One in three non-profits are at risk of closing according to the Charities Aid Foundation of America. AKC assisted our Clubs, Exhibitors, Judges, Superintendents, Trial and Show Secretaries. My praise of Staff, for many year-long successful initiatives, with Board support which should continue well into the future by providing activities for our core while simultaneously welcoming others to the Great American Kennel Club’s mission.

(We Are All in This Together 2020 Retrospective Video played.)

Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips, gave the Financial Report as follows:

Good morning, Delegates. Thank you for attending today's meeting. We appreciate your time and your support. Today, I will be presenting some key performance indicators and financial results for the year end December 31, 2020 with comparison to the same period in 2019. When rele-

vant, we'll include references to the 2020 budgets.

Let's begin with some non-financial key performance indicators. These data points are essential to tell the story of the December 31, 2020 net operating results. This chart provides a monthly comparison of litter registrations for the year ended December 31, 2020 and 2019. For the year ended December 31, 2020, litter registrations totaled 288,527. This is 12-percent growth over 2019. To explore this a little further, please note that litters recorded a sustained increase of registrations during the months of August through December. The average of those months resulted in a 20 percent increase over the same time period in 2019.

This chart provides a monthly comparison of dog registrations for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019. For the year ended December 31, 2020, dog registrations totaled 702,917. This result is growth of 20 percent over 2019. When we dig into these numbers, it is important to note that dog registrations in 2020 recorded a sustained period of double-digit increases over 2019. This trend began in April and was consistent through the end of the year in December. The average increases over those months was 26 percent. For both litter and dog registrations, we see continued positive trends in the beginning of

2021. There are two other important data points that are essential to the story of AKC's 2020 registration results. Certificate transfers surpassed 2019 by 18 percent and during 2020 DNA samples received were 9.2 percent higher than 2019. We'd like to 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.

Events and entries reported lower activity in 2020 than prior years. The pandemic effect is evident when we review the statistics on this slide. As of December 31, 2020, events and entries were lower than 2019 by both 44 and 46 percent respectively. We're always pleased when we hear that clubs hold events and look forward to better times in the future.

Next, we will review the financial operating results for 12 months ended December 31, 2020 comparing those results to budget and the same period in 2019. Overall, 2020 was a financial success for AKC. Net operating income as of December 31, 2020 was \$13.5 million. These results were generated by a combination of increased revenues and lower expenses over 2019. Revenue increased by 7 percent while expenses decreased by 8 percent. Online registrations were the largest contributor to overall revenue increases in 2020. Also

contributing to revenue growth in 2020 are pedigree and other litter fees, product and service sales, and sponsorship activities. Here are some key points before we look at the individual lines. Total 2020 revenues are comparable to budget due to the offset of increased registration fees and related revenues versus declines in reporting and service fees. As we reflect on 2020, it is clear that the AKC registration services were well positioned for the unexpected changes and are ready for challenges in the new year.

Total expenses in 2020 were 8 percent lower than the prior year and 13.6 percent lower than budget. This is due to cost containment efforts introduced in April by management. AKC's expense review in 2020 positioned the organization well for future years. This review and its result are important for AKC's sustained financial help as we feel the impact of the pandemic. We all continue to experience unique changes in the U.S. economy as a result of the pandemic sort themselves out.

In the next few slides, we will review certain revenue lines and controllable expenses that support these overall financial results. This slide presents AKC's significant revenue lines across three charts. We compare 2019 actual, the 2020 budget, and the 2020 actual in this presentation.

One general comment before we dive into the lines, overall revenues excluding recording and service fees increased by 17 percent in 2020 over 2019.

Now, let's look at the breakouts. Please note that the yellow column on the left-hand side of the charts, this yellow column reports registration fees. For the year ended December 31, 2020, registration fees totaled \$38.7 million. This is \$6.6 million or 20 percent higher than the prior year. This increase is led by dog registrations of \$5.6 million followed by litter registrations of \$1 million. The next column presented summarizes pedigree and other program fees. This combination of revenue lines totals \$12 million and is 19 percent or \$1.9 million higher than the same period in 2019. Revenues from events, recording services, and other fees total \$9.2 million and is 35 percent of \$5 million lower when compared to 2019. Product and service sales total \$11.9 million, which is 20 percent or \$2 million higher than 2019, and this led by merchandise sales and admission fees. Merchandise sales of \$3.4 million come from both e-commerce and traditional order fulfillment. As a reminder, admission fees are from the Meet the Breeds® event at the New York City Javits Center in January 2020. The last column of this reports revenues from advertising, sponsorship, and

royalties. This revenue line totals \$11.8 million in 2020 and was consistent with 2019.

The next slide presents AKC's significant controllable expense lines. Similar to the previous slide, we compare 2019 actual, 2020 budget, and 2020 actual results. Total controllable expenses were 9 percent lower in 2020 over 2019. In addition, 2020 actual expenses were 13 percent lower than budget. The impact of the cost containment measures taken in April 2020 in response to the pandemic will be reviewed below. We are comparing 2019 actual results to the 2020 actual results in this analysis. Travel was reduced by 60 percent or \$1.8 million. Promotion and public relations were lower by 50 percent or \$2.2 million. Service and professional fees were lower by 14 percent or \$1.5 million. Staff costs were lower by 6 percent or \$2.1 million. One area of cost increases were fulfillment costs. Those expenses increased by \$2.8 million over 2019. Fulfillment costs are the expenses that support our product and service sales. This expense is increased as a result of correlated revenue increases in product and service sales. Two additional expense areas that are also important to telling our 2020 narrative, AKC continues to support our charitable affiliates. Donations to the Canine Health Foundation and the Museum of the Dog

are consistent with budget and total \$2.9 million. In addition to our charitable work, our Government Relation Staff was very busy during the 2020 general election season. At both the federal and state levels, the AKC Government Relations Staff provided support or legislation promoting the mission of AKC.

To close, I'd like to report on the total expenses incurred by the AKC Board of Directors in 2020. The total expense for this line, which is the total cost of the AKC Board of Directors activities was \$278,000. This is 50 percent lower than budget and 50 percent lower than the prior year.

Let's take a look at how AKC's investment funds performed in 2020. Investment performance results are reported on the bar graph. The pie chart reports how AKC investments are diversified to manage market risks. Investment performance as of December 31, 2020 was positive returning 13.69 percent which beat the balanced index benchmark by 2.87 percent. These results are due to our asset allocation strategy which is focused on a broad base of U.S. and international equity investments. Equity investments make up 66 percent of our portfolio. Fixed income investments make up 19 percent and we round out the portfolio with the private equity assets of 14 percent. This is an actively managed portfolio with a long-term view and we are

assisted by professional investment advisers. Overall, this is excellent performance in volatile financial markets that are still searching for new footing following the 2020 general elections and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

This slide reports the AKC's statements of financial position or our balance sheet as of December 31, 2020 with comparatives to 2019. Please note these statements are not combined or consolidated with any AKC affiliates. Total assets of AKC at December 31, 2020 are \$151 million or \$18.9 million higher than December 31, 2019. This is principally due to the net operating results which include cost control and increased investment values. The liability and commitment side of the balance sheet is generally comparable with the December 31, 2019 balance sheet. So, suffice to say the overall condition of AKC is healthy due to the combination of increased registration and other revenue generating activities, a positive tone of cost control, and assessing risk using certain governance tools such as investment policy. This is done while the organization must balance the obligations of post-retirement and pension expense.

I thank you for your time today. It is truly a pleasure to be able to present to you, the Delegate Body. We appreciate your dedication to the AKC and look forward to serv-

ing you. I'm available to answer any questions at your convenience. My contact information is noted on the last slide of the deck and I wish you a good meeting today. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ted.

The first amendment vote is on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 6, Section 2 – Premium Lists and Closing of Entries, which modifies required publication components of premium lists including address information and entry fee(s). The section is also reformatted into a bulleted list for easier understanding, made gender neutral and veterinary reference updated for consistency. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

KC Gottschalk, Delegate for the Albany Kennel Club spoke as follows:

I guess we just had a question as to why the only physical address that's left in the modified amendment is the Show Chair. There were concerns with the activity of animal rights groups – why have a single person out there as a target?

Mr. Sprung: Is there anyone from the Dog

Show Rules Committee that would like to address that inquiry?

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows:

This Chapter and Section does not mention the word physical at all. It just mentions an address, and that address could also be the club given address for the Chair.

KC Gottschalk, Delegate for the Albany Kennel Club spoke as follows:

I was going to back to the middle column of the worksheet and the second bullet very clearly says and the Chair's address and that what was the objection was. It wasn't left as you could put up any address. It calls for the Chair's address.

Mr. Sprung: The Chair can use the club address, Post Office Box, or an e-mail address. Is there any further discussion?

Link Newcomb, Delegate for the Bulldog Club of America spoke as follows:

I'm just curious what the club address is. This requires us to show a club address and most of my experience is the club address is kind of a questionable thing and oftentimes it is just the address of the President. I don't know that all clubs have an

official address and I'm not sure how they would complete this.

Mr. Sprung: They could use the Show Chair's address, President's address or P.O. Box.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows:

That's correct. The club address is not necessarily a physical address. All we need is a mailing address or some way of contacting the club and the Show Chair. We recommend a Post Office Box. It could be a physical address. If it's a club address, generally people will not know who is at that address.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club spoke as follows:

I understand that address can encompass a lot of different things – including an e-mail address. I really think that it's important to have that stated in this amendment. When someone first reads this, they may assume it's a snail mail address. It would be extremely helpful so that there's no confusion to specifically mention e-mail address, Post Office Box, etc.

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, Section 2**. This was a read-only amendment, not be voted on at this meeting.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to **Article VII, Section 2** of the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, which moves an issue 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. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee 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 June 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Robert Schroll, Delegate for the Clarksville Kennel Club spoke as follows:

This just goes in reference to the last vote that we took. As Gina just noted in the rule change that she just read for a read-only, we have two publications of the rule change so there's ample time to contact either the committee or the club that's submitting the rule change with whatever amendment you want to add to it. So, if you have a question about a physical address or something like that, it's easier to do it prior to this meeting. That's just my opinion but given the amount of times that it's both published and presented to the Delegate Body, it would free up some time if we took advantage of that.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club spoke as follows:

I just wanted to comment and say that I know when amendments are brought forward that there's a lot of ample time to respond to it before the meeting. However, I did try that at the last meeting and for some reason I sent an e-mail and when the meeting came it was not there. I still even have the e-mail and the date of when I sent the proposed change. I do try, but I find sometimes with technology things get lost in the shuffle.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to **Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16,**

Section 6 – Championships. This was a read-only amendment, not be voted on at this meeting.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to **Chapter 16, Section 6**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* – Championships, 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.

It will be published in two issues of the *AKC GAZETTE* and you will be asked to vote on it at the June 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

Ron Furman, Director of Sales, and Bill Ellis, Broadcast Manager, gave a presentation on AKC.tv – "The destination for dog lovers everywhere."

Bill Ellis, Broadcast Manager spoke as follows:

Thank you, Mr. Sprung. Thank you, Ron. I'm excited to be with everybody today and

have a look back at our three-year anniversary on AKC.tv. We'll have a little look back at where we started three years ago, a look at some of the things that we've done over the course of that time and then a look ahead as to where we are going. We'll have a look back at where we started three years ago in February 2018, our very first live show when AKC.tv launched. *(Video played.)*

It was an exciting weekend to get things started three years ago to get AKC.tv launched at Meet the Breeds®, that was our very first live show. Of course, we launched with our live channel and a robust on-demand library that's available to watch 24/7. And at the time we had our AKC.tv website and our OTT apps. Those are the apps that you would go to, to watch AKC.tv on the big screen with devices like Roku, Amazon Fire TV, and Apple TV. We were able to pull extensively from existing content within the AKC.tv archive to program the channel so that there were several videos to watch when the channel was launched including our past AKC National Championship shows, archival breed videos, and some of our existing series. Since then, we have done a lot. We have created several series that you see there in addition to extensive event coverage. We'll review some of the events that we've created. The initial plan was to cover two live

events in our first year in 2018 but we quickly realized that there was a hunger for live event coverage and so we increased that number in 2018 to cover 13 live events including Conformation shows, National Specialties, Obedience, Rally and Agility. As we moved on to 2019, we increased that number even more, 30 plus live events back in 2019 across those same sports. Of course, in 2020 we were greatly affected by COVID, but excited to get back to lots more live events this year. One of the weekly series that we do on AKC.tv is *AKC Dog Center*. This is our show every Tuesday and Friday. Not only does it air on AKC.tv on our website and our app but it also appears on Facebook and this is where we keep everybody up to date on all things dog whether it's a news item or a feature, and I'm very proud to report that when we were affected by COVID a year ago and everyone was forced to shift quickly and work remotely, AKC.tv did not miss a single day or a single episode of this show. We carried on, every Tuesday and Friday, with our Producer, Director, and Host all in three different locations. One of the things that AKC Dog Center features is club news and results. We've got a little video here that highlights some results from one of our recent club shows. *(Video played.)*

Hopefully, everyone will join us this Saturday, March 13th, as we cover the Raleigh Kennel Club live. Another of our consistent series is *Ask the Expert*. This is really a special series because this is where our viewers get to interact the most with AKC.tv. They submit questions live and we have experts on hand to answer them whether it's health with our Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr. Jerry Klein, or training and animal behavior. We try and cover an array of topics. In a series that we produced last year in response to COVID which prevented the AKC ACE honorees from traveling to Orlando, we wanted to pay special tribute to these dogs and so we produced a five-episode series called *AKC Heroes*. Each episode focused on a different category for those ACE awards and the culmination was the announcement of each winner in those categories and we've got a little trailer to show everybody. *(Video played.)*

That TV series highlights those extraordinary stories and they're right on the homepage of AKC.tv. So, if you haven't had a chance, I hope everyone will visit, and have a look at those videos. They're really special and really touch us. A look ahead at where we're going. We've got one more video clip here from our AKC National Championship. *(Video played.)*

Mr. Furman: Thank you. You recognize Bill from many of our shows and events reporting for AKC.tv from those sites and we thank him for all of his work and dedication there. Great way to spend weekends as he tells us being with the dogs and people in our sport. So, what does it mean - where we are going? I think it first starts with the fact that in 2020 as we talked about earlier and Dennis mentioned, no one gave up. We recalibrated what we needed to do and made sure that we had a strategy that could drive success for AKC.tv. The results so far have been very dramatic and positive which is great. New high-water marks in our users and the amount of plays that we have. It's not even April 1st and we've already eclipsed what had been done at any point in these months previously in the last few years. We reached a new milestone, over 150,000 app downloads. That's the way people can watch AKC.tv, as Bill described, either on the big screen – but I'll also point out that many of those app downloads are mobile. People have learned to take AKC.tv with them as they travel. If you haven't already, please download the AKC.tv app on your mobile device as an opportunity to take us with you wherever you go. As Bill pointed out, 2020 was an anomaly for all of us and we were forced to cancel some of our previously announced covered events, but we're com-

ing back stronger than ever with 35 of them or more this year on AKC.tv. As we all know, the National Championship week in Orlando is an outstanding and incredible event and it actually breaks out into a number of different pieces. The work we do preliminarily with our clubs, the Orlando cluster, and other invited clubs, as well as other events. I'm going to focus here for a moment on what we do for our National Championship. Our National Championship live that week is livestream so people can watch it as it happens. On Saturday and Sunday we accomplished something; we had almost 145,000 live stream plays over those two days. That's absolutely fantastic for that weekend. Also over the course of the entire week, where we had coverage every day that week, we had over 1 million plays. That adds up to 180 plus hours of coverage and I'll also point out that the AKC.tv live stream is distributed on ESPN's digital platform as well as other ones like Pluto so we are expanding our brand to different distribution outlets. That week alone almost 11,000 app downloads. It's a great promotional opportunity for us and we featured an AKC.tv high-water mark for nine live channels so you can watch different action from different rings for different types of events at any time over the course of that week. As was previously

mentioned, we've extended our reach by joining in partnership with the Disney organization. Disney being the owner of all of the ESPN platforms, the ABC television network, Freeform, Disney Plus, ESPN Plus. They're one of the largest consumer media companies in the world and we at the AKC set our sights on that type of a partnership. It took almost 2 years, but we've entered into an agreement. We have code named it – not too crazily, AKC on ESPN or the AKC on ABC, but really, it's the extension of AKC.tv being able to produce and expand on live events. What does that mean? At least 15 shows broadcast over the next 3 years. We're completely aligned with ESPN and the Disney Corporation on what we're doing for our brand as it matches their brand in reaching consumers and expanding people's understanding of purebred dogs. I also want to point out the four key points here that are up on the visual now. We are focused on advancing the sport of purebred dog ownership. We also like to know that we can grow the AKC sport so people who may not have been accustomed, or introduced to it, can understand what AKC Sports are all about and things that you can do with your dog. We never stop promoting the AKC, that's a core part of what we do. In every one of those broadcasts, you'll see our own house ads, our own

commercials talking to people about engagement with the AKC. And of course, for us, it's always about how do we make the National Championship, our pinnacle, bigger and better every year and we did that with the ABC television network. So, as I mentioned a moment ago, there were two parts to the National Championship for all of you who are involved. There's our live event coverage the week in Orlando. Then we take that great content and make it into a minimum of a three-hour telecast that this year was televised on the ABC television network. In addition, for the first time ever, we also created a one-hour highlight show. That highlight show gives people who may not have the time to invest the full three hours an opportunity to engage with the AKC and learn about the wonderful dogs that were featured in the Championship and the breeds that they represent. Combined, the 3-hour and the 1-hour program will air over 18 times across all of the Disney, ESPN, and ABC platforms. Our Chairman mentioned that earlier. This is wonderful because it continues to reinforce what we're doing and allows new people to either come in and see it for the first time or great fans to revisit it a second or a third time. Sometimes that old saying you're known by the company you keep can actually have a little bit of relevance. For us,

the good news is we had lots of company and we enjoyed keeping our time with them when it came to the ratings and the audience. As previously mentioned, 7 million people tuned in at some point to watch the national championship on the ABC television network up against NFL after 4 o'clock. Towards the portion of the show that was best in show, we averaged 1.7 million viewers, it's outstanding. At any minute in the show, we had 1.2 million or more people watching AKC's Championship, which was absolutely fabulous. The wonderful topping is that was 250 percent more viewers than we had had at any time in the last few years especially last year on Animal Planet so it's a very exciting moment for us and it's something that we look to continue. Here, if I may, this is what the next few years looks like for us. For us, at the AKC it's really Disney equals ESPN equals ABC equals all of those different events. But, for us, it's the AKC, our brand, aligned with Disney to be able to promote and market ourselves correctly. Over these next few years as was pointed out, we'll see Conformation, multiple Agility shows, FastCAT® which was translated into "Fastest Dogs USA" so we could bring it some new viewers, as well as diving, fly ball, and we had the opportunity to add other sports and events as we develop our relationship with them. We were guar-

anteed 68 encore performances which is a nice way of saying repeats. We've already past that number. ABC, Disney, and ESPN are firmly committed to the AKC's programs. Thank you all for your time. Enjoy the rest of your meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ron and Bill.

The Chair called on Jason Spiegel of KPMG to read the result of the first ballot for the Class of 2025.

Mr. Spiegel: The total number of ballots cast was 372. There were zero invalid ballots that were counted towards the majority; therefore, the majority needed to elect was 187. The results of the ballots were as follows: Rita Biddle, Esq., 247; Dominic Carota, 282; Patricia Cruz, 207; Dr. Thomas Davies, 229; Dr. Gregory Paveza, 141; and Thomas Powers, 208. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: The Chair declared that Rita Biddle, Dominic Carota, Tom Davies, and Tom Powers have been duly elected as members of the Class of 2025.

(With no further balloting necessary, the meeting continued.)

Ashley Jacot, Director of Education, spoke as follows:

Good afternoon. Thank you, Mr. Sprung. Thank you for the opportunity to share

some of the updates of the work of the Education Department. The first initiative I'll discuss today is our work in Breeder Education. *The ABC's of Dog Breeding* take a practical step by step approach to the art and science of breeding. The goal of *The ABC's of Dog Breeding* is to provide a home study course for dog breeders by gathering into one comprehensive program the need-to-know information from the field of canine genetics and domestic animal breeds. The courses are written in collaboration with Claudia Waller Orlandi, PhD, and are designed by the AKC Canine College in collaboration with many AKC departments who lend their valuable expertise. In 2020, the existing courses were updated with the latest information, high resolution imagery and animated videos to improve the learners' overall experience. I would like to play for you an example of one of our breeder courses, the ABC's of Canine Anatomy. This course is an excellent introduction for a new breeder or those just interested in breeding. Play the video, please. *(Video played.)*

We currently offer nine breed master courses that cover introductions to the canine anatomy, genetics, breeding selection, breeding system, whelping and medical intervention, pedigree genetic defects, and kennel blindness. Each of these

images pictured here come from the courses. We plan to expand our offering into additional topics that will provide new breeders with the foundation they need to be successful and will also provide experienced breeders with a more robust education. Topics include reproduction cycles and mating, pregnancy, whelping, puppy imprinting and raising, and selling and placing puppies. Since we remastered and rereleased these courses, enrollments in the breeder courses have grown exponentially. There were 27,256 breeder course enrollments in 2020, an increase of 164 percent from 2019. We hope that as we add courses these numbers will continue to increase.

I would now like to discuss some of the work that Public Education has been doing over the last several months. First, I'll give you an update on the AKC Pup Pals programs which I first introduced to you in December of 2019. The AKC Pup Pals program was created in August of 2019 and was originally designed to offer uplifting messages to children in need. In April 2020 in response to so many struggling due to COVID, the program was expanded to include both children and adults. We worked with communications and marketing to reach out to hospitals and other medical centers all over the

country in order to reach those on the front lines. In order to accommodate this expansion, we now send videos supplied by the more than 4,000 dog owners enrolled in this program. Anyone is eligible to receive a Pup Pal video. A person can sign up for themselves or someone else and here's an example of a typical Pup Pal video. Play video, please. *(Video played.)*

We have sent Pup Pal videos to more than 1,000 people since this program began. Many of our most recent recipients are healthcare workers, those recovering from COVID-19, those in quarantine or those mourning the loss of loved ones to this terrible illness. These are some comments made by those who requested a Pup Pal for a loved one or for themselves. Jill, Matt, and Amelia are all healthcare workers on the front lines of COVID-19. The other comment in the top right is from someone requesting a Pup Pal for themselves because they've been lonely during quarantine. We're honored to help bring a smile to their faces. In the continued effort to reach diverse audiences, we've recently created lessons for exceptional learners. During my time as a teacher, educating exceptional learners was my passion and it's important to me that public education had resources for these students. An exceptional learner is a student who re-

quires special education services in order to be successful. While there are many reasons a student might be classified as exceptional, common diagnoses are autism, an intellectual or learning disabilities, a hearing impairment, or an attention disorder. We utilized a variety of techniques to create these lessons and activities. Some of those techniques include providing study guides and visual aids, providing hands-on learning opportunities, and chunking material into more digestible pieces. Here are just a few examples of our offerings. We have lesson plans that are designed specifically for students with reading disabilities. We have tips for teachers for how any lesson could be modified for an exceptional learner. We also took many of our current offerings such as AKC Kids News and created modified versions that include more visual aids. Of course, all of our lessons and resources teach children about purebred dogs, the sport of purebred dogs, and responsible dog ownership. We were honored to have these resources featured on the June 2020 cover of Exceptional Parents Magazine which is a magazine specifically for parents and caregivers with exceptional children. We received so many positive comments from teachers and parents about our resources. The parents are grateful for our efforts to include their children and teachers, and teachers appreciate

having another tool available to assist their students. Along with myself, we're fortunate to have another experienced teacher on staff who's certified in special education and we continue to build upon and improve these resources.

The final program I'll discuss with you today is the AKC Webinar Series. In March 2020, Education Department began collaboration with the Judges and Operations Departments to offer Breed Education Webinars for Judges. These webinars were offered daily through July 2020 before moving to every Tuesday evening. Presenters are chosen by each Parent Club and are often the Club's Judge's Education Coordinator. With permission from the Parent Club, the recording of the webinar is shared afterward with participants and made available on AKC.org. To date, we've offered 95 breeds to 25,711 live attendees. Along with the Judge's Breed Education Webinars, we've offered 138 other educational webinars on various topics, some of which you can see here. To date, 8,771 live attendees have taken part in these webinars. In total, they serve more than 34,000 live attendees. We look forward to continuing these important learning opportunities. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Ashley, for the

wonderful education, outreach, and branding. Much appreciation to you and your department.

The next Delegates meeting will be held on June 8, 2021. More detailed information will be emailed to the Delegates at a later time as soon as it is available.

The Chair thanked AKC Staff including Paula, Tim, Wlad, Amy, Mary, Gina, Mark, and Keith for the quality, planning and execution of the annual meeting and the previous week's Delegate Committee Meetings.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Margaret Pough, Delegate for the Finger Lakes Kennel Club inquired about utilizing the Breeder Education Webinars as programs for kennel clubs.

Ashely Jacot, Director of Education explained that the webinars under the Judge's study guide on the confirmation page were available for sharing.

Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan and President of the Detroit Bulldog Club advised of a

COVID mandated mask violation she enforced at her Specialty event site, that resulted in social media retaliation on Facebook. Because event committee jurisdictions would not be applicable for the Facebook posts, she decided to file a Code of Sportsmanship complaint. She requested assistance in having the derogatory remarks removed from Facebook and obtaining the correct AKC Compliance Department contact information and forms.

Mr. Sprung responded that he would have Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance, contact Ms. Hier.

Pat Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America and original member of the Reunite Trailer Committee provided an update on the AKC Reunite Program. Currently 435 clubs participate, \$1,676,602.72 has come in from donations; \$650,000 was funded by AKC Reunite. The total funds raised are \$2,326,602.72 resulting in 91 trailers delivered to 29 states. They anticipate having a very special program and presentation when the 100th trailer becomes a reality. She expressed thanks to clubs, exhibitors, Delegates, the fancy and outside contributors for their efforts.

Felice Jarrold, Delegate for the Old Pueblo Dog Training Club (Tucson, Arizona) commended Mr. Sprung and Mr. Carota for the heartwarming and fun President's Report video. She requested that it be distributed to Delegates so that it could be sent to clubs.

Mr. Sprung acknowledged that AKC Staff would make the video available for Delegates to share with clubs.

Betty Winthers, Delegate for the Olympic Kennel Club agreed with Ms. Jarrold that the President's Report video boosted morale about dog activity and would be a great resource for Delegates.

Sue Goldberg, Delegate for the Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club brought up a consideration for allowing mixed breed dogs in the Junior's Pilot Program which was a discussion on the Delegate Google e-list. She referred to a recent Dog News magazine, in which a Junior suggested limiting mixed breeds in Juniors to the Novice class and that once the child progressed to Open class that they must have a purebred dog. This would promote inclusivity and give the children an opportunity to show their mixed breed in a less competitive atmosphere and to observe the purebred dogs

being shown by the more seasoned Juniors, with the overall goal to encourage a young person's participation in the sport.

John McCullagh, Delegate for the Blennerhassett Kennel Club suggested that that lengthy items such as new or revised breed standards, etc., that currently appear in the AKC Gazette Secretary's Pages be attached as separate files rather than included in the main text content. He added to Ms. Goldberg's remarks about events with Juniors showing mixed breeds (Canine Partners) that the Judges should be versed not to look at the dog itself but the skill of the Junior handler.

Mary Alice Eschweiler, Delegate for the Waukesha Kennel Club, member of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, the Western Waukesha County Dog Training Club and Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Southeastern Wisconsin expressed gratitude to the AKC Staff and Mr. Sprung for a wonderful meeting that provided Delegates with tools to promote purebred dogs. She planned to utilize the AKC.tv programs, Education Webinars and President's Report video from the meeting to guide her clubs – both member and non-member.

Mr. Sprung remarked that appreciation

should be duly shared with the Board and Staff for their ongoing collaborative efforts.

Daniele Ledoux-Starzyk, Delegate for the Silver State Kennel Club (Las Vegas, Nevada) asked for advice about her Club's show the next month that was restricted by the city of Henderson, Nevada to 1,000 dogs and 250 people on the grounds at one time. The club did not know how they could control this because exhibitors and handlers have different ring times during the day and the county was not familiar with standard dog show practices. She was concerned about the repercussions of an exhibitor or handler missing a ring time due to the mandated COVID regulations.

Mr. Sprung proposed that her Club start with the Judging schedule. He also recommended that Ms. Ledoux-Starzyk contact Glenn Lycan and Guy Fisher in AKC's Club Development Department, who have worked with clubs that have coped with limited numbers of people allowed at an event site at different times and different hours.

Glenda Stephenson, Delegate for the Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay shared her experience with Junior Showmanship at a Florida dog show, where she

had the opportunity to talk to Juniors about being handlers. The majority of the children she spoke to thought that the children that were handling the mixed breed dogs were at a clear disadvantage. They stated that they would feel bad for them and that the Judges would have a hard time. She recognized that Judges are supposed to be judging the handler but gave the example that Dachshunds should be presented differently than a Bulldog. Without experience, it would be hard for a Judge to look at a mixed breed dog and try to figure out what it is, how it should be handled, and then to adjudicate if the child is doing a good job on it or not.

Kudos were given to AKC Staff for the continued effort in promoting the sport of purebred dogs and being open to having children participate with mixed breed dogs. Now, a Junior handler has to be the owner, co-owner of the dog, or a relative of the owner. She encouraged making it easier for a child that wants to show a purebred dog and doesn't own one. She recalled when she was showing dogs 45 years prior as a Junior, they were allowed to change dogs in the ring. The Judge would actually ask Junior handlers to switch dogs. She urged Delegates for an amiable resolution on this topic.

Robert Schroll, Delegate for the Clarksville Kennel Club and member of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke in anticipation of a future problem that may arise should Parent Clubs cancel their 2021 Specialties. At a recent previous meeting, the AKC Board and Delegate Body approved a self-eliminating rule that expires at the end of December 2021, which allows Parent Clubs to have two Specialties in 2021 because they had to cancel their 2020 Specialty. He explained the reason presented at the Dog Show Rules Committee was because so many clubs had already ordered their 2020 trophies, ribbons, and it was a financial hardship to the clubs, which was very understandable. He recommended not to further amend this rule to allow three Specialties in 2022 for clubs that have canceled their 2021 Specialty.

The Chair reminded the Board that there would be a brief Board Meeting via Zoom, 15 minutes following the end of the current meeting. Details were sent to Board members by email.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

(One sharp rap of the gavel.)

(Time noted: 2:07 p.m.)

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

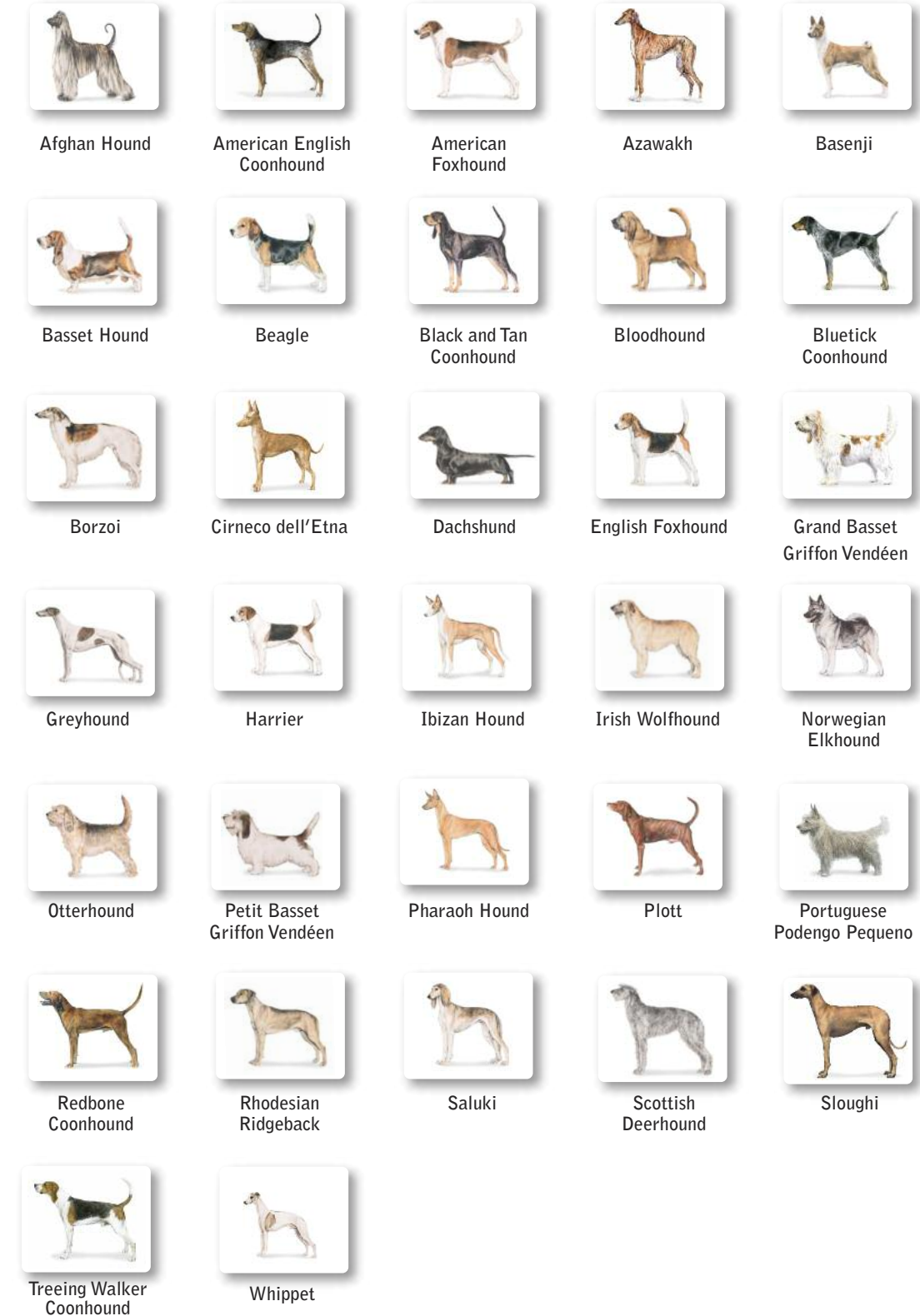
PARENT CLUB LINKS



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



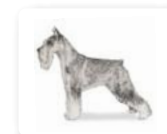
Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

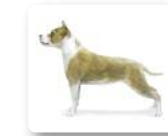
TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



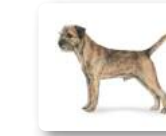
American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



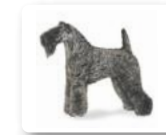
Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



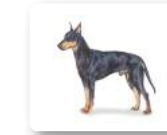
Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



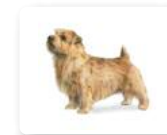
Manchester Terrier



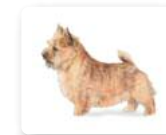
Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



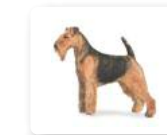
Skye Terrier



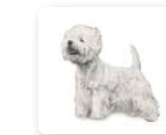
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



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



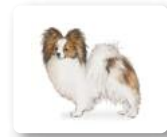
Maltese



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



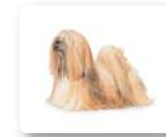
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



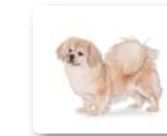
Schipperke



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/>