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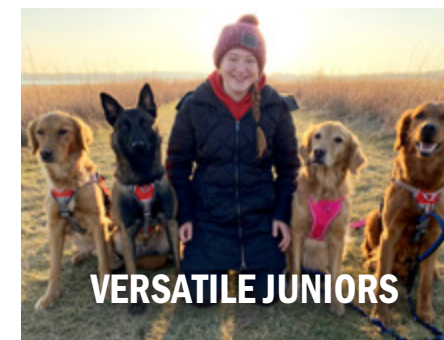
- Neapolitan Mastiffs
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BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

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



SECRETARY'S PAGES

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



NEW AKC BREEDS





“DOGS ARE MY LIFE AND I’M THE CENTER OF THEIRS. I HAVE TO GIVE THEM THE BEST.”



CHELSEA
2017 AKC National Agility Champion
— 4th Place
2019 Team USA Member
(AKC European Open)
2021 Agility National Finalist (IDC)

LIZ DOLE, DVM

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Notes for the New Year

We are kicking off the new year with the newest National Champion and welcoming two new breeds to the AKC family.

Bayou, a Giant Schnauzer from Port Allen, Louisiana, was crowned Best in Show at the 21st annual AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin. Bayou beat out more than 5,000 dogs to win the title of America's Champion at our show in Orlando. Congratulations to Bayou and owners Holly and Chris Reed, Laurie Mason, and Mike Mason.

While we are celebrating, we are happy to welcome two new breeds to full recognition in the AKC family, the Mudi and the Russian Toy. These beautiful and unique breeds bring our total number of recognized breeds to 199. The Mudi joins the Herding Group, and is a medium-sized, versatile, all-purpose farm dog from Hungary. The breed is courageous and useful for working the most stubborn livestock. Joining the Toy Group, the Russian Toy, which dates to the Russian aristocracy. These dogs may be little, but they pack a ton of personality. We look forward to seeing both

breeds in the ring very soon.

And last but certainly not least, we are thrilled to share with you that our wildly popular, interactive, and educational program AKC Meet the Breeds is going back on the road in 2022. The tour will stop in six cities and kicks off in Pomona, California, with the Kennel Club of Beverly Hills show at the Fairplex on Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6.

Meet the Breeds is an event for the entire family, where families can meet and play with more than 100 different dog breeds, talk to parent-club experts about life with the breeds, learn about responsible dog ownership, view exciting, action-packed dog demonstrations, and more.

We relish the opportunity to educate the public about our beloved breeds and help them start or continue their dog owning journey by teaching about the breeds that best fit their lifestyle. These important outreach opportunities are made possible with the commitment and dedication of our clubs and their members who staff the booths with the beautiful dogs and engage with the public.



We thank each exhibitor, parent, and local club that volunteers their time and energy to make these extravaganzas a success.

See you on the road,

Dennis B. Sprung
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AKC Honors *One of the Greats*

The AKC's 2021 Posthumous Breeder of the Year is Julia Gasow (1904–1999), of Salilyn English Springer Spaniels, who exerted an immense influence on her breed and our sport for more than 60 years.

Of the several hundred Salilyn Springers produced over the decades, none was more influential in setting type in the breed than Ch. Salilyn's Aristocrat. "Risto" won more than 60 Bests in Show, more than 100 Sporting Groups, and five specialties. His legacy endured through his progeny. He sired 188 champions, and two of his descendants were Westminster Best in Show winners.

Other important Salilyn Springers include cornerstone sire King Peter of Salilyn, Ch. Sir Lancelot of Salilyn, Ch. Salilyn 'N Erin's Shameless (2000 Westminster BIS), Ch. Salilyn's MacDuff, Ch. Salilyn's Sophistication, and Ch. Salilyn's Dynasty. In all, Salilyn Springers tallied more than 400 BIS.

This month's slideshow celebrates Mrs. Gasow's life and times. Caption information for each photo is on the slideshow's YouTube page.

For more on Mrs. Gasow, see our recent



an AKC Gazette slideshow

two-part feature "In Her Own Words: The Julia Gasow Story," the transcript of a "lost" interview from the 1990s.

"Breeding the Salilyn Way"

"The Sage of Salilyn"

On Our Cover

"Chow Chow Wan Lung,"

by Gustav Muss-Arnolt



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Welcome to the Club *Mudi, Russian Toy enter AKC Stud Book*

On December 29, 2021, the Mudi entered the Herding Group and the Russian Toy entered the Toy Group. The breeds are eligible for competition in regular breed classes.

MUDI

Parent Club

[Mudi Club of America](#)

Contact: Susanne Anderson
sande2404@gmail.com



About the Breed

The Mudi (pronounced *moodie*) is a medium-sized Hungarian herder and farm dog developed in the 19th century. It is said the Mudi evolved naturally from crosses of the Puli, Pumi, and German Spitz.

It is estimated there are no more than a few thousand Mudi worldwide, with the greatest numbers being in Hungary, followed by Finland, and in smaller numbers in Western

Europe and North America. The Mudi excels at agility, obedience, and flyball. He is a true working dog, adept at herding both cattle and sheep, and has been deployed in search-and-rescue work.

From the Standard

The Mudi is an extremely versatile, intelligent, alert, agile all-purpose Hungarian farm dog. The Mudi has courage, a trait useful for working the most stubborn livestock. The breed is a loyal protector of property and family members without being overly aggressive. The Mudi is sometimes used for flushing out wild boar in Hungary. The Mudi is medium in size and moderate in conformation. The profile is nearly square with a slightly sloping topline from withers to croup. The head is wedge shaped with erect ears. The coat is short and straight on the

face and front of the legs. The rest of the body is covered by a coat that is very wavy to curly, growing to a length of up to approximately 3 inches.

RUSSIAN TOY

Parent Club

[Russian Toy Club of America](#)

Contact: Martha Guimond
secretary@russiantoyclub.org

About the Breed

The Russian Toy is a small, elegant, lively dog with long legs, fine bones and lean muscles. They are active and cheerful, possessing keen intelligence and a desire to please.

The Russian Toy's lineage goes back to the pre-Soviet Russian aristocracy. In general, he is a good-natured imp that loves to run and play. They thrive on human companionship and will let you know if they are feeling neglected.

The coat is either semi-long

or smooth. The longhair carries a nice ruff on the chest and unique feathering on the extremities, tail, and ears. Long-coats will not have an adult coat until they are more than a year old and full fringing not until 3 years of age.

There is a slight difference in attitude between the two varieties: Smooths tend to be a little more terrier-like than the long-coats.

From the Standard

The Russian Toy has a square build; the height,

when measured vertically from the ground to the highest point of the withers, is equal to the length, when measured horizontally from the prosternum to the point of the buttocks. The height at the elbows is only slightly more than half of the height at withers. The chest is sufficiently deep reaching to the elbow. Height at withers for both dogs and bitches: 8 inches to 11 inches. Weight for both dogs and bitches: up to 6½ pounds.



MUDI: ©CYNOCUB/GETTY IMAGES; RUSSIAN TOY: ©DMX/GETTY IMAGES

UPDATES



CHF Receives

Additional \$1M from AKC

RALEIGH—The **AKC Canine Health Foundation** has announced an additional \$1 million gift from the AKC to support cutting-edge canine health research and outreach to dog owners and veterinary professionals through the CHF in 2022.

The CHF is the largest nonprofit funder of health research focused solely on dogs. With support from donors and partners such as the AKC, the CHF has

invested more than \$63.5 million in over 1,089 research grants, educational grants, and canine health projects leading to more than 899 peer-reviewed publications that add to the landscape of veterinary medicine and research.

The AKC has been a valued partner during this time, collaborating on the AKC/AKCCHF/TF Small Animal Theriogenology Residency Program and providing

in-kind services to support CHF's mission. The latest gift is intended to build on the CHF's recent success and support the Foundation's 2022 plan for aggressive expansion and growth.

The AKC Board of Directors declared support of the "outstanding research funded through CHF and elevating public and veterinary awareness of CHF will benefit all dogs and their owners."

"CHF is grateful for the AKC's ongoing trust in our ability to carry out our mission to advance the health of all dogs," CHF Chief Executive Officer Dr. Darin Collins says.

"CHF is uniquely positioned to bring dog owners, veterinary professionals, and investigators together and our team is eager to provide innovation in the coming year and beyond."

The CHF manages a \$11.9 million portfolio of 154 active canine-health research grants and educational grants around the world.

COURTESY AKC/CHF

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UPDATES

Meet the Junior Versatility Winners

The AKC has announced that 10 students have earned 2021 Junior Versatility Scholarships. The recipients competed in a minimum of three different competitive AKC events between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021.

“We are pleased to recognize these standout junior handlers who participate in various AKC sports,” Executive Vice President Doug Ljungren says. “The hard work, dedication and passion for dogs that they have shown is amazing to see. We are happy to acknowledge their accomplishments and look forward to seeing the mark they leave in the world of dog sports.”

Versatility Scholarships are offered by Carolyn and Gary Koch in memory of Pug GCh.P Hill Country’s Let’s Get Ready to Rumble;

Elizabeth Fletcher in memory of her mother, Doris A. Hall; the NC Triangle Judges Education Group; and the AKC National Junior Organization.

2021 RECIPIENTS

First Place (\$3,000)

Amelia Greninger, of Buffalo, Minnesota, competed with her Golden Retrievers and a Belgian Malinois in agility, rally, and scent work.



Second Place (\$2,500)

David Frasca of Weldon Spring, Montana, competed with his Border Collies, Shetland Sheepdog, and Standard Schnauzer in agility, rally, and obedience.

Third Place (\$2,000)

Jada Sawhney of Punta Gorda, Florida, competed with her Golden Retrievers and Border Collie in agility, rally, and Fast CAT.

Fourth Place (\$1,500)
Danielle Wagner of Savage, Minnesota, competed with her Border Collie in agility, rally, obedience, and dock diving.

Fifth Place (\$1,000)
Skylar Claycomb of Springfield, Virginia, competed with a Siberian Husky and Belgian Malinois in Junior Showmanship, CAT, Fast CAT, and scent work.

Sixth Place (\$750)
Clare Kluck of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, competed with her Australian Shepherds and German Shepherd Dog in rally, Fast CAT, agility, obedience and virtual obedience, Junior

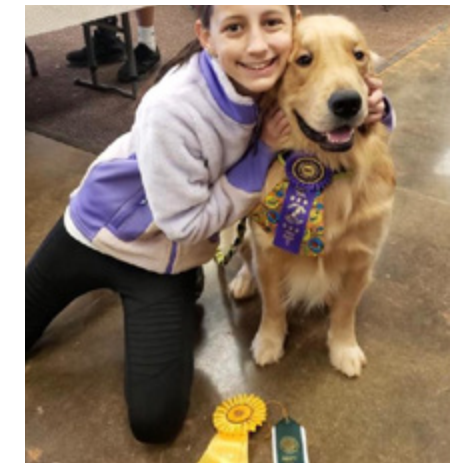


Danielle Wagner

Showmanship, CGC, and trick dog.

Seventh Place (\$500)
Autumn Maine of Sumerduck, Virginia, competed with her Labrador Retrievers in Junior Showmanship, Fast CAT, CAT, and rally.

Eighth Place (\$250)



Jada Sawhney

Sela Cooper of Collierville, Tennessee, competed with her Vizsla in Fast CAT, agility, and rally.

Ninth Place (\$200)

Ashley Barron of Adamstown, Maryland, competed with her Greater Swiss Mountain Dog, Border Collie, and Shetland Sheepdog in Juniors, rally, CAT, and Fast CAT.

Tenth Place (\$200)

Brianna Bedrosian, of Long Grove, Illinois, competed with her Papillon in agility, rally, and Junior Showmanship.

Learn more: [Junior Recognition Program](#)



Meet the Breed: Mudi

A Mudi uses an energetic herding style while driving a flock through the woods. 4:23



CGC to Trick Dog

From the Otterhound Club of America, a tutorial on CGC titles and how they can lead to Trick Dog titles. 1:07.32



Meet the Breed: Russian Toy

From 2017, the Russian Toy makes a delightful debut at Crufts. 1:18



Thanksgiving Leftover

BIS at [KC of Philadelphia](#), broadcast Thanksgiving Day on NBC as "The National Dog Show." 16:05

FEATURE

In this personal essay, our correspondent explains why he has enjoyed the friendly, noncompetitive atmosphere of hunt tests right from the beginning.

By Jim Cox

Stonelake's Flash in the Pan, MH, the author's beloved Master Hunter

Why I like AKC Hunt Tests



My mother wrote a fishing column in the Kansas City, Kansas, area for about 25 years. Early in her writing career she was asked to write about a German Shorthaired Pointer Field Trial that was to be held on a shooting preserve south of the city. I was about 13 at the time.

My father, mother, and I drove to the trial grounds on a brisk Saturday morning in 1961. We arrived to find many cars and station wagons, a German Shorthaired Pointer in each of those cars, and men in hunting clothes talking over cups of coffee. I could hear friendly conversations of dogs long gone, quail and pheasant hunting trips, and various shotguns. Within a short time, a man with a clipboard stepped up and announced the two men who would be paired in the first brace. He further explained the layout of the course and that birds had been planted to simulate a real quail-hunting situation.

The two men stepped up to the line. Each had a well-mannered German Shorthaired Pointer on a leash. The leashes were unsnapped, and the dogs stayed in place. Next, a whistle blew, and both dogs began to hunt. The men followed the dogs, and a gunner followed each of the men. The hunt was on. It was a pleasure to watch those dogs bust the brush in keeping with their ancestry.

Throughout the weekend we watched one solid point after another. The owners would flush the bird, and in most cases the dog was steady as the gunner shot, and then the dog was released by the handler for the retrieve. It was a pleasure to watch those well-trained dogs working for their handlers. While watching those dogs work that weekend, I decided that someday I would own a well-trained German Shorthaired Pointer for quail hunting and field trials.

THE GOOD DOCTOR

Twelve years later I purchased that German Shorthaired Pointer. He turned out to be a fine hunting dog and had potential for field trial success, but I did not. I quickly learned that participating in field trails was expensive. The game was not what I had witnessed as a teenager. There were big trucks pulling big horse trailers and most handlers rode their braces on horseback. Most dogs had been trained by professional trainers. There was competitiveness in the air. While I enjoyed watching the good dogs work, I never felt comfortable in this new field-trial environment. I decided to make a change and lengthen my hunting season on shooting preserves. Hunters and a hunting atmosphere was a better fit for me.

Then, in the early '80s I learned of a new AKC event: the Pointing Dog Hunt Test. I looked into it and bought



1995: The author with his GSP Amos on a frigid day in Kansas. "Amos broke the ice to get a drink," Cox says.

into it. I helped implement the first one in this area. I felt comfortable in this new environment and atmosphere. The test was a measure against a standard, instead of a competition against each other. That made for a more congenial atmosphere. It was that same atmosphere of congeniality that I experienced in my first exposure to a field trial at age 13.

This comfort level was further

exemplified one weekend at a Hunt Test in Nebraska. I was enjoying myself talking to people who loved to hunt upland game over pointing dogs. We discussed good dogs now gone and great hunting trips. Most of these owners had only one dog. A few had two. If anyone was affluent it was hard to tell because there were no fancy trucks and no expensive horses and horse trailers. It was simple and basic.

I then noticed an older gentleman pull into the grounds. He was driving a new, but unpretentious Plymouth sedan. In the backseat on a blanket was his dog. It was a nice-looking solid liver German Shorthaired Pointer. People were saying hello to Doc Sallenbach. He was obviously well known to this group and well liked. I eventually made my way to him and introduced myself.

COURTESY AUTHOR

I learned he was an M.D. in a small town west of Lincoln. He loved to hunt quail and pheasant over a nice Shorthair. I am sure that as a physician in that part of Nebraska at that time, he had no trouble securing great places to hunt. I asked about his dog, and he told me about the breeding.

He further told me about several other dogs he had owned. I was a student of pedigrees, and it quickly became obvious he knew and liked well-bred dogs. Hunting was his passion, and he enjoyed hunting over a fine dog. He entered AKC Hunt Tests to keep his dog sharp and to make his hunting season a bit longer. Doc Sallenbach was a soft-spoken gentleman. He was very accomplished, but very unassuming. I saw and visited with Doc several more times at Nebraska hunt tests. I found others like him at other hunt tests. Each conversation made me feel more comfort-

able in this noncompetitive environment that made my hunting season longer.

LESSONS LEARNED

I have long thought that the problem with German Shorthaired Pointers is that they can be trained for different tasks for different people: hunting upland game, hunting furbearing animals, retrieving waterfowl, field trials, hunt tests, bomb sniffing, drug sniffing, service dogs—and more. We each like to think that our way is the best way and our use is the best use. I have arrived at the opinion that there is “no best way.” It is simply a matter of determining what you want from a Shorthair and what breeding program gives you the best chance of finding the right pup. After that, it is up to you to develop those inherent talents.

I lost my last German Shorthaired Pointer 12 years ago, and I have not replaced him. He became a Master Hunter and he was easily trained—a natural. As I often

said of him, “He’s the type of Shorthair that would put a pro trainer out of business.” I did not replace him because I thought it was time to retire from the breed after having such a fine bird dog.

I did not think I could do better than him.

My hunting days are behind me now. The upland game population has plummeted. If I did see a bird I would feel guilty harvesting it. However, I still attend AKC Hunt Tests. I still like the atmosphere. I will always like to watch a good pointing dog as he does what he was bred to do. Doc Sallenbach is gone, but he remains a lesson to me. I try to follow his example of good manners and congeniality. And I have since met many others who possess similar traits. That is why I like Hunt Tests.—**J.C.**

Jim Cox, of Louisburg, Kansas, is past president of the [Heart of America German Shorthaired Pointer Club](#), based in Kansas City.

About Hunt Tests

AKC Pointing Breed Hunting Tests are noncompetitive pass/fail tests that assess each dog’s independently based attributes such as display of desire, boldness, independence, and speed, with a useful pattern of running across difficult or confusing scent patterns to pinpoint the location of birds. Other categories judges will score are bird-finding ability, pointing, trainability and, in Senior and Master tests, retrieving and honoring.

The AKC founded the program in response to the overwhelming success of Retriever Hunting Tests. The regulations were approved on March 11, 1986, and clubs were encouraged to hold sanctioned hunting tests. In April of that year, the [Nebraska Brittany Club](#) held the first AKC Pointing Breed Hunting Test, with an entry of 43 dogs.

Rules and Regulations



AKC.ORG

Long John Fooled the *Experts*

In the 1970s, Am./Can. Ch. Hornblower's Long John Silver was North America's most famous Landseer Newfoundland. He was named for the one-legged pirate of *Treasure Island* because of his solid-black right foreleg. Thanks to this distinctive marking Lynn and Richard Raymond, of Ottawa, were able to buy John from breeder Jerry Neufield as a pet. Neufield thought a black leg might count against John in the show ring.

Content as playmate and protector of the Raymonds' three sons, John settled into life as a family pet. Before long, however, his show-dog potential was undeniable.

Encouraged by Neufield, Lynn showed John in a few matches before turning him over to professional handler Martha Thorne. "The first time I saw the big fellow, he came plowing through a mud puddle to my front door," Thorne

recalled. "Even though I already had a Newf to handle, one look at John changed my mind. That's the dog I'm going to show, I told Lynn."

About that unusual leg marking, from a 1979 profile in *Dogs in Canada* magazine: "While not a disqualification, neither was the solid-black foreleg considered a desirable marking. 'Besides, he was the biggest puppy in the litter,' laughs Lynn, 'and that is usually not regarded as the best show prospect.'

"On both counts, Long John fooled the experts. He grew big and sound and handsome. As for the marking, in the words of Dr. Ivan Swedrup, a Swedish judge who has judged in 30 countries around the world and awarded Long John first in the Working Group on a recent Canadian assignment: 'With conformation such as that, who cares about how the dog is marked.'"

Long John was Canada's top dog,



all breeds, in 1978.

Thorne concluded, "Once in a career a handler hopes to have a dog like Long John. After two

shows, he almost showed himself.

He knew exactly what was expected of him, and when he won he was in his glory."

After conquering Canada, Long John continued his winning ways in America, handled by Fred Olson and Bill Trainor.

PHOTOS AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



Cole Porter

Cole Porter’s “Bulldog” has been firing up Yale football fans since 1911. The stirring march was written to honor the memory of Handsome Dan, the first in a long line of Yale Bulldog mascots of that name.

The original Dan came to Yale in 1889, when a member of the football team bought him for \$5 from a New Haven blacksmith. His howling aversion to crimson, the school color of hated rival Harvard, quickly endeared Dan to the student body.

Eighteen-year-old Cole Porter, of Peru, Indiana, enrolled at Yale in 1909. “Even as a college freshman,” wrote Porter biographer William McBrien, “Cole knew that he had an unfailingly seductive power to summon audiences of all kinds with his songs and his showmanship.”

Of several football songs Porter wrote in his college days, “Bulldog” is the one that clings to Yale as tenaciously as the breed it honors. “Porter’s rousing and spirited anthem has remained relevant over the years,” says the *Yale Daily News*. “‘Bulldog’ is *the* Yale fight song, and nothing else can replace it.”

*Bull-dog! Bull-dog! Bow, wow, wow,
Eli Yale!*

*Bull-dog! Bull-dog! Bow, wow, wow.
Our team can never fail.*

*When the sons of Eli break through the line,
That is the sign we hail,
Bull-dog! Bull-dog! Bow, wow, wow,
Eli Yale!*



"The Cocker Spaniel breed has been known all these years to the public primarily by the breed's beautiful face and ears," Kristi L. Tukua writes in this month's American Spaniel Club column.

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.

THIS MONTH

SPORTING GROUP

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SPORTING GROUP

Brittanys

TO JUDGE

According to the new edition of Merriam-Webster, to judge is “to form an authoritative opinion; or to form an estimate or evaluation about something.” Thus within our world of pointing dogs, this is a person qualified to pass critical judgment over competition events, which include though are not limited to field trials, hunt tests, conformation, obedience, and agility. For the most part the remaining discussion will pertain to all events, with exception of those remarks concerning weather.

The individual who judges must:

- know the breed (in this case, the Brittany);
- have significant experience handling and working with the breed;
- understand the importance of placements, and their long-term effects on progress to improve the breed;
- recognize that judging is a “thankless,” never-easy job, often in the face of disagreeable weather—including rain, snow, or extreme heat and humidity;
- consider that to the sport should be brought judgment of values, honesty of purpose, and integrity.

It’s important for a judge to know the “rules of the game.” The AKC provides specific guidelines regarding becoming a judge. There

are educational and testing programs, along with seminars that must be attended. The prospective judge must also be aware of the separate rules and regulations for each type of competition.

As previously mentioned, besides having a significant degree of experience with the type of dogs to be judged, judges must never let politics play a role in event placements. (Personally, this has happened to this author; once in a show event, and once following a field trial.)

In researching to write this article, a primary focus was on field trials, although many of the statements and or opinions can be applicable to other competitive dog sports. Many years ago, *American Field* magazine editor Albert F. Hochwalt wrote the following regarding judging:

“Judges are major factors in the progress of breeds. It is an accepted fact that field trial placements influence the selection of breeders, and so the thought should ever be uppermost that dogs of quality, of high character—dogs which can contribute to breed advancement—should be given prime consideration.”

Mr. Hochwalt then went onto cite a well-known judge of the time, Clarence Aldrich, who would put in his personal judge’s book before each field assignment the following reminder:

- Do not measure a dog’s greatness by the



Winning and runner-up Brittanys at a competitive field event, with handlers and judges.

distance he goes from his handler to find birds.

- Do not give preference to quantity, if brilliancy is lacking.
- Do not be carried away by a temporary display of brilliancy; remember, one swallow

does not make a summer.

- Do not make a dog win twice.
 - It is better to condone the slight mistake of a genius than to reward mediocrity.
- Mr. Hochwalt also continued by saying, “In

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these five precepts lie the essence of the entire law of field trial judging.”

As this author contemplates some of the above statements, it is perceived and acknowledged that my understanding of some of the wording is not easily assured. My own field judging experience was and is very limited; it was decided to get the opinion of several well-known judges.

One term that just “jumps out” from Mr. Aldrich’s and Mr. Hochwalt’s comments on judging is *brilliancy*, or *brilliance*. Definitions can include “intelligent,” “outstanding,” “exceptional,” or “magnificent.” With respect to dogs, *brilliance* probably should be considered for performances in the show ring to be a dog who is outstanding in conforming to the breed standard. In addition the dog must respond to the handler in terms of performance in the ring.

The quality of *brilliance* can also play a part in other dog sports, both field—hunt tests and NAVDA—and other ring competition, such as agility and obedience.

With regard to “brilliance” and field trial events, a judge will observe aspects of the dog’s performance, such as

- the cast on breakaway;
- making casts and hunting during the run;
- when on-point, as the dog gathers in scent with intensity of the point, with head high and tail set;
- never circles back coming through the gal-

lery, also to the front;

- manners during stop-to-flush;
- manners as the dog honors its brace-mate’s point or stop-to-flush;
- attitude toward the handler, respecting commands and direction.

As the judge observes and considers all the above, and with his experience and knowledge, a rating for the dog will be made.

As this writer comes to a conclusion for this piece, we all should (and I do) give thanks to all who are willing to take on this “thankless” job of being a judge for a canine sporting event.

—David Webb,

davidawebb@aol.com

American Brittany Club

Pointers

Our columnist for this issue is Angela Schillereff, chair of the APC National Field Trial Standing Committee.

25TH ANNIVERSARY APC NATIONAL FIELD TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

When one thinks of sporting dogs in the field, the talented and athletic Pointer is often at the top of the list for hunting upland gamebirds. Originally from England, Pointers and the fanciers who breed them have been competing in field trials to test and evaluate their

natural abilities for more than a century. The Pointer was one of the first breeds recognized by the AKC, in 1878, but it wasn’t until 1996 that the American Pointer Club held its inaugural National Field Trial Championships to crown its first National Field Champion.

It all started in the early 1990s, when a group of American Pointer Club members who were active in AKC-licensed field trials discussed how to pursue the creation of a National Field Trial Championship for Pointers. This group became known as the National Field Trial Standing Committee (NFTSC).

Hosting a national field trial event takes a dedicated committee of volunteers, but *creating* such an event requires the efforts of many more than just the committee. We could not have achieved AKC approval without the support of the APC’s officers and membership.

After many years of hard work by the NFTSC, AKC Board approval was finally obtained to hold the first APC Championships. The event was held at the South Republican Wildlife Area, also known as Bonny Reservoir, near Burlington, Colorado, in September 1996. FC Windtuck Baby Doll, JH, was named the first National Field Champion. “Dolly” was owned by Jim and Leslee Masolotte.

The APC Championships is held once each



“Pointer in a Landscape,” by Maud Earl

calendar year, in the fall, and has a tradition of rotating the locations of the event between the Western and Eastern U.S. The NFTSC is charged with the responsibilities of running the trial, determining the location and the dates of the trial, and budgeting for the event.

This championship is a horseback field trial, but handlers have the option to walk their brace.

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The National (Open) and National Amateur Championship stakes are one-hour heats, which means each dog must run and hunt for gamebirds on the designated course for an hour. All dogs must qualify to enter the Championship stakes.

It takes a special dog with much training and conditioning to compete at this very high level, akin to the level of preparation for human athletes who plan to participate in the Olympics. The dogs are judged and evaluated by the quality of their bird finds as well as how they hunted and covered the course.

The championships also include an Open Puppy Classic and Open Derby Classic stake, which allow those with young dogs to compete at the national level.

Through numerous fundraising efforts, the NFTSC has also acquired several special perpetual trophies in which the names of the winners are engraved.

In 2021, the American Pointer Club celebrated the 25th anniversary of the National Field Trial Championships. Mingo Sportsman Club in Bloomingdale, Ohio, was the location for the event. Mingo is a private hunting club and has hosted numerous regional and national championship events, including the AKC All Pointing Breed Gun Dog Championships, in 2019. We had a large entry, and the title of 2021 APC National

Field Champion was awarded to FC Redneck Warpaint, owned by Spero Manson.

The 2022 Championships are scheduled to be held October 5–9 at the Prairie Wind Ranch in Idaho. The NFTSC extends an open invitation to join us at this beautiful private ranch to watch our Pointers compete and celebrate our wonderful breed.—A.S.

Thank you, Angela.

[American Pointer Club](#)

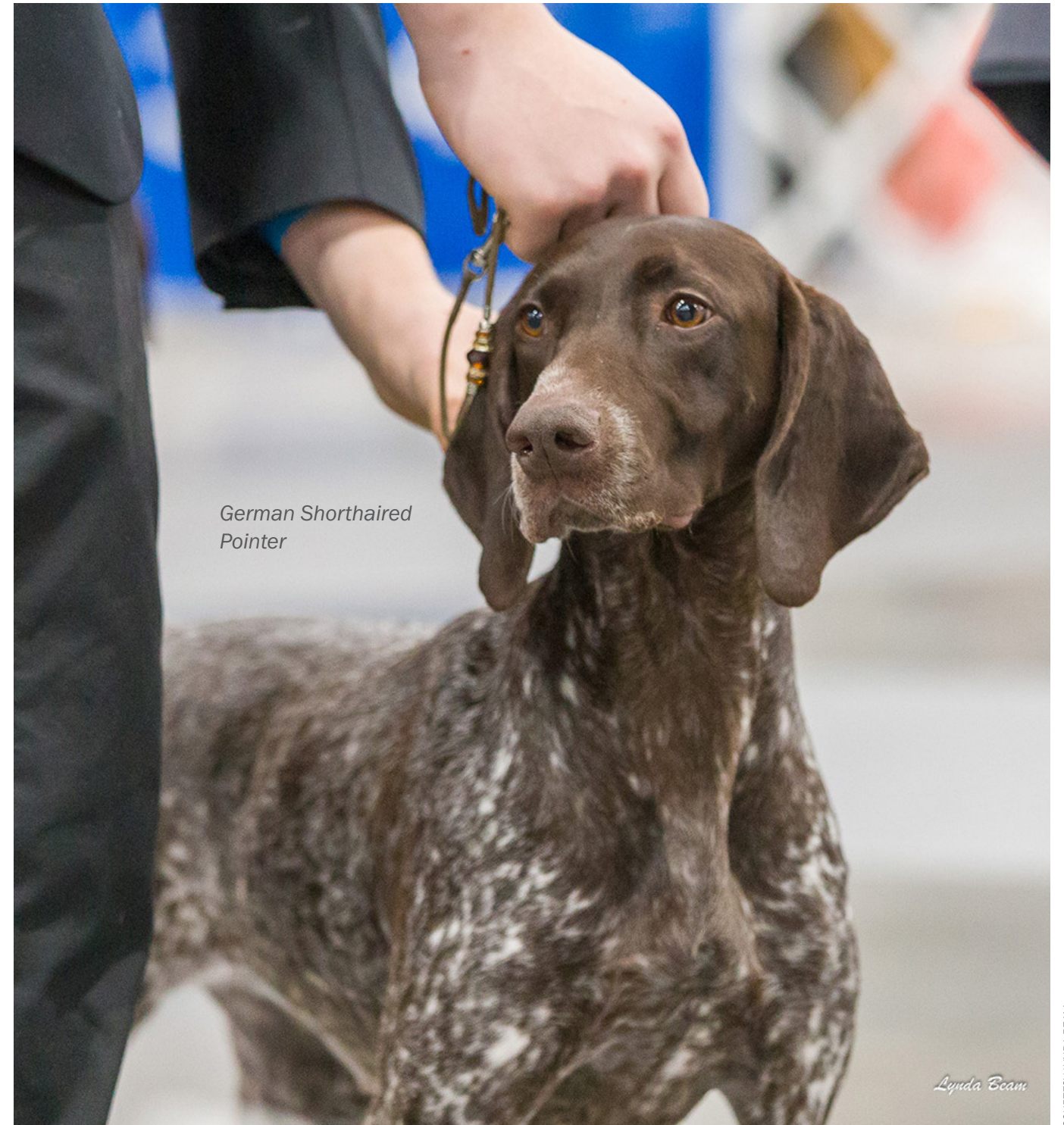
German Shorthaired Pointers

THE SHORTHAIR COAT

Some breeds are defined by their coat, others by the job they were bred to do, and others by their place of origin. With the German Shorthaired Pointer, it is all three.

The Shorthair was bred for multiple functions in addition to having a coat that would complement or enhance his keeping ability, as it pertains to other aspects for which the breed was being developed.

Over 60 years ago, German breed authority Herr H.F. Seiger wrote of comments made about the breed during its early developmental years. He said, “What a satisfaction to listen to the well-wishing warnings from fanciers of other breeds: ‘You breed your dog too beautiful—it is too beautiful and noble for the rough work outside in the fields!’”



German Shorthaired Pointer

Lynda Beam

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

SPORTING GROUP

He further said that the beauty of the Shorthair rests on sound fundamentals through trials to produce the suitability for the tasks for which the breed was being developed. The best of the trial *Siegers* (field champions) are identical to the most beautiful dogs in the ring.

Much consideration was given to the Shorthair coat. They didn't want the body hidden under long or thick coats. It was a source of great pride to see the muscles functioning and vein work evident as the dog worked the field, indicating what was considered a look of nobility.

Bred to retrieve on both land and water, sometimes in cold, icy conditions, and to work through heavy brush and muddy fields yet live in the home as part of the family, the Shorthair's coat was critically important. Much thought was put into the type of coat that met these conditions and would still be short enough to show the dog's lean athleticism at work.

It was observed that in nature the coat and hair of the otter, beaver, and polar bear resisted ice and snow and shed dried mud easily. It was important that the Shorthair's coat would not catch, snag, pick up burrs, nor become entangled in heavy brush, as was often the case in the breeds with longer coats or more porous hair. Softer hair or curled fur

created other problem of matting or the need for periodic cutting.

The breed's founders wanted an efficient coat that protected the dog in the field yet made him an easy keeper in the home.

It is because of the breed's founding with these purposes in mind, along with some trial and error, that the Shorthair coat today is what it is: short, thick, tough, and hard to the hand, while thinner and soft to the touch on the head and ears. The slight oily property found in a fine hair undercoat helps with insulation, gives waterproof qualities, and allows the coat to dry quicker and withstand cold, wet, and icy conditions.

It *is not* a double coat, nor is it a wire coat. The hair shaft in the Shorthair coat is relatively consistent in length—with the exception of under the tail, where it is slightly longer; and on the head and ears, where it is shorter and a bit softer.

If one gently pulls some of the Shorthair's body hair (dark or white) and rolls it between the thumb and forefinger, the texture should be readily apparent: round and smooth, yet with resistance; not soft. It is this attribute that gives the coat its identifying feel under hand.

—Patte Titus,
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German Shorthaired Pointer Club of
America

Curly-Coated Retrievers

Again, Jenny Dickinson is our columnist this month, and she has written a thoughtful column about tracking. I like her new approach, especially as today tracking test sites and land to practice on with our dogs, may not be very easy to find. I was very fortunate many years ago to have a tracking judge teach me the high points about tracking. Jenny, however, shares some very good ideas that can be used when practicing on small areas of land as well as the larger areas that some of us are more familiar with. Jenny's thoughts follow.

IT'S THE NOSE: TRACKING WITH CURLIES

I continue to marvel at the scenting ability of Curlies. I recently ordered several cans of cat food from Chewy and left them in the garage. My young Curly promptly discovered them, got several cans out of the shrink-wrapped cases, and opened them with his teeth. These are no longer accessible (I think!), but his determination to get at food he was able to detect through plastic and cardboard impressed me.

This reminded me of a game I teach puppies in preparation for the scent discrimination exercise they will later learn in Utility, and for other scenting activities such as tracking. Curlies are



Curly-Coated Retriever: cigarette card, early 20th century

COURTESY NY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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so brilliant at using their noses that they take to it immediately. I first learned this game from trainer Esther Zimmerman. Whether you want to track, do obedience, or do nose work, you might want to try it. It is also a good game if you are stuck at home during a pandemic!

I call the game “Find Mine,” which is my Utility command. You will need a number of identical metal boxes—an easy source is the boxes that hold holiday gift cards. (The reason I choose metal boxes is that your dog may decide to retrieve a box, so plastic would not hold up.) You will also need tongs. Put one box aside, and mark it with a dot of nail polish or a marker. This will be the one to hold *your* scent. Make sure to handle all the others with tongs.

Put a piece of meat in the marked box. Put that box between your hands and heat it up so you have hot scent on that box. Put pup behind a barrier so that he cannot watch you place the boxes on the floor. Tell him, in an excited voice, not to peek! Build expectation. Using the tongs, set three boxes eight or so inches apart, and have the one with your scent among them.

Now, ceremoniously release pup to the pile, saying, “Find mine!” He will naturally investigate the boxes. When he hesitates or makes *any* indication of interest at the marked box, say “Hooray!” and rush to open the box, and let him get the treat. You are *not* expecting certainty on his part. At this point, you just want him to

see that this is a fun game with a worthy payoff.

Stick with just a few boxes until pup shows you that he understands the goal. As with all our teaching, we want our dogs to feel pride and confidence in their actions. If he shoots directly to the correct box, he is a Curly! Now add more boxes with your tongs until you have a ridiculous number. Your Curly will embrace the challenge with alacrity and enthusiasm!—J.D.

Thank you, so much, Jenny, for sharing a very informative column.

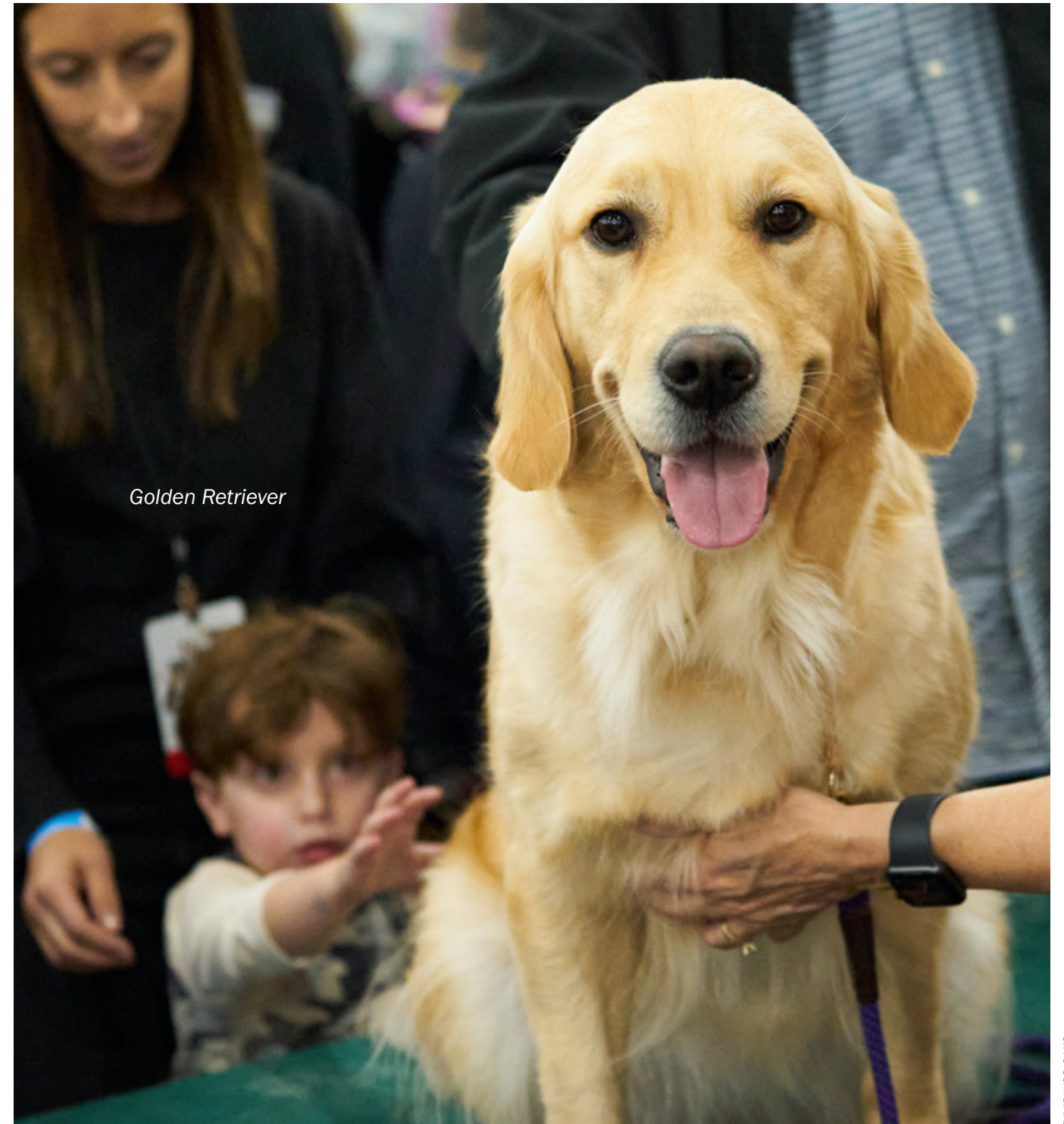
—Ann Shinkle,
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[Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America](#)

Golden Retrievers

GOLDENS FOR VICTIM JUSTICE

She’s a Justice Facility dog. Puma, a 4½-year-old Golden Retriever in British Columbia, is the counterpart to the U.S. Courthouse Facility dogs you read about in my July column. Puma and her handler, Kim Gramlich, work with the Delta Police Victim Services assisting victims of all types of crimes, including domestic violence and sexual assault.

Puma came to Delta two years ago through the Pacific Assistance Dog Society (PADS), which is an assistance dog school in Canada, accredited through Assistance Dogs International (ADI). ADI is a coalition of



Golden Retriever

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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nonprofit organizations that train and place assistance dogs with individuals with disabilities to improve their quality of life. ADI also supports a Breeding Cooperative program that allows program members to share genetic material, puppies and dogs, and breeding information, with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of all assistance dogs.

Kim said PADS uses ADI-certified assistance dogs in Australia in their breeding program. Puma's pedigree traces back to generations of purpose-bred guide dog lines from around the world. Her sire, Gunner, was imported, in co-ownership with Eirlys Golden Retrievers, from Guide Dogs of Queensland, in Australia. Her dam, Nala, was donated to PADS from Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael, California.

As with other trained facility dogs, by her very presence Puma helps to calm and comfort victims in circumstances that can be very intimidating after a traumatic experience.

"Puma is extremely gentle," Kim says, "and just sitting next to the victim and offering a paw can reduce their fear and bring them back to the moment."

"She makes an instant connection that is really quite profound," Kim continued. "By offering unconditional acceptance, victims feel Puma's 'support' and can begin to

relax during stressful court proceedings. She accompanies them to victim interviews, and will lie quietly at their feet for multiple hours during testimony in the courtroom witness box."

Puma also brings a sense of calm to Kim's co-workers in Victim Services and to everyone working in the police department. Victim Services and policing can be stressful work, and Puma is a welcome visitor wherever she goes.

ADI continues to support active assistance dog teams in North America. In 2019, ADI member programs placed 4,795 new assistance dog teams. Member programs for the training and placement of service dogs for veterans with PTSD, for prisons and correctional facilities, for kennels and private facilities, and for the training and placement of Facility Dogs must adhere to ADI's strict standards for each program. Facility Dogs like Puma must be suited to work in a variety of environments and accustomed to interacting with many different types of people.

It's safe to say that with their pleasant demeanor and love-everyone attitude, Golden Retrievers are the perfect comfort solution for these traumatized victims.

—Nona Kilgore Bauer,
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[Golden Retriever Club of America](#)

Labrador Retrievers

PREPARATION

*L*uck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.

—Seneca (Roman dramatist, philosopher, and politician)

We all know dog-handler teams who train brilliantly but somehow aren't capable of putting in a stellar performance to match their rehearsal. While stress often plays a part in a disappointing performance, another facet to consider is the team's preparation.

Some preparation begins days in advance. Your canine teammate needs to be in top condition. Getting that ear infection under control can make a world of difference as to whether a dog stays in the weave poles or gets distracted during an obedience routine. Toenails need to be trimmed; perhaps anal glands need to be expressed.

On the morning of competition, one of the first things to consider is when and how much to feed the dog. Dogs who need extra motivation or are prone to a sensitive stomach might be better off with something less than a full breakfast.

When to arrive at the competition and when to begin working toward the start also need to be thought out. A young or sensitive dog might focus better if he has plenty of time to walk around the venue and take in the sights,

sounds, and smells before he is asked to perform. On the other hand, a lower-energy dog might be better off arriving just before competing. Very keen competitors might be best kept some distance from the event until just before they are to go in, lest they get too wild. Where you crate at a trial or park your car at a hunt test is part of good preparation.

A competent handler in any venue will have the equipment necessary to keep the dog comfortable in extreme weather. On long days, maintaining a dog's hydration is also critical. It

COURTESY KATHLEEN RILEY



Labrador Retriever

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can help to lace water with canned dog food or a canine sports drink.

A regular warm-up routine is as useful in getting the dog mentally ready to perform as it is in ensuring that the muscles are properly tuned. For conformation, a last-minute grooming is usually in order, and no dog will have that “give me the ribbon” attitude if he needs to relieve himself. Part of good preparation for tracking means sheltering your dog’s nose from car exhaust, and giving him ample exposure to the local conditions.

Handlers need preparation, too. At a retriever hunt test, anyone who foregoes the opportunity to witness the test dog and hear the judges’ expectations is compromising their preparedness. There is no excuse for a handler not knowing where the blinds are planted and the birds are to land.

Walking an agility or rally course adequately is critical for a smooth performance. Successful obedience competitors go into the ring knowing the order of the exercises and the heel pattern. Observing others who go before you will not only reinforce the course, ring pattern, or bird locations but also help to expose any challenges that might have been missed on the initial assessment.

Lastly, keep in mind that preparation means understanding the rules and guidelines. Exhibitors sign a statement on all AKC event

entries saying they have read the rules and agree to abide by them.

Dogs thrive on routine. The more they can anticipate what is going to happen, the better they (and you) will be able to overcome the stresses of performance day. The best way to be prepared for the ring/test is to develop your own preparation routine and stick to it as much as possible. With a set ritual, you can be confident that you have done what you can to optimize your team’s performance. All those little elements of preparation should sway luck more in your favor.—*Lee Foote, 2013*

[The Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.](#)

English Setters

“HE HATH FOUNDE THE BYRDE”

One of the things I like best about purebred dogs is the way they tell the story of our human history. You always find people and their dogs together throughout the world, dating back millennia. Scientists keep pushing back the years as they uncover DNA evidence for the origin of dogs and how they became domesticated.

English Setters might not be thousands of years old, as some breeds are, but they certainly have a long and distinguished history. Setters are discussed in the first extensive book on British dogs, *De Canibus Britannicis* (1570,



English Setter

Lynda Beam

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

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translated in 1576 as *The Dogs of Britain*), by Dr. John Caius (also Kees, Keys, or Kaye), physician to Edward VI, Mary I, and Elizabeth I. Dr. Caius was also the founder of Caius College, Cambridge. [Caius's book](#) is online at the Gutenberg Project in Latin and in English, though the English is Elizabethan and a little hard to follow in places.

For dog lovers, the great thing about Caius's book is that he describes all the dogs of the time (mid-16th-century Tudor Britain) in wonderful detail. Caius also had a definite talent for organization, and he divides dogs into different categories such as dogs that “chase the beast” and “take the bird”—that is, dogs for hunting and fowling. It's obvious that dogs were already very specialized, even in the 16th century. After spending many pages on dogs that hunt hare, wolf, fox, badger, and other land animals, Caius turns to Spaniels (land and water) and then, finally, to the Setter. The language is old, but I think you can decipher it.

The Dogge called the Setter, in Latine Index.

“Another sort of Dogges be there, serviceable for fowling, making no noise either with foote or with tounge, whiles they followe the game. These attend diligently vpon theyr Master and frame their conditions to such beckes, motions, and gestures, as it shall please him to exhibite and make, either going forward, drawing backward, inclining to the right hand,

or yealding toward the left, (In making mencion of fowles, my meaning is of the Partridge & the Quaile) when he hath founde the byrde, he keepeth sure and fast silence, he stayeth his steppes and wil proceede no further, and with a close, couert, watching eye, layeth his belly to the grounde and so creepeth forward like a worme. When he approcheth neere to the place where the birde is, he layes him downe, and with a marcke of his pawes betrayeth the place of the byrdes last abode, whereby it is supposed that this kinde of dogge is called Index, Setter, being in deede a name most consonant and agreable to his quality. The place being knowne by the meanes of the dogge, the fowler immediatly openeth and spreedeth his net.”

The doctor's description is so appropriate that we still recognize it today in our English Setters. You can picture the dog silently stepping forward, scenting the bird, always biddable. He creeps forward and freezes into the point with his paw lifted to mark the spot. Some dogs today still crouch toward the ground in the old way, which was useful with nets, while other dogs are more upright, which became popular after firearms became common. In either case, the English Setter at work in the field is a beautiful sight and our breed's birthright.

If you want to try out your Elizabethan, Caius's book is highly recommended. It's a classic among dog books, with early information about many British breeds.

—Carlotta Cooper,
eshever@embarqmail.com
English Setter Association of America

Gordon Setters

PROOFING YOUR HOME TO ENSURE YOUR DOG'S SAFETY

“Can you believe my dog got on the kitchen counter and ate *my entire roast and the mashed potatoes with cheese and onions, and the chocolate cake?*”

How many times have we heard dog owners exclaim, with great consternation, that their dog(s) have decided “counter-surfing”/“grocery shopping” in the family kitchen/home is a favorite pastime, when no one is around to stop them.

Yes, dogs *are* curious by nature—but that curiosity can have deadly consequences.

A dog's nose, coupled with innate curiosity, can cause trouble, even death, when he gets into areas of the house or yard where dangerous or deadly household items are stored: the kitchen (foods, cleaning products, detergents, unwashed plastic food-storage containers), the bathroom (medicines), furniture and dirty clothes on which food has spilled, and the yard/garage (antifreeze, and so on).

Owners must “petproof” their home just as they would “childproof” it. This might require



Gordon Setter: October 1997 (Kent and Donna Dannen photo)

putting childproof fasteners on cabinets, even a special fastener on the fridge. Another issue is teaching family members the difference between good, healthy treats and *dangerous* treats.

Can we toss a grape or raisin to our dog as a treat? Absolutely not—both are toxic. The strange thing is, veterinarians are not sure why, but they do know that in dogs (but not cats), both can cause kidney failure, which can be fatal.

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What about a piece of apple? Yup—most dogs love ‘em. Apples are a great source of vitamin C, fiber, calcium, and phosphorus. They are best served in moderation, however, without stems or seeds (seeds have cyanide).

Some other healthy “treat” foods include banana, peanut butter (*but make sure it does not contain the sweetener xylitol, which is deadly toxic to dogs even in small amounts*), broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, cheese, melons (peeled), asparagus, artichoke hearts, sweet potato/yams/white potato (peeled), and squash.

Here is a partial list of “don’t chew” foods: chocolate, grapes, raisins, onions, garlic, tree nuts, pits from cherries/apricots/peaches, apple seeds, tomato leaves/stems, wild cherry, almonds, apricots, Balsam pear, and Japanese plum.

Others foods that may cause varied reactions, from diarrhea/vomiting or worse, include yeast dough, coffee grounds, Macadamia nuts, avocados (skin and seeds), onions and onion powder, mushrooms (if toxic to people), rhubarb, spinach, alcohol, garlic, gum—or again, *any* food item containing artificial sweetener (xylitol).

Here are some common household items that can be harmful or deadly: acetaminophen, antifreeze (which immediately shuts down kidneys), other car fluids, bleach and other cleaning fluids, boric acid, deodorants,

detergents, de-icing salts, disinfectants, drain cleaners, furniture polish, gasoline, hair coloring, weed killers, insecticides, kerosene, matches, mothballs, nail polish and remover, paint, prescription/non-prescription medicines, rat poison, rubbing alcohol, shoe polish, sleeping pills, snail bait, slug bait, turpentine, windshield-wiper fluid, and more.

It is pretty easy to think of many ordinary household items that would fall into the “dangerous” category. *Caution:* A purse can be a treasure trove of dangerous goodies as well.

A dog’s nose can easily sniff out food spilled on household or personal belongings. They will want to eat the food-scented portion or the entire thing—this can be shoes, socks, pants, pant pockets, shirts, toys, wallet, glasses ... or, or, or ... the list is long! A chewed hole indicates where the “good smell” of spilled food once resided on furniture, rugs, or rags. Eating any item can potentially cause an intestinal blockage requiring surgical removal of the ingested item to save the dog’s life.

Whenever offering a dog something out of a can, bag, or jar, remember to *always read the ingredients* on the label.

When in doubt about a possible toxin, call the Pet Poison Helpline, 855-764-7661. —
Carolyn R. Gold, 2016

[Gordon Setter Club of America](#)

Irish Red and White Setters

MEET THE IRISH RED AND WHITE SETTER

“Hey, where did you get that Brittany with a tail?” Or “Is that an English Springer Spaniel?” Irish Red and White Setter owners hear lots of guesses about their dog’s identity. Irish Red and White Setters (IRWS) are rare. No wonder people aren’t so sure when they see one. Sometimes a person may recognize the setter qualities—but the pearly white coat and red patches seem to throw them.

Although Irish Setters with their beautiful red coats have become more popular and recognizable, Irish Red and White Setters have been around longer. According to the website of the [Irish Red and White Setter Association of America](#), records show there were all-red dogs in Irish kennels at the end of the 18th century. It is thought that all-red dogs resulted from breeding white and red dogs that had increasing amounts of red.

They are two distinct breeds. The all-red dogs flourished in the 19th century. Irish Setters took part in the first American conformation shows, while the IRWS was almost lost. World War I caused great hardship in Ireland: People could barely feed themselves, much less their dogs.

The IRWS is a versatile dog. Very active, they need lots of exercise. AKC events and sports provide an opportunity to keep the breed busy

and challenged. Many have titles at both ends of their kennel names. Members of the Irish Red and White Setter Association of America keep the awards chair busy sending out certificates, even during the pandemic. The breed is a good family pet for an active family. They are friendly and love children. Breeders continue to keep the instinct to hunt as an important trait. Many hunters purchase the breed for hunting, as well as companionship.

With the breed in the Sporting Group along with the English, Irish, and Gordon Setters and the other gundog breeds, many owners enjoy taking part in hunt test and field trials with their dogs, as well as doing obedience, rally, flyball, tracking, and agility.

One good example is Claire, MACH6 Whitehot Red Cedar Serendipity. Having participated in agility for 10 years, Claire loves to “fly.” She jumps at 20 inches—the same height as Border Collies, Labrador Retrievers, and Golden Retrievers. As the only IRWS entered at the 2021 AKC National Agility Championship, she ranked 54th out of 300 dogs. Claire has titles in obedience and rally and is also a Junior Hunter. I like to say, “Irish Red and White Setters can do it all.”

The AKC fully recognized the Irish Red and White Setter on January 1, 2009. In 2020 the AKC ranked them 170 out of 195 popular breeds—down a bit from previous years.

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Claire, MACH6 Whitehot Red Cedar Serendipity, wonderfully exemplifies how Irish Red and White Setters can “do it all.”



According to the AKC’s mid-year breed statistics for 2021 (through July 2021), registration and participation numbers are up and down for this low-registration breed.

The standard says of the breed’s temperament: “They display a kindly, friendly attitude, behind which is discernible determination, courage and high spirit.”

I hope that in the future when you cross their path, you will recognize our lovely breed.

—Cynthia Lancaster, Lake Jackson, Texas;
clclancaster@gmail.com

[Irish Red and White Setter Association of America](#)

Clumber Spaniels

PRIORITIZING WHEN JUDGING

In 1995 the AKC directed breed parent clubs to delete any “scale of points” from revisions of breed standards. The five of us responsible in 1999 for revising the Clumber Spaniel standard—subject naturally to final approval by the Clumber Spaniel Club of America’s membership and the AKC—of course complied.

“Judging the dog as a whole” is certainly now a hallowed concept in the dog world. Nonetheless, deciding which parts of a given breed to prioritize is of necessity a conscious or unconscious question in the back of every judge’s mind, whether (s)he wants to admit it.

These very basic considerations of priority go far to explain the often vastly differing decisions made by judges, all highly knowledgeable concerning the same breed. And not to be explained away by simply “the dog was not having his day.”

Thus in spite of AKC’s 1995 directive, these “scales of points” can at least serve as an interesting guide to what past parent clubs or breed specialists deemed of relative importance. Of 28 “scales of points” for Clumber Spaniels (1867 to 2001), 23 list positive points, while five others list points to be subtracted—each adding up to either 100 positive or 100 negative points.

For the latter part of the 19th century, the eight successive scales by Stonehenge (Dr. John Henry Walsh) constituted a sort of Bible. In each scale for the Clumber, the head is by far the dominant feature. In his 1875 scale, head is even awarded 40 points, with body 30, and coat markings (i.e., always lemon rather than orange, contrary to today’s “both of equal value” in the breed’s AKC standard), legs, and tail 10 points each. In his earliest one (1867), however, he had listed 25 points each for head, strength [*sic*], and length, 10 points each for coat markings and tail, and the remaining five points for ears.

Of special interest are two scales of points published concurrently by The Clumber Spaniel

COURTESY KEITH AND CORIE ELRED



Clumber Spaniel

Club [England]—the world’s first—in 1904. In the positive scale, head/jaws are awarded 20 points, and body 15, with 10 points each for general appearance, color of markings, and coat/feather. The remaining 35 points are five points each for eyes, ears, neck, forelegs, hindlegs, hind-quarters, and tail. The negative scale subtracts 20 points for a snippy face/faulty jaw, and 15 points each for bad carriage/set-on of tail, and curled coat. The remaining 50 points are to be deducted at 10 points each for full eyes, light eyes, curled coat on ears, legginess, and straight stifles. (Surprisingly, only two scales ever mention straight stifles.)

In the dog world of the time, often at odds with the parent club, was The Spaniel Club [England] and its six successive scales spread over a 40-year period (1887–1927). Awarded were from 15 to 25 points for head, 15 to 20 for body, and a constant 10 points each for both general appearance and for coat/feather. Other parts receive five points each, except for forelegs and color markings, which were moved up to 10 points each in 1918 and 1927.

The Kennel Club (UK) in its most recent positive scale (1964) prioritizes head/jaw at 20 points and body at 15. General appearance/type, coat/feather, and color of markings weigh in each at 10 points. Relegated to five points each are eyes, ears, neck, forelegs, hind-legs, feet, and tail. Its negative scale penalizes snippy face/faulty jaw at 20 points, bad carriage/set of tail and curled coat at 15 points each; 10 each are subtracted for full eyes, light eyes, curled ears, legginess, and straight stifles.

The AKC has published only one scale of points for Clumber Spaniels, which was in effect from Feb. 6, 1960, to March 27, 2001. In this, body/quarters are evaluated at 20 points, head and neck/shoulders at 15 each, general appearance/size, ears, legs/feet, coat/feather at 10 each, and eyes and color/markings at five each.

Thus on average, arranged by descending order of importance: (1) head; (2) body; (3) general appearance, coat/feather, color of markings, legs; and (4) eyes, ears, neck, tail. But absences are probably the most surprising feature of all these scales. Absolutely none—positive or negative—ever list either bite or gait. Also no mention of temperament. How times change.

—Bryant Freeman, Ph.D.,
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Breed Historian, Founding/Life Member,
[Clumber Spaniel Club of America](#)

Cocker Spaniels

THE COCKER'S EXPRESSION IS KEY

Expression is a key feature of the Cocker Spaniel. The expression of a dog can change its look completely, perhaps even causing it (if not for the characteristic ears) to resemble a different breed! The Cocker standard addresses the breed’s expression in the section under “Head,” as follows (and I will include the section on eyes as being part of the face):

Head: “To attain a well-proportioned head, which must be in balance with the rest of the dog, it embodies the following: *Expression*—The expression is intelligent, alert, soft and appealing. *Eyes*—Eyeballs are round and full and look directly forward. The shape of the eye rims gives a slightly almond shaped appearance; the eye is not weak or goggled. The color of the iris is dark brown, and in general the darker the better.”

Looking at the range of dogs and bloodlines is perhaps the best way to educate yourself regarding the possible variations and to develop “an eye” for correct expression. Contrast the ideal with the many faulty expressions arising from incorrect shape of eye-rims and so forth. The Cocker’s sweet, soft expression is a hallmark. I would also add that the expression is earnest and sincere looking. Nothing that makes a “bug-eyed” or harsh

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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Cocker Spaniel

look is correct. Sometimes having the “third eyelid” be white can contribute to an “off” expression, as can a more than *slightly* almond-shaped appearance to the eye.

A synonym for “expression” is *countenance* (meaning one’s look, aspect, or face). A harsh or weak countenance, by whatever factors cre-

ated, is not correct. The Cocker Spaniel has been known all these years to the public primarily by the breed’s beautiful face and ears. Even those who are not individual fanciers of the breed can recognize the importance of expression in denoting and distinguishing one breed from another, and one dog from another.

I will never forget back in the 1980s when I had two Cocker puppy sisters in an ex-pen in the dog room. My husband walked through the room, came out, and said to me, “The red and white one has a beautiful face and expression!” I could have been struck by lightning at that comment. Why? Because here was a man who was never directly involved in dog shows, and if I would say one of the dogs won a sweepstakes, he would reply, “Did you get any points”? You can see what I mean. Surely this message about my dog’s expression was from “on high,” transmitted through a basically non-dog person! It certainly made me look twice and favor keeping that dog. (By the way, that dog went on to be a futurity BV winner, Best in Sweepstakes winner, champion, and mother of five champions.)

Thus Cocker breeders must not fail to appreciate the impression made on the public by the breed’s face and expression. Expression, if correct, is a *key*, endearing feature of the Cocker.

—Kristi L. Tukua

[American Spaniel Club](#)

English Springer Spaniels

2022: LAUNCHING PUPS INTO THEIR BEST LIVES

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness ... it was the spring of hope ... we had

everything before us.”

Charles Dickens could have had the joys and fears of raising the best possible puppy in mind when he penned those opening thoughts in *A Tale of Two Cities*. As dog breeders and puppy-raisers, considering the many suggestions and opinions we hear about puppy-raising, we should add, “It was the best advice; it was the worst advice.”

When looking for one puppy-raising book, succinct and brimming with wisdom based in science and experience, *The Puppy Primer*, by Patricia McConnell, is a favorite. McConnell reminds inexperienced owners, longtime breeders, and seasoned dog trainers: “Lassies are made, not born. Your dog didn’t come into the world with the ability to understand English, or to know the social conventions of our culture. By the same token, you were not born instinctively knowing how to train a dog.”

How many little pups have been tortured when owners follow bad advice given with good intentions? *The Puppy Primer* is a terrific book for breeders to send home with puppy buyers, or to add to their list of recommended resources in puppy go-home packets.

To ensure that a pup receives every opportunity for optimal mental and physical development, we often need to stop, take a calming breath, and remember that a good experience from the pup’s viewpoint depends on the pup’s

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

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very individual temperament, on his or her prior experience or lack of experience, and on the genes that made the pup who he or she is.

Baby steps are best for baby dogs. “Socialize, socialize, socialize!” can become good advice gone bad. Enroll in a puppy kindergarten class where all the dogs are very young, the class is small, and the breeds are evenly matched in size and play drive. Do the class instructors have keen eyes for signs of pup intimidation, overexuberance, or frightened-pup responses? Build a foundation for your pup to love to leave home and to delight in other dogs. Not all classes are managed well for puppy behaviors, nor are all pups screened carefully enough to set the stage for happy learning experiences.

Before you take your pup to a class, ask if you may come and watch a class. Most instructors will be happy to have you. Leave your pup at home until you have seen the size of the class and the size of the pups in the class as well as the surfaces, noise levels, and type of instruction. Watch class interactions closely, and note the stress levels of dogs and owners.

Learning to read your pup’s reactions to the expanding world around him is a constant focus of bonding with each new dog. Each pup is different. If a pup goes toward a situation with a wagging tail and soft eye expression, he probably feels the new experience is safe. Conversely, if a pup plants his little feet and refuses to take

*English Springer Spaniel Stingo of Shotten of Greenfair,
by Edwin Megargee*



a step toward any new person or object, respect his reluctance. Let the pup take a step back. Let the pup watch from the sidelines while he works to understand his new world. Pushing a pup into an experience that frightens him may have the opposite effect than teaching him to be outgoing and accepting of new situations. Keep play-sessions in new places brief. Always leave a new experience with the pup happy to have been there.

Your puppy is not a tool for older dogs to use to reinforce their experience that the world is safe. Have you witnessed an adolescent dog, on leash, dragging their owner full-speed-ahead toward a tiny pup? Usually this out-of-control owner is shouting, “He’s OK! He loves puppies!” This is the time to happily pat your leg, sweetly say your pup’s name, and scamper to another spot. You can be friendly, and say, “My pup needs a little space!” or a similar message that you hope will make the clueless dog owner reel in his untrained dog. The one thing you must not do is offer your inexperienced pup up to be overwhelmed by a dog whose behavior, temperament, and play techniques are unknown to you.

Puppyhood is not the time to make a bucket list of every life experience you want your pup to enjoy and force him into myriad confusing, perhaps noisy, often frightening situations. Have you ever seen a little pup quivering, with

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eyes rolled back to show the whites, at a loud gathering like a music concert or a fireworks event? Thrusting a young dog into an overstimulating atmosphere will harm the pup, not build the pup's confidence that the world outside his house is safe.

Many stores allow pups to shop with their owners. Rather than taking your pup to a pet store where many dogs may go, and where you have no way of knowing the health or vaccination history of those dogs, take him or her to places where few dogs go, but where the pup is allowed to sit in your shopping cart and see the world roll by. National chain hardware stores, many craft stores, garden supplies, restaurants with outdoor seating, shopping centers with outdoor benches, and many businesses welcome pups. If your pup is small enough to tuck inside your jacket and both you and the pup are quiet and polite, chances are no one will object to your pup's presence.

As you look into a trusting pup's eyes, realize that to the pup you are the entire world. Tell yourself, "Easy does it." Go slowly, with joy for your pup and an eagle eye on the world around him. Show him a world that is safe and calm.

—Sarah A. Ferrell, Locust Grove, Virginia
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[English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association](#)

Field Spaniels

WHEN YOUR DOG ISN'T YOUR DOG

In our busy day-to-day lives, working, living, and managing homes and health, our dogs are an integral part of our processes. We schedule and run errands, and we change, overcome, and adapt. Fields are wonderful companions in that they often travel well and behave in our family worlds, being social and wanting to be part of the action. Whether we train and show or simply enjoy their company, we all develop routines with them, and they also work with *us*. These crafty dogs intelligently design their manner and reactions within a household. I marvel at their ability in not only how they tailor their trained behaviors to different family members, but also how they display particular antics and attitudes depending on what they are used to.

We almost take for granted in a beautiful way that we have a well-blended partnership with these creatures—we can anticipate each other's feelings and actions in ways most human relationships aren't able to achieve. It's lovely that despite free will we are privileged to enjoy such a melding with our dogs, and sometimes that predictability is one of the best parts of ownership.

It is this way that we experience our furry friends as more than a common creature, and more of a friend, confidant, den partner, and



soulmate of sorts. Dogs are most definitely family.

A lifelong friend of mine observed that I was rolling with acceptance of change in my life

with grace and peace that was unexpected, but not at all surprising to me. I have endured various upheavals and dealt with the world's state professionally and personally as of late,

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and so the inevitable changes that come with health challenges in dogs and people seem to be somewhat routine. One of dogdom's great beauties is that the canine state of mind is to live in the present and to accept things as they are, without worry about the future nor dwelling in the past. If we could be half as present as they are, we'd be in far less duress when it comes to stressful situations. So things will change. We will experience change. Our loved ones and dogs, too, will change over time and for a variety of reasons both unexpected and predictable.

If we are lucky, we see our breed maturing into lovely ages. Knowing that it is common to see our dogs living for a decade and into teen years, we are careful guardians of their health, both through educated breeding choices and also in terms of their care and nutrition. Fostering the socialization, training, and nurturing is a true labor of love for owners. We cultivate the dogs we live with—grow them and mold them into our true chosen family. We also know that their lives are relatively short and that these beloved animals can befall many of the same ills and health conditions that humans experience. We are painfully aware that we not only are the custodians of their health and well-being, but also we have the capacity to assist with their quality of living and sparing them pain or suffering when

faced with situations where we make decisions about their treatment or end of life.

In short, I'd like to examine a few scenarios in which we can mindfully experience the ways in which we may view, or even re-frame how we view, the dogs we have bonded with and so love over time. I think we as humans reflect upon our own lives in terms of growth and situation, that we are not the same person we are from childhood to adolescence. Again, we grow from young adulthood into middle age, and become aware further that we are different as we grow older and wiser, with more experiences over time. We have certain expectations of puppyhood stages, from the young, growing dog, and during the blissful prime of their lives. Again, we know there may become days we see gradual change: a little graying, cloudiness in the eyes, a bit of shuffling to the gait. We see them over a lifetime that is condensed and so much shorter than ours. It has become one of the greatest teachers I have been privileged to learn and grow from.

Situational change has created a completely different animal. I have witnessed dogs who have experienced trauma and developed fear behaviors. Some dogs undergo environmental change and family upset and display insecurity or other coping behaviors. It's fascinating to witness the resilience of our Fields—how they

adapt to various scenarios and use their problem-solving capabilities admirably.

Seeing the very real differences between our raised animals and one left or become feral, we must never forget how thin the border is between those worlds. It is simply one of instinct and survival.

If our dogs experience a setback, we are understanding. A Field's personality or abilities may change due to health issues. Diagnostics can reveal simple explanations for behavioral change and should always be considered.

If they experience a more permanent change in their health, we do all we can to accommodate and assist them in having good quality of life. Our dogs are so much more than dogs to us, and we owe them that love and understanding. I've seen permanently injured dogs develop new careers, and aging or ill animals enjoy the simple things in life with reckless abandon. Enjoy every moment, no matter how unplanned or surprising they may be. Their time on this earth is comparatively short, and we need to learn to accept its ups and downs with grace.

I always said and believe that even if my dog could not compete, they would still be my beloved companions. I take the holistic view of each dog as an individual, with their own feelings on things, their own likes and dislikes, and characteristics unique to them. We love

them for who they are, not who we want them to be, or who they once were. Sometimes that ebbs and flows, given their status. We don't have all good days or bad days, nor do we have perfect health at all moments.

It is a lifelong lesson to embrace these seasons in the cycle of life and to make the best of what we have. Hug your dogs.

—Shannon Rodgers,

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Field Spaniel Society of America

Irish Water Spaniels

“IRISH EYES”

The eyes of the Irish Water Spaniel betray the complex nature of the dog within. They are the windows through which we catch a glimpse into the mind of this singularly smart and sensitive canine.

The standard describes the IWS as having “great intelligence” with an “eagerness of temperament.” These qualities are best understood when the dog is looking directly at the viewer. Although a profuse topknot generally obscures the head of adult dogs, it is not difficult to recognize the correct, intelligent expression when those brilliant Irish eyes come into view.

An exceptional performer in water and on land, the breed's ability to search and retrieve

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a mark is greatly aided by eyes that are “set almost flush” and “comparatively small and almond shaped, with tight eyelids.” Correctly sized and shaped eyes afford a natural defense against the elements. Yet, just as their form protects, it also establishes the framework that allows the breed’s inner “essence” to be expressed.

Color, as much as any aspect of the eyes’ conformation, creates the desired *keenly alert, intelligent, direct, and quizzical* expression described by the standard. Too light, and the look is one of startled bewilderment; too dark, on the other hand, and the expression approaches an unrecognizable softness. Neither extreme is correct for the breed.

According to the breed standard, an acceptable range exists for the value of the eyes’ pigment: *The color is a warm tone of medium to dark brown, dark amber but never yellow.* Prior to a 2009 revision to the standard, eye color was defined as *hazel, preferably a dark shade.*

As with other chocolate- or liver-colored sporting breeds, maintaining a dark eye can be a challenge and, once lost, is difficult to re-establish in a line. Many misinterpreted the use of the term “hazel” as making acceptable the lighter green or yellow colors that completely mar expression. Light eyes are the bane of any brown-dog breeding program, so the emphasis of the current standard is placed



on a value that is “warm” and a color that approaches “dark,” either amber or brown.

“Brown,” of course, is not the same color in every breed. Many sporting dogs allow for brown eyes, although each has a standard that describes the color in relative terms. Descriptions range from “dark” in Pointers, through “dark brown” in Cocker Spaniels and “dark hazel” in Field Spaniels, to “hazel” in Sussex Spaniels and “yellowish or amber” in Chesapeake Bay Retrievers.

It is generally preferred that eye color harmonizes with the color of the coat, and this may account for the many terms used to describe this very common color.

For the Irish Water Spaniel, with its rich, liver-colored coat with a “purplish tinge,” the eyes must possess the desired qualities of size, shape, placement, and unquestionably color that allows the breed’s alert and inquisitive nature to shine through.

When it comes to this Celtic water dog, Irish

eyes do indeed smile. —*Dan Sayers, 2012*
[Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)

Sussex Spaniels

SUSSEX HAVE FEELINGS: A SAD TALE

Most (note I did not say all) Sussex are very empathetic. They often feel what their people feel—sad, happy, excited. This is especially apparent when one of their favorite people is not feeling well; they are right there and ready to lend a kiss or a cuddle, or to just lie quietly watching and making sure you are not alone. This can, however, become a bit of a problem if their person has a long, debilitating disease, as they tend to become extremely protective of their person, often having to be put in another room while a doctor or other needs to care for that person.

This empathy generally makes Sussex a really good therapy dog, as they seem to immediately want to comfort someone in a rest home or retirement facility, and they are also quite good (with some training) at airports, for relaxing people between flights or with long waits.

Sussex certainly do have feelings, and they can even experience a broken heart. Many, many years ago, shortly after my husband and I finally got our first Sussex, we had a call from a woman who worked in a boarding

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Sussex Spaniel Ch. Sundowners Heat Wave, MH, RA, MH, NAP, NJP, CGC, WDX, by Mitch Gyson

kennel in California. She said she wanted to tell us about her experience with a lovely, loving Sussex dog. She said that there was a couple who would sometimes leave their Sussex there for a long weekend while they traveled. They had done this several times, and the dog

had done well and was so happy to see them when they came to pick him up. They had done this for three or four years. Then came the day when they were supposed to pick him up, as usual. They didn't come.

The kennel staff weren't worried at first, as

sometimes people would be a day late. But they didn't come the next day, nor the next. This poor Sussex had never been left so long before. He looked for his people every day. The staff were very fond of him, and this woman told us she would take extra time every day to pet and walk him, but he got sadder and sadder. They could not reach the dog's owners, as the telephone had been disconnected. Letters were written but not answered.

After two months, the dog had almost stopped eating and drinking, and they called a vet to look at him. He said that physically there was nothing wrong with the dog, and suggested giving him another type of food, and treats, but it didn't help. Two days later he sat in the corner and, as she told me, "He put his face to the wall" and died. His people had deserted him, and he died of a broken heart. She said she and others working there cried, and they buried him there under a tree. The owners who had left him never called or returned. Maybe they had been in an accident or died; maybe they just left. The kennel never found out. That happened over 50 years ago, and "put his face to the wall" still haunts me. I want to help ensure that never happens to a Sussex again.

Be sure wherever you go, or wherever you might leave your dog, that someone knows—

family, friends, someone. Sussex need their family, and if not their family, they need someone who understands the breed. This is why almost every Sussex breeder will take back one of their breeding if something happens such that owners cannot keep the dog. This is why the SSCA has a Sussex Rescue that not too long ago rehomed a 13-year-old from a hospital situation. Sussex need us as much (or more) than we need them.

Sussex are a "long haul" dog. Don't get one unless you plan on keeping him. If life or death intervenes, the SSCA will help find a good home.

—Marcia Deugan,

ZYADAHreg@aol.com

[Sussex Spaniel Club of America](#)

Welsh Springer Spaniels

THE RIGHT MATCH

The official standard of the Welsh Springer Spaniel, when describing temperament, says the Welshie is "an active dog displaying a loyal and affectionate disposition. Although reserved with strangers, he is not timid, shy, nor unfriendly. To this day he remains a devoted family member and hunting companion."

Breeders put many hours of thought into decisions about which family will receive

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which puppy in a litter. They consider each puppy's temperament and personality, as well as the families on the waiting list. Which puppy for the family with four children? Which to the young and active single woman? Who is the right match for the newly retired couple?

And while each puppy fits within the temperament standard outlined above, all breeders know that puppy personalities fall along a continuum. Which puppy is the first to settle down in your lap? Who is the natural leader? Who is the most hesitant to try something new?

When I bought my first Welsh Springer, the breeder let me choose between two male pups she thought would both be show quality. As she described the puppy I eventually took home, she said, "He has that indefinable 'look at me' quality. He has a strut when he moves around the room. He's a natural show dog." And although my dear Ike was never the perfect physical embodiment of a Welsh Springer, he loved to show and finished his championship in an era when "bigger is better" was taking over in our show rings, although he was clearly on the small end of the standard. He had a presence in the ring that drew the eye.

His breeder described it perfectly: *indefinable*. That certain something that makes a dog perfect for you and your family. Puppy families are eager to learn which bundle of Welshie joy



will be theirs. "But the little one is *soooo* cute!" "But the fat one is *soooo* funny!" As breeders we've all heard these pleas. A responsible breeder holds firm, however, and makes the best decision based on their knowledge of the puppy and the situation where he or she will be placed.

Some of the best days for a breeder are the days when puppies leave for their new homes. The pups are welcomed into the loving arms of the people they will learn to love above all

others. As the standard says, the puppy will become "a devoted family member."

—Wendy J. Jordan,
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[Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America](#)

Vizslas

RAISING A TEENAGE VIZSLA

He's a happy, well-socialized Vizsla puppy from a careful breeder, with a

dynamite pedigree. He comes when called, greets strangers enthusiastically, eats his meals with gusto, demonstrates his pointing instinct, and is housebroken in record time. He earns his first show points from the 6-to-9-months puppy class.

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

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

For many dogs, an adolescent "fear period"

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

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

No matter how well we've socialized our puppies, they need additional socialization in adolescence. Positive experiences with a variety of people, places, and things will help them grow into confident adults. Experiences that elicit a fearful response need to be handled carefully.

Babying a dog in these situations can unintentionally reinforce fearful behavior; on the other hand, forcing a dog to remain in a situation that terrifies him can lead to long-term problems. The best approach is to be calm and matter-of-fact and avoid making a big deal out of these episodes.

Vizslas often come into rescue during adolescence, when behavior that seemed cute



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

improvement in behavior and personality.

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

And remember: This too shall pass.—*Beth Nash, 2012*

[Vizsla Club of America](#)

Weimaraners

WEIMARANER TALL TALES

Read any history of the Weimaraner in America, and you'll be told that when the Weimaraner made its debut in the U.S., it was a sensation. Weimaraners were hot news in the late 1940s and '50s. Weimaraners graced the covers of national magazines, celebrities vied to own one, and people could not get enough information on the newly popularized dog. Outrageously positive stories were printed about this new super dog.

What were these stories? How much hyperbole surrounded our "gray ghosts"? And speaking of "gray ghost," it was a term that branded our breed and fascinated the general public. What were these rare, silver-gray dogs that the Germans secretly developed and would not release into other countries? Enquiring minds wanted to know.

Here are a few stories recounted to give a historical perspective on how the Weimaraner was publicized when the breed was initially introduced to the American public. Are the stories true? You be the judge.

Jack Denton Scott, who wrote the early, seminal book *The Weimaraner*, penned an article for *Field and Stream* magazine in October 1947. The article was titled "The Gray Ghost Arrives," and it got a response from the public that no one predicted: 25,000 letters poured

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Weimaraners

into the author’s office. Scott reported that he had to employ three secretaries to answer all the letters. The volume of letters was unprecedented. Scott’s article gave a few examples of what this new breed was like:

“... the Weimaraner doesn’t have to be trained to hunt birds. Their bloodlines are so excellent and their forebearers bred so

purely for the last 137 years, that they are just natural born hunters.”

“This dog ... can run effortlessly beside and automobile traveling at the rate of 38 miles an hour, and pull ahead of the car and not even appear winded.

“... one of the judges in Obedience trials made the remark that the Weimaraner

should be given a handicap because they always came out top dog in the trials.”

“... one saved the life of a man who had fallen in a stream and because of a bad arm couldn’t arise.”

Articles about Weimaraners popped up everywhere, including in *Argosy* magazine. *Argosy* was an American pulp magazine featuring sensational stories. It was published from 1882 to 1978, and in the July 1949 edition a story appeared about a heroic Weimaraner. As the story goes, a little boy from Massachusetts had vanished from his home. The police searched unsuccessfully for three days. The state police Bloodhounds were called in, and still no luck. On the third day of the search (ever notice how things always happen in threes?), a man showed up with a Weimaraner. He asked to join the search, and the Weimaraner tracked from the boy’s house to a small river that was about a quarter-mile away. The Weimaraner stopped on the banks and held his ground. The state police told the man that his dog was wrong, since the Bloodhounds had covered that ground several times before and found nothing. They tried the search again, and again—and the Weimaraner repeatedly came to exactly the same spot on the riverbank.

Fifteen yards from where the gray dog had

halted, tragically, they found the boy’s body. After three days of unsuccessful searching, the Weimaraner had found the boy in an hour.

The boy’s uncle later corrected that statement, saying that the dog had only taken 10 minutes, but because they didn’t want to believe him, “We made him search over and over, taking a total of about an hour.”

Weimaraners weren’t only relegated to storytelling. Because of their novelty they were the equivalent of “click bait” in advertising. A 1953 ad for Rheingold beer featured Miss Rheingold, wearing her best hunting tweeds, holding the leads of a brace of Weimaraners. In the same era, an ad for Conoco Oil in *The Saturday Evening Post* proclaimed, “Weimaraners are the smartest dogs in the world,” and that “The Weimaraner is the outstanding example of a dog bred to do a job better than it had ever been done before.”

A lengthy article in a 1950s issue of *Look* magazine proclaimed the Weimaraner “The New Wonder Dog.”

Are Weimaraners wonderful? As owners and fanciers, I’m sure we heartily agree. Even without all the ballyhoo and tall tales, the Weimaraner is our wonder dog.

—Carole Lee Richards,
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 Weimaraner Club of America

DAVID WOO ©AKC

WORKING GROUP

Akitas

I wrote the following in 2010 when a premature puppy was born. I learned so much about raising premature puppies, and later found out she had kidney dysplasia. She lived three and a half years on a kidney diet and was happy until the end. She thought I was her real mother, and she was the only Akita who spent a lot of time on our bed. We as breeders know the joy, responsibility, and heartache of breeding dogs. Whether it's the happiness that comes with having a litter of puppies, and of breathing the first breath into that puppy, or whispering how much we love them when they take their last. It is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly, and for some of us, it's part of a lifelong commitment and love of dogs. Even though three of MoreSoul's littermates finished their championship, we decided to never breed them in case there was a genetic component.

MORESOU, THE PREMATURE AKITA PUPPY

Do we measure ourselves by our failures or successes? I've been thinking about that one a lot lately, trying to make this little soul live. It helps having experience: 30 years breeding dogs, and 25 years being a small-animal veterinarian. Canine reproductive medicine is my passion—not really a specialty, although my clients call it that.



Akita puppy MoreSoul with her litter, as a newborn, and later on with littermates and her big sister, who stayed at the breeder's home along with her.

April 22 was so bittersweet. I had to put my oldest male, Player, to sleep. It was my son's 19th birthday, and Player was his favorite dog. Player had hemangiosarcoma. The surgery I did six months ago had seemed successful. He gained back all his weight and vigor, only to succumb to the cancer invading his bone marrow.

Our best Akita bitch was due any day, and it was time for her puppies to be born. A nice litter of 10 was born by C-section that day. Dr. G took my usual place as surgeon. I was in charge of the puppies and had an unusually big staff. They had come in on their day off to help, and there was even another relief vet, Dr. O.

When the little one was given to me, she looked dead, and I put her aside to let the



more normal-looking puppies have their chance. Out of the corner of my eye I saw her breathe. *Damn, she should just die.* She had no hair. My staff of course would not let her die. We worked on all 10 puppies, and they were all doing well except for the tiny one. She was 5.1 ounces, and the others were 11 to 15 ounces—with most at 14 to 15 ounces, and just one small male who was 11 ounces.

I snuck euthanasia solution with my supplies so I could put the tiny pup out of her misery if she were suffering. Dr. O called her "Morsel." My daughter and office manager heard "MoreSoul," and she got her name.

So here I am two and half weeks later with MoreSoul living, and I am hoping I can look back on this and see it as a success and not a



failure. Sure, I have saved little ones before. I have also lost them after feeding them for three weeks.

I hope my experience will help others in some way, either in raising little creatures or just looking at life in a different way. I know I have given this my all. MoreSoul is thriving

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today, but tomorrow could be a different story. Less than a week ago I looked for that small syringe of euthanasia solution, as I thought she was suffering. I just could not do it. I put it out of my hands and gave it to the Universe, God ... I just did not want to make the decision myself.

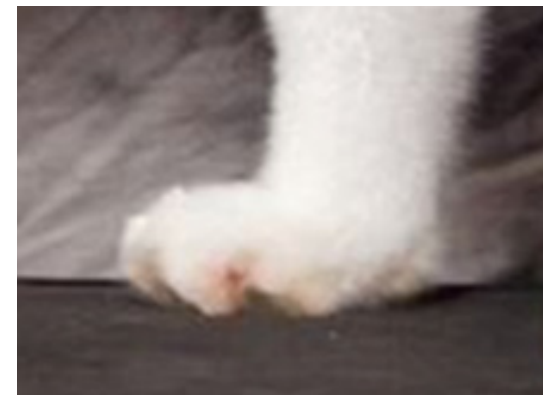
—Rebecca Kestle, DVM,
rebecca.kestle19@gmail.com
Akita Club of America

Alaskan Malamutes

NO FEET, NO MALAMUTE!

A classic concept from the horse world, “no feet, no horse” translates perfectly with respect to the Alaskan Malamute. Just as unsoundness of the equine foot can critically impact a horse’s health and usefulness, the structure and soundness of the Malamute foot should always be one of the greatest priorities in one’s breeding program. And we have only to look at our breed standard for direction and focus.

The standard speaks: “The feet are of the snowshoe type, tight and deep, with well-cushioned pads, giving a firm, compact appearance. The feet are large, toes tight fitting and well arched. There is a protective growth of hair between the toes. The pads are thick and tough; toenails short and strong.”



Important: In judging Malamutes, their function as a sledge dog for heavy freighting in the Arctic must be given consideration above all else.

It is precisely because of this fact—that our breed’s heritage and existence is inextricably tied to its soundness for heavy work in severe conditions—that the Malamute foot must be sound. It may seem obvious to say that dogs run on their feet, but just think of the challenges of actual freighting conditions: severe cold, heavy snow, ridges of ice, biting wind—all while pulling a heavy load, either single or as part of a team. Here, feet are not merely a nicety; they make the difference between failure and survival.

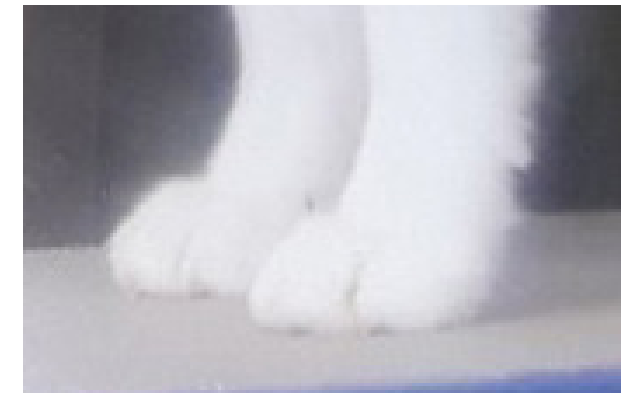
As we navigate the challenges of making solid decisions for our breeding programs today and look honestly and objectively at feet in our breed, we must embrace the fundamental truths of our standard. We know in our hearts that behind all our wonderful

Top row (L-R): The large, oval “snowshoe foot” keeps the dog on top of the snow; the cat foot, too round and small, sinks into the snow; the flat foot, with no arch to the toes, breaks down structurally; the weak foot rocks back on the heel, so that often the pads are visible. Right: A correct, sound foot, with depth, arched toes, and a big, functional oval shape.

achievements of wins, titles, honors, and the recognition of our peers, the Malamute foot is the absolute foundation of our breed, and the gorgeous dog we create before the eyes of the world depends on those four feet for a lifetime, just as a beautiful building depends on a firm foundation.

With this in mind, I decided to look back at my own dogs, examine the structure of their feet, and present a photo gallery of closeups showing both strengths and shortcomings. I hope these are a learning experience for newer breeders, and reminders we can all use as we seek to make the best choices for the future.

So here we go. Accompanying this column are photos that illustrate specifics: the snow-



shoe foot, the cat foot, the flat foot, the weak foot, and finally, a strong and correct foot.

The Snowshoe Foot

This is a big, oval foot—the ideal, and also hard to achieve, given that our gene pool has been influenced by the cute, smaller “cat foot.” But the snowshoe foot, like its namesake, keeps the dog on top of the snow, unlike the cat foot.

The Cat Foot

The cat foot is cute and round and small,

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especially given the weight of the dog standing on it. This foot will sink right into powder snow, quickly tiring the dog and exposing the feet to frostbite and permanent harm. Think of stiletto heels on the trail!

The Flat Foot

This foot has no depth: no arch at the toes, and internal ligaments that are weak and will break down structurally as the dog pulls a heavy load over miles of icy footing—a certain cause of pain and lameness. The flat foot often accompanies the key signs of the weak foot, described next.

The Weak Foot

Pictured is the classic weak foot, which I call the “rocking back on the heel” foot, in which the pads are exposed and plainly visible. Since it can be observed so clearly, and is such an obvious unsoundness, it is a critical flaw, and it serves to remind all of us to correct this and make proper genetic foot structure our commitment for the future.

The Good, Sound Foot

Finally, here is an example of a good, sound foot: lots of arch to the toes, depth to the foot as a whole, and a big, functional shape that is oval and snowshoe-like. Although no foot is perfect, this foot makes an ideal visual

reminder of the truths in our breed standard.

No foot, no Malamute. And so we have come full circle, back to our standard and the heart and soul of Malamute heritage. Because the feet define our breed and its existence. And as we celebrate the glorious show wins and incredible competition careers our dogs so well deserve, may we always hold this truth: When we are out there, far from shelter, with our dogs out in front giving us all their strength and vigilance, the finest show win will not save us.

But the good feet, the strong feet, the correct feet we build into our bloodlines will save the day and light the way for the generations to come. And so we lean into wind and rally our team, and they leap to our voice: “Hup! Hup! Let’s go! On by!”

—Phyllis I. Hamilton,
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[Alaskan Malamute Club of America](#)

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

COAT AND COLOR IN THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a landrace of livestock-guardian dog that originates in Turkey. Shepherds in the region have been breeding sheep as a way of life for millennia, and they have utilized dogs to protect their



livestock for nearly as long. Traditionally, the selection process for dogs has had more to do with working aptitude and suitability for the environment than anything else.

Turkey is slightly larger than Texas in area, and it sits at the crossroads of Europe and Asia. The climate along its southwestern shorelines where it borders Greece and the Mediterranean Sea is temperate, but the climate of the interior and along its eastern borders with Syria, Iraq,

and Armenia is harsher and more extreme. Temperatures can range from hot, dry summers along the coasts to snowing and below-zero in the winter in the mountains and along the eastern extremes of the country. Clearly, a working dog that originates in such a vast and varied environment will not be a “one size fits all” sort of dog, but rather will vary from one locale to another and be a dog best suited to working in its particular geographic region.

DAVID WOO ©AKC

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Sheep in Turkey, the animals that the Anatolian Shepherd Dog was originally tasked with guarding, come in a range of colors from white, to white with black faces, to those with wildly spotted coats. There is anecdotal evidence that suggests that dogs were often chosen to match the color and markings of the animals they were being used to guard, thus enabling the dog to blend in with the flock to a greater degree. When you look at the colors that the Anatolian Shepherd Dog commonly comes in—white, fawn with or without a black, blue or liver mask, pintos of the aforementioned colors, and brindle-patterned dogs—you can see how this argument makes sense, and that there exists the possibility of a dog to match any color of sheep that you might run across.

Indeed, the AKC standard for the Anatolian says, “All color patterns and markings are equally acceptable.” It also says that the coat is “Short (one inch minimum, not tight) to Rough (approximately 4 inches in length), with neck hair slightly longer” and describes the heavier coat around the neck and the mane and thick undercoat that is common to both short- and rough-coated Anatolians.

The coat of an Anatolian Shepherd Dog is protective. It shields the dog from the elements and, along with the thicker skin on the dog’s neck, the heavier coat around the neck and

mane of the dog helps to ensure that any animal attempting to bite the dog’s neck is going to end up with a mouthful of fur and skin rather than muscle and connective tissue. The protective qualities of the coat can be seen any time you attempt to bathe an Anatolian Shepherd Dog; getting the dog wet to the skin takes effort, and a couple of good shakes renders the dog damp-dry. Dig your fingers into the undercoat of an Anatolian Shepherd Dog in winter coat, and you will find it difficult to get to the dog’s skin. This is the coat of a working animal—purely utilitarian, and wonderfully designed by nature for its task.

While on the subject of coat and color, it should be noted that aside from a bath, a nail trim, and a good brushing, the Anatolian Shepherd Dog requires no grooming. This is a functional working breed, and it should be presented in its natural state. This is a breed without artifice.

Coat and color in the Anatolian Shepherd Dog should always be secondary to breed type, structural soundness, and good temperament. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is, first and foremost, a working livestock-guardian dog. This knowledge should be central to all judging decisions for the breed. Color, markings, and coat length, unless they are indicative of impure breeding, should always take a back seat to type, soundness, and correct

temperament for the breed. Remember, the coyote that is thinking of making a meal out of your livestock does not care one bit about the color or length of coat of the dog that is guarding the flock. All he cares about is having lunch without losing his life.

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

Bernese Mountain Dogs

CHANGES IN ATTITUDES, PART TWO: TRAINING GOALS AND FINDING BALANCE

One thing the COVID 19 pandemic reinforced was the importance of being flexible. By necessity we had to set aside many events and rituals. I found myself coping with the chaos by not looking ahead. It was too disappointing to plan and cancel again and again, yet not planning was equally discouraging. I found myself looking for “What could I plan”? I can plan training, I realized. I decided to set my own timelines for skill evaluations and progress—although not having an external goal (show performance) made it a bit harder to stay motivated.

Years ago I developed a personal ritual that I do every January: I print a two-page calendar of the coming 12 months to plan my year. I pencil in all the events I know are coming.

Family celebrations, work requirements, training seminars, and community obligations are logged. The “when and where” of dog shows is included. Then I evaluate each dog’s progress and what they need.

This process brings a sense of anticipation. Looking forward to a new year with new experiences is invigorating. My goal is to structure the year with the things that I must do, so that there is room for the things that I want to do.

This is a balancing act of epic proportions sometimes. I purposely lighten my obligations in the busiest months of December and May, so that I can enjoy the special events at those times. December is obviously the holidays; May is graduation, end of school (I am a teacher), and frequently the Bernese Mountain Dog national specialty. Whew, it is busy! March is particularly birthday heavy—there are nine family birthdays. So for those three months my dog schedule is lighter. It’s all about balance.

“We move toward, and become like, that which we think about. Our present thoughts determine our future,” said Lou Tice, founder of Pacific Institute, a company based on excelling through positive thoughts. My mantra, developed out of studying with the Pacific Institute, has become: “Prepare for the things that you know, and trust your training for the surprises that occur.”

WORKING GROUP



Bernese Mountain Dog

One simple method I use to keep focused on my goals is to post them in my office. That means when it is training time, I have a direction for the skills I want to teach and reinforce.

An analogy for focus used by Vince Poscente (vinceposcente.com) is about a football team learning to walk on a tightrope. The athletes tried and failed to walk on the rope until they were instructed “Don’t look down. Look to where you are going.” Soon all had successfully crossed the rope.

In the article “Tightrope Walking and Zen: A Way to Be Trained to Balance” (Circustalk.com, October 3, 2017), funambulist Andrea Loreni says, “What I teach is not a technique to stand on the tightrope. I teach my way to face fear, a new situation, an obstacle—all of these aspects that are well represented by the tightrope.” Loreni’s concept of balance in motion seems particularly helpful in today’s wildly changing times. Balance in life allows for room to enjoy the different activities.

We help our dogs to face and overcome their fears. What are you afraid of in training? I used to be afraid to teach weaves for agility. I used think I couldn’t teach a retrieve because “Berners don’t like to retrieve.” I was afraid to do it wrong. What have you wanted to try, but considered it beyond you? A new viewpoint, like we experience in a tightrope walk, can help us face our fears and open our horizons

to new thoughts and methods.

COVID-19 has been a tightrope for all of us. Time to use balance in motion, looking ahead and planning for the future.

Happy training!

—Marjorie Geiger,

marggeiger@yahoo.com

[Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America](#)

Black Russian Terriers

A STAR IS BORN! TRY PUPPY COMPETITION FOR YOUR YOUNG DOG

So, you got your Black Russian Terrier puppy, and you’re thinking you want to show. What do you do first? How do you get your puppy ready for the center stage of the conformation ring? Thankfully, the AKC has the answer for that: the [4–6 Months Beginner Puppy Competition](#).

The 4–6 Months Beginner Puppy Competition is a great way to introduce your little star to the world of AKC conformation. It is a stress-free, fun way for them to become socialized to all the sights and sounds of an AKC dog show. With this they can become socialized to not only the show ring but also to a great many other novel sights and sounds of everyday life. This is also a great way to build life skills as the puppy matures, such as standing for exam, grooming, focus and the

COURTESY MARJORIE GEIGER

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Black Russian Terrier puppy
Elena, age 4 months



ever-challenging bite exam.

The huge bonus taking your puppy to the dog show is that it is full of dog people. Other experienced dog people who are there understand puppy behavior and age-appropriate interactions. Often many will take the time to help you work your pup through a scary door, or help him handle an encounter with a puppy-eating bag monster. For the Black Russian Terrier puppy, these experiences are so very helpful in the development of your dog. With the breed's naturally aloof temperament, being brought to a show where people are handing out chicken treats like candies from a PEZ dispenser enforces positive associations with strangers. Remember, our dogs will be what they were bred to be naturally, therefore it is our responsibility to reinforce positive experiences, keep the game fun, and build their confidence.

Another bonus courtesy of the AKC is the Puppy of Achievement title that you now can earn for playing with your puppy in the show ring. You can earn points for this by being awarded Best of Breed or Best of Opposite Sex in the 4-6 months puppy competi-

tion. Additionally, if you and your puppy are awarded a puppy Group 1 or Best in Show, points will also be earned.

Puppy competition isn't all about the puppy; you, the owner, can also have a lot of fun! This is a great place for you to build new relationships, socialize, and talk all about your dog! Reach out to your breeder and coordinate a show weekend. Plan to attend your local handling class to learn the ropes of conformation exhibition, as well as learn proper show etiquette. Lastly, contact the Black Russian Terrier Club of America! Become a member. We have so many wonderful members who are happy to get in touch with new exhibitors, to help and support your AKC journey and build lasting friendships.

—Emily Foster,

leighfost@gmail.com

[Black Russian Terrier Club of America](#)

Boxers

CONTRACTS

Times have changed as the growth and interest in purebred dogs has permeated the general public. For the Boxer breed, interests have extended not only in conformation, but also in performance and so many of the dog sports that have become so increasingly

popular in the recent years. More dog lovers, increasing even more since the pandemic, are reaching out to breeders and purchasing new companions.

With puppy inquiries and placements comes the responsibility of “vetting” the prospective new family. Which brings up the topic of contracts.

I'm not a lawyer, nor do I play one as a dog breeder, but long gone are the days of a handshake or unwritten agreement in placing a dog.

With the advent of the internet advertising and increasing number of publications, puppy sales often come from a distance. While a home visit isn't always possible, recommendations from other breeders in the area (even if not having the same breed) can be requested. Over the years, I've gotten calls from breeders of different breeds requesting a quick home visit with a potential buyer. If you are unable to locate another breeder, check with the parent-club secretary of your breed of choice—they will know and can reference people. The dog community tends to be very cooperative, as we all have the same goal in finding the right homes for our dogs.

As Boxer breeders, we put our hearts and souls into ensuring the healthy and sound future for the breed. We also want to ensure that our breed maintains the quality standards established by the breeders who went before us. Whether for a home companion,

COURTESY OWNER

WORKING GROUP



Boxer

show-prospect, or talented performance Boxer, we want the best for any prospective owners.

Regarding contracts: If there are conditions in any sale, these should be well documented and agreed upon. This is called “a meeting of the minds” in legalese. All specifics can be addressed, as well as any recourse stated if these are not adhered to.

All of the co-ownership issues should be in writing, including all expenses. A mutual contract leaves nothing undisclosed; there are no unwelcome surprises. Spending the money to discuss this and seek aid from an attorney familiar with contracts and purebred dogs may prevent future disputes.

However, once this dog leaves your control, you often no longer have a role other than as stipulated in this specific dogs’ life. A contract is only as good as the people who sign it and are willing to abide in it—or enforce it if necessary.

The American Boxer Club has a [website](#) that offers extensive resources, not only in helping potential owners with a new addition to the family, but training hints, health information, history, and membership information for both local clubs and the national club.

In the Know with the American Boxer Club is the parent club’s digital newsletter, available to all people interested in the Boxer and upcoming breed-related events. Subscription by writing

to AmericanBoxerClubNews@gmail.com.

Spring will be here before we know it. Dog activities will continue to adapt to pandemic restrictions, and hopefully these restrictions will abate and activities will resume with some degree of normalcy.

Meanwhile, tell the canines time to shape up and get off the sofa—let the shows begin!

—Virginia Shames,

Arribatali@aol.com

American Boxer Club

Bullmastiffs

Thanks to Emma-Jean Weinstein and Lisa Peterson of Embark Veterinary, Inc., for fielding questions and for helping to define the many valid reasons for DNA testing. Reputable breeders know that “knowledge is power” and that responsible breeding is based on gathering and sharing that knowledge with the goal of healthier dogs. If breeders can use all available tools and work together, we can further that end. We hope this interview offers some insights and encourages more DNA testing.

Q: *As breeders, we would like to know: How can general DNA testing be useful to us as breeders of one particular breed of dog?*

EJW & LP: Embark is a crucial tool for breeders. With one cheek-swab, breeders

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

BREED COLUMNS

WORKING GROUP

receive a comprehensive DNA test that delivers detailed results on breed-relevant genetic health risks, coat and body traits, genetic coefficient of inbreeding (COI), and breeder tools and services.

Q: *How many Bullmastiffs do you have in your database so far?*

EJW & LP: As of Sept. 27, 2021, Embark has just under 250 dogs that tested as 100-percent Bullmastiff.

Q: *Do you plan to share any breed-specific information you compile as your database grows with the parent clubs of different breeds?*

EJW & LP: Currently, Embark can provide much sought-after breed population data, such as allele frequencies for breed-specific genetic health conditions, select traits, coat colors, and genetic COI, using its unique approach to DNA genotyping.

This data, when provided at the population level, can help guide breed clubs, individuals, researchers, and clinicians about a specific breed's genetic risk factors. And, at what percentage a specific deleterious allele may be dispersed among a representative population. These numbers can be critical to inform on how to best manage a disorder or disease, as they allow for the projection of the distribution of carrier or at-risk dogs for a disorder



Knowledge is power: Bullmastiff Gilda and owner with DNA test kit, ready to add information to the breed's database.



that has a common autosomal recessive mode of inheritance. If prevalent in the breed population, the course of action may be very different than if restricted to one or few bloodlines.

And while Embark always reports directly on breed-specific genetic health conditions when delivering results to breeders and owners, Embark also tests all dogs for known genetic health conditions and coat colors that are not necessarily breed-specific. While one might assume those results aren't relevant, they can actually shed light on new conditions that are naturally occurring or a result of cross-breeding. Early detection allows breed clubs and breeders to be proactive about addressing potential widespread issues.

This data is available to many of Embark's breed club partners by request, and the aim is to expand access as the system becomes more automated. Broader genetic epidemiology applications that include statistical and quantitative analysis of genetic factors and the impact on population health and disease are also underway.

Q: *As rescuers, we are wondering: What information can be gathered when we get a dog from a shelter, or from an owner where we have no history?*

EJW & LP: First and foremost for rescues, an Embark test will shed light on a rescue dog's breed mix. Adopters can learn how

COURTESY LINDY WHYTE

WORKING GROUP

much Bullmastiff is in their new dog and, if she or he is a mix, what other breed may be mixed in as well. Learning an exact breed mix can not only help new owners meet their dog's health needs, but also learn what will help fulfill their dog mentally.

Q: *Do you see DNA testing as helpful for rescue dogs, so that we have some idea of what they are dealing with physically?*

EJW & LP: When a dog is surrendered to a rescue organization, with minimal medical history available, an Embark test will help the foster home or new owner learn whether their dog is predisposed to any canine diseases that may occur later in life. Three of the most common adult-onset diseases in dogs are glaucoma, degenerative myelopathy, and dilated cardiomyopathy; early prevention and treatment can mean precious added years to a dog's life.

Q: *How does genetic COI compare to pedigree-based COI?*

EJW & LP: Genetic COI is the most accurate method for measuring inbreeding. At the breed level, it affords a birds-eye view of how inbred a breed population or sub-population may be, and the impact of any breeding practices resulting in genetic bottlenecks. Unlike pedigree-based COI calculations, genetic

COI evaluates the actual pieces of DNA in your dog to identify which proportion traces back to inbreeding. Embark's genetic COI assesses over 200,000 markers and can detect inbreeding in far more past generations, as well as better inform breeders about strategic breeding crosses than can be expected from pedigree-based calculations.

Q: *How can breeders utilize this tool when making breeding decisions?*

EJW & LP: Breeders can use Embark to optimize and refine their breeding program through a unique suite of tools and services: All participants have access to Embark's in-house veterinary geneticists for individualized genetic counseling, and Embark's pair-checker evaluates potential mating dogs, with a dedicated customer service team that analyzes each proposed pair to identify optimal genetic matches that maximize the health and success of a potential litter.

Because individual puppy attributes can vary widely—from their genetic COI to clear/carrier/at-risk statuses for various genetic diseases, and some physical traits do not fully manifest until later in adolescence—Embark provides discounted DNA tests for each puppy in a given litter. The litter package includes an expert consultation with a specialist, who provides a customized review of the litter's results

and can help answer questions. And for individual puppies going to pet homes, new owners can receive their puppy's genetic results from the breeder, which can then be provided to veterinarians to help improve their lifelong care.

Q: *How does it impact the health of the breed population overall?*

EJW & LP: Informing better breeding decisions is one of the central ways Embark will achieve its goal of extending dogs' lives by three years within the decade. Genetically diverse dogs live, on average, longer than dogs with low genetic diversity and have fewer health problems over their lifetime. As more Bullmastiffs are tested with Embark, and added to the database, more novel scientific discoveries can be made sooner to help the breed and all dogs overall.

Q: *What health tests are relevant for Bullmastiffs?*

EJW & LP: Embark recommends the following tests for Bullmastiffs, and provides a downloadable OFA submission form for breeders to submit their dogs' results to OFA:

Autosomal Dominant Progressive Retinal Atrophy (RHO): A retinal disease that causes progressive, non-painful vision loss. The retina contains cells, called photoreceptors, that collect information about light and send signals to the brain. There are two types of photorecep-

tors: rods, for night vision and movement, and cones, for day vision and color. This type of PRA causes a rapid onset of blindness.

Canine Multifocal Retinopathy, cmr1 (BEST1 Exon 2): A non-progressive retinal disease that, in rare cases, can lead to vision loss. Dogs with larger lesions can suffer from vision loss. CMR is fairly non-progressive; new lesions will typically stop forming by the time a dog is an adult, and some lesions will even regress with time.

—Lindy Whyte,

Trumphe@comcast.net

[American Bullmastiff Association](#)

Doberman Pinschers

BRING THE FUN BACK

When our first show dog turned six months, we met our breeder at the Nor Cal DPC specialty, held at a hotel in the area. It was very exciting, people had parties, and we had a great time. Our pup was in a 6–9 class of over 20 entries. We hired Marj Brooks to handle our girl. During this period, I worked for Marj in order to learn how to handle. We had long discussions about the breed, the standard, pedigrees, structure, breeding theory, and training. In the process, my dog became a champion, and I became a handler and a breeder. I met many wonderful people

WORKING GROUP

along the way and saw many amazing places.

Today we are on a mission: to make our breed the best it can be. We have devoted rescue groups and working dog clubs, and we sponsor research on Doberman health issues. However, the breed's AKC numbers are down. From my start in the breed to now, you could say we are having a "taper."

Breeders make our breed. We can rescue all the dogs and not breed the unhealthy dogs until we have those problems solved, but if we don't have Doberman breeders, we will have no Dobermans.

We need to bring new people into the sport. We need to get them energized to breed their good dogs. How can we do this? Clubs need to entice newcomers. Maybe they can start a mentor program to encourage new puppy owners. Give them the tools to breed their champions. We need to encourage new exhibitors, with a smile and a kind word, and then challenge them to breed an even better dog.

I remember how proud I was when our female was top producer, our male a top specialty winner, and we were top breeders for the DPCA. Walking up to accept the certificate in my formal attire, in front of my peers, at the national awards banquet was very special. People like to achieve their goals. Somehow, this tradition has ended—why not reinstate it? Let's honor our breeders, stud dogs, and



Doberman Pinscher

brood bitches, and our working, obedience, agility, barn-hunting, nose-working, tracking, lure-coursing Dobes. Praise people for their hard work, and agree to have fun.

Let's build camaraderie. Clubs should have seminars on care, training, health, and the breed standard. Clubs should celebrate together!

Sometimes I think we aren't encouraging good ideas. If someone has a good idea, let

him or her run with it. Once the energy starts to flow it can be contagious, and the new ideas can spread like wildfire. Too often we say, "Oh, we tried that" or ask, "Who will do it?" Maybe instead we should say, "I would be glad to help you—please chair the effort!" Why not empower our fanciers?

If we bring fun back, I think we will see our entries rise, and more people will want to be part of our community.

This breed got me hooked over 30 years ago; I am ready to share the excitement. How about you? —*Faye Strauss, 2013*

[Doberman Pinscher Club of America](#)

Dogues de Bordeaux

THE HEAD OF THE DOGUE DE BORDEAUX

The head is a very important characteristic of the Dogue de Bordeaux. When the head features are correct, the breed's distinctive appearance is readily apparent. The head is large, angular, broad, and rather short. It is trapezoid-shaped when viewed from above and in front. The wider flat part of the trapezoid represents the skull when viewed from above, tapering down to the narrower flat part that represents the muzzle. In the male, the back skull's perimeter measured at the point of the greatest width corresponds roughly to the height at the withers; in bitches, it may be

slightly less.

The volume and shape of the skull is the result of the spacing of the lower jawbones, the very well-developed temporal area, the upper orbital area, and the zygomatic arches. The prominent cheeks are due to the very strong development of the muscles. The skull is slightly rounded from one side to the other, and the frontal groove is deep. The forehead is characterized by well-developed eyebrows and dominates the face. However, the skull is still wider than it is high. The head is furrowed with symmetrical wrinkles ("deep ropes of wrinkle") on each side of the median groove. The deep ropes of wrinkle are mobile, depending on whether the dog is attentive or not.

The eyes are oval-shaped and set wide apart. The space between the eyes is equal to about twice the length of the eye (the eye opening). Eye color is hazel to dark brown for a dog with a black mask; lighter color is tolerated but not sought after in dogs with either a brown mask or without a mask.

Masks consist of:

Black mask—Often only slightly spread out, and should not invade the cranial region. There may be slight black shading on the skull, ears, neck, and back. The pigmentation of the nose will be black.

Brown mask—The pigmentation of the nose

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

WORKING GROUP



and eye-rims will also be brown.

No mask—The coat is fawn; the skin appears red (also formerly called “red mask”). The nose is then reddish or pink.

The muzzle is powerful, broad, thick, and rather short. It should not be fleshy below the eyes. When viewed in profile, the foreface is very slightly concave, with moderately obvious folds. Its width decreases only slightly

from the root of the muzzle to the tip. When viewed from above, it has the general shape of a square. When viewed from the side, the top lines of the skull and muzzle form an angle converging at or near the end of the muzzle. Its perimeter is almost two-thirds of that of the head. Its length varies between one-third and one-quarter of the total length of the head as measured from the nose to the occip-

ital crest. The ideal muzzle length is between these two extremes.

The ear is small in proportion to the skull and slightly darker in color than the coat. The front of the ear’s base is slightly raised, and the ears should fall back but not hang limply. The front edge of the ear is close to the cheek when the dog is attentive. The nose is broad, with well-opened nostrils, and is colored according to color of the mask. The stop is very pronounced, almost forming a right angle with the muzzle (95 to 100 degrees). The upper lip is thick and pendulous yet retractile. When viewed in profile, it shows a rounded lower line and covers the lower jaw on the sides. Viewed from the front, edge of the upper lip is in contact with the lower lip and drops on either side forming an inverse, wide “V.” The lower jaw is very powerful and broad, and it is undershot

so there is no contact between the lower and upper incisors. The lower jaw curves upward, and the chin is very pronounced and should neither overlap the upper lip exaggeratedly nor be covered by it. The pronounced chin gives the Dogue de Bordeaux his distinctive appearance.

—Victor C. Smith,
[Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America](#)

German Pinschers

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A GERMAN PINSCHER?

Years ago, I bought a house and, subsequently, got a dog. I planned on going for walks, maybe taking my dog on vacation with me, and enjoying relaxing games of fetch in the back yard. My dog—at that time, a Rottweiler—had other ideas. She wanted more: more challenge, more learning, more activity. And that was how I found my way to the dog sporting world.

It’s not an uncommon thing, to acquire a pet and find that you, and especially your dog, want to do more things. German Pinschers were originally bred as general-purpose farm dogs. They’re smart, independent thinkers. The breed standard describes them as “Energetic, watchful, alert, agile, fearless, determined, intelligent and loyal.” One of the things I love about the German Pinscher breed is its versatility. If you go to the German Pinscher Club of America (GPCA) [website](#) and select the News tab at the top of the Main page, you’ll see a long list of activities that German Pinschers have titled in, including obedience, rally, and agility as well as dock diving, lure coursing, Fast CAT, Barn Hunt, weight pull, and a number of others.

The breed standard additionally describes a dog that “has highly developed senses, intelligence, aptitude for training, fearlessness, and

WORKING GROUP



German Pinscher

endurance. He is alert, vigilant, deliberate and watchful of strangers. He has fearless courage and tenacity if threatened. A very vivacious dog, but not an excessive barker.” I like to think that this describes a dog that can potentially succeed at almost any sport.

Why do sports at all with your dogs? I do sports for what I learn, for the joy it gives my dogs and for the bond we build as we develop as a team. As an example, in tracking, one of the sports I participate in regularly, the Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) test consists of a blind track 800 to 1000 yards long, three

to five hours old, with two cross-tracks, obstacles, four articles, and five to seven turns. In order to pass, I need to build a relationship where I can read my dog, where I trust her skill enough to follow her, and where my dog understands what the goal is and what her job entails as part of the team.

Other sports provide similar opportunities. To earn a MACH (Master Agility Champion) in agility, dogs and handlers spend hours, learning not just to perform the elements of an advanced agility course, but also to ignore distractions, to build trust, and to achieve a

high level of communication that allows them to move smoothly and quickly from one obstacle to the next.

The relationship you build when training for and participating in activities with your dog is an enormous part of what makes it worthwhile.

German Pinschers are great pets, willing to go for walks, hang out in the backyard, and curl up in the evening and chill. They’re also great learners who are capable of teaching us about ourselves at the same time as we build our relationship with them.

If you’re interested in doing more with your dog and exploring what dog sports have to offer, check out AKC.org. Also, visit the German Pinscher Club of America website to check out the many sports German Pinschers currently participate in.

—Deb Coates,
charmingbillie@gmail.com
[German Pinscher Club of America](http://GermanPinscherClubofAmerica.com)

Giant Schnauzers

2021 GSCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY WEEKEND

November 3 to 7 at the beautiful Meadows Event Park in Doswell, Virginia, was a weekend to remember. With 79 breed entries and 16 performance entries, the events drew competitors and fanciers from across the country. The camaraderie was palpable the

entire weekend!

Friday: GSCA Eastern Regional Specialty

First was the GSCA Eastern Regional, held on Friday, November 5, judged by Mr William Daugherty. Best of Breed went to GCh. Lagniappe’s From the Mountains to the Bayou, bred by Chris and Holly Reed, Maryann Bisceglia, and Mike Reese, and owned by Holly and Chris Reed and Laurie and Mike Mason. Bayou is handled by Alfonso Escobedo.

Bayou went on to win the Working Group—and then Best in Show, under Ms. Debra Thornton!

Best of Opposite Sex was Ch. Laginiappes Heaven Help Us, bred and owned by Holly and Chris Reed and handled by Alfonso Escobedo.

Saturday: GSCA National Specialty

The 2021 GSCA National Specialty was held Saturday, November 6, judged by Ed Fojtik. Best of Breed went to GCh. Momentum King of Hearts, BH, ORT, bred and owned by Christine Lietzau and handled by Amy Booth. “Henry” went on to win the Working Group under Mrs. Cathy Daugherty—and Best in Show under Mrs Nancy Liebes!

Best Opposite Sex was Ch. Laginiappes Heaven Help Us, bred and owned by Holly and Chris Reed and handled by Alfonso Escobedo.

WORKING GROUP



The Giant Schnauzer Club of America (GSCA) welcomed fanciers to the breed's specialty week November 3–7, in Doswell, Virginia. Bottom row (L-R): Best of Breed at the GSCA Eastern regional specialty (and BIS), GCh. Lagniappe's From the Mountains to the Bayou; BOS at the GSCA Eastern regional, and at the GSCA national specialty, Ch. Lagniappe's Heaven Help Us; and GSCA national specialty Best of Breed (and BIS), GCh. Momentum King of Hearts, BH, ORT.

Classicgiantschnauzers@gmail.com
Giant Schnauzer Club of America



The national-specialty festivities continued to the Manor House, next to the stables of the illustrious Secretariat. It was a beautiful venue for the banquet, with 104 attendees!

This is a national specialty to emulate every year. Enthusiasm filled the air. Exhibitors were all very welcoming to spectators and

GSCA newcomers, and the dogs were gorgeous and represented the breed beautifully. Congratulations to all!

Thanks to our dedicated GSCA Board and the many volunteers, owners, breeders, and handlers who made the weekend very special indeed.

Newsflash:

Bayou, GCh. Lagniappe's From the Mountains to the Bayou, won the Working Group and Best in Show at the 2021 AKC National Championship, on December 19 in Orlando.

—Mary E. Falls,

Great Pyrenees

2020 AND 2021 GPCA NATIONAL SPECIALTIES

After a very long hiatus, the Great Pyrenees Club of American finally held its national specialty—truth be told, we held *two* national specialties in the same week! Our club usually holds the national between the last week of March and the first week of May. During that period in 2020 and 2021, the pandemic put a crimp in our plans, and we were unable to hold our national during the usual time frame that is outlined in our bylaws.

The club worked with the show site for possible times in the fall and selected November 8–13, 2021. Holding two specialties during the same week was going to be a challenge. With the help of the AKC, we were able to hold the following classes for 2020 and 2021:

WORKING GROUP

conformation, futurity, regular and veterans sweepstakes, Junior Showmanship, rally, and obedience. To understand the amount of time that went into the calculations of entries, please view the [premium list](#). It does a much better job of explaining the breakdown than I can.

The 2020 national boasted an entry of 96 dogs, with 131 entries, and the 2021 national had an entry of 110 dogs, with 171 entries. The daily events extended with a full schedule throughout the week, encompassing the kickoff party; futurity, sweepstakes, and regular conformation competitions; Draft Dog tests; obedience, rally, and Junior Showmanship; Puppy and Veteran Sweepstakes; Top 20 and Top 10 Puppy Invitationals; health and rescue committee meetings; live auction, membership meeting, and rescue parade; and the banquet and awards.

Some observations: The judging was fairly consistent for both specialties. Different judges have different type preferences, but movement and structure were good, even with a few mishaps. Let me explain. There were a few young Pyrs who were the product of a pandemic, meaning that they hadn't had much of a chance to get out and be shown, go to classes, have much socialization, and so on. (I'll include my own dog in this.) So on



The Great Pyrenees Club of America held the breed's 2020 and 2021 national specialties as a joint celebration Nov. 8–13, 2021, in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Fanciers from all over the country gathered for a wide range of events, including conformation, rally, obedience, draft dog, and Junior Showmanship. Stealing hearts was a young handler who hopes to show her Pyr at Westminster one day.



occasion, the down and back was more of a jump around, grab the leash, “This is fun, let’s play!” type of event. All of the judges exercised great patience and even a sense of humor when the antics began. The dogs were given a second chance to prove themselves, and most of them did just that!

The one memory that I’m certain will remain with everyone for a long time was an 8-year-old junior handler. She showed her Pyrs with such gusto and precision that she stole the hearts of many. At one point, the dog she was showing was becoming a bit playful and wouldn’t gait properly. She quietly pulled him aside, took hold of his muzzle, said a few words, and from that point on he was on task. I guess he figured out who was the boss! Her family told me that she

TOP LEFT & RIGHT: COURTESY OF KAREN REITER; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF JULIA CABBELL

WORKING GROUP

showed her first Pyr when she was 4 years old! Her goal is to show her Pyr at Westminster Kennel Club one day. I do not doubt that we will see her in the ring.

I tip my hat to all our club members who worked so hard to make this happen. It had been a long time since I was able to attend a national specialty. Your team exceeded my expectations, and then some! Thank you for such a wonderful week. I'll see you in Chicago later this year!

—Karen Reiter, AKC GAZETTE columnist,
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Great Pyrenees Club of America

Komondorok

THE PHASES OF THE KOMONDOR COAT

Like the phases of the moon as the month progresses, the Komondor coat goes through phases as the dog and its gorgeous coat matures. The graceful arch of the crescent moon doesn't look much like the big, round full moon, except that they are both up in the sky at night and have craters. Similarly, the fluffy puppy coat of a Komondor doesn't much resemble a mature corded coat, except that they are both on a Komondor and are white. It isn't only the coat itself that seems to change; the proportion and bulk of the dog also seem to change, even though they do not.

The Puppy Coat

At 6 months, the Komondor is a ball of “puppy” fluff. The proper coat is curly all over, and the dog's actual shape is obscured. Their eyes are covered, and their head seems broad, but it may be mostly coat; their neck is hidden and may seem short and the dog may seem low on leg with the chest coat well below the chest, which is at the elbows in depth. It is easy to keep this coat clean as there are no cords. On the other hand, properly presented there has been no effort to comb or brush it out either, just a clean tangled fluff ball.

At about 9 months the coat begins clump up. It starts at the hips or whatever part they lay on. The owners should start to split the clumps into cords which are about the diameter of a quarter (coin) at the base. The progress of the cording depends on details of crimp, amount of undercoat in the individual and perhaps more importantly on how often they get wet and dry. On the outside the look doesn't change much maybe they deflate in volume a little, but most observers would not see them as corded as they first start. The fuzzy ends still dominate the appearance. On exam, judges will feel that the dog is unbrushed. That is the way it is supposed to be.

The “Porcupine Phase” (Adolescent)

This starts the adolescent “Porcupine” phase. For the next year the coat builds vol-



The four phases of Komondor coat: Puppy, Adolescent (the “Porcupine Phase,” shown on the move at 14 months), Adult (reached about age 3 years), and Mature Adult (at about 7 to 8 years).

ume and stands straight out. On the move it flips back and forth over the Komondor's back ruining the look of the topline no matter how well the dog moves. Since the coat has corded all over but is only 2 years or less old (i.e., 5 or

6 inches long), the dog has deflated and looks less broad in body. The head however has continued to mature, and it will be broad and strong under this growing coat. Coat damage that happens now (scratched out faces, coat

COURTESY ERIC LIEBES

WORKING GROUP

loss from puppy play) stays with the dog for life. Those areas, even if the hair grows back and cords, will always be inches shorter than the rest of the coat.

The Adult Coat (about age 3 years)

At about three years of age the coat is heavy enough to hang down and no longer flips over the back on the move. Then the “Porcupine” phase is over. This is when the uninformed say “Now it looks like a Komondor.” Actually, it has looked like a Komondor all along just in earlier coat phases.

This the Adult phase. The topline and arch of the neck has reemerged along the part in the coat along the back. The coat adds volume to the appearance of the dog’s body but the dog itself is not any broader. The vertical stripes of the coat may make the dog appear closer to square but the shape has not changed.

Now the coat just grows 3 or 4 inches a year. The owner maintains the coat by keeping the cords split down to the skin, preserving the coat and keeping it clean. The only trimming we do is neatening around the mouth, on the feet and in the private areas. Baths are quite a production with an adult coat. An hour or more in the tub both getting diluted soap into the cords and then fully rinsing the soap out of the coat. Sometimes we lay the dogs down for a good soak during the bath. If only

we had an agitate cycle in the tub, like the washing machine has! The bath ends with us squeezing as much water as we can out with our hands and towels and then hours in a dryer.

The Mature Adult (from about 7 to 8 years)

When a Komondor walks into the ring with the whole coat down to the ground, the dog is 7 or 8 years old. Let’s call this the “Mature Adult” phase. It is gorgeous, and an accomplishment that the coat has been beautifully preserved. However, that dog is no better than one with a shorter coat—just older. The mature adult coat is hung on an older dog and might weight 10 pounds dry and 25 pounds wet. After a bath we are careful that they don’t jump out of the tub with the added water weight. The older dogs who still carry that dry coat weight with grace and athleticism must have had wonderful topline their whole lives.

So, these are the phases of the Komondor coat: The Puppy, The Porcupine (Adolescent), The Adult, and the Mature Adult. Which one is better? All of them, or none of them. Which is a better phase for the moon: a waning crescent or a waxing gibbous? Each is a correct Komondor coat, and hopefully it is hung on a good-quality dog.

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

Leonbergers

FRIENDS: THE CHERYL CANNON MEMORIAL AWARD

I think it is safe to say that we are all tired of COVID. Fortunately, we are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. After the difficult decision to cancel the traditional annual “Triple Crown” Leonberger specialty weekend in October 2020, the 2021 Triple Crown did come to fruition. Thanks to the combined efforts of the Mid-Atlantic Leonberger Club of Virginia, the Tarheel Leonberger Club, and the newly formed Greater Bluegrass Leonberger Club (which was still working on becoming an official licensed specialty club), the annual Triple Crown 2021 show weekend went on as planned!

We had supported entry shows and specialties each of three days in a row in Maryland, drawing a large entry of Leonbergers from near and far. As is typical with Leonberger show weekends, camaraderie and fellowship were in full swing. Volunteers dove in and helped with logistics of transporting trophies, beautiful rosettes and prizes lined the ringside

tables, and people jumped in to assist whenever needed. From puppies taking their very first steps in the sweeps ring to veterans making their way around the ring to a wonderful round of applause, Leonbergers were “in the house”! Because the weather did not cooperate, what was supposed to be an outdoor ring all weekend ended up being an indoor ring, and we all stayed (mostly) dry and warm instead of waterlogged, frozen, and muddy.

Though 2021 brought some hope that we might soon find our way out of the COVID shutdown, it did also bring some sad news. Among that sadness was the sudden passing of Cheryl Cannon, a longtime friend of the Leonberger breed, and the handler of one of our most prolific Leonbergers in the show ring. Cheryl handled Odin throughout his very successful show career, traveling all over the country to do so. Her tireless dedication to our breed did not go unnoticed, and after her passing, the Mid-Atlantic Leonberger Club of Virginia created a memorial trophy to be awarded annually to someone outside of our breed who has demonstrated a great devotion and friendship to our lovely breed of dog. It is called the Cheryl Cannon Memorial Award.

At the 2021 Triple Crown, this award was given to someone who has been a longtime friend of the Leonberger breed, having



Cheryl Cannon with Leonberger Odin

judged everything from sweeps to all-breed shows to specialties, including our traditional club-show specialties. Carol Brown has been a friend of our breed for many years, and continually devotes her time and energy to our shows and events. At this past Triple Crown, she served as steward all three days, always with a smile and a great sense of humor. She assists newbies and veterans alike with equal gentleness and friendliness, without complaint. She handles everything in stride with her infectious smile and good-natured energy. We are proud to present the first Cheryl Cannon Memorial Award to Carol Brown.

—Shannon White,
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Leonberger Club of America

Neapolitan Mastiffs

AN ITALIAN EXPERT SPEAKS ABOUT THE BREED PART 1

In 1997 the United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club National Specialty was judged by Arch. Giuseppe Alessandra, a longtime Italian FCI all-breed judge, and author of a four-volume encyclopedia on canines. This is part one of a transcription of a lecture given after the show.

“I didn’t bring any video or any pictures or any slides, because the mastiff is a unique breed. There is no such thing as the perfect Mastino. Although they are both mastiffs, and both belong to the same breed, there are no two dogs that are exactly the same. Therefore, I think it is easier for you if I speak about the ideal model rather than speaking about individuals by showing you pictures of individual dogs. Mastiffs are dogs that must be seen. There is no video, no slide, no picture that can actually show what the Neapolitan Mastiff should look like.

“The Neapolitan Mastiff is not like any other breed of dogs. It’s not like in type, it’s not like in build, it’s not like in movement, it’s

not like in terms of temperament, or character. For this reason, it may be the most difficult breed to breed, to grow, and to judge. It’s a very ancient breed, being 4000 years old, and when you see a Neapolitan, you see history with the dog. You can say that the Neapolitan Mastiff is an archaeological find in modern breeding.

“So, let’s look at the general aspect of the dog. It’s a dog that *must* appear massive. It *must* appear heavy. The legs are like columns in a building that must support a powerful animal. Just to give an example, a Neapolitan Mastiff must look like a Greek temple, where you have the huge columns which support all the architecture, which is extremely heavy. The Neapolitan Mastiff is a Greek temple, even now. Because it is a very harmonious dog. If you look at an ancient Greek temple, from any side, it’s always a harmonious construction, and the Neapolitan Mastiff must be the same way.

“There must be harmony between the muzzle and the head, harmony between the head and the body, harmony between the body and the legs. With that, it must be clear to all of you, that it should never never look light. It must never look weak. It must never appear not harmonious.

“The head is what is most noticeable about the Neapolitan Mastiff. The head is made up

of two cubes, one attached to the other. The muzzle is one, which represents one-third of the total length of the head. The width of the muzzle should be as close as possible as the length of the muzzle. It must have a very wide jaw, powerful teeth, and it must appear in the form of a cube from whichever way you look at it. The other cube is the cranium, the head, which must be twice the length of the muzzle. And here, as much as possible, the two sides of the head must be parallel. The cranium must be flat. And the ears must be very high.

“That’s the outline. On this construction, you have the wrinkles. The wrinkle must be clearly demarked. It must never be thin. It must be made up of very heavy skin. The most important thing, when you look at the dog from the front, the upper lip must be an upside-down “V.” It must be a very abundant lip. And from the outside of the eye, you have two wrinkles, that seem to have been put in by an axe, these come down to the jowls, which must be abundant and clearly separated into two dewlaps, which should droop about halfway down the neck.

“In all this design of these wrinkles, you have the eyes, which are the soul of the Neapolitan Mastiff. The eye must be as expressive as possible. It must show the ability of the dog. It should never be too light. If it is too light,

WORKING GROUP



Neapolitan Mastiff

(sky blue in color) the dog is disqualified. The eye must be a slit. When the dog looks at you, it looks as if it is scrutinizing you. It should never be too wide open, too prominent. And the lower eyelid should not be too relaxed. The expression of the eye should tell us immediately if we are looking at a male or a female. Because even the expression of the eye should clearly show the difference in sexual form.”

—Margaret R. (Peggy) Wolfe,
Margaret.peggy.wolfe@gmail.com
United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club

Newfoundlands

THE NCA CHARITABLE TRUST: CELEBRATING OUR SILVER ANNIVERSARY

The journey of our Trust reminds me of a quote by Nobel Prize winner William Faulkner: “You cannot swim for new horizons until you lose sight of the shore.”

The vision for the NCA Charitable Trust was formed many years ago, when the Newfoundland Club of America saw a need to support the health and welfare of Newfoundland dogs by forming the Health and Longevity Committee, the Newfoundland Rescue Committee, and the NCA Donations Committee with a bequest from a NCA member. The Donations Committee continued to receive funds to

support health related research and with a growing Rescue network, the need for a Charitable Trust was identified. The Newfoundland Health Challenge was created to generate funds to support research and identify health issues within the Newfoundland breed.

The NCA Charitable Trust, created in 1997, was organized as a 501(c)(3) Charitable Trust. It is recognized by the IRS and donations may be tax deductible. Unsure of where this would take us, we moved forward with our vision to create a healthy and happy future for generations of Newfoundland dogs. The driving force behind the creation of the Charitable Trust was a group of individuals who would devote their time and expertise to the management of the Trust activities. The NCA Board of Directors serves as the Trustee of the NCA Charitable Trust and sets policy for the management of the Trust that is carried out by a nine member Charitable Trust Management Board.

The motto of the NCA Trust is simply “Your Gift, Their Future!”

The mission of the NCA Trust is to secure donations, manage and fund research grants to study health issues affecting Newfoundlands, support veterinary care for Newfoundlands in Rescue, award educational scholarships to junior Newfoundland fanciers

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

WORKING GROUP

and provide grants for educational opportunities on the care, raising, nutrition, training, disease, research, breeding, judging and exhibiting the Newfoundland breed.

The NCA Charitable Trust was created with \$25,000 of donations and has grown to over \$600,000. A major milestone for the Trust was the creation of an Endowment Fund for the permanent upkeep and benefit of the NCA Trust's mission and responsibilities well into the future. The NCA Charitable Trust in the last 25 years has invested over \$2 million in the health and well-being of Newfoundland dogs.

Starting with a small donation in 1993 to the Morris Animal Foundation, the NCA Trust joined the AKC Canine Health Foundation in 1995 as a Charter member. The Trust was recognized in 2015 by the AKC/CHF as a Distinguished Research Partner, along with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals, the Irish Setter Club of America, the Collie Health Foundation, the Golden Retriever Foundation and the American Boxer Foundation, in supporting over \$3 million in canine health research. Shila Nardone, MS, Ph.D., chief scientific officer of the AKC/CHF in 2015 said, "These clubs and organizations are making a lasting impact on canine health. Their donations are supporting research that address some of the most



"Lion: A Newfoundland Dog,"
Edwin Henry Landseer,
(1802–1873)

PUBLIC DOMAIN/GOOGLE ART PROJECT

WORKING GROUP

prominent health concerns for our dogs.”

In 25 years, the NCA Charitable Trust has expanded our health research opportunities with donor directed research grants through the AKC Canine Health Foundation to study Sub-Aortic Stenosis in Newfoundland Dogs. Additionally, this past year the Trust partnered with the Morris Animal Foundation to develop two Donor Inspired Studies: to investigate Newfoundland Forelimb Anomaly (Lateral Radial Head Luxation) and Sub-Aortic Stenosis in Newfoundland dogs.

A celebration of the 25-year journey of the Charitable Trust will take place in Frankenmuth, Michigan, at the Newfoundland Club of America National Specialty in May 2022. A welcome reception will be hosted by the Trust, in addition to a special reception for Trust donors.

The NCA Charitable Trust simply could not exist without the support of our donors which are comprised of NCA members and Newfoundland owners around the world. Our donors volunteer to assist our rescue network, donate to the Trust and include the NCA Charitable Trust in their will and estate planning. Their generosity of time and resources to support the health and safety of future generations of Newfoundland dogs is an inspiration to us all. I am very proud and honored to have been a part of this twenty-five year journey.

To learn more about the NCA Charitable Trust, or to make a donation, visit [NCACHarities.org](https://www.ncacharities.org) or follow us on Facebook.—Clyde E Dunphy DVM, NCA Charitable Trust Board Chairman

What Dr. Dunphy doesn't mention in his article is that he was the driving force in the Trust becoming what it is today. The Newfoundland Club of America and the Newfoundland breed owe him an incredible amount of thanks.

This will be my last column, as it is time to hand over the reins to a new columnist. Thank you to all who have read the columns. I hope I have educated and entertained you along the way!

—Mary Lou Cuddy,
bearscamp@gmail.com
[Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.](https://www.newfoundlandclubofamerica.com)

Portuguese Water Dogs

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO DO WATER WORK!

Whether you are new to PWDs or a long-time owner, whether you are young or a senior, it is *never too late* to do water work with your dog. Recently I spoke with a longtime PWD owner, and the subject of “seniors” enjoying water work was discussed. To explore the topic further, I surveyed five active, over-60-year-old PWD owners, and I learned that age is not a fac-

tor for either dog or human in doing water work.

Factors that are important and stressed by those interviewed are:

- Do obedience training first, and continue with it.
 - Do dry-land training of the water exercises.
 - Be consistent and persistent with training.
- Water work can be seasonal for many owners,

so keeping the PWD busy and working in the winter months is most important.

What sparked these seniors to become interested in water work? Following are some of their responses.

“My dog was a natural in the water, so I decided to do formal training for competition.”
“I felt this was a unique sport for PWDs.”



Portuguese Water Dog

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

WORKING GROUP

“It just looked like fun, something that the dogs would enjoy.”

“The dogs love the water, are tireless, and work effortlessly in it.”

“Water work opened my eyes to a new world to explore with my dogs, and we have so much fun.”

Here is how owners responded when asked, “How does water work benefit you and your dog?”:

“Water work keeps both me and my husband active (we are 65 and 67 years old).”

“We have formed many special friendships across the U.S. and Canada through water work.”

“We have withdrawal when the summer ends, but my husband keeps busy making lines and nets for the next season’s water work.”

“Water work benefits both me and my dog, as we have fun doing it together.”

“Water work helps build drive and discipline and develops strong bodies.”

“There is a bonding of spirit. We are a team.”

“I am 81 years old—age does not matter. I have been around enough old people to know you never stop.”

“I thank my dogs for not allowing me to become a ‘couch potato,’ as some of my contemporaries are. The dogs want to work! And training continues every night, even after a long day at work.”

“The talents of any PWD are determined by the ambition of their owners.”

“I have gained an expanded appreciation of the breed’s characteristics required for it to function efficiently in the water.”

Water work can be a family event. Children and husbands can train the dogs, row the boats, and be the cheering section.

How old are the dogs doing water training?

Our survey group included PWDs of 8–12 weeks and of 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12.5 years.

Except for the puppies, all the dogs have earned various water titles, as well as obedience, confirmation, agility, tracking, and therapy-dog titles.

Where and when can one start water training? Contact your local regional PWD club, and find other PWD owners interested in doing water work. There are numerous clinics, water camps, and training sessions available all across the U.S. Begin at any age, young or old, dog and human alike. You will find that this activity is contagious. The best part is sharing with a community of PWD people and their dogs. Water work is the PWD’s heritage. *Age is not a factor! It is never too late!*

My sincere thanks to Linda Fowler, Judy and Tom Leather, Jan Mosher, Louise Mowbray, and Margaret White for all their wonderful comments about “senior” water work.

—Carole Prangley-McIvor,
[Portuguese Water Dog Club of America](#)

Rottweilers

RESPONSIBLE BREEDERS

Where does the “responsibility” of a breeder end? Does it end when the breeder chooses the sire and dam of a litter? Does it end when he or she observes breed health requirements for the sire and dam (screening of eyes, hips, and so on)? Does it end when the breeder sells the puppy to a buyer? Do you rescue what you breed? Where does the responsibility end?

Suppose the breeder takes the time to select a sire and dam with health clearances—then what? How about temperament? Has the “responsible” breeder considered that many of the progeny will be living in pet homes—homes with children?

Does the breeder test puppies (such as doing the PPT/Puppy Personality Test) before placing them in homes, or does the person simply sell the show prospects first, then what is left over are sold as “pets?” Is the breeder willing to say no to a prospective buyer if the breeder feels that the buyer is not “right” for the breed?

Then what of the pet-puppy buyer? After the check is cashed, should the breeder be responsible for that puppy? Should they mentor the buyer? If so, for how long? Does the breeder place the puppy as a show prospect and then if the puppy is not out winning in

the conformation ring, is the breeder still responsible? Until when? For the dog’s whole life?

If the breeder does keep in contact with the buyer for the life of the dog, then does the breeder assist the buyer in locating a new puppy from a responsible breeder?

If you answer no to any of these questions, then in my opinion, you are not a responsible breeder.

Responsible Buyers

Where does the “responsibility” for the buyer end? Has the buyer researched the breed’s history, purpose, health issues, space requirements, and so on or had first-hand experience or contact with the breed? Has the buyer taken the opportunity to take the “Choosing the Right Breed for Your Family” test on the AKC website? Has the buyer contacted a national breed club representative for breeder recommendations and information about the breed? Or did the buyer simply look at the ads in the newspaper or online for local breeders?

Has the buyer considered the cost of lifetime dog ownership and care? Considered the need for a fenced yard? Considered a puppy-training crate?

Is the buyer willing to take the time to socialize and train the puppy? Is the buyer willing to

WORKING GROUP



Rottweiler

accept the advice from a responsible breeder, if the breeder advises that the breed is not right for the buyer?

Is the buyer willing to *wait* for a puppy from a responsible breeder, or is the buyer in a hurry to have a puppy for Christmas, a birthday, or other date? How far is the buyer willing to travel for “the right puppy?” Is distance an important issue, or is locating the puppy and breed best suited for the buyer’s family and home for the life of the dog the priority?

If you are a buyer, have you asked the breeder for references? Health clearances?

A four-generation pedigree with titles at *both* ends of the sire and dam’s names—specifically titles related to temperament and/or training following the dog’s names. I always advise buyers to pay attention that the sire, dam, and the four grandparents include at least three champions and three dogs with obedience and/or working titles.

Is the buyer willing to interview other pet owners from this breeder? Does the buyer have a veterinarian who is familiar with the breed? Has the buyer researched local pet laws or restrictions, and any home or property

insurance restrictions that may apply? Does the buyer own the home, or is there possibility that the buyer might have to relocate to other locations where there will be restrictions?

Does the buyer feel *comfortable* with the breeder, and the breeder’s knowledge of the breed? —Glenn Pollock, 2015

[American Rottweiler Club](#)

Samoyeds

Our guest column this month is from a longtime Samoyed fancier.

“IN CASE OF EMERGENCY”: HAVE PREPARATIONS IN PLACE FOR YOUR DOGS

It is sobering to think about, but important: Envision driving home after a successful show, recalling every detail of the day and reveling how you and Snowball did in today’s group ring. Your imagery drifts toward next weekend, and you begin assessing your chances for the ever-elusive Best in Show. Deep in thought, while dialing your cell phone, you miss a turn—but not the oncoming vehicle! What about your dogs who are with you in the van, or those at home? Simply by having information already in place, you can advocate for your dogs in an emergency.

One way to help reestablish a sense of calm in this stressful situation is to provide a way

for emergency workers to call your dogs by name. Hearing familiar sounds—even from an unfamiliar voice—can help. Clearly labeled crates can accomplish this. Labeling should be waterproof and include the dog’s call name. Emergency workers are likely to use the dog’s name if they know it.

To allow for removal of traumatized dogs from an accident scene, consider leaving a collar, leash, and rabies tags attached to each crate. Using familiar items that retain your scent can ease this situation. Animal-control officers indicate a preference of using a lead rather than a noose to remove a well-behaved dog. Attaching rabies tags to crates provides a rescue worker with added confidence.

Uninjured dogs typically go to a government facility until claimed, and injured dogs to a veterinary facility. Another strategy to ensure care of your dogs is to keep a card behind your driver’s license containing pertinent information. Mine includes a waiver stating that I or my estate will be responsible for the animals in my vehicle, and it provides veterinarian names, emergency contacts, and dog names, along with tattoo and microchip numbers.

You can make preparations for what happens to your dogs if you pass away. First, get a real will, and indicate who will have power of attorney. Avoid “do-it-yourself” versions. After

DAVID WOO ©AKC

WORKING GROUP



all, you wouldn't try a C-section on your best bitch, would you? Your will's executor receives authority to carry out your wishes, probate, and transfer of property to new owners. Your executor is able to access bank accounts and

disperse assets. State laws vary, so consult your attorney!

Options that will property to animals or create trusts may be well intended, but typically these can result in money going toward

administrative fees, and less toward care of your animals. Willing dogs and assets to a specific rescue group is also problematic. By the time of your death groups may have disbanded or reorganized under different names, thereby negating disposition of your assets as if you had no will.

The best solution is to keep with your will a written list of your dogs, with each dog's name and registration number. Include a name and telephone number of a person willing to accept responsibility for each dog. Your executor can then sign the transfer registration—and now your dog has been rescued!

Accidents and death are not subjects upon which we like to dwell, but knowing that your dogs will be taken care of through your power of attorney and your will can provide unparalleled peace of mind.—C.A.M.

Thanks to our contributor for this excellent and vital information.

—Heather LoProto,
hloproto@comcast.net
 Samoyed Club of America

Siberian Huskies

Our guest columnists this month are Dr. Lee Cera and Judith Russell. Lee Cera, DVM, Ph.D, is Assistant Dean and Director of Comparative Medicine at Loyola Stritch

School of Medicine. Her specialty is zoonotic diseases, and she has owned and shown Siberians for many years. Judith Russell is a longtime Siberian Husky breeder and founder of Karnovanda Kennels, Reg., one of the oldest Siberian Husky kennels in the U.S.

EXCITING NEW RESEARCH FUNDED BY THE SHCA TRUST

The Siberian Husky Club of America Trust (a funding organization working in tandem with the Siberian Husky Club of America) is interested in improving the overall health of its breed. The Trust has taken a progressive approach to an analysis of diseases that affect the Siberian Husky by funding research to map the Siberian Husky genome.

The Siberian Husky was chosen as the initial breed of study because it is an ancient breed that has evolved essentially through natural selection. Comparing the Siberian genome with that of other wild canids will give us a look into which genes natural selection preserved. The researchers are working with zoos in Chicago and have access to genetic material from many wild canid species.

The research plan involves three steps:

Step one is to prepare a “de novo” (“new”) Siberian Husky genome assembly, essentially mapping the breed's DNA. This step is funded by an SHCA Trust grant, and is being per-

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WORKING GROUP

formed by Dr. Gillian McLellan and her collaborator Dr. Peter Muir at the University of Wisconsin's School of Veterinary Medicine. This step is very near completion (planned for May 2022)!

Step two is to sequentially identify genetic markers (a genetic marker is a DNA sequence with a known physical location) for common diseases. Markers will help us identify disease-causing areas within the genome.

Once our “map” (the Siberian genome assembly) helps us identify location of these disease-related genes, tests can be developed to determine which destructive genes are present in an individual animal. Armed with this information, decisions can be made concerning breeding stock.

There are several disease-related genes ready to be included in step-two research, including the identification of a biomarker (or tumor marker) for hemangiosarcoma. Hemangiosarcoma is anticipated to be the first study, followed by lymphoma, leukemia, epilepsy loci, and so forth.

Step three is a step into cutting-edge science using microbiomes. A microbiome is a microbial community and the host environment that community inhabits. The skin, gut, and mucosal surfaces of an individual are all part of that individual's microbiome. A system called the “One Health Approach” stud-



Siberian Husky

ies relationships between human, animal, and environmental microbiomes. This research is changing ideas about the relationships between microbiomes and disease. In step three the canine microbiome will be outlined.

This outline will help studies identify key sources of risk factors for zoonotic diseases. It will also inform pilot studies looking to unlock the mystery of what exactly turns on and off certain gene sequences, causing disease in one individual and not in a littermate. (For exam-

ple, why one puppy in a litter faces osteosarcoma while the rest of the litter is immune.)

Although the health of our dogs is extremely important, it will not be the only beneficiary of the Siberian Husky genome project: We humans, too, seek to benefit. This research is of huge significance in zoonotic diseases—for example, bat coronavirus. This research can help answer questions such as why does one individual develop immunity after the first COVID-19 vaccination, and yet others have

no immunity after the third booster? Why are some species affected by the virus, while others have no reaction? The answers are there, but we need patience and commitment to find them.—Dr. Lee Cera and Judith Russell

Thank you to Dr. Cera and Judy for telling us about this fascinating project! For more information on the SHCA Trust and its work, visit <http://www.shcatrust.org>.

—Jessica Breinholt,
jbshca@gmail.com
Siberian Husky Club of America

Standard Schnauzers

ON GROOMING

Often newcomers can't grasp how to groom Standard Schnauzers. Breeders must teach their puppy people the correct way to groom the breed, whether owners intend showing in conformation or not. Some of my puppy people have wanted to clipper their dogs, but after I've explained how hand-stripping helps SS stay warm in winter, cool in summer, and resist precipitation and dirt (and thus help keep the house cleaner), most preferred learning how to hand-strip the coat. The problem, they say, is getting that “Schnauzerish” look.

The SSCA has excellent grooming resources available on the club [website](#). These include:

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- the illustrated breed standard,
- the grooming video, and
- the grooming guide.

The late Susan Mong, breeder of Florida's Das Tropen Standard Schnauzers, wrote the last document and gave me a mimeographed (really!) copy in 1968; she later donated her guide to SSCA.

You need two other resources for grooming:

- the printed SS [breed standard](#) describes exactly the appearance and structure of the ideal Standard Schnauzer; and

- the *AKC Complete Dog Book* (akc.org/shop/) contains a superb glossary of those terms one encounters reading breed standards, many which came to dogdom from the horse fancy.

Be aware that each SS is really *three* dogs:

- the *phenotype*—his overall appearance;
- the *genotype*—the genetic sum of his ancestors' positive features and negative flaws or faults, including health issues;
- the perfect dog—that clown you live with and love.

As the old song goes, “accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative” of your dog's appearance according to the breed standard's description. For example:

- Strip at least down to his nipples to stress his clean, working-dog lines.
- Show his long, elegant neck; groom the



Standard Schnauzer

“side seam” cowlick in an arc emphasizing his neck curvature.

- Show his dark eyes—comb eyebrows to each side, and trim in a straight line from outer eye corner to nose-tip.
- Trim ear edges; pull the long hairs out of his ear canal with hemostats.

- Accent his square outline; groom his underline at an angle ascending from elbow to loin.

- Don't leave a long “skirt” on his underline or under his chest; both visually shorten his legs.

- Keep chest hair short to show his brisket

descending to the elbow.

- Groom his forequarters so his legs visually descend in a straight line from shoulder to foot; avoid both looking out-at-elbow, and a violin front. Show his prominent breast-bone and deep chest.

- Groom hindquarters to show a curved (not straight) stifle, short hocks, and when viewed from the rear, show inner leg curve as a gothic (cathedral) arch descending smoothly to the foot—no bowlegs or cowhocks, please. Closely strip the curve of his buttocks; carefully groom his tail, so you don't inadvertently give him a squirrel tail or low tail-set.

- Keep hair trimmed on feet-bottoms and up between his pads; use thin-

ning shears to create the round, compact cat foot the standard describes. As one fancier advises, it's better to let the judge know you've been remiss about nail trims than for him to think your dog has huge feet! —*Suzanne T. Smith, 2015*

[Standard Schnauzer Club of America](#)



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

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

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ATTENTION DELEGATES NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, March 8, 2022**, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m.

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

Karen M. Bodeving, Cave Junction, OR, Klamath Dog Fanciers

Kerri Dale, Blue Ridge, GA, American Boerboel Club

Pamela Deleppo, Cranston, RI, Providence County Kennel Club

Susan Edwards, Goodyear, AZ, Arrowhead Kennel Club

Ruth M. Levesque, Tolland, CT, Alaskan Malamute Club of America

Anne Moore Schultz, Joppa, MD, Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Matthew E. Townsend, Mebane, NC, Carolina Working Group Association

NOTICE

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

Mr. Gabriel Jonas (Harrison, TN)

Ms. Rachel Jonas (Harrison, TN)
Ms. Diana Wagener (Beebe, AR)

NOTICE

Ms. Maggie Hayes (Virginia Beach, VA) Action was taken by Star City Canine Training Club for conduct at its November 7, 2021 event. Ms. Hayes was charged with disorderly conduct. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and \$100 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Ms. Sara Watson (Garden Valley, CA) Action was taken by Emerald Empire Basset Hound Fanciers for conduct at its October 30, 2021 event. Ms. Watson was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language directed personally towards a judge. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a six-month suspension from event privileges and \$500 fine, effective October 30, 2021. (Basset Hounds)

NOTICE

Mr. Michael Wiles (St. Joseph, MO) Action was taken by the Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club for conduct at its October 16, 2021 event. Mr. Wiles was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and \$500 fine,

effective November 17, 2021. (German Short-haired Pointers, Boxers)

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

Mr. Martin G. Marks (110197) CT
(203) 744-8833
mm_markworth@yahoo.com
Miniature Schnauzers

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mrs. Denise A. Borton (91682) MI
(269) 375-0059
twinpinefarm@gmail.com
Balance of Working Group (Cane Corsos, Dogo Argentinos, Great Pyrenees), Otterhounds

Ms. Cathy Eke (101345) IN
(317) 695-2829
onlybdogs@aol.com
Dogues de Bordeaux

Ms. Mary Lynne Elliott (100062) CO
(720) 289-2517
ml@vedauwoorr.com
Basenjis, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Irish Wolfhounds, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Salukis, Sloughis

Mrs. Lisa Farmer (95249) GA
(770) 891-8820
lisafarmer2013@gmail.com
Chihuahuas, Maltese, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Pugs, JS-L

Mr. Randy Garren (17218) NC
(919) 608-9799

k9pro@aol.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs

Ms. Joanne Leslie Gerow (74629) NY
(845) 292-5949
indianhillbernese@gmail.com
German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Tibetan Mastiffs, Australian Shepherds, Finnish Lapphunds

Mrs. Sue Goldberg (6502) NJ
(908) 647-0907
brandongroup19@gmail.com
Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Ms. Dawn Hitchcock (100299) SC
(864) 238-2742
bubblezsc@hotmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chinese Cresteds, Italian Greyhounds, Japanese Chins, Pekingese, Shih Tzu, Yorkshire Terriers), French Bulldogs

Mrs. Pat M. Jenkins (99451) UT
(435) 770-0334
pmj16@msn.com
Balance of Working Group (Boerboels, Chinooks, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs)

Mrs. Pam S. Lambie (96227) AZ
(760) 272-0625
pam@pamlambie.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Bullmastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Bouviers des Flandres

Mr. Kent MacFarlane (100887) FL
(772) 801-5293
foxfyrekennels@msn.com
Ibizan Hounds, Bullmastiffs, Dogues de Bordeaux, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Mastiffs

Ms. Robin MacFarlane (95827) FL
(772) 801-5293
armor16@aol.com
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Rottweilers

Mrs. Dayl Phillip (103551) WA
(541) 340-4036
aurigan@gmail.com
Collies, Shetland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Jean F. Shepherd (95654) MN
(507) 482-6611
jfshephe213@gmail.com
Curly-Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers

Ms. Michelle Struble (103633) IA
(515) 371-3103
vpcollie@aol.com
Shetland Sheepdogs

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Samantha Aimar (110318) MI
levenwickshelties@gmail.com
Junior Showmanship

Ms. Janene Borini (107692) CO
(719) 651-0855
peakviewgrtdanes@gmail.com
Junior Showmanship - Limited

Ms. Sarah Miriam Fox (110353) PA
(724) 900-0436
smfcollies@protonmail.com
Junior Showmanship

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE

Mrs. Danita Slatton

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Ms. Letty Larson Afgon
Mr. Austin Koppenhaver, II

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:

BAD HABIT- English Springer Spaniels- Amelia J. Baxter

BAY RIDGE- German Shorthaired Pointers-Jeremy L. Balza

BOSUN MATE- Portuguese Water Dogs-
Lisa Medeiros
DE MARSANT- Poodles- Irina Marsant and
Pavel Marsant
DOVE CREEK- Golden Retrievers-Brett
Predmore and Tracy Predmore
JOYFUL HEART- Poodles- Pamela S. Jen-
kins
SLANGEVAR-Cavalier King Charles
Spaniels- Alyson L. Murray
SNOWDANCER- Siberian Huskies- Melissa
L. Mount and James E. Mount
SPRING GARDEN:S- Chinese Cresteds-
Nichole Regul
STERLINHILL- Weimaraners- Debra A.
Romano and John A. Romano
TREELINE-Siberian Huskies- Mara C. Sny-
der and Kevin C. Snyder

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

BEECH RIVER- Chesapeake Bay
Retrievers- Thomas H. Leitch
BONHAVEN- Scottish Terriers- Bonnie
Collier and Roger N. Collier
DILUSSO- Chihuahuas- Marina
Krivolapova
KANDEW- Yorkshire Terriers- Kelly L.
Dewey
MAD MONKEY- Brussels Griffons –
Elizabeth C. Dognall
MAYHEM- Pomeranians- Vijaya Galic

RENAISSANCE-French Bulldogs- Paul V
Raleigh and Mary A. Raleigh
RO_LYN- Pekingese- Lynnea B.
Stadelmann
SOUTH PEACH- French Bulldogs- Draper
A. Palmer and Kathryn M. Palmer
TRIQUETRA-Great Danes- Peter T. Weller
VAMARO-Silky Terriers- Mary E. Hurley
WINDY HOLLOW-Beagles-Dale R. Piche
Z-FARO- Pharaoh Hounds- Martin L. Del
Prince



QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB DECEMBER 17, 2021

Dennis B. Sprung, President
PRESENT 231

Afghan Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Constance Butherus*
American Bouvier des Flandres Club,
Inc.—*Patte Klecan*
American Boxer Club, Inc.—*Sharon Steckler*
American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Associa-
tion, Inc.—*Mr. Brian P. Meindl*
American Chinese Crested Club, Inc.—
Neil Butterklee
American Foxhound Club, Inc.—*Harold
Miller*
American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc.—*Don
Hanson*
American Maltese Association, Inc.—*Ms.
Sandra Bingham-Porter*
American Pointer Club, Inc.—*Mr. Danny
D. Seymour*
American Pomeranian Club, Inc.—*Dr.
Geno Sisneros*
American Rottweiler Club—*Mr. Peter G.
Piusz*

American Shetland Sheepdog Associa-
tion—*Marjorie Tuff*
American Sloughi Association—*Erika N.
Wyatt*
American Whippet Club, Inc.—*Karen Bow-
ers Lee*
Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of Amer-
ica—*Ed Collins*
Anderson Kennel Club—*Laura A. Rockwell*
Anderson Obedience Training Club,
Inc.—*Ms. Patricia A. Sample*
Asheville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Corie Haylett*
Ashtabula Kennel Club—*Lynne Wickens*
Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ann Wallin*
Atlanta Obedience Club, Inc.—*Gail A.
LaBerge*
Australian Cattle Dog Club of America—
Joyce Rowland
Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc.—
William I. Christensen
Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.—*Dr.
Norine E. Noonan*
Battle Creek Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Kath-
leen Ronald*
Bayou Kennel Club, Inc.—*Linda C. Woz-
niak*
Beaver County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Phyllis
Belcastro*
Bedlington Terrier Club of America—*Lau-
rie W. Zembrzuski*
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, Inc.—
Mary G. Buckwalter
Belle-City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Carole A. Wil-
son*

Berger Picard Club of America—*Jacqueline Carswell*
 Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Sara Karl*
 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. Pruksa*
 Borzoi Club of America, Inc.—*Prudence G. Hlatky*
 Bulldog Club of America—*Link Newcomb*
 Bulldog Club of Philadelphia—*Elizabeth H. Milam*
 Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.*
 Cairn Terrier Club of America—*Pam Davis*
 Canada Del Oro Kennel Club—*Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki*
 Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.—*Dr. Joyce A. Dandridge*
 Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Jacque Glenn*
 Carolina Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jaimie Ashby*
 Catoctin Kennel Club—*Whitney Coombs*
 Catonsville Kennel Club—*Beverly A. Drake*
 Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc.—*Robert E. Tainsh, M.D.*
 Central Ohio Kennel Club—*Rebecca Campbell*

Channel City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Anita R. O'Berg*
 Charleston Kennel Club—*Terri Hallman*
 Charlottesville-Albemarle Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. John J. Lyons*
 Chattanooga Kennel Club—*Mr. David Gilstrap*
 Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.—*Marge B. Calltharp*
 Chow Chow Club, Inc.—*Margaret DiCorleto*
 Clearwater Kennel Club—*Daniel T. Stolz*
 Clumber Spaniel Club of America, Inc.—*Kelly E. Lease*
 Colorado Kennel Club—*Mrs. Louise Leone*
 Columbia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Crystal Messersmith*
 Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia—*Michael Houchard*
 Dachshund Club of America, Inc.—*Larry Sorenson*
 Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.—*Dr. Charles Garvin*
 Dayton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Leah H. Schiller*
 Del-Otse-Nango Kennel Club—*Stephanie A. Crawford*
 Delaware County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Brenda A. Algar*
 Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club—*Dr. A. D. Butherus*
 Doberman Pinscher Club of America—*Glen Lajeski*
 Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, Inc.—*Mrs. Patti L. Strand*

Dog Owners' Training Club of Maryland, Inc.—*Nancy Zinkhan*
 Durango Kennel Club—*Donald E. Schwartz, V.M.D.*
 Durham Kennel Club Inc—*Mr. Jack E. Sappenfield, II*
 Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.—*Robert Rynkiewicz*
 Elm City Kennel Club—*Dr. Gregory J. Paveza*
 English Springer Spaniel Club of Michigan, Inc.—*Barbara J. Gates*
 English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association, Inc.—*Susanne Burgess*
 Farmington Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Terrie Breen*
 Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Teresa Vila*
 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*
 Fort Lauderdale Dog Club—*Stephanie S. Brooks*
 Fort Worth Kennel Club—*Harold Tatro III*
 Framingham District Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gale Golden*
 Genesee County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Cynthia (Cindy) Collins*
 Genesee Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Virginia Denninger*

German Shepherd Dog Club of America—*Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia*
 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America—*Mrs. Barbara N. Schwartz*
 Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.—*Chris Reed*
 Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America—*Jo Lynn*
 Golden Retriever Club of America—*Ellen Hardin*
 Gordon Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Nance O. Skoglund*
 Grand Rapids Kennel Club—*Mrs. Carol L. Johnson*
 Great Barrington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Ellen C. Shanahan*
 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*
 Greenwich Kennel Club—*Donna Gilbert*
 Harrisburg Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sandie Role-naitis*
 Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.—*Sally L. Fineburg*
 Heart of the Plains Kennel Club—*Patricia M. Cruz*
 Hendersonville Kennel Club—*Betty Ann Brown*
 Hockamock Kennel Club, Inc.—*Nancy Fisk*
 Houston Kennel Club, Inc.—*Thomas D. Pincus*

Huntington Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Marile A. Waterstraat*
 Ibizan Hound Club of the United States—*Michelle Barlak*
 Ingham County Kennel Club, Inc.—*Rita J. Biddle*
 Irish Setter Club of America, Inc.—*Ms. Karolynne M. McAteer*
 Irish Terrier Club of America—*Thea F. Lahti*
 Japanese Chin Club of America—*Cecilia Resnick*
 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 Riverside—*Sylvia A. Thomas*
 Kennesaw Kennel Club—*Bud Hidlay*
 Key City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Melissa Lembke*
 Kuvasz Club of America—*Richard Rosenthal*
 LEAP Agility Club of Central Massachusetts—*Noreen Bennett*
 Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.—*Tony Emilio*
 Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Kimberly Van Hemert*
 Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Arna B. Margolies*
 Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Diana L. Skibinski*
 Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club—*Mary McDaniel, D.V.M.*

Land O'Lakes Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jan Croft*
 Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Robert N. LaBerge*
 Leonberger Club of America—*Don James*
 Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, Inc.—*Laurie Green*
 Louisiana Kennel Club, Inc.—*Luis F. Sosa*
 Louisville Kennel Club, Inc.—*Debra H. Owen*
 Lowchen Club of America—*Lisa Brown*
 Magic Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ruth Crumb*
 Marion Ohio Kennel Club, Inc.—*Lynn Garvin*
 Maryland Kennel Club—*Gary Sarvinas*
 Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa, Inc.—*Dr. Andrea Hesser, D.V.M.*
 Mid-Del-Tinker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mr. Billy J. Price*
 Mid-Hudson Kennel Association, Inc.—*Gayle Bontecou*
 Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.—*Joanne Wilds*
 Monticello New York Kennel Club, Inc.—*Barry A. Hoovis*
 Morris Hills Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Eleanor Campbell*
 Mt. Baker Kennel Club, Inc.—*Jane F. Ruthford*
 Myrtle Beach Kennel Club—*Sylvia Arrowood*
 National Beagle Club—*Eddie Dziuk*
 National Capital Kennel Club, Inc.—*Norma Ryan*

National Shiba Club of America—*Maggi Strouse*
 New England Beagle Club, Inc.—*Blaine Grove*
 New England Old English Sheepdog Club—*Mrs. Jane C. Ogg*
 Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)—*Alyson Casper*
 Olympic Kennel Club, Inc.—*Tim Ufkes*
 Otterhound Club of America—*Joellen Gregory, D.V.M.*
 Papillon Club of America, Inc.—*Miss Arlene A. Czech*
 Pasanita Obedience Club Inc.—*Mrs. Betty M. Winthers*
 Pasco Florida Kennel Club—*Patricia Lombardi*
 Pekingese Club of America—*Steven Hamblin*
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Anne H. Bowes*
 Pharaoh Hound Club of America—*Dominic P. Carota*
 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Larry Wilson*
 Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dean Burwell*
 Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*Kathy Gregory*
 Pug Dog Club of America, Inc.—*Michelle Anderson*
 Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers, Inc.—*Frances Stephens*
 Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America—*Mrs. Nancy-Lee H. Coombs*

Rapid City Kennel Club, Inc.—*Ms. Sally J. Nist*
 Redwood Empire Kennel Club—*Johnny Shoemaker*
 Rhode Island Kennel Club, Inc.—*Grace Wilkinson*
 Richmond Dog Fanciers Club, Inc.—*Debra Ferguson*
 Rio Grande Kennel Club—*Mary E. Ferguson*
 Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club—*Barbara L. Burns*
 Rubber City Kennel Club—*Cathy Gaidos*
 Saccarappa Obedience Club, Inc.—*Barbara Schwartz*
 Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club—*Karen Cottingham*
 Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club—*Leslie Puppo Rogers*
 Saluki Club of America—*Monica H. Stoner*
 Samoyed Club of America, Inc.—*Mr. John L. Ronald*
 Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Tammy Porter*
 Santa Barbara Kennel Club, Inc.—*Abbe R. Shaw*
 Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club, INC.—*Mr. David J. Peat*
 Scottish Terrier Club of America—*Helen A. Prince*
 Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.—*Sharyn Y. Hutchens*
 Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County—*Susan LaCroix Hamil*

Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc.—*Ann M. Cook*
Skyline Kennel Club, Inc.—*Gloria Shaver*
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America—*Robert Bergman*
Somerset Hills Kennel Club—*Harvey Goldberg*
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*
Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay—*Glenda Stephenson*
Spinone Club of America—*Karen Luckey*
Spokane Kennel Club—*Tina Truesdale*
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—*Jan Ritchie Gladstone*
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*
Superstition Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dana Alexander*
Sussex Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Florence Duggan*
Swamp Dog Club—*Dr. Timothy Carrion*
Taconic Hills Kennel Club, Inc.—*Marylyn DeGregorio*
Tampa Bay Kennel Club—*Mary Stolz*
Tennessee Valley Kennel Club—*Mrs. Richella M. Veatch*
Terry-All Kennel Club, Inc.—*Kevin O'Connell*
Texas Kennel Club, Inc.—*Dr. Michael Knight*
Topeka Kennel Club, Inc.—*Diana J. Komarek*
Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.—*Christopher L. Sweetwood*
Trenton Kennel Club, Inc.—*Karen Gunzel*
Trinity Valley Kennel Club—*Debby Fowler*
Tualatin Kennel Club, Inc.—*James S. Corbett*
Tucson Kennel Club—*Dr. Kenneth H. Levison*
Two Cities Kennel Club—*Eduardo T. Fugiwara*
United States Australian Shepherd Association—*Jeff Margeson*
United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club, Inc.—*Mr. Carl C. Ashby, III*
Utah Valley Kennel Club—*Kelly D. Reim-schiessel*

Valley Forge Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Carol Fisher*
Vancouver Kennel Club—*Jolyne Lea*
Virginia Kennel Club, Inc.—*Mrs. Sandie Friend*
Vizsla Club of America, Inc.—*Mrs. Kathy A. Rust*
Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.—*John J. Cadalso, Jr.*
Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc.—*Cindy Miller*
Welsh Terrier Club of America, Inc.—*Bruce R. Schwartz*
West Highland White Terrier Club of America—*Tracy J. Pancost*
West Volusia Kennel Club—*Cathy Driggers*
Westchester Kennel Club—*Pamela G. Beale*
Western Fox Terrier Breeders Association—*Torie Steele*
Whidbey Island Kennel Club Inc—*Laura Myles*
Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers Association—*Mrs. Karen Mays*
Winston-Salem Dog Training Club, Inc.—*Jane Fitzin*
Woodstock Dog Club, Inc.—*Karen Dewey*



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB DELEGATE MEETING DECEMBER 17, 2021

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. ET.

The Chair advised the Delegates that face masks covering the nose and mouth were required to be worn at all times in the meeting room and in public areas regardless of vaccination status.

Delegate to check in at the registration desk, to ensure that they would be marked present.

The Chair introduced the persons on the dais. Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Joan Corbisiero, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary; Sara Miller, Court Reporter.

Condolences were offered in the recent

passing of members of the Delegate Body:

- Richard Grant on September the 7th. He was the Delegate for the Providence County Kennel Club since 2012.
- Patty Ann Peel on October 22nd. She was the Delegate for the Alaskan Malamute Club of America since 2012.
- Carol Smith on December the 5th. She was the Delegate for the Italian Greyhound Club of America since 2018.
- Robert Schroll on December the 6th. He was the Delegate for the Clarksville Kennel Club since 2000.

Sympathy was also given in the recent passing of Judith Daniels on November 18, 2021. Judi was the Delegate for the Kennel Club of Pasadena from 1981 to 1994, the Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno in 1994, and again from 1995 to 1996, as well as the Mt. Baker Kennel Club from 1999 to 2014. She served as the 18th President of The American Kennel Club from March 1995 to March 1996.

The Executive Secretary read the report on the Nominating Committee and the report on additional nominations.

Ms. DiNardo: Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2, of the Charter and Bylaws of The

American Kennel Club, the NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Melanie Steele, Chair – Abilene Kennel Club
- Pamela Stacey Rosman – Canaan Dog Club of America
- Patti Strand – Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon
- Maggi Strouse – National Shiba Club of America
- Marilyn Vinson – Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club

and Alternates:

- Marge Calltharp – Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America
- Connie Clark – American Fox Terrier Club, appointed by the Board of Directors at its July 2021 meeting have nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 8, 2022. There are three vacancies for the Class of 2026.

CLASS OF 2026

- Christopher L. Sweetwood - Trap Falls Kennel Club
- Harold "Red" Tatro, III - Fort Worth Kennel Club
- Ann Wallin - Atlanta Kennel Club

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 4, of the

Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, there were no Delegates that submitted written petitions for board candidacy to the Executive Secretary.

Mr. Sprung: The Bylaws state that nominations may not be made from the floor. Nominations, therefore, closed on November 15, 2021.

In accordance with the Delegate Standing Rule, each candidate is allowed three minutes to address the Delegates. Keith Frazier will indicate to the candidates when three minutes have expired. The Chair will introduce the candidates who will speak in alphabetical order and no questions from the floor will be entertained.

The first candidate from the class of 2026 is Christopher L. Sweetwood representing Trap Falls Kennel Club.

Mr. Sweetwood: Good morning. I am Chris Sweetwood, Trap Falls Kennel Club. I am proud to represent each and every one of you and I thank you for your confidence and for your support. I look forward to serving you for another four years as Board member and as Delegate. We've been through difficult times and we have weathered the storm. We are stronger because of it, but it's not over and many difficulties lay

ahead. Together we can beat those challenges. Together we can strengthen our clubs. Together we can make this Sport better. Together we are the Great American Kennel Club. Thank you and have a wonderful holiday season.

Mr Sprung: Thank you, Chris. The second candidate for the class of 2026 is Harold "Red" Tatro, III, representing Fort Worth Kennel Club.

Mr. Tatro: Good morning, fellow Delegates. I am Harold Tatro, Delegate of Fort Worth Kennel Club. Most of you know me by my nickname "Red", and I'd like to introduce myself to the new Delegates. Four years ago, I stood up here and asked for your support and you gave it and I am greatly honored and look forward to serving the next four years. For the new Delegates, in my private life I'm a CPA and a CFO of an Architect and Engineering firm in Arlington, Texas. My wife and I bred Lakeland Terriers and Whippets for nearly 40 years and now we have a Chihuahua and really are having a lot of fun. I am a Conformation Judge. I judge the Hound group, the Terrier group and half of the Toys and Junior Showmanship. I enjoy doing Juniors because it's far more challenging to judge that than the breeds. I have been a past President of both of my

Parent Clubs, the American Whippet Club and the United States Lakeland Terrier Club and served on those boards for decades. I have a good understanding, I think, of both the large breed club and the small breed club and there are noticeable differences. Serving on the Board of Directors I've been honored to be selected to Chair the Pension and Investment Committee, as well as Chairman of the Audit Committee. They kind of look at me as the money guy being the CPA. One of my greatest honors is I'm also the Vice Chairman for the AKC Reunite Board and that's a great organization that does so much good for the AKC as well as for dogs and pets in general across the country. I'm just here to say thank you very much and I look forward to meeting all of our new Delegates in the next four years. What I will say about this board is it's very open-minded. We're thinking outside the box and we truly enjoy having each of you come up and talk to us. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Red. The final candidate for the class of 2026 is Ann Wallin representing Atlanta Kennel Club.

Ms. Wallin: I hope you can hear me through my mask. Good morning. My name is Ann Wallin. I am the Delegate for the Atlanta Kennel Club since 2000, and I

am so thrilled to see all of you sitting here looking back at me and I can see you. It is a true distinct pleasure to be back together again. I want to extend a very special welcome to the new Delegates that might be here today, and some might be attending their very first in-person meeting, so welcome. I want to thank the Nominating Committee for placing their confidence in me with the nomination for the Board of Directors Class of 2026. I am humbled and honored to have been able to serve on the board for the past four years and I look forward to serving for four more years. I have, as Red mentioned, have had the great pleasure of working with a wonderful, dedicated Board. We have really focused and made, I think, good decisions to keep us moving forward. I'm also on the board of AKC Reunite and I serve on the Pension and Detection Dog Task Force Committees. Our AKC world came to a screeching halt in March of 2020 with 100 percent of our All-Breed shows cancelled. By the end of 2020, approximately 79 percent of our All-Breed events and 63 percent of all other events were cancelled due to the pandemic. What an unbelievable challenge we had to face. As we forge through the next year, we had a terrific and dedicated team working together for the same purpose. Our amazing, hard-working, Staff with Dennis at the helm worked tirelessly to find creative and

innovative approaches to help our Sport survive and our exhibitors to find ways to continue and compete with their beloved dogs. Our clubs found ways to hold safe events and the Delegate Body remained loyal and steadfast by doing their valuable work in the world of Zoom. The Board met remotely every month to be sure the business of AKC was taken care of. Because of our combined devotion, commitment, loyalty and because of our strength and passion for our beloved purebred dogs and our Sport, we have made an outstanding recovery. By the end of the second quarter of 2021, 99 percent of our events were equal to those in 2019 and we have continued on an upward trend. What an amazing accomplishment. I believe we have come through this hard enduring time stronger, wiser and prepared to meet any challenges in the future as well as the hard work that is ahead of us. We must continue to support our clubs to remain viable and successful and bring young people in the Sport. I am very proud and excited and energized to be part of team AKC and thank you all for being part of this journey. Now go and enjoy our fantastic 2021 National Championship.

The Executive Secretary read the names of the Delegates seated since the September 2021 Meeting.

Neil Butterklee, Ronkonkoma, NY, to represent American Chinese Crested Club
Eleanor S. Campbell, Ambler, PA, to represent Morris Hills Dog Training Club
Toni E. Doake, Norman, OK, to represent Town and Country Kennel Club
Kelly E. Lease, Woodbridge, VA, to represent Clumber Spaniel Club of America
Laura Myles, Snohomish, WA, to represent Whidbey Island Kennel Club
Kevin W. O'Connell, Commerce City, CO, to represent Terry-All Kennel Club
Tammy Porter, Westminster, CA, to represent Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club
Leah H. Schiller, New Carlisle, OH, to represent Dayton Kennel Club
Mary Lynn Speer, Glenwood City, WI, to represent Mastiff Club of America

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting in-person since their approval were introduced from the floor:

Stephanie Brooks to represent Fort Lauderdale Dog Club
Neil Butterklee to represent American Chinese Crested Club
Eleanor Campbell to represent Morris Hills Dog Training Club
Mary Ellen Ferguson to represent Rio Grande Kennel Club
Debbie Ferguson Jones to represent Richmond Dog Fanciers

Thea Lahti to represent Irish Terrier Club of America

Kelly Lease to represent Clumber Spaniel Club of America

Laura Myles to represent Whidbey Island Kennel Club

Kevin W. O'Connell, to represent Terry-All Kennel Club

Tammy Porter to represent the Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club

Cecilia Resnick to represent Japanese Chin Club of America

The minutes of the September 14, 2021 Delegate Meeting were published in the online October 2021 AKC Gazette, and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

The Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America was duly elected as members of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies delivered the Chairman's Report as follows:

Welcome back to Orlando. The Board and the Staff are thrilled to have us all together in person again. We appreciate, as always, everyone's commitment to keeping our gathering safe and productive so that we can celebrate the beauty and function of

our dogs and experience the excitement of our Sports.

There was a movie back in 1989 called Field of Dreams. In it, the main character hears a voice coming from a cornfield that says, "If you build it, they will come." In our cornfield back in 2001, a voice said the same thing... of course our voice was heard by Ron Menaker. Ron is a genius who shoots at something that no one else can see and hits it. Well, he built it and, indeed, we came. This weekend we will be celebrating the 21st Anniversary of our AKC National Championship with over 5000 entries and events in many areas of our sports. From J.R. in 2001 to Bourbon in 2020, from Orlando to Tampa to Long Beach and back to Orlando, we will get to watch this year's AKC National Championship winner crowned in dogdom's greatest event.

A cornerstone of our public education message is that purebred dogs don't just "look the part," but that they also "act the part" too. In a few short weeks on January 2nd this weekend's winners will be showcased on ABC television and AKC.tv. It is our goal to show the public why our purebred dogs look the way they do and the role in our lives that they are meant to play. We have heard the expression, "I am not a doctor, I just play one on TV." When it comes to purpose bred and working dogs, to paraphrase that saying, they don't just play one on TV.

Our standards delineate purpose – whether working in the field, pasture, at our side or anywhere else, purebred dogs have always had a job to do. With that guiding principle in mind, this year The American Kennel Club ramped up efforts to build alliances and leadership in the area of dogs in direct service to mankind. This includes working K9s in police departments and governmental agencies throughout our great nation. Thanks to the vision of the AKC Board, and specifically that of Chris Sweetwood, we announced our official association with the United States Police Canine Association. You may remember the incredible demonstrations at the Javits Center Meet the Breeds event by the USPCA and the NYPD K9 Unit members in 2019. Soon after, AKC Reunite, through the AKC/CAR Support and Relief Fund, established the AKC Adopt a K9 Cop Program. This program brings together AKC Clubs, AKC Reunite and other donors to raise money for police departments to purchase working dogs. To date there have been 70 grants awarded. This program is ongoing and is an important way for communities to participate in building and preserving the human/canine bond.

To bring the heroic work of police canines and their handlers into the spotlight, AKC and the USPCA created the AKC/USPCA K9 Detection Dog Challenge, which pre-

miered on ESPN2 less than three weeks ago. The intricate work of narcotics and explosive detection was on display at the PNC arena in Raleigh, with twenty handlers and their dogs from around the country competing. Top honors went to a straight flush of women handlers representing agencies from Raleigh, New York City and other locations. This outcome recalls something John Lennon once said, which I'll paraphrase, "As usual there is a great woman behind every great dog."

A key purpose of this program, with its significant AKC branding and the authenticity of its competition was to engage the public and instill in viewers' minds that the AKC is always at the center of all content about dogs. Recall, also that the Awards for Canine Excellence, known as the ACE Awards, celebrate uniformed service dogs among the other categories that improve our lives in extraordinary ways. The ACE Awards, which are underwritten by the AKC Humane Fund, were the subject of another ESPN2 program which aired a couple of weeks ago.

AKC has long provided registration services for active police dogs, and we are now indicating them in our database with a "Public Service" flag and recording information about their current handlers and the public agencies that own the dogs. This is laying the groundwork for future services for

these dogs, including potential recognition of titles and awards. Also on the horizon is leadership in the area of service dogs that are individually trained to perform tasks for people living with disabilities.

Of course, TV coverage for AKC and more titles are not the only reason why we are becoming active in the area of public service dogs. Working canines relate directly to AKC's mission.

You all know well that AKC is committed to breeding for type and for function. The specialized function and skills of certain working dogs are growing more important precisely at a time when these dogs are becoming scarce.

National security is one of our country's top priorities, and yet the US is facing a shortage of explosive detection dogs. Today, the US government and security agencies obtain about 85% of their dogs from overseas breeders. To address and help resolve this issue, the AKC Board of Directors has established the Detection Dog Task Force – a core group consisting of AKC Board and Staff members, including Carmen Battaglia, Chris Sweetwood, Doug Ljungren and Sheila Goffe, with the goal to leverage AKC's expertise to increase the availability of US bred and trained explosive detection dogs who will protect our nation from terrorist threats and other dangers to society.

The Government Relations department is working with agencies to encourage the procurement of home-bred dogs. Breeder Education is working on a program known as Patriotic Puppy, which incentivizes US breeders to produce high quality puppies for future detection work.

Exciting outcomes so far include two US Customs contracts calling for American-bred dogs, three annual detection dog conferences, and a growing roster of Patriotic Puppy breeders from 23 states. The Adopt a K9 Cop campaign, the US Detection Dog Task Force and the Patriotic Puppy Program are prime examples of the things we can do as Americans and as AKC breeders to help keep our communities and our country safe. It's this time of the year that we reflect and take stock of the past, present and future. It comes down to this: Safety, good health and the ability to enjoy our purebred dogs in friendship and in peace are among the things that matter most. Maya Angelou said, "We need much less than we think we need." All we really need is our dog community, our clubs and each other. As we head into the holiday season and the end of our year of competition, all of us at AKC hope that you remain safe, healthy and surrounded by friends, family and all the dogs that are part of your lives. Enjoy every bit of the weekend ahead.

I will leave you with a quote from writer

Louis Sabin. "No matter how little money you have, nor how few possessions, having a dog will make you rich." Happy holidays.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President's Report as follows:

I'll share with the Delegates what I told Tom last evening. I spoke with Ron Menaker, our Chairman Emeritus on Tuesday and he wished us well for our 21st National Championship.

Some thoughts to share: Proudly, the number of unique breeders has increased seven years in a row; however, there certainly are not enough as the demand for purebred dogs isn't being met even with hundreds of thousands of active breeders.

We urge you to continue breeding as you are important influencers of the sport with significant knowledge. This can lead to numerous new opportunities:

- It will open doors to mentor co-owners who eventually can take care of your stock.
- There are additional avenues to share more of your experience as a breeder, allowing for others and yourself to collaboratively continue your breeding program.
- Of course, related to this is the "preservation bank" which the Board endorsed – another way to become in-

involved in enhancing breeds and leveraging the best of many breeding programs, particularly those with a smaller gene pool, but an important step for every unique breed.

Another area of enhancement that the Board and Staff has collaborated on is the expansion of opportunities for Juniors, the ongoing work of Government Relations to protect your rights as responsible breeders and owners, and numerous offerings from our Education Department which Ashley Jacot will present in June 2022.

Our pledge to you, club members and puppy buyers is to remain customer centric, delivering outstanding experiences, being helpful, honest and transparent in offering services and products that are easily understandable. Our brand is doing well as is the entire AKC universe.

As you do, we continue to promote AKC's Code of Sportsmanship and, beyond that, treatment of one another with dignity. Lastly, it is important that we welcome new exhibitors to our world, being kind and patient while embracing diversity. We are 137 years old and stronger than ever. Your contributions have been an important part of that achievement, and I thank you for those years of expertise.

Congratulations to the Delegate Body for your contributions.

Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips, gave the Financial Report as follows:

Good morning to all Delegates. Today I am here to present some key performance indicators and financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2021. These data points are essential to tell the story of the AKC operating results. This chart provides a comparison of litter and dog registrations for the nine months ended September 30, 2021. Litter registrations totaled 245,000 which is 17 percent higher than the same period in 2020. These results continue the double-digit trend of growth we reported earlier in 2021. Dog registrations are recorded in the dark blue columns and for this period dog registrations totaled 619,718 which was also 17 percent higher than the same period in 2020. Please note that litter and dog registrations represent 45 percent of the total revenue for the nine months ending September 30, 2021. We'd like to thank our breeders and the entire Delegate Body, our Board of Directors and AKC Staff for these outstanding achievements. Turning to Sports & Events, we have seen a significant increase in the total events and entries in 2021. As you all know, these numbers are returning back to 2019 levels. The dark blue column presented shows the climb – the dark blue column presented shows the number of events totaling 15,778. The line across the two

columns shows the entries that climbed to 2.3 million which is an 89 percent increase over the same period in 2020. Again, we are very pleased at the numbers returning and we thank you for your support.

Next, we'll look at the financial operating results for the nine months ended September 30th. Operating revenues of 78 million dollars generated net income of 24.9 million. Revenues are principally generated by registration and event fees. As of September 30, 2021, these numbers totaled 28 percent higher than the same period in 2020. Registration and event fees totaled 56.3 million and two significant groups are in this number. Litter and dog registrations totaled 45 million dollars and event fees totaled 11 million dollars. Please note that's 84 percent ahead of 2020. Finally, on revenue advertising, sponsorship and royalties total 11.9 million, 51 percent ahead of the same period in 2020, so overall these are excellent results for AKC.

Turning to operating expenses, they totaled 44 million dollars for these nine months, which is seven percent higher than 2020. Management follows a very tight cost control methodology across all categories and has kept expenses under control. Staff costs comprise the largest component at 24.4 million, which is 4.5 percent higher

than 2020. Please note that all budgeted programs and activities have available funds in this year. Our government relations staff, as you've heard, continues to promote the mission of AKC. Also, annual donations from AKC to charitable organizations average five percent of operating expenses and are consistent with prior years.

Finally, my favorite slide. This is the financial position as of September 30, 2021. Total assets are 172 million dollars. Investments and cash comprise the largest piece of the total assets and that amount totals 135 million dollars. The AKC investment portfolio is professionally managed for growth and is reported year to date investment returns of 9.7 percent which beat their benchmark on September 30, 2021. The overall financial condition of AKC continues to be healthy due to our positive mission-related activities, support from the Board of Directors, and our Delegates. We thank you for your time today and we appreciate your dedication. I'm available to answer any questions during the meeting and my contact information is always here for you. Thank you.

The first vote was on the amendment to **Article VII, New Section 3** of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which moves the statement concerning the

Board Elections from Article VIII, which discusses the Nominating Committee to Article VII which addresses the election of the Board members. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on the amendment to **Article VII, Section 9** of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific powers entrusted to the Board. The amendment to Article VII, Section 5, 6 and New Section 7 was approved at the September 2021 Delegate Meeting, so this section was renumbered. When read in September 2021 this was Article VII, Section 8. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The third vote was on the amendment to **Article X, Section 7** of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club which

removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific power entrusted to the board. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with AKC Board approval.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The fourth vote was on **Chapter 3, Sections 2, 4 and 5** of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications, which inserts language from Chapter 3, Sections 4 and 5 into Chapter 3, Section 2 pertaining to how age is calculated for the purpose of entry into an AKC event. It removes language from Chapter 3, Sections 4 and 5 as to how age is calculated to eliminate redundancy. As the determination of age for entry relates to all classes and not just Puppy and 12-18 Months, insertion into Section 2 applies it globally. This also provides examples for benchmark ages – 6 months, 12 months and 18 months. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted. The fifth vote was on **Chapter 3, Section 8**

of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications, which provides clubs the opportunity to divide the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class by age; Puppy and Adult. This follows the same logic as the Puppy and 12-18 Month Classes. Dividing the BBE Class by age would be an option for clubs and not a requirement. An entry from any division of class awarded winners would be counted toward the BBE medallion as it advanced from the BBE Class. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The last vote was on **Chapter 3, Section 11** of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications, which revises language for consistency, defining that 1st place undefeated dogs of the same sex from the defined classes defined by the rules and all division of them (age, color, markings, etc.) are eligible to compete in the Winners Class. It adds language to clarify that the only required classes to be offered are American Bred and Open, and all others are at the option of the club. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought for-

ward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Sprung asked without objection that Dr. Darin Collins, the new CEO of the AKC CHF and Kristie Klein of the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute join the meeting.

[No objection]

Dr. Charles Garvin of the AKC Board of Directors and Dr. Darin Collins presented awards on behalf of AKC CHF and provided an update of recent developments.

Dr. Charles Garvin, spoke as follows: Thank you, Dennis. Good morning. I'm Charlie Garvin, Delegate for the Dalmatian Club of America and Chairman of the Board of the AKC K9 Health Foundation which of course we call CHF. Over the next few minutes, I'd like to give you an update on CHF and highlight some of the important achievements of the past year. In 2021 CHF invested more than 3.4 million dollars in 50 canine health research and educational grants. Of those 42 of the grants, 13 were for cancer research totaling \$1.3 million. And once again, CHF earned the four-star rating from Charity Navigator and the

Platinum Seal of Transparency from Guide Star. These are the highest possible ratings awarded by both of these watch dog organizations. Basically, it's the best in show and high in trial for nonprofit organizations. We're quite proud to continue that tradition. CHF has continued its support of future scientists by awarding three new clinician scientist fellowships and two new theriogenology residencies in 2021. And CHF continues support of the One Health model which is based on the concept that humans, animals, and the environment are all interconnected. It links human and canine researchers so that significant concerns in discoveries in dogs and dog health may impact human health and vice versa. For example, canine research in cancer and epilepsy may help you as well as the human research in this area may help your dog. And in 2021 some 40 percent of our new grant funding supported studies with One Health significance. 2021 was another banner year for CHF-funded investigators. Through your support of CHF, investigators made significant discoveries in the understanding and cause of histiocytic sarcoma and also identified the genetic mutation that causes dwarfism in the Great Pyrenees. CHF-funded investigators also provided important clues for investigation into diet-related dilated cardiomyopathy and advanced our knowl-

edge of the genetic influences of hip dysplasia. But then the other important step forward that CHF made this past year was adding to our executive staff. We welcomed two important people to CHF whose leadership will guide us for many years to come. First, please welcome Dr. Darin Collins, CHF's new chief executive officer. Dr. Collins earned his veterinary degree from University of Illinois and spent over 30 years at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, Washington. He's been a clinical veterinarian and Director of Animal Health Programs. And you may recognize him, he has been involved in the dog show world for several decades. Along with Dr. Collins we welcome Dr. Jennifer MacLeay as CHF's new Chief Scientific Officer. Dr. MacLeay received her DVM from The Ohio State University and her Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota. Both at the University of Minnesota and Colorado State, Dr. MacLeay taught in their veterinary teaching hospitals and vet schools. She conducted extensive research and most recently she's been the Medical Director at Hills Pet Nutrition. At this time Dr. Collins will help me present CHF's 2021 awards.

Dr. Collins, spoke as follows:

Thank you, Charlie. Dennis Sprung, members of the AKC Board and Delegates, it's an honor to be here. Thank you for the in-

itation and thank you for the opportunity to present you with our Canine Health Foundation awards and introduce myself on behalf of the Canine Health Foundation staff that serve you. You are Parent Club members and our Delegates, our constituency. We can't do our work without you and it's our honor to award our 2021 awards to significant contributions to Canine Health Foundation. First award goes to the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute as our 2021 distinguished research partner and we can't do our work, as I said, without our partners. This group, the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Group, is a longstanding gold standard partner club who works with K9 Canine Health Foundation to bring funds to K9 Health Foundation so that we can work together on awarding research grants that benefit not just this breed but other breeds as well. And we recognize their President Mr. C.A. Sharp who could not be here and Kristie Klein who is here to accept the award on behalf of the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute. Please come forward. Next, we would also like to acknowledge our longstanding partner Retriever News and Entry Express who created a very novel approach to donations to Canine Health Foundation, innovated an exhibitor participation by adding a donation to their entries that has created

longstanding generous fund so we can work together on health topics that involve sporting dogs. They are not here to receive their award, but we acknowledge their contribution and want to give them a longstanding award.

Dr. Charles Garvin, spoke as follows:

The President's Award is given to a person or organization that has made exceptional contribution to advancing canine health. It is selected by the Chairman of the AKC Canine Health Foundation Board of Directors. The 2021 President's Award is presented to a true power couple who devoted more than 50 years to dogs, from showing prize-winning Afghan Hounds to serving as officers for many clubs, they are dedicated to advancing the health and well-being of dogs. He is currently on the CHF Board of Directors and served as Chairman of the Board from 2013 to 2015. He's also a member of CHF's Scientific Review Committee and was past chair of that important committee. Now, she is past President of the Afghan Hound Club of America, the Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey and the Central New Jersey Hound Association. In addition, she is a current member of Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Morris & Essex Kennel Club, Tuxedo Park Kennel Club and Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club and she's the true force behind

their joint efforts. I have the great pleasure to present the 2021 President's Award to Duane and Connie Butherus. And as we look forward to the coming year, I would like to thank all of you for your support of CHF and especially like to thank the American Kennel Club for their support over the past 25 years. AKC has contributed over 30 million dollars to CHF and in 2022 will increase their financial contribution to CHF by one million dollars. We are very grateful for their investment in improving the health of the dogs that we love. Once again, thank you very much.

Gail LaBerge, Delegate from the Atlanta Obedience Club and Chris Sweetwood of the AKC Board of Directors presented an update on PAC initiatives and activities.

Ms. LaBerge spoke as follows: Good morning. We're going to do something that we hope will show you how your donations to the AKC PAC actually affects you and your community. We have a short new video that we would like to share with you and then Chris will give you some information, but quickly I'd like to remind you that it's not just for Delegates to donate to our wonderful sweepstakes we have going. If you have friends across the way, please make sure that they come by Sheila Goffe's AKC Government Relations booth and pick up their

tickets. We will be doing the drawing, or Sheila will, Monday in Raleigh.

[Video played.]

Mr. Sweetwood spoke as follows: I think that video kind of says it all, but to try and make things a little easier because we're always up here, you know, reaching for your wallet, what we're doing this year is we have raffle tickets and some of the prizes – excuse me, sweepstakes. If you're not interested in all of this good stuff, we'll just take your money and we'd really appreciate it. What we have – what's available is an Impact Dog Crate®. It will be special ordered for you based upon your breed size. Other prizes include goody bags, a *ShowSight* magazine full-page color ad, Westminster tickets for January 2022, two-night hotel and tickets for next year's AKC National Championship in Orlando, and a full-page color ad in *Retriever News*. And if you'll see us at the table outside this meeting or if you're at the show, stop by the booth. We really, really need your help. It helps us get ahead of the election cycle. And again, it's a never-ending battle that we can't win without your support and your club support. Thank you so much.

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President of Sports & Events introduced a new video on AKC Juniors Organization:

Mari-Beth O'Neill would normally introduce this topic, but she's busy as the Chair across the street at a 1,300-plus dog Puppy Stake event. So, it's my privilege to introduce a video that is intended to welcome Juniors to AKC by demonstrating the many events that are available for them and at which they may meet Junior handlers. This is one of the many great ideas that came out of the Delegate Juniors Subcommittee. It is meant to be educational, and all clubs can use it. It is currently located on the AKC website. If you click on Sports & Events and then Junior resources and scroll down to the introduction video section, you'll find this video. Should you have any questions or need assistance about locating and using the video, please email Juniors@AKC.org. Thank you.

[Video played.]

The Chair informed the Delegates that the Annual Meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at the Doubletree Newark Airport in Newark, New Jersey. The March meeting is the annual election for the Class of 2026. More detailed meeting information will be emailed when available.

Lunch will be served next door in the Grand Ballroom C. Delegates are reminded to please leave your badges at the registration desk following lunch.

Hearing no new business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

(One sharp rap of the gavel.)

(Proceedings concluded at 11:16 a.m. ET.)

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

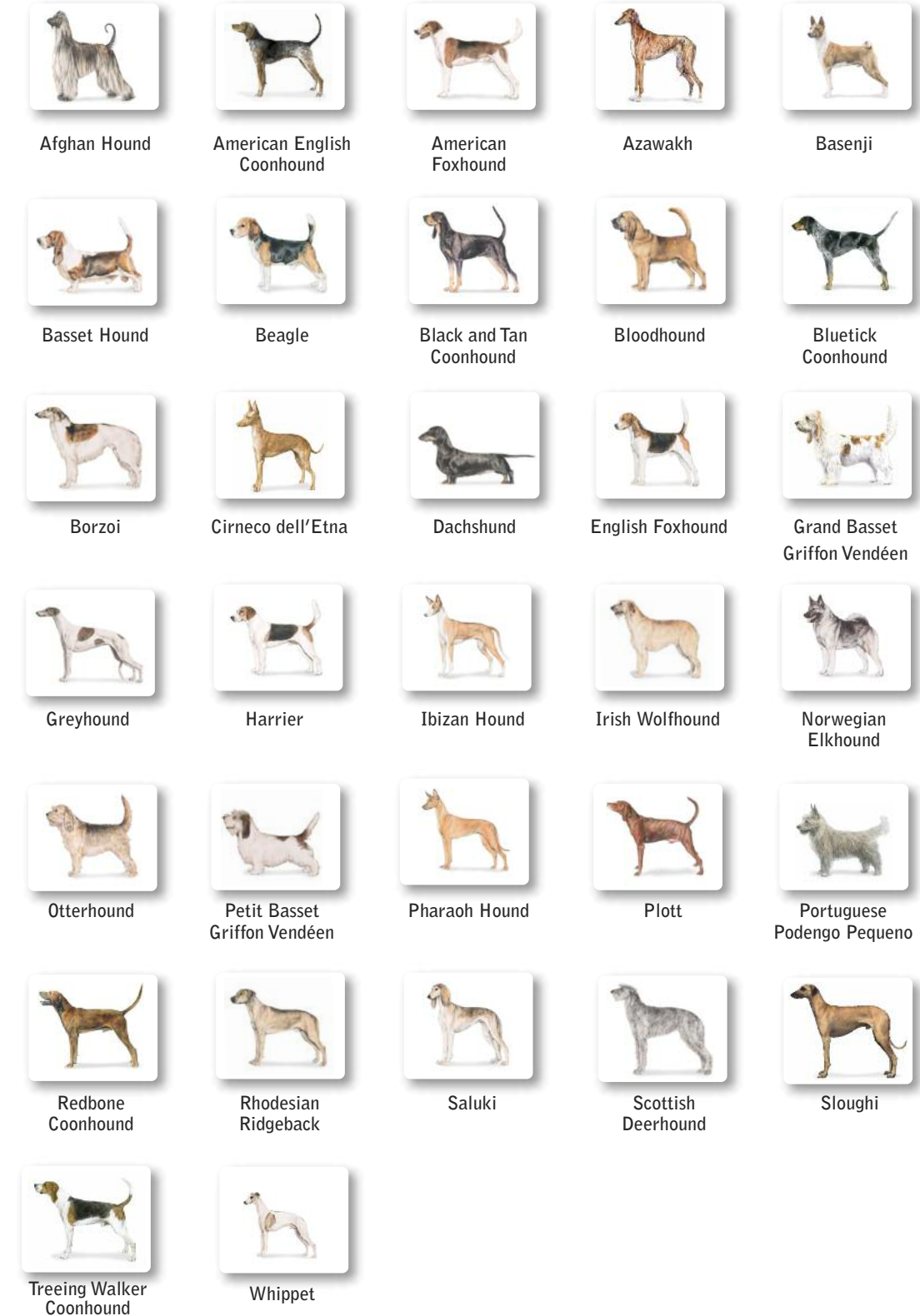
PARENT CLUB LINKS



SPORTING GROUP



HOUND GROUP



PARENT CLUB LINKS



WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



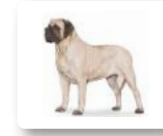
Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

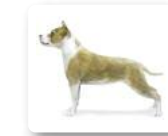
TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TOY GROUP



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



Brussels Griffon



Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese Crested



English Toy Spaniel



Havanese



Italian Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester Terrier (Toy)



Miniature Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

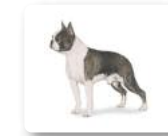
NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



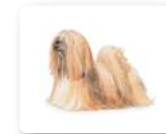
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



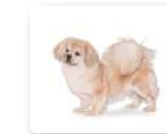
Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

PARENT CLUB LINKS

HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher Mountain Dog



Finnish Lapphund



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Miniature American Shepherd



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish Vallhund



AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/>

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

<http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/>

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/>